



# COVID-19 Research Project

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## Purpose

While performing this study, the main objective is to gather personal beliefs of African Americans in both the assisted living community and college students in the Clarksville, TN area . COVID-19 has made both a positive and negative impact on these demographics. By conducting listening sessions to gather feedback on the impact of this virus with each demographic, we are better able to understand those impacts.

## Demographic

The target demographic for this project is African American men and women in the assisted living community as well as students attending college in Clarksville, TN. The preferred age of participants in assisted living is 50 years of age or older, while the age for college students is any age 18 years or older. While this was the targeted demographic, any other participants that did not meet this demographic could participant and have their responses recorded as part of the research.

## Methods

Once Arcadia and I successfully coordinated a time for me to come in, I was able to conduct 10 listening sessions, resulting in ten (10) participants.

I then formatted the listening session questions into an online questionnaire and distributed it via Austin Peay's student forum. These questions contained the same questions that were conducted through the listening sessions with the assisted living community. This resulted in twenty-six (26) students participating.

With my final method, I was able to gain responses to the same questionnaire from eight (8) students around Austin Peay's campus.

## Outcome

The outcomes of this project are as follows:

- 1)Forty-four (44) men and women shared their opinions regarding both COVID-19 and the vaccine.
- 2) Ninety-three (93) percent of the targeted demographics felt they have easy access to the vaccine, while the other seven (7) percent felt they did not because of their health/age bracket.
- 3) Ninety-seven (97) percent of participants were/are not hesitant to either get the vaccine or the after-affects of the vaccine
4. Twenty (20) percent of the assisted living community felt health affects after receiving either one (1) or both (2) doses of the vaccine (flu-like symptoms)
5. Due to the assisted living's vulnerability to the virus, they were one of the first demographics to have it offered to them.
6. College students were less likely to be worried about the virus due to their current age/health.

## Student Lessons Learned

Lessons learned from this project are:

- 1.The easiest form of communication during this research was through social media (APSU student forum). I was able to gather one-hundred (100) percent of college student responses in one (1) week. Response times have the potential to be almost instant.
- 2.It is difficult to get participants in the assisted living community due to the lack of interest and capability to partake in the listening sessions.
3. Covid-19 restrictions set in place by facilities has made it difficult to visit and gather information from the assisted living communities due to their vulnerability to the virus
- 4.. It is also difficult to gather participants on campus due to inconvenience and lack of interest to partake. With social media, students feel it is less time-consuming to provide feedback due to the lack of interaction
5. Getting to do this research has allowed me to better understand the effects on certain demographics that I may not have had the opportunity to be exposed to before

## Community Partner Acknowledgements

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