

## Survey Question Wording and Topline

**2021 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL  
WAVE 83 February 2021  
SCIENCE TOPLINE  
February 16-21, 2021  
TOTAL N=10,121**

**ASK ALL:**

SC1

Overall, would you say science has had a mostly positive effect on our society or a mostly negative effect on our society?

	<u>Mostly positive</u>	<u>Mostly negative</u>	<u>Equal positive and negative effects</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Feb 16-21, 2021	67	6	27	1
Jan 7-21, 2019	73	3	23	<1
Mar 2-28, 2016	67	4	27	2

### OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

**ASK ALL:**

COVIDCHG

As a result of the coronavirus outbreak, has your own personal life...

<u>Feb 16-21, 2021</u>		<u>Mar 19-24, 2020</u>
41	Changed in a major way	44
43	Changed, but only a little bit	44
15	Stayed about the same as it was before the outbreak	12
<1	No answer	<1

**ASK ALL:**

COVIDEGFP

How would you rate the job each of the following is doing responding to the coronavirus outbreak? **[RANDOMIZE]**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Joe Biden					
Feb 16-21, 2021	22	32	20	24	1
b. Your state elected officials					
Feb 16-21, 2021	11	39	31	19	1
Nov 18-29, 2020	15	38	27	19	1
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	16	39	26	18	<1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	21	41	25	13	<1
Mar 19-24, 2020	21	49	22	8	1
c. Your local elected officials					
Feb 16-21, 2021	10	44	31	13	1
Nov 18-29, 2020	14	44	28	14	1
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	13	47	27	12	1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	17	47	27	9	1
Mar 19-24, 2020	17	52	22	7	1

<b>COVIDEGFP CONTINUED...</b>	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>No answer</u>
d. Public health officials such as those at the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)					
Feb 16-21, 2021	16	46	25	12	<1
Nov 18-29, 2020	22	45	24	9	<1
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	16	47	25	11	<1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	24	48	21	7	1
Mar 19-24, 2020	30	49	17	4	<1

**NO ITEMS E-F**

g. Hospitals and medical centers in your area					
Feb 16-21, 2021	36	49	11	3	1
Nov 18-29, 2020	45	42	9	3	<1
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	43	45	9	3	1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	47	42	8	3	1

**ASK ALL:**

COVIDEGFPDT And overall, how would you rate the job Donald Trump did responding to the coronavirus outbreak during his time in office?

Feb 16-21, <u>2021</u>	
16	Excellent
21	Good
15	Only fair
48	Poor
1	No answer

**TREND FOR COMPARISON**

COVIDEGFP How would you rate the job each of the following is doing responding to the coronavirus outbreak? [**RANDOMIZE**]

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. <i>Donald Trump</i>					
Nov 18-29, 2020	15	20	16	49	1
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	15	21	15	48	<1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	20	21	17	42	1
Mar 19-24, 2020	23	25	19	32	<1

**ASK ALL:**COVIDTHREAT How much of a threat, if any, is the coronavirus outbreak for... **[RANDOMIZE]**

	A major <u>threat</u>	A minor <u>threat</u>	Not a <u>threat</u>	No answer
a. The health of the U.S. population as a whole				
Feb 16-21, 2021	63	31	5	<1
Nov 18-29, 2020	65	29	5	<1
Jul 13-19, 2020	67	28	5	<1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	64	31	4	<1
Mar 19-24, 2020	66	31	2	<1
Mar 10-16, 2020	47	45	8	<1
b. Your personal health				
Feb 16-21, 2021	31	52	17	<1
Nov 18-29, 2020	39	46	14	<1
Jul 13-19, 2020	40	46	13	<1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	38	47	14	<1
Mar 19-24, 2020	36	52	11	<1
Mar 10-16, 2020	27	51	22	<1
c. The U.S. economy				
Feb 16-21, 2021	81	16	3	<1
Nov 18-29, 2020	84	13	3	<1
Jul 13-19, 2020	86	12	2	<1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	88	10	2	<1
Mar 19-24, 2020	88	10	1	<1
Mar 10-16, 2020	70	25	4	1
d. Your personal financial situation				
Feb 16-21, 2021	30	46	24	<1
Nov 18-29, 2020	38	42	20	<1
Jul 13-19, 2020	38	43	19	<1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	41	42	17	<1
Mar 19-24, 2020	49	40	11	<1
Mar 10-16, 2020	34	43	23	<1

**ASK ALL:**

BIDENADM Do you think the plans and policies of the Biden administration will make the country's response to the coronavirus outbreak...

