



ACTRA
HEALTH &
SAFETY
SURVEY RESULTS

JUNE 2020

Dear ACTRA members, industry partners and government officials,

Re: ACTRA National Health and Safety Survey Results

Safe sets, studios and audition facilities continue to be a top priority for Canada's professional performers, as determined in the new data collected for our ACTRA National's 2020 Health and Safety Survey. ACTRA is working daily with industry partners and all levels of governments to re-establish new post-COVID-19 health and safety protocols during the reopening of our screen-based industry.

As detailed in our report, members have indicated their level of concern for specific areas when they return to work:

- For example, the main areas respondents were "Greatly concerned" with in returning to auditions were Waiting Rooms and Washroom Facilities.
- The top five areas of "Great concern" when returning to sets and studios were Craft Services, Background Holding Areas, Communal Water Stations, Washroom Facilities and Catering.
- The majority of respondents were "Somewhat concerned" or "Greatly concerned" if asked to rehearse/perform in scenes that require close or physical contact with other performers.

The top three measures members identified as helping to reinforce a sense of safety when auditioning were:

- Limiting the number of people in an audition waiting room;
- Providing disinfectant at all sign-in desk areas; and
- Strict adherence to prohibiting workers who exhibit symptoms attributed to COVID-19.

The survey also identified measures our members felt would reinforce their sense of safety when working on set, in studio or in scenes with physical contact:

- Hand-washing/sanitizer stations;
- Prohibiting anyone from the workplace who exhibits symptoms;
- Having dedicated cleaning teams on all sets;
- Ongoing/daily COVID-19 testing; and
- Having a COVID-19 Coordinator/medical professional on set at all times.

Moving forward, this survey of our membership helps us better understand our collective concerns and priorities, for our important screen industry conversations and decisions. We thank everyone who participated.

ACTRA is committed to working swiftly, and closely with industry partners, to listen, learn and teach the critical steps required to safeguard all of our members. Together, we are establishing our "new normal" for health and safety work requirements in Canada's screen industry.

Working together is incredibly important as we move forward as a union of 27,000 professional performers.

In solidarity,



David Sparrow
ACTRA National President

ACTRA HEALTH & SAFETY SURVEY RESULTS

Executive Summary:

The aim of this anonymous survey was to identify the concerns of performers, and better inform conversations with industry partners and governments on screen industry best practices for sets, studios, audition facilities, and other work environments when returning to work.

Survey Details:

- Survey sent by e-blast to 13,877 members (excluding ACTRA Toronto)
- Survey launched: May 7, 2020
- Survey closed: May 15, 2020
- Total responses: 2,040 (14.7%)

Key Findings:

- Most survey respondents work primarily in B.C. and Quebec.
- The majority of respondents had roles across multiple categories of performance. In terms of exclusive work (only selecting one category), the largest number had "On-camera speaking roles," followed by "General background roles" and "Stand-in roles."
- 73% of respondents identify as someone who is not at high-risk for COVID-19.
- The respondents listed "State of the industry," "Personal finances" and "Safety of family/loved ones" as the top three areas of "Great concern" in returning to work.
- Nearly 70% of respondents say they are comfortable being tested for COVID-19 as a requirement of engagement.
- 54% of respondents said they were comfortable with vaccination being required as a condition of engagement.
- Nearly 40% of respondents noted they had work cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Nearly 60% of respondents have auditioned three times in the past 12 months.
- Nearly 85% of respondents feel "Somewhat comfortable" to "Comfortable" in auditioning using video conferencing and/or doing self-tapes.
- The main areas respondents are "Greatly concerned" with in returning to auditions are Waiting Rooms and Washroom Facilities.
- The top three measures respondents identified as helping to reinforce their sense of safety when auditioning were: Having a limit to the number of people in the waiting room; Disinfectant being provided at all sign-in desk areas; and Strict adherence to prohibiting anyone who exhibits symptoms from the workplace.
- 80% of respondents have worked in the last 12 months.

