



DISCRIMINATION REPORT

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CNIW



BACKGROUND

- COVID-19 pandemic has led to an increase in incidents of anti-Asian racism and discrimination in Canada
- This study examines the incidence, prevalence, and associated factors of anti-Asian racism and discrimination during the pandemic



OBJECTIVES

1. To determine the prevalence and incidence of anti-Asian racism and discrimination during the pandemic
2. To identify the factors associated with experiences of anti-Asian racism and discrimination
3. To assess the impacts of anti-Asian racism and discrimination on mental health and wellbeing



PARTICIPANTS:

1. Total of 742 individuals responded to the survey
2. 53.5% female, 46.2% male, and 0.3% non-binary or gender non-conforming
3. Average age of participants was 36 years old
4. Majority of participants were born in Canada (70.3%), followed by China (9.1%), South Korea (3.9%), and India (2.5%)



MAJOR FINDINGS 1

1. More than half (53.3%) of Chinese Canadians in Canada have experienced discrimination since their arrival in Canada, with the rate of discrimination experienced by Chinese immigrants almost three times higher than that experienced by non-indigenous, non-visible minorities (16.5% vs. 53.3%) (data source: 2019 GSS).



MAJOR FINDINGS 2

2. Our statistical modeling results indicate that since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the risk of being a victim of all types of discrimination has increased significantly by 16.70 times (95% CI: 9.43-29.56) compared to the pre-COVID-19 period.



MAJOR FINDINGS 3

3. Public places are the most common locations for experiencing language and physical discrimination, with 45.4% and 48.2% of incidents occurring there, respectively.



MAJOR FINDINGS 4

4. 7% of discrimination victims report the incident to the police or relevant authorities, with lack of knowledge (30.96%), safety concerns (28.60%), and language barriers (27.41%) being the most common barriers to reporting.



MAJOR FINDINGS 5

5. Experiencing or perceiving discrimination predicts higher psychological distress or poorer mental health outcomes, with over 80% of participants reporting feeling scared, anxious, depressed, stressed, and angry because of discrimination. Anger is the most predominant feeling about discrimination (95.33%).



MAJOR FINDINGS 6

6. About 83% of participants agreed that Asian immigrants are more likely to experience discrimination compared to other minority groups in Canada. More than half of the respondents believed that they or their family members would encounter discrimination in the near future.



MAJOR FINDINGS 7

7. A majority of participants believe that COVID-19 is one of the major reasons for increased discrimination towards Asian immigrants, and ad hoc legislation would help ameliorate the situation.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To gain a comprehensive understanding of this issue, we recommend conducting further research across diverse populations, geographic regions, and time periods. Such research would yield a better understanding of the underlying reasons and more effective intervention strategies to combat anti-Asian discrimination and all forms of racism and discrimination.
2. Enhancing public awareness and promoting cultural diversity and inclusion are crucial to combat not only anti-Asian discrimination but also all injustices and inequities in Canadian society.
3. Our study reveals the high prevalence of anti-Chinese discrimination, emphasizing the need for national and broad actions that support and protect all victims of discrimination. This is not only necessary but also urgent, particularly given the alarming increasing trend and limited community resources and experience.
4. Our report underscores the importance of re-examining Canada's existing legislation and identifying loopholes in fighting racial discrimination. It highlights the need for new legislation that effectively addresses the issue of discrimination in all its forms.