

Statistical bulletin

Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain: 23 July 2021

Indicators from the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey covering the period 14 to 18 July to understand the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on people, households and communities in Great Britain.

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1 . Main points

This week, over the period 14 to 18 July 2021, based on adults in Great Britain:

- A similar proportion of adults reported always or often maintaining social distancing (63%) to last week (62% in the period 7 to 11 July); this was a reduction from 85% between 14 and 18 April following step two of the roadmap in England.
- A high proportion of adults continued to feel that compliance with measures to slow the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) were either very important or important; such as wearing a face covering while shopping (90% this week and last week) and socially distancing from others not in their household, childcare or support bubble (89% this week, 88% last week).
- Adults meeting up outdoors with someone not in their household, childcare or support bubble in the past seven days increased to around 6 in 10 (58% this week, 53% last week), having increased from 20% in the week ending 7 March before outdoor activity restrictions were lifted with step one of the roadmap; around half (47%) of adults said they met up indoors (49% last week), having increased from 20% in the week ending 9 May before indoor restrictions were lifted with step three of the roadmap in England.
- Almost two-thirds (64%) of working adults travelled to work at some point in the past seven days (60% last week); this includes half (50%) of working adults travelling to work exclusively and not working from home (46% last week); this has increased from mid-February (34% in the period 10 to 14 February 2021).
- Anxiety levels slightly decreased (3.8 this week, 4.0 last week) after having appeared to gradually increase since early June 2021 (3.6 in the period 2 to 6 June); other personal well-being measures remained stable, levels of feeling that the things done in life are worthwhile (7.3) and happiness (7.1) were unchanged from last week and life satisfaction increased slightly (7.1 this week, 7.0 last week).
- As the plan to ease coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions in England from 19 July 2021 approached, the proportion of adults who felt that life would not return to normal for more than a year appeared to increase (32% this week, 28% last week), while the proportion who felt life would return to normal in six months or less decreased (15% this week, 20% last week).
- Positive sentiment towards the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine remained high with 96% (95% last week) of adults reporting they had now either received a vaccine or would be likely to have a vaccine if offered, an increase since the beginning of the vaccination programme (78% between 10 and 13 December 2020).

The latest week's estimates presented in this release are based on data collected before 19 July 2021 when step four of the roadmap to remove most remaining legal restrictions imposed during the coronavirus pandemic was implemented in England.

2 . Social impacts on Great Britain data

[Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain](#)

Dataset | Released 23 July 2021

Indicators from the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (OPN) to understand the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on people, households and communities in Great Britain. Includes breakdowns by age, sex and region.

[Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain: Perceptions of compliance behaviours and planned behaviours when restrictions end](#)

Data on adults' compliance behaviours (hand washing or sanitising, face coverings and social distancing), perception of the importance of these, and other people's compliance behaviours to slow down the spread of coronavirus and adults planned behaviours and attitudes towards the ending of coronavirus restrictions. Data from the OPN, collected between 14 to 18 July 2021.

3 . Measuring the data

This release contains data and indicators from a module being undertaken through the Office for National Statistics' (ONS') Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (OPN) to understand the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on British society.

Breakdowns by age, sex, region and country, including [confidence intervals](#) for the estimates, are contained in the [Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain dataset](#).

Where changes in results from previous weeks are presented in this bulletin, associated confidence intervals should be used to assess the [statistical significance](#) of the differences.

Positive vaccine sentiment

"Positive vaccine sentiment" refers to adults who:

- have received a vaccine
- have been offered a vaccine and are waiting to be vaccinated
- report being very or fairly likely to have a vaccine if offered

Our survey does not include adults living in care homes or other establishments so will not capture vaccinations in these settings. Because of small sample sizes, the percentage of adults who have declined the vaccine should be treated with caution.