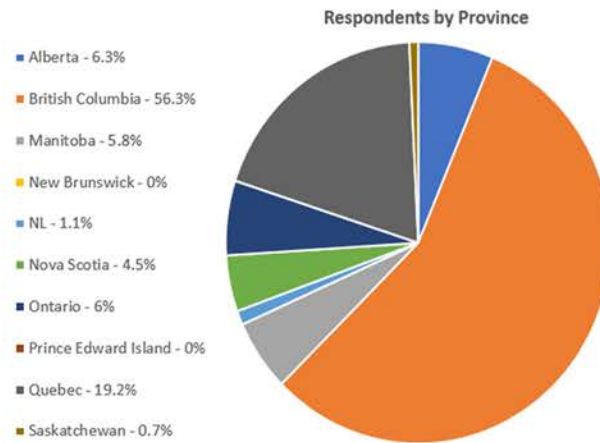
- The top five areas of “Great concern” to respondents when returning to sets and studios are: Craft services; Background holding areas; Communal water stations; Washroom facilities; and Catering.
- The shooting locations of most concern are an “Interior shoot,” followed by a “Sound booth,” and a “Studio sound stage.”
- The greatest percentage of respondents were Somewhat concerned (30.3%) at being required to travel to another Canadian city.
- 77% of respondents would be at least “Somewhat concerned” to “Greatly concerned” if required to work internationally.
- 79% of respondents were at least “Somewhat concerned” to “Greatly concerned” if asked to rehearse/perform in scenes that do not allow for social distancing or require physical contact with other performers.
- Ongoing/daily testing would be the best way to help 81% of respondents feel safe on set, followed by a COVID-19 Coordinator/medical professional being on set at all times (72.2%).
- The top three measures to help reinforce respondents' sense of safety when working on set and in studio would be: Hand-washing/sanitizer stations (90.95%); Prohibiting anyone from the workplace who exhibits symptoms (89.37%); and Having dedicated cleaning teams on all sets (89.11%).

RESPONSES:

Question 1: What province/area do you primarily work in as a performer?

Most respondents work (primarily) in B.C. (1,143 responses), with Quebec a distant second (391 responses).

1. B.C. (1,143)
2. Quebec (391)
3. Alberta (128)
4. Ontario (122)
5. Manitoba (117)

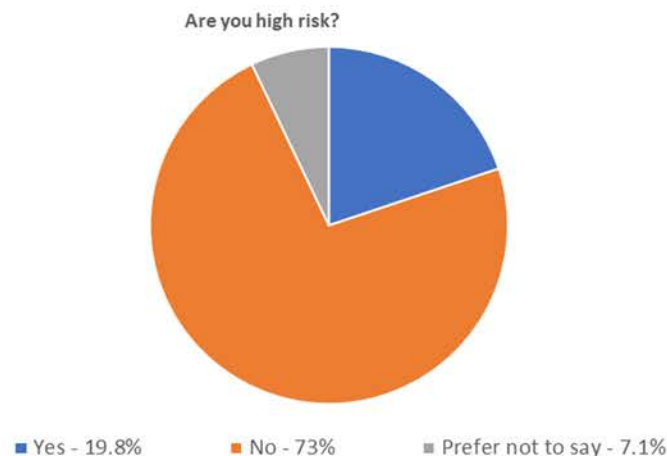


Question 2: In the past 3 years, what type of work have you done under ACTRA's jurisdiction?

The majority of respondents had roles across multiple categories of performance. In terms of exclusive work (only selecting one category), the largest number had On-camera speaking roles (759), followed by General background roles (590) and Stand-in roles (507).

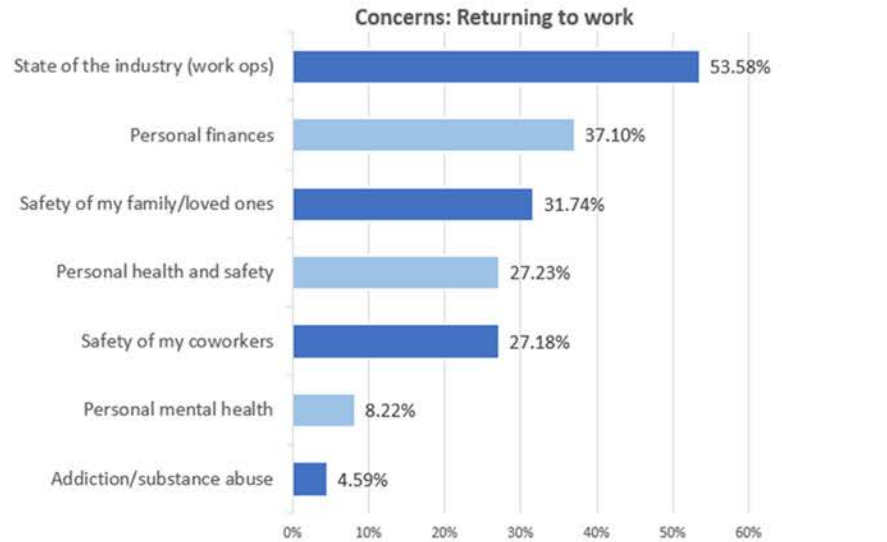
Question 3: Do you identify as a person at high risk for severe illness from COVID-19 (due to an underlying medical condition and/or age)?

