

## COVID-19 Survey Summary: December 18, 2020

*The following is a summary of social, behavioral and economic survey research on COVID-19 released in the past week, as compiled for the Societal Experts Action Network ([SEAN](#)). Most surveys cited in this report are available in the [SEAN COVID-19 Survey Archive](#).*

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With the coronavirus vaccine rollout underway in the United States, surveys released this week continue to track the public’s willingness to get vaccinated, finding that many prefer a “wait and see” approach to getting a shot as soon as possible.

Results also show that many Americans are struggling this holiday season, with housing and food insecurity, difficulty paying usual household expenses and expectations of impending income loss all their highest since summer. And as COVID-19 surpasses heart disease and cancer to become the [leading cause of death](#) in the United States, most think the country did not take the threat of the virus seriously enough or do all it could to control it, though roughly a third maintain the seriousness of the situation has been exaggerated.

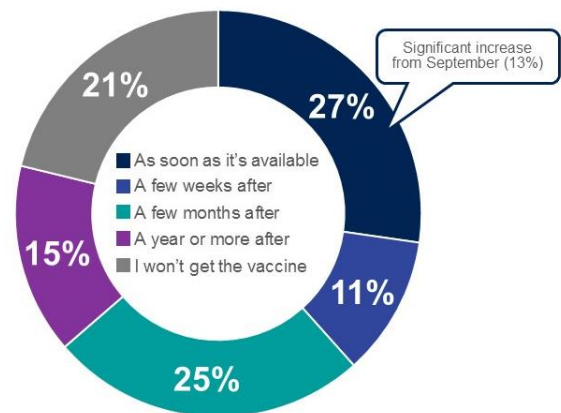
Additional analyses show a surge in deaths among adults aged 25-44 in the first five months of the pandemic, document a rise in overdose deaths overlapping with the implementation of lockdown measures this spring and reveal how the outbreak is disproportionately impacting LGBTQ households and women. Newly released international results from 10 other countries also are included.

### Vaccination

With the coronavirus vaccine dominating the news, most polls (but as [last week](#), not all) continue to find that Americans’ intentions to get vaccinated against the coronavirus have increased. But considerable reluctance remains, and in keeping with previous studies, measurement of uptake intention depends on how it’s presented in survey questions.

In one approach, 27 percent now say they’ll get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it’s available, up from 13 percent in mid-September. One in 10 plans to wait a few weeks, a quarter say they’ll wait a few months, 15 percent plan to wait a year or more and 21 percent

After the COVID-19 vaccine becomes available, when do you plan to get it?



say they won't get it at all. The share who say they'll get vaccinated as soon as it's available rose across demographic groups, but especially among seniors (up 25 percentage points to 40 percent) and those age 50-64 (up 21 points to 32 percent) ([Axios-Ipsos 12/11-12/14](#)).

In a different poll with other response options, many more say they'll get the coronavirus vaccine as soon as it's available to them, 40 percent. An additional 44 percent say they'll get it after a waiting a bit; 15 percent, never ([ABC-Ipsos 12/12-12/13](#)).

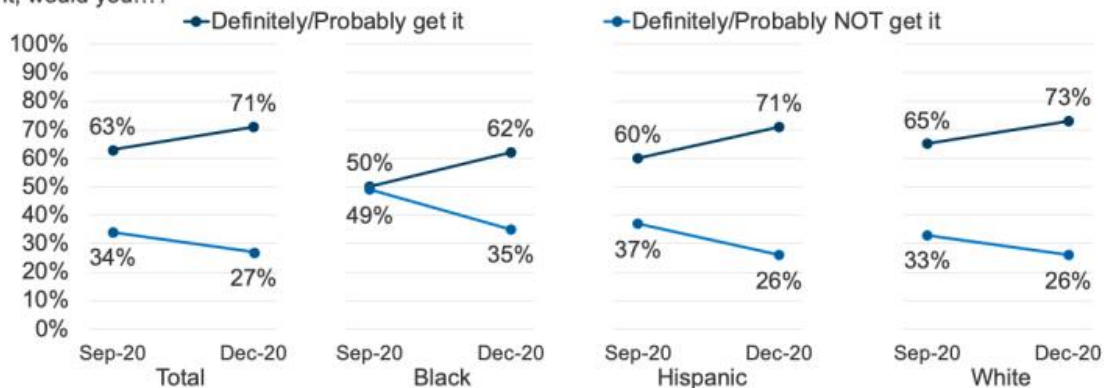
Another formulation in the Axios-Ipsos poll finds that the number of Americans who say they're at least somewhat likely to get the "first generation COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it's available" declined 5 points from last week to 48 percent, perhaps reflecting awareness of limited supplies and selective administration ([Axios-Ipsos 12/11-12/14](#)).

