



Antigua and Barbuda

Rapid Mobile Phone Surveys (RaMPS) on Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) and COVID-19

November, 2021

The Rapid Mobile Phone Survey (RaMPS) on Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) and COVID-19 in Antigua and Barbuda was conducted to understand people's knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors about COVID-19 and to gauge the impact of COVID-19 on NCDs and mental health.

The computer-assisted telephone interview survey was based on a sample of 2,001 adults age 18 and older and employed random-digit-dialing (RDD) methods to produce key indicators stratified by sex. A total of 9,941 mobile phone numbers were dialed, of which 3,283 mobile phone users were contacted and yielded 2,001 interviews. The cooperation rate* was 61.0%. Data were collected between September 22 and November 29, 2021.

Behavioral impact of COVID-19	Total		Male		Female	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Percentage who avoided social contact or practiced social distancing in the last 2 weeks:						
Always	73.2	(71.3-75.1)	68.5	(65.5-71.4)	77.2	(74.7-79.7)
Sometimes	24.5	(22.6-26.4)	28.4	(25.5-31.2)	21.2	(18.8-23.7)
Never	2.3	(1.6-3.0)	3.1	(2.0-4.3)	1.6	(0.8-2.3)
Percentage who avoided public places in the last 2 weeks:						
Always	22.2	(20.3-24.0)	20.3	(17.7-22.8)	23.8	(21.2-26.3)
Sometimes	61.2	(59.0-63.3)	61.2	(58.1-64.4)	61.1	(58.2-64.1)
Never	16.7	(15.0-18.3)	18.5	(16.0-21.0)	15.1	(13.0-17.3)
Percentage who avoided public transport in the last 2 weeks:						
Always	67.3	(65.3-69.4)	68.2	(65.2-71.1)	66.6	(63.7-69.4)
Sometimes	16.9	(15.2-18.5)	15.9	(13.6-18.2)	17.7	(15.4-20.0)
Never	15.8	(14.2-17.4)	15.9	(13.6-18.3)	15.7	(13.5-17.9)
Percentage who used a mask or chinstrap when they left home in the last 2 weeks:						
Always	87.9	(86.5-89.4)	84.3	(81.9-86.6)	91.1	(89.4-92.8)
Sometimes	11.5	(10.1-12.9)	14.9	(12.6-17.2)	8.6	(6.9-10.3)
Never	0.5	(0.2-0.9)	0.8	(0.2-1.4)	0.3	(0.0-0.7)

Living conditions during COVID-19	Total		Male		Female	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Impact on work or job:						
Lost job permanently	14.2	(12.7-15.8)	14.3	(12.1-16.6)	14.2	(12.1-16.3)
Lost job temporarily	21.5	(19.7-23.3)	23.8	(21.0-26.5)	19.6	(17.2-22.0)
No impact on their work or was retired or out of the workforce	64.2	(62.1-66.3)	61.9	(58.8-65.0)	66.2	(63.4-69.1)
Impact on income:						
Reduced income	48.5	(46.3-50.7)	51.9	(48.7-55.1)	45.6	(42.6-48.6)
Increased income	4.0	(3.2-4.9)	6.1	(4.6-7.7)	2.3	(1.4-3.2)
No impact on their work or was retired or out of the workforce	47.5	(45.3-49.7)	42.0	(38.8-45.1)	52.2	(49.1-55.2)

COVID-19 prevention media sources	Total		Male		Female	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Percentage who think official prevention messages have influenced behavior changes that protects against COVID-19	76.5	(74.7-78.4)	74.2	(71.4-77.0)	78.6	(76.1-81.1)
Most trusted source of information to change behavior related to COVID-19:						
Ministry of Health	30.4	(28.4-32.5)	27.1	(24.2-30.0)	33.3	(30.4-36.1)
Religious community	2.9	(2.2-3.7)	2.7	(1.6-3.7)	3.1	(2.1-4.2)
Friends and family	10.8	(9.4-12.2)	13.4	(11.2-15.6)	8.6	(6.9-10.3)
Community leader	1.2	(0.7-1.6)	1.4	(0.6-2.2)	1.0	(0.4-1.5)
Independent medical societies	6.8	(5.7-7.9)	7.5	(5.8-9.2)	6.2	(4.7-7.6)
Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization	31.2	(29.2-33.3)	29.7	(26.9-32.8)	32.5	(29.8-35.4)
None	14.5	(12.9-16.1)	16.0	(13.6-18.4)	13.2	(11.2-15.3)
Another source	2.2	(1.5-2.8)	2.3	(1.3-3.2)	2.1	(1.2-2.9)
Main media source for COVID-19 prevention information:						
Television	27.0	(25.1-28.9)	25.3	(22.6-28.0)	28.4	(25.7-31.0)
Radio	18.0	(16.4-19.7)	20.1	(17.6-22.6)	16.3	(14.1-18.5)
Websites	10.4	(9.1-11.7)	10.6	(8.7-12.6)	10.2	(8.4-12.0)
WhatsApp	4.5	(3.6-5.4)	4.6	(3.3-6.0)	4.3	(3.1-5.5)
Social media	34.3	(32.4-36.3)	33.1	(30.2-36.0)	35.4	(32.7-38.1)
None	4.7	(3.8-5.7)	5.4	(3.9-6.8)	4.2	(3.0-5.4)
Other	1.1	(0.6-1.5)	0.9	(0.3-1.5)	1.2	(0.6-1.9)

