Strong majority want improved access to psychologists: Prince Edward Island

Provincial Survey | Summary

Conducted by Nanos for Canadian Psychological Association and the Council of Professional Associations of Psychologists, December 2020 Submission 2020-1710B









SUMMARY





Just under one in five residents of Prince Edward Island say they have the most confidence in psychologists when it comes to helping people with mental health problems

Nanos Research was retained by the Canadian Psychological Association and the Council of Professional Associations of Psychologists to conduct a study to gauge the impressions of residents of Prince Edward Island on issues related to mental health and the profession. This is report two (2) of two (2). To follow are the key findings for respondents from PEI for report two of two.

Role of psychologists

- Respondents most frequently report having the most confidence in family doctors/physicians when it comes to helping people with mental health problems Just under one quarter of respondents (24%, 26% In 2011) say they have the most confidence in family doctors/physicians when it comes to helping people with mental health problems, followed by psychologists (18%, down from 22% in 2011) and psychiatrists (16%, 31% in 2011). More than one in ten say they have no confidence, and seven per cent each identify others or are unsure.
- More than three quarters of respondents think psychologists do something different than psychiatrists More than three in four respondents (77%) think a psychologist does something different than a psychiatrist, while under two in ten (18%) think they do the same thing. Six per cent are unsure.
- Close to three in four respondents think psychologists do something different than a counsellor
 Close to three in four (73%) think a psychologist does something different than a counsellor,
 while under two in ten (18%) think they do the same thing. Eight per cent are unsure.
- Almost two thirds of respondents think psychologists do something different than psychotherapists Almost two in three respondents (64%) think a psychologist does something different than a psychotherapist, while one in five (20%) think they do the same thing. Sixteen per cent are unsure.

Profession best able to care for mental health problems

• Respondents are more likely to think psychiatrists are best able to care for people with depression — Asked which profession they think is best able to care for people living with depression, close to one in two (47%) say a psychiatrist, twenty-four per cent say a psychologist followed by a counsellor (18%) and psychotherapist (9%).







- Respondents are more likely to think a counsellor is best able to care for people with anxiety than other professionals Asked which profession they think is best able to care for people living with anxiety, one in three respondents (34%) say a counsellor, followed by three in ten (30%) who say a psychologist, one in four (26%) who say a psychiatrist, and eight per cent say a psychotherapist.
- Respondents more frequently say a counsellor is best able to care for people with addictions Asked which profession they think is best able to care for people living with addictions, respondents most frequently say a counsellor (57%), followed by a psychologist (19%), a psychotherapist (11%) and a psychiatrist (10%).
- Respondents are more likely to think a psychiatrist is best able to care for people living with dementia Asked which profession they think is best able to care for people living with dementia, one in four say a psychiatrist (25%), followed by a psychologist (21%), a counsellor (20%) and a psychotherapist (19%).
- Respondents are marginally more likely to say a psychologist is best at taking care of people living with learning disabilities Asked which profession they think is best able to care for people living with learning disabilities/ADHD, one in three say a psychologist (34%), followed by a counsellor (32%), and over one in ten (23%) who say a psychiatrist.
- A counsellor is most frequently said to be the professional best able to care for someone with stress of being diagnosed with a disease Asked which profession they think is best able to care for people living with the stress of being diagnosed with a disease like cancer, over one in two say a counsellor (54%), followed by a psychologist (21%), a psychiatrist (14%), and a psychotherapist (6%).

Effectiveness of psychologists helping people who are living with mental health problems

• Respondents most frequently say psychologists are effective at helping people who are living with depression — One in three residents of Prince Edward Island (33%) say psychologists are effective at helping people with depression, while more than three in ten say they are somewhat effective (35%) or very effective (16%). Seven per cent say they are not effective at all and ten per cent don't know.

SUMMARY







- One in three say psychologists are effective at helping people who are living with anxiety One in three (33%) residents of Prince Edward Island say psychologists are effective at helping people with anxiety, while one in four say they are somewhat effective (26%) or very effective (20%). Eleven per cent say they are not effective at all and eleven per cent don't know.
- Opinions on the effectiveness of psychologists in helping people who are living with addictions remain consistent with 2011 One in four respondents say psychologists are effective (25%) or somewhat effective (44%), respectively, in helping people who are living with addictions, while one in five (20%) say they are very effective and five per cent say they are not effective at all. Six per cent don't know. These results are comparable with tracking from 2011.
- Psychologists are most frequently seen as somewhat effective at helping people living with dementia Four in ten residents of Prince Edward Island (40%) say psychologists are somewhat effective in helping people living with dementia, while just under one in four (23%) say they are effective and under one in five say they are not effective (23%). Seven per cent say they are very effective and eleven per cent don't know. These results are comparable with tracking from 2011.
- Respondents most frequently say psychologists are somewhat effective in helping people who are living with learning disabilities Four in ten respondents say psychologists are somewhat effective (41%) or and one in four say they are effective (25%) in helping people who are living with learning disabilities/ADHD, while more than one in ten (13%) say they are very effective and 14 per cent say they are not effective at all. Seven per cent don't know. These results are comparable with tracking from 2011.
- Psychologists are most frequently seen as effective in helping people living with the stress of being diagnosed with a disease like cancer Over one in three respondents (34%) say they think psychologists are effective and somewhat effective (34%) in helping people living with the stress of being diagnosed with a disease like cancer. One in four in four (24%) say they are very effective. Sixteen per cent say they are not effective at all. Five per cent don't know. These results are comparable with tracking from 2011.

