

One Year In: Public Views of a Changing Public Health Landscape

June 2026

de Beaumont



HARVARD
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One Year In: Public Views of a Changing Public Health Landscape is a national poll by Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and the de Beaumont Foundation's Public Health Listening Lab. The poll was conducted March 19 – April 1, 2026, among a probability-based, nationally representative sample of 2205 U.S. adults ages 18 and older, to better understand people's views about the changing public health landscape one year into the new federal administration.

KEY FINDINGS

- **One year into new leadership of the U.S. public health system, trust in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other federal health institutions has dropped dramatically.** Only 50% of the public says they now trust health recommendations from the CDC, [compared to 77% in spring 2025](#).
- **State and local public health agencies are now substantially more trusted than the CDC.** Trust in state and local public health agencies has also [fallen in the last year, but not by as much](#). A majority of the public still trusts health recommendations from their local (70%) and state (66%) public health agencies.
- **A slim majority disapproves of federal public health agency actions in the past year, with a high level of concern about the influence of leaders' personal beliefs, misplaced priorities, and budget cuts.** With 55% public disapproval of federal health agencies' actions in the past year, top concerns about their actions under new leadership include wide agreement that their recommendations have been influenced too much by leaders' personal beliefs (68%), leaders are focused on the wrong priorities (66%), and programs have been cut or scaled back too much (61%).
- **Public support for routine childhood vaccination policies remains strong, though a substantial minority supports reductions to the routine vaccine schedule.** More than three-quarters (77%) of the public – including majorities across party lines – say that parents should be required to vaccinate their children in order to attend school. A majority (58%) also oppose reducing the childhood vaccine schedule, which forms the basis of childhood vaccine requirements, but there is substantial minority support (42%) for this change.
- **Views of vaccine safety have dropped closer to pre-COVID-19 levels.** As another indication that support for vaccines may be softening, the fraction of the public saying childhood vaccines are “very safe” has dipped from 63% in 2025 to 57% in 2026, trending back to pre-pandemic levels (54% in 2019) from a high of 70% during COVID-19 (2022).
- **A majority of the public supports federal changes to the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*, with higher support for individual recommendations on less sugar and more protein.** Six in ten (60%) support the recent changes to the food pyramid and dietary guidelines, and even stronger majorities support specific measures, like recommendations to avoid or sharply limit sugar and highly-processed food (90%) and to increase protein intake (85%). A much smaller majority (62%) supports recommendations to increase beef and whole milk consumption.

IMPLICATIONS

- These national poll findings show concerning declines in the American public's trust in federal health agencies one year into the new federal administration.
- Declines in trust reflect tremendous partisan division, which creates concerns about a future of trust in health agencies that is largely partisan-driven. More efforts are needed to ensure there is agreement on the underlying evidence about health issues, even when there is policy debate between parties.
- Views of specific policy actions provide insights for opportunities to bring people together. The popular recommendations in the revised *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* and the food pyramid are truly bipartisan, suggesting a path forward on issues where public opinion aligns with evidence-based health guidance.
- Support around vaccine policy also has bipartisan support. However, public health leaders need to pay more attention to differing concerns across political groups to ensure a more consistent foundation of information and that all people feel their perspectives are respected.
- The relatively smaller declines in trust in state and local public health agencies suggest a critical opportunity for these organizations to step into leadership roles. As gaps in trust and leadership at the federal level emerge, state and local health agencies are better positioned – and increasingly expected – to step forward and lead the nation's health efforts through tailored, empathic outreach and communications that meet communities where they are.
- Engaging effectively across party lines is critical for creating policies and approaches that support the health and well-being of all people in the United States. Supporting state and local public health agencies in fostering this dialogue and sharing information with the public in a way that accounts for differing perspectives will be an essential element in bringing people together.

ONE YEAR IN: PUBLIC VIEWS OF A CHANGING PUBLIC HEALTH LANDSCAPE

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

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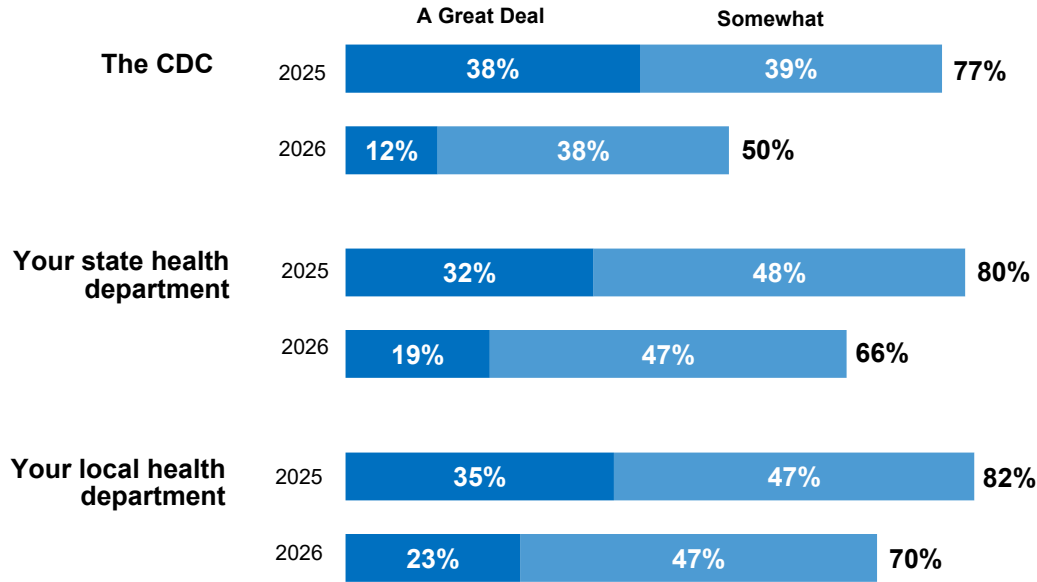
ABOUT THIS POLL

This poll was conducted March 19 – April 1, 2026, among a probability-based, nationally representative sample of U.S. adults ages 18 and older. Adults were interviewed via the internet and telephone, in English and Spanish. The total sample is comprised of n=2205 adults. The margin of error at the 95% confidence interval is ± 2.0 percentage points. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding or the inclusion of “don’t know” or missing responses. See the Methodology section for additional information and the Topline for full question wording.

I. TRACKING TRUST IN PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTIONS

Figure 1. Changes in Public Trust in Federal, State, and Local Public Health Agencies, 2025 – 2026

Percent saying they trust the recommendations of public health agencies to improve health:



Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation polls: March 19 – April 1, 2026, n=2205 U.S. adults ages 18 and older, and March 10 – 31, 2025, n=3343 U.S. adults.

One year into new leadership of the U.S. public health system, trust in public health agencies – and trust in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in particular – has dropped dramatically (Figure 1). Only 50% of the public now says they trust health recommendations from the CDC, including about a third (38%) who trust “somewhat” and only 12% who trust “a great deal.” Trust in the CDC remained relatively stable in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, hovering around 75% from 2022 to 2025.¹ But a year into new leadership, it has fallen to 50% in 2026 [from 77% in spring 2025](#).

State and local public health agencies are now substantially more trusted than the CDC. Trust in state and local public health agencies has also fallen in the last year, but not by as much. A majority of the public still trusts health recommendations from their state public health agency (66%, down from [80% in spring 2025](#)) and local public health agency (70%, down from [82% in spring 2025](#)).

¹ Percent of U.S. adults ages 18+ who trust health recommendation from the CDC: 50% in 2026, 77% in 2025, 78% in Nov 2023, 77% in July 2023, 74% in Feb 2022. Prior polls of U.S. adults: 2025 Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation (n=3,343); 2023 and 2022 polls conducted by Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)/National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) (Feb 2022 n=4208, July 2023 n=1430, Nov 2023 n=1632).

