

## APPENDIX

Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania  
Annenberg Science Knowledge (ASK) survey, November 3-9, 2021

**See final page for methodology and notes**

**(Asked of Total Respondents)**

Please indicate if you believe the statement below is true, false, or if you aren't sure.

Some health officials at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, also known as the CDC, exaggerated the danger posed by the coronavirus in order to damage the Trump presidency

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
<b>11/9/21</b>	<b>58%</b>	41%	17%	<b>27%</b>	18%	9%	<b>14%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>9/5/21</b>	<b>59%</b>	41%	18%	<b>27%</b>	18%	9%	<b>14%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>6/22/21</b>	<b>58%</b>	40%	17%	<b>28%</b>	18%	10%	<b>15%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>4/19/21</b>	<b>60%</b>	40%	20%	<b>26%</b>	17%	10%	<b>14%</b>	<b>0%</b>

It's safer to get the COVID-19 vaccine than to get COVID-19

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
<b>11/9/21</b>	<b>12%</b>	6%	6%	<b>77%</b>	23%	54%	<b>11%</b>	*
<b>9/5/21</b>	<b>12%</b>	6%	6%	<b>76%</b>	20%	57%	<b>12%</b>	*
<b>6/22/21</b>	<b>12%</b>	6%	6%	<b>76%</b>	22%	54%	<b>12%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>4/19/21</b>	<b>10%</b>	5%	5%	<b>75%</b>	25%	49%	<b>15%</b>	*

The coronavirus was created by the Chinese government as a biological weapon

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
<b>11/9/21</b>	<b>47%</b>	20%	27%	<b>31%</b>	22%	8%	<b>22%</b>	*
<b>9/5/21</b>	<b>46%</b>	20%	26%	<b>31%</b>	24%	7%	<b>23%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>6/22/21</b>	<b>42%</b>	16%	26%	<b>35%</b>	26%	9%	<b>23%</b>	*
<b>4/19/21</b>	<b>49%</b>	24%	24%	<b>31%</b>	24%	7%	<b>21%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>5/24/20</b>	<b>49%</b>	25%	24%	<b>30%</b>	22%	9%	20%	*
<b>3/8/20</b>	<b>53%</b>	26%	27%	<b>23%</b>	18%	5%	24%	*

COVID-19 vaccines are effective in preventing COVID-19

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
<b>11/9/21</b>	<b>18%</b>	11%	6%	<b>73%</b>	27%	46%	<b>9%</b>	*
<b>9/5/21</b>	<b>17%</b>	9%	7%	<b>73%</b>	30%	43%	<b>10%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>6/22/21</b>	<b>12%</b>	5%	7%	<b>78%</b>	32%	46%	<b>10%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>4/19/21</b>	<b>12%</b>	5%	7%	<b>74%</b>	36%	38%	<b>14%</b>	*

The vaccine against COVID-19 being developed with support by Microsoft founder Bill Gates contains microchips that can track the person who has been vaccinated

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	79%	61%	18%	8%	6%	2%	13%	*
9/5/21	76%	58%	18%	9%	8%	1%	15%	*
6/22/21	75%	56%	19%	11%	9%	2%	14%	0%
4/19/21	71%	53%	17%	11%	10%	2%	18%	*
5/24/20	46%	26%	20%	27%	22%	5%	26%	*

The Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines contain fetal tissue

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	56%	38%	17%	15%	11%	3%	30%	*
9/5/21	55%	36%	19%	11%	9%	2%	33%	*
6/22/21	54%	36%	17%	10%	8%	2%	36%	0%
4/19/21	51%	31%	19%	9%	7%	2%	40%	*

Vaccines approved for use in the U.S. are safe

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	10%	3%	6%	79%	36%	43%	12%	0%
9/5/21	11%	4%	7%	76%	37%	39%	13%	0%
6/22/21	11%	5%	7%	77%	39%	38%	11%	0%
4/19/21	9%	3%	6%	77%	43%	34%	14%	*

The pharmaceutical industry created the coronavirus to increase sales of its drugs and vaccines

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	73%	51%	22%	13%	10%	3%	14%	0%
9/5/21	74%	51%	23%	13%	10%	2%	13%	0%
6/22/21	75%	50%	25%	11%	10%	2%	13%	0%
4/19/21	75%	53%	22%	13%	10%	2%	12%	0%

COVID-19 social distancing orders are a way to install 5G wireless communication technology

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	80%	64%	15%	5%	4%	1%	15%	0%
9/5/21	81%	65%	16%	6%	5%	1%	13%	*
6/22/21	79%	63%	16%	6%	6%	1%	15%	*
4/19/21	77%	61%	16%	6%	5%	1%	17%	0%