73% of respondents identify as someone who is not at high-risk for COVID-19. In comments from respondents, those that do identify as someone at high risk describe themselves as seniors.



Question 4: In returning to work, post COVID-19, please rate your level of concern in these areas:

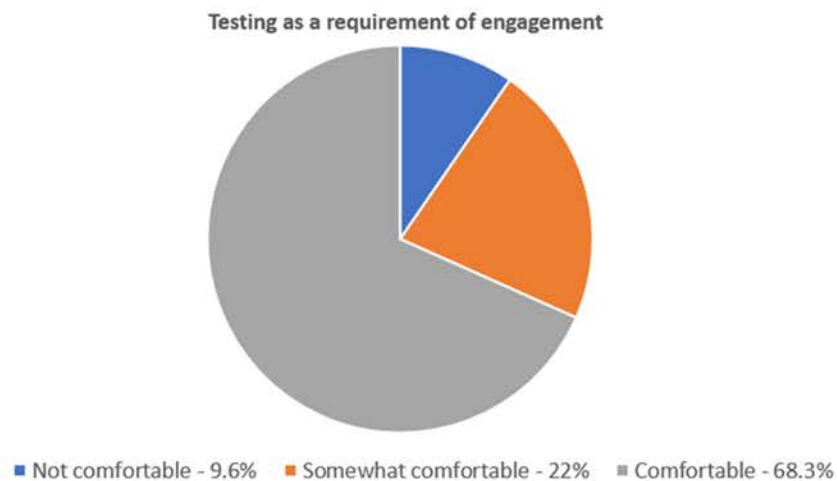
The respondents listed State of the industry (53%), Personal finances (37.10%) and Safety of family/loved ones (31.74%) as the top three areas of "great concern" in returning to work. The top three responses in terms of weighted average were: State of the industry, Personal finance, and Safety of coworkers.



Note: This graph reflects a comparison of the selection "GREATLY CONCERNED" across all areas/topics.

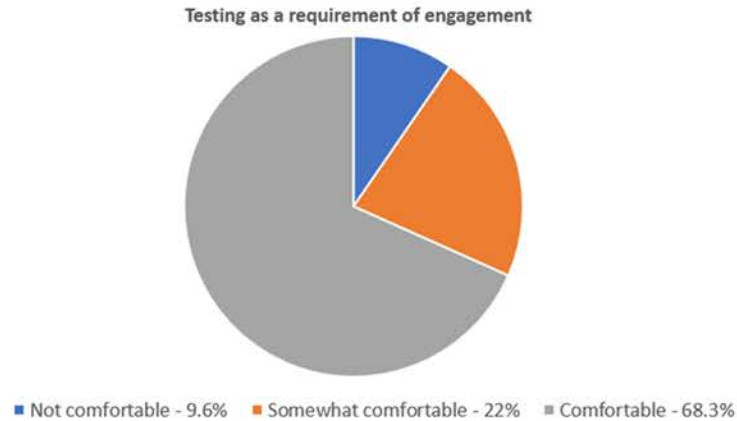
Question 5: Should testing be readily available, how comfortable are you with the possibility of mandatory COVID-19 testing as a requirement of engagement?

Nearly 70% of respondents say they are comfortable being tested for COVID-19 as a requirement of engagement.



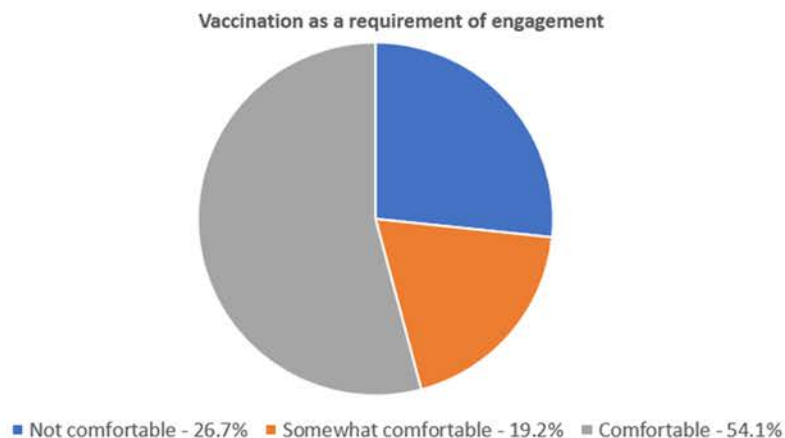
Question 5: Should testing be readily available, how comfortable are you with the possibility of mandatory COVID-19 testing as a requirement of engagement?

