



Napolitan News Service Survey

Of 1,000 Registered Voters

Conducted August 3-4, 2026

1 How do you rate the way that the U.S. and state governments handled the COVID-19 pandemic?*

7% Excellent
22% Good
30% Fair
37% Poor
4% Not sure

Total			
	Excellent/Good	Poor	Net
August 3-4, 2026	29%	37%	-8
January 28, 2026	35%	35%	EVEN
July 30-31, 2025	31%	36%	-5
April 30-May 1, 2025	33%	36%	-3
January 30-31, 2025	33%	36%	-3
May 28-29, 2024	43%	27%	+16
Source: Napolitan News Service			

Conducted by RMG Research, Inc. August 3-4, 2026

Margin of Sampling Error: +/- 3.1 percentage points



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2 Is the worst of the pandemic behind us, or is it still to come?*

56% Behind us
26% Still to come
17% Not sure

Total			
	Behind us	Still to come	Net
August 3-4, 2026	56%	26%	+30
January 28, 2026	51%	28%	+23
September 10-11, 2025	51%	28%	+23
July 30-31, 2025	56%	25%	+31
April 30-May 1, 2025	56%	29%	+27
January 30-31 2025	56%	26%	+30
May 28-29, 2024	56%	24%	+32
September 11-12, 2023	50%	29%	+21
September 6-7, 2023	51%	27%	+34
July 26-27, 2023	60%	20%	+40
May 24-25, 2023	62%	20%	+42
April 13-14, 2023	60%	16%	+44
February 23-24, 2023	57%	22%	+35
January 24-26, 2023	56%	25%	+31
October 27-29, 2022	51%	22%	+29
September 27-28, 2022	55%	21%	+34
August 23-25, 2022	48%	29%	+19
June 27-29, 2022	50%	25%	+25
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3 Looking back, did the federal government overreact to the coronavirus pandemic in ways that did more harm than good?*

48% Yes
40% No
12% Not sure

Total			
	Yes	No	Net
August 3-4, 2026	48%	40%	+8
January 28, 2026	41%	45%	-4
July 30-31, 2025	44%	47%	-3
April 30-May 1, 2025	42%	47%	-5
January 30-31, 2025	42%	51%	-9
May 24-25, 2023	44%	44%	EVEN
February 23-24, 2023	43%	46%	-3
January 24-26, 2023	42%	43%	-1
Source: Napolitan News Service			

4 Were Covid regulations generally based more on science or ideology?*

42% Science
42% Ideology
16% Not sure

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5 Suppose you had a choice between two candidates. One said that lockdowns and mask mandates were an important tool in stopping COVID and should be reinstated if new cases emerge. The other said that lockdowns and mask mandates did more harm than good and should be avoided in the future. For whom would you vote?*

- 51% The one who said lockdowns and mask mandates should be reinstated if new cases emerge
- 38% The one who said that lockdowns and mask mandates should be avoided in the future
- 11% Not sure

Total			
	Mandates should be reinstated	Mandates should be avoided	Net
August 3-4, 2026	51%	38%	+13
January 28, 2026	48%	42%	+6
May 24-25, 2023	49%	39%	+10
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6 Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Dr. Anthony Fauci?*

21% Very favorable
23% Somewhat favorable
15% Somewhat unfavorable
26% Very unfavorable
15% Not sure

Total			
	Total favorable	Total unfavorable	Net
August 3-4, 2026	44%	41%	+3
December 9-10, 2024	40%	44%	-4
May 28-29, 2024	46%	41%	+5
January 24-26, 2023	48%	37%	+11
October 27-29, 2022	43%	38%	+5
August 23-25, 2022	47%	39%	+8
Source: Napolitan News Service			

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7 Should Dr. Fauci be investigated and prosecuted for his role in the pandemic and lockdowns?*

39%	Yes
41%	No
20%	Not sure

Methodology

This survey of 1,000 Registered Voters was conducted online by Scott Rasmussen on August 3-4, 2026. Field work for the survey was conducted by RMG Research, Inc. Certain quotas were applied, and the sample was lightly weighted by geography, gender, age, race, education, internet usage, and political party to reasonably reflect the nation's population of Registered Voters. Other variables were reviewed to ensure that the final sample is representative of that population.

The margin of sampling error for the full sample is +/- 3.1 percentage points.

This survey was paid for by Napolitan News Service as part of the service provided for our Gold Circle Members.

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