Table 1. Changes in Public Trust in the CDC, by Demographic Characteristics

Percent saying they trust the recommendations of public health agencies to improve health:			
	2025	2026	Percentage Point (pp) Change
All U.S. Adults	77%	50%	-27pp
Gender			
Men	75%	52%	-23pp
Women	80%	48%	-32pp
Race/Ethnicity			
White, non-Hispanic	76%	50%	-26pp
Black	77%	43%	-34pp
Hispanic/Latino	81%	50%	-31pp
Metropolitan Status			
Urban	80%	48%	-32pp
Suburban	78%	50%	-28pp
Rural	72%	59%	-13pp
Education			
<College	76%	53%	-23pp
College	80%	46%	-34pp
Political Party			
Democrat	92%	34%	-58pp
Independent	77%	47%	-30pp
Republican	63%	67%	+4pp

Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation polls: March 19 – April 1, 2026, n=2205 U.S. adults ages 18 and older and March 10 – 31, 2025, n=3343 U.S. adults. Changes of at least 30 percentage points are highlighted in red. Subgroup sample sizes are shown in the Methodology.

This decline in trust is driven by deep partisan divides. From 2025 to 2026, trust in CDC health recommendations has fallen from 92% to 34% among Democrats and from 77% to 47% among Independents, (92% to 34%) and 30 percentage points among Independents (77% to 47%), while trust among Republicans has increased very slightly from 63% to 67% (Table 1). The steep drop in public trust also translates to losses in trust across many demographic groups. Trust in the CDC has fallen more than 30 percentage points among women (80% to 48%); Black and Hispanic adults (77% to 43% and 81% to 50% respectively); those living in urban areas (80% to 48%); and those with a college degree (80% to 46%).

Table 2. Sources Trusted by the Public for Health Recommendations

Percent saying they trust the recommendations of _____ to improve health:	
Nurses	89%
Doctors	88%
Pharmacists	85%
Your friends and family	81%
Health associations and foundations like the ACS, ADA, and AHA	80%
Healthcare provider groups like the AMA, AAP, and ANA	79%
University scientists and researchers	78%
Your local health department	70%
Your state health department	66%
The Surgeon General	59%
Leaders in your religious organization*	58%
U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	53%
The National Institutes of Health (NIH)	53%
Your state elected officials, like the governor	50%
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	50%
Your local elected officials, like the mayor	48%

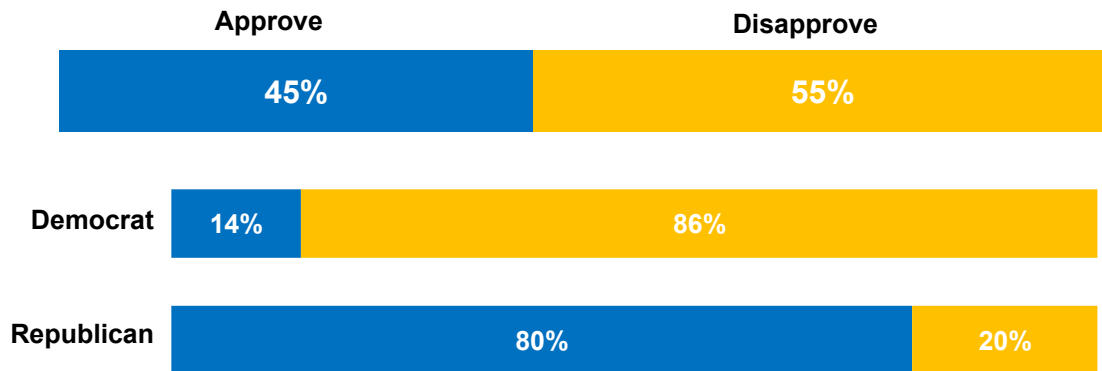
*Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation poll, March 19 – April 1, 2026, n=907-2205 U.S. adults ages 18 and older. ACS=American Cancer Society, ADA=American Diabetes Association, AHA= American Heart Association, AMA=American Medical Association, AAP=American Academy of Pediatrics, ANA= American Nurses' Association. *Only analyzed among the subset of those who have a religious leader.*

When examining public trust across prominent leaders and groups (Table 2), the top trusted sources for health recommendations in 2026 are clinicians – nurses (89%), doctors (88%), and pharmacists (85%) – followed by friends and family (81%), nonprofit health and healthcare groups (79% – 80%), and researchers (78%). The public identifies their own local (70%) and state (66%) health departments as the most-trusted government agencies, followed by their religious leaders (58% among those who have a religious leader) and government health officials and groups: the Surgeon General (59%), the Food and Drug Administration (53%), the National Institutes of Health (53%), their state elected officials like the governor (50%), the CDC (50%), and their local elected officials like the mayor (48%).

II. VIEWS OF FEDERAL PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIONS

Figure 2. Public Approval of Federal Public Health Agencies' Actions, Overall and by Party

Percent who approve/disapprove what federal public health agencies have been doing since the start of the current Trump administration in early 2025:

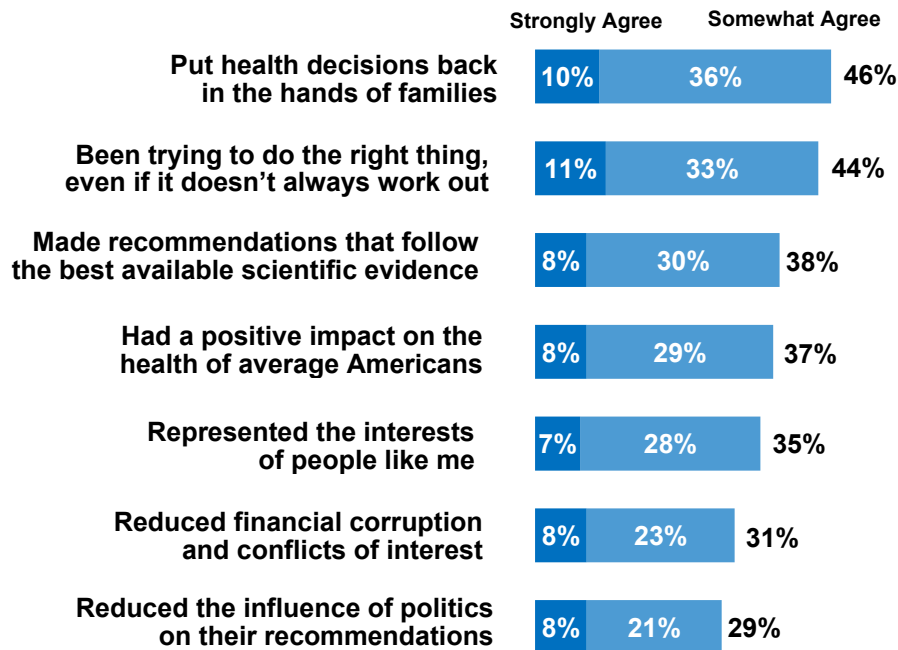


Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation poll, March 19 – April 1, 2026, n=2205 U.S. adults ages 18 and older, including n=940 Democrats/leaners and n=895 Republicans/leaners.

A slim majority of the public (55%) disapproves of what federal public health agencies have been doing since the start of the current Trump administration in early 2025, while 45% approves (Figure 2). Approval is strongly linked to partisan identity: only 14% of Democrats approve of federal public health agency actions in the past year, while most Republicans (80%) approve.

Figure 3. Agreement with Positive Statements about Federal Public Health Agencies' Actions

Percent agreeing that, since 2025, federal public health agencies have...

