

Engage

MB

What We Heard

Rapid Antigen Tests

Manitoba Health – Call Centre Test Distribution

Date of Collection: January 20 to February 17, 2023

Number of Respondents: 238

Background and Context:

As part of the government response to COVID-19, Manitoba Health continues to supply Rapid Antigen tests free of charge across the province. To ensure that the public is informed and has timely access to test kits, this survey was designed to attain public input on the ease of use and availability of Rapid Antigen tests and should help inform our work to provide accessible distribution of Rapid Antigen kits across the province in 2023.

Engagement Overview

The survey on Rapid Antigen tests was available for public input for 30 days from January 20 to February 17, 2023, through the Engage MB web portal. The survey was announced via a news release, and was promoted through the communications functions of the portal and the government's social media channels.

The feedback received from this survey will be used to inform future Rapid Antigen test distribution strategies into 2023/24.

What We Heard? Observations/Summary:

Total respondents: 238

Age/gender response: 81.5% of respondents were between the ages of 30 and 64, with 67.8% being female.

Ethnicity: 80% of respondents that responded identified as Caucasian.

Demographic Profile

In order to assess the reach of the survey, a number of demographic questions were asked:

Q1: Which of the following age categories best applies to you?

Under 18 years	0
18 to 29 years	6 (2.5%)
30 to 49 years	110 (46.2%)
50 to 64 years	84 (35.3%)
65 and older	32 (13.4%)
Prefer not to answer	6 (2.5%)

Q2: What gender do you identify as?

Male	65 (27.5%)
Female	160 (67.8%)
Non-Binary	10 (4.2%)
Prefer not to answer	0
Prefer to self describe	0

Q3: Do you self-identify as an Indigenous person? By this we mean First Nations (status or non-status), Métis, or Inuit?

Non- Indigenous	204 (85.7%)
First Nations	2 (.8%)
Métis	8 (3.4%)
Inuit	0
Multiple Indigenous identities	0
Prefer not to answer	24 (10.1%)

Q4: Which of the following best describes the racial or ethnic community that you belong to?

African	1 (0.4%)
Black	-
Chinese	1 (0.4%)
Filipino	2 (0.9%)
Latin America	3 (1.3%)
South Asian	3 (1.3%)
Southeast Asian	1 (0.4%)
Caucasian	188 (80%)
Other	9 (3.8%)
Prefer not to answer	28 (11.9%)

Q5: Do you live with, regularly care for or come in close contact with anyone in the following categories: Select all that apply

Not applicable	86 (36.6%)
Infants under 6 months of age	14 (5.9%)
Seniors 65 years of age and older	124 (52.7%)
People with immunocompromised conditions or high-risk medical conditions (e.g. cancer, HIV, diabetes, organ transplant, etc.)	87 (37%)
Pregnant individuals	13 (5.5%)

Q6: Which regional health authority do you primarily live in?

Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority	10 (10.1%)
Northern Regional Health Authority	3 (1.3%)
Prairie Mountain Health	26 (10.9%)
Southern Health-Santé Sud	35 (14.7%)
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority	153 (63%)

RAPID ANTIGEN TESTS usage profile

In order to assess the experience of respondents with Rapid Antigen tests, the following questions were asked:

Q7: What sources have you used to learn about Rapid Antigen tests?

	Number of responses
Government press conferences or news releases	143 (18.2%)
Government website	122 (15.6%)
Other web sites	64 (8.1%)
Webinars	6 (.76%)
Health care provider	58 (7.4%)
News media outlets	92 (11.7%)
Family members or friends	103 (13.2%)
Government social media	62 (7.9%)
Other social media groups or accounts (list)	38 (4.8%)
Workplace	74 (9.4%)
Other	20 (2.5%)
Total responses	782

Comments: Other Sources of Information	Number of responses
Pharmacy/Physician	6
Other Government sources	4
Medical sources such as published journals, research articles, etc.	3
Manufacturers	2
Online sources	2
Other	4
Not applicable	2

Q8: How recently have you or a member of your household used a Rapid Antigen test?