SUMMARY





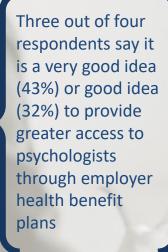


Effectiveness of psychologists diagnosing people who are living with mental health problems

- Respondents most frequently say they think psychologists are effective in diagnosing people living with depression Four in ten (41%) say they think psychologists are effective in diagnosing people living with depression, while under one in five say they are somewhat effective (19%) or very effective (21%). Ten per cent say they are not effective at all and nine per cent don't know.
- Respondents most frequently say they think psychologists are effective in diagnosing people living with anxiety One in three (32%) say they think psychologists are effective in diagnosing people living with anxiety, while one in five say they are somewhat effective (22%) and one in four say they are very effective (25%). Ten per cent say they are not effective at all and eleven per cent don't know.
- Just under four in ten respondents say psychologists are effective in diagnosing people living with addictions Just under four in ten (37%) say they think psychologists are effective in diagnosing people living with addictions, while one in four say they are somewhat effective (25%) and two in ten say they are very effective (20%). Twelve per cent say they are not effective at all and eight per cent don't know.
- Respondents most frequently say psychologists are effective or somewhat effective in diagnosing people living with dementia Close to four in ten (38%) say psychologists are effective in diagnosing people living with dementia, while three in ten (29%) say they are somewhat effective. Fourteen per cent say they are not effective at all, while ten per cent say they are very effective. Nine per cent don't know.
- Respondents most frequently say psychologists are effective or somewhat effective in diagnosing people living with learning disabilities/ADHD Four in ten (39%) say psychologists are effective in diagnosing people living with dementia, while three in ten (29%) say they are somewhat effective. Under two in ten say they are very effective (14%) and thirteen per cent say they are not effective at all. Six per cent don't know.







- Respondents most frequently say they are confident in the care psychologists provide Over three in ten residents of Prince Edward Island say they are confident (34%) and somewhat confident (35%) in psychologists and the care they provide when it comes to mental health. One in ten (9%) say they are very confident. Sixteen per cent say they are not confident at all and six per cent are unsure. These results are comparable with tracking from 2011.
- Respondents are more likely to think that they can access the services of a psychologist in the publicly-funded health care system within a somewhat unreasonable or unreasonable period of time Close to two-thirds respondents say to the best of their knowledge Canadians are able to access the services of a psychologist in the publicly-funded health care system within a somewhat unreasonable (30%) or unreasonable (31%) period of time. Close to three in ten say services are accessible within a reasonable (five per cent) or somewhat reasonable (22%) period of time, and 13 per cent are unsure.
- A strong majority of respondents support or somewhat support improving access to psychologists through the publicly-funded health care system Close to nine in ten respondents support (55%) or somewhat support (31%) improving access to psychologists through the publicly-funded health care system, while one in ten somewhat oppose (four per cent) or oppose this (six per cent). Four per cent are unsure.
- Respondents more often report they can definitely or think they can access a psychologist through their employer's health benefit plan within a reasonable period of time When asked if they are, to the best of their knowledge, able to access a psychologist through their employer's health benefit plan within a reasonable period of time, more than four in ten residents of Prince Edward Island say yes, definitely (9%) or yes, I think so (34%). Seventeen per cent say no, while 23 per cent report they are not employed, and 17 per cent are unsure.
- Three in four say providing greater access to psychologists through employer health benefit plans is a very good or good idea A majority of respondents say it is a very good idea (43%) or good idea (32%) to provide greater access to psychologists through employer health benefit plans (e.g. more sessions, higher financial caps), while 11 per cent say it is an average idea. Five per cent each say this is a poor idea (4%) or a very poor idea (1%), and nine per cent are unsure.







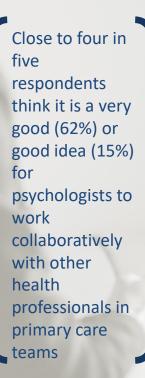
Barriers to access

- A strong majority of respondents say psychological services costing too much to pay by themselves is a very significant or somewhat significant barrier when deciding whether to access a psychologist Close to eight in ten residents of Prince Edward Island say psychological services costing too much for them to pay themselves is a very significant (56%) or somewhat significant (22%) barrier to them deciding whether or not they should access a psychologist, which is comparable with the previous wave. Under two in ten say this is a somewhat not significant (eight per cent) or not significant (eight per cent) barrier, and six per cent are unsure.
- Seven in ten say psychologists not being covered by their provincial or territorial health plan is a very significant or somewhat significant barrier when deciding whether to access a psychologist Consistent with the previous wave of research, a majority of residents of Prince Edward Island say psychologists not being covered by their provincial/territorial health plan is a very significant (49%) or somewhat significant (22%) barrier to them deciding whether or not they should access a psychologist. Under two in ten say this is a somewhat not significant (five per cent) or not significant (eleven per cent) barrier, and 13 per cent are unsure.
- Two in three respondents say psychological services not being covered by their employer's health benefit plan is a very significant or somewhat significant barrier when deciding whether to access a psychologist A majority of respondents say psychological services not being covered by their employer's health benefit plan is a very significant (47%) or somewhat significant (18%) barrier to them deciding whether or not they should access a psychologist, consistent with the previous wave. Just over one in five say this is a somewhat not significant (eight per cent) or not significant (14%) barrier, and 14 per cent are unsure.
- A majority of say the length of wait times to see a psychologist is a very significant or somewhat significant barrier when deciding whether to access a psychologist Consistent with the previous wave of research, three out of four respondents say the wait times to see a psychologist being too long is a very significant (50%) or somewhat significant (25%) barrier to them deciding whether or not they should access a psychologist. Two in ten say this is a somewhat not significant (12%) or not significant (seven per cent) barrier, and 6 per cent are unsure.

