# Cross-Border Workers Survey Findings



## Demographics of () the Sample



Demographic variable	Percentage
Age	
20-35	38%
36-50	22.5%
51-65	33.8%
65+	1.4%
Prefer not to say	2.8%
Gender	
Male	18.3%
Female	80.3%
Non-binary	1.4%
Ethnicity	
White	83.3%
Southeast Asian	6.9%
South Asian	4.2%
Middle Eastern	1.4%
Prefer not to answer	4.2%

	Primary Job Description	Percentage
	Registered Nurse	62%
ı	Research-related job (lab	7.04%
-	manager, associate, scientist)	
H	Medical Laboratory Technician,	7.04%
-	scientist, or technologist	
	, G	
-	Manager, supervisor, or	4.2%
	administrative support staff	
-	Nurse practitioner	4.2%
	Certified medical assistant	1.41%
	Physician assistant	1.4%
	Genetic Counselor	1.4%
	Management engineer	1.4%
	RN-AC (IT)	1.4%
	Pharmacist	1.4%
	Physician	1.4%
	Physiotherapist, OT, recreational	1.4%
	therapist	
	Prefer not to say	2.8%

## Border Crossing Prevalence

- 50.7% of workers cross over the Ambassador Bridge
- 49.3% cross by using the Windsor/Detroit Tunnel
- 78.9% of participants cross the border between 2-5x a week

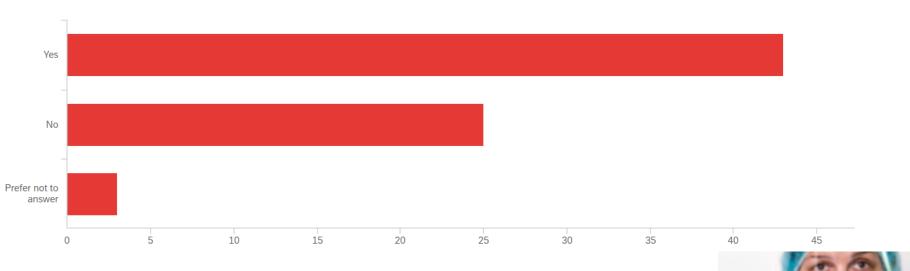


#### **Behavior Engagement**

Participants were asked, "How likely are you to engage in the following behaviours if faced with a future public health emergency where vaccine and treatment options are limited?" They said...

#	Field	Not at all	Very little	Somewhat likely	Mostly	All the time	Total
1	Washing hands with soap or used hand sanitizer several times per day	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	8.45% 6	91.55% 65	71
2	Cancel or postponing travel for work	22.73% 15	18.18% 12	18.18% 12	13.64% 9	27.27% 18	66
3	Cancel or postponing travel for pleasure	5.63% 4	5.63% 4	19.72% 14	23.94% 17	45.07% 32	71
4	Wearing a face mask in crowded indoor spaces (shops, restaurants, transit)	0.00% 0	5.63% 4	12.68% 9	14.08% 10	67.61% 48	71
5	Wearing a face mask at work	0.00% 0	2.82% 2	5.63% 4	14.08% 10	77.46% 55	71
6	Wearing a face mask in public places if I feel unwell	1.43% 1	2.86% 2	4.29% 3	17.14% 12	74.29% 52	70
7	Avoiding crowded indoor social gatherings	1.41% 1	9.86% 7	15.49% 11	33.80% 24	39.44% 28	71

## Willingness to participate in free saliva testing:



Yes – 60.6% No – 35.2% Prefer not to answer – 4.2%

## Main challenges with border crossing

#### **Crossing from Canada to US**

Traffic and long waiting times



2. Constant fluctuation and inconsistencies of rules (crossing either way)



- 1. Arrive Can App
  - 2. Traffic

 Intense questioning, stigmatization, and disrespect



## **Testing Motivations**

## The most common motivations to get tested were...

**Having acute symptoms** 

**52%** 



Protecting family and friends

49%



Accessibility and location of testing site

46%



Ease of access and flexibility of hours of operation

46%



Protecting health of coworkers

41%



## Willingness to test and isolate



- 77.7% of participants were willing "all of the time" to self-isolate if they have symptoms
  or test positive
- 60.6% were willing "all of the time" to self-isolate if they have no symptoms but tested positive
- Only 18.6% were willing "all of the time" to see a doctor if they feel healthy but worry they may have been exposed to someone sick

48% of participants are willing to get tested monthly... but multiple participants also stated that "it depends" on the circumstances





## Sample drop-off methods

1	1 Pick up a kit, collect saliva at home, and drop off at a site close to US/Canada border		
4	4 Pick up a kit, collect saliva at home, mail to the University of Windsor		21
5	Test at the car side near the US/Canada border	16.11%	24
6	Test at a private location near the US/Canada border	6.04%	9
7	Test at place of employment	20.81%	31
7	Test at place of employment  Mobile testing unit located near the ports of entry	20.81%	
L			18

## 01. Testing time

Participants, on average, are willing to take **10 minutes** to **complete a saliva sample**.





## 02. Wait time for Results

**39.4%** of participants would want **results in 24 hours or less**. Of this percentage, **35%** would want it within **5-10 minutes**.

#### Communication

The most commonly reported methods for communicating results were:

Email	Secure health research app notification	Logging into a secure website
42%	18.9%	16%

Other methods of communication... by phone (7.3%) or text (4%)

#### **Additional information**

Participants were asked, "Is there any information that you would like to receive alongside your results (e.g., weekly trends, personalized information, antibody test results?" The most common answers were:

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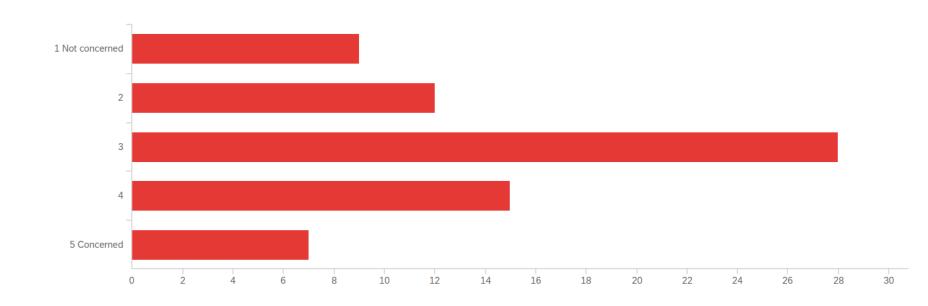
- 1. Antibody test results
- 2. Weekly Trends



3. Any information ("the more the better")



## Cross-border workers' concern for the next pandemic:



## **Engagement**

Participants were asked, "Do you have any recommendations we can undertake better to support your engagement and participation in regular, ongoing screenings?"

- 71.4% said no, but those that gave recommendations commonly said:
  - They care about ease, accessibility, effectiveness, and fast testing.

"Has to be convenient, free and quick...after working a rough shift, we just want to go home"



#### Top 3 reasons for not wanting to test:



**24%** said they **"just want to get home after their shift"** 

7 17% said that the "testing process is too much of a hassle"

14% said that "they don't want to/are not interested



## Take-home messages

- Healthcare professionals are treated poorly and discriminated against when crossing back over to Canada, and the border officers are often inconsistent with rules
- 2. Most workers just want to go home after work the quicker the better for testing
- 3. Many participants are willing to engage in precautionary health behaviours (e.g., handwashing and mask-wearing)
- 4. Testing at one's place of work seems to be the most convenient and results are wanted by email