

Vaccines in Kentucky – The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky Poll

Trusted Sources for Vaccine Information in Kentucky

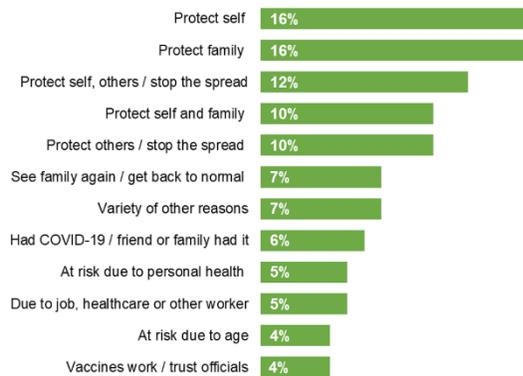
The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky sponsored **Vaccines in Kentucky** a poll, that interviewed adults across the state to learn more about their opinions on vaccines and intentions to take the COVID-19 vaccine. At the time of the Poll, 15% of Kentucky adults said they had already received the vaccine, 37% said they would definitely get the vaccine and 19% said they would probably get the vaccine when it became available to them. Among the 29% of Kentucky adults who initially said they would probably or definitely not take the vaccine, 1 in 2 reported it was possible that they would get the vaccine once more people had taken it and more information was available (51%).¹ More than 8 in 10 Kentucky adults reported personally knowing someone who had been diagnosed with COVID-19 (83%). The Poll was conducted February 11 to March 12, 2021.

COVID-19 vaccine motivations

The Poll asked respondents to identify the most important reason contributing to their decision about taking the COVID-19 vaccine. Respondents could provide any answer. More than 6 in 10 Kentucky adults who said they had already taken the vaccine or intended to take it offered a reason related to protecting themselves, their families or others, and stopping the spread of the disease (64%). Other reasons for taking the vaccine included personal risks such as age or health status, knowing someone who had COVID-19, wanting to see family, or because of their job.

What is the most important reason you have decided TO GET a COVID-19 vaccine?

(Includes only those who said they already received the vaccine, definitely or probably will get it; open-ended responses.)

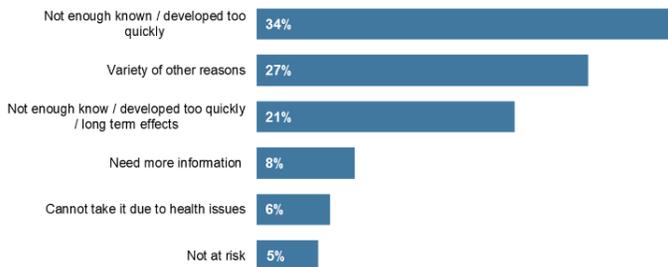


SOURCE: Vaccines in Kentucky – The Foundation for a Health Kentucky Poll
Conducted Feb. 11 – Mar. 12, 2021.



What is the most important reason you have decided NOT TO GET a COVID-19 vaccine?*

(Includes only those who said they probably or definitely would not get it; open-ended responses.)



SOURCE: Vaccines in Kentucky – The Foundation for a Health Kentucky Poll
Conducted Feb. 11 – Mar. 12, 2021.
* Percentages do not add to 100% due to rounding.



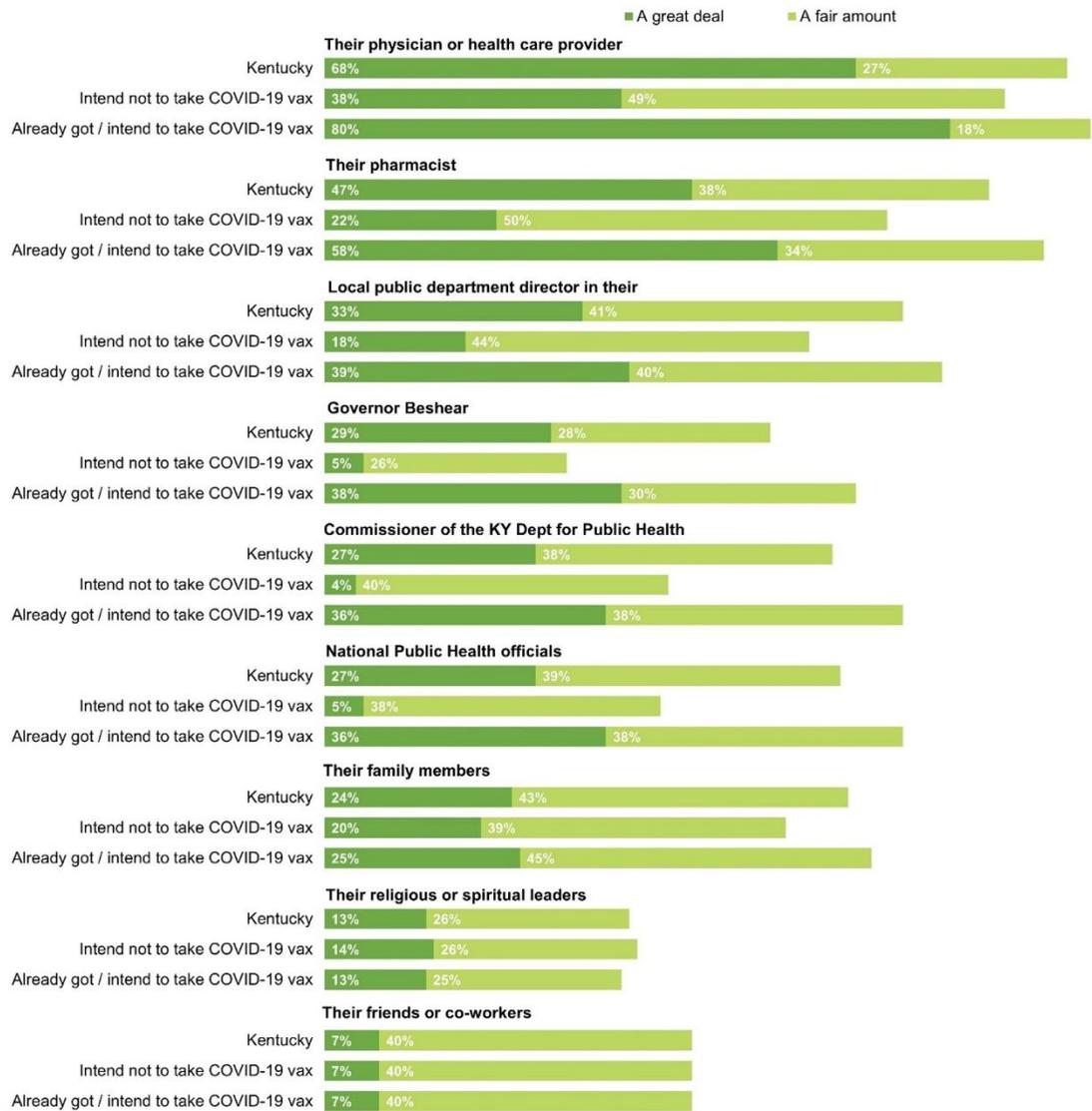
Of those who intended not to take the COVID-19 vaccine, 6 in 10 adults offered a reason related to information about the vaccine such as the long-term effects, the speed of the vaccine development, or they simply wanted more information (63%) about it. More than 1 in 4 adults offered a wide variety of other reasons (27%), such as they don't trust government or don't trust health officials, COVID-19 is similar to the flu, they already had COVID-19, they don't get any vaccinations or trust vaccinations.

