



## COVID-19 Survey Summary: August 5, 2022

*The following is a summary of social, behavioral and economic survey research on COVID-19 released in the past two weeks, as compiled for the Societal Experts Action Network ([SEAN](#)). Most surveys cited in this report are available in the [SEAN COVID-19 Survey Archive](#).*

Parents are reticent to vaccinate their young children even after FDA authorization, with more seeing the vaccine as a bigger health risk than a coronavirus infection.

Fewer than two in 10 parents have had their child younger than 5 vaccinated or intend to do so, new polling finds. Uptake for children 5 and older is flat since February. And two-thirds of fully vaccinated adults without a booster shot say they will not get one in the coming months.

In other results, two-thirds of Americans say the pandemic will be an important issue in their voting decision in the midterm elections, but this lags other issues. State results in California and Vermont and international results from Great Britain also are included in this week's summary.

### Concerns

Reported daily [cases](#) are mostly steady, down 6 percent in the past week; they're likely an undercount given unreported at-home testing and fewer government-run testing facilities. [Hospitalizations](#) are mostly steady at about 6,200 new admissions per day, after increasing gradually from early April.

Forty-four percent of adults are moderately or very concerned about the coronavirus, largely steady in recent weeks but up 6 percentage points since late April to a high since February ([CDC 7/10-7/16](#)). Just 1 percent identify the coronavirus or other disease as the country's top problem in an open-ended question, steady since May, down from two in 10 in January ([Gallup 7/5-7/26](#)).

### Vaccine Uptake

Seventy-six percent report having received at least one dose of a coronavirus vaccine. Among the unvaccinated, eight in 10 say they definitely won't get a shot. Among the vaccinated, two-thirds are both fully vaccinated and have received at least one booster shot.

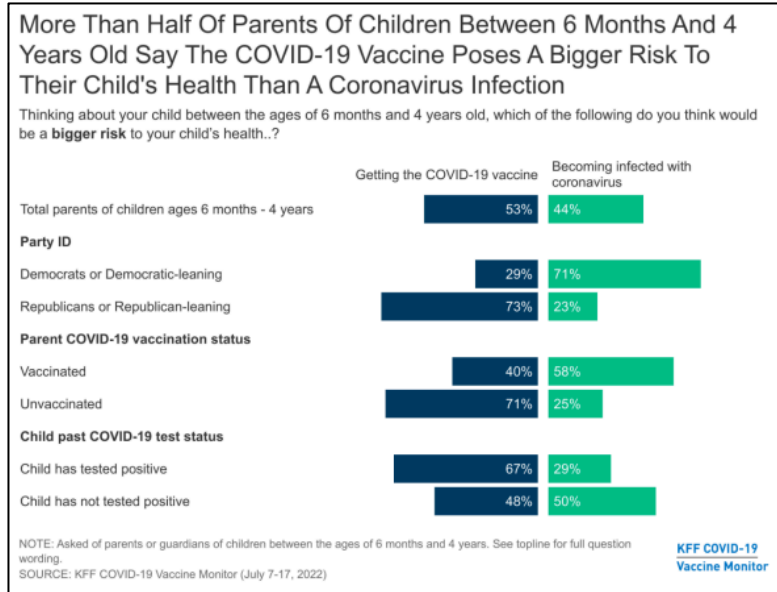
Among the one-third of fully vaccinated adults who have not received a booster shot, two-thirds do not intend to get one in the next few months. Fifty-seven percent of fully vaccinated but unboosted adults feel adequately protected by their initial vaccination or a prior infection, 52

percent are unwilling generally and 48 percent question booster efficacy. Three in 10 or fewer cite time restrictions, previous side effects or a preference to wait for a new vaccine that targets variants. (Multiple responses were accepted.) ([KFF 7/7-7/17](#)).

### Vaccines and Children

Even with FDA [authorization](#) in hand, just 17 percent of parents of children age 6 months to 4 years have had their child vaccinated (7 percent) or intend to do so right away (10 percent). Fifty-three percent of these parents (including 73 percent of Republicans and GOP-leaning independents) see the vaccines as a bigger health risk to their child than a coronavirus infection.

Uptake might be movable with pediatrician input: Seven in 10 parents with children in this age group have not discussed the vaccines with a pediatrician. As things stand, 43 percent refuse, up 16 points from April, before eligibility was authorized. About a quarter prefer to wait and see and 13 percent say they'll act if it's required by school or daycare.



Also among parents of unvaccinated young children, eight in 10 are concerned about side effects, seven in 10 question the vaccines' efficacy and six in 10 are concerned about unwanted vaccination requirements. Fewer identify access-related concerns such as having to take time off work (28 percent) or getting their child a vaccine from a place they trust (27 percent).

Black and Hispanic parents are more apt than white parents to cite access issues. Concern about getting a child vaccinated from a trusted place reaches 45 percent among Hispanics parents vs. 15 percent among white parents; Black parents are in between, at 28 percent. Forty-four percent of Black parents are concerned with taking time off work to vaccinate or care for their child, vs. 28 of Hispanic parents and 18 percent of white parents.

Uptake has stalled among older children, for whom vaccines have been available longer. Nearly six in 10 parents say their child age 12-17 is vaccinated, as do four in 10 of those with a child age 5-11, both largely steady since February. By contrast, 89 percent of parents say they normally keep their child up to date on other childhood vaccines ([KFF 7/7-7/17](#)).

### Vaccine Safety

Among all adults, seven in 10 are at least somewhat confident that coronavirus vaccines are safe for adults, essentially steady since November 2021; 62 percent, for children age 12-17; and 55 percent, for children age 5-11. It's about half for children 6 months to 4 years old, up 9 points from February ([KFF 7/7-7/17](#)).

### Voting

Two-thirds of registered voters say the coronavirus will be a very or somewhat important issue in their voting decision in the midterm elections, steady since February. More ranked other issues as highly important, peaking at 95 percent for inflation and rising gas prices ([KFF 7/7-7/17](#)).

### State Results

In newly released data from April, nine in 10 Californians had received a vaccine, including 88 percent fully vaccinated. Of those not yet fully vaccinated, two in 10 said they would do so. About half were worried about side effects, 37 percent said the vaccines were developed too quickly and 27 percent apiece thought vaccination was unnecessary or said they didn't know enough about it to decide. Two in 10 said they did not believe in vaccines in general. Six in 10 always or usually wore a mask when leaving the home in the previous week, down 13 points from February and March ([CHIS 2022](#)).

In Vermont, 8 percent say the pandemic is one of the top three challenges facing the country, last on a list of 9 items. One percent call it the biggest challenge ([UNH 7/21-7/25](#)).

### International Results

In Great Britain, 36 percent have worn a mask in public in the past week, steady since mid-June and down from more than nine in 10 in the winter and two-thirds in April. Nearly half are worried about new coronavirus variants-and 36 percent are worried about the effects of the coronavirus on their lives generally, each little changed ([Office for National Statistics 7/6-7/17](#)).

Additional U.S. and international poll results are available at the [COVID-19 Survey Archive](#).

*Summary for SEAN by [Langer Research Associates](#).*