A majority of Ontarians believe that the COVID-19 pandemic has shown that hospitals have a major problem when it comes to managing capacity. Properly funded universal healthcare system seen as best path forward.

National Survey | Summary
Conducted by Nanos for the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, June 2021
Submission 2021-1909

Key Findings

1

ABILITY OF HOSPITALS TO MEET HEALTHCARE NEEDS

Ontarians are much more likely to say they believe that the COVID-19 pandemic has shown that Ontario hospitals have a major problem (58%) when it comes to managing capacity to meet the healthcare needs of Ontarians than a minor problem (33%) or no problem (four percent). Women are more likely to say Ontario hospitals have a major problem (65%) than men (51%).

2

FUNDING FOR ONTARIO HOSPITAL SYSTEM

Residents of Ontario most often say they are not confident (44%) or somewhat not confident (26%) that the hospital system in Ontario receives enough funding to be prepared for future health threats, compared to confident (five percent) or somewhat confident (23%). Women are more likely to say they are not confident (49%) or somewhat not confident (29%) than men (38% not confident, 23% somewhat not confident).

3

BEST PATH FORWARD FOR ONTARIO HOSPITALS

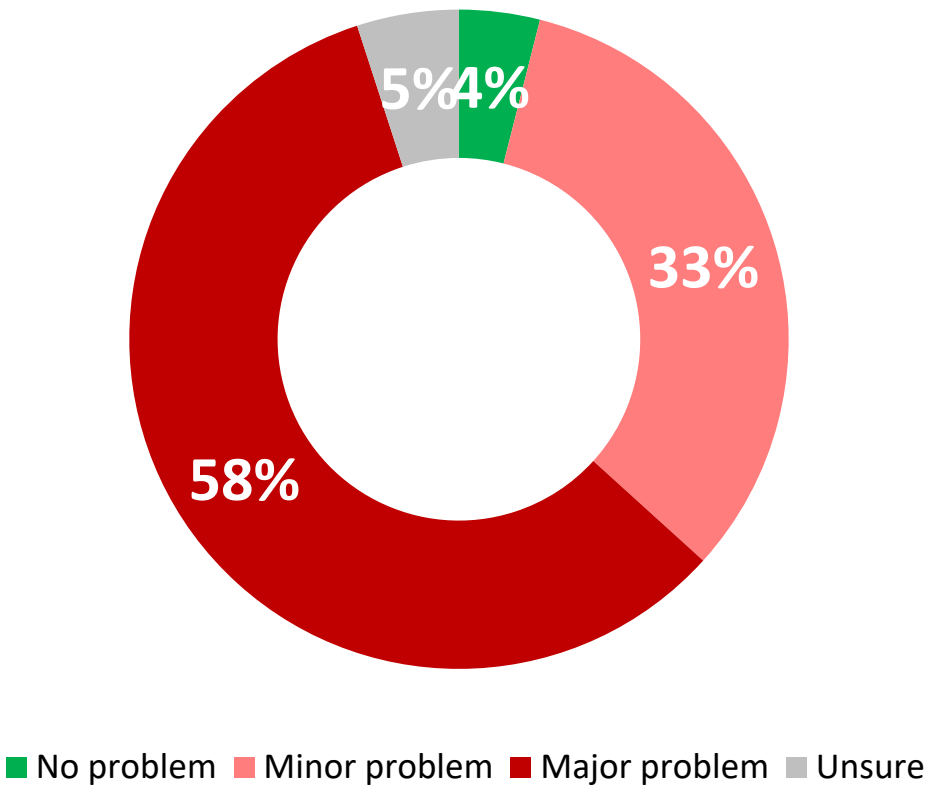
Seven in ten Ontarians say that they would support having the government increase funding and staffing so that Ontario hospitals can deal with future unexpected emergencies like Covid-19 (71%) rather than keeping the same level (22%) or decreasing the funding (one percent). Women (77%) are more likely to support increasing funding and staffing than men (65%).

4

PREPAREDNESS OF HOSPITALS FOR FUTURE HEALTH THREATS

Ontarians are five times more likely to say they think that having a properly funded universal public healthcare system is better for Ontario to be prepared for future health threats like the pandemic (80%) than privatizing some healthcare services (16%). Women (87%) are more likely to say this than men (74%).

