

Vaccine Hesitancy: Attitudes and Behaviors Survey RMTLC—March 2021

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Introduction

As of February 2021, 59.3 million doses of vaccines for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) have been distributed across the United States (CDC, Volume 70). 82.6 million vaccines total have been administered as of March 3, 2021 (CDC Vaccinations). However, recent research examining vaccine hesitancy to receive COVID-19 vaccinations suggest less individuals are receiving the vaccine than should be. To examine perceptions towards COVID-19 vaccine and intentions to be vaccinated, RMTLC conducted a survey among a sample of U.S. adults in the Billings, Montana area. The Billings, Montana area is defined as individuals with residence in Cascade, Glacier, Pondera, Big Horn, Yellowstone, Flathead, Lake, Missoula, Sanders, Blaine, Phillips, Roosevelt, Sheridan, Valley, Rosebud, Chouteau, or Hill County. The survey was conducted from February 2, 2021 to March 2, 2021, with a sample size of n=30. The survey was distributed to local tribal health directors and staff using Survey Monkey for non-probability convenience sampling.

Implications for Policy and Practices

Although confidence in COVID-19 vaccines was prevalent overall, additional efforts to tailor messages and implement strategies to further increase the public's confidence, specifically the native population in the Billings area, should be focused on.

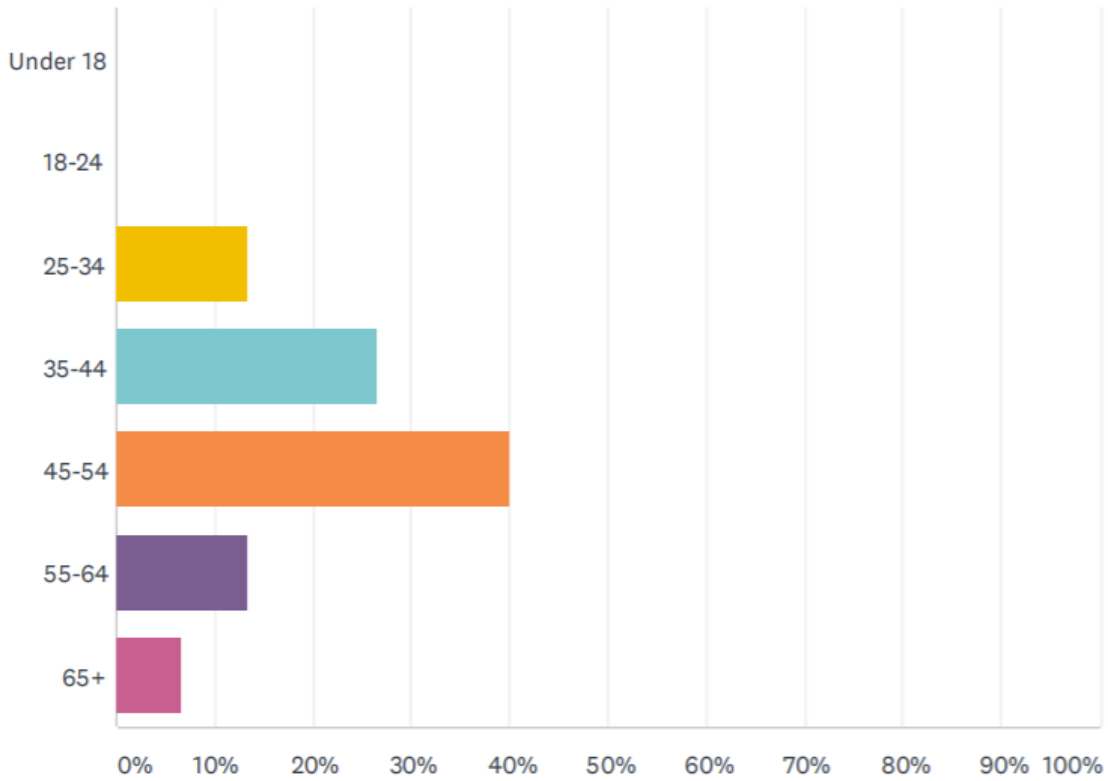
Encouraging that vaccination coverage is equitable across all populations is important to preventing the spread of COVID-19 and mitigate the impact of the pandemic on vulnerable populations such as the tribes we work with

References

1. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7006e3.htm>
2. <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccinations>

Results

Q1: What is your age?

