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By

Brian Harnisch, MBA, Senior Research  
Scientist

[harnisch@uwyo.edu](mailto:harnisch@uwyo.edu)

With the assistance of

Bistra Anatchkova, PhD, Survey  
Research Center Manager

[bistra@uwyo.edu](mailto:bistra@uwyo.edu)

Wyoming Survey & Analysis Center  
University of Wyoming  
1000 E. University Ave, Dept. 3925  
Laramie, Wyoming 82071  
307.766.2189 | [wysac@uwyo.edu](mailto:wysac@uwyo.edu)  
[www.uwyo.edu/wysac](http://www.uwyo.edu/wysac)

# Views of COVID-19 in Wyoming – 3/30/20

A snapshot survey of Wyoming residents

March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

This WyoSpeaks survey of Wyoming citizens was conducted over the course of 24 hours beginning on March 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. The survey was designed to gauge public opinion on a number of topics related to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and approval ratings for how the president, congress, our governor, and local officials are handling the crisis. This is the first iteration of our COVID-19 tracking survey, which will be fielded at regular intervals to collect information about the changing views of Wyoming residents over time.

## Methodology

This brief presents the results of the first of multiple surveys planned in 2020 to measure public opinion on a number of topics related to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and approval ratings for how government officials are handling the related crisis.

The survey was conducted among a randomly selected sample of Wyoming residents who are members of the Wyoming Survey & Analysis Center's (WYSAC) WyoSpeaks panel of Wyoming citizens.

The survey was conducted online for 24 hours, with the first email invitations sent to selected respondents at 10:00 AM on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. A total of 1,057 WyoSpeaks panel members were drawn into the survey sample, and 465 completed the survey for a response rate of 44%.

The survey implemented a quota for age, with the quota sizes based on data from the 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-year estimates. The quota approach was used to maximize the representativeness of the initial survey responses so that less data weighting was required after data collection closed.

The survey results are weighted by gender, age, and respondent county. The overall margin of error for questions asked of all respondents is  $\pm 4.5$  percentage points. Total column percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding error. This project was funded internally by WYSAC.

### **About WyoSpeaks**

The mission of WyoSpeaks is to give voice to Wyoming citizens on important issues facing our state and make public policy more responsive to the opinions of our citizens.

WYSAC's WyoSpeaks survey panel uses probability-based sampling methods to monitor the perspectives of Wyoming citizens through online surveys. WyoSpeaks surveys allow researchers to draw statistically valid inferences about the state as a whole. Over the course of a year, the Wyoming Survey & Analysis Center conducts a number of state-wide telephone surveys where all Wyoming residents have an equal probability of selection. During these surveys, respondents are given the opportunity to join the WyoSpeaks panel of Wyoming citizens. The only way to be added to the WyoSpeaks panel is through this random selection process. WyoSpeaks offers researchers, agencies, and organizations a cost-effective alternative to focus groups and robust telephone and mail surveys with a quick turnaround of statistically valid and reliable results.

For more information about pricing and getting your questions answered by the WyoSpeaks panel members, please email us at [wysac.src@uwyo.edu](mailto:wysac.src@uwyo.edu).

## Questions and Survey Results

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Donald Trump is handling COVID-19 (coronavirus)?

	3/30/2020
Strongly Approve	36.2
Somewhat Approve	26.0
Somewhat Disapprove	10.3
Strongly Disapprove	24.0
Unsure	3.5
Total	100.0

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Governor Mark Gordon is handling COVID-19 (coronavirus)?

Strongly Approve	36.3
Somewhat Approve	45.6
Somewhat Disapprove	10.5
Strongly Disapprove	3.6
Unsure	4.0
Total	100.0

Q5 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling COVID-19 (coronavirus)?

	3/30/2020
Strongly Approve	6.3
Somewhat Approve	41.3
Somewhat Disapprove	30.2
Strongly Disapprove	15.3
Unsure	6.8
Total	100.0

Q10 Do you approve or disapprove of the way your local government and health officials are handling COVID-19 (coronavirus)?

