

# Covid-19 Pandemic Impact on US 2020 Holiday Season

## STUDY OVERVIEW

### 🔍 Objectives

To understand Americans' plans for the upcoming holiday season, especially as relates to gathering, traveling, and shopping/purchasing.

### 🛅 Methodology

Conducted as part of Wave 19 of aytm's ongoing Covid-19 Consumer Tracker:

An online survey was conducted among N=944 US adults and weighted to be reflective of the US population.\* The survey fielded Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> – Saturday, October 3rd, 2020 using aytm's survey platform and proprietary panel PaidViewpoint.

\*Data was weighted on four key demographics – Age by Gender; Annual Household Income; and, four main US Regions.

All significance testing is conducted at 95% confidence level with the effective base used as the sample base for statistical calculations (Effective Base = 1,000 for Total sample). Green and red text highlighting indicates statistically significant difference over at least one other subgroup.

Chart labels for 4% or less may be omitted for readability.

AYTM Covid-19 Consumer Tracker | W19: Oct. 1-3, 2020

# **KEY** FINDINGS

As with other disruptions experienced due to Covid-19, the 2020 holidays will be no exception. Three in five Americans are expecting the pandemic to have a moderate to major impact on their holiday plans.



Holiday Travel

Nearly half of Americans plan to reduce their holiday travel.

For those planning to travel, **car is** the preferred mode of transportation while public transportation and air travel will **be avoided** by most.



Holiday Gatherings

Holiday gatherings will also be limited with one-half of US consumers not planning to visit with people they typically do.

While **small group gatherings are more expected** this year than larger ones, older Americans as well as those living in the West are more likely to avoid both.

One-third of **consumers plan to utilize** digital methods for connecting with their family and friends.



#### **Holiday Shopping**

One-half of US consumers intend to do less in-store shopping. This is especially evident among older consumers.

Consumers plan to utilize online **shopping** for their holiday needs and are more likely to turn to online promotions such as Black Friday sales or Cyber Monday.

Three in five US consumers say that the pandemic will have a moderate to major impact on their holiday plans, especially for those experiencing a financial hardship this year.

#### **Covid-19's Impact on 2020 Holiday Plans**



Nearly half of Americans will not travel as much or as far as they normally do this holiday season and most plan to use their car when they do. While the majority plan to avoid using public transportation or air travel, females and older consumers show the biggest hesitancy. Personal finances also play a role, as those who feel their financial state is worse as a result of the pandemic are also less likely to travel by plane or use public transportation.



#### **2020 Holiday Travel**

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Holiday gatherings will also not look the same this year, with one-half of Americans not planning to visit with people they typically do. Small group gatherings are more likely than larger ones. Older consumers as well as those living in the West are more likely to avoid holiday gatherings, no matter the group size. A third of consumers plans to connect with their loved ones digitally instead.

#### **2020 Holiday Gatherings**



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Stores will experience less traffic this Holiday season as one-half of shoppers intend to do less in-store shopping. Older consumers are especially more likely to avoid physical stores. For Holiday deals, consumers are more likely to turn to online promotions such as "Black Friday" sales or Cyber Monday.

#### **2020 Holiday Shopping**



### Questions?



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