Feb 16-21,

2021

31	A lot better
25	A little better
24	Not much different
6	A little worse
14	A lot worse
1	No answer

**OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

COVID\_OPENMORE Thinking about restrictions on public activity because of the coronavirus outbreak IN YOUR AREA, do you think there should be... **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

	MORE restrictions <u>right now</u>	FEWER restrictions right <u>now</u>	About the same number of restrictions right <u>now</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Feb 16-21, 2021	27	31	41	1
Nov 12-17, 2020	44	21	35	1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	27	24	48	1

**ASK ALL:**

VACCECON If a large majority of Americans get a vaccine for COVID-19, what do you think the impact would be on the U.S. economy? Do you think it would...

Feb 16-21,  
2021

51	Help the economy a lot
25	Help the economy a little
22	Not make much of a difference
2	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

COVID\_RESTRICTION Thinking about policies in place in some areas to address the coronavirus outbreak, in general do you think each of the following is necessary or unnecessary? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS] [N=9,825] <sup>2</sup>:**

	<u>Necessary</u>	<u>Unnecessary</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Restricting international travel to the U.S. Feb 16-21, 2021	79	20	1
<b>NO ITEM B</b>			
c. Asking people to avoid gathering in large groups Feb 16-21, 2021	76	24	<1
<b>NO ITEM D</b>			
e. Closing K-12 schools for in-person learning Feb 16-21, 2021	47	52	1
f. Limiting restaurants to carry-out only Feb 16-21, 2021	50	50	1

**NO ITEM G**

<sup>2</sup> The number of respondents answering this question is 9,825, due to an error in translation for those completing the survey in Spanish Feb 16-18, 2021.

<b>COVID_RESTRICTION CONTINUED...</b>	<u>Necessary</u>	<u>Unnecessary</u>	<u>No answer</u>
h. Requiring masks or face coverings for travelers on airplanes and public transportation Feb 16-21, 2021	85	15	<1

**TREND FOR COMPARISON**

COVID\_RESTRICTION Thinking about some steps that have been announced in some areas to address the coronavirus outbreak, in general do you think each of the following have been necessary or unnecessary? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	<u>Necessary</u>	<u>Unnecessary</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. <i>Restricting international travel to the U.S.</i> Mar 19-24, 2020	95	5	<1
c. <i>Asking people to avoid gathering in groups of more than ten</i> Mar 19-24, 2020	87	12	<1
e. <i>Closing K-12 schools</i> Mar 19-24, 2020	90	10	<1
f. <i>Limiting restaurants to carry-out only</i> Mar 19-24, 2020	85	14	<1

**ASK ALL:**

As you may know, new variants of the virus that causes COVID-19 have been found around the world.

**ASK ALL:**

CVDVAR2 When it comes to the country's efforts to control the coronavirus outbreak, do you think new variants of the coronavirus will... **[RANDOMIZE]**

Feb 16-21,  
2021

51	Lead to a major setback for the country's efforts to contain the disease
48	Not have a major impact on the country's efforts to contain the disease
1	No answer

**OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

COVID\_INFECT How concerned, if at all, are you that... [RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

	<u>Very concerned</u>	<u>Somewhat concerned</u>	<u>Not too concerned</u>	<u>Not at all concerned</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. You might spread the coronavirus to other people without knowing that you have it					
Feb 16-21, 2021	30	31	25	14	<1
Nov 18-29, 2020	32	32	23	13	<1
June 16-22, 2020	30	32	23	14	<1
Apr 7-12, 2020	33	34	22	11	1
b. You will get the coronavirus and require hospitalization					
Feb 16-21, 2021	21	27	31	20	<1
Nov 18-29, 2020	23	30	30	17	<1
June 16-22, 2020	24	27	32	17	<1
Apr 7-12, 2020	24	31	32	13	<1

**ASK ALL:**

COVIDMASK1 In the past month, how often, if ever, have you worn a mask or face covering when in stores or other businesses?