Nearly 70% of respondents say they are comfortable being tested for COVID-19 as a requirement of engagement.



Question 6: Should a COVID-19 vaccine become available, how comfortable are you with vaccination as a requirement of engagement?

54% of respondents said they were comfortable with vaccination being required as a condition of engagement.



Question 7: Have you had booked days of work cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic?

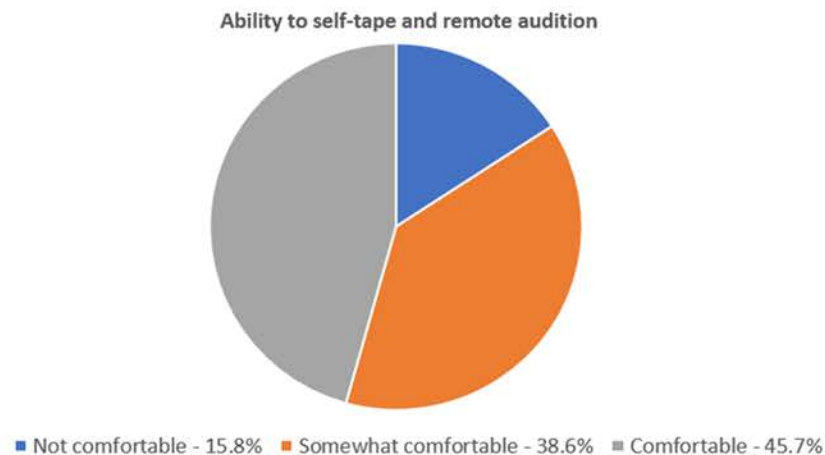
Nearly 40% of respondents noted they had work cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The amount given by our respondents (787) comes to roughly 7,530 days, with an average of 9.5 each. This number is somewhat unreliable as some respondents answered with comments like, "months".

Question 8: Have you auditioned 3 times or more in the past 12 months?

Nearly 60% of respondents have auditioned three times in the past 12 months.

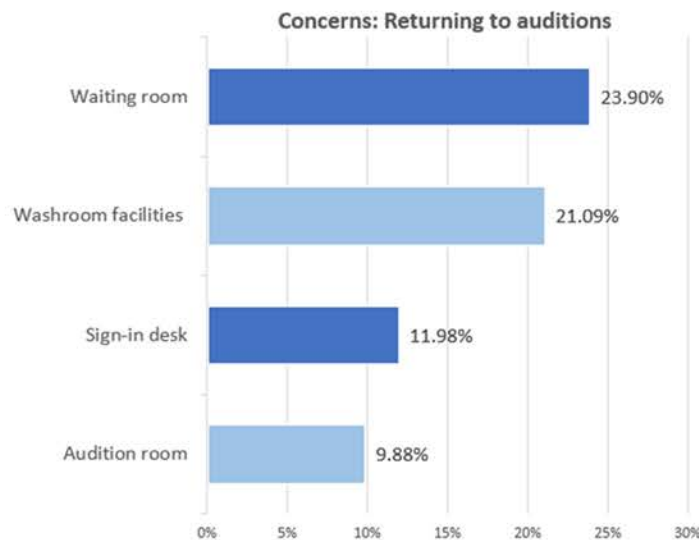
Question 9: How comfortable would you be if you had to rely solely on video conferencing (i.e. Zoom) and/or self-tapes for auditions?

Nearly 85% of respondents feel Somewhat comfortable to Comfortable in auditioning using video conferencing and/or doing self-tapes.