SUMMARY







- Respondents are divided on how significant preferring to deal with problems and disorders on their own is as a barrier when deciding whether to access a psychologist Close to one in two residents of Prince Edward Island say preferring to deal with these problems/disorders on their own is a very significant (21%) or somewhat significant (26%) barrier to them deciding whether or not they should access a psychologist, while the same proportion say this is a somewhat not significant (22%) or not significant (24%) barrier. Seven per cent are unsure. This is comparable with the previous wave of research.
- Over four in ten say not wanting others to know they are seeing a psychologist is not significant or somewhat not significant as a barrier when deciding whether to access a psychologist –
 Respondents more often say not wanting others to know they are seeing a psychologist is not significant (33%) or somewhat not significant (18%) as a barrier to them deciding whether or not they should access a psychologist, consistent with the previous wave. Just over four in ten say this is a very significant (16%) or somewhat significant (28%) barrier, and five per cent are unsure.

Collaboration with health professionals

• A strong majority say psychologists working collaboratively with other health professionals in primary care teams is a very good or good idea — Close to eight in ten residents of Prince Edward Island say it is a very good idea (62%) or good idea (15%) for psychologists to work collaboratively with other health professionals, such as family physicians in primary care teams. Ten per cent say this is an average idea, while four per cent think this is a poor idea and one per cent think it is a very poor idea. Seven per cent are unsure.

Nanos conducted an online survey of 156 residents of Prince Edward Island between September 25th, 2020 and October 2nd, 2020. This was part of a larger national study of 3,070 Canadians 18 years of age or older, between September 25th, 2020 and October 2nd, 2020. 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 the population.

The research was commissioned by the Canadian Psychological Association and the Council of Professional Associations of Psychologists and was conducted by Nanos Research.

Confidence in health professionals PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION





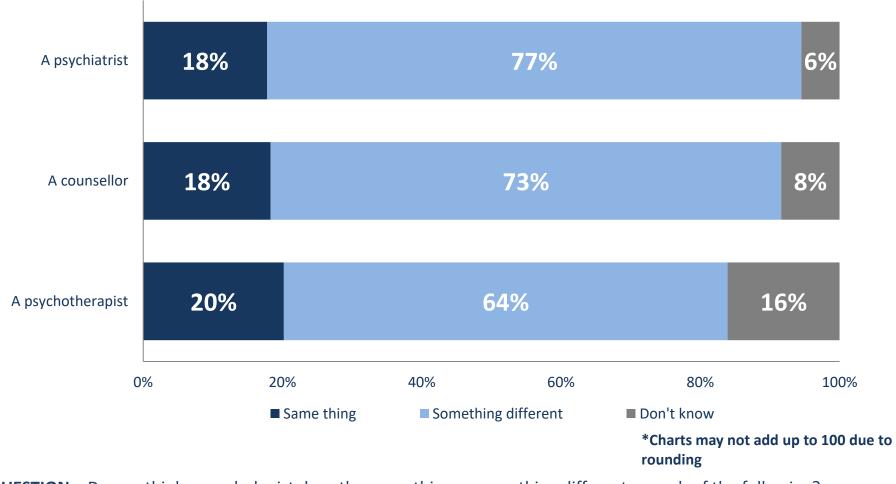
Top mentions	2020 (n=147)	2011 (n=205)
Family doctor/physician	24%	26%
Psychologist	18%	22%
Psychiatrist	16%	31%
None	14%	NA
Other	7%	1%
Unsure	7%	2%
Nurse	4%	NA

QUESTION – What health professional do you have the most confidence in, overall, when it comes to helping people with mental health problems? (open-ended)

Psychologists compared to other professionals







QUESTION – Do you think a psychologist does the same thing or something different as each of the following? [RANDOMIZE]

Professional best able to care for people living with depression





Top Mentions	Prince Edward Island (n=153)
Psychiatrist	47%
Psychologist	24%
Counsellor	18%
Psychotherapist	9%
Doctor/nurse	2%
Team of specialists/doctors	1%

QUESTION – Which profession do you think is best able to care for people living with the following mental health problems? [RANDOMIZE]

Depression

Professional best able to care for people living with anxiety





Top Mentions	Prince Edward Island (n=153)
Counsellor	34%
Psychologist	30%
Psychiatrist	26%
Psychotherapist	8%
Doctor/nurse	1%
No one	0.7%

QUESTION – Which profession do you think is best able to care for people living with the following mental health problems? [RANDOMIZE]

Anxiety

Professional best able to care for people living with addictions





Top Mentions	Prince Edward Island (n=154)	
Counsellor	57%	
Psychologist	19%	
Psychotherapist	11%	
Psychiatrist	10%	
Doctor/nurse	1%	
No one	0.7%	

QUESTION – Which profession do you think is best able to care for people living with the following mental health problems? [RANDOMIZE]

Addictions

Professional best able to care for people living with dementia





Top Mentions	Prince Edward Island (n=153)
Psychiatrist	25%
Psychologist	21%
Counsellor	20%
Psychotherapist	19%
Doctor/nurse	7%
Specialists	6%

QUESTION – Which profession do you think is best able to care for people living with the following mental health problems? [RANDOMIZE]

Dementia

MAMOC DECEADOL

Professional best able to care for people living with learning disabilities





Top Mentions	Prince Edward Island (n=153)
Psychologist	34%
Counsellor	32%
Psychiatrist	14%
Psychotherapist	13%
Specialists	4%
Doctor/nurse	2%

QUESTION – Do you think a psychologist does the same thing or something different as each of the following? [RANDOMIZE]