Access to services	Total		Male		Female	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Percentage who needed mental health services because of the COVID-19 pandemic	4.8	(3.8-5.7)	3.6	(2.4-4.8)	5.8	(4.4-7.1)
Among those who needed mental health services because of the COVID-19 pandemic, percentage who consulted mental health services	47.4	(37.5-57.4)	43.9	(27.2-60.7)	49.3	(36.9-61.7)
Percentage who were told by a doctor or other health professional that they have high blood pressure or hypertension	25.3	(23.5-27.1)	18.4	(16.0-20.8)	31.2	(28.5-33.8)
Among those diagnosed with hypertension, percentage who use medication for hypertension	75.3	(71.6-79.0)	72.7	(66.1-79.3)	76.6	(72.2-81.1)
Among those diagnosed who use hypertension medication, percentage who had to stop using it during the pandemic	4.9	(2.7-7.0)	4.7	(1.0-8.4)	4.9	(2.3-7.6)
Percentage who were told by a doctor or other health professional that they have high blood sugar or diabetes	9.9	(8.6-11.1)	8.0	(6.3-9.7)	11.5	(9.6-13.3)
Among those diagnosed with diabetes, percentage who use medication for diabetes management	81.2	(75.8-86.7)	81.1	(72.1-90.1)	81.3	(74.4-88.2)
Among those diagnosed who use diabetes medication, percentage who had to stop using it during the pandemic	1.3	(0.0-3.0)	1.8	(0.0-5.3)	1.0	(0.0-2.8)

COVID-19 vaccine receptivity	Total		Male		Female	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Percentage who were vaccinated against COVID-19	77.8	(76.0-79.6)	76.1	(73.4-78.8)	79.3	(76.9-81.7)
Among unvaccinated, percentage who would get a COVID-19 vaccine if it were available today:						
Definitely yes	23.0	(19.1-26.9)	22.0	(16.6-27.4)	23.9	(18.3-29.6)
Probably yes	33.6	(29.2-38.0)	31.0	(24.9-37.1)	36.2	(29.8-42.6)
Probably not	16.4	(12.9-19.8)	17.1	(12.1-22.0)	15.7	(10.8-20.5)
Definitely not	27.0	(22.9-31.2)	29.9	(23.8-36.0)	24.2	(18.5-29.9)

COVID-19 vaccine receptivity	Total		Male		Female	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Among those unvaccinated who would get a vaccine if it were available today, percentage who would receive it:						
As soon as possible	50.5	(44.3-56.7)	58.9	(50.0-67.8)	43.1	(34.6-51.6)
Plan to wait	49.5	(43.3-55.7)	41.1	(32.2-50.0)	56.9	(48.4-65.4)
Among those unvaccinated who would get a vaccine if it were available today, percentage who would prefer to get it at:						
Government hospital	17.8	(13.0-22.7)	15.6	(9.0-22.3)	19.7	(12.7-26.6)
Private hospital	38.3	(32.1-44.5)	39.6	(30.5-48.7)	37.1	(28.6-45.6)
Health center	31.9	(26.0-37.9)	32.0	(23.4-40.7)	31.8	(23.6-40.0)
Pharmacy	2.5	(0.5-4.6)	2.5	(0.0-5.4)	2.5	(0.0-5.4)
Other	9.5	(5.7-13.2)	10.2	(4.5-15.9)	8.8	(3.8-13.8)
Among those unvaccinated who would not get a vaccine if it were available today, main reason why they would not get it:						
Do not think it is safe	23.0	(18.5-27.6)	25.1	(18.6-31.6)	20.9	(14.6-27.2)
Do not think it is effective	11.1	(7.7-14.5)	14.0	(8.8-19.2)	8.1	(3.9-12.4)
Waiting for a specific COVID-19 vaccine brand	9.3	(6.1-12.4)	9.4	(5.0-13.8)	9.1	(4.7-13.5)
Waiting to decide	22.3	(17.8-26.8)	19.0	(13.2-24.9)	25.7	(18.9-32.5)
Think he/she will get COVID-19	0.9	(0.0-1.9)	0.6	(0.0-1.6)	1.3	(0.0-3.0)
Do not believe in vaccination	11.4	(7.9-14.8)	15.1	(9.7-20.4)	7.5	(3.4-11.6)
Other	22.0	(17.6-26.5)	16.8	(11.2-22.5)	27.4	(20.5-34.4)
Percentage who know where to get a COVID-19 test	81.8	(80.1-83.5)	78.9	(76.3-81.5)	84.2	(82.0-86.4)

*The cooperation rate is the number of complete interviews divided by the number of interviews (complete plus partial) plus the number of non-interviews that involve the identification of and contact with an eligible respondent (refusal and break-off plus other).

For further information, please contact nmhsurveillance@paho.org