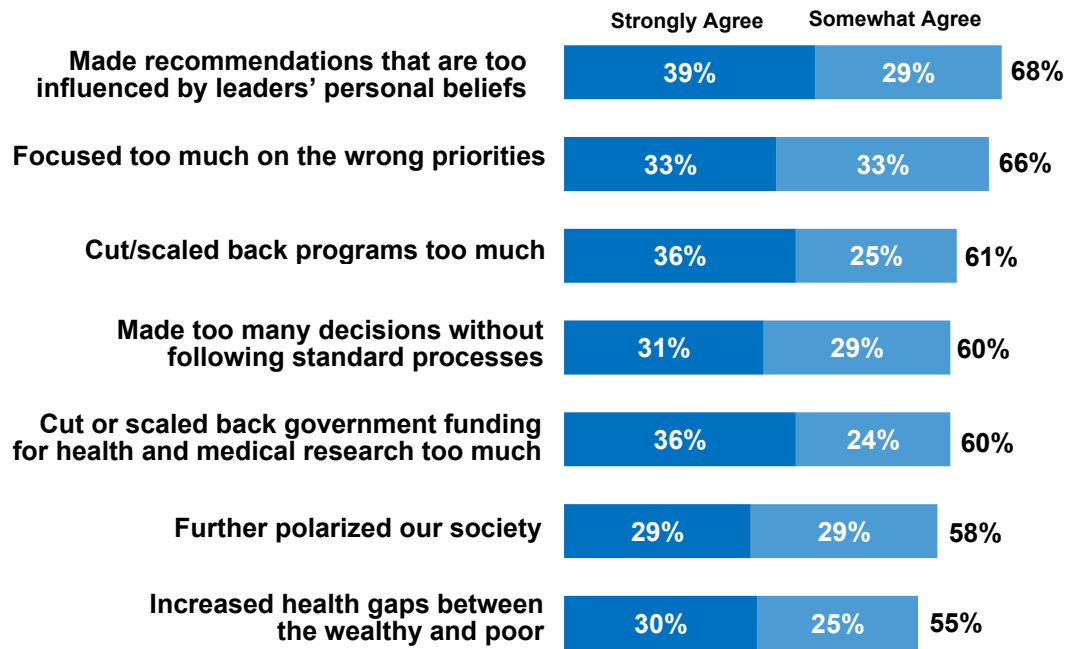


Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation poll, March 19 – April 1, 2026, asked among a random subset of n=1575 U.S. adults ages 18 and older.

When given neutral and positive statements on what federal health agencies have been doing under new leadership, less than half of people agree that agencies have put decisions back in the hands of families (46%) or have been trying to do the right thing (44%) (Figure 3). Only about a third agree that federal health agencies have made recommendations that follow the best available scientific evidence (38%), have had a positive impact on the health of average Americans (37%), or have represented interests of people like them (35%). Fewer than a third agree that federal health agencies have reduced financial corruption and conflicts of interest (31%) or have reduced the influence of politics on their recommendations (29%).

Figure 4. Agreement with Negative Statements about Federal Public Health Agencies' Actions

Percent agreeing that, since 2025, federal public health agencies have...

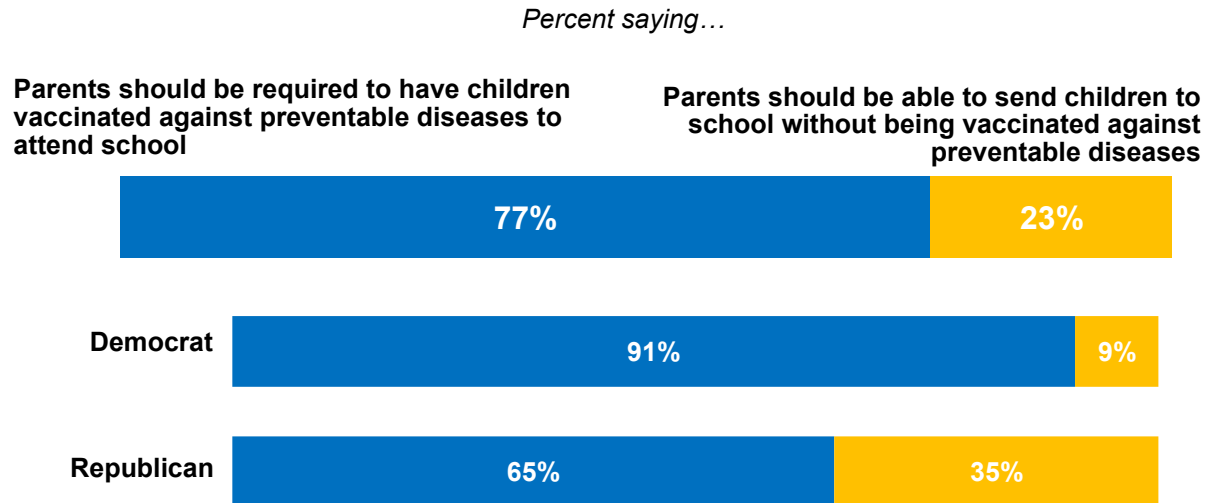


Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation poll, March 19 – April 1, 2026, asked among a random subset of n=1575 U.S. adults ages 18 and older.

Majorities agree with all negative statements about what federal health agencies have been doing under new leadership (Figure 4). About two-thirds of people agree that federal health agencies have made recommendations that are too influenced by leaders' personal beliefs (68%) and have focused too much on the wrong priorities (66%). Other leading concerns include about six in ten agreeing that agencies have cut or scaled back programs too much (61%), have made too many decisions without following standard processes (60%), and have cut or scaled back government funding for health and medical research too much (60%). In addition, 58% of people agree that federal health agencies have further polarized our society (58%) and have increased health gaps between the wealthy and poor (55%).

III. VIEWS OF CHILDHOOD VACCINES AND POLICY CHANGES

Figure 5. Support for Routine Childhood Vaccination Requirements, Overall and by Party



Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation poll, March 19 – April 1, 2026, among a subset of n=1103 U.S. adults ages 18 and older, including n=480 Democrats/leaners and n=448 Republicans/leaners.

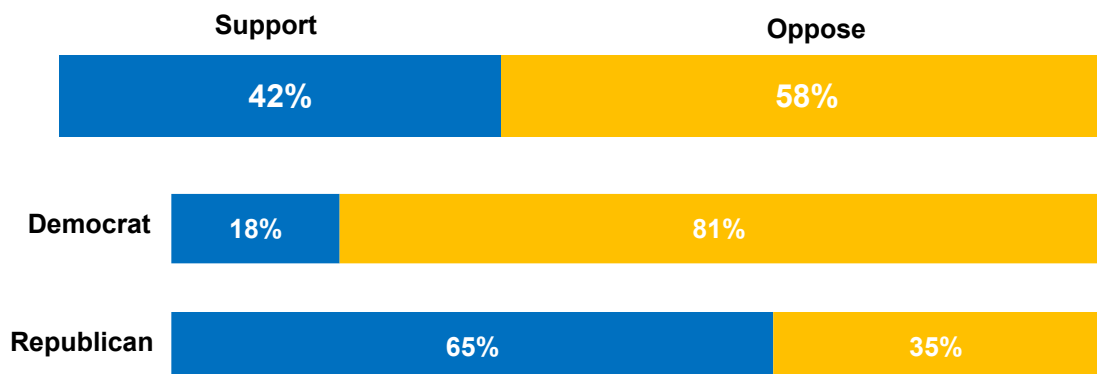
There is strong majority support for routine childhood vaccination requirements (Figure 5). More than three-quarters (77%) of the public says that parents should be required to vaccinate their children in order to attend school, a figure that has been nearly the same since 2021 (range of 74% to 79% between 2021 and 2025).²

Though there are differences in vaccine support by political party, notable majorities of people across political parties – 91% of Democrats and 65% of Republicans – say that parents should be required to vaccinate their children in order to attend school.

