

# Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania

Annenberg Science and Public Health (ASAPH) Panel, August 9-15, 2023

October 12, 2023

## 1 Overview

These studies were conducted for the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania via web and telephone by SSRS, an independent research company. Interviews were conducted among a nationally representative probability sample drawn from SSRS's Opinion panel. Data were weighted to represent the target U.S. adult population. Summaries of the sample size, field dates, and estimated design effects (Deff) of the particular waves can be found in the table below.

ASAPH panelists are quarantined from other survey panel membership to avoid being affected by the content of other surveys. Data used in Wave 11, however, contains 19 respondents who self-reported membership in other opinion panels. Diagnostics revealed no significant differences in the responses of these 19 panelists and the results presented in this report are unaffected by their exclusion.

The flu questions (FL#) came from Wave 10 of the ASAPH panel, conducted between January 10-16, 2023, with a margin of sampling error of 3.2 percentage points. The COVID-19 questions (D#) came from Wave 12 of the ASAPH panel, conducted between August 9-15, 2023, with a margin of sampling error of 3.5 percentage points.

| Wave | N    | MOE | Deff | Fielded    | Closed     |
|------|------|-----|------|------------|------------|
| A-1  | 1941 | 2.9 | 1.76 | 2021-03-30 | 2021-04-19 |
| B-2  | 1719 | 3.2 | 1.83 | 2021-06-09 | 2021-06-22 |
| C-3  | 1669 | 3.2 | 1.83 | 2021-08-16 | 2021-09-05 |
| D-4  | 1672 | 3.3 | 1.86 | 2021-11-03 | 2021-11-09 |
| E-5  | 1656 | 3.3 | 1.86 | 2022-01-11 | 2022-01-17 |
| F-6  | 1638 | 3.3 | 1.87 | 2022-03-29 | 2022-04-04 |
| G-7  | 1580 | 3.2 | 1.82 | 2022-07-12 | 2022-07-18 |
| H-8  | 1621 | 3.3 | 1.87 | 2022-08-16 | 2022-08-23 |
| I-9  | 1646 | 3.2 | 1.80 | 2022-10-11 | 2022-10-18 |
| J-10 | 1657 | 3.2 | 1.77 | 2023-01-10 | 2023-01-16 |
| K-11 | 1586 | 3.3 | 1.83 | 2023-05-31 | 2023-06-06 |
| L-12 | 1482 | 3.5 | 1.88 | 2023-08-09 | 2023-08-15 |

## 2 Toplines

The remaining portion of this document provides the topline results reported in the release. All values are in percents, rounded to the nearest whole number. As a result, overall and net percentages may not exactly match sum of corresponding percentages. A lowercase e stands in for values that round to 0, but are not exactly 0. Aggregated NET categories are highlighted in grey. Superscript letters indicate statistically significant differences with the corresponding wave.

### FL15.

FL15. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. Cold weather causes the flu. [FALSE]

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (J) 01/16/23 | 1641 | 66        | 45               | 21             | 22       | 18            | 4               | 12                   | 0       |

### FL7.

FL7. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. The seasonal flu shot distributed in the US cannot give you flu. (TRUE)

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (J) 01/16/23 | 1641 | 29        | 11               | 18             | 54       | 22            | 32              | 16                   | e       |

### FL11.

FL11. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. The seasonal flu shot distributed in the U.S. is safe for pregnant women. [TRUE]

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (J) 01/16/23 | 1641 | 10        | 3                | 6              | 51       | 35            | 17              | 39                   | 0       |

### FL16.

FL16. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. If you haven't gotten a seasonal flu shot by November there is no value in getting the shot. [FALSE]

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (J) 01/16/23 | 1641 | 71        | 38               | 33             | 11       | 8             | 2               | 18                   | 0       |