Learning disabilities/ADHD

Professional best able to care for people living with ANADIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION Stress of being diagnosed with a disease





Top Mentions	Prince Edward Island (n=155)
Counsellor	54%
Psychologist	21%
Psychiatrist	14%
Psychotherapist	6%
Doctor/nurse	3%
Specialist	0.9%

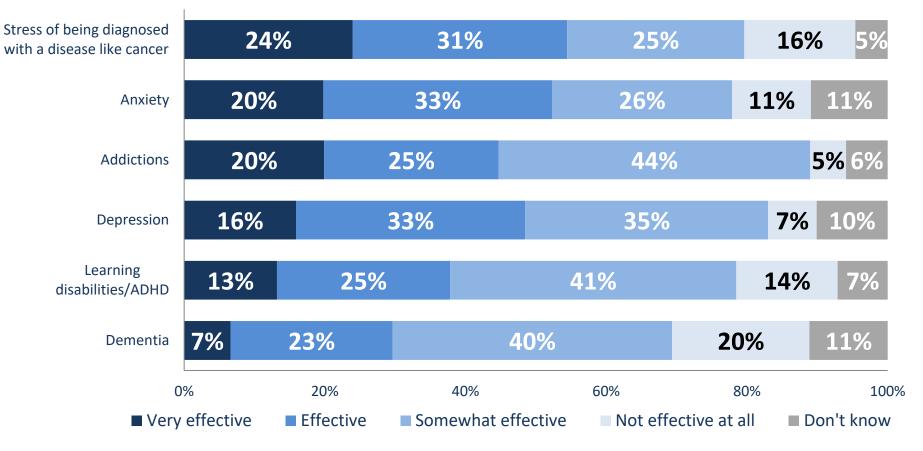
QUESTION – Do you think a psychologist does the same thing or something different as each of the following? [RANDOMIZE]

Stress of being diagnosed with a disease like cancer

Effectiveness of psychologists in helping people







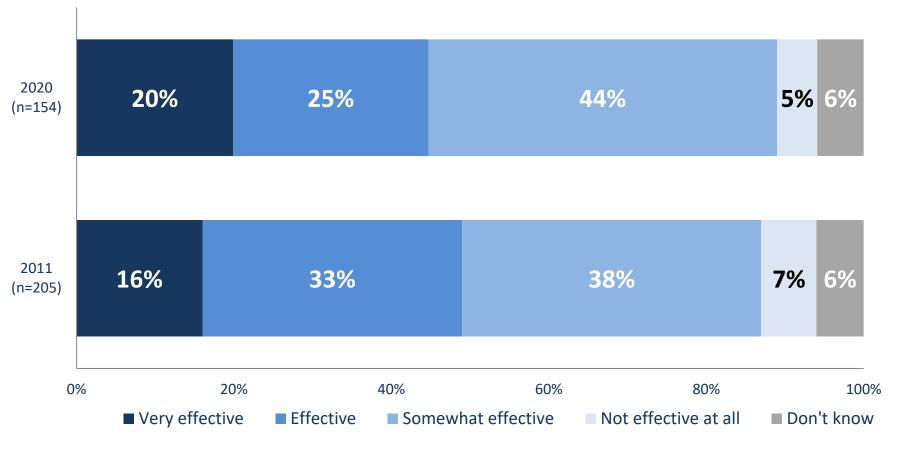
*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding

QUESTION – How effective do you feel psychologists are in helping people who are living with the following mental health problems or disorders? [RANDOMIZE]

Effectiveness of psychologists in helping people coping with addictions - Tracking







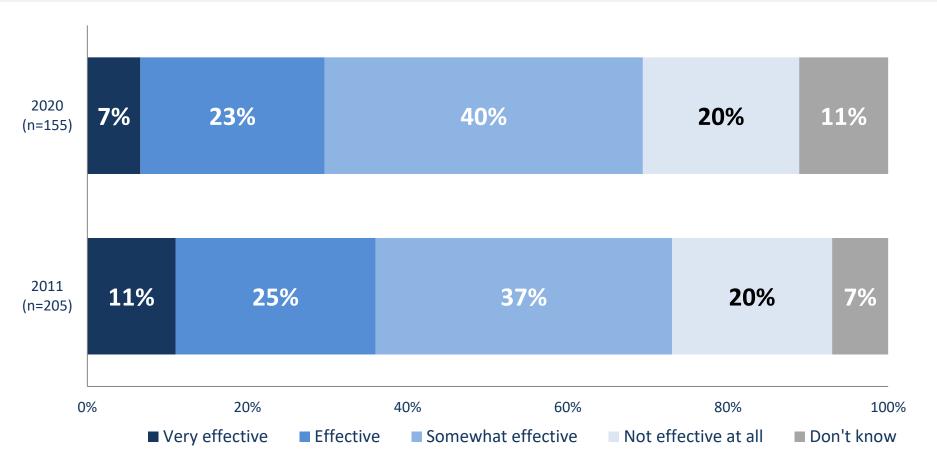
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Addictions

