

**Harvard Opinion Research Program  
Harvard School of Public Health**

**H1N1 VIRUS (SWINE FLU) SURVEY II**

**May 5-6, 2009**

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## HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### H1N1 VIRUS (SWINE FLU) SURVEY 2

*The study was conducted for Harvard School of Public Health via telephone by **SSRS/ICR**, an independent research company. Interviews were conducted May 5-6, 2009, among a representative sample of 1,013 respondents age 18 and older. Of those a total of 130 respondents were Hispanic and a total of 112 respondents were Non-Hispanic African Americans. A total of 150 interviews were conducted with respondents on cell phones. The margin of error for total respondents is +/-3.6 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.*

1. How familiar are you with the term “H1N1 virus”? Do you know what this term means, have you heard of it, but are not sure what it means, or have you never heard of the term “H1N1 virus” before?

	Know what it means	Have heard of it, but not sure what it means	Never heard of the term	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	49**	25**	25**	*	*
4/29/09	24	21	55	1	--

\*\*statistically significant difference from 4/29/09

(Asked of total who know what the term “H1N1 virus” means; n = 546)

2. Does “H1N1 virus” mean the same thing as swine flu, or not?

	Yes, it does	No, it does not	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	86	11	3	--
4/29/09	85	11	4	*

#### 1/2. Combo Table #1

	Know what “H1N1 virus” means			Have heard of H1N1 virus, but not sure what it is	Never heard of H1N1 virus	Don't know	Refused
	NET	Is swine flu	Is not swine flu				
5/6/09	49**	43**	5**	25**	25**	*	*
4/29/09	24	20	3	21	55	1	--

\*\*statistically significant difference from 4/29/09

**1/2. Combo Table #2**

	H1N1 virus is swine flu	H1N1 is not swine flu/dk/dk term
5/6/09	43**	57**
4/29/09	20	80

\*\*statistically significant difference from 4/29/09

3. How closely are you following news about the recent outbreak of H1N1 or swine flu? Are you following the news very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, or not at all?

	Very	Somewhat	Not too	Not at all	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09†	31	46	17	7	*	*
4/29/09	34	43	15	7	*	*

†5/6/09 "H1N1 or" added

4. From which source have you gotten the most information about the H1N1 or swine flu outbreak: local TV news, national network TV news, cable network news, newspapers, or the Internet?

	Local TV news	National network TV news	Cable Network news	Newspapers	Internet	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09†	32	21	16	9**	17	4**	1
4/29/09	32	21	14	6	19	6	1

†5/6/09 "H1N1 or", "cable network news" added

\*\*statistically significant difference from 4/29/09

- 4a. Have you gotten or shared any information about H1N1 or swine flu online on sites such as Twitter, blogs, Facebook, or discussion boards?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	6	94	*	--

**(Asked of one half of total respondents; n = 510)**

- 4b. How likely do you think it is that you or someone in your immediate family will contract H1N1 or swine flu during the next 12 months? Do you think that is very likely to happen to you or someone in your immediate family, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

	Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	5	20	44	27	4	*

(Asked of one half of total respondents; n = 503)

5. Are you concerned that you or someone in your immediate family may get sick from H1N1 or swine flu during the next 12 months, or aren't you concerned about that?

(Asked of total who are concerned that they may get sick from swine flu in the next 12 months)

6. How concerned are you? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not very concerned?

**5/6. Combo Table #1**

	Concerned about getting sick from H1N1/swine flu during the next 12 months				Not concerned about getting sick from H1N1/swine flu during the next 12 months	Don't know	Refused
	NET	Very	Somewhat	Not very			
5/6/09	39**	17	20	2	61**	*	--
4/29/09	46	20	24	2	53	1	--

†5/6/09 "H1N1 or" added

\*\*statistically significant difference from 4/29/09

- 6a. To the best of your knowledge, how easily does the current H1N1 or swine flu spread throughout a community? Does it spread very easily, somewhat easily, not too easily, or not easily at all?

	Very	Somewhat	Not too	Not at all	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	23	45	21	5	6	*

7. To the best of your knowledge, is there a vaccine against the current H1N1 or swine flu, or isn't there one?

	Yes, there's a vaccine	No, there's not a vaccine	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09†	24	66	10	--
4/29/09	22	65	13	--

†5/6/09 "H1N1 or" added

8. To the best of your knowledge, is there an effective medicine to treat people who have contracted the current H1N1 or swine flu, or doesn't such a medicine exist?

	Yes, there's an effective medicine	No, there isn't an effective medicine	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09†	64**	24	12**	*
4/29/09	54	28	18	*

†5/6/09 "H1N1 or" added

\*\*statistically significant difference from 4/29/09

9. To the best of your knowledge, can you get the current H1N1 or swine flu in each of the following ways: How about (INSERT)?

