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THE STATE OF THE NATION: A 50-STATE COVID-19 SURVEY

REPORT #13: PUBLIC TRUST IN INSTITUTIONS AND VACCINE ACCEPTANCE

USA, September 2020

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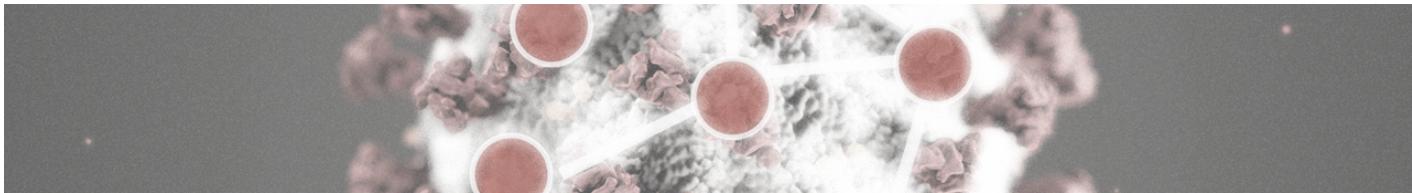
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Report of September 15, 2020, v.1

From: The COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States

A joint project of:

Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University, and Northwestern University

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COVER MEMO

Summary Memo— September 15, 2020

The COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States

Partners: Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University, and Northwestern University

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From August 7 to 26 we conducted the ninth wave of a large, 50-state survey, some results of which are presented here. You can find previous reports online at www.covidstates.org.

Note on methods:

We surveyed 21,196 individuals across all 50 states plus the District of Columbia. The survey was conducted on 7-26 August 2020 by PureSpectrum via an online, nonprobability sample, with state-level representative quotas for race/ethnicity, age, and gender (for methodological details on the other waves, see covidstates.org). In addition to balancing on these dimensions, we reweighted our data using demographic characteristics to match the U.S. population with respect to race/ethnicity, age, gender, education, and living in urban, suburban, or rural areas. This was the ninth in a series of surveys we have been conducting since April 2020, examining attitudes and behaviors regarding COVID-19 in the United States.

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Public Trust in institutions and individuals that manage the COVID-19 crisis and its consequences for vaccine acceptance

Controversy has erupted over the possible release of a COVID-19 vaccine prior to the November 3rd election, with [President Trump](#) hinting that a vaccine may be ready by October, while the [CDC](#) has instructed states to be prepared to distribute a vaccine at that time. These assertions have prompted a [backlash](#) from some public health experts, countering that this timeline is extremely improbable.

Concerns over the possible politicization of emergency use authorization by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of a COVID-19 vaccine prior to the completion of phase 3 trials, in turn, has prompted the various pharmaceutical companies currently working on vaccines to prepare an unprecedented [joint public statement](#) that they will not submit a vaccine to the FDA for approval until they have compelling scientific proof that it is safe and effective. The political debate occurring against the backdrop of a presidential election raises concerns that many Americans may be unwilling to accept a vaccine because they do not trust the government or its agencies to prioritize safety and efficacy over politics.

Meanwhile, Democratic vice presidential candidate Kamala Harris commented during a CNN interview on getting a COVID-19 vaccine prior to the election: "[I would not trust Donald Trump](#)." She subsequently amended her statement, saying in part, "[I would trust a vaccine if the public health professionals and the scientists told us that we can trust it.](#)" In this report, we explore the issue of public trust regarding the handling of COVID-19 across 15 institutions and individual leaders and its link to public willingness to be vaccinated if a vaccine becomes available.

Specifically, we ask: "How much do you trust the following people and organizations to do the right thing to best handle the current coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak?" For this analysis, we assess the likelihood that a respondent reports trusting an institution or individual leader "somewhat" or "a lot." We then consider how partisanship and race influence trust in these institutions as well as the extent to which trust is associated with self-reported intent to be vaccinated for COVID-19 or to have received a flu vaccination this past season. We address both the state of trust and vaccine acceptance in August, as well as trends over time.

Part I. Overall trust

Figure 1 and Table 1 present general trends in respondents' trust of 15 different institutions and political leaders to manage the COVID-19 pandemic between late April and August. **As the pandemic has persisted, we see a gradual erosion in public trust across all 15 of the institutions and leaders included in our survey, albeit to widely varying degrees.** The largest declines from late April to August emerge for the White House (13 points, from 59% to 46%) and Congress (13 points, from 55% to 42%). At the opposite extreme, trust in Joe Biden's management of the pandemic remained almost perfectly flat throughout this period, dropping by only 1 point (from 51% expressing some or a lot of trust in late April to 50% in August). Trust in President Trump to manage the COVID-19 crisis declined from 50% in late April to 43% in August. The August figure for Trump represents a slight uptick of 2 points since July.

