RTI sponsored this survey of U.S. respondents using a pre-recruited panel consisting of 55,000 panel members recruited using address-based sampling. The panel is based on probability sampling covering both the online and offline populations in the United States. Participation in this survey was voluntary and respondents could refuse to answer any question in the survey. The survey was conducted online from April 10-13 and April 17-April 20, 2020. Sampled respondents were sent a link to the online survey. The survey was available in English and Spanish. Respondents who completed the questionnaire were awarded 1,000 points, which was the equivalent of $1.00, which is standard operating procedure through the panel. A random sample of 6,710 (3,355 and 3,355, respectively) panel members was drawn from the panel. A total of 2,279 (1,143 and 1,137, respectively), individuals age 15 and older (excluding breakoffs) responded to the invitation (of whom all qualified for the survey), yielding a final stage completion rate of approximately 34% (34.1% and 33.9%, respectively). Approximately 227 (116 and 111, respectively) completed the survey in Spanish. Once the sample was selected and fielded, and all the study data were collected and made final, a post-stratification process was used to adjust for any survey nonresponse as well as any noncoverage, undersampling, or oversampling resulting from the study-specific sample design. The panel provider used the Current Population Survey (CPS) and weighted all respondents to these distributions. The sample size was scaled to the number of qualified respondents. The following benchmark distributions were used for this poststratification adjustment: gender, age, race/ethnicity, education, census region, household income, metropolitan area, and homeownership status.

At the end of the survey, participants were told that the purpose of the survey was to understand what Americans do and do not know about the Coronavirus and that some of the information on the true/false was in fact false. To prevent misinformation, participants were encouraged to learn what is known about how to protect themselves and their family from getting infected with the virus. They were provided with the link to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html for accurate information. The RTI Institutional Review Board reviewed the protocol and survey.

More Information
Linda Squiers, PhD
lsquiers@rti.org
919.597.5128