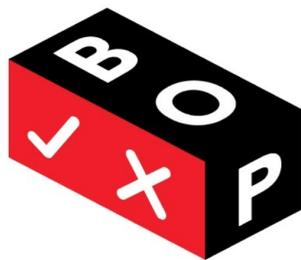


Brown Opinion Project: Inaugural Poll Results



Methodology

The Brown Opinion Project’s Inaugural Poll was conducted over the course of two days from October 13 - 14. To ensure a representative sample, the Brown Opinion Project (“BOP”) solicited responses from Brown undergraduate students as they exited Covid-19 testing locations at Alumnae Hall and Andrews House. Because all undergraduates are required to be tested once a week, we believe this is the most effective way of generating a representative sample. BOP representatives spent 8 hours soliciting responses at Alumnae Hall and 6 hours at Andrews House. BOP representatives asked every person who exited the testing location if they were interested in taking a quick anonymous poll. There were some occasions in which both computers used to record responses were in use; in those cases, we did not solicit responses from people as they exited. Responses were anonymously collected using Google Forms. Over the course of 14 hours, we collected 396 responses from Brown undergraduate students. The margin of error is 4.95% with 95% confidence.

Self-reported Demographic Information

The sample of undergraduate students who took the poll is demographically similar to the Brown undergraduate student population. First-years made up 28.5% of the sample, sophomores 29.77%, juniors 21.63%, and seniors 20.1%.¹ The sample was 48.99% female, 46.46% male, 2.78% non-binary, and 1.01% other, while 0.76% preferred not to indicate their gender. Additionally, 49.49% of respondents identified as white, 27.27% as Asian, 10.35% as Black, 2.53% as non-white Hispanic, 0.51% as Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 0.51% as American Indian/Alaska Native, and 7.58% as other, while 1.77% of respondents preferred not to indicate their race.

¹ “First-years” includes the class of 2025; “sophomores” includes the classes of 2024 and 2024.5; “juniors” includes the classes of 2023 and 2023.5; “seniors” includes the classes of 2021.5, 2022, and 2022.5.

Results

1. What is the maximum size of an indoor social gathering (without masking) that you would feel comfortable attending right now?

5 people: 4.06%

10 people: 13.96%

15 people: 12.69%

25 people: 13.96%

50 people: 16.75%

100 people: 7.36%

No maximum: 30.2%

Prefer not to answer: 1.02%

2. Which Covid-19 restrictions do you think should be in place right now?

Required masking in class: 73.48%

Required masking in athletic facilities (Nelson, OMAC, etc.): 43.18%

Required masking in libraries: 49.49%

Suspended indoor dining: 1.77%

Mandatory Covid-19 testing: 75.25%

Gathering size limits: 24.75%

3. Which Covid-19 restrictions would you support if Brown were to see a rise in cases similar to the increase in early September of this year?

Required masking in class: 82.32%

Required masking in athletic facilities (Nelson, OMAC, etc.): 68.69%

Required masking in libraries: 72.47%

Suspended indoor dining: 35.86%

Mandatory Covid-19 testing: 85.35%

Gathering size limits: 55.81%

4. How worried are you about getting seriously sick from Covid-19?

I am extremely worried about getting seriously sick from Covid-19: 3.30%

I am somewhat worried about getting seriously sick from Covid-19: 24.11%

I am not very worried about getting seriously sick from Covid-19: 43.91%

I am not at all worried about getting seriously sick from Covid-19: 28.68%

5. How would you describe your political views?

Very liberal: 28.17%

Liberal: 43.65%

Moderate: 19.80%

Conservative: 1.52%

Very conservative: 0.51%

Unsure/prefer not to answer: 6.35%

6. Do you think you are more liberal, more conservative, or about the same as the median Brown student?

More liberal: 18.53%

More conservative: 23.10%

About the same: 51.02%

Unsure/prefer not to answer: 7.36%

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as President?