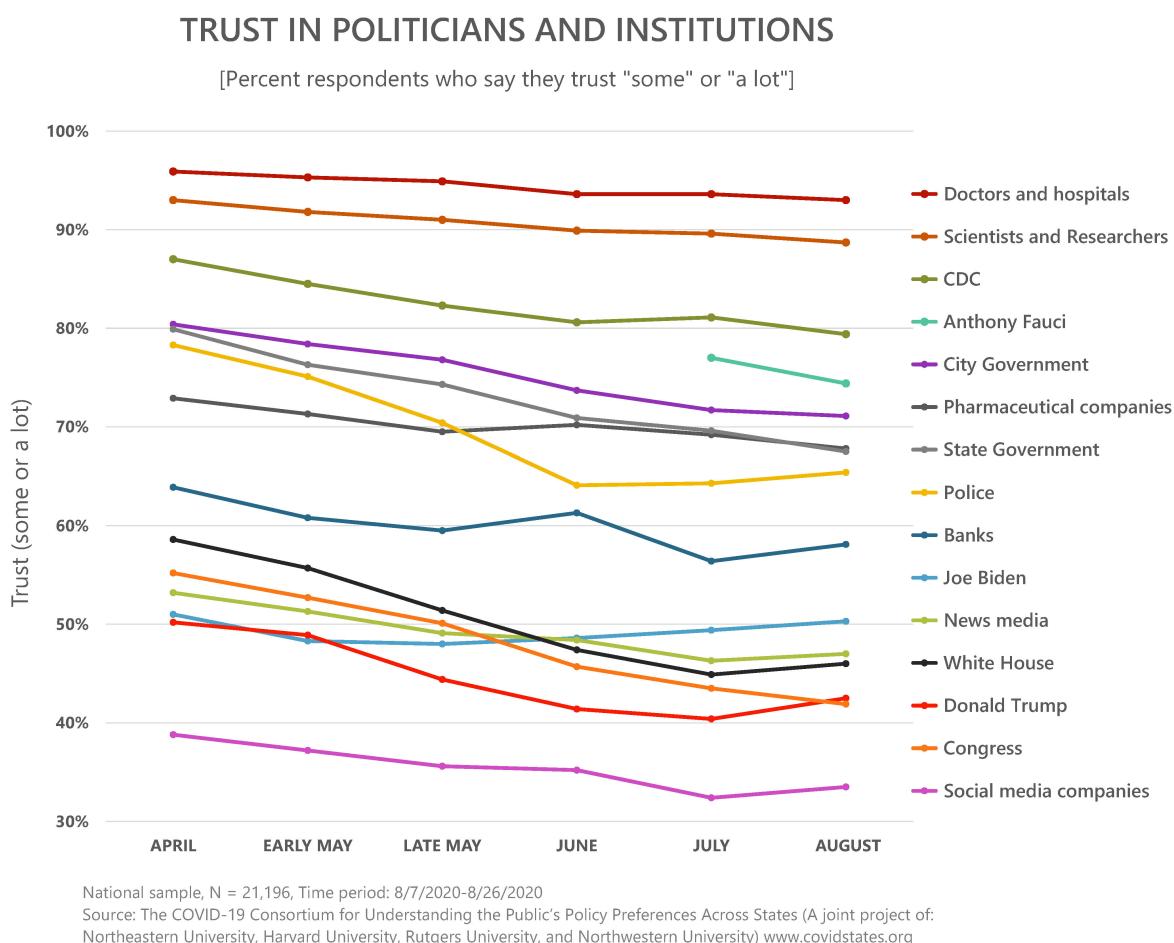


Figure 1: Trust in institutions and leaders to manage the COVID-19 crisis, April to August 2020

Levels of trust were lower in August than in the April for every institution and individual we tracked, with the smallest decline being Joe Biden, who has seen his trust level fall by only one percentage point over this period (from 51% to 50%). Four institutions – state government (for August, 68%), Congress (42%), the White House (46%), and police (65%) – have seen double-digit declines (from 12 to 13 percentage points) since the beginning of our series in April, albeit from very different initial levels of trust. That said, in most cases levels of trust have stabilized since late July, and in seven instances – social media companies (34% in August), the news media (47%), banks (58%), the White House (again, 46%), the police (65%), Joe Biden (50%) and Donald Trump (43%) – trust levels have slightly increased over the past month.

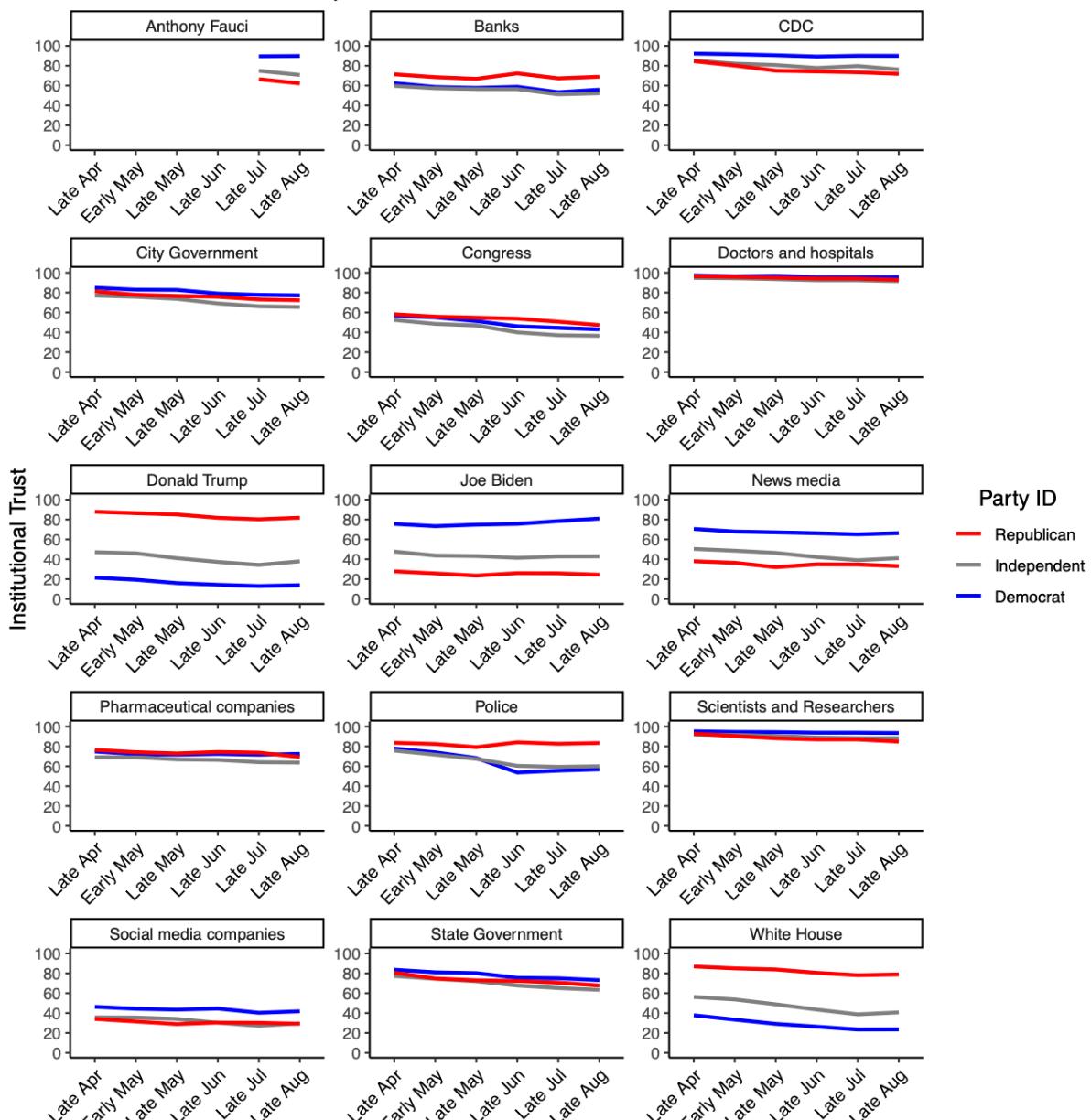
Part II. Trust by party

Figure 2 replicates Figure 1, broken out by political party identification (See [Table 2](#) for values). Several noteworthy patterns emerge. The first is that all three partisan groups have, over time, downgraded their trust in the executive and legislative branches regarding their handling of the pandemic. In April, trust in Congress exceeded 50% for all three groups (58% among Republicans, 57% among Democrats, and 53% among independents), possibly reflecting the unusual degree of bipartisan cooperation on multiple large-scale COVID-19 relief packages. By August, the percentages of partisans expressing trust in Congress had fallen by 11, 14, and 16 points for Republicans, Democrats, and independents, respectively (to 47%, 43%, and 37%).

The overall patterns for the White House and for President Trump are similar to one another, though we observe larger partisan divides over time, with Republicans expressing far higher levels of trust than Democrats or independents throughout the time series. Interestingly, while we see a downward trend in trust from April through July across all three groups for both the White House and President Trump, among Republicans and independents trust remained fairly stable from July to August. Democrats, however, further downgraded their trust in the president. In August, 79% and 82% of Republicans expressed trust in the White House and the president, respectively, compared to 24% and 14% among Democrats and 41% and 38% among independents. Notably, among Democrats, trust in the White House is substantially higher – by 10 points – than for its current occupant. The gap for independents is smaller, though in the same direction (3 points).