A third study, using a binary approach, finds that more still – 61 percent – say they plan to get a vaccine shot against the coronavirus when it becomes available, up from 54 percent in September. Twenty-eight percent do not, down from 36 percent ([Fox News 12/6-12/9](#)). (Here and elsewhere, Fox News results are among registered voters.)

In a fourth, more detailed study on the topic, if a coronavirus vaccine "was determined to be safe by scientists and was available for free to everyone who wanted it," 41 percent say they'd definitely get it, up from 34 percent in September, and an additional 30 percent say they probably would, essentially unchanged. About a quarter say they probably (12 percent) or definitely (15 percent) would not.

## Willingness To Get COVID-19 Vaccine Has Increased Across Racial/Ethnic Groups

If a COVID-19 vaccine was determined to be safe by scientists and available for free to everyone who wanted it, would you...?



SOURCE: KFF COVID-19 Vaccine Monitor (KFF Health Tracking Poll, Nov. 30-Dec. 8, 2020); KFF/The Undeclared Survey on Race and Health (conducted Aug. 20-Sept. 14, 2020). See topline for full question wording.

[KFF COVID-19 Vaccine Monitor](#)

Intentions rose across both partisan and racial/ethnic groups. But sizable segments of some groups continue to say they probably or definitely will not get vaccinated, peaking among Republicans (42 percent), adults age 30-49 (36 percent), rural Americans and Black adults (35

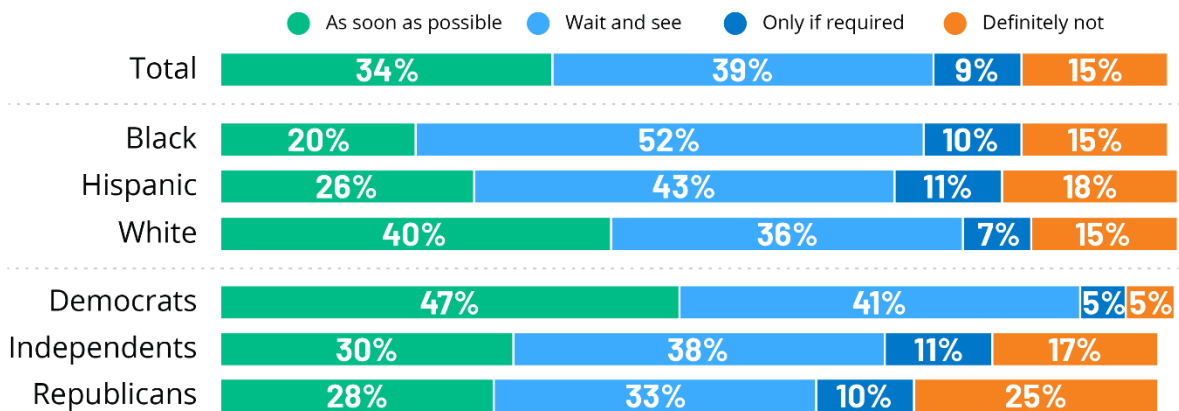
percent apiece). Notably, a third of those who say they’re considered an essential worker are hesitant to vaccinate, as are 29 percent of those who work in health care.

In a follow-up question asked of all but those who said they will definitely not get vaccinated, 41 percent plan to get the vaccine as soon as they can. An additional 47 percent prefer to wait until it has been available for a while to see how well it is working for others and 11 percent say they’ll get it only if required to do so for work, school or other activities.

Combined with vaccine refusers, these measures suggest that a third of the public intends to get the vaccine as soon as possible, 39 percent want to wait and see, 9 percent will only do so if required and 15 percent definitely will not get it. (Detailed demographic and attitudinal profiles of each of these groups is available in the full analysis.)

## Republicans and Black Americans More Likely to Be Hesitant About Getting COVID-19 Vaccine

Percent of the public who fall in each group by COVID-19 vaccine enthusiasm:



Among those who say they probably or definitely won’t get vaccinated, 51 to 59 percent accept each of these rationales as a major reason: concerns about possible side effects (59 percent), lack of trust in the government to ensure the vaccine’s safety and effectiveness (55 percent), concerns that the vaccine is too new (53 percent) and worries about the role of politics in the development process (51 percent).

There are differences in reasons for vaccine hesitancy among groups, suggesting outreach efforts may need to be tailored to be most effective. For example, among Black adults who don’t plan to vaccinate, half express concerns about getting COVID-19 from the vaccine itself and 47 percent distrust vaccines in general. Among reluctant Republicans, 57 percent think the risks of COVID-19 are exaggerated.