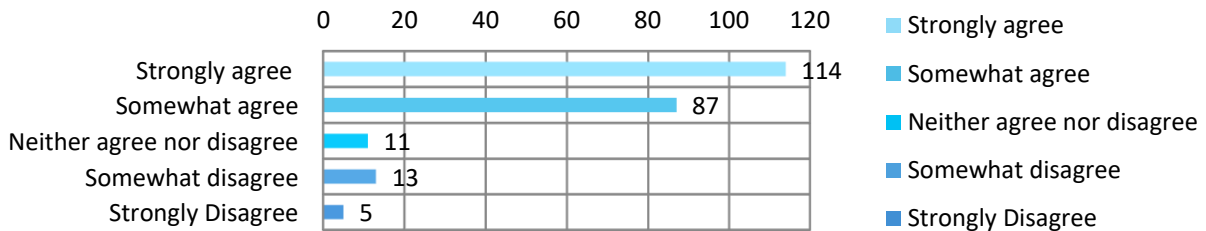
	Number of responses
In the last month	116 (48.9%)
In the last 3 months	67 (28.3%)
In the last 6 months	23 (9.7%)
In the last year	17 (7.2%)
Never	14 (5.9%)

Q9: How many Rapid Antigen tests did you and/or this member of your household use when last determining whether you were positive for COVID-19? (Per person, if applicable.)

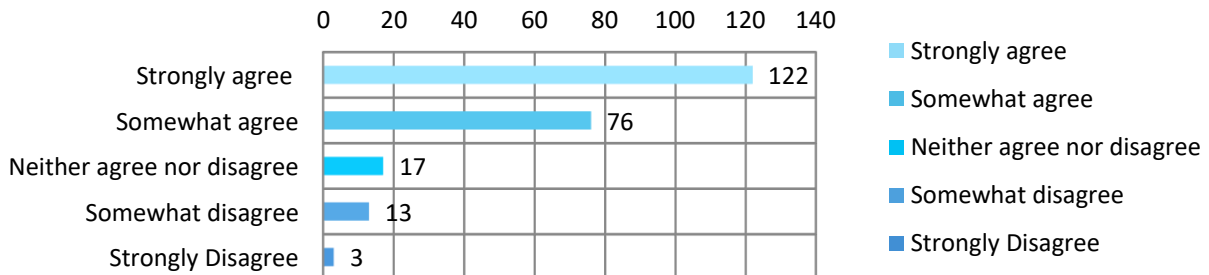
	Number of responses
1-3 tests	134 (59.3%)
3 - 5 tests	64 (28.3%)
6-10 tests	20 (8.8%)
11-20 tests	8 (3.5%)
More than 20 tests	0

Q10: To what extent do the following statements reflect your experience with using a Rapid Antigen test? (Strongly agree / Somewhat Agree / Neither Agree nor Disagree / Somewhat Disagree / Strongly Disagree)

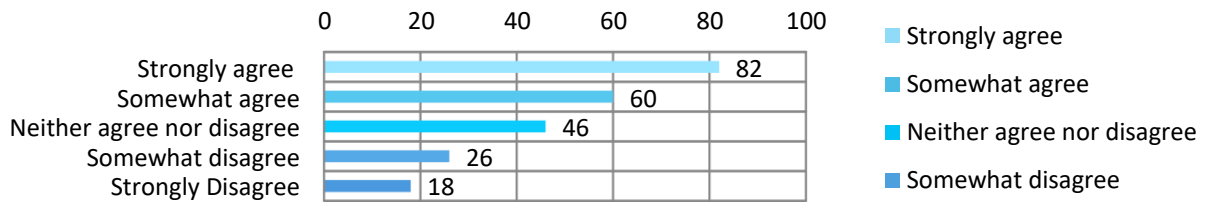
The instructions were easy to follow and understand.