**How much do you trust the following people and organizations
to do the right thing to best handle the current
coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak?**

Percent respondents who trust "somewhat" or "a lot"



National Sample, N = 120,621, Time Period: 04/17/2020 – 08/26/2020
 Source: COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States
 (A Joint Project of Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University
 and Northwestern University)
www.covidstates.org

**Figure 2: Trust in institutions and leaders to manage the COVID-19 crisis
by political party, April to August 2020**

We also see a steady decline, from April to August, in trust for state and city governments' handling of the pandemic across all three partisan subgroups. For trust in city governments, these declines were 8 points among Democrats, 9 points among Republicans, and a somewhat larger 11 points among independents. At the state level, declines also vary, from a low of 11 points among Democrats to a high of 14 points among independents, with Republicans falling in between at 13 percentage points.

In August, Democrats expressed the highest levels of trust in the capacity of state governments to manage the COVID-19 crisis, at 73%, compared to 68% among Republicans and 63% among independents. The corresponding level of trust for city government in August was 77% among Democrats, compared to 72% and 66% among Republicans and Independents.

These patterns reverse when it comes to trust in the police. **Republicans express far higher levels of trust in the police for their handling of COVID-19 than Democrats or independents**, with all three groups maintaining fairly steady levels of trust from July to August (83% in both cases for Republicans; from 56% to 57% for Democrats, and from 59% to 60% for independents).

However, Democrats' trust in the police has sharply declined since April (from 78% to 57%). The gap between Democrats and Republicans in trust in the police, in turn, increased from 6 points (78% to 84%) in April to 26 points (57% to 83% in August. In this case, the Black Lives Matter (BLM) protest movement that arose in the aftermath of the George Floyd murder, combined with President Trump's increasingly critical rhetoric directed at the BLM protestors, likely contribute to the patterns we observe.

Another pattern that jumps out from these trends is that **scientists and medical experts have enjoyed by far the highest levels of public trust, which have remained high from April through August.** Public trust in hospitals and doctors, as well as for scientists and researchers, have all remained at very high levels (over 85%) throughout this period. In April, the percentages of respondents across partisan subgroups expressing trust in scientists and researchers ranged from 92% to 95% and from 95% to 97% for doctors and hospitals. In August, the trust levels across partisan subgroups ranged from 85% to 94% for scientists and researchers and from 92% to 96% for doctors and hospitals.

The CDC also receives high trust, especially among Democrats (90% in August), but less for Republicans (72%) and independents (76%). Trust in Dr. Anthony Fauci is available only in our July and August waves. Here we see a substantial partisan gap in both waves, but especially in August, with **trust in Dr. Fauci to manage the COVID-19 crisis resting at 90% among Democrats, compared to 62% and 71% for Republicans and independents.**

We also find substantial partisan polarization trust in Joe Biden (24% for Republicans, 81% for Democrats, and 43% for independents) and the news media (33%, 66% and 41%, respectively).

For other private sector institutions, we find the highest levels of trust for pharmaceutical companies (73%, 69%, and 64%, for Democrats, Republicans, and independents), followed by banks (56%, 69% and 52%), with among the lowest levels of trust found in our survey reserved for social media companies (42%, 29%, and 30%).

Part III. Trust by race

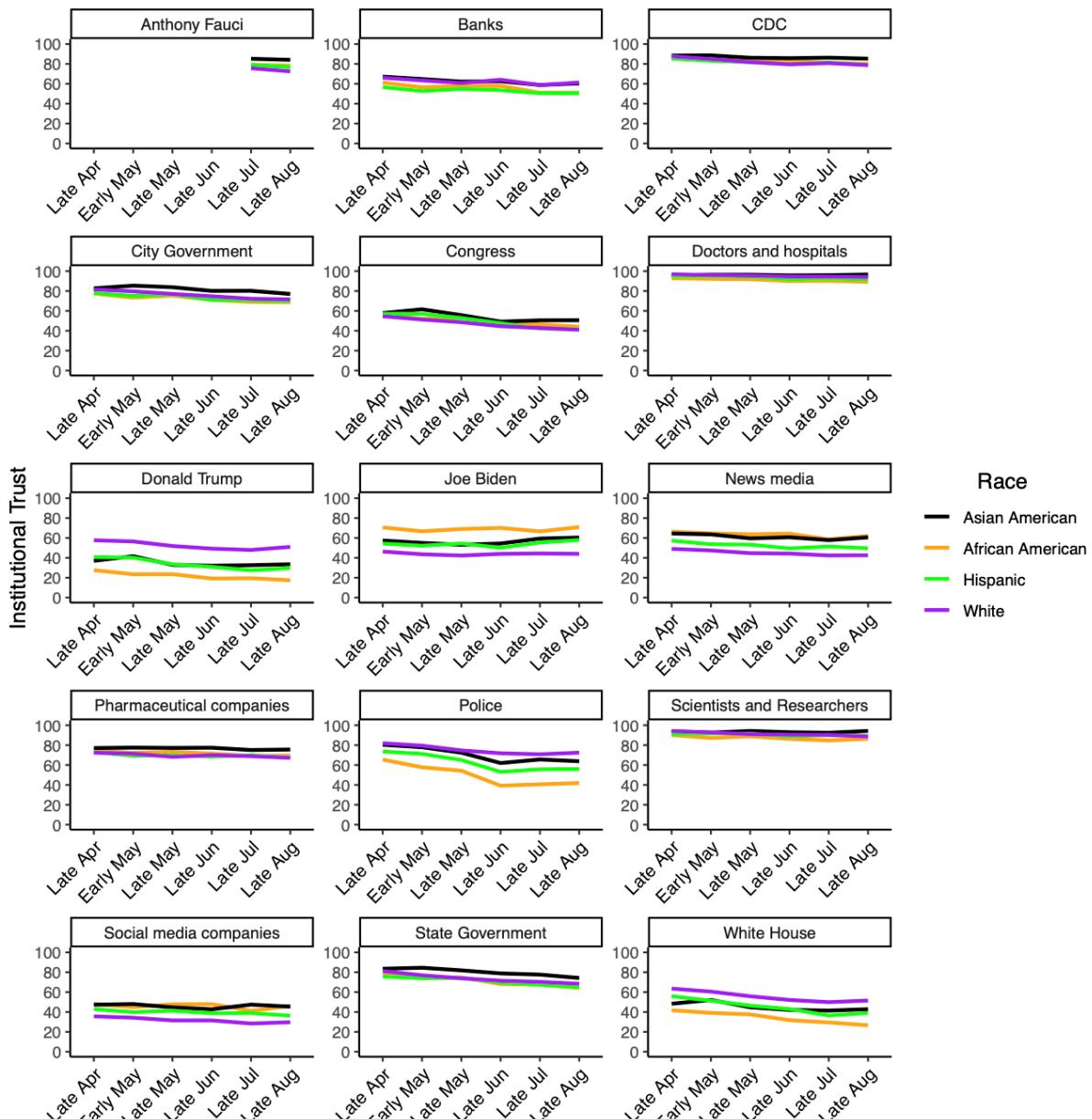
When we separate levels of trust by race (see Figure 3 and [Table 3](#) for values), in most cases we see pretty tight clustering, indicating fairly small differences between racial groups. Notably, the CDC, hospitals and doctors, and scientists and researchers all cluster together at very high levels (at least 75% for all racial groups, across all three categories in August). At the opposite extreme, Congress and social media companies cluster together at the lowest levels in our data (between 41% and 51%, and between 30% and 45%, respectively).