² Percent of U.S. adults ages 18+ saying parents should be required to have children vaccinated to attend school: 79% in 2025, 74% in 2022, and 78% in 2021. Prior polls of U.S. adults: 2025 Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation (n=3,343); 2021 and 2022 polls conducted by Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)/National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) (Nov 2022 n=1813, 2021 n=2500).

Figure 6. Support for Reducing Vaccines in the Childhood Vaccine Schedule, Overall and by Party

Percent who support/oppose changing the childhood vaccine schedule, based on what they have seen or heard:

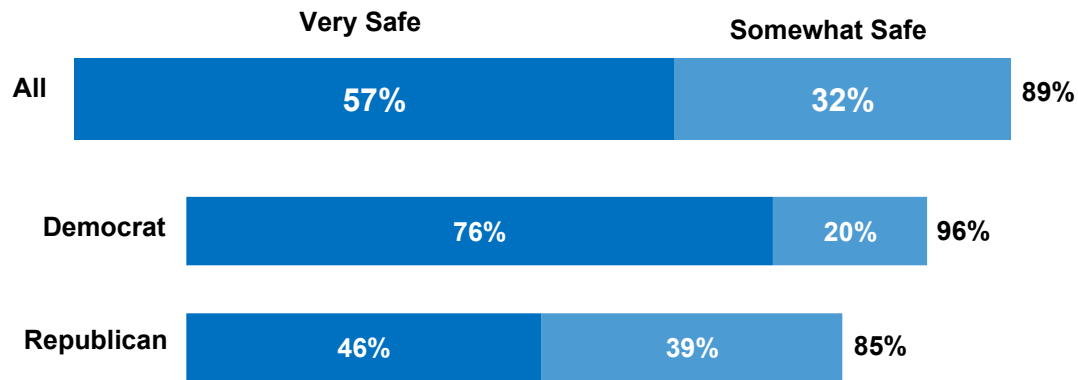


Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation poll, March 19 – April 1, 2026, among a subset of n=1103 U.S. adults ages 18 and older, including n=480 Democrats/leaners and n=448 Republicans/leaners.

One indication of possible softening in vaccine support is that even though a majority (58%) of the public opposes reducing the childhood vaccine schedule, which forms the basis of childhood vaccine requirements, a substantial minority (42%) supports this policy change (Figure 6). Support for changing the childhood vaccine schedule varies strongly by party, with nearly two thirds of Republicans (65%) saying they support reducing the childhood vaccine schedule, compared to fewer than one in five Democrats (18%).

Figure 7. Views on Childhood Vaccine Safety, Overall and by Party

Percent saying for most children, routine childhood vaccines are:



Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation poll, March 19 – April 1, 2026, among a subset of n=1103 U.S. adults ages 18 and older, including n=480 Democrats/leaners and n=448 Republicans/leaners.

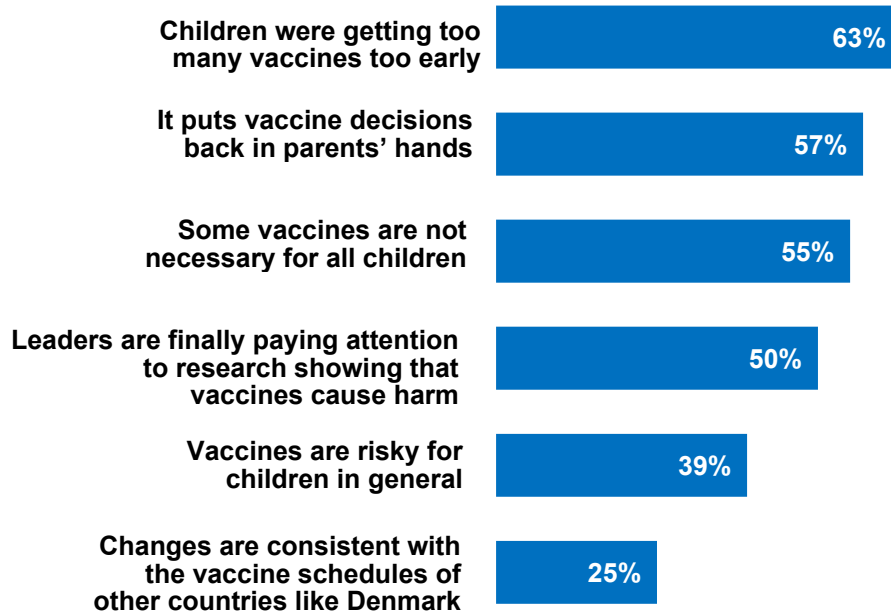
Another indication of possible softening vaccine support comes from a slight decrease in the fraction of people saying that childhood vaccines are safe (Figure 7). Overall views on childhood vaccine safety are currently high at 89%, but this fraction has declined slightly from 94% during the COVID-19 pandemic (2022).³ This includes a decline in the fraction of the public saying childhood vaccines are “very safe” from 63% in 2025 to 57% in 2026, trending back to pre-pandemic levels (54% in 2019) from a high of 70% during peak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Strong shares of adults in both parties say vaccines are safe overall, with 85% of Republicans and 96% of Democrats saying childhood vaccines are “very safe” or “somewhat safe,” but there is a wide gap in the subset saying vaccines are “very safe” (46% of Republicans versus 76% of Democrats).

³ Prior polls of U.S. adults: 2025 Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation (n=2,509); 2019, 2021, and 2022 polls conducted by Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)/National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) (Nov 2022 n=1813, 2021 n=2500, 2019 n=1550).

Figure 8. Reasons Why People Support Reducing the Childhood Vaccine Schedule

Among those who support changing the childhood vaccine schedule, percent saying each is a “major reason” why:

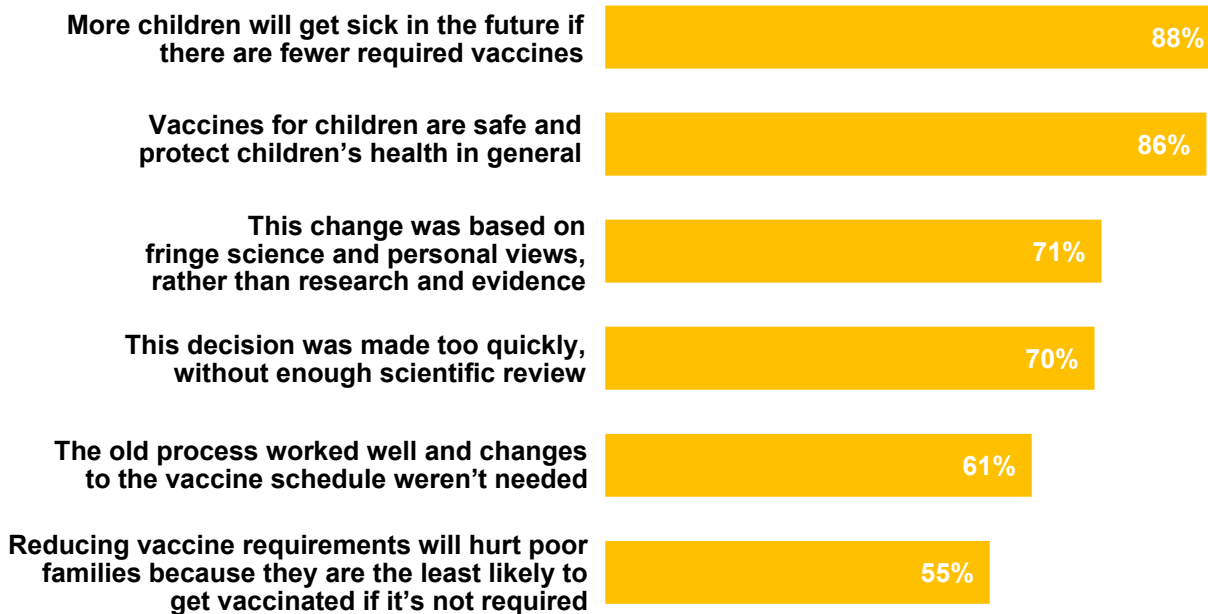


Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation poll, March 19 – April 1, 2026, asked among n=473 U.S. adults ages 18 and older who support changing the childhood vaccine schedule.