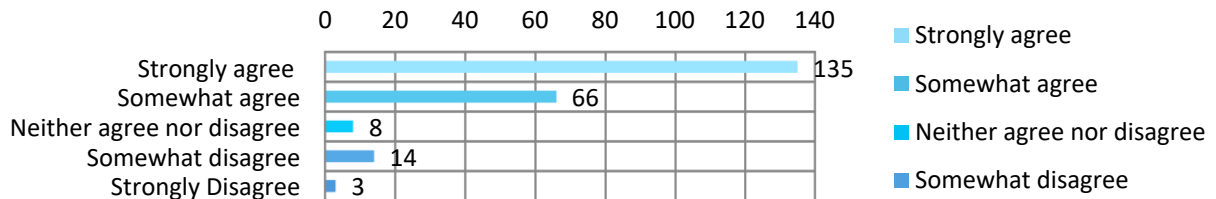
The test was easy to use.



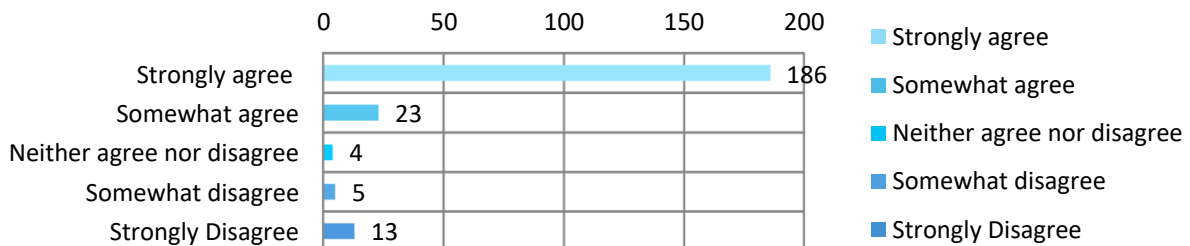
If I needed more information about using the test or interpreting the results, I knew where to find the information.



I understood the test results and knew what actions to take based on the results.



I would take a rapid antigen test again if the situation called for it.



Q11: How many Rapid Antigen tests do you want to have on hand at home for each household member?

	Number of responses
None	23 (9.7%)
1-5 tests	83 (35.2%)
6 - 10 tests	89 (37.7%)
11 -20 tests	23 (9.7%)
21-30 tests	11 (4.7%)
Over 30 tests	7 (3.0%)

Q12: Do you currently have Rapid Antigen tests at home? If so, how many tests?

	Number of responses
No tests	29 (12.3%)
1-5 tests	77 (32.8%)
6 - 10 tests	57 (24.3%)
11-20 tests	44 (18.7%)
21-30 tests	11 (4.7%)
More than 30 tests	17 (7.2%)

Q13: Prior to this survey, did you know that Rapid Antigen tests were available for free at various locations across Manitoba?

Yes 215 (90.3%)
No 23(9.7%)

Q14: If you needed a Rapid Antigen test, do you know where to get one?

Yes 192 (81%)
No 45 (19%)

Q15: Are you aware that there is a provincial website that provides public information on Rapid Antigen tests?

Yes 123 (52.6%)
No 111(47.4%)

[Province of Manitoba | COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Tests \(gov.mb.ca\)](https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/rapid-antigen-tests)

Q16: Are you aware that there is an online map (the Rapid Antigen test locator) that provides the locations of test kits available for pick up?

Yes 72 (30.6%)
No 162 (69.4%)

[Province of Manitoba | Find a Testing Location \(gov.mb.ca\)](https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/rapid-antigen-test-locator)

Q17: Have you noticed signage at locations in the community informing you of the availability of free Rapid Antigen test kits?