Strongly approve: 5.58%

Somewhat approve: 34.77%

Neither approve nor disapprove: 18.53%

Somewhat disapprove: 16.24%

Strongly disapprove: 5.84%

Unsure/no opinion: 15.99%

Prefer not to answer: 3.05%

8. How happy are you that you go to Brown?

Very happy: 60.56%

Somewhat happy: 32.06%

Neither happy nor unhappy: 3.05%

Somewhat unhappy: 2.8%

Very unhappy: 1.02%

Unsure/prefer not to answer: 0.51%

9. Which of the following do you check on a regular basis?

The Brown Daily Herald Website: 17.93%

Official Brown website and social media pages: 28.79%

Dear Blueno: 26.01%

The College Hill Independent website: 4.29%

Brown meme pages: 55.3%

Class Facebook page: 11.87%

No response: 24.49%²

10. How satisfied are you with the overall experience of Brown dining at the moment?

Very Satisfied: 3.57%

Satisfied: 27.55%

Neutral: 21.43%

Unsatisfied: 16.33%

Very Unsatisfied: 11.73%

I am not on meal plan: 17.6%

No opinion/prefer not to answer: 1.79%

Raw anonymized data is available here: [📄 BOP Inaugural Poll Raw Data](#)

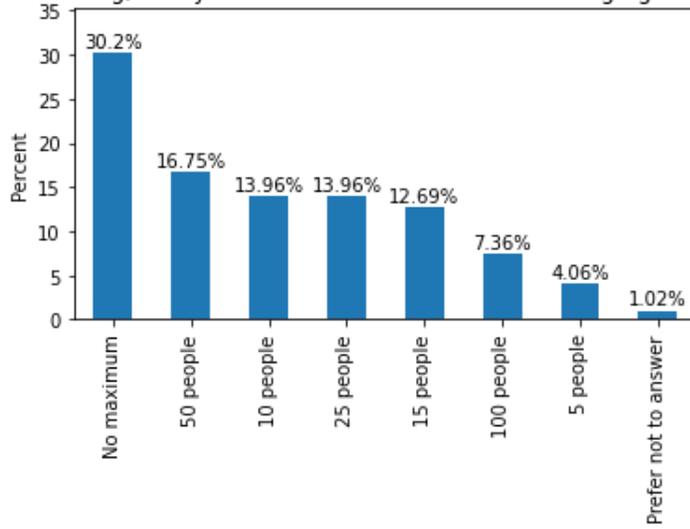
If you have questions about our results or methodology please reach out to brownopinionproject@brown.edu

²We chose to include “No response” for this question because there was no option on the question for none of the above.

Data Visualizations

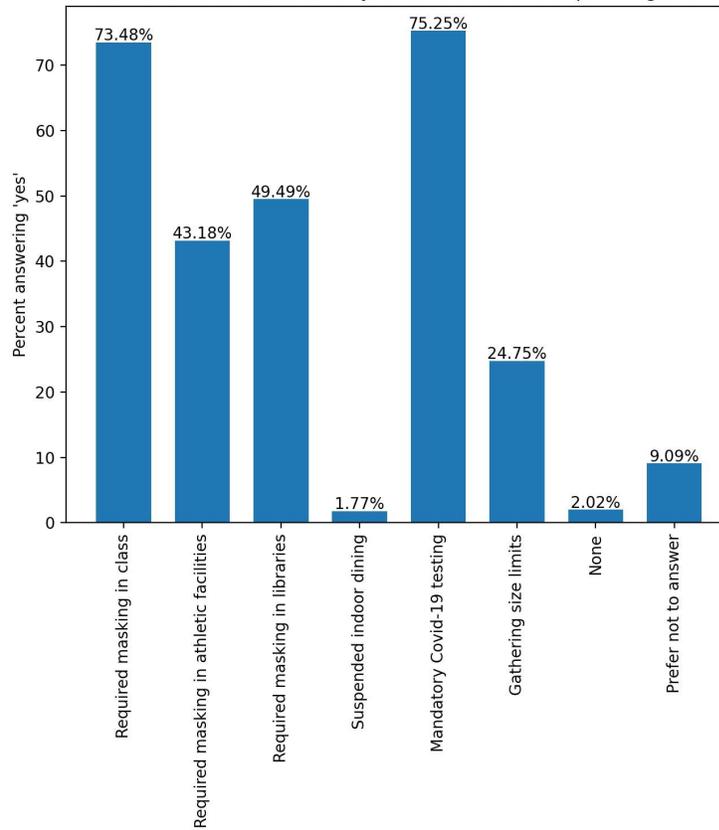
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What is the maximum size of an indoor social gathering (without masking) that you would feel comfortable attending right now?