Among those who support reducing the childhood vaccine schedule, major reasons why include a belief that children were getting too many vaccines too early (63%), that this puts vaccine decisions back in parents' hands (57%), that some vaccines are not necessary for all children (55%), and that leaders are finally paying attention to research showing that vaccines cause harm (50%) (Figure 8). Fewer say their major reasons for support are that vaccines are risky for children in general (39%) and that changes are consistent with the vaccine schedules of other countries like Denmark (25%).

Figure 9. Reasons Why People Oppose Reducing the Childhood Vaccine Schedule

Among those who oppose changing the childhood vaccine schedule, percent saying each is a “major reason” why:

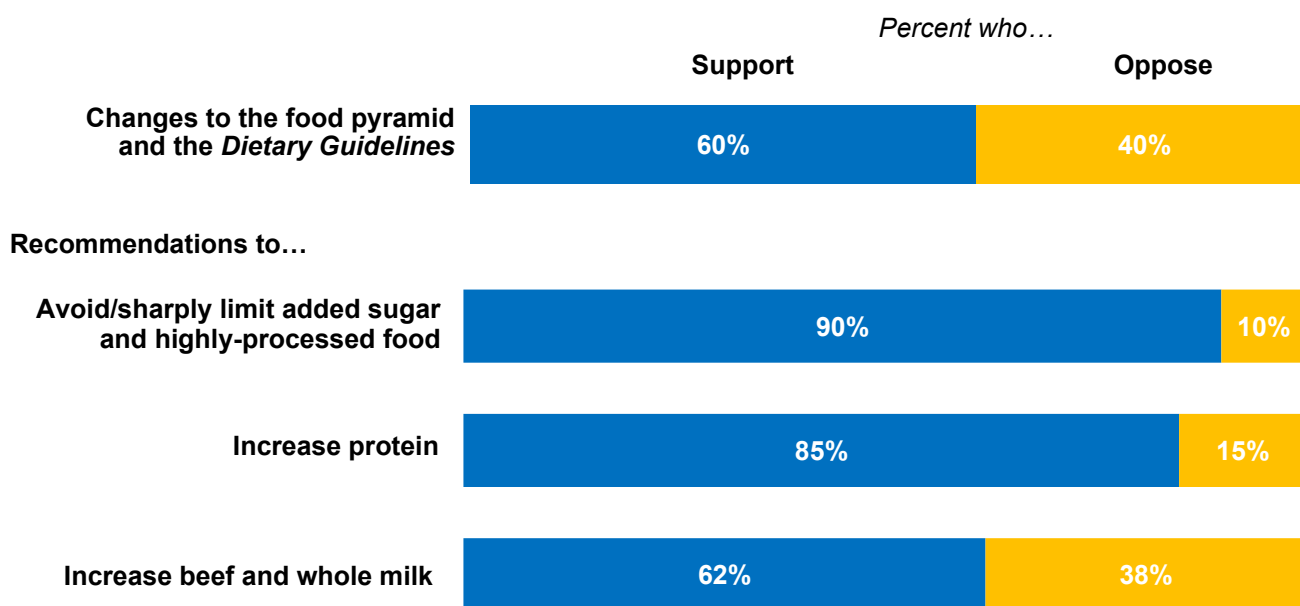


Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation poll, March 19 – April 1, 2026, asked among n=629 U.S. adults ages 18 and older who oppose changing the childhood vaccine schedule.

Among those who oppose reducing the childhood vaccine schedule, major reasons why include a high fraction saying that more children will get sick with fewer vaccinations (88%) and a belief that vaccines are generally safe and protect children's health (86%) (Figure 9). About seven in ten say their major reasons for not supporting this change are that it was based on fringe science and personal views, rather than research and evidence (71%) and this decision was made too quickly, without enough scientific review (70%). A smaller majority say the old process worked well and changes to the vaccine schedule weren't needed (61%) and reducing vaccine requirements will hurt poor families because they are the least likely to get vaccinated if it's not required (55%).

III. VIEWS OF CHANGES TO THE FOOD PYRAMID AND THE DIETARY GUIDELINES

Figure 10. Support for Changes to the Food Pyramid and the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*



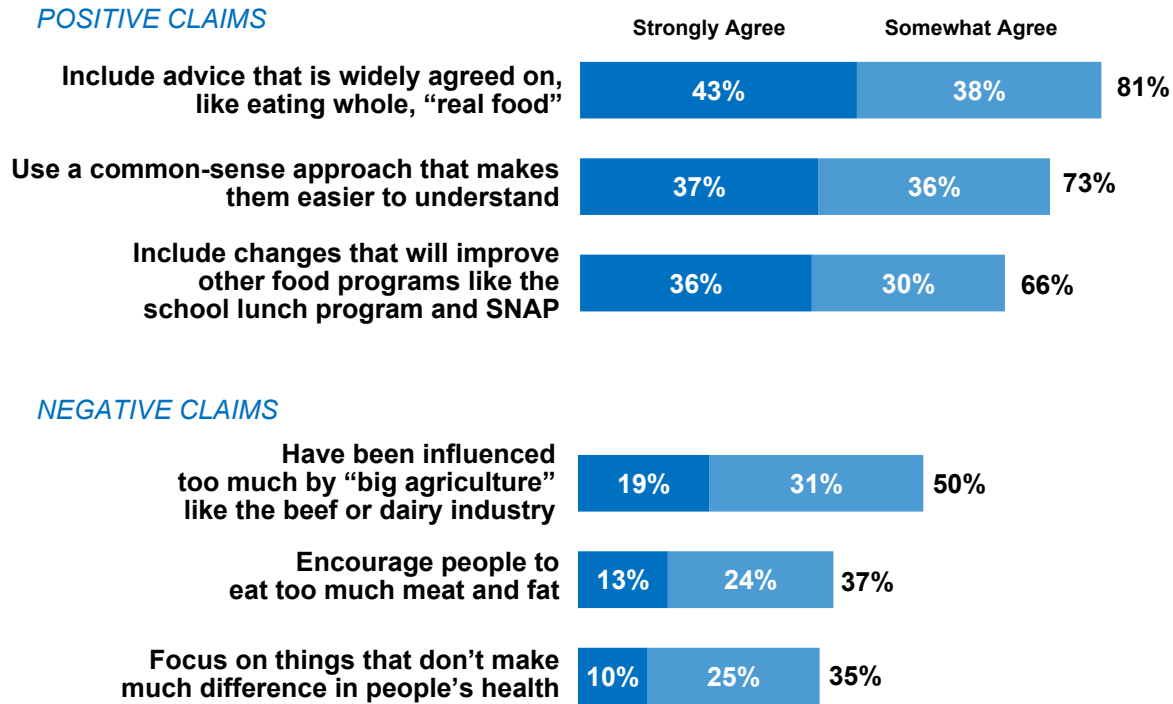
Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation poll, March 19 – April 1, 2026, n=2205 U.S. adults ages 18 and older

A majority of people (60%) support the recent changes to the food pyramid and the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* (Figure 10). Even stronger majorities support specific measures included in the new *Dietary Guidelines*, including recommendations to avoid or sharply limit sugar and highly-processed food (90%) and recommendations to increase protein intake (85%). A smaller majority (62%) supports recommendations to increase beef and whole milk consumption.