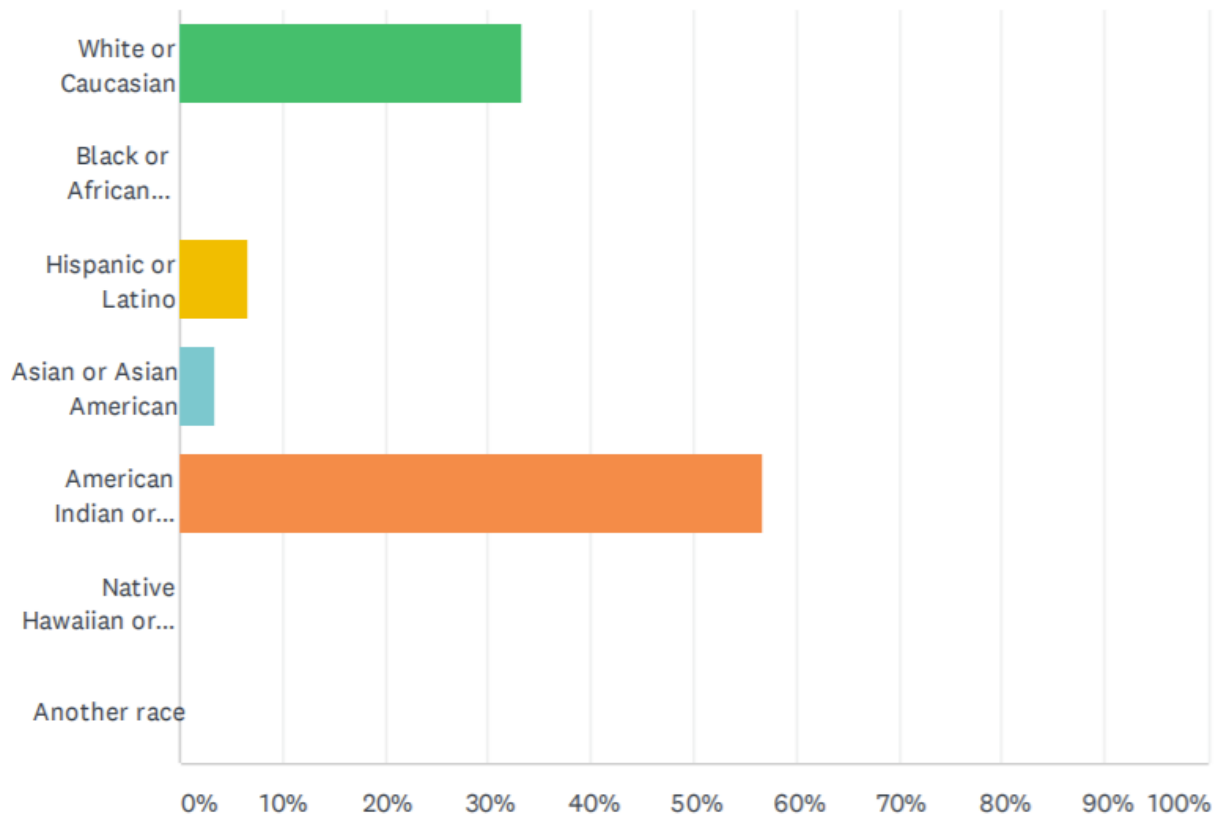


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-24	0.00%	0
25-34	13.33%	4
35-44	26.67%	8
45-54	40.00%	12
55-64	13.33%	4
65+	6.67%	2
TOTAL		30