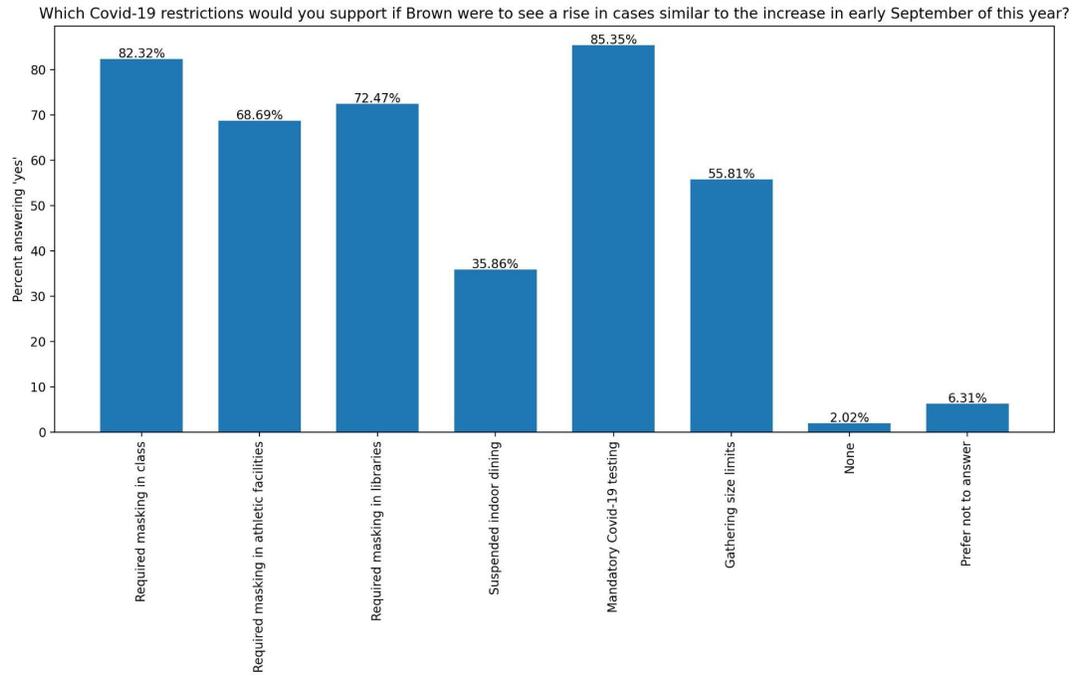


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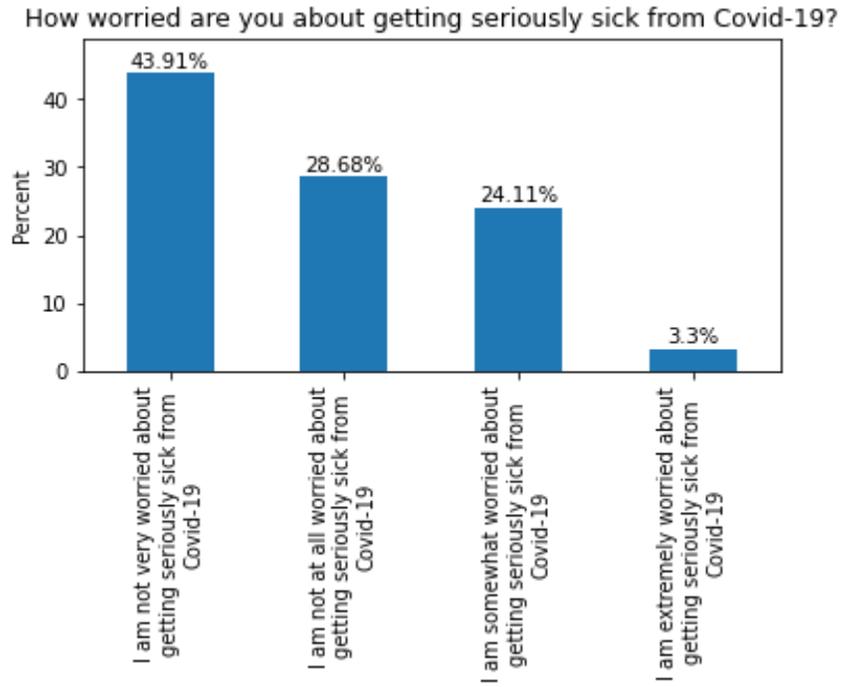
Which Covid-19 restrictions do you think should be in place right now?