Seventy-one percent overall think a vaccine will be widely available in the United States by the summer, if not before. Most – 64 percent – think the development and testing is moving at about the right pace; 22 percent think it’s moving too quickly and 12 percent say it’s going too slowly.

**Table 1: Reasons For Vaccine Hesitancy By Party Identification, Age, and Race/Ethnicity**

AMONG THOSE WHO WOULD DEFINITELY NOT OR PROBABLY NOT GET VACCINATED: Percent who say each of the following is a <b>major reason</b> why:	Total	Party ID		Age		Race/Ethnicity	
		Independent	Republican	18-49	50+	Black	White
Worried about possible side effects	59%	59%	54%	58%	63%	71%	56%
Do not trust the government to make sure the vaccine is safe and effective	55	52	56	55	53	58	54
Vaccine is too new and want to wait and see how it works for other people	53	54	41	57	46	71	48
Politics has played too much of a role in the vaccine development process	51	46	53	47	59	54	49
The risks of COVID-19 are being exaggerated	43	40	57	40	51	33	49
Don't trust vaccines in general	37	43	31	37	38	47	36
Do not trust the health care system	35	34	36	32	42	28	36
Worried that they may get COVID-19 from the vaccine	27	30	18	26	26	50	21
Don't think they are at risk of getting sick from COVID-19	20	18	23	18	26	20	19

NOTE: Sample size too small to report separately among Democrats and Hispanics who say they definitely or probably won't get vaccinated.

Seven in 10 are at least somewhat confident that when it becomes available a vaccine will have been properly tested for safety and effectiveness, up from 55 percent in September. Two-thirds are as confident it will be distributed in a way that is fair, up from 52 percent.

Confidence has increased particularly among Blacks, with two-thirds at least somewhat confident a vaccine will be tested properly, up from 39 percent; and 62 percent expressing at least some confidence that distribution will be fair, up from 32 percent. Still, nearly half (48 percent) continue to lack confidence that the development of the vaccine is taking the needs of Black people into account.

Personal health care providers are the most trusted source when it comes to reliable vaccine information, with 85 percent saying they trust their own doctor or provider at least a fair amount. Roughly seven in 10 also trust the CDC (73 percent), FDA (70 percent), their local public health department (70 percent) and Dr. Anthony Fauci (68 percent). Smaller majorities trust their state government officials (58 percent), President-elect Joe Biden (57 percent) and pharmaceutical companies (53 percent), while just a third trust President Trump.

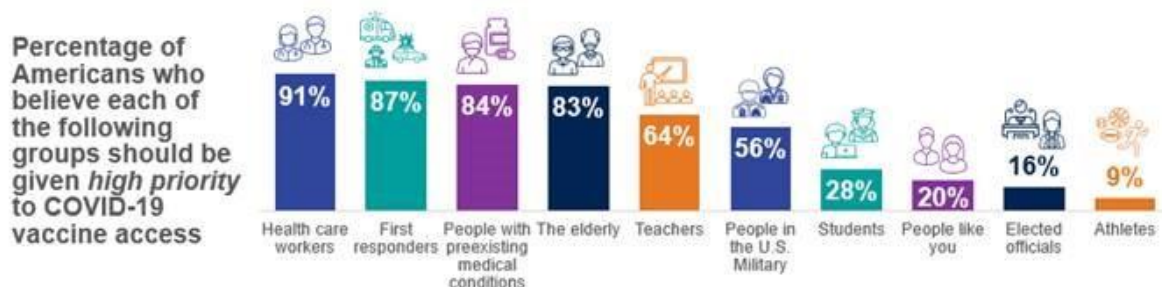
The public splits on whether getting vaccinated against COVID-19 is a personal choice or part of everyone’s responsibility to protect the health of others, 49-49 percent. Partisanship informs these views, with 70 percent of Democrats viewing vaccination as a responsibility and 71 percent of Republicans viewing it as a personal choice ([KFF 11/30-12/8](#)). That said, just 39 percent

overall think their state should make it mandatory for people to get vaccinated before returning to school or work, while 61 percent do not.

Roughly nine in 10 think health care workers (91 percent) and first responders such as firefighters, police officers and paramedics (87 percent) should be given high priority when it comes to having access to the vaccine. More than eight in 10 say the same of people with preexisting medical conditions who are at high risk (84 percent) and the elderly (83 percent). Smaller majorities feel similarly about teachers (64 percent) and people in the military (56 percent). Aligning with results last week, far fewer favor a high priority for people like them (20 percent), students (28 percent), elected officials (16 percent) and athletes (9 percent) ([ABC-Ipsos 12/12-12/13](#)).