There are a few noteworthy exceptions to the pattern of tight clustering. In particular, **we find substantial racial divides with respect to President Trump, Joe Biden, police, and the White House. For three of the four groups – President Trump, the White House and the police – we find the highest levels of trust (for management of the pandemic) among white respondents (51%, 52%, and 72%, respectively) and the lowest among Black respondents (17%, 27%, and 42%, respectively). In the fourth case, the pattern reverses, with the highest level of trust for Joe Biden among Black respondents (71%) and the lowest for white respondents (44%).** Partisan affiliation likely plays a significant role in all of these patterns, though for trust in the police, once again the Black Lives Matter (BLM) protest movement, combined with President Trump's rhetoric directed at the BLM protestors, may have contributed to the patterns we observe.

One other interesting case is trust in Dr. Anthony Fauci to manage the COVID-19 crisis. Here all racial groups cluster fairly closely together in the August wave, ranging from high (73%, among whites) to very high (84%, among Asian Americans).

How much do you trust the following people and organizations to do the right thing to best handle the current coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak?

Percent respondents who trust "somewhat" or "a lot"



National Sample, N = 120,621, Time Period: 04/17/2020 – 08/26/2020
 Source: COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States
 (A Joint Project of Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University
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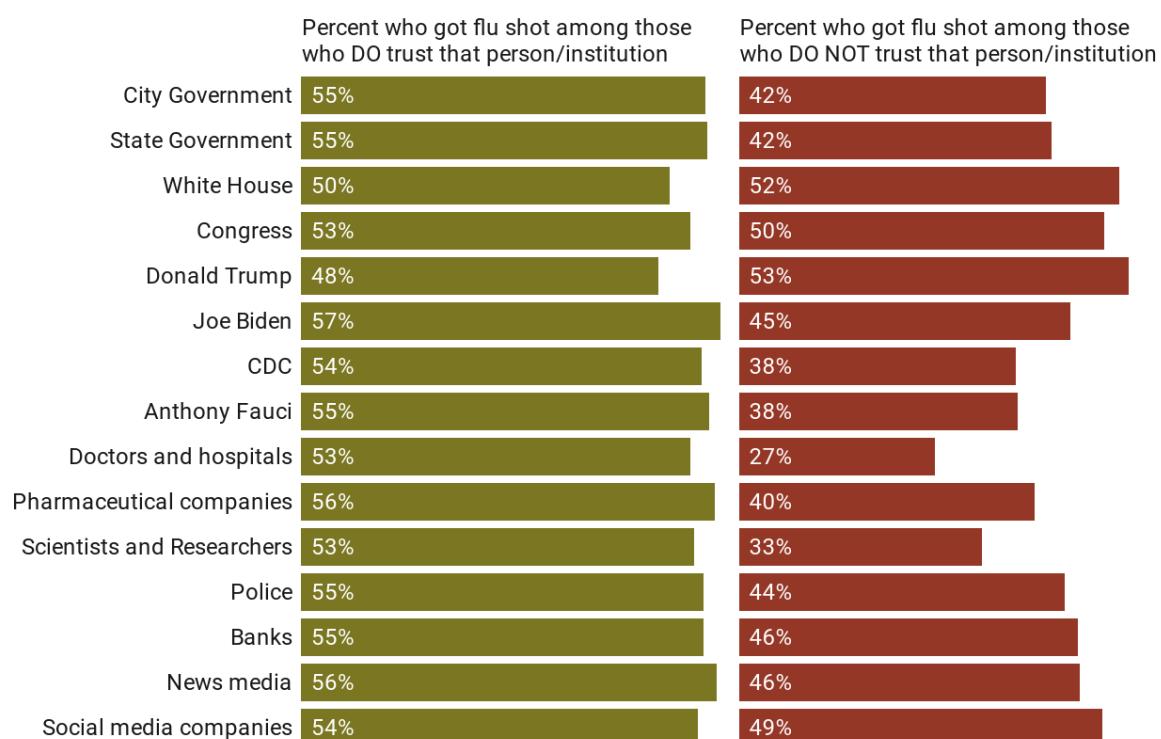
**Figure 3: Trust in institutions and leaders to manage the covid-19 crisis by race,
April to August 2020**

Part IV: Effect of trust on vaccine acceptance

When confronting a situation in which effective public policy depends upon voluntary public compliance, as will be the case with any COVID-19 vaccine, trust in institutions and leaders becomes essential. The key question is, when a vaccine becomes available, will people trust that the government has done its due diligence to ensure that it is safe and effective, enough so that they will accept vaccination for themselves and their families.

Getting a flu shot and trust in institutions

Did you get a flu shot this past flu season? [Percent respondents who say they got a flu shot in the past season among those who trust an institution "some" or "a lot" compared to those who trust it "not too much" or "not at all"]



National sample, N = 21,196, Time period: 8/7/2020-8/26/2020

Source: The COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States (A joint project of: Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University, and Northwestern University) www.covidstates.org
• Created with Datawrapper

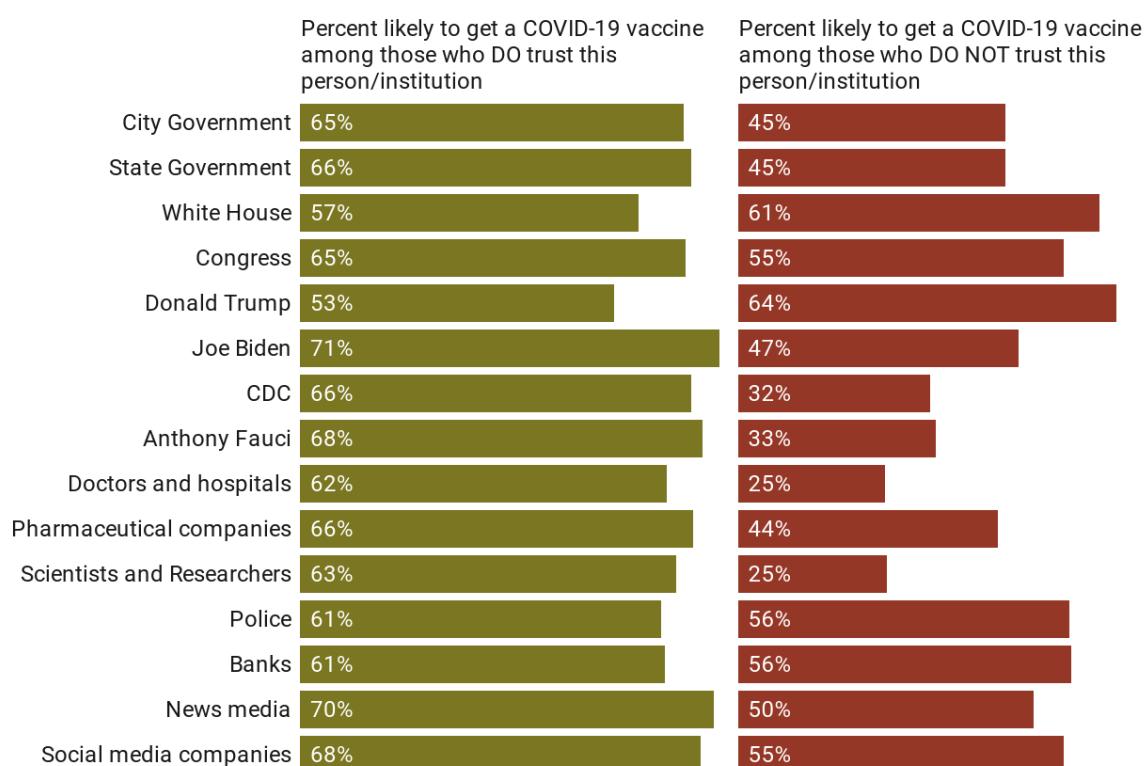
Figure 4: COVID-19 vaccine acceptance and trust in institutions, August 2020

Figures 4 and 5 present the likelihood of being extremely or somewhat likely to report having received the flu vaccine this past season or to seek a COVID-19 vaccine if it becomes available, based on trust in different institutions or leaders in their handling of the COVID-19 outbreak (See Table 4 for values).

