

Taking the Pulse of COVID-19 in Saskatchewan—in 6 charts

Social Contours & COVID-19 and Mental Health in Saskatchewan research teams

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QUESTION: What is the impact of vaccination policies on self-reported mental health of adults in Saskatchewan?

Methodological note: *Descriptive analyses of data collected from 625 Saskatchewan adults as part of ongoing population based national surveys conducted by the [Mental Health Research Canada \(MHRC\)](#) between October 22 and November 3, 2021 (cycle 9). The cycle 9 data collection coincided with the declining phase of fourth wave of COVID-19.*

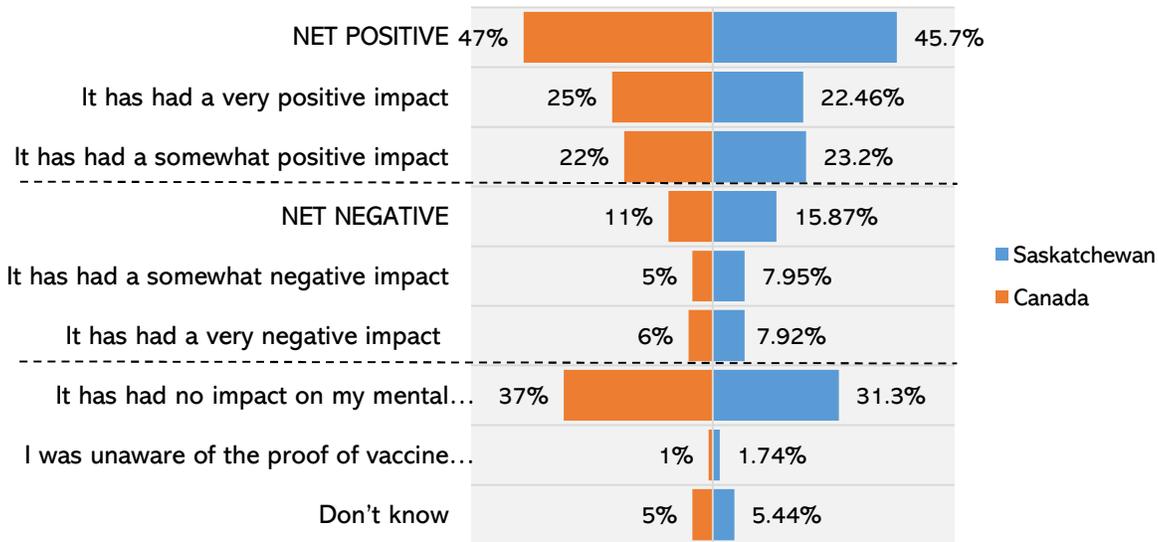
Respondents were asked: “How, if at all, has the implementation of a proof of vaccine mandate in your province influenced your mental health?” Response options were grouped as positive impact on mental health (‘very positive’ or ‘somewhat positive’), negative impact (‘very negative’ or ‘somewhat negative’), ‘no impact,’ ‘unaware of proof of vaccine mandate,’ and ‘don’t know.’ Using Stata™ version 17.0, comparative analyses were conducted by gender, age, equity-seeking populations (i.e., ethnic groups, immigrant status, LGBTQ2S+, and physical impairment), region of residence, and vaccine receipt. The results were compared with the rest of Canada, when applicable. To ensure representativeness of the adult Saskatchewan population, the results have been weighted based on age, gender, and location of residence.

Key Takeaways

- Overall, in Saskatchewan adults, the proof-of-vaccination policy has had a positive effect on self-reported mental health of most adults, approximately one in two; however, one in six respondents stated the policy had negative effects on their mental health.
- The impact of proof of vaccine policy on self-reported mental health in Saskatchewan is comparable to the rest of Canada.
- The effect of the policy is does not vary significantly by gender, among equity-seeking groups, and by location of residence.
- Respondents who have been mostly negatively impacted by proof of vaccine policy were younger adults (<55 years), about one in five, and those who declared themselves as unvaccinated.