Ability of Ontario hospitals to meet healthcare needs of Ontarians



Q Do you believe that the COVID-19 pandemic has shown that Ontario hospitals have a major, minor or no problem when it comes to managing capacity to meet the healthcare needs of Ontarians?

> Nearly six in ten Ontarians believe that the COVID-19 pandemic has shown that Ontario hospitals have a major problem (58%) when it comes to managing capacity to meet the healthcare needs of Ontarians. Women are more likely to say Ontario hospitals have a major problem (65%) than men (51%).

*Weighted to the true population proportion.
*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
*The net score is the difference between all positive and negative numbers in a question.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, May 30th to June 2nd, 2021, n=520 Ontarians, accurate 4.3 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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Ability of Ontario hospitals to meet healthcare needs of Ontarians

Q Do you believe that the COVID-19 pandemic has shown that Ontario hospitals have a major, minor or no problem when it comes to managing capacity to meet the healthcare needs of Ontarians?

	Men (n=276)	Women (n=244)	18 to 34 (n=118)	35 to 54 (n=209)	55 plus (n=193)
Major problem	**51.0%**	**65.0%**	**57.5%**	**59.3%**	**57.9%**
Minor problem	**38.2%**	**27.7%**	**33.6%**	**32.6%**	**32.3%**
No problem	**5.4%**	**2.6%**	**2.3%**	**5.3%**	**3.9%**

*Weighted to the true population proportion.
*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, May 30th to June 2nd, 2021, n=520 Ontarians, accurate 4.3 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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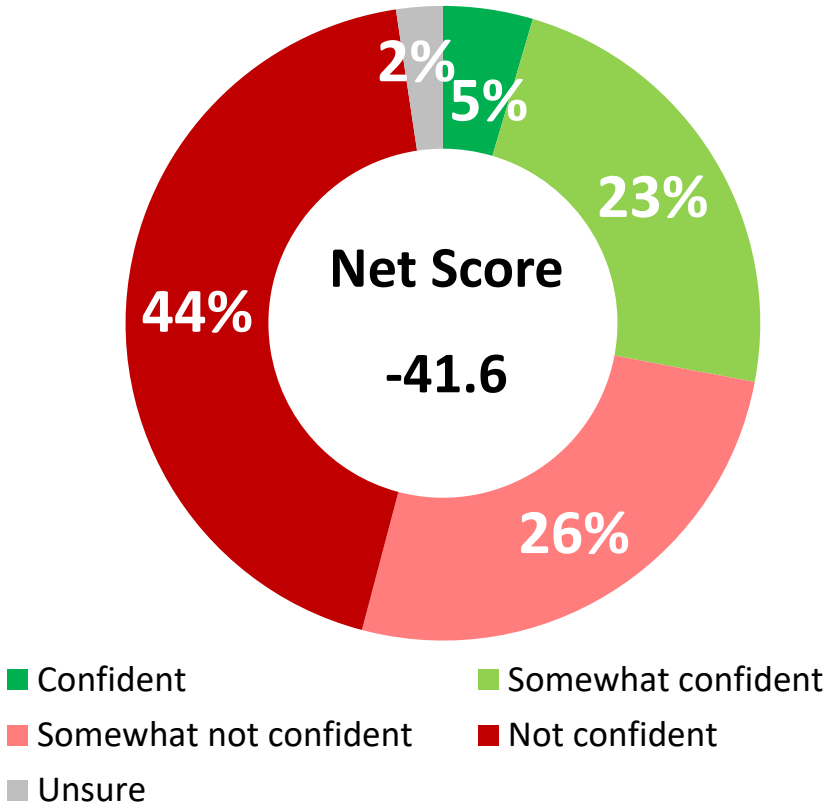
Confidence in funding for Ontario hospital system to prepare for future health threats

Q Are you confident, somewhat confident, somewhat not confident or not confident that our hospital system in Ontario receives enough funding to be prepared for future health threats like the pandemic?