	<u>All or most of the time</u>	<u>Some of the time</u>	<u>Hardly ever</u>	<u>Never</u>	<u>Have not gone to these types of places</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Feb 16-21, 2021	88	6	3	1	2	<1
Nov 18-29, 2020	87	7	4	2	1	<1
Aug 3-16, 2020	85	9	3	1	1	<1
June 4-10, 2020	65	15	9	7	4	<1

**ASK ALL:**

COVID\_VAXD Have you received a vaccine to prevent COVID-19?

**ASK IF HAVE NOT RECEIVED VACCINE OR NO ANSWER:**COVID\_SCI6E Thinking about vaccines to prevent COVID-19, do you think you will...<sup>3</sup>

	<u>Have received at least one dose of a vaccine</u>	<u>Definitely get a vaccine</u>	<u>Probably get a vaccine</u>	<u>Probably NOT get a vaccine</u>	<u>Definitely NOT get a vaccine</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Feb 16-21, 2021	19	32	17	15	15	1
Nov 18-29, 2020	--	29	31	21	18	1
Sept 8-13, 2020	--	21	30	25	24	<1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	--	42	30	16	11	1

<sup>3</sup> Prior to Feb 16-21, 2021, the question wording was, "If a vaccine to prevent COVID-19 were available today, would you..."

**ASK IF PROBABLY OR DEFINITELY WOULD NOT GET VACCINE (COVID\_SCI6E=3,4)****[N=2,227]:**

NOCVACC How much of a reason, if any, is each of the following for why you will **[IF COVID\_SCI6E=3: probably; IF COVID\_SCI6E=4: definitely]** NOT get a vaccine to prevent COVID-19? **[RANDOMIZE]**

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=2,227]:**

		<u>A major reason</u>	<u>A minor reason</u>	<u>Not a reason</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a.	Concern about side effects				
	Feb 16-21, 2021	72	17	11	<1
	Sept 8-13, 2020	76	14	9	<1
b.	Do not think I need it				
	Feb 16-21, 2021	42	26	31	<1
	Sept 8-13, 2020	31	24	45	1
<b>NO ITEM C</b>					
d.	Want to know more about how well they work <sup>4</sup>				
	Feb 16-21, 2021	61	19	20	<1
	Sept 8-13, 2020	72	12	15	1
e.	Do not get vaccines in general				
	Feb 16-21, 2021	36	22	42	<1
f.	The vaccines were developed and tested too quickly				
	Feb 16-21, 2021	67	18	14	<1
g.	Have seen too many mistakes from medical care system in the past				
	Feb 16-21, 2021	46	28	25	1

<sup>4</sup> Prior to Feb 16-21, 2021, the item wording was, "Want to know more about how well it works"

**ASK ALL:**

VACCNFDT How much confidence, if any, do you have that the research and development process has produced COVID-19 vaccines in the U.S. that are safe and effective?<sup>5</sup>

	<u>A great deal of confidence</u>	<u>A fair amount of confidence</u>	<u>Not too much confidence</u>	<u>No confidence at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Feb 16-21, 2021	33	40	19	8	<1
Nov 18-29, 2020	30	45	17	8	<1
Sept 8-13, 2020	19	45	25	10	<1

**ASK ALL:**

COMCNCRN1 How much, if at all, do you think people should consider the health effects for the community when making their own decision about whether to get a COVID-19 vaccine?

Feb 16-21

2021

63	A lot
27	A little
9	Not at all
1	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

CVDVARIMP Thinking about new variants of the coronavirus discovered recently, in your view, do these new coronavirus variants make getting a large majority of Americans vaccinated for the disease...

Feb 16-21

2021

58	More important
8	Less important
32	Does not change your view
2	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

GLBLVACC Thinking about developing countries around the world, which statement comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right? **[RANDOMIZE]**

Feb 16-21

2021

30	The U.S. should help ensure that people in developing countries have access to coronavirus vaccines, even if it means some people in the U.S. need to wait longer to get vaccines
66	The U.S. should ensure that there are enough coronavirus vaccines for people in the U.S., even if it means people in developing countries need to wait longer to get vaccines
4	No answer

<sup>5</sup> Prior to Feb 16-21, 2021 survey, the question wording was, "How much confidence, if any, do you have that the research and development process will produce a vaccine for COVID-19 in the U.S. that is safe and effective?"