COVID-19 vaccine changes people's DNA

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	74%	52%	21%	10%	7%	2%	17%	0%
9/5/21	74%	54%	20%	10%	7%	3%	17%	0%
6/22/21	71%	51%	20%	12%	9%	2%	17%	*
4/19/21	69%	47%	22%	8%	7%	2%	22%	*

COVID-19 vaccines cause infertility

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	66%	41%	25%	10%	8%	1%	25%	*
9/5/21	64%	38%	27%	9%	8%	2%	26%	0%
6/22/21	64%	36%	28%	8%	6%	2%	28%	0%

COVID-19 vaccines were designed to control the size of Black and Hispanic communities

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	81%	66%	15%	6%	5%	1%	13%	0%
9/5/21	81%	66%	15%	7%	6%	2%	11%	*
6/22/21	84%	66%	18%	6%	5%	1%	10%	*
4/19/21	83%	66%	16%	5%	5%	1%	12%	*

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that everyone, age 2 and older, vaccinated or unvaccinated against COVID-19, should wear a mask when in contact indoors with those who are not part of their household.

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	11%	5%	6%	74%	36%	38%	15%	0%
9/5/21	9%	4%	5%	79%	36%	43%	12%	*

Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has NO financial stake in any COVID-19 vaccine

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	37%	15%	22%	37%	19%	19%	26%	0%
9/5/21	31%	12%	20%	40%	21%	19%	28%	0%
6/22/21	32%	12%	20%	37%	19%	18%	30%	*
4/19/21	28%	10%	18%	42%	23%	19%	30%	0%

Health officials at the Food and Drug Administration, also known as the FDA, who opposed Donald Trump's re-election delayed the approval of COVID-19 treatments until after the election

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	50%	32%	18%	31%	20%	11%	20%	0%
9/5/21	50%	30%	20%	30%	20%	10%	20%	*
6/22/21	50%	32%	18%	31%	22%	9%	19%	0%
4/19/21	48%	29%	19%	31%	22%	9%	21%	0%

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, also known as the CDC, has admitted that most of the deaths attributed to COVID-19 were actually caused by other serious illnesses and NOT by the coronavirus

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	48%	28%	20%	33%	23%	11%	18%	0%
9/5/21	48%	30%	18%	33%	24%	10%	19%	0%
6/22/21	48%	28%	20%	33%	23%	10%	19%	0%
4/19/21	47%	28%	20%	35%	26%	9%	17%	0%

Allergic reactions to authorized vaccines against COVID-19 are very rare

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	20%	6%	14%	64%	32%	32%	16%	0%
9/5/21	18%	6%	11%	66%	36%	30%	16%	*
6/22/21	21%	7%	14%	63%	32%	30%	16%	0%
4/19/21	20%	7%	12%	61%	35%	26%	19%	*

Being around a person who has been vaccinated against COVID-19 can cause health problems

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
11/9/21	85%	71%	15%	6%	4%	2%	9%	0%
9/5/21	86%	68%	18%	7%	4%	2%	8%	*
6/22/21	87%	67%	20%	5%	3%	2%	8%	0%

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

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
<b>11/9/21</b>	<b>65%</b>	47%	18%	<b>22%</b>	12%	10%	<b>13%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>9/5/21</b>	<b>69%</b>	47%	21%	<b>19%</b>	10%	8%	<b>13%</b>	*
<b>6/22/21</b>	<b>66%</b>	46%	20%	<b>22%</b>	11%	11%	<b>11%</b>	<b>0%</b>

COVID-19 vaccines have an effect on women's menstrual cycles.

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
<b>11/9/21</b>	<b>52%</b>	27%	25%	<b>16%</b>	12%	4%	<b>32%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>9/5/21</b>	<b>50%</b>	25%	25%	<b>13%</b>	10%	3%	<b>37%</b>	*

Ivermectin is an effective treatment for COVID-19

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
<b>11/9/21</b>	<b>38%</b>	27%	11%	<b>18%</b>	12%	6%	<b>43%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>9/5/21</b>	<b>27%</b>	19%	8%	<b>10%</b>	7%	3%	<b>63%</b>	<b>0%</b>

Childhood vaccines contain toxins such as antifreeze

	Definitely/Probably false			Probably/Definitely true			Not Sure	REF
	NET	Definitely false	Probably false	NET	Probably true	Definitely true		
<b>11/9/21</b>	<b>77%</b>	57%	20%	<b>5%</b>	4%	1%	<b>18%</b>	<b>0%</b>

**(Asked of Total Respondents)**

In general, how confident, if at all, are you that the following are providing the public with trustworthy information about means of preventing and treating COVID-19?