> A strong majority of Ontarians are not confident (44%) or somewhat not confident (26%) that the hospital system in Ontario receives enough funding to be prepared for future health threats. Women (49% not confident; 29 somewhat not confident) are more likely to say this than men (38% not confident; 23% somewhat not confident)

*Weighted to the true population proportion.
*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
*The net score is the difference between all positive and negative numbers in a question.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, May 30th to June 2nd, 2021, n=520 Ontarians, accurate 4.3 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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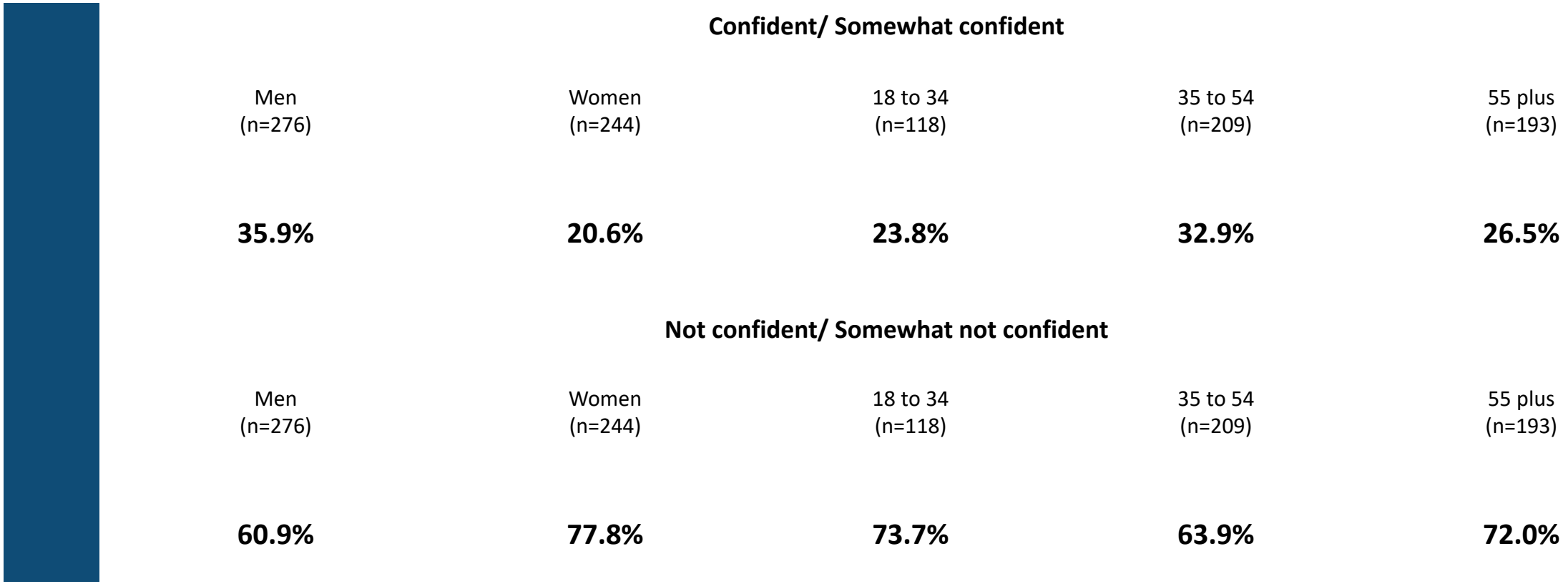
Confidence in funding for Ontario hospital system to prepare for future health threats

Q Are you confident, somewhat confident, somewhat not confident or not confident that our hospital system in Ontario receives enough funding to be prepared for future health threats like the pandemic?