### Americans prioritize frontline workers for coronavirus vaccine

Most Americans say they are likely to get the vaccine eventually, but are split on getting it as soon as possible or waiting a while



### Perceptions of the Pandemic

Sixty-two percent of Americans think the United States has not controlled the outbreak as much as it could have ([Pew 11/18-11/29](#)). Fifty-one percent think the worst is yet to come, up from 42 percent in October ([KFF 11/30-12/8](#)) and half think the virus is not at all under control in the country, unchanged since October but well up from 33 percent in June.

Fifty-six percent think the country did not take the threat posed by the coronavirus seriously enough. Among the rest, 23 percent think the country reacted appropriately and 19 percent feel it overreacted ([Fox News 12/6-12/9](#)).

Thirty-six percent think that what is said in the news about the seriousness of the coronavirus is generally correct, while 35 percent think it's generally exaggerated and a quarter think it is underestimated ([KFF 11/30-12/8](#)). Similarly, 36 percent think, all in all, the outbreak has been approached about right, a third say it has been made a bigger deal than it really is and three in 10 think it's been made a smaller deal, essentially unchanged since October ([Pew 11/18-11/29](#)).

### Economic Impacts



Thirty-six percent say it has been at least somewhat difficult to pay for usual household expenses during the pandemic and 31 percent expect someone in their household will have a loss of employment income in the next four weeks. Both are at highs since at least mid-August.

Food and housing insecurity also have hit new highs. Thirteen percent say there was sometimes or often not enough to eat in the last seven days and 9 percent either are not current on rent or mortgage payments or have little confidence their household can pay next month's payment on time. Thirty-five percent of those living in a household not current on rent or mortgage think eviction or foreclosure in the next two months is at least somewhat likely, also a high in data since mid-August ([U.S. Census Bureau 11/25-12/7](#)).

### Contracting Coronavirus

Thirty-five percent feel they have a greater risk of contracting the coronavirus now than they did in April, up from 16 percent in mid-September. One in 10 sees less risk, down from 21 percent, and 55 percent think the risk is about the same as in April ([Axios-Ipsos 12/11-12/14](#)).

Seven in 10 say they or someone they know personally has been infected by the coronavirus. It makes a difference when it comes to vaccine intentions – those who know someone are 15 points more apt to say they'll get a vaccine as soon as it's available to them compared with those who don't know someone who's been infected, 45 vs. 30 percent ([ABC-Ipsos 12/12-12/13](#)).

### Daily Life

Many Americans continue to hunker down amid the surge, although not to the same extent as in the spring:

- Six in 10 say that in the past week they've avoided going to public places, up from 53 percent in late October, but below the 79 percent who said so in the spring.
- Half say that in the past 24 hours they completely or mostly isolated themselves from people outside their household, up from 38 percent in late October to the most since May. In late March/early April, many more, three-quarters, were largely isolating themselves.
- Twenty-two percent say that in the last 24 hours they visited a restaurant, down from 28 percent in October but up from 12 percent in the spring ([Gallup 11/16-11/29](#)).