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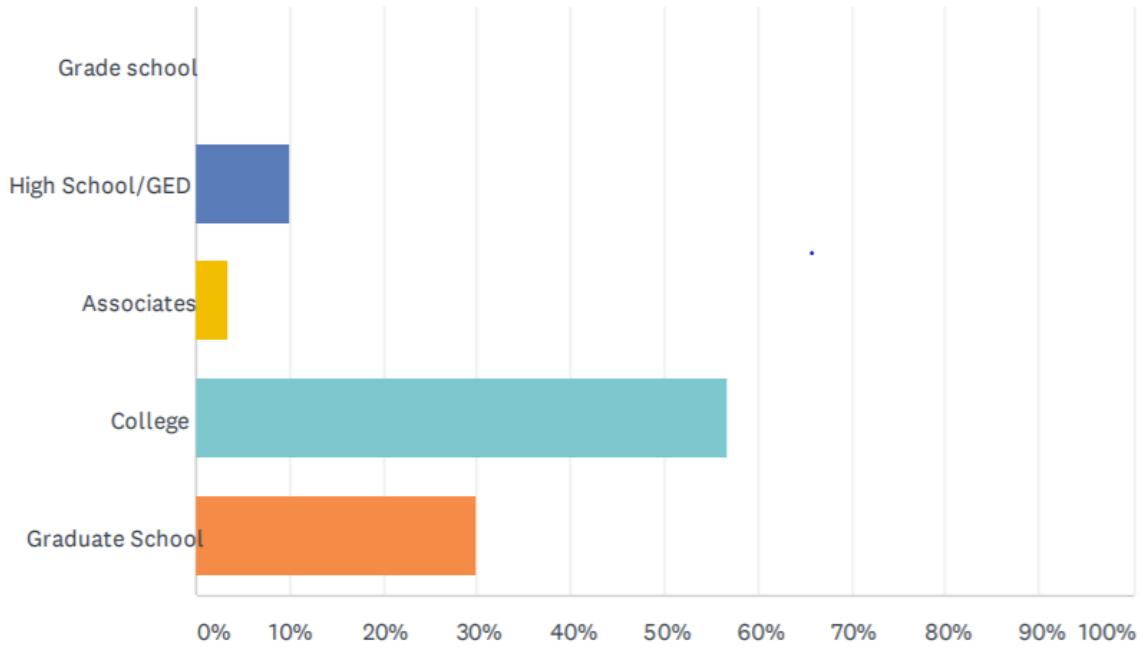
Of the 30 respondents, 40.0% (12) were between the ages of 45-54, 26.7% (8) were between the ages of 35-44, and 13.3%. In regards to race, 56.7% self-identified as American Indian or Alaskan Native, 33.3% (4) self-identified as White or Caucasian, and 6.67% self-identified as Hispanic or Latino.

Q2: What race do you identify with?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
White or Caucasian	33.33%	10
Black or African American	0.00%	0
Hispanic or Latino	6.67%	2
Asian or Asian American	3.33%	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	56.67%	17
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
Another race	0.00%	0
TOTAL		30

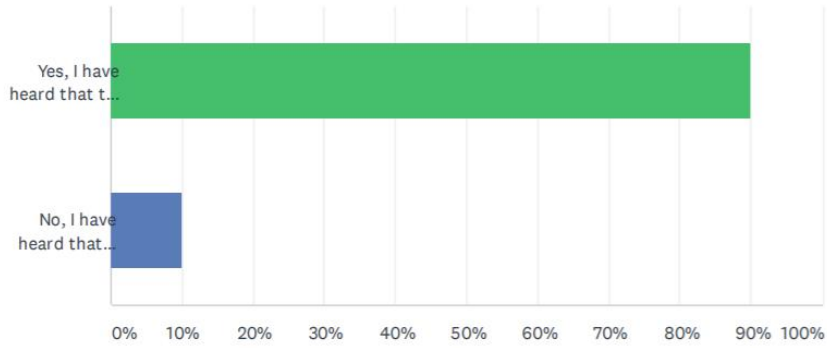
Q3: What is the highest level of education you completed?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Grade school	0.00%	0
High School/GED	10.00%	3
Associates	3.33%	1
College	56.67%	17
Graduate School	30.00%	9
TOTAL		30

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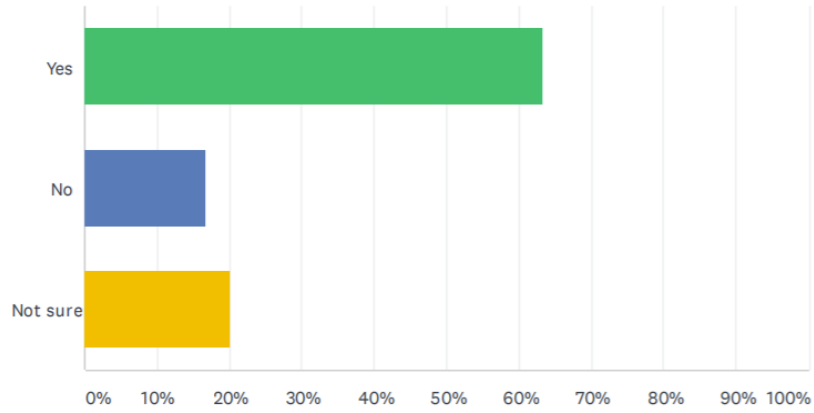
Q4: I have received information from the community that getting the COVID-19 vaccine is NOT harmful.