## D49.

D49. Ivermectin is an effective treatment for COVID-19

| Wave         | N    | NET False         | Definitely false  | Probably false  | NET True           | Probably true     | Definitely true  | Refused | Decline | Unsure             |
|--------------|------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| (L) 08/08/23 | 1482 | 35 <sup>c</sup>   | 23 <sup>def</sup> | 12 <sup>c</sup> | 25 <sup>cd</sup>   | 18 <sup>cde</sup> | 7 <sup>c</sup>   | 0       | 0       | 40 <sup>c</sup>    |
| (F) 04/04/22 | 1638 | 39 <sup>c</sup>   | 28 <sup>lc</sup>  | 11 <sup>c</sup> | 22 <sup>cd</sup>   | 16 <sup>cd</sup>  | 7 <sup>c</sup>   | 0       | 0       | 39 <sup>cd</sup>   |
| (E) 01/17/22 | 1656 | 38 <sup>c</sup>   | 29 <sup>lc</sup>  | 10              | 22 <sup>c</sup>    | 14 <sup>lc</sup>  | 8 <sup>c</sup>   | e       | 0       | 39 <sup>c</sup>    |
| (D) 11/09/21 | 1672 | 38 <sup>c</sup>   | 27 <sup>lc</sup>  | 11 <sup>c</sup> | 18 <sup>lcf</sup>  | 12 <sup>lcf</sup> | 6 <sup>c</sup>   | 0       | 0       | 43 <sup>cf</sup>   |
| (C) 09/05/21 | 1669 | 27 <sup>def</sup> | 19 <sup>def</sup> | 8 <sup>df</sup> | 10 <sup>ldef</sup> | 7 <sup>def</sup>  | 3 <sup>def</sup> | 0       | 0       | 63 <sup>ldef</sup> |

## D06B.

D06B. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. / Taking additional COVID-19 vaccines increases your chances of contracting COVID-19. (FALSE)

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (L) 08/08/23 | 1482 | 73        | 45               | 27             | 13       | 9             | 4               | 15                   | 0       |

## D40.

D40. COVID vaccines have been responsible for thousands of deaths in the U.S.

| Wave         | N    | NET False              | Definitely false       | Probably false | NET True               | Probably true      | Definitely true        | Refused | Decline | Unsure |
|--------------|------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| (L) 08/08/23 | 1482 | 52 <sup>bcddefgi</sup> | 32 <sup>bcddefgi</sup> | 21             | 34 <sup>bcddefgi</sup> | 18 <sup>bode</sup> | 16 <sup>bcddefgi</sup> | 0       | 0       | 14     |
| (I) 10/18/22 | 1646 | 61 <sup>lbcd</sup>     | 41 <sup>lbcd</sup>     | 19             | 27 <sup>lbcd</sup>     | 15 <sup>bcd</sup>  | 12 <sup>lc</sup>       | 0       | 0       | 13     |
| (G) 07/18/22 | 1580 | 60 <sup>lbcd</sup>     | 42 <sup>lcd</sup>      | 18             | 27 <sup>lbcd</sup>     | 17 <sup>bcd</sup>  | 10 <sup>l</sup>        | e       | 0       | 14     |
| (F) 04/04/22 | 1638 | 61 <sup>lbc</sup>      | 41 <sup>lbcd</sup>     | 21             | 26 <sup>lc</sup>       | 16 <sup>bcd</sup>  | 10 <sup>l</sup>        | 0       | 0       | 13     |
| (E) 01/17/22 | 1656 | 64 <sup>lc</sup>       | 45 <sup>l</sup>        | 19             | 25 <sup>lc</sup>       | 13 <sup>l</sup>    | 11 <sup>lc</sup>       | 0       | 0       | 11     |
| (D) 11/09/21 | 1672 | 65 <sup>lgi</sup>      | 47 <sup>lfgi</sup>     | 18             | 22 <sup>lgi</sup>      | 12 <sup>lfgi</sup> | 10 <sup>l</sup>        | 0       | 0       | 13     |
| (C) 09/05/21 | 1669 | 69 <sup>lefgi</sup>    | 47 <sup>lfgi</sup>     | 21             | 19 <sup>lefgi</sup>    | 10 <sup>lfgi</sup> | 8 <sup>lei</sup>       | e       | 0       | 13     |
| (B) 06/22/21 | 1719 | 66 <sup>lfgi</sup>     | 46 <sup>lfi</sup>      | 20             | 22 <sup>lgi</sup>      | 11 <sup>lfgi</sup> | 11 <sup>l</sup>        | 0       | 0       | 11     |

## D237.

D237. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. / The COVID-19, seasonal flu, Tdap, and RSV vaccines help protect the recipient from serious infection. (TRUE)

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (L) 08/08/23 | 1482 | 13        | 4                | 8              | 69       | 34            | 35              | 18                   | e       |

## 3 Other Items

Although correct answers to all of the items tended to be positively related to vaccine acceptance, those used for this quiz (above) were the most strongly and independently related to vaccine acceptance. The below items were also considered:

### FL2.

FL2. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. The effectiveness of the seasonal flu shot distributed in the U.S. can vary from year to year. [TRUE]

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (J) 01/16/23 | 1641 | 8         | 2                | 6              | 77       | 39            | 38              | 15                   | e       |

### FL9.

FL9. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. It is possible to spread the seasonal flu to others even if you have no symptoms. [TRUE]

