

John Zogby Strategies conducted an online national poll of 1,005 registered likely voters in the 2024 general Election for President. The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 3.2 percentage points. Subgroups have higher error margins. Secure invitations were sent to a random sample of our nationwide panel, totaling approximately 15 million US adults utilizing email, text-to-web, and API to distribute the invitations to the panelists. Survey participants were screened for age, voter registration, and voting likelihood. Slight weights were applied to ensure the sample represented the population's age, education, gender, political party, race, and region.

Executive Analysis

- Regarding trust in government health agencies like the CDC and FDA, three-fifths of voters (59%) report trust vs. just over one-third (36%) who lack trust. Drilling down to those with trust in the health agencies – 21% rate their trust level “completely,” and another 38% have “some trust.” On the flip side, nearly one-quarter (23%) select “not too much trust,” and another 13% have “no trust at all.” The trust/distrust gap is especially noticeable in ideology and urban vs. rural.
- Following a baseline trust question, participants were given opposing viewpoints on vaccine mandates. One statement pointed to the necessity for mandates to prevent the spread of disease. The counter said individuals should be allowed to make personal health decisions. Overall, a slight majority (51%) sided with personal health choices, and 40% opted for mandates as a preventative measure in the name of public health. While liberals intensely side with mandates, and conservatives side with personal choice with equal intensity, just shy of half (48%) of moderates prefer personal choice over mandates (38%). Race is also a factor in this debate, with whites and Hispanics opting for choice and Blacks preferring mandates. Another noticeable divide exists among those with children under 17 living in the home and those who don't have children or are grown up. A little more than half (51%) of parents with younger children want personal choice, vs 51% of their counterparts opting for mandates.
- The next question included the context of a public health emergency and an experimental vaccine expedited for mass deployment. Clauses in the question specifying “not subjected to standard safety testing” and “should not mandate an experimental vaccine as that would require forcing members of the population against their will” no doubt played a role in drastically moving the needle as 72% of respondents sided with this sentiment. Still, nearly one-fifth (17%) held on to their belief that expediting an experimental vaccine and mandating it to the public to lower the infection rate would be necessary.
- Another question dealt with vaccines and product liability. Utilizing messaging from a legal website that argued such legislation existed because excessive lawsuits decades ago stifled vaccine innovation. Survey participants were asked which side more aligned with their viewpoint; *Congress was right to enact a no-fault compensation program as an alternative to lawsuits for those injured by vaccines or anyone harmed by a vaccine should be able to file a lawsuit against the manufacturer is the case for almost all other products*

and services. When put in this light, 57% of the public believe vaccine manufacturers should not have legal immunity through a no-fault compensation program.

- The concluding question asked respondents retrospectively to rate the government's overall handling of Covid. Just over half (52%) rated the government's handling positively (13% said "well," 39% "did the best it could but made mistakes"). On the flip side, 41% rated it negatively (20% said it "failed" and 21% said it was "mishandled").

In the final analysis, the results show a public that is by and large trusting of the CDC/FDA but has reservations about mandating vaccines to those who don't want to take them, especially when testing messaging such as "experimental" and "not subject to standards." Of course, we are not in the thick of a public health emergency. Lastly, giving the best shot at opposing views on the issue of vaccine legal immunity, the public sees no distinction between those seeking litigation against vaccine manufacturers vs. those seeking litigation against the manufacturer of a household item.