1. Saskatchewan (Overall): Similar impact of proof-of-vaccination policies on self-reported mental health in Saskatchewan as it is in Canada

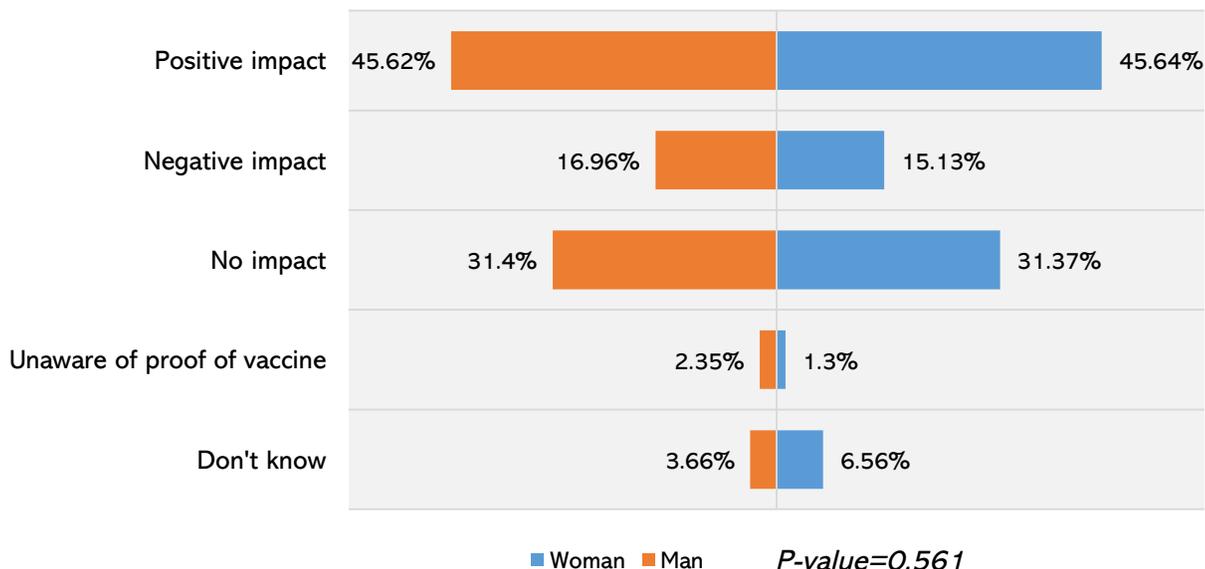
Influence of vaccination on mental health



The proof of vaccination (PoV) policy positively impacted the mental health of 46% Saskatchewan residents (similar to 47% reported among Canadians overall). In Saskatchewan, 16% reported a negative impact of PoV on their mental health (compared to 11% of Canadians), 31% reported no impact (compared to 37% of Canadians). 1.7% of Saskatchewan respondents were unaware of proof of vaccine.

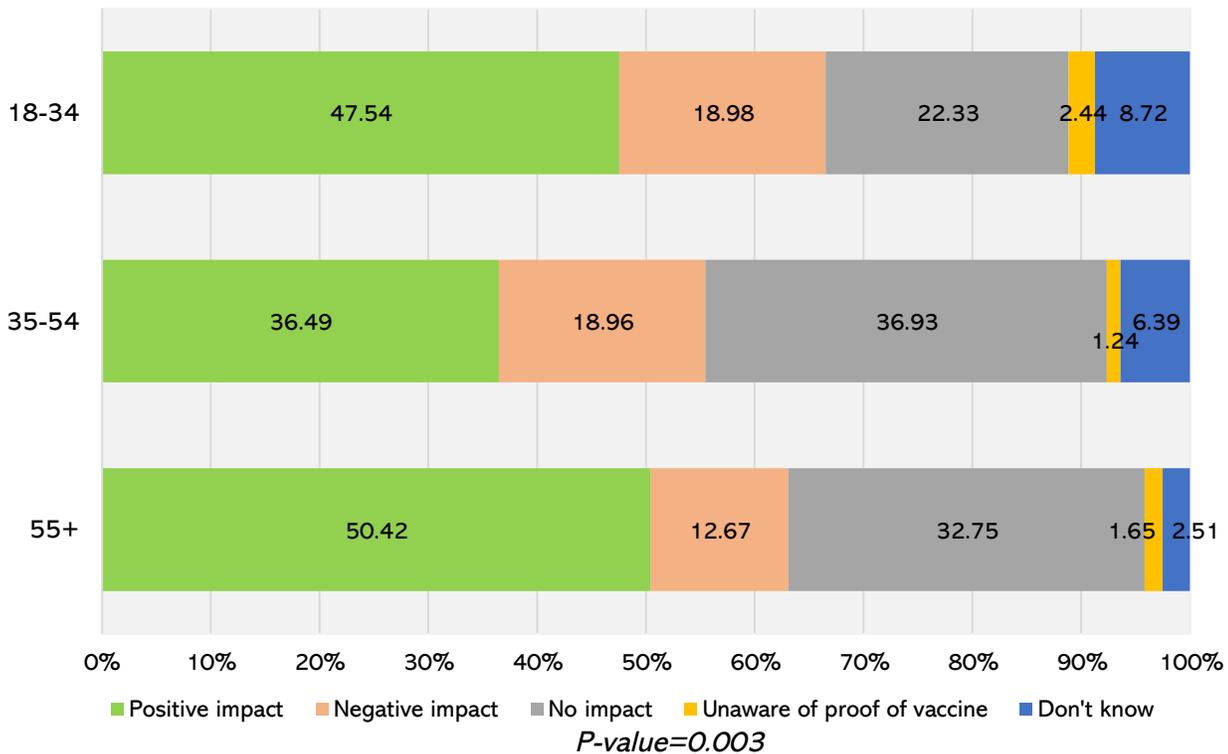
2. No difference between men and women in Saskatchewan as to the impact of proof-of-vaccination policies on mental health.