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes, I have heard that the vaccine is NOT harmful	90.00% 27
No, I have heard that vaccine is harmful	10.00% 3
TOTAL	30

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Q5: When a vaccine for the coronavirus becomes available to you, will you get vaccinated?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	63.33%	19
No	16.67%	5
Not sure	20.00%	6
TOTAL		30

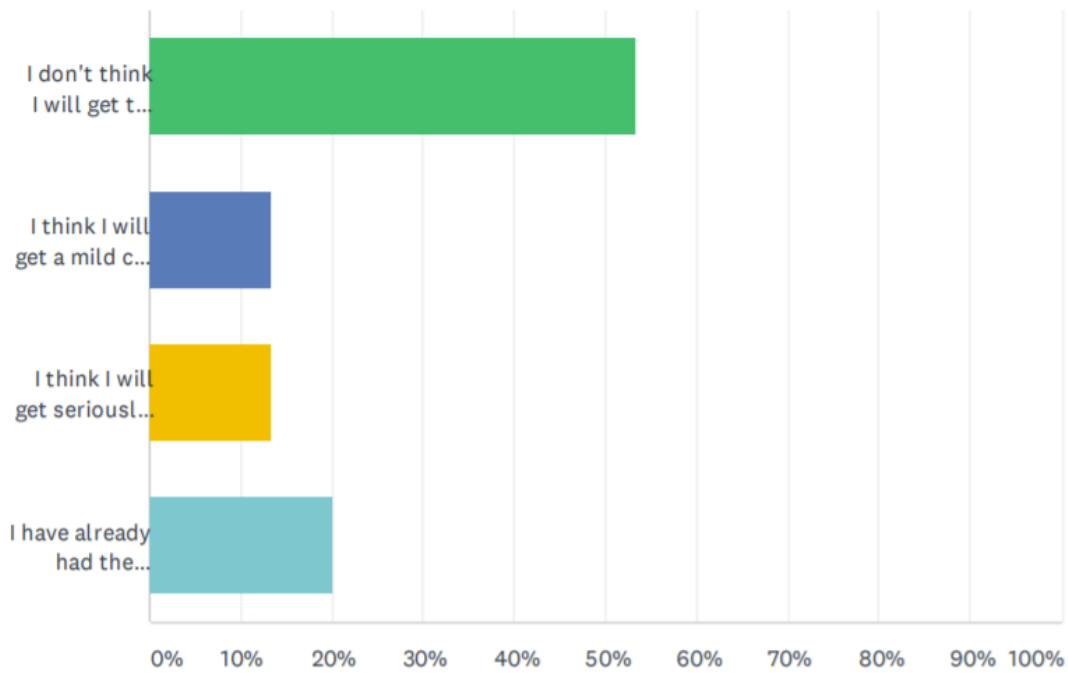
Q6: What makes you unwilling to get the vaccine?

#	RESPONSES
1	I already got it, but after getting bad side effects and having to pay for treatment out of pocket, I would recommend that people who don't have insurance don't get the vaccine. I wish I felt differently but the vaccine rollout has been awful and it shouldn't cost money to get the vaccine. Which if you are charged for side effects it does.
2	N/A
3	i'm taking it
4	conflicting information, sensitivity to flu vaccination, dislike pharmaceutical prescriptions, etc.
5	I'm scared because it is not 100 % safe they haven't tested it long enough
6	Not sure yet, and studies show there are side-effects.
7	Not Unwilling,have already been vaccinated for COVID!
8	The fact that it has not been tested long enough or FDA approved.
9	already completed
10	I have a reaction to all shots especially flu shots
11	unsure of side effects
12	My Health
13	unsure of the results
14	I don't think I need it. I am generally healthy and have never gotten the regular flu despite never getting the vaccine.
15	Side Effects
16	This vaccine has not been approved by the FSA, it has instead been approved for emergency distribution. Given the fact that pharma is insulated from lawsuits it is a really bad look to beta test on humans.
17	none
18	It is such a new vaccine and does not prevent contracting the disease and I do not currently have co-morbid diseases that make me at risk.
19	too new

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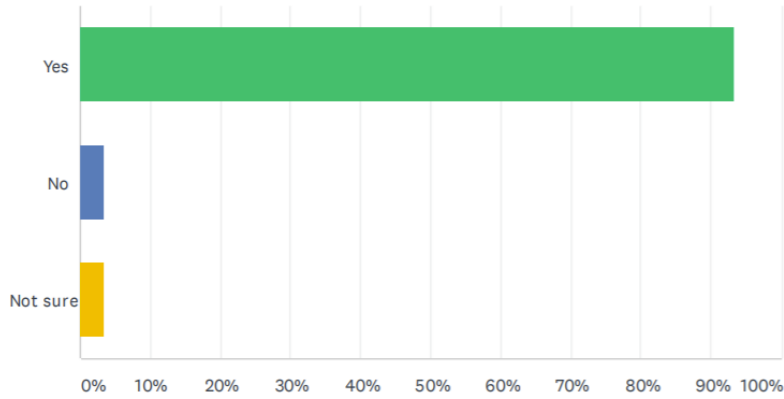
20	Reports from friends that the second shot makes you very sick.
21	the side effects
22	introduction of foreign bodies into mine
23	Hoping to better protect myself and others.
24	I have already received it
25	Not sure
26	n/a
27	early in research stages for adverse effects
28	I've gotten the vaccine I was not hesitant
29	am trying to get the vaccine, hard to get it
30	No reason.