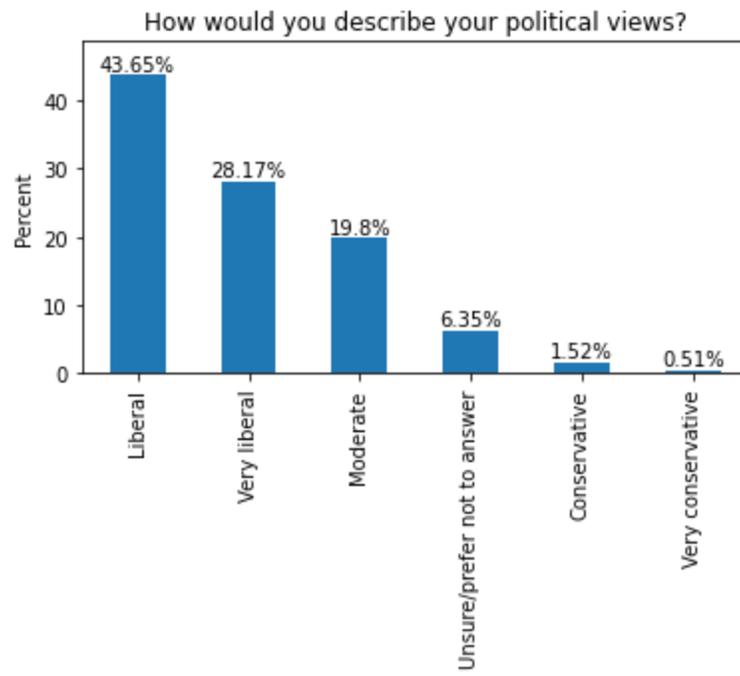
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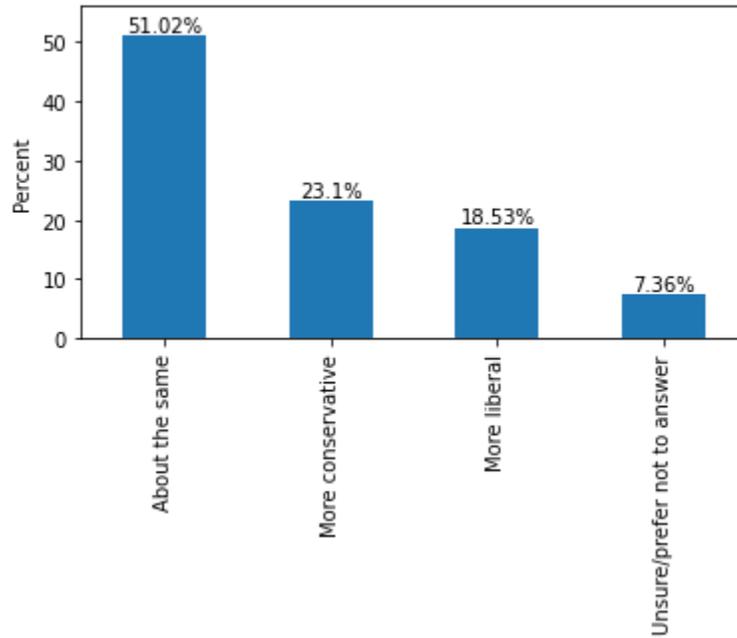