Influence of proof of vaccine on mental health by gender



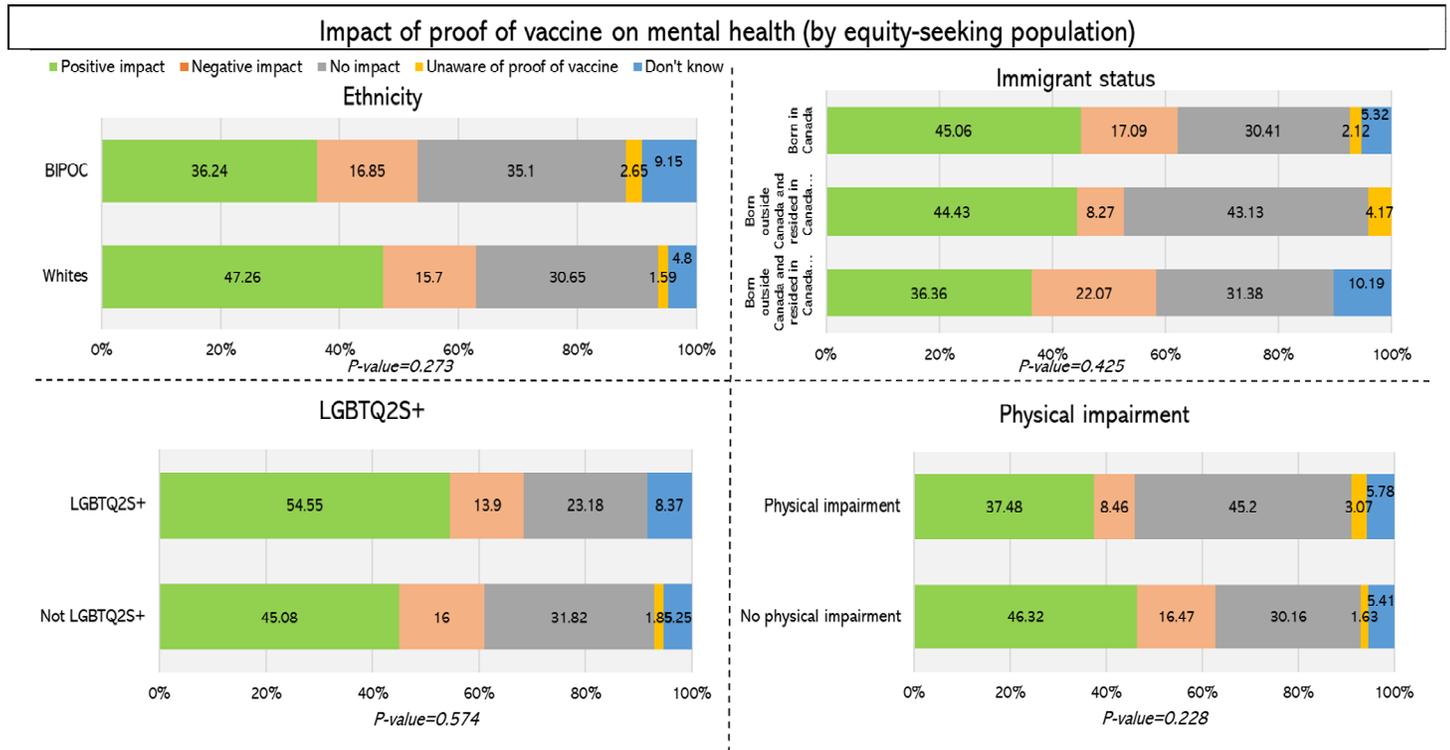
3. Younger (under 35 years of age) and older (55 years and above) Saskatchewan respondents were more likely to say proof-of-vaccination policies had a positive impact on their mental health, while those respondents 35-54 years of age had the lowest proportion who say proof-of-vaccination policies had a positive impact on mental health.