PAP NANOS (Professional ns of Psychologists

Effectiveness of psychologists in helping people coping with dementia - Tracking



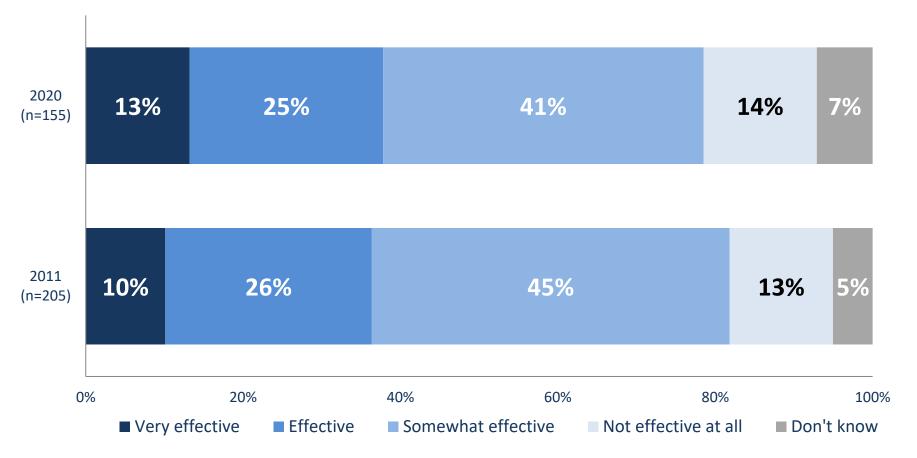
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Dementia

Professional s of Psychologists NANOS

Effectiveness of psychologists in helping people coping with learning disabilities - Tracking



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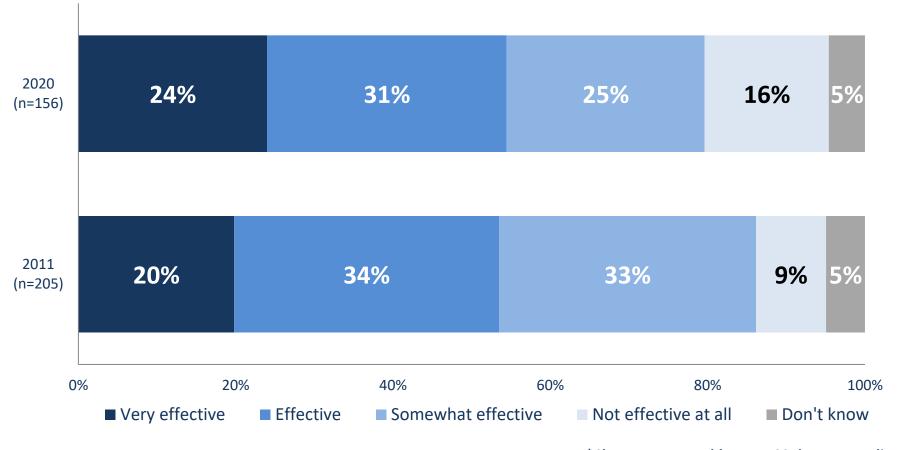
QUESTION – How effective do you feel psychologists are in helping people who are living with the following mental health problems or disorders? [RANDOMIZE]

Learning disabilities/ADHD









*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding

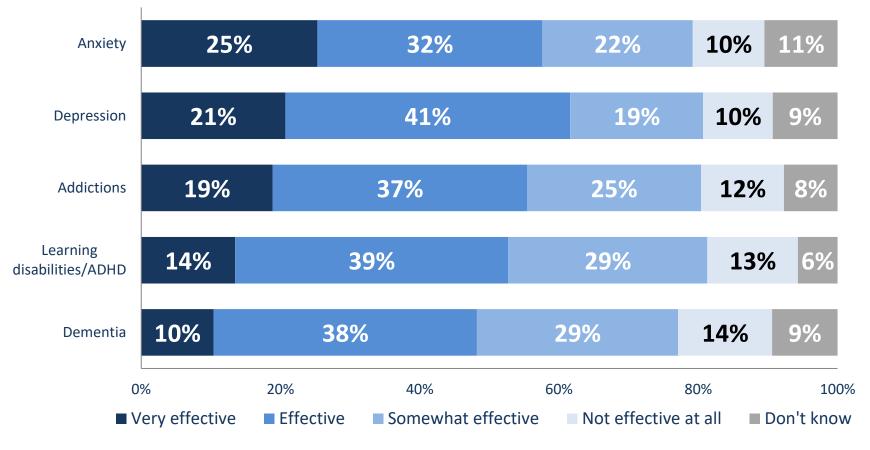
QUESTION – How effective do you feel psychologists are in helping people who are living with the following mental health problems or disorders? [RANDOMIZE]

Stress of being diagnosed with a disease like cancer

Effectiveness of psychologists in diagnosing people







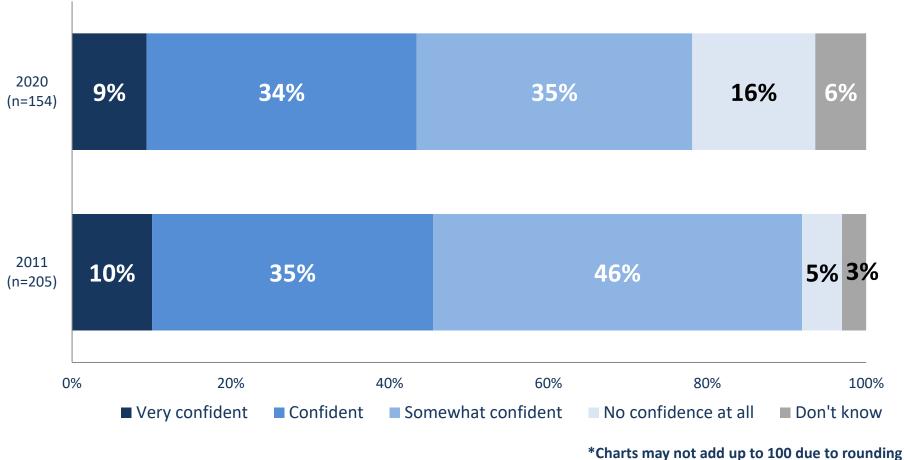
*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding

QUESTION – How effective do you feel psychologists are in diagnosing people who are living with the following mental health problems or disorders? [RANDOMIZE]

Confidence in psychologists and the care they provide







*Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding

QUESTION – How much confidence do you have in psychologists and the care they provide when it comes to mental health?