*Weighted to the true population proportion.
*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
*The net score is the difference between all positive and negative numbers in a question.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, May 30th to June 2nd, 2021, n=520 Ontarians, accurate 4.3 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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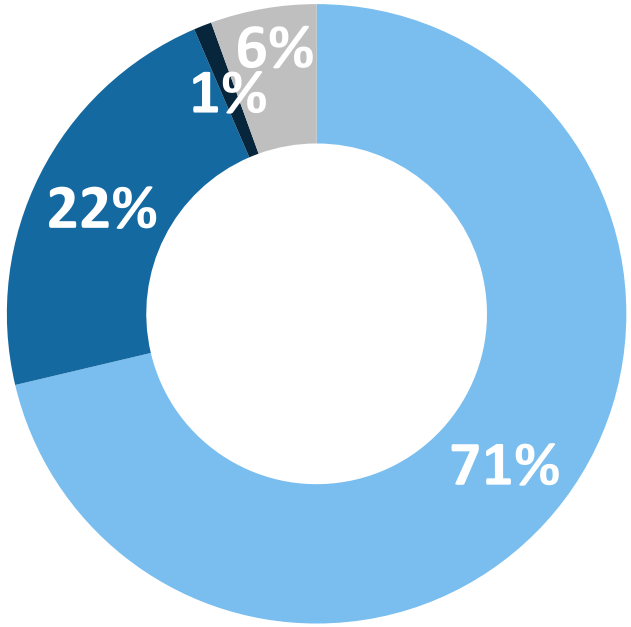
Best path forward for Ontario hospitals

Q As you may know, during the pandemic hospitals had to cancel elective surgeries, transfer patients to other regions and bring health care works from other provinces. Thinking of how our hospitals can serve Ontarians in the future, which of the following paths forward would you support most? [RANDOMIZE]



- Have the government increase funding and staffing so that Ontario hospitals can deal with future unexpected emergencies like COVID-19
- Have the government keep the same level of funding for Ontario hospitals and have them manage within existing budgets
- Have the government decrease funding for Ontario hospitals until the economy recovers
- Unsure

> A strong majority of Ontarians say that they would support most having the government increase funding and staffing so that Ontario hospitals can deal with future unexpected emergencies like Covid-19 (71%) rather than keeping the same level or decreasing the funding. Women (77%) are more likely to support this most than men (65%).

*Weighted to the true population proportion.
*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, May 30th to June 2nd,2021, n=520 Ontarians, accurate 4.3 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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Best path forward for Ontario hospitals

Q As you may know, during the pandemic hospitals had to cancel elective surgeries, transfer patients to other regions and bring health care works from other provinces. Thinking of how our hospitals can serve Ontarians in the future, which of the following paths forward would you support most? [RANDOMIZE]

Have the government increase funding and staffing so that Ontario hospitals can deal with future unexpected emergencies like COVID-19

Men (n=276)	Women (n=244)	18 to 34 (n=118)	35 to 54 (n=209)	55 plus (n=193)
65.4%	**76.8%**	**73.4%**	**67.4%**	**73.4%**

Have the government keep the same level of funding for Ontario hospitals and have them manage within existing budgets

Men (n=276)	Women (n=244)	18 to 34 (n=118)	35 to 54 (n=209)	55 plus (n=193)
28.3%	**16.5%**	**21.3%**	**26.0%**	**19.4%**

Have the government decrease funding for Ontario hospitals until the economy recovers

Men (n=276)	Women (n=244)	18 to 34 (n=118)	35 to 54 (n=209)	55 plus (n=193)
1.5%	**0.4%**	**0.8%**	**0.4%**	**1.5%**

*Weighted to the true population proportion.
*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, May 30th to June 2nd,2021, n=520 Ontarians, accurate 4.3 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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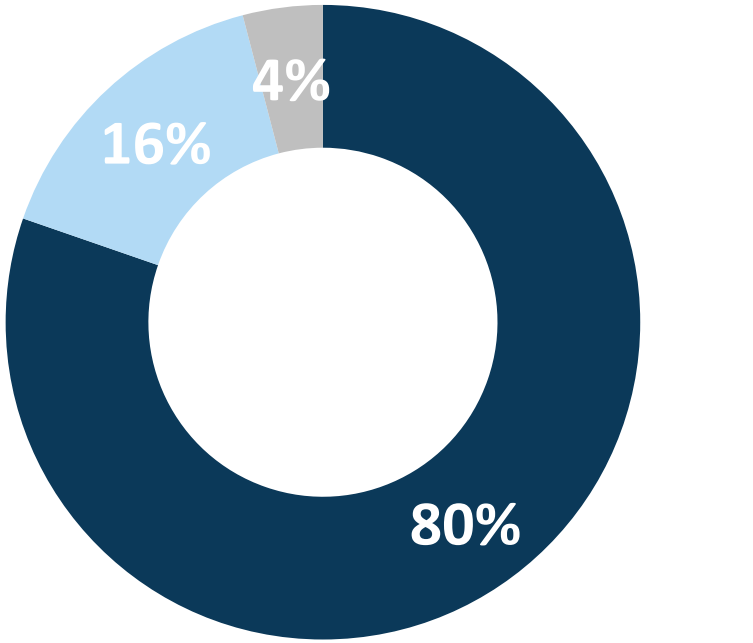
Preparing Ontario hospitals to be prepared for future health threats