Yes 104 (44.1%)
No 132 (55.9%)

Q18: If you have picked up Rapid Antigen tests, where did you get them? Select all that apply

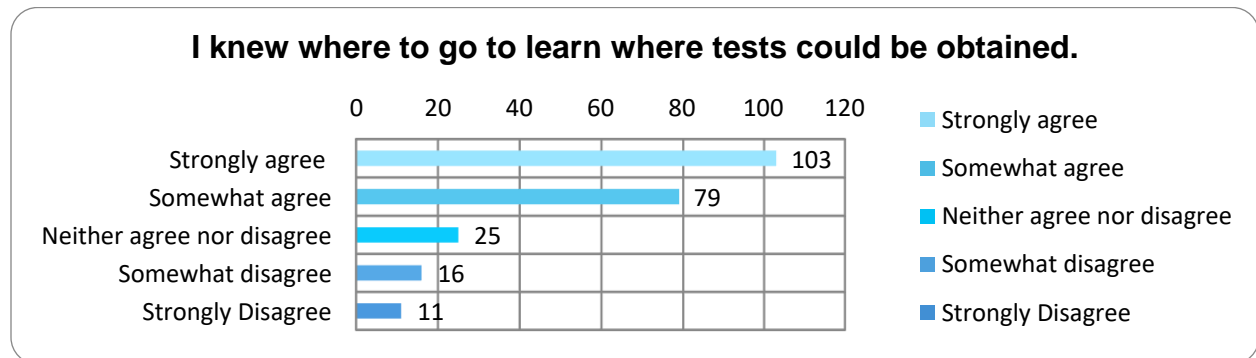
	Number of responses
Grocery store or pharmacy within a grocery store	147
Pharmacy, stand-alone	81
Library	44
Pop up event	41
Health clinic	18
Community Organization	9
Workplace	3
Other	23

Comments: Other Sources of Rapid Antigen Tests	Number of responses
COVID-19 Test Sites	5
Friend/Family	3
Personal Purchase	2
Seniors Centre/Assisted Living Facility	2
Retail/Non-retail Business Locations	2
Other Government Locations	2
Not applicable/no response	3

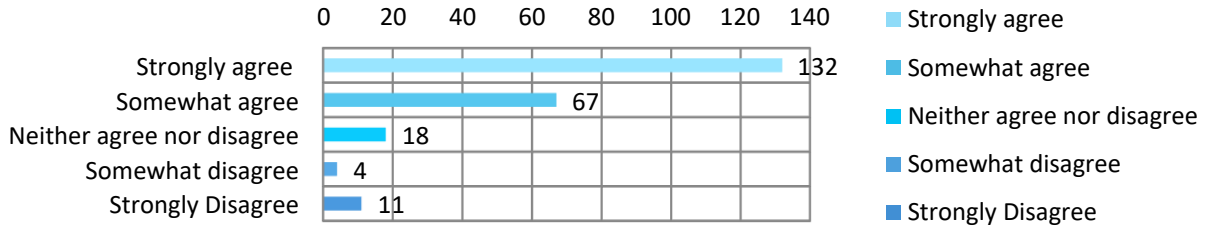
Q19: Are there other places where you would like to be able to access Rapid Antigen tests? If so, where?

Comments: Other places to access Rapid Antigen Tests	Number of responses
Schools	11
All Grocery Stores	11
All Pharmacies	9
Community Centres	8
Online/Mail Order	6
Govt Offices	5
Drs. Offices/Access Centers	5
24/7 access locations	4
Gas Stations	3
Retail locations	3
Other	3
Daycares	2
Library	2
Drive Thru access	2
Banks	2
Personal Care Homes/seniors facilities	2
Hospitals	1
Hotel	1

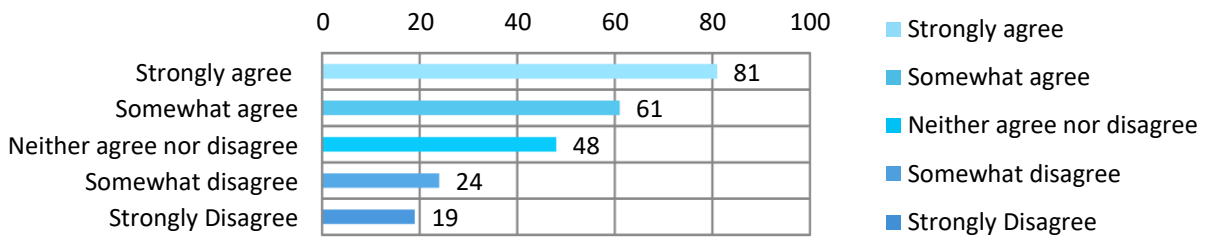
Q20: To what extent do the following statements reflect your experience when most recently obtaining a free Rapid Antigen test in Manitoba? (Strongly agree / Somewhat Agree / Neither Agree nor Disagree / Somewhat Disagree / Strongly Disagree)