Support is bipartisan for limiting sugar and highly-processed food (Republicans: 94%, Democrats: 89%) and for increasing protein intake (Republicans: 92%, Democrats: 79%). However, there is more division when considering overall support for changes, with 83% of Republicans saying they support the overall changes, compared to only 37% of Democrats. Support for recommendations to increase beef and whole milk consumption is also divided, with 80% support among Republicans and 44% support among Democrats.

Figure 11. Agreement with Positive and Negative Claims about the New Food Pyramid/Dietary Guidelines

Percent agreeing that the new food pyramid/Dietary Guidelines...



Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation poll, March 19 – April 1, 2026, among a subset of n=1102 U.S. adults ages 18 and older. SNAP=Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

When asked about positive aspects of the new food pyramid and *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* (Figure 11), there is broad public sentiment that they include advice that is widely agreed on, like eating whole, “real food” (81% agree), they use a common-sense approach that makes them easier to understand (73% agree), and they include changes that will improve other food programs like the school lunch program and SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (the food stamps program) (66% agree).

When asked about negative aspects of the new food pyramid and *Dietary Guidelines* (Figure 12), half of people (50%) agree these guidelines have been influenced too much by “big agriculture,” like the beef or dairy industry. About a third agree that they encourage people to eat too much meat and fat (37%) and they focus on things that don’t make much difference in people’s health (35%).

IV. METHODOLOGY

Results are based on survey research conducted by the Harvard Opinion Research Program (HORP) based at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, in partnership with the de Beaumont Foundation. The research was supported by the de Beaumont Foundation. Representatives from these organizations developed the survey questionnaire, while analyses were conducted by researchers from Harvard Chan School and the fielding team at SSRS of Glen Mills, Pennsylvania.

The HORP project team included Gillian SteelFisher, director of HORP and principal research scientist at Harvard Chan School, and Mary Findling, managing director of HORP.

The de Beaumont Foundation project team included Brian C. Castrucci, president and CEO of the de Beaumont Foundation, Emma Prus, senior program and research associate, and Nalini Padmanabhan, communications director.

Interviews were conducted with a representative sample of 2,205 U.S. adults ages 18 and older. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish online and by telephone. Respondents were reached online and by phone through the SSRS Opinion Panel, a nationally representative, probability-based panel. Panelists were randomly recruited via an Address Based Sampling frame and from random-digit dial samples on SSRS surveys. Most panelists completed the survey online with a small subset who do not access the internet completing by phone. The interview period was March 19 to April 1, 2026.

Findings and conclusions are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the de Beaumont Foundation or Harvard Chan School. When interpreting findings, one should recognize that all surveys are subject to sampling error. Results may differ from what would be obtained if the whole U.S. adult population had been interviewed. The margin of error at the 95% confidence interval is ± 2.0 percentage points.

Republicans include adults who lean Republican, Democrats include adults who lean Democrat, and Independents includes adults who identify as “other” or are unaffiliated. Trend data in this poll is compared to the following prior polls of U.S. adults ages 18 and older: 2025 Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/de Beaumont Foundation (n=3,343); 2019, 2021, 2022, and 2023 polls of U.S. adults ages 18 and older, conducted by Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)/National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) (Nov 2023 n=1632; July 2023 n=1430; Nov 2022 n=1,813; Feb 2022 n=4208; 2021 n=2,500; 2019 n=1,550).

Possible sources of non-sampling error include non-response bias, as well as question wording and ordering effects. Non-response in web and telephone surveys produces some known biases in survey-derived estimates because participation tends to vary for different subgroups of the population. To compensate for these known biases and for variations in the probability of selection within and across households, sample data are weighted in a multi-step process by probability of selection and recruitment, response rates by survey type, and demographic variables (gender, age, education, race/ethnicity, region, the frequency of internet use, civic engagement, population density, registered voter, party ID, religious affiliation, number of adults in household, and home tenure) to reflect the true population of adults in the U.S. Other techniques, including random sampling, multiple contact attempts, replicate subsamples, and systematic respondent selection within households, are used to ensure that the sample is representative.

SAMPLE SIZES		n
Total sample		2,205
Gender		
Men		1,035
Women		1,132
Race/Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic		1,245
Black		247
Hispanic/Latino		490
Metropolitan Status		
Urban		759
Suburban		1165
Rural		280
Education		
<College		1408
College		773
Political Party		
Democrat/Democrat leaners		940
Independent/Other/Unaffiliated		370
Republican/Republican/leaners		895

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APPENDIX: 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's Public Health Listening Lab. The research was supported by 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 19 – April 1, 2026, among a sample of 2205 adults ages 18 or older in the United States. Republicans include adults who lean Republican, Democrats include adults who lean Democrat, and Independents includes adults who identify as "other" or are unaffiliated. The margin of error at the 95% confidence interval is +/- 2.0 percentage points.

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.

READ/SHOW TO ALL: This survey is about public health issues, and we would like to learn about your opinions.

Q1. First, please think back to the time BEFORE the start of President Trump’s current term, so before he took office in early 2025. In terms of recommendations made to improve health in general, how much did you trust the recommendations of each of the following BEFORE President Trump took office in 2025?

	A great deal	Some-what	Not too much	Not at all	DK/Ref/Blank	n
a. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC	39	32	18	11	*	2205
Republican	17	35	29	20	*	895
Democrat	66	24	7	2	-	940
Independent	24	46	22	9	-	370
b. Your state public health department	32	42	19	7	*	2205
Republican	14	45	28	13	-	895
Democrat	54	35	8	2	*	940
Independent	22	49	22	7	-	370
c. Your local public health department, meaning your city, county, or regional health department	34	42	18	7	*	2205
Republican	15	46	28	11	*	895
Democrat	56	37	6	2	-	940
Independent	22	46	25	8	-	370

SHOW/READ TO ALL: Now, thinking about today...

Q2. As you may know, new people have come in to lead federal public health agencies under President Trump's administration. Federal public health agencies include 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.

Do you think having new people in charge of federal public health agencies under President Trump's administration has made you now trust health recommendations coming from these organizations more, less, or about the same as you used to, before Trump took office in 2025? Having new people in charge has made you now:

	ALL	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Trust More (NET)	26	52	5	15
Trust a lot more	8	18	1	3
Trust a little more	17	34	3	12
Trust about the same	24	33	11	37
Trust Less (NET)	50	16	85	48
Trust a little less	14	9	18	19
Trust a lot less	36	7	66	28
DK/Ref/ Blank	-	-	-	-
n	2205	895	940	370

Q3. In terms of recommendations made to improve health in general, how much do you CURRENTLY trust the recommendations of (INSERT ITEM) specifically?

	A great deal	Some-what	Not too much	Not at all	DK/Ref/Blank	n
a. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC	12	38	33	17	-	2205
Republican	17	50	25	8	-	895
Democrat	8	26	39	26	-	940
Independent	8	39	36	17	-	370
b. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration, or FDA	13	40	30	17	-	2205
Republican	20	51	23	7	-	895
Democrat	8	29	36	26	-	940
Independent	10	39	31	20	-	370
c. The National Institutes of Health, or NIH	11	42	31	16	*	2205
Republican	15	54	24	7	-	895
Democrat	9	30	37	23	*	940
Independent	6	44	32	18	-	370

(ITEMS D,E – ASK FIRST AND IN ORDER / ITEMS A-C, F-M – ASK RANDOM 6 OF EACH CASE)

Q4. And how about other organizations? In terms of recommendations made to improve health in general, how much do you currently trust the recommendations of each of the following?