Amount of time needed for Canadians to get access to psychological services in the publicly-funded health care system







^{*}Weighted to the true population proportion.

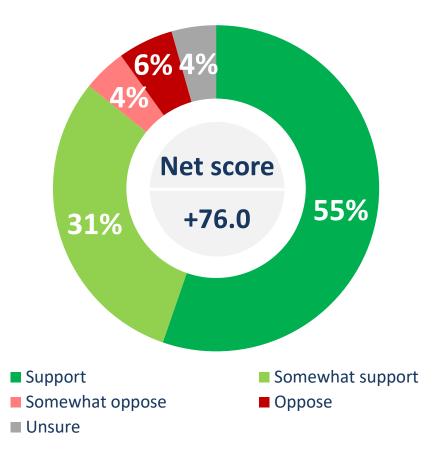
QUESTION – To the best of your knowledge, are Canadians able to access the services of a psychologist in the publicly-funded health care system within a reasonable, somewhat reasonable, somewhat unreasonable, or unreasonable period of time?

^{*}Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Support for improving access to psychologists through the publicly-funded health care system







QUESTION – Do you support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or oppose improving access to psychologists through the publicly-funded health care system?

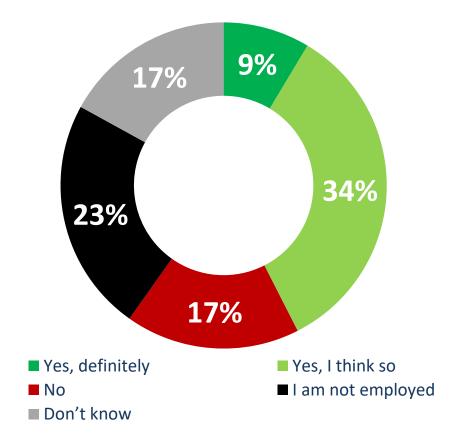
^{*}Weighted to the true population proportion.

^{*}Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Access to a psychologist through employer health benefit plan







QUESTION – To the best of your knowledge, are you able to access a psychologist through your employer's health benefit plan within a reasonable period of time?

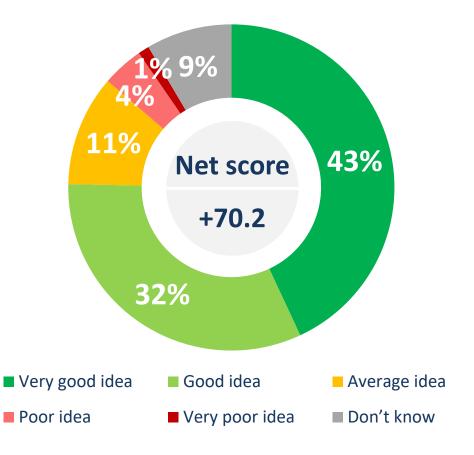
^{*}Weighted to the true population proportion.

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Providing greater access to psychologists through employer health benefit plans







QUESTION – Is providing greater access to psychologists through employer health benefit plans (e.g., more sessions, higher financial caps) a very good idea, good idea, average idea, poor idea or a very poor idea?

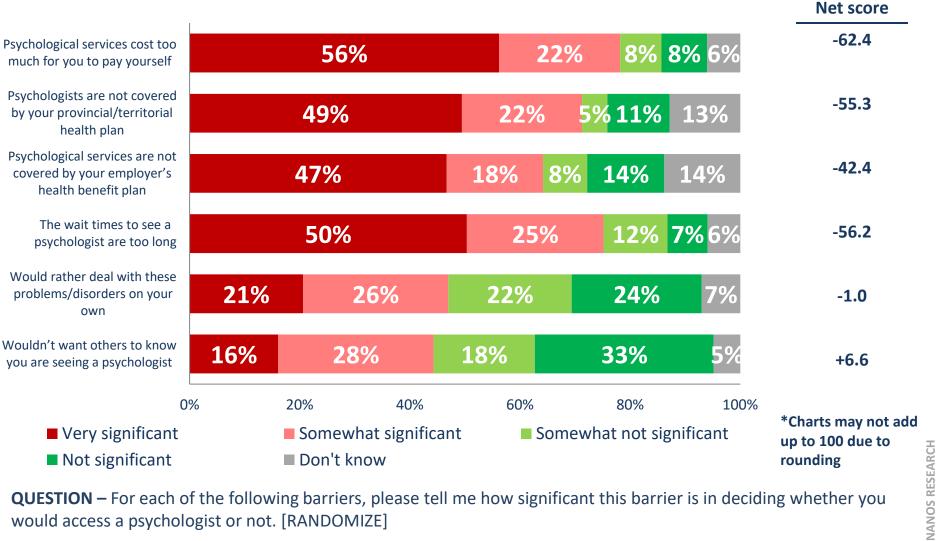
^{*}Weighted to the true population proportion.