**ASK ALL:**

Thinking about your own local area...

**ASK ALL:**

DSTORG Do you think the process for getting COVID-19 vaccines in your local area is going...

Feb 16-21

2021

13	Very well
51	Somewhat well
26	Not too well
8	Not at all well
2	No answer

**RANDOMIZE ORDER OF DSTFAIR AND DSTINFO****ASK ALL:**

DSTFAIR Do you think the process for getting COVID-19 vaccines in your local area is...

Feb 16-21

2021

20	Very fair
56	Somewhat fair
15	Not too fair
6	Not at all fair
3	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

DSTINFO Do you think information about how to sign up to get a COVID-19 vaccine in your local area is...

Feb 16-21

2021

16	Very easy to find
41	Somewhat easy to find
30	Not too easy to find
11	Not at all easy to find
2	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

VACCXPT When do you think most people who want to get a COVID-19 vaccine will be able to get one in your local area?

Feb 16-21

2021

12	Within the next 30 days
33	In 1 to 3 months
35	In 4 to 6 months
12	In 7 to 11 months
6	In a year or more
2	No answer

**ASK IF DID NOT RESPOND YES IN W79 OR W72 OR W67 OR W65 (XKNOWPAT=1):**

COVID\_KNOWPATIENTb Do you personally know someone who has been hospitalized or died as a result of having COVID-19?

**BASED ON TOTAL:**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Feb 16-21, 2021	67	33	<1
Nov 18-29, 2020	54	46	<1
Aug 3-16, 2020	39	61	<1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	20	80	<1
Apr 7-12, 2020	15	85	<1

**ASK ALL:**

COVID\_SELF Since February 2020, have you done or experienced the following?<sup>6</sup>

	<u>Yes, I have</u>	<u>No, I have not</u>	<u>No answer</u>
<b>NO ITEM A</b>			
b. Been pretty sure you have had COVID-19 even though you have not been officially diagnosed			
Feb 16-21, 2021	21	79	1
Aug 3-16, 2020	13	87	<1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	14	85	1
c. Tested positive for having COVID-19			
Feb 16-21, 2021	9	91	1
Aug 3-16, 2020	2	97	<1
<b>NO ITEM D</b>			
e. Tested positive for having <u>antibodies</u> to COVID-19			
Feb 16-21, 2021	5	94	1
Aug 3-16, 2020	2	98	<1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020 <sup>7</sup>	2	97	<1

<sup>6</sup> In the April 29-May 5, 2020 survey, the question wording was, "Thinking about the past few months, since FEBRUARY 2020, have you done or experienced the following?"

<sup>7</sup> In the April 29-May 5, 2020 survey, the wording for item e was, "Taken a blood test that showed you have antibodies to COVID-19."

**COVID\_SELF COMBO TABLE****BASED ON TOTAL:**

Feb 16-21 <u>2021</u>		Aug 3-16 <u>2020</u>
25	NET At least "pretty sure" (Been pretty sure you have had COVID-19 even though you have not been officially diagnosed OR Tested positive for having COVID-19 OR Tested positive for having antibodies to COVID-19)	14
11	NET Tested positive (Tested positive for having COVID-19 OR Tested positive for having antibodies to COVID-19)	3
14	Been pretty sure you have had COVID-19 even though you have not been officially diagnosed (and did NOT test positive)	11
75	No or No answer to all COVID_SELF	86

**ASK IF PROBABLY HAD COVID (COVID\_SELFb=1 OR COVID\_SELFc=1 OR COVID\_SELFe=1)  
[N=2,128]:**

RATEOWNCOVID Which best describes your experience with COVID-19? {W72}

Feb 16-21 <u>2021</u>		Aug 3-16 <u>2020</u>
16	No symptoms	17
44	Mild symptoms	45
31	Moderate symptoms	29
8	Severe symptoms	9
1	No answer	<1