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (J) 01/16/23 | 1641 | 10        | 2                | 8              | 76       | 43            | 32              | 14                   | e       |

### FL10.

FL10. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. The seasonal flu can be effectively treated by antibiotics. [FALSE]

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (J) 01/16/23 | 1641 | 55        | 36               | 19             | 25       | 17            | 7               | 20                   | e       |

### FL13.

FL13. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. Because there are multiple strains of the seasonal flu, it is possible to get the flu more than once in a flu season. [TRUE]

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (J) 01/16/23 | 1641 | 4         | 1                | 3              | 83       | 49            | 34              | 13                   | e       |

### FL14.

FL14. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. There is no treatment for the flu. [FALSE]

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (J) 01/16/23 | 1641 | 64        | 37               | 26             | 23       | 15            | 8               | 13                   | 0       |

### FL17.

FL17. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. Washing your hands helps you avoid getting sick from or spreading the seasonal flu. [TRUE]

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (J) 01/16/23 | 1641 | 3         | 1                | 2              | 93       | 22            | 71              | 3                    | 0       |

### FL18.

FL18. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. Antibiotics do not work on viruses such as those that cause colds, flu, or COVID-19. [TRUE]

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (J) 01/16/23 | 1641 | 20        | 7                | 13             | 60       | 20            | 39              | 20                   | 0       |

### FL19.

FL19. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. A blood transfusion from a person vaccinated against COVID-19 DOES NOT vaccinate the person who receives the blood transfusion. [TRUE]

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (J) 01/16/23 | 1641 | 9         | 4                | 5              | 59       | 35            | 23              | 33                   | e       |

### D09B.

D09B. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. / The COVID-19 vaccines available for use in the U.S. DO NOT prevent infection from COVID-19. (TRUE)

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (L) 08/08/23 | 1482 | 35        | 18               | 17             | 52       | 22            | 30              | 13                   | 0       |

### D12.

D12. Only people whose vitamin D levels are low get COVID-19

| Wave         | N    | NET False        | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Not sure        | Decline | Or are you not sure? |
|--------------|------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|----------------------|
| (L) 08/08/23 | 1482 | 78 <sup>ab</sup> | 53 <sup>ab</sup> | 26             | 5        | 4             | 1               | 0 <sup>ab</sup> | 0       | 17 <sup>ab</sup>     |
| (B) 06/22/21 | 1719 | 71 <sup>l</sup>  | 44 <sup>l</sup>  | 27             | 6        | 5             | e               | 23 <sup>l</sup> | 0       | 0 <sup>l</sup>       |
| (A) 04/19/21 | 1941 | 73 <sup>l</sup>  | 46 <sup>l</sup>  | 27             | 6        | 5             | 1               | 21 <sup>l</sup> | 0       | 0 <sup>l</sup>       |

**D17B.**

D17B. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. / Exposure to wireless technology (wi-fi) increases your risk of cancer. (NO EVIDENCE)

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (L) 08/08/23 | 1482 | 62        | 30               | 31             | 18       | 15            | 3               | 20                   | 0       |

**D28B.**

D28B. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. / Scientists at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) receive royalties when their patents are used in vaccines that are available for use in the U.S. (TRUE)

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (L) 08/08/23 | 1482 | 31        | 14               | 17             | 33       | 26            | 7               | 36                   | 0       |

**D236.**

D236. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. / Because young children's immune systems are not yet fully developed, they have trouble fighting off viruses and bacteria. (TRUE)

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (L) 08/08/23 | 1482 | 16        | 4                | 12             | 72       | 45            | 28              | 12                   | 0       |

**D243.**

D243. Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure. / Ivermectin is one of the World Health Organization's list of essential medications. (TRUE)

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (L) 08/08/23 | 1482 | 30        | 15               | 15             | 22       | 15            | 6               | 49                   | 0       |

**D238.**

Because the COVID-19, seasonal flu, Tdap, and RSV vaccines DO NOT employ a live virus to develop protection from the disease, they CANNOT give the recipient COVID -19, flu, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, or RSV. (TRUE)

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (L) 08/08/23 | 1482 | 16        | 5                | 11             | 51       | 23            | 28              | 33                   | 0       |

**D244.**

If an effective treatment for the disease is available, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) CANNOT issue an emergency-use authorization for a new vaccine for that disease. (TRUE)

| Wave         | N    | NET False | Definitely false | Probably false | NET True | Probably true | Definitely true | Or are you not sure? | Decline |
|--------------|------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| (L) 08/08/23 | 1482 | 40        | 15               | 25             | 24       | 19            | 5               | 35                   | 0       |