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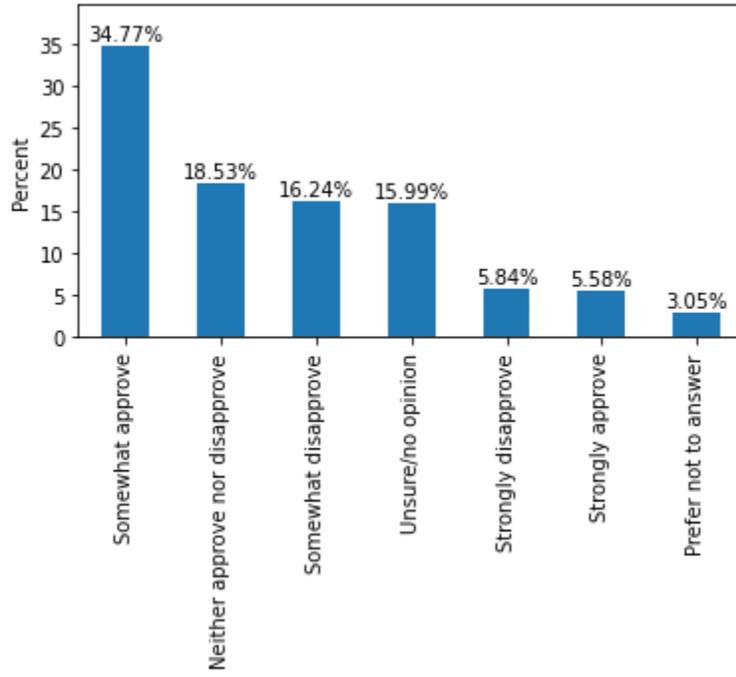
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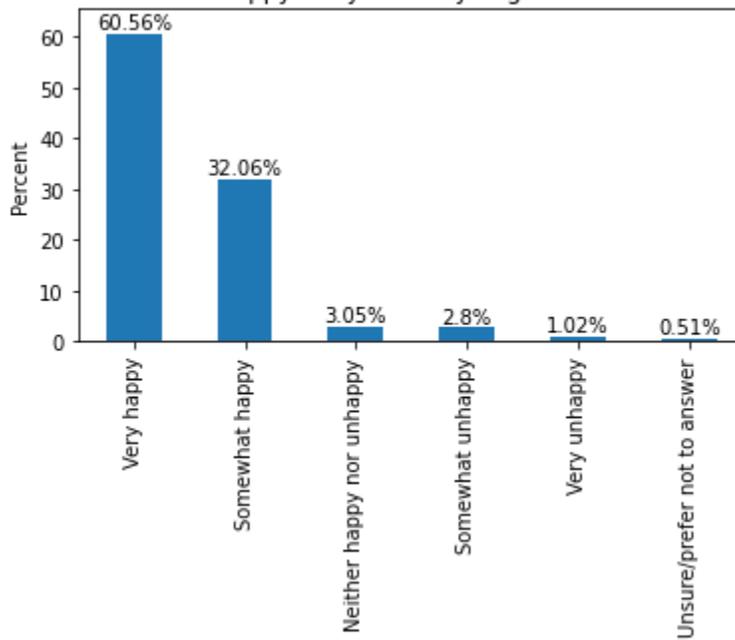
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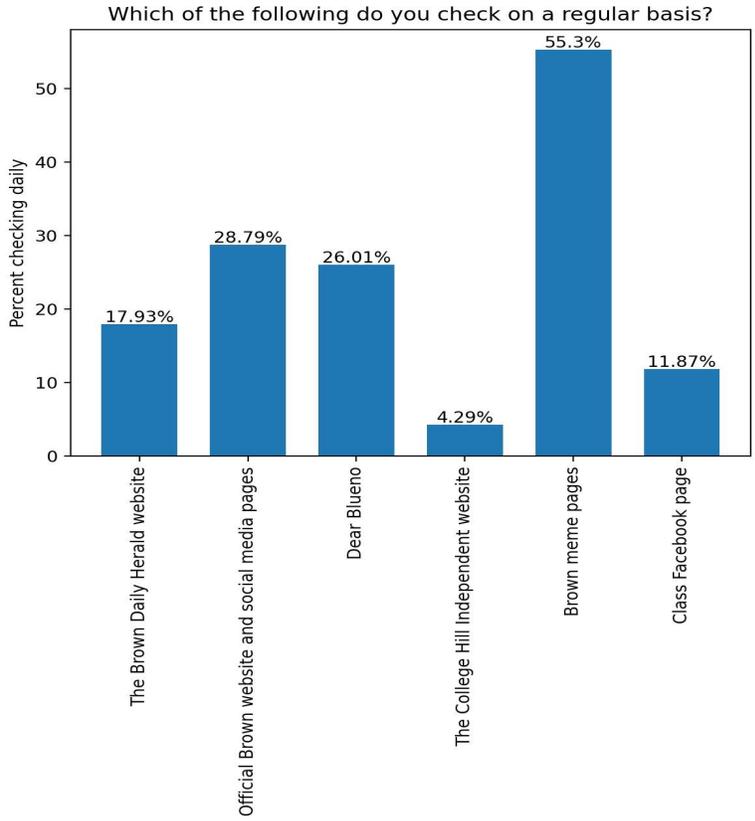


8.

How happy are you that you go to Brown?



9.



10.

How satisfied are you with the overall experience of Brown dining at the moment?