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

	Not too/Not at all confident			Somewhat/Very confident			DK/REF
	NET	Not at all confident	Not too confident	NET	Somewhat confident	Very confident	
<b>11/9/21</b>	<b>23%</b>	7%	16%	<b>77%</b>	39%	38%	<b>0%</b>
<b>9/5/21</b>	<b>25%</b>	7%	17%	<b>75%</b>	38%	37%	<b>0%</b>
<b>6/22/21</b>	<b>24%</b>	7%	16%	<b>76%</b>	41%	35%	<b>0%</b>
<b>4/19/21</b>	<b>25%</b>	7%	18%	<b>75%</b>	39%	36%	*

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

	Not too/Not at all confident			Somewhat/Very confident			DK/REF
	NET	Not at all confident	Not too confident	NET	Somewhat confident	Very confident	
<b>11/9/21</b>	<b>24%</b>	6%	19%	<b>76%</b>	43%	32%	*
<b>9/5/21</b>	<b>24%</b>	6%	18%	<b>76%</b>	45%	31%	*
<b>6/22/21</b>	<b>23%</b>	5%	18%	<b>77%</b>	49%	28%	*
<b>4/19/21</b>	<b>25%</b>	6%	19%	<b>75%</b>	48%	28%	*

Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

	Not too/Not at all confident			Somewhat/Very confident			DK/REF
	NET	Not at all confident	Not too confident	NET	Somewhat confident	Very confident	
<b>11/9/21</b>	<b>33%</b>	16%	17%	<b>67%</b>	31%	36%	*
<b>9/5/21</b>	<b>32%</b>	15%	17%	<b>68%</b>	30%	38%	<b>0%</b>
<b>6/22/21</b>	<b>32%</b>	15%	17%	<b>68%</b>	30%	38%	<b>0%</b>
<b>4/19/21</b>	<b>29%</b>	12%	17%	<b>71%</b>	29%	41%	*

**(Asked of Total Respondents)**

In general, how confident, if at all, are you that the doctor or nurse who is your primary health care provider is providing you with trustworthy information about means of preventing and treating COVID-19?

	Not too/Not at all confident			Somewhat/Very confident			I have no primary health care provider	DK/RE F
	NET	Not at all confident	Not too confident	NET	Somewhat confident	Very confident		
11/9/21	8%	1%	7%	85%	35%	50%	7%	*
9/5/21	8%	3%	5%	87%	37%	50%	5%	*
6/22/21	10%	2%	7%	83%	35%	48%	7%	*

**Confidence in Institutions by Heavy Media Use  
11/9/2021**

**% Very/Somewhat Confident in Institutions, Dr. Anthony Fauci, and Primary Health Care Provider by Media Use (Heavy users)<sup>1\*</sup>**

11/9/2021	Total (n=1,672)	Fox News/Mark Levin/Breitbart Conservative Heavy users (n=182)	Very Conservative Heavy users (n=76)	Broadcast-Newspaper Mainstream Heavy users (n=769)	Users of Social Media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or YouTube Heavy users (n=325)
<b>Dr. Anthony Fauci</b>	67%	47%	46%	87%	70%
<b>CDC</b>	77%	59%	50%	91%	75%
<b>FDA</b>	76%	64%	54%	90%	72%
<b>Primary Health Care Provider</b>	85%	90%	86%	95%	89%

\*Updated on 1/21/2022 to correct a data-processing error by SSRS, as a result of which the Social Media category was miscoded. SSRS discovered the error and we have amended this release to reflect the correction. The error does not change the nature of our conclusion. The changes are as follows: Among heavy users of social media, confidence in Fauci, originally reported as 71%, is corrected to 70%; confidence in the CDC, originally reported as 76%, is 75%; confidence in a primary health care provider, originally reported as 86%, is 89%, which is no longer a statistically significant change from 94% in September; and the number of respondents who are heavy users of social media, originally reported as 252, is 325.

<sup>1</sup> For each category listed, respondents were classified as “Heavy users” if they answered 4 or 5 on 0 to 5 scale asking how much information they get from that source. 0 means they get “No information” from the source, and 5 means they get “A lot of information” from the source. Respondents could use any number between 0 and 5. For the **Fox News/Mark Levin/Breitbart conservative**, respondents answered a 4 or 5 when asked how much information they get from sources such as Fox News, Mark Levin, or Breitbart News. For the **Very conservative** media category, respondents answered 4 or 5 when asked how much information they get from sources like Newsmax, OAN, Parler, Gateway Pundit, Telegram. For the **Broadcast-Newspaper Mainstream** combined category, respondents answered a 4 or 5 when asked from Broadcast sources like ABC News, NBC News, CBS News, or newspaper sources like the Associated Press, the news pages of the New York Times or the Wall Street Journal. For the **Social Media** category, respondents answered a 4 or 5 when asked how much information they got from sources such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or YouTube (added this wave).

