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

A VIEW FROM 100 DAYS:
PUBLIC EXPECTATIONS ABOUT THE
CHANGING PUBLIC HEALTH LANDSCAPE

Topline Results

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

READ/SHOW TO ALL: This survey is about public health issues, and [IF WEB: I/IF CATI: we] would like to learn about your opinions. To start…

Q_R1. In general, do you feel mostly positive or mostly negative about each of the following health agencies?

	Mostly positive	Mostly negative	I/You feel I/you don't know enough to say	DK/Ref/ Blank	
a. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC	65	20	15	-	n=3343
b. Your state public health department	60	16	23	*	n=3343
c. Your local public health department, meaning your city, county, or regional health department	63	15	22	-	n=3343

Q_R2. [IF ANY Q_R1A-C=3: Regardless of how familiar you are with them, in/ELSE: In] terms of recommendations made to improve health in general, how much do you trust the recommendations of (INSERT ITEM)?

	A great deal	Somewhat	Not too much	Not at all	DK/Ref/ Blank	
a. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC	38	39	15	7	*	n=3343
b. Your state public health department	32	48	14	5	*	n=3343
c. Your local public health department, meaning your city, county, or regional health department	35	47	13	5	*	n=3343

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READ/SHOW TO ALL: These next questions are about federal government public health agencies as a whole, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or CDC; the Department of Health and Human Services or HHS; the Food and Drug Administration or FDA; and the National Institutes of Health or NIH.

Q_R3. Data held for future release in an academic publication.

Q_R4. As you may know, with the inauguration of President Trump, new people are coming in to lead federal public health agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services or HHS; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or CDC; the Food and Drug Administration or FDA; and the National Institutes of Health or NIH. How closely are you following news about the change in leadership of government public health agencies?

	Very closely	**Somewhat closely**	**Not too closely**	**Not at all closely**	DK/Ref/ Blank	
ALL	**26**	**46**	**22**	**5**	**-**	**n=3343**

Q_R5. Whether or not you have been following this news, do you think having these new people in charge of federal public health agencies will make you trust health recommendations coming from these organizations more, less, or about the same as you used to?

	ALL
More (NET)	**28**
Trust a lot more	10
Trust a little more	18
Trust about the same	27
Less (NET)	**44**
Trust a little less	14
Trust a lot less	30
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*
	n=3343

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EACH CASE RANDOMLY ASSIGNED TO
TRACK=1 "the CDC"
TRACK=2 "**your** state public health department"
TRACK=3 "**your** local public health department"

SHOW/READ TO ALL: The next questions ask specifically about your views of [IF TRACK=1: the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or CDC",] [TRACK][IF TRACK=3: meaning your city, county, or regional health department] and how the organization might be influenced by the change in leaders [IF TRACK 2 or 3: at the federal level].

Q_R6. When thinking about the next four years, do you think [TRACK] will be able to function generally (better) or (worse) than it did in recent years, before 2025?

ALL	CDC	State	Local
Generally better	48	47	52
Generally worse	52	53	48
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	-	*	*
	n=1126	n=1103	n=1114

(Asked of those who say [TRACK] will function generally better)
Q_R7. How confident are you that [TRACK] will now do each of the following over the next four years?

	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not too confident	Not at all confident	DK/Ref/ Blank	
a. Make health recommendations based on good research that has been ignored by prior leaders						
CDC	28	53	16	3	-	n=515
State	21	59	17	3	-	n=509
Local	22	59	17	2	-	n=548
b. Focus more on the primary health problems people in the United States face, like chronic illnesses						
CDC	27	54	15	3	*	n=515
State	21	59	17	3	-	n=509
Local	23	56	17	3	-	n=548
c. Improve the health of people [BY TRACK: across the United States / in your state / in your local area]						
CDC	26	52	18	4	-	n=515
State	17	64	17	3	-	n=509
Local	21	60	16	4	-	n=548
d. Reduce financial waste in the organization						
CDC	33	44	19	5	-	n=515
State	20	46	27	7	-	n=509
Local	21	47	27	5	-	n=548
e. Reduce the influence of corporations and big businesses on their health recommendations						
CDC	20	44	28	8	-	n=515
State	15	41	35	9	-	n=509
Local	14	47	32	6	-	n=548
f. Reduce the influence of politics on their health recommendations						
CDC	21	46	27	6	-	n=515
State	17	46	29	8	-	n=509
Local	15	47	32	5	-	n=548
g. Reduce unnecessary involvement in people's personal health decisions						
CDC	19	53	22	5	*	n=515
State	15	57	23	5	-	n=509
Local	16	55	24	5	-	n=548

(Asked of those who say [TRACK] will function generally worse)

Q_R8. How concerned are you that [TRACK] will now do each of the following things over the next four years?