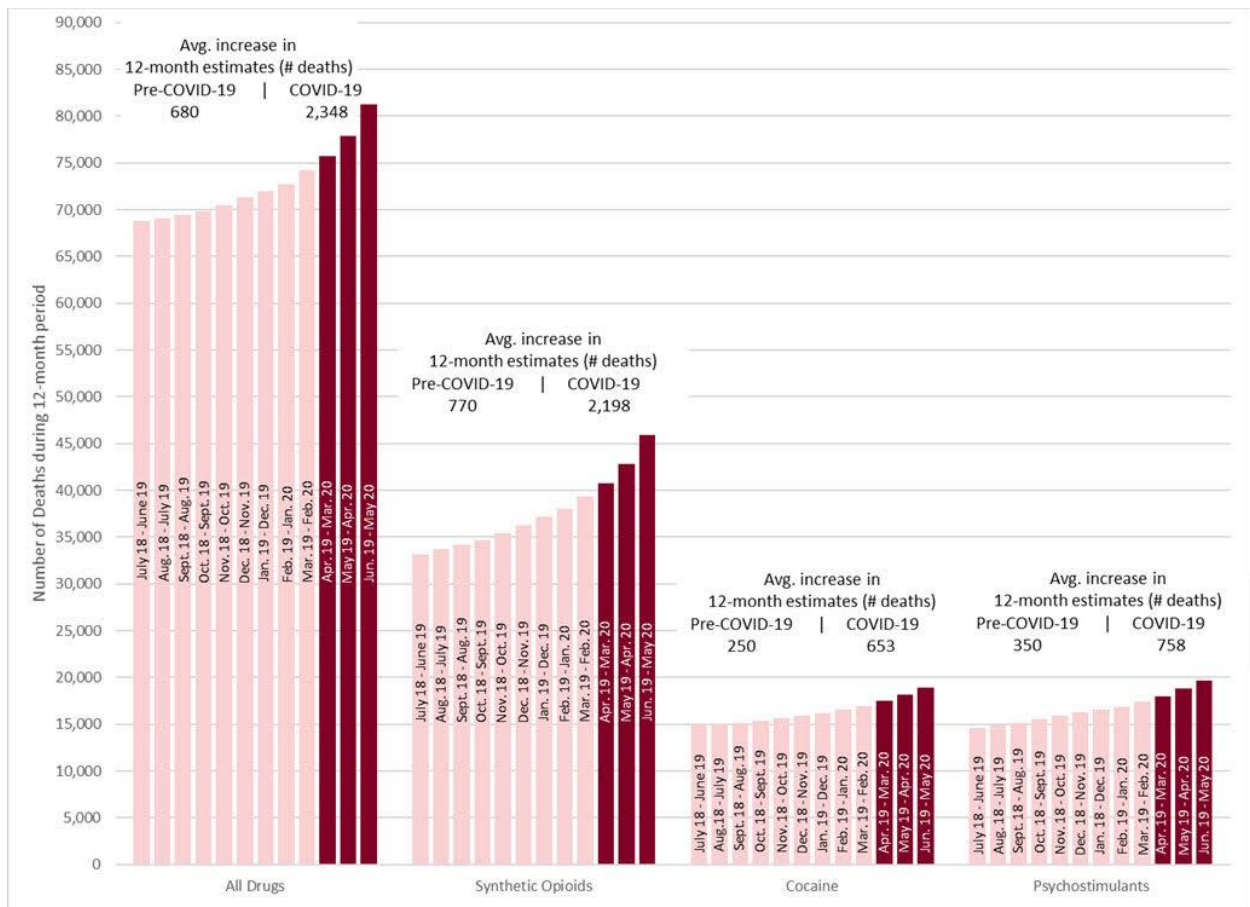
### Deaths Among Young Adults

Although seniors account for the vast majority of COVID-19-related deaths, a new analysis of all-cause and COVID-19-related mortality among adults aged 25-44 from March through July estimates there were close to 12,000 more deaths in this age group than would be expected based on 2015-2019 norms, but that just 38 percent of these excess deaths were attributed directly to COVID-19. Although the cause of the remaining excess deaths is unknown, the authors suggest that COVID-19 related mortality may be under-detected in this population ([Faust et al., 2020](#)).

## Increase in Fatal Drug Overdoses

A new CDC alert suggests that an increase in drug overdose deaths that began in 2019 appears to have accelerated during the first few months of the pandemic. In the 12 months ending last May, more than 81,000 fatal drug overdose deaths occurred in the United States, the most ever recorded and an 18.2 percent increase from the 12 months ending in June 2019. This increase was driven primarily by synthetic opioids such as fentanyl – the 12-month count of synthetic opioid deaths jumped 38.4 percent in the same period.

Notably, provisional overdose death estimates suggest that the largest monthly increases in deaths occurred during the last three months of this period, which corresponds with the widespread implementation of coronavirus lockdown measures in the country ([CDC](#)). This aligns with an earlier report ([summarized here](#)) showing a marked increase in the number of overdose-related cardiac arrests during the initial months of the COVID-19 pandemic.



## Impacts on Education

A late September/early October poll found that nearly half of parents with school-age children said their child was receiving instruction online (47 percent), vs. 30 percent in person, 14 percent with a hybrid approach and 9 percent via homeschooling. White parents were less apt than

Hispanic or Black parents to say their child's education was at least partially online, 54 vs. 72 and 68 percent, respectively ([USC UAS 9/16-10/14](#)).

A new CDC report estimates the potential cost per student to implement four key mitigation strategies it recommends for schools to return to in-person learning – consistent and correct use of masks, social distancing/physical barriers, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette, and cleaning and disinfection. Using a micro-costing approach, as well as data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and other sources, the analysis estimates per-student costs to range from an average of \$55 when considering materials and consumables only (e.g., shields, masks, cleaners) to a maximum average of \$442 per student when additional custodial staff and transportation costs are considered. State-by-state estimates of funds needed as a percentage of student expenditures in fiscal year 2018 range from an additional 0.3 percent (materials and consumables only) to 7.1 percent (all three cost types). Estimated per-student costs by state are provided in the full study ([CDC](#)).