Q What do you think is better for Ontario to be prepared for future health threats like the pandemic. [ROTATE]



> Eight in ten Ontarians say they think that having a properly funded universal public healthcare system is better for Ontario to be prepared for future health threats like the pandemic than privatizing some healthcare services. Women (86%) are more likely to say this than men (73%).

*Weighted to the true population proportion.
*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, May 30th to June 2nd,2021, n=520 Ontarians, accurate 4.3 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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Preparing Ontario hospitals to be prepared for future health threats

Q What do you think is better for Ontario to be prepared for future health threats like the pandemic. [ROTATE]

A properly funded universal public health care system

Men (n=276)	Women (n=244)	18 to 34 (n=118)	35 to 54 (n=209)	55 plus (n=193)
73.7%	**86.5%**	**82.2%**	**77.2%**	**81.7%**

Privatizing some healthcare services in Ontario

Men (n=276)	Women (n=244)	18 to 34 (n=118)	35 to 54 (n=209)	55 plus (n=193)
23.8%	**8.0%**	**13.5%**	**19.9%**	**13.4%**

*Weighted to the true population proportion.
*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Nanos Research, RDD dual frame hybrid telephone and online random survey, May 30th to June 2nd,2021, n=520 Ontarians, accurate 4.3 percentage points plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

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METHODOLOGY

Nanos conducted an RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online random survey of 520 Ontarians, 18 years of age or older, between May 30th and June 2nd, 2021, as part of an omnibus survey. Participants were randomly recruited by telephone using live agents and administered a survey online. The results were statistically checked and weighted by age and gender using the latest Census information and the sample is geographically stratified to be representative of Canada.

Individuals were randomly called using random digit dialing with a maximum of five call backs.

The margin of error for a random survey of 520 Ontarians is ±4.3 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

The research was commissioned by the Ontario Public Service Employees Union and was conducted by Nanos Research.

Note: Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

TECHNICAL NOTE

Element	Description
Research sponsor	Ontario Public Service Employees Union
Population and Final Sample Size	520 Randomly selected individuals.
Source of Sample	Nanos Panel
Type of Sample	Probability
Margin of Error	±4.3 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.
Mode of Survey	RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online omnibus survey
Sampling Method Base	The sample included both land- and cell-lines RDD (Random Digit Dialed) across Canada.
Demographics (Captured)	Toronto; the rest of Ontario; Men and Women; 18 years and older. Six digit postal code was used to validate geography.
Fieldwork/Validation	Individuals were recruited using live interviews with live supervision to validate work, the research questions were administered online
Number of Calls	Maximum of five call backs to those recruited.
Time of Calls	Individuals recruited were called between 12-5:30 pm and 6:30-9:30pm local time for the respondent.
Field Dates	May 30th to June 2nd, 2021
Language of Survey	The survey was conducted in both English and French.
Standards	Nanos Research is a member of the Canadian Research Insights Council (CRIC) and confirms that this research fully complies with all CRIC Standards including the CRIC Public Opinion Research Standards and Disclosure Requirements. https://canadianresearchinsightscouncil.ca/standards/