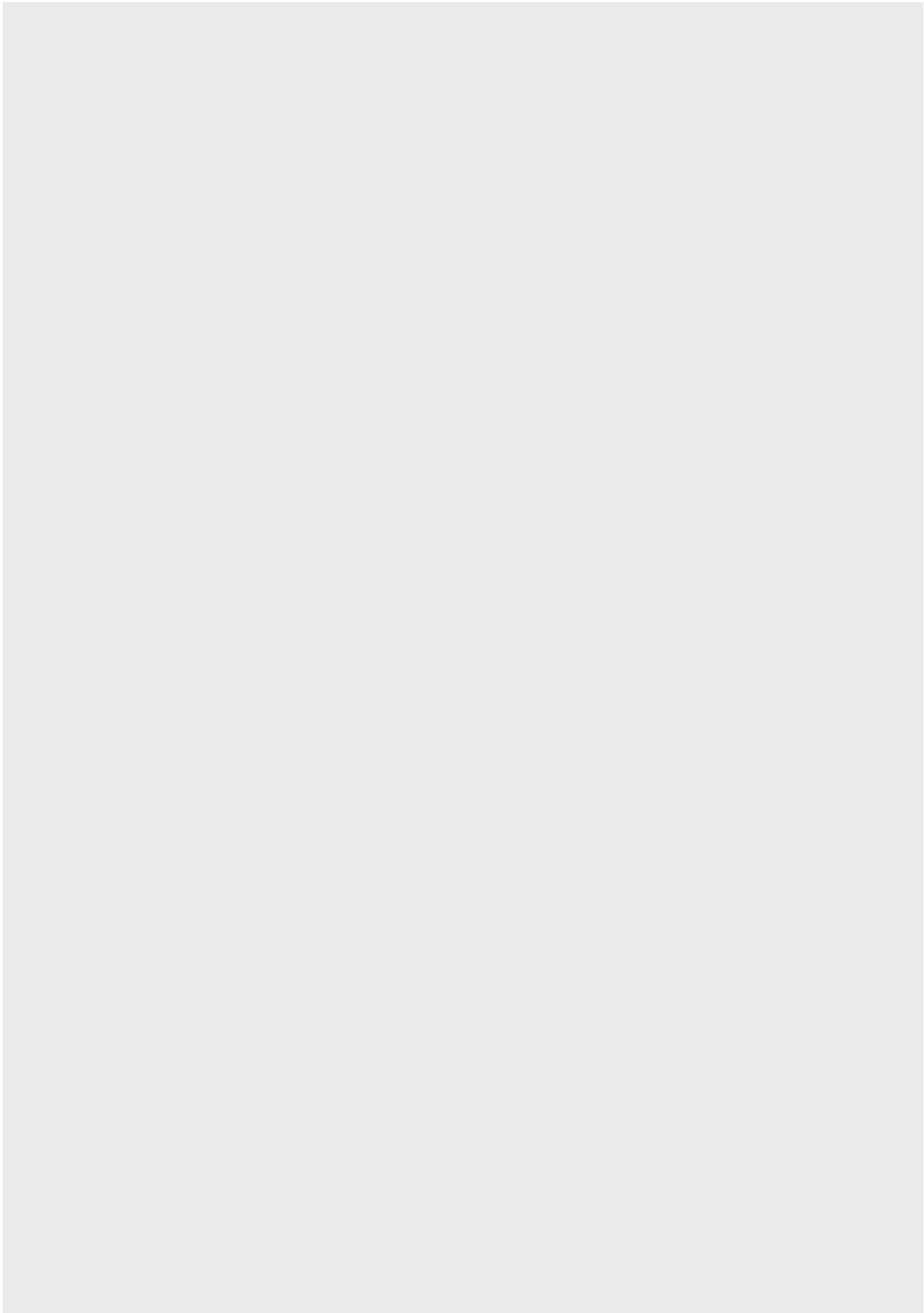
Estimates of attitudes towards vaccination provided since 13 to 17 January 2021 should be used with caution when compared with any weeks prior to this. In the weeks prior to this, adults were asked their likelihood of having a vaccine if offered but were not specifically asked if they had already been offered or received a vaccine.