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Significance of barriers in deciding to access a psychologist





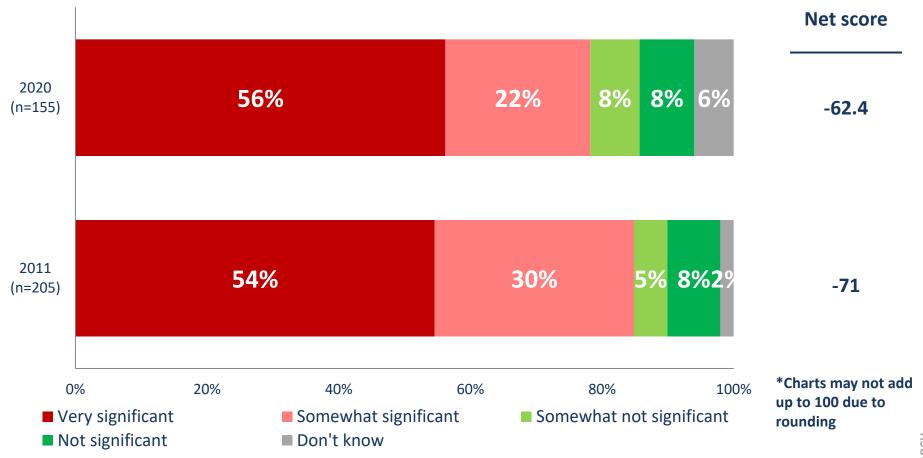


QUESTION – For each of the following barriers, please tell me how significant this barrier is in deciding whether you would access a psychologist or not. [RANDOMIZE]

Significance of cost barriers in deciding to access a psychologist







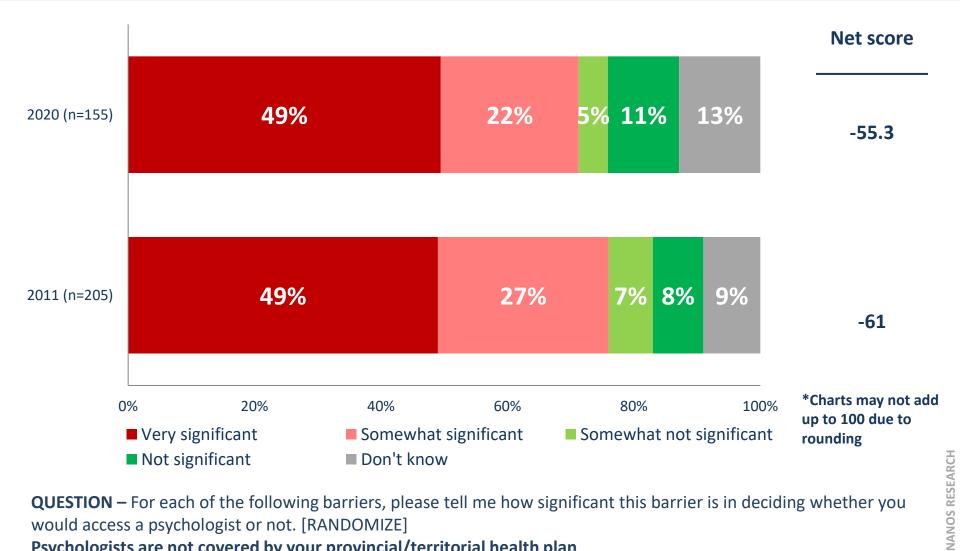
QUESTION – For each of the following barriers, please tell me how significant this barrier is in deciding whether you would access a psychologist or not. [RANDOMIZE]

Psychological services cost too much for you to pay yourself

Significance of health plan coverage barriers in deciding to access a psychologist







QUESTION – For each of the following barriers, please tell me how significant this barrier is in deciding whether you would access a psychologist or not. [RANDOMIZE]

Psychologists are not covered by your provincial/territorial health plan

Significance of employer health benefit plan coverage barriers in deciding to access a psychologist









QUESTION – For each of the following barriers, please tell me how significant this barrier is in deciding whether you would access a psychologist or not. [RANDOMIZE]

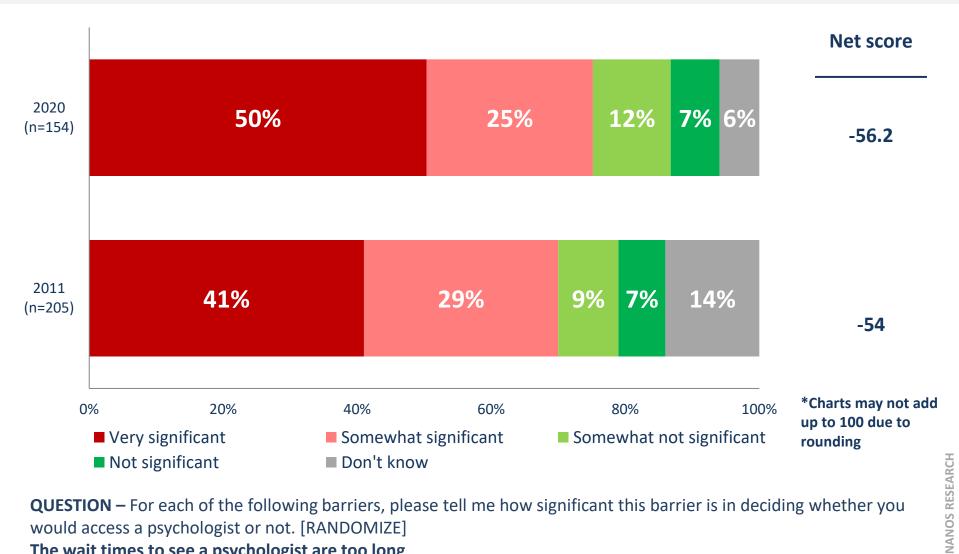
Psychological services are not covered by your employer's health benefit plan