Question 10: In returning to auditions, post COVID-19, please rate your level of concern in these areas:

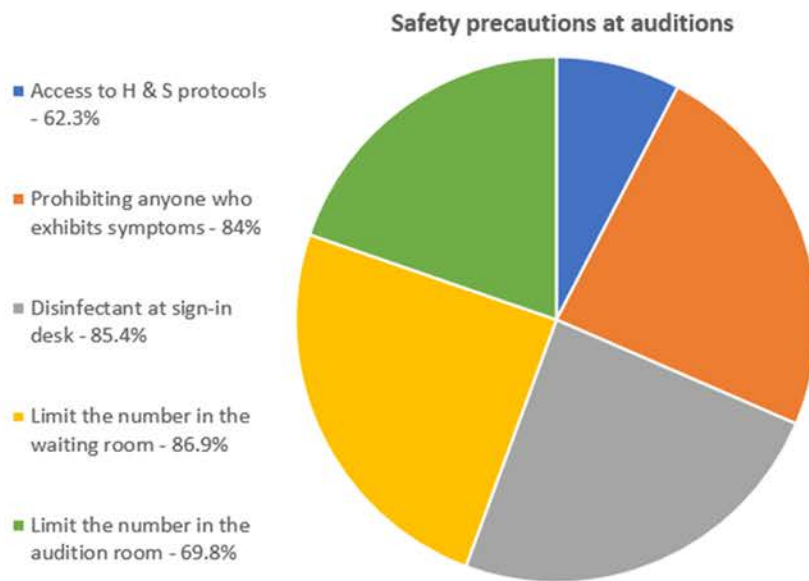
The main areas respondents are "Greatly concerned" with in returning to auditions are Waiting rooms and Washroom facilities. The top three areas when looking at the weighted average are Waiting rooms (2.54), Washroom facilities (2.44) and the Sign-in desk (2.10).



Note: This graph reflects a comparison of the selection "GREATLY CONCERNED" across all areas/topics.

Question 11: What measures do you feel would help reinforce your sense of safety when auditioning?

The top three measures respondents identified as helping to reinforce their sense of safety when auditioning were: Having a limit to the number of people in the waiting room; Disinfectant being provided at all sign-in desk areas; and Strict adherence to prohibiting anyone who exhibits symptoms from the workplace. Other comments suggested a strong desire to have auditions remotely, and only go in for call backs, as well as a focus on insuring proper use of PPE is in place. A key question asked was, what the plan will be if auditions are running late (causing backlog).

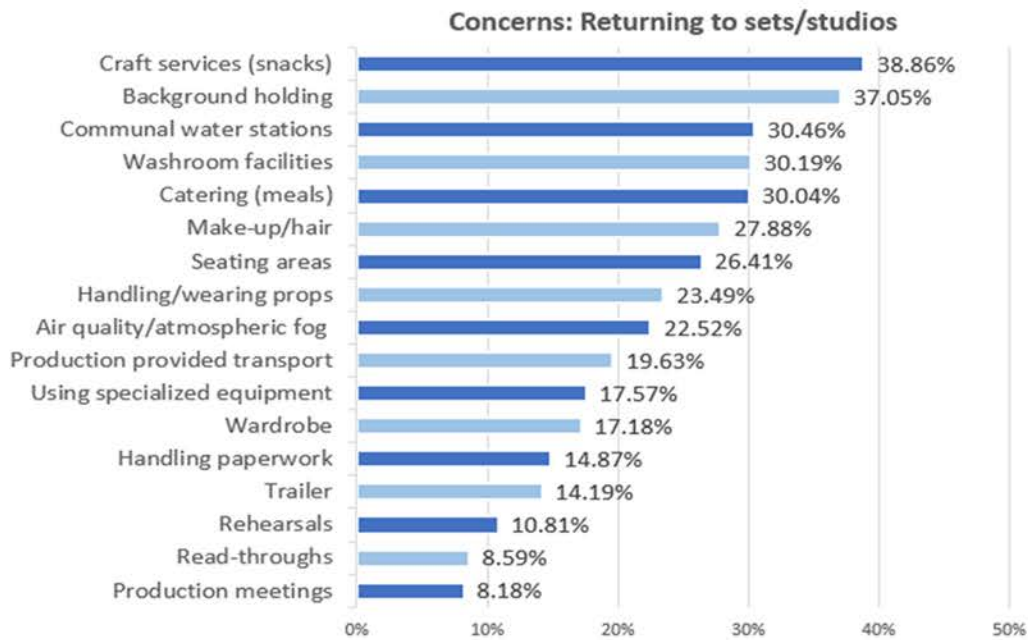


Question 12: Have you worked 3 times or more in the past 12 months?

80% of respondents have worked in the last 12 months.