	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not too concerned	Not at all concerned	DK/Ref/ Blank	
a. Make health recommendations based on unproven or fringe science						
CDC	63	26	8	4	-	n=611
State	41	34	19	6	-	n=592
Local	50	31	13	5	-	n=563
b. Pay less attention to health gaps between wealthy and poor people						
CDC	64	25	8	3	-	n=611
State	52	29	14	4	-	n=592
Local	59	26	11	4	-	n=563
c. Pay less attention to health gaps between people who are white and people in racial minority groups						
CDC	61	24	11	5	-	n=611
State	44	29	21	6	-	n=592
Local	46	31	15	8	*	n=563
d. Scale back or cut programs too much						
CDC	75	18	5	3	-	n=611
State	57	30	9	4	-	n=592
Local	63	29	6	2	-	n=563
e. Make health recommendations that are influenced by corporations and big businesses						
CDC	68	23	6	3	-	n=611
State	53	32	12	2	-	n=592
Local	55	33	9	3	-	n=563
f. Make health recommendations that are influenced by politics						
CDC	76	20	3	2	-	n=611
State	61	28	9	3	-	n=592
Local	62	29	7	2	-	n=563
g. Reduce public access to important health information, like information about vaccines						
CDC	70	22	5	3	-	n=611
State	50	25	17	8	-	n=592
Local	54	30	12	4	-	n=563
h. Downplay important health problems, like infectious disease outbreaks						
CDC	72	16	9	3	-	n=611
State	49	28	15	7	-	n=592
Local	55	29	12	4	-	n=563

(Each respondent was shown a random 7 items)

Q_R9. In your view, should each of the following health issues be a top priority for [TRACK] in the next four years, a lower priority, or should they not address this issue at all?

	A top priority	A lower priority	Should not address this issue	DK/Ref/ Blank	
a. Protecting people from common health risks like foodborne illness in restaurants or heat stroke in hot weather					
CDC	59	36	4	-	n=777
State	61	36	3	-	n=762
Local	64	34	3	-	n=790
b. Protecting people from common infectious diseases, like the flu					
CDC	63	34	3	-	n=812
State	63	32	5	*	n=776
Local	64	33	2	*	n=773
c. Protecting against new viruses that could become a pandemic, like the bird flu					
CDC	82	15	3	*	n=810
State	80	17	3	*	n=792
Local	77	18	4	*	n=780
d. Addressing mental illness					
CDC	79	18	3	*	n=794
State	85	14	1	*	n=760
Local	81	16	2	*	n=789
e. Preventing and addressing opioid and other substance addiction					
CDC	75	21	4	*	n=778
State	79	19	2	*	n=783
Local	77	20	2	*	n=772
f. Preventing and reducing tobacco and vaping use					
CDC	45	45	10	*	n=788
State	48	43	9	*	n=766
Local	46	45	8	*	n=786
g. Reducing maternal and infant mortality, or deaths among moms and babies					
CDC	82	15	3	*	n=775
State	81	17	2	*	n=791
Local	82	16	2	*	n=775
h. Preventing chronic diseases like heart disease, cancer, and diabetes					
CDC	89	10	2	*	n=803
State	86	13	1	-	n=739
Local	84	13	2	*	n=775
i. Ensuring the safety of tap water					
CDC	82	15	3	*	n=756
State	86	12	1	1	n=785
Local	86	12	2	*	n=769
j. Promoting healthier food and nutrition					
CDC	71	24	5	*	n=789
State	73	23	4	*	n=767
Local	72	23	4	*	n=789

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SHOW/READ TO ALL: These next questions are about policies in different areas of public health.

GROUPS A-D; RANDOMIZE RESPONDENTS TO 1 GROUP EACH

RANDOMIZE GROUP D INTO GROUPS D1 AND D2

(Asked of Groups A, B, C)

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
Parents should be required to have their children vaccinated against preventable diseases to attend school	79
Parents should be able to send their children to school without having them vaccinated against preventable diseases	21
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	*
	n=2,509

(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 <u>you</u> personally support routine childhood vaccine requirements?

	A reason (NET)	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason	DK/Ref/ Blank
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?

	A reason (NET)	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason	DK/Ref/ Blank
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.

	All
Very/Somewhat safe (NET)	91
Very safe	63
Somewhat safe	28
Not very/not at all safe (NET)	9
Not very safe	5
Not at all safe	4
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	-
	n=2,509

(Asked of Group A and Group D 1)
QTW_1. Now I'd/we'd like to ask you about tap water. How concerned are you, if at all, about the safety of your tap water?

	All
Very/Somewhat concerned (NET)	66
Very concerned	33
Somewhat concerned	34
Not too/Not at all concerned (NET)	34
Not too concerned	23
Not at all concerned	10
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	-
	n=1,219

(Asked of Group A and Group D 1)
QTW_2. How concerned are you, if at all, about each of the following being in your tap water?

