

## **DE BEAUMONT FOUNDATION HARVARD T.H. CHAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

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### **U.S. Adults' Views on Routine Childhood Vaccination**

#### **Topline Results**

This survey was fielded for the Harvard Opinion Research Program (HORP) based at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, in partnership with the de Beaumont Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The research was supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the de Beaumont Foundation. It was fielded online and via telephone (cell phone and landline) by SSRS, an independent research company. This survey is nationally representative of U.S. adults. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish, March 10 – 31, 2025, among a sample of 2509 adults ages 18 or older in the United States. The margins of error at the 95% confidence interval are +/-2.3 percentage points for the total sample (n=2509), +/-3.6 for Republicans, including adults who lean Republican (n=1016), +/-3.4 for Democrats, including adults who lean Democrat (n=1132), +/-4.2 for supporters of the “Make America Great Again” movement (n=778), and +/-3.9 for parents or guardians of children under 18 years old (n=777).

NOTE: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding, DK=Don't know, Ref=Refused, NA=Not Applicable, \*percentage less than 0.5.

QV1. First, I'd/we'd like to ask you about routine vaccination requirements for children to attend school. These questions ask specifically about vaccination against childhood preventable diseases such as measles, mumps, and rubella – not about vaccination against COVID-19.

As you may know, children who cannot get vaccinated for medical reasons are never required to get vaccinated in order to attend school. But for all other children to attend school, do you think parents should be required to have them vaccinated against preventable diseases such as measles, mumps, and rubella, or do you think that parents should be able to send their children to school without having them vaccinated?

	All	Democrats/ lean Dem	Republicans/ lean Rep	MAGA Supporters	Parents/ Guardians
Parents should be required to have their children vaccinated against preventable diseases to attend school	79	90	68	66	72
Parents should be able to send their children to school without having them vaccinated against preventable diseases	21	10	32	34	28
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*	*	--	--	
	n=2,509	n=1,132	n=1,016	n=778	n=777

**(Asked of those who support routine vaccine requirements, n=1989)**

QV2. There are lots of reasons people support childhood vaccination requirements for school attendance. Are each of the following a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason that you personally support routine childhood vaccine requirements?

	<b>A reason (NET)</b>	<b>Major reason</b>	<b>Minor reason</b>	<b>Not a reason</b>	<b>Don't know/ Refused/ Web blank</b>
a. I think routine childhood vaccines are effective in protecting most children	98	90	9	1	*
b. I think routine childhood vaccines have been proven safe because they have been around for decades	94	76	18	6	*
c. I think routine childhood vaccines have been proven safe because they have been well-tested	96	80	16	4	*
d. I think requiring routine vaccinations for most children is important to protect children who cannot get vaccinated for medical reasons	96	81	15	3	*
e. I trust the government agencies that approve routine childhood vaccines	82	49	33	18	*
f. I think diseases like measles will come back if routine childhood vaccines are no longer required	97	84	13	3	*
g. I think getting routine childhood vaccines is part of a family's responsibilities to keep school environments healthy for children	98	87	11	2	*

**(Asked of those who do not support routine vaccine requirements, n=518)**

QV3. There are lots of reasons people may not support childhood vaccination requirements for school attendance. Are each of the following a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason that you personally do not support routine childhood vaccine requirements?

	<b>A reason (NET)</b>	<b>Major reason</b>	<b>Minor reason</b>	<b>Not a reason</b>	<b>Don't know/ Refused/ Web blank</b>
a. I do not think routine childhood vaccines are safe for many children	77	40	37	23	*
b. I think routine childhood vaccine requirements exist to make money for companies that develop vaccines	86	54	31	14	-
c. I think the government agencies that enforce routine childhood vaccine requirements are influenced too much by politics and big companies	89	66	23	11	-
d. I worry about a slippery slope where children might be required to get too many vaccines in the future	91	64	27	9	-
e. I don't think routine childhood vaccines are needed because illnesses like measles are not around much anymore	60	17	43	40	-
f. I don't think routine childhood vaccines are needed because children are unlikely to get very sick even if they get infected with these illnesses	62	20	41	38	-
g. I think it should be the parents' choice on whether or not to vaccinate their child	95	79	16	5	-

QV4. How safe do you think routine childhood vaccines are for most children? Again, this refers to vaccines to prevent childhood preventable diseases such as measles, mumps, and rubella – not about vaccines to prevent COVID-19.

	<b>All</b>	<b>Democrats/ lean Dem</b>	<b>Republicans/ lean Rep</b>	<b>MAGA Supporters</b>	<b>Parents/ Guardians</b>
Very/Somewhat safe (NET)	91	97	88	84	88
Very safe	63	80	51	47	54
Somewhat safe	28	17	37	37	34
Not very/not at all safe (NET)	9	3	12	16	12
Not very safe	5	2	8	10	8
Not at all safe	4	1	4	6	4
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	-	-	-	-	-
	n=2,509	n=1,132	n=1,016	n=778	n=777