Q7: What is your best guess as to whether you will get the coronavirus within the next 6 months?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	COUNT
I don't think I will get the coronavirus	53.33%	16
I think I will get a mild case of the coronavirus	13.33%	4
I think I will get seriously ill from the coronavirus	13.33%	4
I have already had the coronavirus	20.00%	6
TOTAL		30

Q8: Do you plan to continue safety protocols after the COVID-19 vaccine becomes available?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	93.33%	28
No	3.33%	1
Not sure	3.33%	1
TOTAL		30

Q9: Do you remember any events in the past that would discourage you from getting a vaccine(s) for yourself or your child(ren)? Please describe.

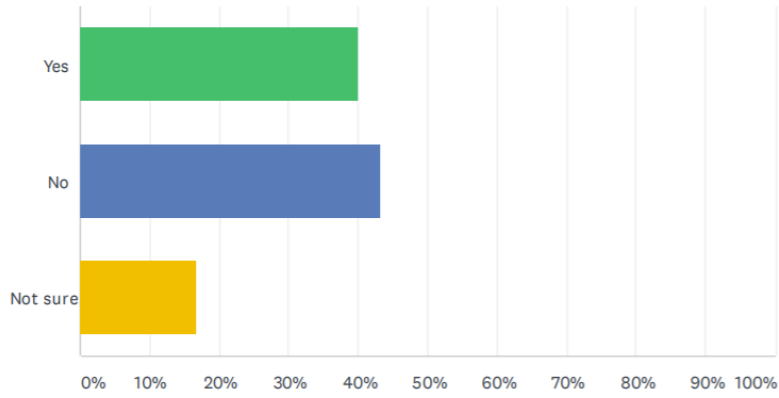
#	RESPONSES
1	Not for me, do have a friend who was almost given the wrong vaccine as a kid and it would have been dangerous.
2	N/A
3	no
4	unfavorable reaction to flu vaccination in past
5	no
6	no
7	No
8	Not personally, but I have heard of others having issues.
9	No
10	With flu shots I become extremely sick but i will have my kids get vaccinated.
11	no
12	None
13	No
14	no
15	No
16	Google Tuskegee experiment.
17	none
18	The one year I contracted influenza was the first year I got influenza.
19	no
20	My relatives were pretty sick after the second shot.
21	Being turned away for services at WIND RIVER CARES IN ARAPAHOE WYOMING
22	Red Blankets/Treaty Table
23	I am not willing to get the vaccine yet for my children as there have not been enough studies of the effects on children.

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24	no
25	Flu Vaccine
26	No
27	allergic reactions
28	No
29	No
30	My mother got hypothyroid after getting the flu vaccine 10 years ago.

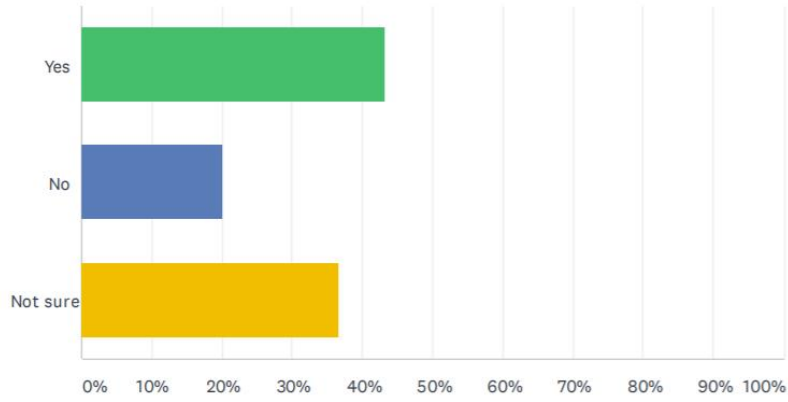
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Q 10: Do you know anyone who does not take a vaccine because of religious or cultural reasons?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	40.00%	12
No	43.33%	13
Not sure	16.67%	5
TOTAL		30

Q11: Do you trust that your government is making decisions in your best interest with respect to what vaccines are provided?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	43.33%	13
No	20.00%	6
Not sure	36.67%	11
TOTAL		30