### Impacts on LGBTQ Households

An analysis of data collected this summer reveals that LGBTQ individuals and their households were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. Among the results:

- Sixty-four percent of LGBTQ households had suffered a job loss since the pandemic began, compared with 45 percent of non-LGBTQ households.
- Two-thirds reported at least one serious financial problem since the pandemic began, rising to 95 percent of Black LGBTQ households.
- Forty-four percent of LGBTQ households reported serious problems coping with social and physical isolation during the pandemic, compared with 23 percent of non-LGBTQ households.
- LGBTQ individuals were twice as likely to report someone in their household was unable to get needed medical care or delayed getting medical care for a serious issue, 38 vs. 19 percent, and to report that they'd lost health coverage since the pandemic began, 13 vs. 6 percent.
- One in five LGBTQ households reported they were not getting enough food to eat every day, compared with 6 percent of non-LGBTQ households ([NPR/RWJF/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health 7/1-8/3](#)).

### Impacts on Women

Using longitudinal data, an analysis of people age 18 to 64 living with a spouse or partner shows some disproportionate impacts of the pandemic on women. Among them:

- Partnered women who lost their jobs during the pandemic have continued to be out of work for longer than men. Among those who were employed in March 2020, 19 percent



of partnered women and 15 percent of partnered men lost their jobs. Of these, 15 percent of women were without a job at the end of November, compared with 8 percent of men.

- Forty-five percent of working partnered moms say they have sole responsibility for providing child care and help with schoolwork, up from 33 percent in June. Among working fathers with partners, one in 10 reports having sole responsibility for this, unchanged since June ([USC UAS 3/10-11/25](#)).

## Masks

Eighty-five percent of registered voters say they have a favorable opinion of people who wear masks, up 5 points since June. The rise was driven mostly by an 11-point increase in favorable views among Republicans (to 79 percent). Among Democrats, 93 percent have a favorable view of mask wearers (previously 89 percent) ([Fox News 12/6-12/9](#)).

Indeed, nine in 10 Americans say they wear a protective mask at least most of the time when they leave their house and might be in contact with other people, including nearly all Democrats (99 percent), 89 percent of independents and three-quarters of Republicans.

More than three-quarters overall think that wearing a face mask can help limit the spread of the coronavirus (78 percent) and do not think that wearing a face mask is harmful to their health (77 percent). Seven in 10 think that wearing a face mask helps protect them from the virus.

Seventy-three percent say that wearing a mask to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is part of everyone’s responsibility to protect the health of others, while 23 percent instead say it’s a personal choice ([KFF 11/30-12/8](#)).

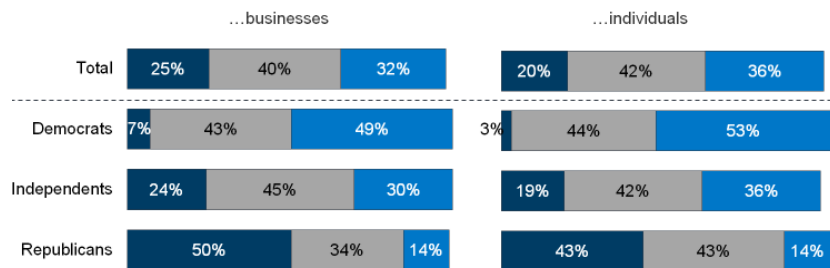
## Government Response

In efforts to slow the spread of the coronavirus, four in 10 say their state has about the right amount of restrictions on businesses; 32 percent think there are not enough restrictions and a quarter say there are too many. Similarly, 42 percent think the number of restrictions on individuals is right, 36 percent think there aren’t enough and two in 10 say there are too many.

Partisanship informs these views. For example, roughly half of Democrats think there are not enough restrictions on individuals (53 percent) or businesses (49 percent), while, in both cases, just 14 percent of Republicans agree ([KFF 11/30-12/8](#)).

### About Half Of Democrats Think Their State Currently Does Not Have Enough Restrictions On Businesses, Individuals

In its efforts to slow the spread of coronavirus, do you think your state currently has **too many**, the right amount, or **not enough** restrictions on...



SOURCE: KFF Health Tracking Poll (conducted Nov 30-Dec 8, 2020). See topline for full question wording.



Nearly three-quarters of registered voters approve of the way Dr. Fauci has responded to the pandemic and six in 10 approve of Biden's response. However, a majority (55 percent) continues to disapprove of Trump's handling of the outbreak.