Sampling and weighting

This week, 14 to 18 July 2021, we sampled 5,832 households. These were randomly selected from those that had previously completed the Labour Market Survey (LMS) or OPN. The responding sample contained 3,848 individuals, representing a 66% response rate.

Survey weights were applied to make estimates representative of the population (based on July 2021 population estimates). Further information on the survey design and quality can be found in the [Opinions and Lifestyle Survey Quality and Methodology Information](#).

4 . Related links



[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) latest data and analysis](#)

Web page | Updated as data become available

Latest data and analysis on coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK and its effects on the economy and society.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) latest insights](#)

Web page | Updated as data become available

An interactive tool to explore the latest data and trends about the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and other sources.

[Economic activity and social change in the UK, real-time indicators: 22 July 2021](#)

Bulletin | Released 22 July 2021

Early experimental data and analysis on economic activity and social change in the UK. These faster indicators are created using rapid response surveys, novel data sources, and experimental methods.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) harmonisation guidance](#)

Webpage | Updated frequently

This page provides harmonisation guidance on how to best to collect data about the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Users can also find a bank of questions from multiple Office for National Statistics (ONS) surveys related to coronavirus (COVID-19) to be used in other surveys to further support harmonisation and questionnaire development. This bank also provides users with an understanding of what data ONS has in relation to the coronavirus pandemic.

[Coronavirus and contributors to subnational well-being: January to March 2021](#)

Article | Released 26 May 2021

An investigation using the Office for National Statistics' (ONS) Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (OPN) to understand the link between well-being and a variety of financial, behavioural and demographic factors and the differences in well-being in rural and urban areas.

[Personal and economic well-being in Great Britain: May 2021](#)

Bulletin | Released 25 May 2021

Estimates looking across personal and economic well-being covering the period from March 2020 to May 2021, to understand the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on people and households in Great Britain.

[Coronavirus and depression in adults, Great Britain: January to March 2021](#)

Bulletin | Released 5 May 2021

Analysis of the proportion of the British adult population experiencing some form of depression in early 2021, by age, sex, and other characteristics. Includes comparisons with 2020 and pre-pandemic estimates.

[Red, amber and green travel lists and overseas visits from the UK](#)

Article | 10 June 2021

In an average pre-pandemic summer, UK residents made almost 6.6 million visits to see friends and family overseas. How could these trips be affected by the current red and amber travel lists, and what might the financial impact be?

[Homeworking in the UK Labour Market: 2020](#)

Article | Released 17 May 2021

Breakdowns of the prevalence of homeworking by industry, occupation, region, age, sex, ethnicity and local authority.

[Business and individual attitudes towards the future of homeworking, UK: April to May 2021](#)

Article | Released 14 June 2021

Analysis of the effects of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on office working and of business and individual attitudes to future working practices.

[Coronavirus and vaccine hesitancy, Great Britain: 26 May to 20 June 2021](#)

Headline bulletin | Released 2 July 2021

Estimates of vaccine sentiment with breakdowns by different population groups. Analysis based on the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (OPN).

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey: antibody and vaccination data for the UK, 21 July 2021](#)

Article | Released 21 July 2021

Antibody and vaccination data by UK country and regions in England from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey. This analysis has been produced in partnership with University of Oxford, University of Manchester, Public Health England, and Wellcome Trust. This study is jointly led by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) working with the University of Oxford and UK Biocentre to collect and test samples.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey, characteristics of people testing positive for COVID-19, England: 20 May 2021](#)

Article | Released 20 May 2021

Characteristics of people testing positive for COVID-19 from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey. This survey is being delivered in partnership with University of Oxford, University of Manchester, Public Health England and Wellcome Trust. This study is jointly led by the ONS and the DHSC working with the University of Oxford and Lighthouse Laboratories to collect and test samples.

[Coronavirus and the social impacts of 'long COVID' on people's lives in Great Britain: 7 April to 13 June 2021](#)

Article | Released 21 July 2021

Indicators from the OPN covering the period 7 April to 13 June 2021 to understand the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on people by their self-reported long COVID.