Significance of long wait times in deciding to access a psychologist









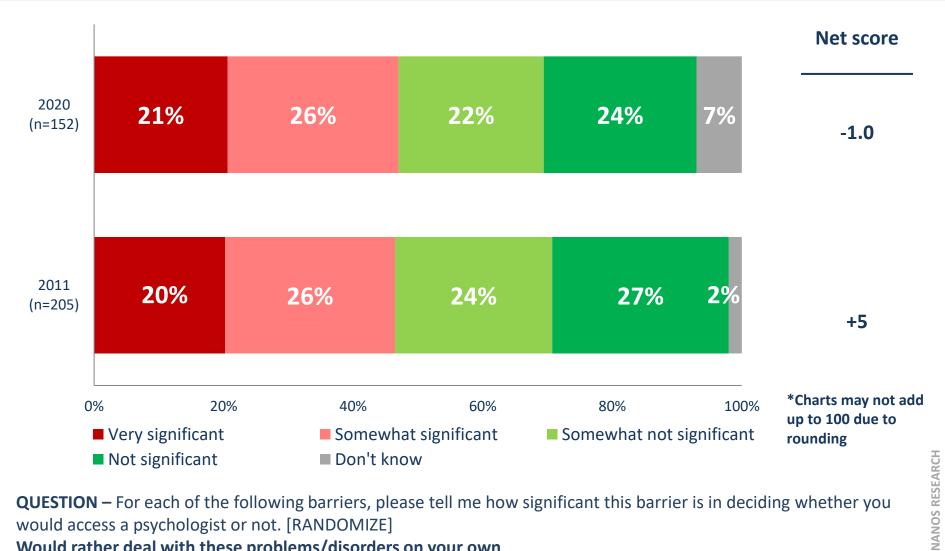
QUESTION – For each of the following barriers, please tell me how significant this barrier is in deciding whether you would access a psychologist or not. [RANDOMIZE]

The wait times to see a psychologist are too long

Significance of dealing with problems/disorders themselves in deciding to access a psychologist







QUESTION – For each of the following barriers, please tell me how significant this barrier is in deciding whether you would access a psychologist or not. [RANDOMIZE]

Would rather deal with these problems/disorders on your own



CANADIAN





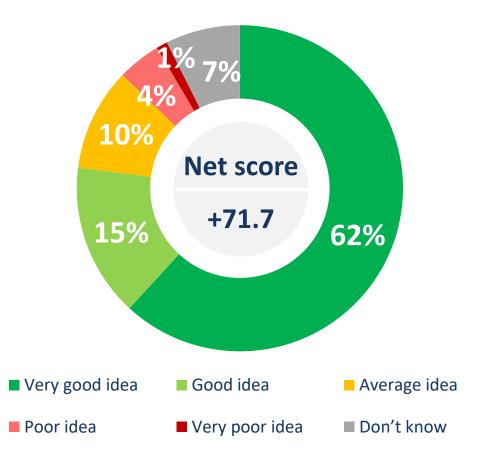
QUESTION – For each of the following barriers, please tell me how significant this barrier is in deciding whether you would access a psychologist or not. [RANDOMIZE]

Wouldn't want others to know you are seeing a psychologist

Support for psychologists working collaboratively with health professionals







QUESTION – Are psychologists working collaboratively with other health professionals, such as family physicians in primary care teams a very good idea, good idea, average idea, poor idea or a very poor idea?

^{*}Weighted to the true population proportion.

^{*}Charts may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

METHODOLOGY







METHODOLOGY





Nanos conducted an online survey of 156 residents of Prince Edward Island between September 25th, 2020 and October 2nd, 2020. This was part of a larger national study of 3,070 Canadians 18 years of age or older, between September 25th, 2020 and October 2nd, 2020. 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 the population. The sample is geographically stratified to be representative of the population.

The research was commissioned by the Canadian Psychological Association and the Council of Professional Associations of Psychologists and was conducted by Nanos Research.

This is report two (2) of two (2).

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

The complete tabulations are appended to the national reports one and two. To view the national reports, please visit www.nanos.co .





Element	Description	Element	Description	
Research sponsor	Canadian Psychological Association and the Council of Professional Associations of Psychologists	Weighting of Data Census information (2016). See tables for full weighting disclosur	The results were weighted by age and gender using the latest Census information (2016).	
Population and Final Sample Size	156 residents of Prince Edward Island as a part of a larger national survey of 3,070 Canadians drawn from a panel		See tables for full weighting disclosure.	
Source of Sample	Asking Canadians	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	
Type of Sample	Representative non-probability		ensure the integrity of the data.	
Margin of Error	No margin of error applies to this research.	Excluded Demographics	Individuals younger than 18 years old; individuals without internet access could not participate.	
Mode of Survey	Online survey	Stratification	By age and gender using the latest Census information (2016) and	
Sampling Method Base	Non-probability.	Stratification	the sample is geographically stratified to be representative of the population.	
	Residents of Prince Edward Island; Men and Women; 18	Estimated Response Rate	Not applicable	
Demographics (Captured)	years or older. Six digit postal code was used to validate geography. Question Order	Question order in the preceding report reflects the order in which they appeared in the original questionnaire.		
Demographics (Other)	Age, gender, education, income	Question Content	This is report two (2) of (2). This report contains questions 1 to 34 and report 1 contains questions 35 to 54 in the questionnaire.	
Field Dates	September 25 th to October 2 nd , 2020.		The questions in the preceding report are written exactly as they	
Language of Survey	The survey was conducted in both English and French.	Question Wording	were asked to individuals.	
	Nanos Research is a member of the Canadian Research	Research/Data Collection Supplier	Nanos Research	
Standards	Public Oninion Research Standards and Disclosure	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.	

METHODOLOGY - Previous wave





Survey of 1565 residents of Prince Edward Island as part of a larger national survey of 2,832 Canadians conducted by EKOS in 2011 for the Canadian Psychological Association.

ABOUT NANOS







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dimap

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