

## A third of Brazilians are afraid to go to bars and restaurants, says CNI – 07/30/2021 – Mercado

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A year and a half after the first case of Covid-19 was registered in the country, most Brazilians are still afraid to go to public places, according to a survey released by the CNI (National Confederation of Industry) this Friday (30).

The study shows that 34% of the population is very or very afraid of going to bars or restaurants. The index drops to 17% when the question is about supermarkets. These numbers were 45% and 26%, respectively, in April.

The data were collected by the FSB Pesquisa Institute, which interviewed 2,000 people from all states and the Federal District by telephone between the 12th and 16th of July. The margin of error is 2 percentage points, and the confidence interval is 95%.

At the end of April, the percentage of people fully vaccinated in the country reached almost 10%. On Thursday (29), 25% were those who took the first and second doses.

In addition, in recent months, the population began to feel the effects of immunizations: on July 15, for the first time in eight months, Brazil saw the Covid-19 cases decelerate steadily, according to the monitor of the acceleration of Covid, of leaf. The platform measures the variation of new infected in the last 30 days.

This scenario contrasts with April, the initial period of comparison in the CNI survey. Earlier that month, Brazil surpassed the 4,000 killed by Covid in a single day for the first time in the pandemic.

“The concern with the pandemic is still great”, says the manager of Economic Analysis at CNI, Marcelo Azevedo. He says that the rates have followed the variation in the number of infections and deaths and vaccination. Immunizing the population, therefore, is fundamental for economic recovery, he says, in line with what economists and businessmen have advocated in recent months.

“The advance of vaccination will make people feel safer and return to lost consumption habits,” he says.

Economist Marcelo Neri, director of FGV Social, casts doubt on the return to these customs. “E-commerce won with the pandemic and gave people a push for not having to go to the mall. Not only for shopping, but before that, for searching, for example,” he comments.

In 2020, e-commerce sales grew 41%, reaching a turnover of R\$ 87.4 billion, according to data from the Webshoppers report by Ebit|Nielsen and Bexs Banc.

Despite the population's sense of security, which has improved, the perception of the effects of the health crisis on the economy has remained at high levels. In July 2020, the height of pessimism, 89% were those who believed that the effects were very large or large. In July this year, 87% had the same opinion, an oscillation within the survey's margin of error.

By dividing this index by gender, it is clear that women have a more pessimistic perception: 70% of them think that the impact of the crisis was very large, compared to 54% of men.

“One of the studies I read calls the 2008 crisis a recession [recessão, em inglês], while calling the crisis generated by the pandemic shecession [começando a palavra com she, ela, em inglês], a crisis for them,” comments Neri. “This recession has had a bias against women, who play this dual role, of producers and caregivers.”

In 2020, the crisis left more than half of women out of the labor market. The labor force participation rate was 45.8%, a drop of 14% compared to 2019. School dropout is one of the reasons most cited by specialists for the setback, since the care of children fell on the mothers.

“Women were the biggest losers in the crisis, because they had to assume other roles. The data reflect the perception of those who lived a more adverse situation”, says Neri.