Question 13 & 14: In returning to sets and studios, please rate your level of concern in these areas:

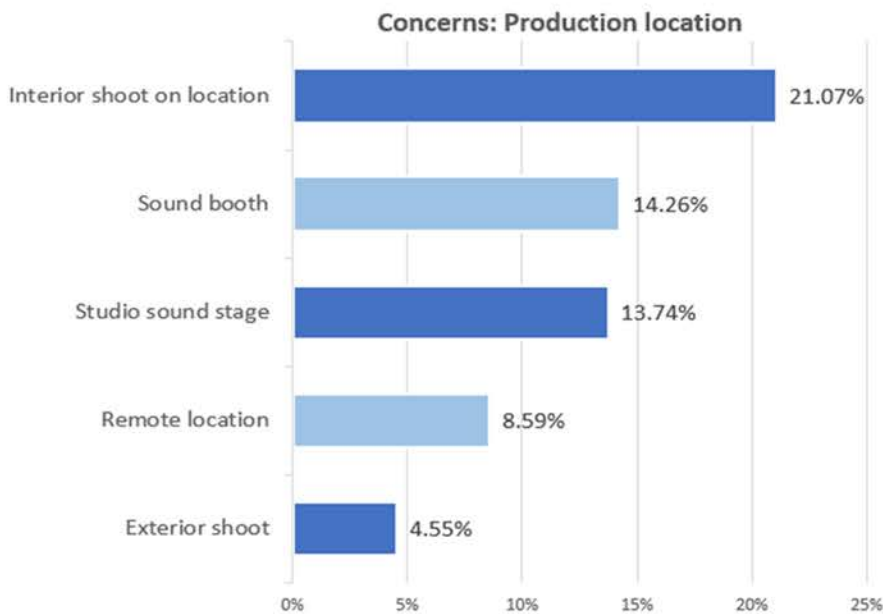
Looking at what is of "Great concern" to respondents when returning to sets and studios, the top five areas are Craft services, Background holding areas, Communal water stations, Washroom facilities, and Catering. When looking at the weighted average, the top three areas our respondents selected were Background holding (2.99), Craft services (2.92), and Communal water stations (2.69).



Note: This graph reflects a comparison of the selection "GREATLY CONCERNED" across all areas/topics.

Question 15: Do you have a greater level of concern based on the shooting location of the project? Please rate your level of concern.

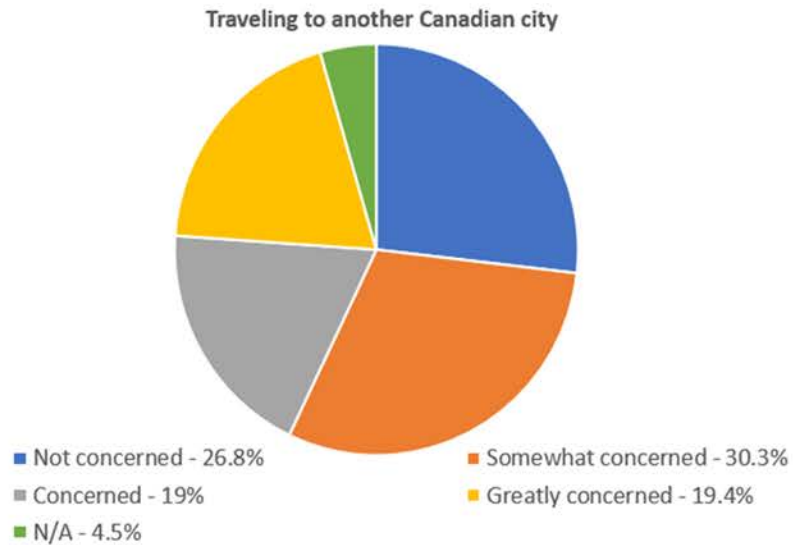
The shooting locations of most concern are an Interior shoot, followed by a Sound booth, and a Studio sound stage. When looking at the weighted average, the top three locations would be Interior (2.47), Studio sound stage (2.25), and a Sound booth (2.24).



Note: This graph reflects a comparison of the selection "GREATLY CONCERNED" across all areas/topics.