	3/30/2020
Strongly Approve	36.3
Somewhat Approve	42.1
Somewhat Disapprove	12.3
Strongly Disapprove	3.6
Unsure	5.6
Total	100.0

Q6 How concerned are you about the impact of COVID-19 (coronavirus) on the economy – if at all?

	3/30/2020
Very concerned	71.4
Somewhat concerned	22.7
Not too concerned	4.6
Not at all concerned	1.1
Unsure	0.1
Total	100.0

Q7 How concerned are you about the impact of COVID-19 (coronavirus) on your personal finances – if at all?

	3/30/2020
Very concerned	35.4
Somewhat concerned	39.6
Not too concerned	19.9
Not at all concerned	5.0
Unsure	0.1
Total	100.0

Q8 Many states have enacted policies to slow the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus). Do you support or oppose the following decisions?

	3/30/2020		
	Support	Oppose	Unsure
Close K-12 schools	85.3	6.5	8.2
Close daycare centers	80.9	7.8	11.3
Close restaurants and bars	81.6	8.5	9.8
Limit public gatherings	88.6	5.7	5.7
"Shelter-in-place" order	54.4	22.3	23.3

Q11 How closely are you following the news about COVID-19 (coronavirus) – if at all?

	3/30/2020
Very closely	56.7
Fairly closely	33.2
A little closely	9.0
Not at all closely	1.2
Total	100.0

Q12 Are you worried that you or someone in your immediate family might catch COVID-19 (coronavirus)?

	3/30/2020
Very worried	30.7
Somewhat worried	39.3
Not too worried	22.3
Not worried at all	6.4
It has already happened	1.3
Total	100.0

Q13 Do you feel anxious about the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus) in the United States?

	3/30/2020
Yes, very anxious	22.4
Yes, fairly anxious	30.7
Yes, somewhat anxious	32.5
No, not at all	14.4
Total	100.0

Q14 Do you feel anxious about the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus) in Wyoming?

	3/30/2020
Yes, very anxious	18.4
Yes, fairly anxious	28.2
Yes, somewhat anxious	36.3
No, not at all	17.2
Total	100.0

Q15 Which of the following best describes your feelings about COVID-19 (coronavirus) in the United States?

	3/30/2020
It's not likely to be a major problem	7.3
The worst is behind us	7.2
The worst is yet to come	66.7
Unsure	18.8
Total	100.0

Q16 Which of the following best describes your feelings about COVID-19 (coronavirus) in Wyoming?

	3/30/2020
It's not likely to be a major problem	14.1
The worst is behind us	6.2
The worst is yet to come	63.3
Unsure	16.4
Total	100.0

Q17 Have you changed your daily routine specifically because of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak?

	3/30/2020
No, I have not changed my daily routine	10.2
Yes, I have changed my daily routine a little	38.2
Yes, I have changed my daily routine a lot	51.6
Total	100.0

*Q18 asked of all respondents who answered “Yes...” to Q17*

Q18 In what ways have you changed your daily routine? Please select all that apply

	3/30/2020
Cancelling or changing travel plans.	70.4
Eating out less.	84.4
Avoiding physical contact with others.	87.6
Washing hands more frequently.	81.6
Working from home.	44.4
Taking care of children at home.	27.0
Not attending public gatherings.	88.6
Shopping online more.	41.8
Following the news more closely.	66.2
Following the news less closely.	5.8
Spending more time on social media.	40.6
Spending less time on social media.	9.2
Avoiding houses of worship.	52.5
Declining visits from friends and family.	53.1
Limiting playdates	22.4
Spending more time at home.	87.8
Other	12.1



19 Would you say that you have confidence in the U.S. healthcare system to handle the response to COVID-19 (coronavirus), or not?

	3/30/2020
Yes, have confidence	51.7
No, do not have confidence	28.8
Unsure	19.5
Total	100.0

Q20 Would you say that you have confidence in the Wyoming healthcare system to handle the response to COVID-19 (coronavirus), or not?

	3/30/2020
Yes, have confidence	50.4
No, do not have confidence	30.2
Unsure	19.4
Total	100.0

Q21 Do you think COVID-19 (coronavirus) is a real threat or blown out of proportion?

