

Vaccines in Kentucky – The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky Poll

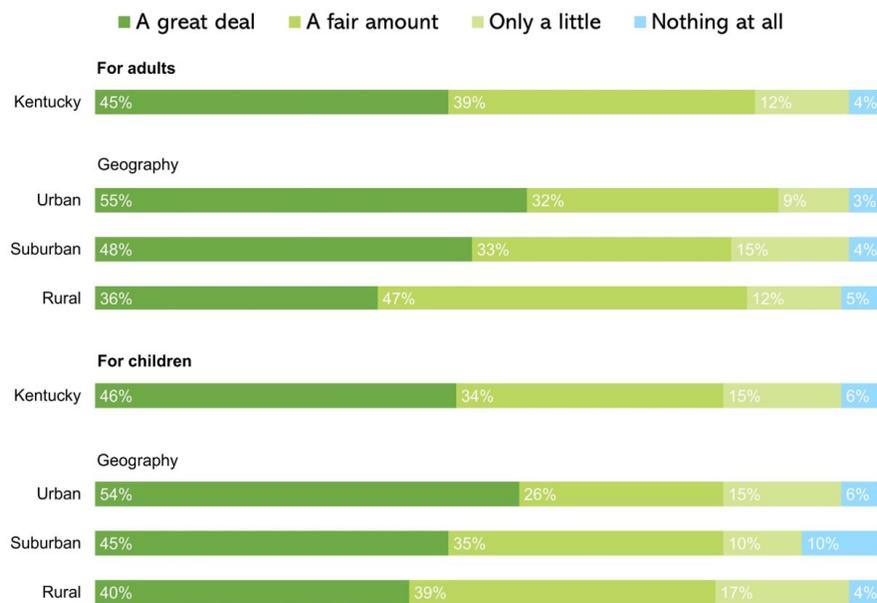
Kentucky Vaccine Perceptions

The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky sponsored **Vaccines in Kentucky**, a poll that interviewed adults across the state about their opinions on vaccines. The Poll was conducted February 11 to March 12, 2021.

Nearly half know a great deal about vaccines

The Poll asked Kentucky adults how much they had heard about the advantages and disadvantages of vaccines for both adults and children. More than 4 in 10 Kentucky adults had heard a great deal (45%), 4 in 10 had heard a fair amount (39%), about 1 in 10 adults had heard only a little (12%), and fewer than 1 in 10 (4%) had heard nothing at all about vaccines for adults. Kentucky adults living in rural areas were less likely to report hearing a great deal about vaccines for adults (36%) compared to respondents living in suburban (48%) or urban counties (55%). Similar results were seen when Kentucky adults were asked whether they had heard about the advantages and disadvantages of vaccines for children.

How much have you personally heard about the advantages and disadvantages of vaccines. . .



SOURCE: Vaccines in Kentucky – The Foundation for a Health Kentucky Poll
Conducted February 11 – March 12, 2021

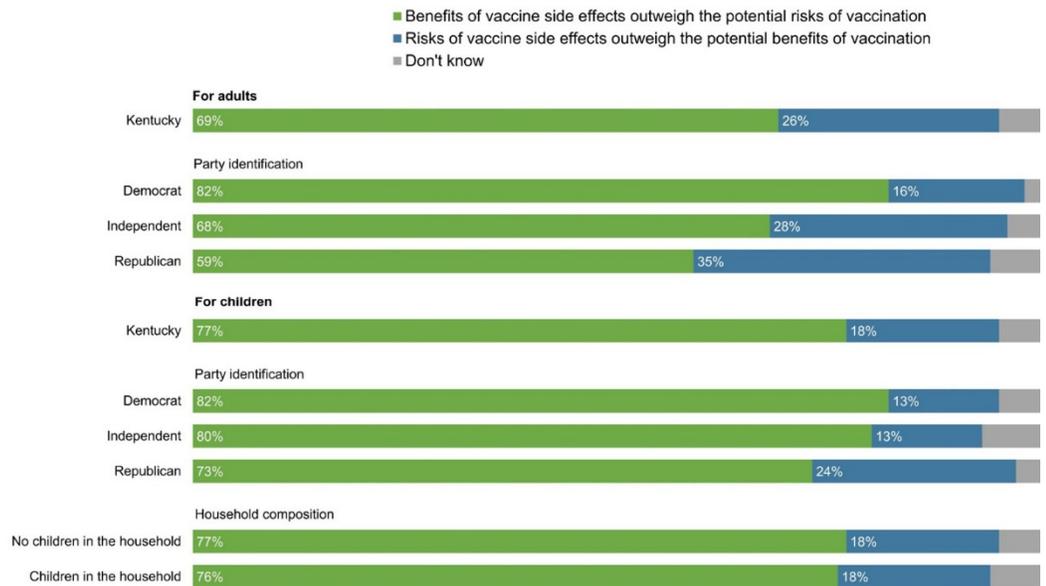


These findings, unless otherwise noted, are from **Vaccines in Kentucky – The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky Poll**, funded by the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky. This Poll was conducted February 11 - March 12, 2021, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random 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.

Majorities see benefit to vaccines

The Poll asked Kentucky adults to choose whether they thought the risks of vaccine side effects outweigh the potential benefits or, the benefits of vaccines side effects outweigh the potential risks of vaccination. Sixty-nine percent of Kentucky adults said the benefits outweigh the potential risks of vaccinations **for adults**, while 26% said the risks outweighed the benefits. Opinions on the benefits and risks of vaccines for adults differed by party identification. Twice as many Republicans reported more risks than benefits of vaccines for adults (35%) compared to Democrats (16%).

Generally speaking, which of the following statements best represents your views on vaccines, I think. . .



SOURCE: Vaccines in Kentucky – The Foundation for a Health Kentucky Poll Conducted February 11 – March 12, 2021



Similar results were reported by Kentucky adults when asked about vaccines **for children**. Nearly 8 in 10 reported that the benefits of vaccines outweigh the risk of vaccine side effects (77%) while nearly 2 in 10 adults reported that the risks of vaccine side effects for children outweigh the benefits (18%). Opinions on vaccine benefits and risks for children reflected similar partisan differences seen in opinions on vaccine benefits and risks for adults. Also, respondents' opinions on vaccines for children did not differ for Kentucky adults living in households with children compared to those living in households without children.

Uptake of 2020-2021 season flu vaccine

Overall in Kentucky, 56% of adults took the flu vaccine in the six months prior to the Poll. Adults who reported being in fair or poor health (62%) were slightly more likely than adults who reported being in excellent or very good health (52%) to say they took the flu vaccine.

The Poll showed modest differences by geography with 65% of Kentucky adults living in urban counties reporting taking the flu vaccines compared to 53% in suburban counties and 50% in rural counties reporting the same.

Received a flu vaccine during the past six months



SOURCE: Vaccines in Kentucky – The Foundation for a Health Kentucky Poll Conducted February 11 – March 12, 2021



Adults ages 65 and over were more likely than other age groups to report taking the flu vaccine in the past six months (78%). Forty-one percent of Kentucky adults ages 18 to 29 took the flu vaccine, while 50% of adults ages 30 to 45, and 57% of adults 46 to 64 years old reported the same.