5/6/09†	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
a. From being in close contact with someone who has H1N1 or swine flu-that is, within about three feet	83	14	3**	*
b. From being near someone who has H1N1 or swine flu, but not in close contact – that is, being at thirty feet away	24**	71**	5**	--
c. From eating pork	10**	86**	5	--
d. From coming in contact with pigs	26**	67**	7	*

4/29/09	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
a. From being in close contact with someone who has swine flu-that is, within about three feet	83	12	5	--
b. From being near someone who has swine flu, but not in close contact – that is, being at thirty feet away	29	63	8	*
c. From eating pork	13	81	6	--
d. From coming in contact with pigs	34	57	9	--

†5/6/09 “H1N1 or” added

\*\*statistically significant difference from 4/29/09

10. To the best of your knowledge, would wearing a face mask protect you from getting sick from the current H1N1 or swine flu, or not?

	Yes, would	No, would not	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09†	48**	48**	3**	*
4/29/09	53	40	7	*

†5/6/09 “H1N1 or” added

\*\*statistically significant difference from 4/29/09

11. To the best of your knowledge, would wearing a face mask if you were sick help prevent you from spreading the current swine flu to other people, or not?

	Yes, would	No, would not	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09†	78	20	2	--
4/29/09	78	19	3	*

†5/6/09 “H1N1 or” added

- 11a. To the best of your knowledge, are there any cases of H1N1 or swine flu among people in your community, or are there no cases?

	Yes, there are cases in your community	No, there are no cases in your community	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	17	81	3	--

- 11b. To the best of your knowledge, have any schools in your community been closed because of suspected cases of H1N1 or swine flu, or haven't any of them been closed?

	Yes, schools in your community have been closed	No, schools in your community have not been closed	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	16	82	2	--

12. In response to reports of H1N1 or swine flu, have you or has someone in your household done any of the following? Have you (INSERT ITEM)?

5/6/09†	Yes, have done	No, have not done	Don't know	Refused
a. Avoided places where many people are gathered together, like sporting events, malls, or public transportation	25	75	*	*
b. Talked with your doctor about health issues related to H1N1 or swine flu	8**	92**	--	--
d. Worn a face mask	4**	96**	*	--
e. Washed your hands or used hand sanitizer more frequently	67**	33**	--	--
f. Avoided people you think may have recently visited Mexico	16	82**	2	--
g. Avoided Mexican restaurants or grocery stores	13**	87**	*	--
h. Gotten a prescription for or purchased antivirals, such as Tamiflu or Relenza	2	97**	*	--
i. Avoided air travel	27	73	*	--
j. Made preparations to stay at home if you or a family member are sick	55	44	*	--

4/29/09	Yes, have done	No, have not done	Don't know	Refused
a. Avoided places where many people are gathered together, like sporting events, malls, or public transportation	25	75	*	--
b. Talked with your doctor about health issues related to swine flu	5	95	*	--
c. Purchased a face mask	5	95	--	--
d. Worn a face mask	8	92	*	--
e. Washed your hands or used hand sanitizer more frequently	59	40	*	--
f. Avoided people you think may have recently visited Mexico	20	76	4	*
g. Avoided Mexican restaurants or grocery stores	17	82	1	*
h. Gotten a prescription for or purchased antivirals, such as Tamiflu or Relenza	1	99	--	--

†5/6/09 "H1N1 or" added

\*\*statistically significant difference from 4/29/09

12a. In response to reports of H1N1 or swine flu, have you PERSONALLY done any of the following? Have you (INSERT)?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
a. Stopped shaking hands with people	14	86	--	--
b. Stopped hugging and kissing close friends or relatives	12	88	*	--
c. Taken any steps to avoid being near someone who has flu-like symptoms	35	64	1	*

13. Suppose you had H1N1 or swine flu and health officials recommended that you stay at home, away from other people for 5 to 7 days. Is this something you would do, or not?

	Yes, would do	No, would not do	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09†	97**	3**	*	--
4/29/09	95	5	*	*

†5/6/09 "H1N1 or" added

\*\*statistically significant difference from 4/29/09

14. Do you have children under the age of 18 living at home, or not?

	Yes, have children	No, do not have children	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	35	65	--	--

(Asked of total who have children <18 living at home; n = 324)

15. Are any of these children currently enrolled in school, or not?

	Yes, enrolled	No, not enrolled	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	79	21	--	--

(Asked of total who have children <18 living at home; n = 324)

15a. Are any of these children currently enrolled in daycare, or not?