These findings, unless otherwise noted, are from **Vaccines in Kentucky – The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky Poll**, funded by the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky. This Poll was conducted February 11 - March 12, 2021, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 807 adults from throughout Kentucky was interviewed by telephone. This included 212 landline interviews and 595 cell phone interviews. In 95 of 100 cases, the full sample estimates will be accurate to $\pm 3.5\%$. There are other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as nonresponse, question wording or context effects that can introduce error or bias. Note: results by race are not presented because of a small number of African American respondents in the state-wide sample. For more information about **Vaccines in Kentucky – The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky Poll**, please visit www.healthy-ky.org.

The Poll asked, “Generally speaking, how much do you trust each of the following as a source of information about vaccines? Would you say a great deal, a fair amount, not too much, or not at all?” Overall, a majority of Kentucky adults reported a great deal or a fair amount of trust for their doctors, pharmacists, and local public health directors as sources of information about vaccines. Likewise, those Kentucky adults who indicated, at the time of the Poll, that they would not take the COVID-19 vaccine reported trust for those health care leaders in their communities.

Trust for elected and appointed officials as sources of vaccine information reflected partisan divides with Democrats more than three times as likely to report a great deal of trust than Republicans or Independents.

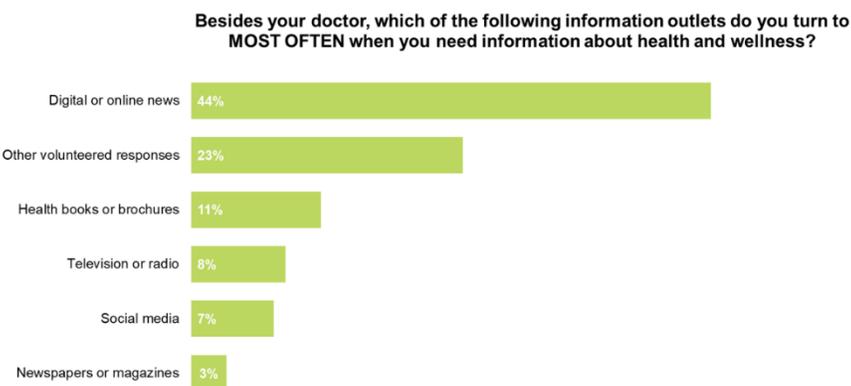
Percentage of Kentucky adults who trust the following sources for vaccine information a great deal or a fair amount



SOURCE: Vaccines in Kentucky – The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky Poll Conducted Feb. 11 – Mar. 12, 2021.



Media sources for health and wellness information



SOURCE: Vaccines in Kentucky – The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky Poll Conducted Feb. 11 – Mar. 12, 2021.



Besides their doctor, more than 4 in 10 Kentucky adults go to digital or online news most often when they need information on health and wellness topics (44%). More than 2 in 10 volunteered a variety of other most used sources health and wellness information (23%) such as their doctors, friends, the internet, WebMD, or Google. About 1 in 10 said health books, brochures or pamphlets were their most often used source of information (11%). One in 10 reported television or radio as their outlet for health and wellness information (8%).

¹ Please see the full brief (April 2021), [Covid-19 Vaccine Acceptance in Kentucky](#), Vaccines in Kentucky – The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky Poll.
² Responses to open-end questions were recorded verbatim. These responses were then grouped into the thematic categories and reported based on the primary content of the verbatim response. Categories with fewer than 10 responses were coded as “Other” in the results.