Covid and Worship Attendance
Final Survey Questionnaire

Today’s survey covers some current topics regarding faith and religious practise today. It will take 7 or 8 minutes of your time. Let’s start with a few questions to make sure the survey is relevant for you.

Q1.
Base=All
[Single choice]

Which one of the following best describes your religion?

Roman Catholic
United Church
Anglican
Lutheran
Presbyterian
Baptist
Pentecostal
Other evangelical Christian
Other Christian
Muslim
Hindu
Jewish
Sikh
Buddhist
Other (please specify:)
None/No religious identity – [Thank and terminate]

Q1b.
Base="Other Christian" at Q1
[Open end]

You mentioned you are another denomination of Christian. Could you please specify which denomination?
Q2.  
Base=All except “None/No religion” at Q1  
[Single choice]  
In recent years – before the Covid-19 pandemic – how often, if at all, were you attending regular worship services at [Pipe-in based on Q1 ID: church, a mosque, synagogue, temple, place of worship] (not counting weddings and funerals)?

A few times a week/Daily  
Once a week  
Two or three times a month  
Once a month  
A few times a year [Thank and terminate]  
Less than that [Thank and terminate]  
Never attend [Thank and terminate]  

For rest of questionnaire, “Base=All” includes only those who qualify on above screener questions

Q2b.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]  
And what about now? How often, if at all, do you attend regular worship services at [Pipe-in based on Q1 ID: church, a mosque, synagogue, temple, place of worship] (not counting weddings and funerals)?

A few times a week/Daily  
Once a week  
Two or three times a month  
Once a month  
A few times a year  
Less than that  
Never attend

Q3.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]  
Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:  
My personal faith is a very central and fundamental part of who I am

Agree strongly  
Agree moderately  
Disagree moderately  
Disagree strongly
Canadians have been living with the Covid-19 pandemic for a year now. It’s brought changes to many aspects of life, including religious worship practices. We want to ask some questions about this.

Q4a.  
Base=All  
[Single choice grid]

Has your own participation in any of the following activities changed over this past year of Covid?

[Columns - randomize]  
Praying at home alone  
Praying at home with family  
Community outreach/volunteering with your faith group  
Giving financial support to your own faith group/religious congregation

[Rows – keep this order]  
Now doing more of that/started doing it  
Now doing less of that/stopped doing it  
Same as before/No change

Q4b.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]

During the pandemic, have you been keeping in contact with people that you know through your faith group and place of worship?

Yes, have kept in contact with many/all of them  
Yes, have kept in contact with at least one/some of them  
No, have not been in contact much/at all with them

Q5.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]

Overall, thinking about the Covid restrictions that have been put in place in the community where you live, do you think these restrictions go too far, don’t go far enough, or are about right?

Go too far  
Don’t go far enough  
Are about right
Q6.
Base=All
[Single choice]

How would you describe your province’s public health restrictions on places of worship compared to other public venues where people gather? Would you say:

Restrictions have been unfairly **harsh** on places of worship compared to other public venues
Restrictions have been fairly **balanced** between places of worship and other public venues
Restrictions have been too **relaxed** for places of worship compared to other public venues
Don’t know/Can’t say

Q7.
Base=All
[Single choice]

Over the last year, tell us about the situation at your usual place of worship in terms of Covid restrictions and in-person group worship? Has it been:

Entirely closed throughout
Closed most of that time, but open for some of it (perhaps with reduced capacity allowed)
Open most of that time (perhaps with reduced capacity allowed), but closed for some of it
Stayed open throughout

Q8.
Base=All
[Single choice]

If it were entirely up to you, would Covid restrictions on in-person attendance at your own place of worship have been:

[Randomize order]
The same as they have been
More relaxed/Allowed to open more
Tighter than they have been
Q9.
Base=All
[Single choice]

Had more opportunities for traditional in-person worship been offered during this past year of the Covid pandemic would you have attended?

Yes, definitely would have
Probably
Probably not
No, not during Covid

Q10a.
Base=All
[Single choice]

How much, if at all, do you miss attending religious worship in person the way you did before Covid-19? (If you have recently been able to resume attending worship again, please answer for how you felt back when you could not go.)

Miss it greatly
Miss it a fair amount
Only miss it a little bit
Don’t miss it at all

Q10b.
Base=Roman Catholics (code 1) at Q1
[Single choice]

You’ve indicated you are Roman Catholic. Do you miss having the opportunity to receive holy communion? (If you have recently been able to resume attending mass again, please answer for how you felt back when you could not go.)

Miss it greatly
Miss it a fair amount
Only miss it a little bit
Don’t miss it at all
Q11.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]

If you have been able to attend in-person worship during the pandemic, have the Covid health precautions (such as wearing masks, social distancing, etc.) had a negative impact on your experience? (Setting aside your views on how necessary or not these precautions may be.)