	Yes, enrolled	No, not enrolled	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	18	80	2	*

(Asked of total who have children <18 living at home and they are currently enrolled in school or daycare; n = 273)

16. In response to reports of H1N1 or swine flu, have you kept your children home from school or day care, or not?

	Yes, have	No, have not	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09†	5	95	--	--
4/29/09	4	96	*	--

†5/6/09 "H1N1 or" added

**(Asked of total who have children <18 living at home and they are currently enrolled in school; n = 265)**

- 16a. If schools were closed for TWO WEEKS, and officials asked people to keep their children from being around other people during this time, some families would find it relatively easy to keep their kids away from others and other families would find it difficult. If your children's school(s) closed for TWO WEEKS, how likely would it be that you could keep your children from attending the following activities?  
How about (INSERT)? Would you say it is very likely that you could keep them from (INSERT), somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

- a. Attending public events like movies, sporting events or concerts

	Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	67	11	10	11	1	*

- b. Attending social events like parties or dances

	Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	64	16	5	14	--	--

- c. Going to the movies or the mall

	Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	67	12	7	14	*	*

- d. Spending time with friends

	Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	47	22	16	14	1	--

**(Asked of total who have children <18 living at home and they are currently enrolled in school; n = 265)**

- 16b. Has your children's school(s) given you any information about what they are doing to reduce the possible spread of H1N1 or swine flu in the school, or not?

	Yes, has	No, has not	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09†	49	50	2	--

- 16c. How satisfied are you with the information public health officials have been providing about the H1N1 or swine flu outbreak? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not too satisfied, or not at all satisfied?

	Very	Somewhat	Not too	Not at all	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	47	41	7	4	1	--



16d. How satisfied are you with the way public health officials have been managing the response to the H1N1 or swine flu outbreak? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not too satisfied, or not at all satisfied?

	Very	Somewhat	Not too	Not at all	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	43	40	8	4	3	*

17. Have you or has anyone in your household been ill with flu-like symptoms, like high fever and body aches, in the past thirty days, or not?

	Yes, have	No, have not	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	9	90	*	--
4/29/09	9	91	--	--

E. GENDER OF RESPONDENT

	Male	Female
5/6/09	48	52
4/29/09	48	52

D01. In general, how would you describe your own health – excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?

	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	31**	34	24	8	3	--	--
4/29/09	26	38	25	8	4	*	--

D02. What is your age?

	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	Refused
5/6/09	21	32	29	17	1
4/29/09	21	32	28	17	1

D03. Are you currently married, living with a partner, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never married?

	Currently married	Living with a partner	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Never been married	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	53	9	7	10	2	18	*	**
4/29/09	52	7	8	10	3	20	--	1

\*\*statistically significant difference from 4/29/09

D04. What is the last grade or class that you completed in school?

	5/6/09	4/29/09
None, or grade 1-8	4	3
High school incomplete (grades 9-11)	10	11
High school graduate (grade 12 or GED certificate)	31	31
Business technical, or vocational school AFTER high school	3	3
Some college, no 4-year degree	25	24
College + (NET)	27	27
College graduate (B.S., B.A., or other 4-year degree)	16	18
Post-graduate training or professional schooling after college (e.g. toward a master's degree or PH.D; law or medical school)	11	9
Don't know	*	*
Refused	*	1

D05. Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan? This would include any private insurance plan through your employer or that you purchase yourself, as well as a government program like Medicare or Medicaid?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
5/6/09	84	15	*	*
4/29/09	83	16	1	*

D06. Are you of Hispanic origin or background?

**(Asked of total Hispanics)**

D07. Are you White Hispanic or Black Hispanic?

**(Asked of total non-Hispanics)**

D08. Are you white, black, or some other race?

**Race Summary Table**

	5/6/09	4/29/09
White (non-Hispanic)	67	68
Black (non-Hispanic)	11	11
Asian (non-Hispanic)	3	4
Hispanic (NET)	13	13
White Hispanic	7	8
Black Hispanic	2	2
Hispanic unspecified	5	3
Some other race	4	3
Don't know	*	*
Refused	2	1

D09. IS YOUR TOTAL ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME FROM LL SOURCES, AND BEFORE TAXES: (READ LIST)

	5/6/09	4/29/09
Less than \$40,000 NET	40	39
Less than \$15K	10	10
\$15K but less than 20K	7	7
\$20K but less than \$25K	6	6
\$25K but less than \$30K	6	5
\$30K but less than \$40K	9	9
Less than \$40K (unspecified)	3	2
\$40,000 or more NET	52	51
\$40K but less than \$50K	9	10
\$50K but less than \$75K	16	16
\$75K but less than \$100K	9	9
\$100K +	13	11
\$40K + (unspecified)	4	5
Don't know	2	2
Refused	6	8

D10. REGION

	Northeast	North Central	South	West
5/6/09	18	22	36	23
4/29/09	18	22	36	23