Element	Description
Weighting of Data	The results were weighted by age and gender using the latest Census information (2016) and the sample is geographically stratified to ensure a distribution across all regions of Ontario. See tables for full weighting disclosure
Screening	Screening ensured potential respondents did not work in the market research industry, in the advertising industry, in the media or a political party prior to administering the survey to ensure the integrity of the data.
Excluded Demographics	Individuals younger than 18 years old; individuals without land or cell lines, and individuals without internet access could not participate.
Stratification	By age and gender using the latest Census information (2016) and the sample is geographically stratified to be representative of Ontario.
Estimated Response Rate	14 percent, consistent with industry norms.
Question Order	Question order in the preceding report reflects the order in which they appeared in the original questionnaire.
Question Content	Topics on the omnibus ahead of the survey content included: views on political issues, views on economic issues, the COVID-19 vaccinations, Federal elections, Amending Canada's constitution, and Canada's Border crossings
Question Wording	The questions in the preceding report are written exactly as they were asked to individuals.
Research/Data Collection Supplier	Nanos Research
Contact	Contact Nanos Research for more information or with any concerns or questions. http://www.nanos.co Telephone:(613) 234-4666 ext. 237 Email: info@nanosresearch.com.

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TABULATIONS

2021-1909 – Ontario Public Service Employees Union – Ontario OMNI – STAT SHEET

				Gender		Age		
			Ontario 2021-06	Male	Female	18 to 34	35 to 54	55 plus
Question – Do you believe that the COVID-19 pandemic has shown that Ontario hospitals have a major, minor or no problem when it comes to managing capacity to meet the healthcare needs of Ontarians	Total	Unwgt N	520	276	244	118	209	193
		Wgt N	500	241	259	138	172	190
	Major problem	%	58.3	51.0	65.0	57.5	59.3	57.9
	Minor problem	%	32.8	38.2	27.7	33.6	32.6	32.3
	No problem	%	4.0	5.4	2.6	2.3	5.3	3.9
	Unsure	%	5.0	5.4	4.6	6.5	2.8	5.9

				Gender		Age		
			Ontario 2021-06	Male	Female	18 to 34	35 to 54	55 plus
Question – Are you confident, somewhat confident, somewhat not confident or not confident that our hospital system in Ontario receives enough funding to be prepared for future health threats like the pandemic?	Total	Unwgt N	520	276	244	118	209	193
		Wgt N	500	241	259	138	172	190
	Confident	%	4.6	7.9	1.5	3.9	5.9	3.8
	Somewhat confident	%	23.4	28.0	19.1	19.9	27.0	22.7
	Somewhat not confident	%	26.1	23.2	28.9	31.1	20.8	27.4
	Not confident	%	43.5	37.7	48.9	42.5	43.1	44.6
	Unsure	%	2.4	3.2	1.6	2.5	3.2	1.5

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			Gender			Age		
			Ontario 2021-06	Male	Female	18 to 34	35 to 54	55 plus
Question – As you may know, during the pandemic hospitals had to cancel elective surgeries, transfer patients to other regions and bring health care works from other provinces. Thinking of how our hospitals can serve Ontarians in the future, which of the following paths forward would you support most? [RANDOMIZE]	Total	Unwgt N	520	276	244	118	209	193
		Wgt N	500	241	259	138	172	190
	Have the government increase funding and staffing so that Ontario hospitals can deal with future unexpected emergencies	%	71.3	65.4	76.8	73.4	67.4	73.4
	Have the government keep the same level of funding for Ontario hospitals and have them manage within existing budgets	%	22.2	28.3	16.5	21.3	26.0	19.4
	Have the government decrease funding for Ontario hospitals until the economy recovers	%	0.9	1.5	0.4	0.8	0.4	1.5
	Unsure	%	5.5	4.8	6.2	4.5	6.2	5.7

			Gender			Age		
			Ontario 2021-06	Male	Female	18 to 34	35 to 54	55 plus
Question – What do you think is better for Ontario to be prepared for future health threats like the pandemic	Total	Unwgt N	520	276	244	118	209	193
		Wgt N	500	241	259	138	172	190
	A properly funded universal public health care system	%	80.3	73.7	86.5	82.2	77.2	81.7
	Privatizing some healthcare services in Ontario	%	15.6	23.8	8.0	13.5	19.9	13.4
	Unsure	%	4.1	2.6	5.5	4.3	2.9	4.9

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