Yes, a small but noticeable negative impact on the experience  
Yes, a significant negative impact on the experience  
No, not really  
Not applicable – have not been attending in-person worship during the pandemic

Q12.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]

As you may know, there are several important holy days coming up for people of the Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths. People of these faiths will be marking Easter, Passover and Ramadan in the near future. To what extent will this upcoming holy period be more or less meaningful for you given the Covid-19 pandemic and the public health restrictions in place?

More meaningful  
The same as always  
Less meaningful  
(Not applicable to my own faith)

Q13.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]

During the pandemic, as far as you’re aware, has your own local place of worship stayed active in other ways – for example, still offering counselling services, or food bank support, or some groups meeting online, etc.

Yes, very much so  
Some offerings/activities continuing, others not  
No, pretty much closed down  
Don’t know/Can’t say
Q14.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]  

As far as you are aware, does (or did) your own local church or other place of worship offer online worship/prayer that the congregation could stream and attend at home?  

Yes  
No  
Don’t know/Can’t say  

Q15.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]  

Have you yourself been streaming/attending any online religious worship/prayer during Covid (whether offered by your own local place of worship or coming from somewhere else)?  

Yes  
No  

Q16.  
Base=”Yes, have streamed/attended online” at Q15  
[Single choice]  

How often have you streamed/attended online worship during Covid?  

Regularly, once a week or more  
Regularly, once a month or more  
Less often than that but at least a few times  
Just tried it once or twice  

Q17a.  
Base=”Yes” at Q15  
[Single choice]  

Are you streaming worship from your own regular (pre-Covid) place of worship, or those offered from somewhere else?  

Only my own place of worship  
Mostly my own  
A mix/roughly half and half  
Mostly a different place  
Only from a different place of worship than my own
Q17b.
Base=Watches from another PoW (codes 3, 4, or 5) at Q17a
[Single choice]

You mentioned that you have streamed worship from somewhere other than the place of worship you were regularly attending before the pandemic. Which of the following best describes that other place you’ve been streaming worship from?

Another local/community place of worship which offers worship online
A larger place of worship or religious organization with national/international reach
An online-only website, one that does not also have a physical building for congregants
Don’t know/Can’t say

Q18.
Base=”Yes” at Q15
[Multi choice]

Are you typically streaming worship alone, or with others? (select all that may apply)

Alone [Exclusive]
With immediate family
With other relatives
With close friends
With other people from the faith group

Q19.
Base=”Yes” at Q15
[Single choice]

Overall, have you found online, streamed worship a good alternative for in-person worship?

Yes, a good alternative
Yes, not ideal but good
No, but better than nothing
No, definitely not an alternative
Q20.  
Base=All  
[Multi choice]  
What, if anything, do (or did) you miss most about attending worship in-person? (Select up to two)  

[Randomize]  
The chance to run into/interact with people  
The feeling of community from being around others of my faith  
The religious ceremonies/rituals are better/more meaningful in-person  
Social activities and other events before or after  
The sense of being in a sacred place of spiritual significance  
Other (specify):  
Nothing [Fixed, exclusive]  

Q21.  
Base=All  
[Multi choice]  
What, if anything, do (or did) you not miss about in-person attendance at your place of worship? (Select up to two)  

[Randomize]  
Having to dress up  
Getting there/the trip to and from  
Pressure to socialize when I would rather not  
Pressure to stay for longer/things I’d rather skip  
Having to bring children who don’t want to go or find someone to watch them  
Other (specify):  
Nothing [Fixed, exclusive]  

Q22.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]  
Generally speaking, what kind of impact, if any, has Covid-19 had on your own personal spiritual state?  

Overall positive impact  
Overall negative impact  
Mixed impact – about as much good as bad  
No impact
Let’s think ahead to having Covid and its restrictions behind us. For these next questions, let’s say that by this coming September things are back to at least a new normal and public places like houses of worship can be fully open again.

Q23.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]  
How would you describe your own personal feeling about being able to attend in-person worship again? (If you are already back, please answer for how you felt before you were able to return.)

Very keen to get back  
Just one of many things I look forward to  
Not sure – will have to see  
Not really interested in attending in-person now

Q24.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]  
How would you guess your future post-pandemic attendance at your place of worship will compare to how often you were attending in recent years pre-pandemic?

Will probably attend more than before  
About the same as before  
Will probably attend less than before

Q25.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]  
Would you hope your place of worship, or ones like it, will continue to offer online religious worship even after Covid?

Yes, should keep doing this/good option  
Don’t care much either way  
No, online can stop once in-person is okay
Q26.  
Base=All  
[Single choice]

Do you think you will use/attend online worship after COVID-19 restrictions end?

Yes, will mostly use online instead of attending in-person  
At least sometimes  
Rarely/certain circumstances  
No, will always opt for in-person and not online  
Don’t know/Can’t say