	3/30/2020
Real threat	63.8
Blown out of proportion	24.2
Unsure	12.0
Total	100.0

Q22 Do you trust the information you hear about COVID-19 (coronavirus) from President Donald Trump?

	3/30/2020
A great deal	23.9
A good amount	31.8
Not very much	21.7
Not at all	22.6
Total	100.0

Q23 Do you trust the information you hear about COVID-19 (coronavirus) from Governor Mark Gordon?

	3/30/2020
A great deal	30.2
A good amount	56.7
Not very much	12.4
Not at all	0.8
Total	100.0

Q24 Do you trust the information you hear about COVID-19 (coronavirus) from your local government and health officials?

	3/30/2020
A great deal	30.1
A good amount	55.6
Not very much	12.1
Not at all	2.2
Total	100.0

Q27 If a vaccine becomes available for COVID-19 (coronavirus), how likely are you to get the vaccine?

	3/30/2020
Very likely	53.6
Somewhat likely	26.6
Somewhat unlikely	9.5
Very unlikely	10.3
Total	100.0

Q28 Because of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak, have you or has anyone in your immediate family been laid off or lost their job?

	3/30/2020
Yes	31.9
No	68.1
Total	100.0

*Q30 asked of all respondents who answered “No” to Q28, has anyone in their immediate family been laid off or lost their job.*

Q30 How concerned are you that you or someone in your immediate family might be laid off or lose their job as a result of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak?

	3/30/2020
Very concerned	18.7
Somewhat concerned	34.4
Not so concerned	28.7
Not concerned at all	18.1
Total	100.0

Q29 Because of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak, have you or has anyone in your immediate family had work hours or pay cut?

	3/30/2020
Yes	56.3
No	43.7
Total	100.0

*Q31 asked all respondents who answered “No” to Q29, has anyone in your immediate family had work hours or pay cut.*

Q31 How concerned are you that you or someone in your immediate family might have their work hours or pay cut as a result of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak?

	3/30/2020
Very concerned	15.9
Somewhat concerned	32.5
Not so concerned	29.1
Not concerned at all	22.5
Total	100.0

Q32 In the past two weeks, have you experienced difficulties purchasing any of the household items (non-food) you wanted for your home? (e.g. toilet paper, tissues, hand wash, disinfectant wipes, etc.)

	3/30/2020
Yes	81.2
No	18.8
Total	100.0

Q33 In the past two weeks, have you experienced difficulties purchasing any groceries or other food you wanted for your household? (e.g. fruits, vegetables, meats, canned goods, eggs, bread, etc. )

	3/30/2020
Yes	75.8
No	24.2
Total	100.0

## Demographics

### Age

	Unweighted	Weighted	Wyoming
18-24	4.9	9.1	12.6
25-34	21.9	19.2	18.3
35-44	18.1	16.7	16.0
45-54	15.9	16.6	15.9
55-64	20.2	18.9	18.2
65-74	13.8	11.8	11.3
75+	5.2	7.7	7.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

### Gender

	Unweighted	Weighted	Wyoming
Male	44.8	50.7	50.9
Female	55.2	49.3	49.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

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County

	Unweighted	Weighted	Wyoming
Albany	8.4	6.7	6.6
Big Horn	3.2	2.2	2.1
Campbell	5.2	8.2	8.0
Carbon	2.8	2.7	2.6
Converse	1.9	2.5	2.4
Crook	1.3	1.4	1.3
Fremont	5.4	6.4	6.9
Goshen	2.6	2.3	2.3
Hot Springs	2.4	1.1	0.8
Johnson	1.1	1.6	1.5
Laramie	16.5	16.6	17.0
Lincoln	4.3	3.4	3.3
Natrona	14.3	13.7	13.7
Niobrara	0.9	0.4	0.4
Park	4.1	5.2	5.1
Platte	1.7	1.5	1.5
Sheridan	4.8	4.9	5.2
Sublette	3.7	1.9	1.7
Sweetwater	5.0	7.3	7.5
Teton	3.5	3.8	4.0
Uinta	2.6	3.7	3.5
Washakie	2.2	1.5	1.4
Weston	2.2	1.3	1.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0