Influence of proof of vaccine on mental health by age

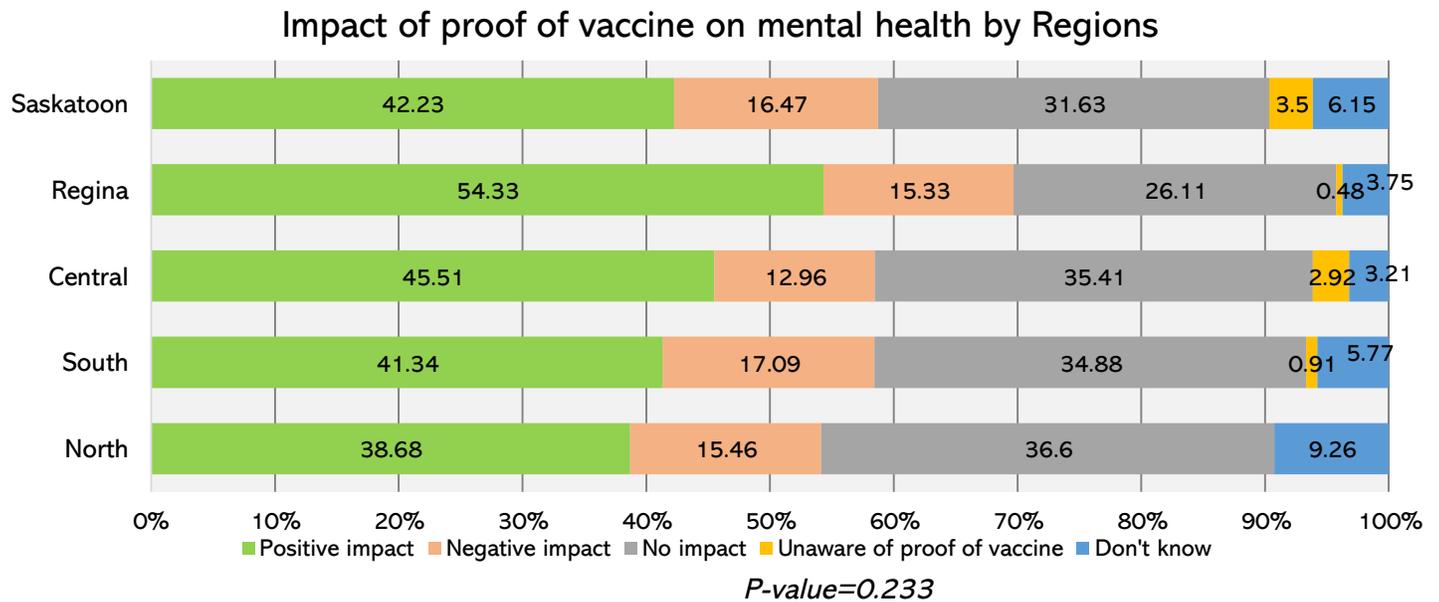


Among those 55 years and older and those in the 18-34 age group, 50.4% and 47.5% respectively said proof of vaccination (PoV) policy had positively impacted their mental health. The older respondents were also less likely to say PoV had a negative impact on their mental health. In contrast, those 35-54 years were less likely to say PoV had a positive impact on their mental health. Equal proportions of those who are younger than 55 said PoV policies had a negative impact on their mental health.

