Recognition of symptoms of COVID-19

14 June 2021

Table 1. Percentage of people who endorsed different symptoms of COVID-19.

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|  | Can you tell us what you think the most common symptoms of coronavirus are? Please select up to 5 [n=1037], % (n) | According to Government guidelines, which of these symptoms mean that someone should get a test for coronavirus? Please select up to 5 [n=987], % (n) |
|  | % (N) | % (N) |
| Cough | 70.4 (730) | 67.4 (665) |
| Loss of sense of smell | 66.2 (686) | 67.1 (662) |
| Loss of taste | 65.7 (681) | 65.3 (645) |
| High temperature / fever | 63.2 (655) | 68.0 (671) |
| Shortness of breath / difficulty breathing | 49.3 (511) | 44.7 (441) |
| Flu-like symptoms | 33.8 (350) | 33.0 (326) |
| Feeling tired or having low energy | 15.7 (163) | 9.5 (94) |
| Sore throat | 14.6 (151) | 167 (165) |
| Headaches | 13.4 (139) | 12.3 (121) |
| Loss of appetite | 8.3 (86) | 8.8 (87) |
| Aches and pains | 6.8 (70) | 4.8 (47) |
| Chills / shivering | 6.0 (62) | 5.7 (56) |
| Chest pain | 3.6 (37) | 4.0 (39) |
| Nausea / feeling sick | 3.6 (37) | 3.1 (31) |
| Sneezing | 2.9 (30) | 3.9 (38) |
| Runny nose | 2.8 (29) | 3.3 (33) |
| Dizziness | 2.8 (29) | 1.4 (14) |
| Diarrhoea | 1.8 (19) | 3.5 (35) |
| Pain in your arms, legs or joints | 1.7 (18) | 2.0 (20) |
| Blocked nose | 1.4 (15) | 1.3 (13) |
| Vomiting | 1.2 (12) | 2.3 (23) |
| Trouble sleeping | 1.2 (12) | 1.3 (13) |
| Stomach ache | 1.2 (12) | 1.2 (12) |
| Fainting spells | 1.1 (11) | 1.0 (10) |
| Feeling your heart pound or race | 0.8 (8) | 1.0 (10) |
| Back pain | 0.6 (6) | 1.4 (14) |
| Other | 0.4 (4) | 0.1 (1) |
| Don’t know | 3.0 (31) | 3.0 (30) |

Datasets used:

* Department of Health and Social Care weekly tracker
	+ Tracking DHSC marketing, coronavirus attitudes, beliefs, knowledge, reported behaviour, satisfaction with Government response, credibility of Government.
	+ Data collected fortnightly (Monday to Wednesday).
	+ Wave 51, n=2024. Data collected (1 to 2 June 2021).
	+ Market research company commissioned: BMG Research.

*Please note that this work has been conducted rapidly and has not been peer reviewed or subject to normal quality control measures.*

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