COVID-19 vaccine acceptance and trust in institutions

If a vaccine against COVID-19 was available to you, how likely would you be to get vaccinated?

[Percent respondents who say they are "somewhat likely" or "extremely likely" to get a COVID-19 vaccine among those who trust an institution "some" or "a lot" compared to those who trust it "not too much" or "not at all"]



National sample, N = 21,196, Time period: 8/7/2020-8/26/2020

Source: The COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States (A joint project of: Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University, and Northwestern University) www.covidstates.org
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Figure 5. Flu vaccine uptake and trust in institutions, August 2020

Several noteworthy patterns emerge. First, **just under six in 10 respondents in the August wave expressed an intent to seek the COVID-19 vaccine (59%). This represents a seven percentage point decline from late July (66%).**

Second, **we see much greater variation, depending on trust in different individual leaders or institutions, for the COVID-19 vaccine than for the flu vaccine.** In the former case, depending on the institution or individual, intent to seek the COVID-19 vaccine varies by 18 percentage points (from a low of 53% for respondents who trust President Trump's management of the COVID-19 crisis to a high of 71% among respondents who indicate trust in Joe Biden. The corresponding range of variation for the flu vaccine is a far smaller 9 percentage points (from a low of 48% for respondents who trust President Trump's management of the COVID-19 crisis to a high of 57% among respondents who indicate trust in Joe Biden).

As these figures reveal, **we see the lowest intention to seek COVID-19 vaccination, as well as reports of receiving a flu shot last season, among respondents who express trust in the president. At the other extreme, we also find that 68% of respondents who indicated that they trust Dr. Fauci expressed the intent to seek the COVID-19 vaccine, as did 70% who trusted the news media, 68% who trusted social media platforms. For the seasonal flu vaccine, 56% of respondents who indicated that they trusted pharmaceutical companies, 55% who trusted Dr. Fauci, and 56% who expressed trust in the news media to handle the COVID-19 crisis indicated that they took the flu vaccine this past year.**

Part V. Trust and vaccine acceptance by party

Trust is closely related to political partisanship, especially for the three individual leaders we included in our survey (Trump, Biden, and Fauci). To assess whether and to what extent trust and political party are correlated with vaccine-related attitudes and behavior independent from their relationship with one another, we explore the effects of trust on vaccine acceptance for partisan subgroups, focusing on Dr. Fauci, President Trump, and former Vice President Biden, and report the results in Figure 6.

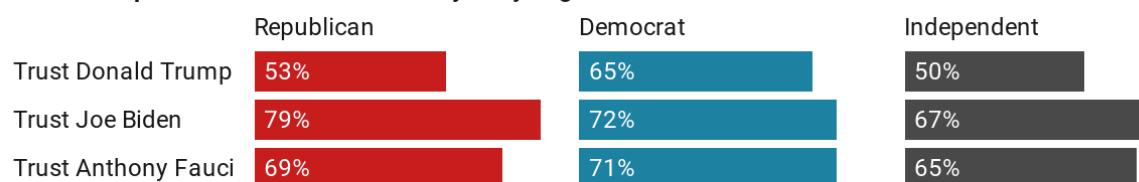
In all three cases, **the correlation between trust and vaccine acceptance vary between partisan subgroups**, indicating that partisanship and trust are not entirely interchangeable. **The lowest levels of intent to seek the COVID-19 vaccine or to have received the flu shot this past year emerge among independents, especially those who indicate trust in President Trump's management of the COVID-19 crisis. Among partisans, 73% of Democrats who trust President Trump and 84% of Republicans who trust Joe Biden would get the COVID-19 vaccine for their children.**

For Republicans, far more so than Democrats, trusting their own party's candidate is associated with a much lower probability of intent to seek the COVID-19 vaccine (58% and 71% for Republicans who trust Trump and Democrats who trust Biden, respectively). Declaring among the highest levels of intent to seek the COVID-19 vaccine for *themselves* are Republicans who report trusting Dr. Fauci (69%) or Joe Biden (79%) and Democrats who report trusting Fauci (71%) or Biden (72%).

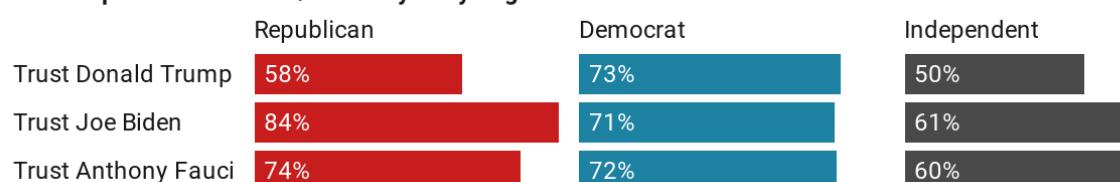
Across individual leaders, we see smaller variations between Democrats and Republicans in reporting a flu shot, regardless of their trust in the three political figures about whom we surveyed. That said, for all three groups, trust in President Trump is associated with a lower likelihood of having received the season flu vaccine than trust in Dr. Fauci or Joe Biden.

Vaccine acceptance by party and trust in political figures

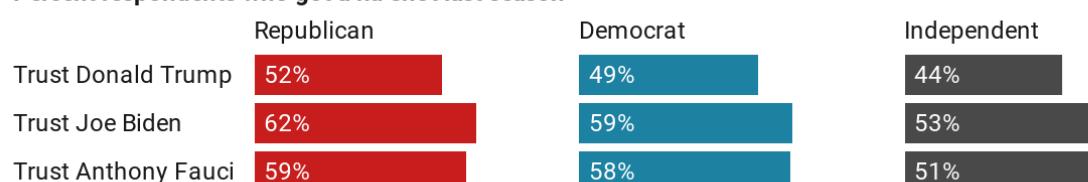
Percent respondents somewhat/extremely likely to get a COVID-19 vaccine



Percent parents somewhat/extremely likely to give a COVID-19 vaccine to their kids