Thirty-five percent think the \$900 billion coronavirus relief package considered by Congress is too little, about as many think it's about right and two in 10 say it's too much ([Fox News 12/6-12/9](#)).

### State Results

In Texas, 63 percent say they're at least somewhat likely to get a COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available to them, including 37 percent who say they're very likely to get one, little changed since September. Two in 10 say they're very unlikely to get a vaccine, down from 28 percent in September. Democrats, seniors and those with a college degree are the most apt to say they are very likely to get vaccinated, while Republicans, those who lack insurance, and Blacks are among the least likely. However, the share of Black Texans who say they're very unlikely to get vaccinated has dropped from 36 to 21 percent since September ([Episcopal Health Foundation 11/13-12/9](#)).

In New Hampshire, 61 percent say they will almost certainly or probably get vaccinated when a COVID-19 vaccine is offered to them. Sixty-two percent are at least somewhat confident that when a vaccine is available it will stop them from getting sick with COVID-19; about six in 10 are confident it will be safe (59 percent) and will have gone through an appropriate approval process (58 percent). Fewer than half are as confident it will provide long-lasting protection against COVID-19 (48 percent) or will have minimal side effects (45 percent). Sixty-three percent say a recommendation from their primary care provider would make them more likely to get vaccinated.

Nearly two-thirds say that in the past week no one in their household spent time indoors in a place where 10 or more people were closely gathered, and nearly all (91 percent) say no one in their household spent time indoors where 50 or more people were congregated. Large majorities also say no one in their household spent time outdoors in areas with groups of 10 or more (82 percent) or 50 or more (96 percent). Nine in 10 say they always wear a face mask at grocery stores or pharmacies, up from 72 percent in June, and three-quarters always do so when getting takeout from a restaurant, up from 58 percent. Just a third always wear a mask when socializing with friends or family they don't live with, but that's up from 19 percent.

The share of residents who rate their stress from the COVID-19 pandemic as a seven or higher on a 0-10 scale has dropped to 30 percent from 53 percent in November. However, a quarter now show symptoms of clinical depression, up from 17 percent in October. Thirty-five percent think it is at least somewhat likely that they or a member of their household has or already had COVID-19 ([UNH 12/3-12/7](#)).

In Mississippi, a CDC analysis examines risk factors associated with a positive COVID-19 test among children and adolescents under age 18 who were tested at outpatient testing centers or

emergency departments associated with the University of Mississippi Medical Center from Sept. 1 to Nov. 5. Compared with matched control cases that tested negative, those who tested positive were more likely to have had close contact with a person with known COVID-19 and to have attended gatherings with persons outside their household in the two weeks before the test. Attending in-person school was not associated with an increased likelihood of having a positive COVID-19 test. However, among children age 2 and up who attended child care or school during the two weeks before getting tested, parents of those with a positive test were less apt to report that their child and all staff members wore masks inside the facility ([CDC 9/1-11/5](#))

### International Results

In Sweden, which is facing a surge in cases and hospitalizations, the public health agency recently sent out a mass text alert to the entire population about new guidelines designed to reduce the spread of the virus over the holidays. Nearly all Swedes (97 percent) report having received the text, but only three in 10 say they went to the crisis information website after receiving it to read more about the guidelines ([Novus 12/14-12/15](#)).

In Japan, which also is facing a surge in COVID-19 cases, 62 percent disapprove of Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga's efforts to combat the coronavirus, up 35 points since early November. Seven in 10 express doubts about the country's medical and testing system, two-thirds think the government's campaign to encourage domestic travel should be cancelled and 57 percent think the government should declare another state of emergency over the coronavirus. Nearly eight in 10 do not plan to travel and visit family for the upcoming holidays ([Mainichi Shimbun 12/12](#)).

In Chile, 72 percent agree with the government maintaining a coronavirus state of emergency until March. Sixty-two percent agree with delaying the curfew until 2 a.m. for Christmas and New Year's eve. Forty-three percent approve of the government's management of the COVID-19 crisis, largely stable since October ([Cadem 12/9-12/10](#)).

In South Korea, 54 percent think that even if economic activity slows, more emphasis should be placed on quarantine, while 41 percent think there should be a similar focus on maintaining economic activity and quarantine alike. Eight in 10 are at least somewhat worried about getting infected with the coronavirus, unchanged since last month after dipping to 72 percent in October. Forty-five percent say their household income has decreased in the pandemic; 3 percent say it's increased and half report no change. Fifty-six percent think the government is doing well in responding to the pandemic, down 16 points since November to a new low ([Gallup Korea 12/8-12/10](#)).

