## COVID-19 and flu: which is the bigger threat

Two years after the WHO gave the official name COVID-19 to the disease caused by the new coronavirus, following lockdowns and other non-pharmaceutical interventions to slow the spread of the virus, and above all after the development of vaccines and a mass vaccination campaign, SARS-CoV-2 is starting to be treated like other viruses that cause respiratory diseases in humans.

In February, more adult Poles declared that they were personally afraid of contracting influenza than coronavirus ( $36 \%$ vs. $32 \%$ ), with the percentages of people declaring very high fears similar in both cases (6\% and 7\%, respectively).

## Are you personally afraid of contracting ...



Declared fear of being infected with both viruses is most differentiated by the age of respondents. People aged 65+ are afraid of infection much more often than younger
respondents ( $56 \%$ for both viruses). In particular, the oldest part of this age group, i.e. respondents who are at least 75 years old are particularly concerned (67\% declare fear in the case of coronavirus and 57\% for influenza).

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "COVID-19 or Influenza - Which Are We More Afraid of?", February 2023. Fieldwork for national sample: February 2023, N=982. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