Percent respondents who got a flu shot last season



National sample, N = 21,196, Time period: 8/7/2020-8/26/2020

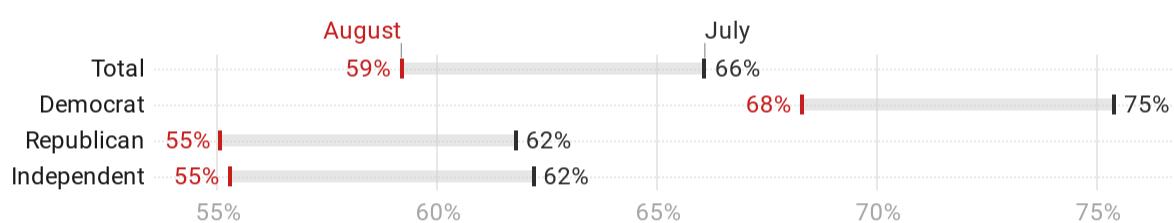
Source: The COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States (A joint project of: Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University, and Northwestern University) www.covidstates.org
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Figure 6. COVID-19 vaccine acceptance and trust, by political party

Interestingly, when we break the COVID-19 vaccine acceptance figures out by party (see Figure 7), we see near-identical 7 point month-over-month declines across all three partisan subgroups (from 75% to 68% among Democrats, from 62% to 55% among Republicans, and from 62% to 55% among independents). Democrats are four points more likely than Republicans or independents in both the July and August surveys.

COVID-19 vaccine acceptance by party

If a vaccine against COVID-19 was available to you, how likely would you be to get vaccinated?
[Percent respondents who said "somewhat likely" or "extremely likely"]



National sample N1 = 19,058 (7/10/2020-7/26/2020), N2 = 21,196 (8/7/2020-8/26/2020)

Source: The COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States (A joint project of: Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University, and Northwestern University) www.covidstates.org
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Figure 7. COVID-19 vaccine acceptance by party, July to August 2020

Part VI. Trust and vaccine acceptance across states

Figure 8 and [Table 5](#) present vaccine acceptance across the 50 states and the District of Columbia and trust in President Trump, scientists and researchers, and Dr. Anthony Fauci. In the first case, vaccine acceptance ranges from a low of 43% in Mississippi to a high of 71% in Washington State. Fewer than half of respondents in two additional states (West Virginia, Tennessee) indicated that they were somewhat or extremely likely to seek a COVID-19 vaccine. States with the next highest rates of self-reported intent to take the vaccine were Massachusetts (68%) and Vermont (67%).

Trust in President Trump to manage the COVID-19 pandemic, in turn, ranges from a low of 31% in Rhode Island (followed closely by Oregon and the District of Columbia, at 33% each) to a high of 60% in West Virginia (followed by 55% in Louisiana, and Alabama, Tennessee and Wyoming at 54% each.) When we compare trust in the president and vaccine acceptance across states, we find a strong negative correlation (-.72). This means that higher levels of trust in President Trump are a powerful predictor, at the state level, of lower rates of vaccine acceptance.¹

Respondents trust scientists and researchers much more than the president; trust levels range from a low of 70% in Wyoming to a high of 95% in Rhode Island, closely followed by Massachusetts at 94%. Looking across the states, at least 90% of respondents expressed trust in scientists and doctors in 20 states, while the next-lowest levels of trust for this group were 81% in Oklahoma and 82% in Alabama. Despite the lower range of variation in trust in scientists and researchers compared to trust in President Trump, the correlation between vaccine acceptance and trust in scientists and researchers is positive (.48). This means that, at the state level, greater levels of trust in scientists and researchers positively predicts greater levels of vaccine acceptance.

Finally, on average, trust in Dr. Fauci falls in between levels for President Trump and scientists and researchers. We find the highest level of trust in Dr. Fauci to manage the COVID-19 pandemic in the District of Columbia (88%), followed by Maryland (85%) and Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Maine (84% each). At the opposite extreme, states with the lowest levels of trust in Dr. Fauci include Wyoming (57%), Alabama (61%) and Idaho and Mississippi (62% each).

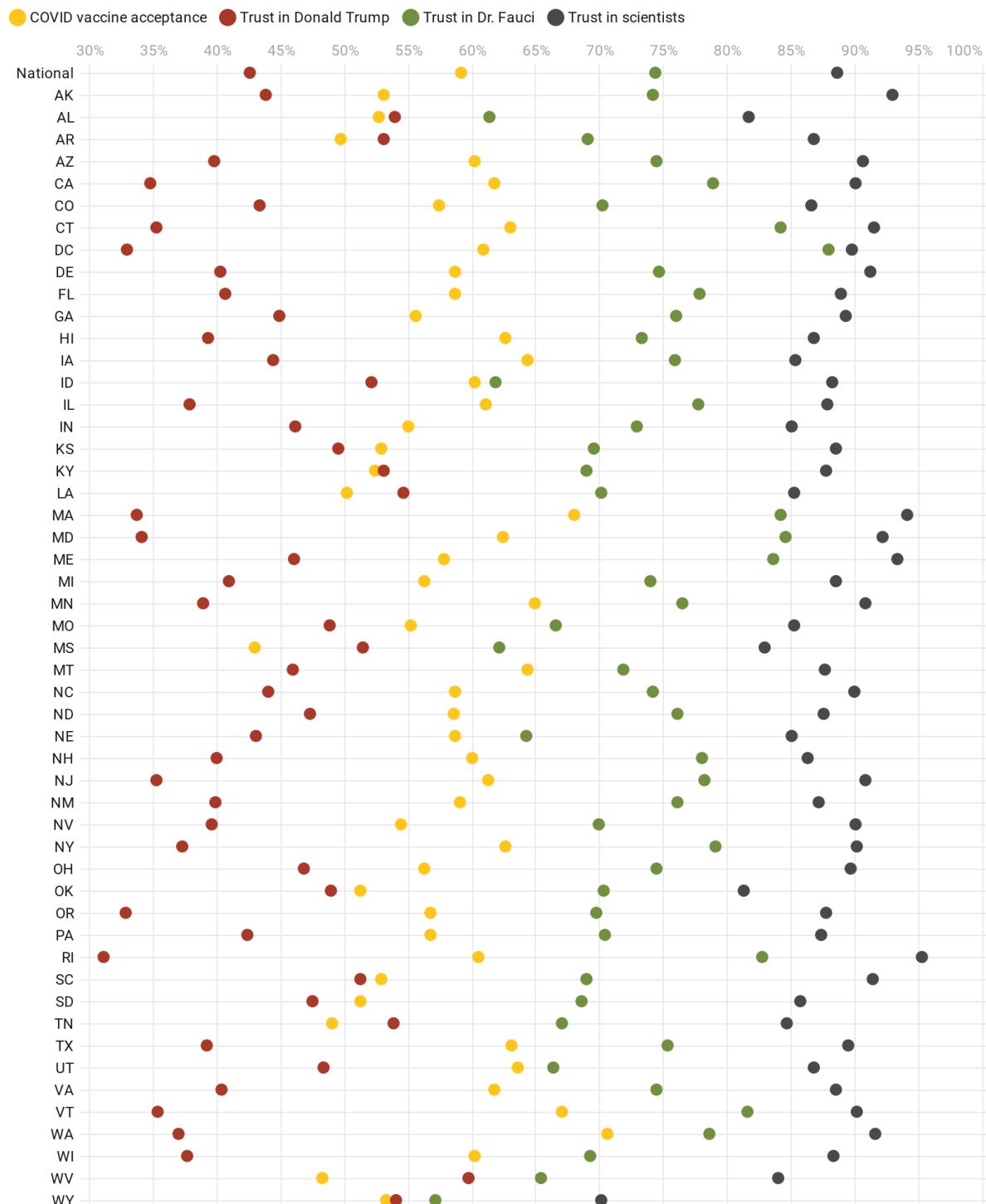
Overall, we find the strongest positive state-level correlation between trust and COVID-19 vaccine acceptance across the 15 institutions and leaders in our survey for trust in Dr. Fauci (.62). At the state level, greater trust in Dr. Fauci is associated with higher levels of expressed intent to take the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available.