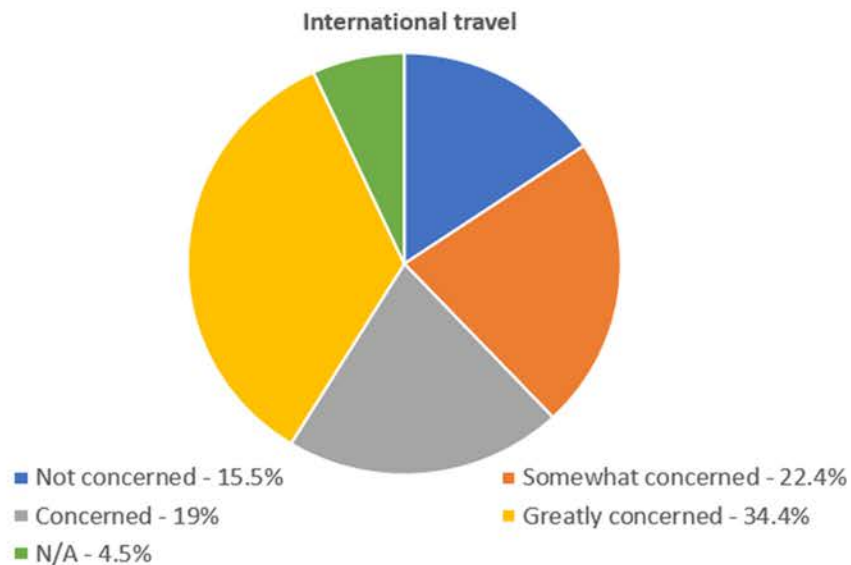
Question 16: Please rate your level of concern in being required to travel to another Canadian city for work, post COVID-19.

The greatest percentage of respondents were Somewhat concerned (30.3%) at being required to travel to another Canadian city. A high percentage have at least some level of concern.



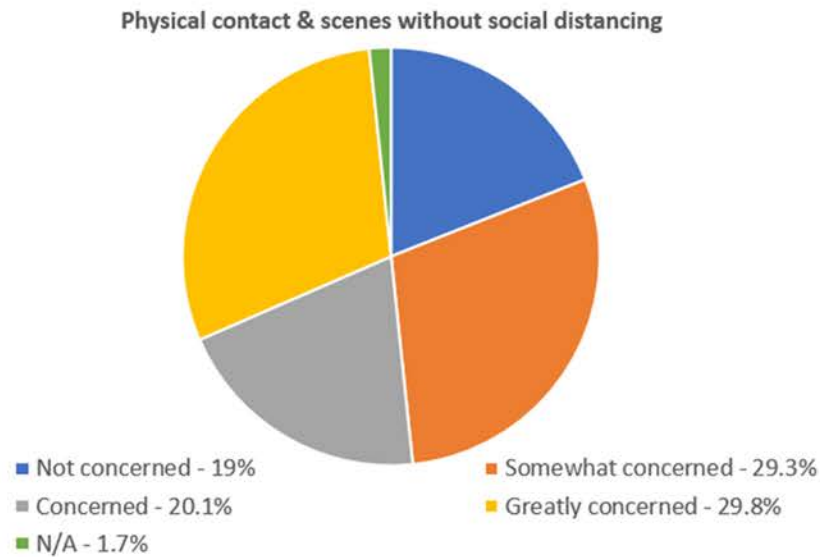
Question 17: Please rate your level of concern in being required to travel internationally for work, post COVID-19.

77% of respondents would be at least Somewhat concerned to Greatly concerned if required to work internationally. A significant percentage have at least some level of concern.



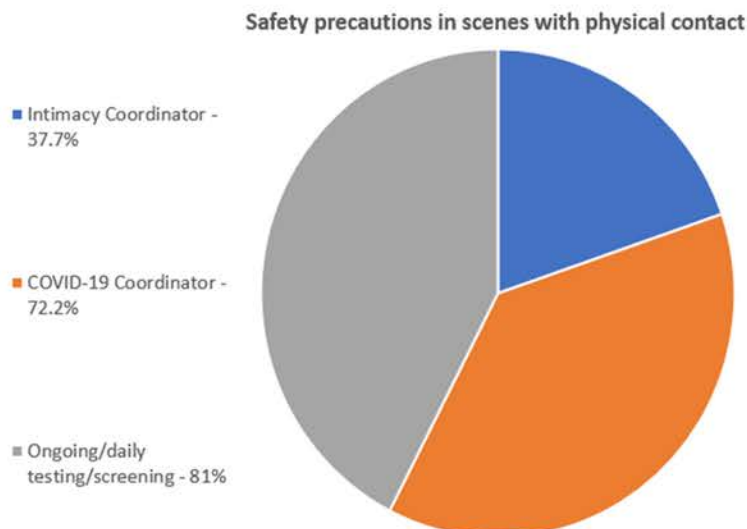
Question 18: Given the inability to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) at all times, please rate your level of concern in rehearsing/performing in scenes which do not allow for social distancing, or require physical contact (including stunts and/or intimacy) with other performers:

79% of respondents were at least Somewhat concerned to Greatly concerned if asked to rehearse/perform in scenes that do not allow for social distancing or require physical contact with other performers.