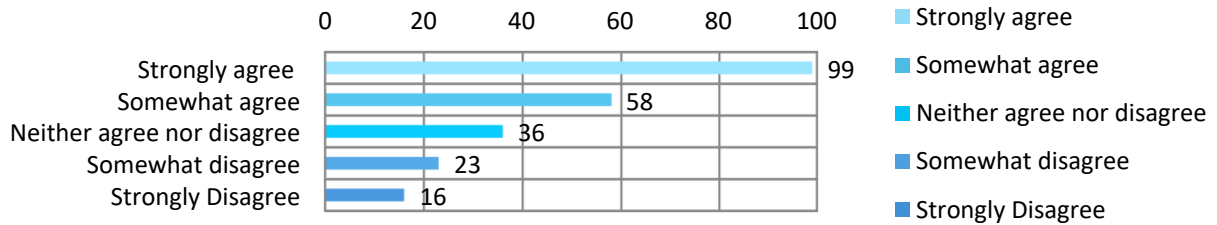
There were locations to obtain tests that were accessible to me.



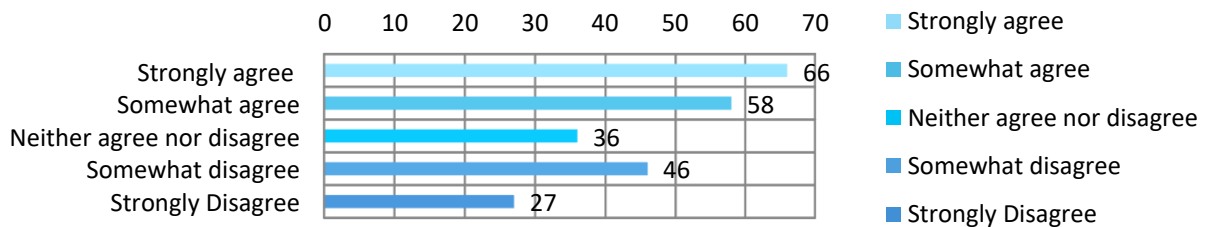
When I picked up the tests it was clear to me where in the location I had to go to collect them.



When I attempted to obtain tests the location I attended had tests in stock.



When I picked up tests I was able to obtain as many tests as I needed.



Q21: If you have any other comments about COVID-19 Rapid Antigen tests please share them here:

Comments: Other comments about Rapid Antigen Tests	Number of responses
Continue to provide Rapid Antigen tests to Manitobans	20
Provide status of and government response to COVID-19 in Manitoba	20
Improve/enhance COVID-19 communications and messaging including any changes to the status of COVID-19 in Manitoba.	18
Provide access to Rapid Antigen tests and information on where to obtain rapid tests.	13
Improve Rapid Antigen test accuracy	12
Improve Rapid test instructions including font size	11
Provide access to other types of COVID-19 testing	10
Provide COVID-19 reporting/tracking and data to the public	5
Clarify the number of Rapid Antigen tests per person/household to the public and distributors	4
Improve signage at Rapid Antigen distribution locations	3
Improve communication to stakeholders and distributors regarding extended expiration dates on Rapid Antigen tests	2
Rapid Antigen Tests were easy to use	1
Not applicable/no response	6

Next Steps

The results of this engagement will help to inform future distribution strategies of Rapid Antigen tests to the public in 2023.

Questions?

If you have any questions regarding the survey results, please contact:

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/ask-health.html>