¹ It is important to note that state-level correlations are different from individual-level correlations, as they collapse all individuals within a state. At the individual level, the highest correlations are for Dr. Fauci (.31), and the CDC (.28), followed by scientists and researchers at .25. The correlation with President Trump is weaker at the individual level (-.11), though it remains the strongest negative correlation in our data. The implication is that, while the state level correlations are understandably stronger □ since they represent apples-to-apples comparisons □ the relative strengths of the correlations are comparable across both levels.

Vaccine acceptance and trust in scientists, Anthony Fauci, and Donald Trump

[Vaccine: percent respondents who say they are "somewhat likely" or "extremely likely" to get a COVID-19 vaccine]

[Trust: percent respondents who say they trust Donald Trump, Dr. Anthony Fauci, or scientists and researchers "some" or "a lot"]



National sample, N = 21,196, Time period: 8/7/2020-8/26/2020

Source: The COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States (A joint project of: Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University, and Northwestern University) www.covidstates.org
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Figure 8. COVID-19 vaccine acceptance and trust in Donald Trump, Anthony Fauci, and scientists and researchers, by state, August 2020

Appendix 1: Public trust tables

Table 1: Overall trust in institutions across survey waves

Institution	April	Early May	Late May	June	July	August
City Government	80%	78%	77%	74%	72%	71%
State Government	80%	76%	74%	71%	70%	68%
White House	59%	56%	51%	47%	45%	46%
Congress	55%	53%	50%	46%	44%	42%
Donald Trump	50%	49%	44%	41%	40%	43%
Joe Biden	51%	48%	48%	49%	49%	50%
CDC	87%	85%	82%	81%	81%	79%
Anthony Fauci					77%	74%
Doctors and hospitals	96%	95%	95%	94%	94%	93%
Scientists and Researchers	93%	92%	91%	90%	90%	89%
Pharmaceutical companies	73%	71%	70%	70%	69%	68%
Police	78%	75%	70%	64%	64%	65%
Banks	64%	61%	60%	61%	56%	58%
News media	53%	51%	49%	48%	46%	47%
Social media companies	39%	37%	36%	35%	32%	34%

Table 2: Trust in institutions by party across survey waves

Available online: github.com/kateto/covidstates/tree/master/Report Data/Report 13 Trust

Table 3: Trust in institutions by race across survey waves

Available online: github.com/kateto/covidstates/tree/master/Report Data/Report 13 Trust

Table 4: Institutional trust and vaccine acceptance, August 2020

Institution	Percent likely to get a COVID-19 vaccine among those who trust this person or institution	Percent likely to get a COVID-19 vaccine among those who do NOT trust this person or institution	Percent who got flu shot among those who trust that person or institution	Percent who got flu shot among those who do NOT trust that person or institution
City Government	65%	45%	55%	42%
State Government	66%	45%	55%	42%
White House	57%	61%	50%	52%
Congress	65%	55%	53%	50%
Donald Trump	53%	64%	48%	53%
Joe Biden	71%	47%	57%	45%
CDC	66%	32%	54%	38%
Anthony Fauci	68%	33%	55%	38%
Doctors and hospitals	62%	25%	53%	27%
Pharmaceutical companies	66%	44%	56%	40%
Scientists and Researchers	63%	25%	53%	33%
Police	61%	56%	55%	44%
Banks	61%	56%	55%	46%
News media	70%	50%	56%	46%
Social media companies	68%	55%	54%	49%

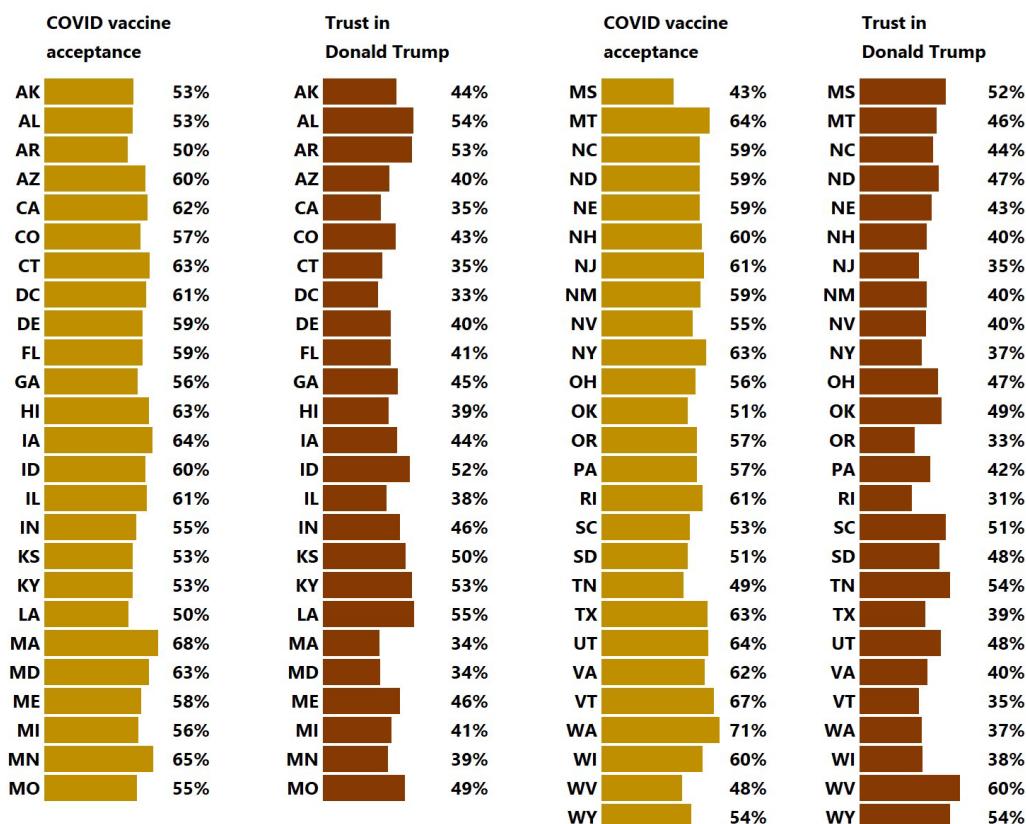
Table 5: Institutional trust by state, August 2020

Available online: github.com/kateto/covidstates/tree/master/Report Data/Report 13 Trust

Appendix 2: Trust and vaccination state figures

Vaccine acceptance and trust in Donald Trump

[Vaccine: percent respondents who say they are "somewhat likely" or "extremely likely" to get a COVID vaccine
Trust: percent respondents who say they trust Donald Trump "some" or "a lot"]



