

# Survey question wording and topline

**2022 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL  
WAVE 108 – SCIENCE TOPLINE  
May 2-8, 2022  
N=10,282**

## OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

### ASK FORM 1 [N=2,571]:

COVIDOE1 Thinking about the coronavirus outbreak, what have you learned about how new medical treatments and vaccines are developed?<sup>1</sup>

	Based on all asked [N=2,571]: May 2-8, 2022	Based on those who responded [N=1,440]: May 2-8, 2022
Process of vaccine development NET	7	14
<i>Learned about the development/ scientific process</i>	4	9
<i>Learned about mRNA technology mRNA research has existed for a while</i>	2 <1	5 1
Negative views of the vaccines NET	6	12
<i>Don't trust the vaccines/vaccines not effective</i>	4	7
<i>Experimental, untested, rushed</i>	3	6
Speed of vaccine and treatment development NET	6	12
<i>Vaccines/treatments were developed quickly</i>	4	8
<i>Resources were given to vaccine research to expedite the process</i>	2	4
Respect for science NET	4	8
<i>Respect or trust for science and scientists</i>	3	6
<i>Scientists have been studying diseases before COVID-19</i>	1	2
<i>Need basic science</i>	<1	<1
Vaccines are effective NET	3	6
<i>Vaccines are effective</i>	2	4
<i>Vaccines lessen severity of symptoms</i>	1	2
Positive view of treatments	2	4
Distrust pharmaceutical companies NET	2	4
<i>Corruption from pharmaceutical companies</i>	2	3
<i>Distrust pharmaceutical companies</i>	1	1
Distrust government	2	4

<sup>1</sup> Verbatim responses have been coded into categories. Figures add to more than 100% because multiple responses were accepted.  
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**COVIDOE1 CONTINUED ...**

	Based on all asked [N=2,571]:	Based on those who responded [N=1,440]:
Politicization of treatments NET	2	4
<i>Political agendas driving decisions about treatments</i>	1	2
<i>Alternative treatments were stopped/not allowed</i>	1	2
<i>Individual autonomy/rights not respected</i>	<1	1
Others are uninformed/selfish	1	2
System inefficiencies	1	2
Vaccines/treatments take a while to develop	1	2
Distrust public health officials (CDC, FDA, WHO, Fauci)	1	1
Learned a lot	<1	1
Give similar resources to other diseases	<1	1
Distrust media	<1	<1
Need more information	<1	<1
Learned nothing NET	8	16
<i>Learned very little/nothing</i>	7	14
<i>Already knew about this</i>	1	1
Other	6	11
Unclear	3	6
Don't Know	2	4
No answer	50	--

**ASK FORM 2 [N=2,574]:**

COVIDOE2 Thinking about the coronavirus outbreak, what lesson should the country learn to be better prepared for the possibility of a new outbreak of infectious disease?<sup>2</sup>

	Based on all asked [N=2,574]: May 2-8, 2022	Based on those who responded [N=1,726]: May 2-8, 2022
Be more prepared NET	12	18
<i>Greater preparation</i>	11	17
<i>Availability/accessibility of resources</i>	1	2
Comply with and trust CDC guidelines NET	11	17
<i>Importance of mitigation measures (masking, vaccinating, social distancing etc.)</i>	7	11
<i>Greater compliance/trust in CDC</i>	5	7
Take action earlier and take it seriously NET	6	9
<i>Act earlier/quicker</i>	4	7
<i>Take it seriously, general</i>	1	2
Take care of one's own health and personal hygiene	6	9

<sup>2</sup> Verbatim responses have been coded into categories. Figures add to more than 100% because multiple responses were accepted.  
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**COVIDOE2 CONTINUED ...**