In Brazil, 73 percent intend to get a COVID-19 vaccine when it is available, down from 89 percent in August. Fifty-six percent think the vaccine should be mandatory for all Brazilians while 43 percent do not. Half say they would not get a vaccine developed in China, but majorities say they would get a vaccine developed in Russia (60 percent), the United States (74 percent) or the United Kingdom (70 percent). By a 12-point margin, more rate President Jair Bolsonaro's handling of the pandemic negatively than positively, 42-30 percent. A slim majority (52 percent) do not think he is to blame for the country's coronavirus death toll, 38 percent feel

he is partially, but not mainly to blame and 8 percent view him as the primary culprit ([Datafolha 12/8-12/10](#)).

Another poll finds that 71 percent of Brazilians are in favor of imposing new social distancing measures to control the coronavirus in the country. The vast majority does not intend to travel for Christmas and New Year's (88 percent) and plans to spend the holidays with those they live with, as recommended (82 percent). Six in 10 say they or someone close to them has gotten sick with the coronavirus, up 5 points in two weeks to a new high ([PoderData 12/7-12/9](#)).

In Bulgaria, where cases have declined some after peaking in mid-November, six in 10 approve of ending the country's coronavirus restrictions on Dec. 21. Four in 10 agree that the restrictive measures work, while 48 percent think masks, distance and hygiene would be enough. The public divides 42-42 percent on whether distance learning is effective and should be continued or is ineffective and should be stopped. Thirty-nine percent believe that regardless of what measures are taken, most people will have to get COVID-19 before the pandemic ends; 31 percent disagree and 30 percent are unsure. Three-quarters intend to see relatives and friends over the holidays while 18 percent plan to remain isolated. Forty-one percent plan to get vaccinated; more, 47 percent, do not ([Gallup Bulgaria 12/7-12/9](#)).

In Great Britain, a November poll found that 19 percent of adults reported symptoms of moderate to severe depression, unchanged since June but nearly double the pre-pandemic level (10 percent). Nearly half overall said their well-being was being impacted by the pandemic, including eight in 10 of those who reported symptoms of depression or anxiety. Amid the vaccine rollout, a more recent poll finds that nearly three in 10 (28 percent) think life will return to normal in six months or fewer, triple the number who said so in late October (9 percent) ([Office for National Statistics 11/11-11/29; 12/2-12/6](#)).

In Canada, eight in 10 are at least somewhat interested in getting the COVID-19 vaccine once it's available. When it comes to how to handle areas where infections are growing rapidly, 55 percent prefer a strict lockdown while 39 percent favor keeping the economy partially open and letting the pandemic run its course. However, nearly twice as many say they're more concerned about the risk that they or a loved one will get COVID-19 than say they're more worried about the negative impact of the pandemic on the economy, 63-33 percent. Eighty-three percent say they will be meeting up in person with family and friends less than usual this holiday season ([Nanos/CTV 11/26-11/29](#)).

In Australia, which largely has eliminated community spread of the coronavirus, the share who think it is likely that they will be infected by COVID-19 in the next six months has declined from 34 to 17 percent since August. Several mental health measures also have improved – the number who say they're anxious or worried due to COVID-19 declined from 65 percent in October to 53 percent now, ratings of life satisfaction rebounded during the same period and now match 2019 levels and a measure of psychological distress also has declined, though it remains elevated compared to a 2017 baseline. Thirty-five percent say they experienced loneliness at least some of the time in the past week, down from 41 percent in August to a pandemic low. Just 7 percent now say they did not meet up with friends, relatives or work colleagues in the past week, down from 49 percent in April.

The average hours worked per week also has rebounded since August, though not to pre-pandemic levels. However, after a similar bounce, average household income now nearly matches what it was in February ([Australian National University 11/9-11/23](#)).

In Russia, six in 10 say they're personally afraid of contracting the coronavirus, but 52 percent exclude the possibility of being vaccinated in the near future, compared with 42 percent who say it's possible they will do so soon. Forty-two percent think the coronavirus vaccine will be able to stop the pandemic, while a third do not and 25 percent aren't sure. Fifty-three percent say if they do decide to get vaccinated, the country in which the vaccine was produced would be very important to them. Of those who said it mattered at least some, half prefer a vaccine from Russia, 23 percent prefer a European produced vaccine and 9 percent prefer one from the United States ([FOM 11/11-11/13](#)).

Additional U.S. and international poll results are available at the [COVID-19 Survey Archive](#).

*Summary for SEAN by [Langer Research Associates](#).*