National sample, N = 21,196, Time period: 8/7/2020-8/26/2020

Source: The COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States (A joint project of:

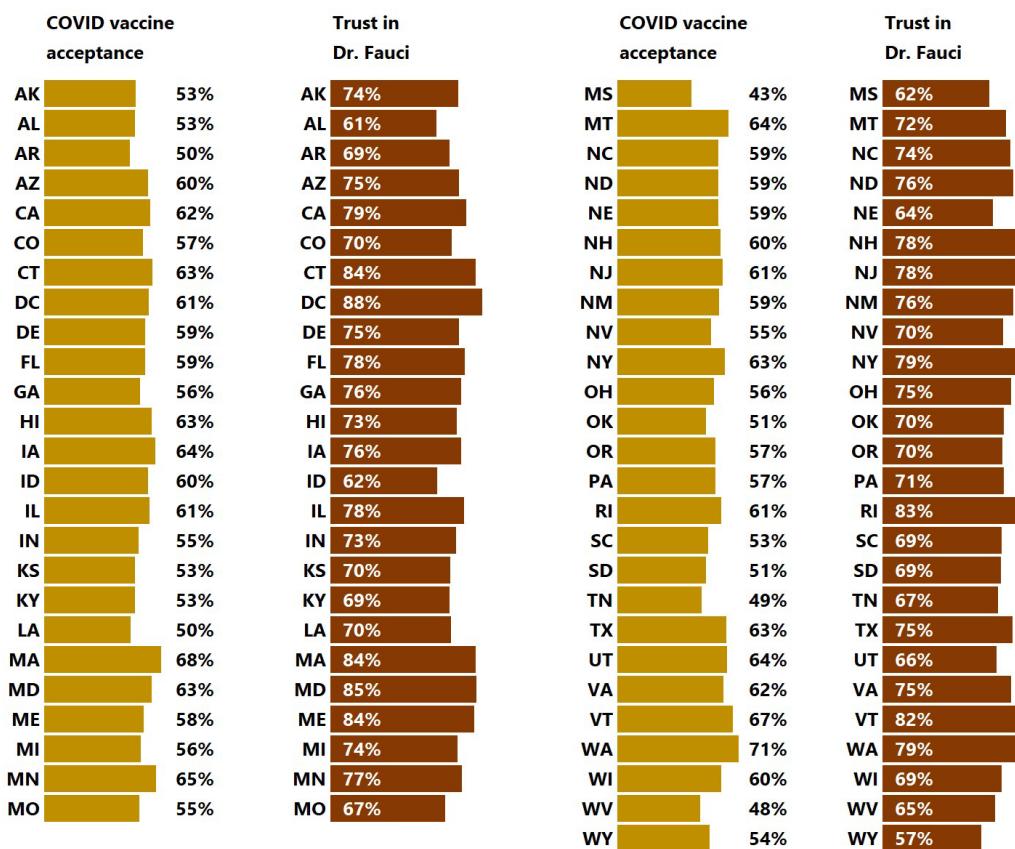
Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University, and Northwestern University) www.covidstates.org

2016 numbers are based on Pew Research Center analysis of IPUMS and US Census data.

Figure A2.1 Vaccine acceptance and trust in Donald Trump by state

Vaccine acceptance and trust in Dr. Anthony Fauci

[Vaccine: percent respondents who say they are "somewhat likely" or "extremely likely" to get a COVID vaccine
 Trust: percent respondents who say they trust Dr. Fauci "some" or "a lot"]



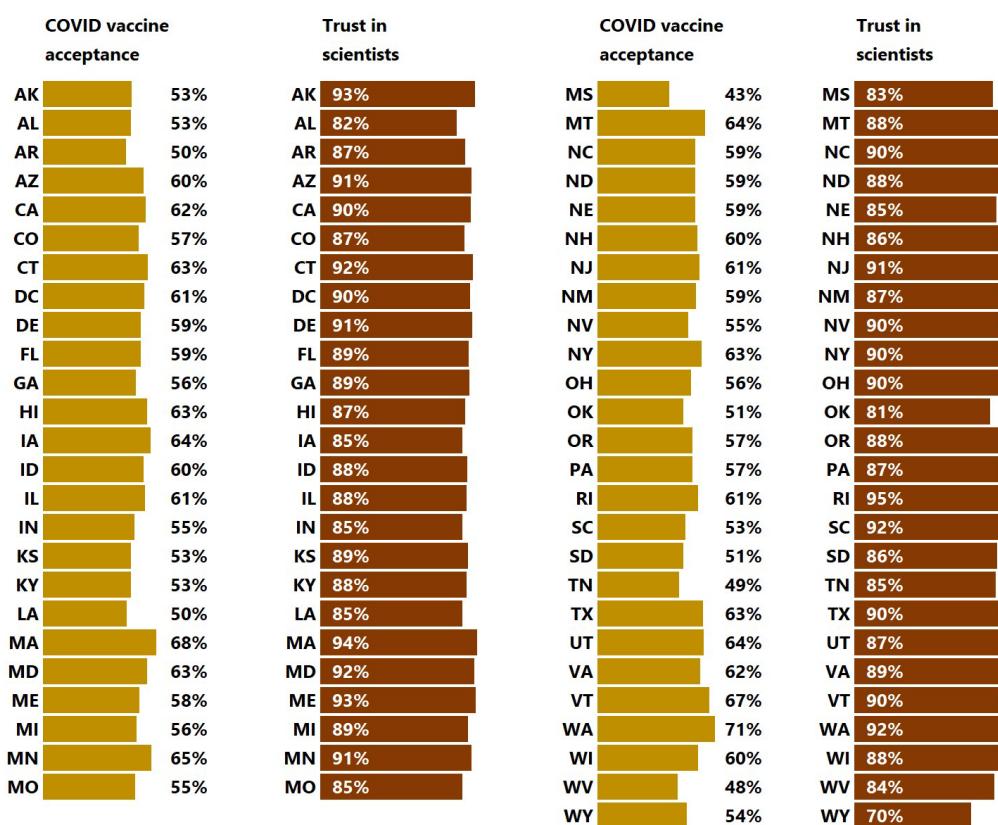
National sample, N = 21,196, Time period: 8/7/2020-8/26/2020

Source: The COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States (A joint project of: Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University, and Northwestern University) www.covidstates.org
 2016 numbers are based on Pew Research Center analysis of IPUMS and US Census data.

Figure A2.2 Vaccine acceptance and trust in Dr. Anthony Fauci by state

Vaccine acceptance and trust in scientists

[Vaccine: percent respondents who say they are "somewhat likely" or "extremely likely" to get a COVID vaccine
 Trust: percent respondents who say they trust scientists and researchers "some" or "a lot"]



National sample, N = 21,196, Time period: 8/7/2020-8/26/2020

Source: The COVID-19 Consortium for Understanding the Public's Policy Preferences Across States (A joint project of: Northeastern University, Harvard University, Rutgers University, and Northwestern University) www.covidstates.org
 2016 numbers are based on Pew Research Center analysis of IPUMS and US Census data.

Figure A2.3 Vaccine acceptance and trust in scientists by state