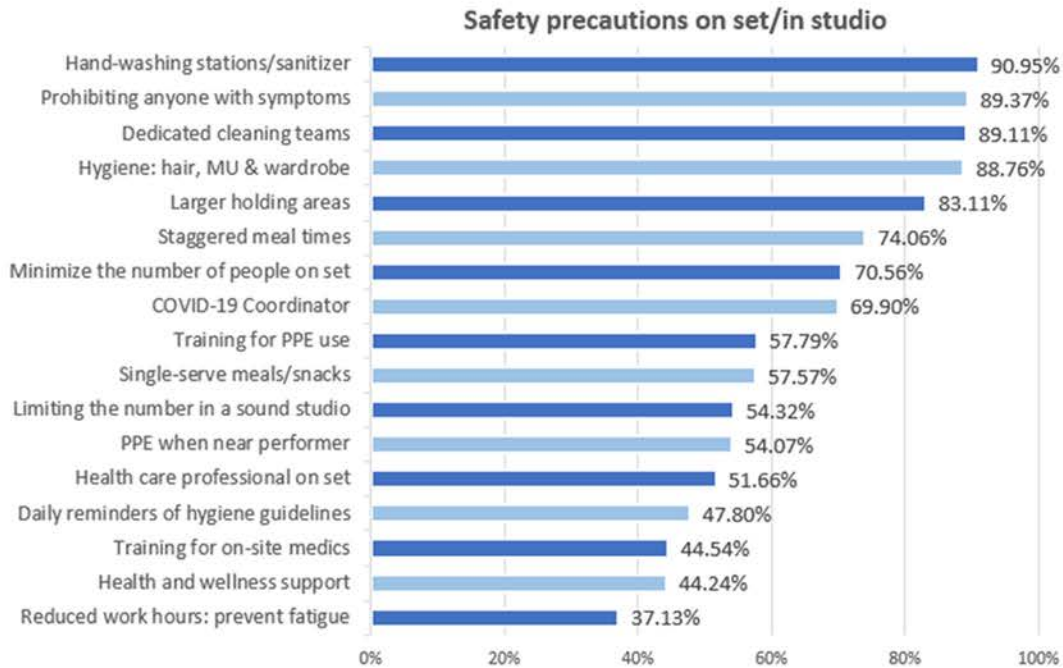
Question 19: What measures do you feel would help reinforce your sense of safety in rehearsing/performing in scenes which do not allow for social distancing, or require physical contact (including stunts and/or intimacy) with other performers?

Ongoing/daily testing would be the best way to help 81% of respondents feel safe on set, followed by a COVID-19 Coordinator/medical professional being on set at all times (72.2%). 337 respondents offered Other suggestions, such as proper testing, attention to health and safety/sanitization/enhanced hygiene standards, being tested more than once a day, and a greater number of set inspections.



Question 20 & 21: What measures do you feel would help reinforce your sense of safety when working on set and in studio? What other safety precautions would you hope to see enacted on set/in studio?

The top three measures to help reinforce respondents' sense of safety when working on set and in studio would be: Hand-washing/sanitizer stations (90.95%), Prohibiting anyone from the workplace who exhibits symptoms (89.37%), and Having dedicated cleaning teams on all sets (89.11%). Enhanced hygiene standard for Hair, MU and wardrobe (88.76%) and Larger holding areas (83.11%) scored considerably high as well.



Question 22: Do you have any other health and safety concerns in returning to work, post COVID-19?

356 respondents specified Other areas where they have concern, providing numerous examples. Responses were very balanced between those that were concerned about a second wave/returning to work too quickly, and those that want an immediate return to work.

Question 23: Would you be interested in participating in a focus group to further discuss health and safety standards in returning to work, post COVID-19?

602 respondents would be willing to participate in focus groups for further discussion on the subject. We can provide emails by province as requested.