4. No difference among Saskatchewan respondents of different ethnic groups, immigration status, LGBTQ2S+, or physical impairment (i.e., equity-seeking populations) as to the impact of proof-of-vaccination policies on their mental health.



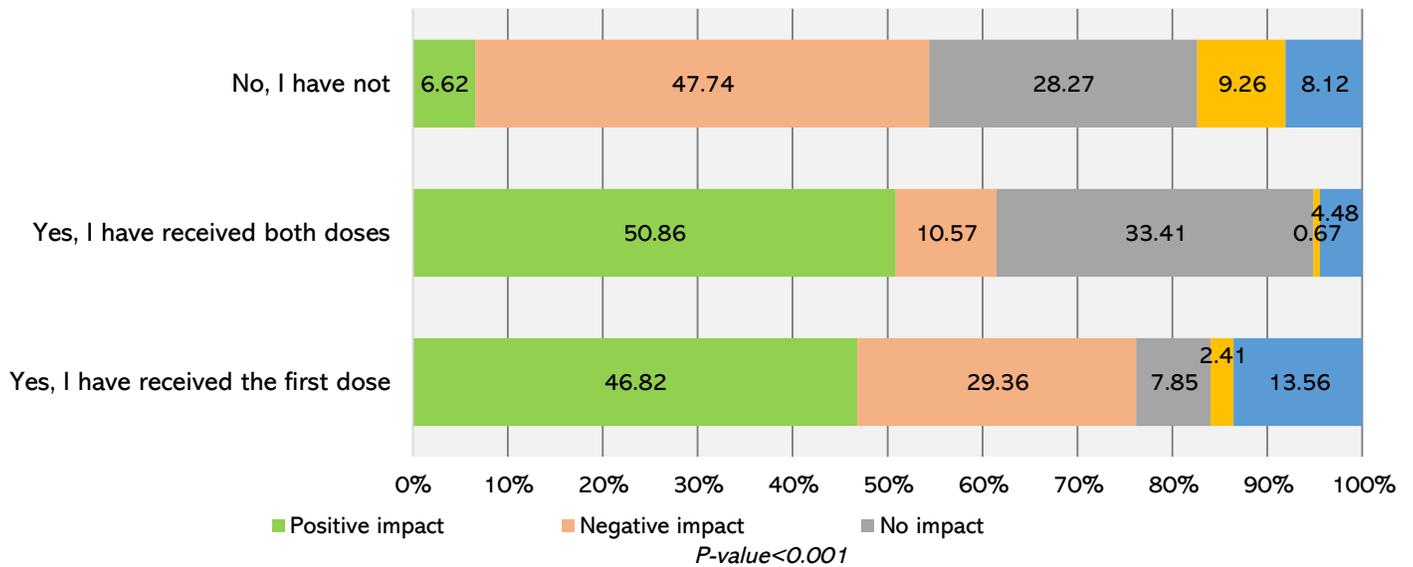
5. No difference by region of residence in Saskatchewan as to the impact of proof-of-vaccination policies on their mental health.



Regina has the highest percentage of respondents who stated that proof of vaccine policy has had a positive impact on mental health (54.3%) and Northern region had the least (38.7%).

6. However, those who are not vaccinated were most likely to say proof-of-vaccination policies have had a negative impact on their mental health.

Impact of proof of vaccine on mental health (by vaccine receipt)



Those who were not vaccinated were 4.4 times more likely to say their mental health was negatively impacted by proof of vaccine policy, compared to those who had received two doses (47.7% vs 10.6%). Also, respondents who were not vaccinated were more likely not to be aware of proof of vaccine, compared to those who had received two doses (9.26% vs 0.7%)

For more on the [Social Contours and COVID-19](#) and [Mental Health Saskatchewan](#) projects:

- <https://spheru.ca/covid-19/mainpage-covid-19.php>

Social Contours and COVID-19

Principal Investigator: Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine
 Saskatchewan Population Health and Evaluation Unit (SPHERU)
 Department of Community Health and Epidemiology, University of Saskatchewan
 t: 306-966-7940 e: nazeem.muhajarine@usask.ca

For more information, visit: <https://spheru.ca/covid-19/socialcontours/covid-19.php> or email social.contouring@usask.ca