	A great deal	Some-what	Not too much	Not at all	DK/Ref / Blank	n
d. Nurses	47	42	8	2	-	1202
Republican	45	46	7	2	-	494
Democrat	55	37	7	2	-	512
Independent	34	47	14	5	-	196
e. Doctors	41	47	8	4	-	1203
Republican	38	51	7	4	-	503
Democrat	50	41	6	3	-	498
Independent	27	49	16	8	-	202
f. Pharmacists	38	47	11	4	-	1203
Republican	37	49	11	3	-	504
Democrat	44	43	9	4	-	500
Independent	25	51	14	10	-	199
g. Your state public health department	19	47	26	9	-	2205
Republican	14	49	29	8	-	895
Democrat	26	44	22	8	-	940
Independent	12	46	29	13	-	370
h. Your local public health department, meaning your city, county, or regional health department	23	47	24	7	-	2205
Republican	17	49	27	6	-	895
Democrat	32	45	18	6	-	940
Independent	13	49	29	10	-	370
i. The Surgeon General	13	46	26	15	*	1202
Republican	18	55	23	4	1	477
Democrat	10	37	28	25	*	526
Independent	10	48	28	14	-	199
j. Your friends and family	31	50	15	4	*	1203
Republican	33	49	15	3	-	463
Democrat	29	51	16	4	*	532
Independent	33	48	14	6	-	208
k. Your local elected officials like the mayor	9	39	36	16	*	1203
Republican	7	34	37	21	*	494
Democrat	13	43	33	10	*	503
Independent	6	41	38	15	1	206
l. Your state elected officials like the governor	14	36	29	21	-	1202
Republican	12	32	31	25	-	506
Democrat	18	39	25	17	-	502
Independent	7	41	31	21	-	194
m. Leaders in your church, synagogue, mosque, or other religious organization ⁴	21	37	27	15	-	907
Republican	22	38	27	13	-	398
Democrat	22	35	26	17	-	346
Independent	20	39	27	15	-	163
n. University scientists and researchers	34	44	17	5	-	1203

⁴ Responses only shown among those who indicated they have a religious leader.

Republican	19	50	24	6	-	500
Democrat	51	36	8	4	-	499
Independent	30	48	18	3	-	204
o. Healthcare provider groups such as the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, or the American Nurses Association	31	48	15	6	-	1203
Republican	21	53	19	7	-	458
Democrat	42	44	10	4	-	535
Independent	22	47	20	11	-	210
p. Associations and foundations working in health such as the American Cancer Society, the American Diabetes Association, or the American Heart Association	35	45	15	5	-	1203
Republican	24	53	18	5	-	492
Democrat	48	37	11	3	-	515
Independent	25	47	20	8	-	196

Q5. How closely have you been following news about what federal public health agencies have been doing since the start of the current Trump administration in early 2025? This would include news about 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, or the National Institutes of Health or NIH.

	ALL	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Very/Somewhat closely (NET)	65	61	71	58
Very closely	15	11	21	12
Somewhat closely	50	50	50	46
Not too/Not at all (NET)	35	39	29	42
Not too closely	29	33	24	35
Not at all closely	6	6	6	7
DK/Ref/Blank	-	-	-	-
n	2205	895	940	370

Q6. Just based on what you have seen or heard, do you generally approve or disapprove of what federal public health agencies have been doing since the start of the current Trump administration in early 2025?

	ALL	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Approve (NET)	45	80	14	36
Strongly approve	10	21	2	4
Somewhat approve	35	59	12	33
Disapprove (NET)	55	20	86	64
Somewhat disapprove	23	14	27	36
Strongly disapprove	32	5	59	27
DK/Ref/Blank	*	*	-	-
n	2205	895	940	370

(N=1575 – EACH RESPONDENT ASKED 10 RANDOMIZED ITEMS)

Q7. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about what these federal public health agencies have been doing under the new leadership since early 2025?

Federal public health agencies have generally...

	Agree (NET)	Strongly agree	Some- what agree	Dis- agree (NET)	Some- what disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure	n
a. Made recommendations that are influenced too much by leaders' personal beliefs	68	39	29	25	17	8	7	1575
Republican	54	18	36	38	27	11	7	641
Democrat	81	63	18	14	8	5	6	664
Independent	70	31	38	20	14	6	10	270
b. Cut or scaled back programs too much	61	36	25	30	17	13	9	1575
Republican	40	12	28	50	29	20	10	639
Democrat	82	61	21	14	7	7	4	663
Independent	61	34	27	24	15	10	14	273
c. Cut or scaled back government funding for health and medical research too much	60	36	24	31	19	12	10	1575
Republican	39	13	26	48	33	15	12	642
Democrat	80	62	18	14	6	9	6	669
Independent	60	26	34	27	18	9	13	264
d. Focused too much on the wrong priorities	66	33	33	27	17	10	7	1575
Republican	49	15	35	42	27	15	8	644
Democrat	83	52	31	13	8	5	5	659
Independent	65	32	34	25	17	8	10	272
e. Further polarized our society	58	29	29	30	19	11	12	1575
Republican	45	12	33	40	26	15	14	636
Democrat	72	48	24	20	12	8	8	669
Independent	55	22	33	29	20	10	16	270
f. Made too many decisions without following standard processes	60	31	29	28	19	9	12	1575
Republican	45	11	33	40	27	13	16	629
Democrat	75	51	24	17	11	6	8	683
Independent	60	24	36	26	19	7	15	263
g. Increased health gaps between the wealthy and poor	55	30	25	34	19	16	10	1575
Republican	38	12	27	47	27	20	14	631
Democrat	71	46	25	23	9	14	6	690
Independent	56	31	25	33	22	11	12	254
h. Been trying to do the right thing, even if it does not always work out	44	11	33	50	23	27	6	1575
Republican	68	19	49	28	19	8	4	620

Democrat	24	5	19	71	24	47	5	683
Independent	39	6	34	51	27	24	10	272
i. Had a positive impact on the health of average Americans	37	8	29	56	24	32	7	1575
Republican	58	13	45	35	22	12	7	646
Democrat	19	5	14	76	25	51	5	663
Independent	30	4	26	59	29	30	11	266
j. Made recommendations that follow the best available scientific evidence	38	8	30	55	23	32	7	1575
Republican	60	13	47	32	22	10	8	631
Democrat	19	5	14	77	21	56	5	682
Independent	37	5	32	52	27	25	12	262
k. Represented the interests of people like me	35	7	28	57	25	32	8	1575
Republican	55	12	42	36	26	11	9	644
Democrat	17	3	14	76	25	51	7	673
Independent	30	2	28	58	24	33	12	258
l. Reduced the influence of politics on their recommendations	29	8	21	61	24	37	10	1575
Republican	43	11	32	45	27	19	11	676
Democrat	15	5	10	78	19	59	7	653
Independent	30	6	24	57	30	27	12	246
m. Put health decisions back in the hands of families	46	10	36	46	25	21	8	1575
Republican	64	17	47	30	21	10	6	625
Democrat	31	6	26	60	29	31	9	685
Independent	39	6	33	49	26	23	12	265
n. Reduced financial corruption and conflicts of interest	31	8	23	58	21	37	11	1575
Republican	50	14	37	37	21	16	13	646
Democrat	14	5	9	78	19	59	8	664
Independent	27	3	25	59	24	34	14	265

Q8 held for future release.

READ/SHOW TO GROUP 2 ⁵: Next, 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.