	Very/ Somewhat Concerned (NET)	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not too/ Not at all concerned (NET)	Not too concerned	Not at all concerned	I feel I don't know enough to say	DK/ Ref/ Blank	
a. Fluoride	47	25	22	48	24	24	5	-	n=1,219
b. Lead	71	46	25	25	17	8	4	-	n=1,219
c. PFAS, or forever chemicals	75	49	27	17	12	5	8	-	n=1,219
d. Microplastics	76	47	29	18	11	6	7	-	n=1,219
e. Pesticides	75	49	26	21	14	7	4	-	n=1,219

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(Asked of Group B and D)

QF_1. Now I'd/we'd like to ask you about food and nutrition. Do you think that regularly consuming each of the following poses a major health risk, a minor health risk, or no health risk for most children in the U.S.?

	Health risk (NET)	Major health risk	Minor health risk	No health risk	DK/Ref/ Blank	
a. Highly processed, or ultra-processed, food	98	76	22	2	-	n=1,654
b. Additives like food dyes	95	54	41	5	-	n=1,654
c. Sugary foods and drinks	98	70	28	2	-	n=1,654
d. Food that is high in sodium, or salt	97	60	37	3	-	n=1,654

SHOW/READ TO GROUP B AND D: Next, I/we would like to get your views about federal nutrition assistance programs.

RANDOMIZE EACH CASE TO 1 PROGRAM GROUP:
PROGRAM =1 – "the SNAP program"
PROGRAM=2 – "the WIC program"
PROGRAM =3 – "the school lunch and breakfast programs"

(Asked of Group B and D assigned to SNAP)
QF_2a. In general, do you feel mostly positive or mostly negative about the SNAP program, also called the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or Food Stamps, a federal program that helps low-income families afford food?

	All
Mostly positive	63
Mostly negative	22
You/I feel you/I don't know enough to say	16
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	-
	n=575

(Asked of Group B and D assigned to WIC)
QF_2b. In general, do you feel mostly positive or mostly negative about the WIC program, also called the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, a federal nutrition assistance program that provides free, healthy food for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, or postpartum women, infants, and children under 5?

	All
Mostly positive	74
Mostly negative	10
You/I feel you/I don't know enough to say	16
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	-
	n=529

(Asked of Group B and D assigned to School Lunch and Breakfast Programs)
QF_2c. In general, do you feel mostly positive or mostly negative about the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, federal nutrition assistance programs that provide low-cost or free meals to children in schools?

	All
Mostly positive	71
Mostly negative	13
You/I feel you/I don't know enough to say	15
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	-
	n=550

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(Asked of Groups B & D)

QF_3. Regardless of how familiar you are with [INSERT PROGRAM GROUP R WAS ASSIGNED TO], how concerned are you, if at all, that the federal government will do each of the following during the next four years?

	Very/ Somewhat Concerned (NET)	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not too/ Not at all concerned (NET)	Not too concerned	Not at all concerned	DK/ Ref/ Blank	
a. Scale back or cut this program too much								
SNAP	67	45	22	33	23	10	-	n=575
WIC	78	49	29	22	16	6	-	n=529
School Lunch and Breakfast Programs	76	48	28	24	16	8	-	n=550
b. Make decisions about this program that are influenced too much by politics								
SNAP	75	52	23	25	16	9	-	n=575
WIC	80	54	26	20	15	6	-	n=529
School Lunch and Breakfast Programs	81	53	27	19	15	5	-	n=550
c. Make it too difficult for people to enroll in this program if they need it								
SNAP	71	46	25	29	19	10	-	n=575
WIC	73	46	27	27	19	8	-	n=529
School Lunch and Breakfast Programs	70	43	27	29	21	9	1	n=550
d. Make decisions about this program that make health gaps between wealthy and poor people worse								
SNAP	72	46	26	28	17	10	-	n=575
WIC	77	49	28	23	16	7	-	n=529
School Lunch and Breakfast Programs	73	47	26	27	18	9	-	n=550

SHOW/READ TO IF GROUP C OR GROUP D 2: Now I'd/we'd like to ask you about your views on reproductive health care, contraception, and abortion.

(Asked of Group C and D2)
QA_1: Which comes closest to your opinion on abortion? Do you think abortion should be…

	All
Legal (NET)	68
Legal in all cases	31
Legal in most cases	37
Illegal (NET)	32
Illegal in most cases	26
Illegal in all cases	6
Don't know/Refused/Web blank	-
	n=1,304

QA_2. How concerned are you, if at all, that the federal government will do each of the following during the next four years? IF CATI: How concerned are you that it will [INSERT ITEM]?

	Very/ Somewhat Concerned (NET)	**Very concerned**	**Somewhat concerned**	**Not too/ Not at all concerned (NET)**	**Not too concerned**	**Not at all concerned**	**DK/Ref / Blank**	
b. Make it more difficult for people to get an abortion	66	46	20	34	16	18	-	n=1,304
c. Make it more difficult for people to get emergency contraception, like the morning-after pill	67	48	19	33	16	16	-	n=1,304
d. Make it more difficult for people to get routine contraception, like the pill	67	45	22	33	16	17	-	n=1,304
e. Make it more difficult for physicians who specialize in caring for high-risk pregnancies to treat patients	72	53	19	28	14	14	-	n=1,304

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