**Confidence in Institutions by Heavy Media Use**

9/5/2021

**% Very/Somewhat Confident in Institutions, Dr. Anthony Fauci, and Primary Health Care Provider by Media Use (Heavy users)<sup>2</sup>**

<b>9/5/2021</b>	<b>Total (n=1,669)</b>	<b>Fox News/Mark Levin/Breitbart Conservative Heavy users (n=189)</b>	<b>Very Conservative Heavy users (n=91)</b>	<b>Broadcast- Newspaper Mainstream Heavy users (n=806)</b>	<b>Users of Social Media such as Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram Heavy users (n=252)</b>
<b>Dr. Anthony Fauci</b>	68%	49%	31%	87%	76%
<b>CDC</b>	75%	60%	39%**	90%	83%
<b>FDA</b>	76%	68%	51%	90%	80%
<b>Primary Health Care Provider</b>	87%	90%	86%	96%	94%

\*\*Due to a typographical error this number was reported as 59% in the October release

<sup>2</sup> For each category listed, respondents were classified as “Heavy users” if they answered 4 or 5 on 0 to 5 scale asking how much information they get from that source. 0 means they get “No information” from the source, and 5 means they get “A lot of information” from the source. Respondents could use any number between 0 and 5. For the Conservative media, respondents answered a 4 or 5 when asked how much information they get from sources such as **Fox News, Mark Levin, or Breitbart News**. For the **Very conservative** media category, respondents answered 4 or 5 when asked how much information they get from sources like Newsmax, OAN, Parler, Gateway Pundit, or Telegram. For the **Broadcast-Newspaper Mainstream** combined category, respondents answered a 4 or 5 when asked from Broadcast sources like ABC News, NBC News, or CBS News, or newspaper sources like the Associated Press or the news pages of the New York Times or the Wall Street Journal. For the **Social Media** category, respondents answered a 4 or 5 when asked how much information they got from sources such as Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.



**Confidence in Institutions by Heavy Media Use  
6/22/2021**

**% Very/Somewhat Confident in Institutions, Dr. Anthony Fauci, and Primary Health Care Provider by  
Media Use (All the time/Often)<sup>3</sup>**

<b>6/22/21</b>	<b>Total (n=1,719)</b>	<b>Fox News Conservative All the time/Often (n=265)</b>	<b>Very Conservative All the time/Often (n=93)</b>	<b>Broadcast- Newspaper Mainstream All the time/Often (n=888)</b>	<b>Users of Social Media such as Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram All the time/Often (n=372)</b>
<b>Dr. Anthony Fauci</b>	68%	51%	38%	84%	71%
<b>CDC</b>	76%	69%	52%	87%	80%
<b>FDA</b>	77%	68%	55%	87%	80%
<b>Primary Health Care Provider</b>	83%	87%	82%	89%	83%

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<sup>3</sup> **Fox News conservative:** report getting information about the most important issues of the day from sources like Fox News “all the time” or “often”. **Very conservative:** report getting information about the most important issues of the day from sources like Newsmax, OAN, Parler, Gateway Pundit, Telegram “all the time” or “often.”

**Broadcast-Newspaper Mainstream:** report getting information about the most important issues of the day from sources like ABC News, NBC News, CBS News, the Associated Press, the news pages of the New York Times, the Washington Post, or the Wall Street Journal “all the time” or “often.” **Users of Social Media such as Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter** “all the time” or “often.”

## Methodology

The study was 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 from **November 3 – November 9, 2021**, among a sample of **1,672** respondents in English (**1640**) and Spanish (**32**). The web total respondents were **1,621** and there were **51** telephone respondents. Data were weighted to represent the target U.S. adult population. The margin of sampling error for total respondents is +/- **3.3** percentage points at the 95% confidence level. The design effect is **1.86**. More information about SSRS can be obtained by visiting [www.ssrs.com](http://www.ssrs.com).

### **PRIOR WAVE FIELD DATES AND SAMPLE SIZES**

9/5/21 Wave 3 fielded August 16 – September 5, 2021 (*n*=1,669)  
6/22/21 Wave 2 fielded June 9 – June 22, 2021 (*n*=1,719)  
4/19/21 Wave 1 fielded March 30 – April 19, 2021 (*n*=1,941)

*Notes: Data collection was conducted via web and telephone. Verbiage in this topline reflects web wording. Telephone wording may differ slightly due to interviewer-administered data collection.*

*Because percentages are rounded, they may not total 100% overall and NET percentages may not exactly match sum of corresponding percentages. Throughout this topline, the abbreviation "DK/REF" stands for a NET of those who answered "Don't know" or refused to answer via telephone and those who skipped the question (i.e., "Web Blank") in the web survey. The abbreviation "REF" stands for a NET of those who refused to answer via telephone and those who skipped the question in the web survey. An asterisk (\*) indicates less than 0.5%.*