(Group 2, n=1103)

Q9. 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	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Parents should be required to have their children vaccinated against preventable diseases to attend school	77	65	91	68
Parents should be able to send their children to school without having them vaccinated against preventable diseases	23	35	9	32
n	1103	448	480	175

⁵ The sample was randomly split into two groups of approximately equal size to minimize respondent burden and still obtain enough interviews for analytical purposes

(Group 2, n=1,103)

Q10. How safe do you think routine childhood vaccines are for most children?

	ALL	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Very/Somewhat safe (NET)	89	85	96	80
Very safe	57	46	76	35
Somewhat safe	32	39	20	46
Not very/not at all safe (NET)	11	15	4	20
Not very safe	7	8	3	13
Not at all safe	4	7	1	6
DK/Ref/Blank	-	-	-	-
n	1103	448	480	175

(Group 2, n=1103)

Q11. How closely have you been following news about federal health officials changing the childhood vaccine schedule to reduce the number of vaccines that are recommended for children in the U.S.?

	ALL	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Very/Somewhat closely (NET)	58	52	67	52
Very closely	18	12	24	16
Somewhat closely	40	40	42	36
Not too/Not at all (NET)	42	48	33	48
Not too closely	30	36	25	32
Not at all closely	11	12	9	16
DK/Ref/Blank	-	-	-	-
n	1103	448	480	175

(Group 2, n=1103)

Q12. Just based on what you have seen or heard, do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose changing the childhood vaccine schedule to REDUCE the number of vaccines that are recommended for children in the U.S.?

	ALL	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Support (NET)	42	65	18	48
Strongly support reducing the number of recommended vaccines	17	27	7	19
Somewhat support reducing the number of recommended vaccines	25	37	11	30
Oppose (NET)	58	35	81	52
Somewhat oppose reducing the number of recommended vaccines	22	22	22	23
Strongly oppose reducing the number of recommended vaccines	36	13	59	29
DK/Ref/Blank	*		*	
n	1103	448	480	175

(ASK OF THOSE WHO SUPPORT REDUCING THE NUMBER OF RECOMMENDED VACCINES FOR CHILDREN, n=473)

Q14. There are lots of reasons people support changing the childhood vaccine schedule to reduce the number of vaccines that are recommended for children in the U.S. Are each of the following a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason that you personally support this?

I think...

	A reason (NET)	Major reason	Minor Reason	Not a reason	DK/Ref/Blank
a. Leaders are finally paying attention to research showing that vaccines cause harm	84	50	34	15	*
b. It puts vaccine decisions back in parents' hands	90	57	32	10	-
c. Children were getting too many vaccines too early	90	63	27	10	-
d. Some vaccines are not necessary for all children	89	55	33	11	-
e. Vaccines are risky for children in general	81	39	42	19	-
f. These changes are consistent with the vaccine schedules that other countries like Denmark have	64	25	39	36	-

(ASK THOSE WHO OPPOSE REDUCING THE NUMBER OF RECOMMENDED VACCINES FOR CHILDREN, n=629)
 Q15. There are lots of reasons people oppose changing the childhood vaccine schedule to reduce the number of vaccines that are recommended for children in the U.S. Are each of the following a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason that you personally oppose this?

I think...

	A reason (NET)	Major reason	Minor Reason	Not a reason	DK/Ref/Blank
a. This change was based on fringe science and personal views, rather than research and evidence	88	71	17	12	-
b. This decision was made too quickly, without enough scientific review	90	70	20	10	-
c. Vaccines for children are safe and protect children's health in general	95	86	9	5	*
d. Reducing vaccine requirements will hurt poor families because they are the least likely to get vaccinated if it's not required	81	55	26	19	*
e. More children will get sick in the future if there are fewer required vaccines	95	88	6	5	-
f. The old process worked well and changes to the vaccine schedule weren't needed	87	61	26	13	-

(ASK OF GROUP 1, n=1102)

Q16. Next, we'd like to ask you about the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, which are set by the Department of Health and Human Services, or HHS, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the USDA.

How closely have you been following news about the federal government releasing changes to the food pyramid and the Dietary Guidelines for Americans this year?

	All	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Very/Somewhat closely (NET)	57	57	58	55
Very closely	14	15	16	9
Somewhat closely	43	41	43	46
Not too/Not at all (NET)	43	43	42	45
Not too closely	32	33	32	34
Not at all closely	10	11	10	11
DK/Ref/Blank	-			
n	1102	447	460	195

(ASK OF GROUP 1, n=1102)

Q17. Just based on what you have seen or heard, do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose these changes to the food pyramid and the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*?

	ALL	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Support (NET)	60	83	37	58
Strongly support	16	29	4	13
Somewhat support	44	54	33	45
Oppose (NET)	40	17	63	41
Somewhat oppose	29	13	44	31
Strongly oppose	11	4	19	10
DK/Ref/Blank	*			*
n	1102	447	460	195

(ASK OF GROUP 1, n=1102)

Q18. How much do you support or oppose each of the following specific changes to the Dietary Guidelines?

	Support (NET)	Strongly support	Some- what support	Oppose (NET)	Some- what oppose	Strongly oppose	DK/Ref /Blank	n
a. Recommendations to avoid or sharply limit the amount of added sugar and highly-processed food people consume	90	60	30	10	7	3	*	1102
Republican	94	68	26	6	5	1		447
Democrat	89	52	38	11	7	4	*	460
Independent	81	57	24	19	14	5		195
b. Recommendations to increase the amount of protein people consume	85	37	48	15	12	3	*	1102
Republican	92	50	42	8	7	1		447
Democrat	79	26	53	21	16	5	*	460
Independent	82	31	52	18	13	5		195
c. Recommendations to increase the amount of beef and whole milk people consume	62	21	41	38	26	13	-	1102
Republican	80	32	48	20	17	2		447
Democrat	44	10	35	56	33	23		460
Independent	59	21	38	41	29	12		195

(ASK OF GROUP 1, n=1102)

Q19. And how much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the new food pyramid and the Dietary Guidelines for Americans?

The new recommendations...

	Agree (NET)	Strongly agree	Some-what agree	Disagree (NET)	Some-what disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure	Ref/Blank	n
a. Focus on things that don't make much difference in people's health	35	10	25	52	27	25	13	*	1102
Republican	30	7	23	59	28	30	11		447
Democrat	41	14	27	45	26	18	14	*	460
Independent	33	10	22	53	27	26	14		195
b. Encourage people to eat too much meat and fat	37	13	24	54	26	27	9	*	1102
Republican	27	8	19	64	33	31	8		447
Democrat	49	21	28	42	19	22	9	*	460
Independent	33	7	25	56	27	30	11		195
c. Have been influenced too much by "big agriculture" like the beef or dairy industry	51	19	31	35	23	12	15	*	1102
Republican	36	9	28	50	31	19	13		447
Democrat	64	31	33	21	16	5	15	*	460
Independent	54	16	37	30	20	10	17		195
d. Use a common-sense approach that makes them easier to understand	73	37	36	20	12	8	8	*	1102
Republican	89	47	41	7	5	2	4		447
Democrat	56	28	29	32	18	14	11	*	460
Independent	72	33	39	20	13	7	8		195
e. Include changes that will improve other food programs like the school lunch program and SNAP, the food stamp program	66	36	30	23	11	12	11	*	1102
Republican	80	44	37	11	8	3	9		447
Democrat	51	26	25	36	14	22	13	*	460
Independent	67	39	28	22	13	9	12		195
f. Include advice that is widely agreed on, like eating whole, "real food"	81	43	38	12	8	4	7	*	1102
Republican	91	54	37	7	6	2	2		447
Democrat	72	31	41	17	9	8	10	*	460
Independent	79	43	36	13	11	2	9		195