	Based on all asked [N=2,574]:	Based on those who responded [N=1,726]:
Work together and care for the community	5	9
Do not rely on government or politicians	5	9
Educate, inform and communicate better with the public NET	5	8
<i>Better communication</i>	2	3
<i>Transparency and honesty with the public</i>	1	2
<i>Educate the public</i>	1	2
<i>Address misinformation</i>	1	1
Trust in science and scientific experts	4	7
Do not close down the country, economy, schools or businesses NET	4	6
<i>Should not close down economy</i>	2	3
<i>Should not lockdown country, general</i>	1	2
<i>Should not close schools/need to address negative impact on children</i>	1	1
<i>Need greater protection for economy</i>	<1	1
Protect personal freedom and choice	3	5
Depoliticize the outbreak and related issues	3	5
Should not overreact and go overboard	3	4
We should not or cannot prepare for a new outbreak	2	3
People are too selfish or stupid to do the right thing	2	3
Do not trust public health officials or organizations	1	2
Shut down or monitor travel across borders	1	2
Vaccines do not work and/or other treatments would have been more effective NET	1	2
<i>Distrust of vaccine effectiveness/should allow alternative treatments</i>	1	2
<i>Concern about rushing vaccine development</i>	<1	<1
Do not rely on the media	1	2
Masks and other recommended health precautions do not work NET	1	2
<i>Distrust of health guidance</i>	1	1
<i>Distrust of masks</i>	1	1
The pandemic was intentionally created or entirely made up	1	1
Other	3	5
Unclear	2	3
Don't Know	2	4
No answer	37	--

## Scientific process, speed top the list of things that Americans say they have learned about vaccine and medical treatment development during COVID-19

Among those responding, % who say they have learned the following about how new medical treatments and vaccines are developed

	All responding	Rep/lean Rep	Dem/lean Dem
Positive sentiment			
Process of vaccine development NET	14	7	20
Speed of vaccine and treatment development NET	12	8	15
Respect for science NET	8	4	13
Vaccines are effective NET	6	4	7
Positive view of treatments	4	3	6
Negative sentiment			
Negative views of the vaccines NET	12	19	6
Distrust pharmaceutical companies NET	4	7	2
Distrust government	4	7	1
Politicization of treatments NET	4	7	<1
Others are uninformed/selfish	2	<1	4
System inefficiencies	2	2	2
Distrust public health officials	1	3	<1
Distrust media	<1	1	0
Neutral sentiment			
Vaccines/treatments take a while to develop	2	1	3
Learned a lot	1	1	1
Give similar resources to other diseases	1	1	1
Need more information	<1	<1	<1
Learned nothing NET	16	16	15
Other responses	11	13	11
Unclear	6	6	5
Don't know	4	5	4

Note: Based on those who gave a response to the question. Verbatim responses have been coded into categories. Figures add to more than 100% because multiple responses were accepted.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted May 2-8, 2022.

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## Americans' takeaways for the nation from COVID-19 often focus on more preparation, the importance of mitigation measures

Among those responding, % who say the lesson the country should learn to be better prepared for the possibility of a new outbreak of infectious disease is ...

	All responding	Rep/lean Rep	Dem/lean Dem
Preparation, trust			
Be more prepared NET	18	14	23
Importance of mitigation measures, complying with CDC guidelines NET	17	9	26
Take action more quickly, take it seriously NET	9	6	12
Trust in science and scientific experts	7	3	11
Come together, educate better			
Work together and care for the community	9	2	14
Educate, inform and communicate better with the public NET	8	6	9
Depoliticize the outbreak and related issues	5	6	5
Distrust, opposition to shutdowns			
Do not rely on government, elected officials	9	12	7
Do not close down the country, economy, schools or businesses NET	6	11	2
Protect personal freedom and choice	5	11	1
Should not overreact and go overboard	4	7	2
Do not trust public health officials/agencies	2	5	1
Vaccines do not work and/or other treatments would have been more effective NET	2	3	<1
Do not rely on the media	2	4	<1
Masks and other recommended health precautions do not work NET	2	4	<1
Other themes in responses			
Take care of one's own health and personal hygiene	9	11	8
We should not or cannot prepare for a new outbreak	3	6	<1
People are too selfish or stupid to do the right thing	3	1	4
Shut down or monitor travel across borders	2	3	1
The pandemic was intentionally created or entirely made up	1	2	<1
Other responses	5	6	5
Unclear	3	3	4
Don't know	4	5	2

Note: Based on those who gave a response to the question. Verbatim responses have been coded into categories. Figures add to more than 100% because multiple responses were accepted.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted May 2-8, 2022.

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