

To: Interested Parties
From: GBAO
Date: March 15, 2021

Member Tracking Poll: COVID-19 Vaccine And School Reopening

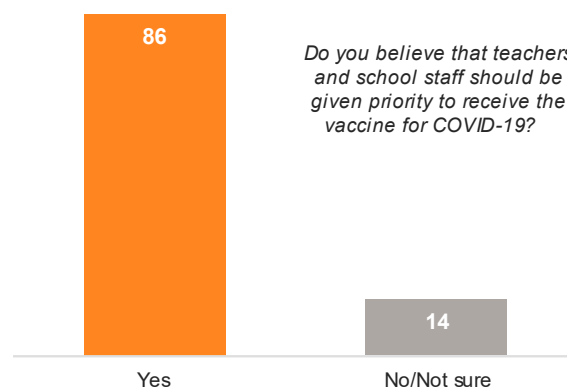
Our March tracking poll of NEA members shows a massive increase in the number of members who have been vaccinated since early February. Additionally, while many members still need more information about how to get vaccinated, there has been significant improvement on this measure since February.

A large majority of members are willing to work in-person if they are fully vaccinated. However, they still place high importance on COVID-19 safety protocols, including contact tracing, cleaning, PPE, and ventilation. Among those whose schools are at least partially open, we find some gaps in the safety measures they would like their schools to follow and the ones that are currently in place.

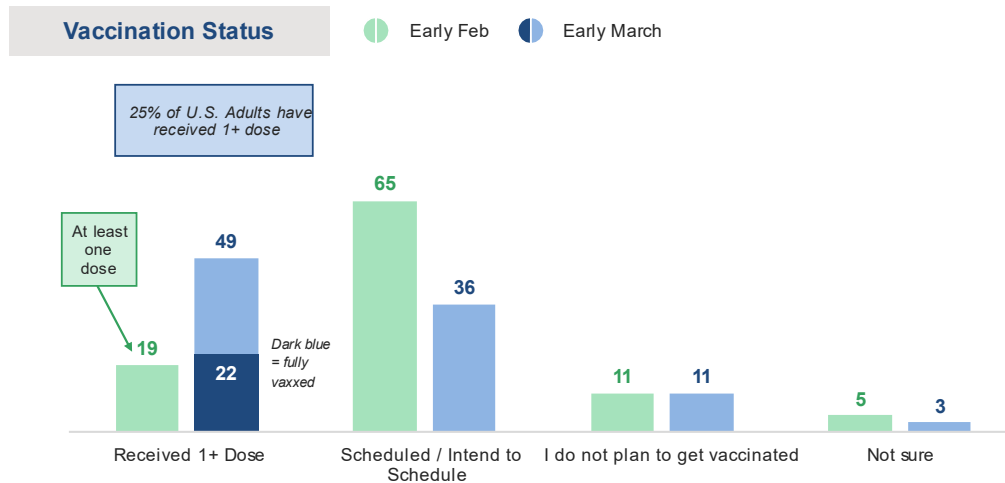
The following are key findings from a nationwide poll of 3,110 educators who are members of the National Education Association.

Key Findings

- **A strong majority of members continues to believe teachers and school staff should be given priority to receive the vaccine.** Most members (86 percent) believe teachers should be given priority to receive the vaccine for COVID-19. This is true across partisan lines, with Democrats (95 percent), Independents (82 percent), and Republican members (70 percent) agreeing.



- **There has been a massive increase in the percent of members vaccinated.** Nearly half of members (49 percent) have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, compared to 19 percent a month ago. Among those who have not been vaccinated, 36 percent have scheduled their vaccination, 11 percent say they will not be vaccinated, and 3 percent are not sure whether they will get vaccinated. While vaccine hesitance is low among members, it is higher among Republican members (29 percent) and Black members (20 percent).



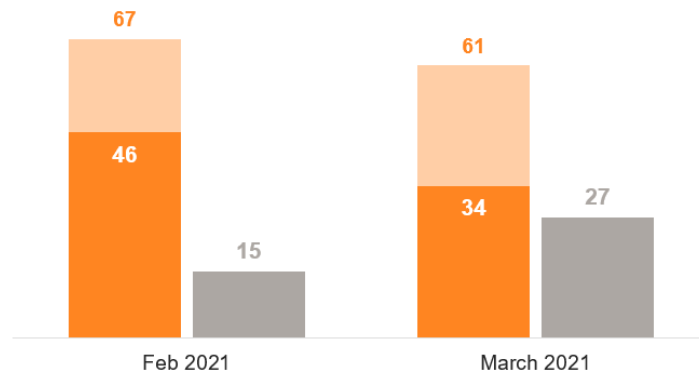
A majority (54 percent) of those hesitant to be vaccinated say one of their main reasons is the vaccine is too new and they want to wait and see what happens.

- **There have been improvements in awareness of how to get vaccinated.** Among those who had been vaccinated or planned to be, 61 percent had some difficulty with scheduling, compared to 67 percent in last month's survey, and the share who found it very difficult declined from 46 to 34 percent. Among those who have not scheduled their vaccine appointment but intend to, 41 percent said they have enough information about how/when to schedule their vaccine, compared to only 26 percent who had enough information last month.

Vaccine Scheduling

(If vaccinated/plan to get vaccinated/not sure) Have you found it difficult to obtain or schedule your COVID-19 vaccination?

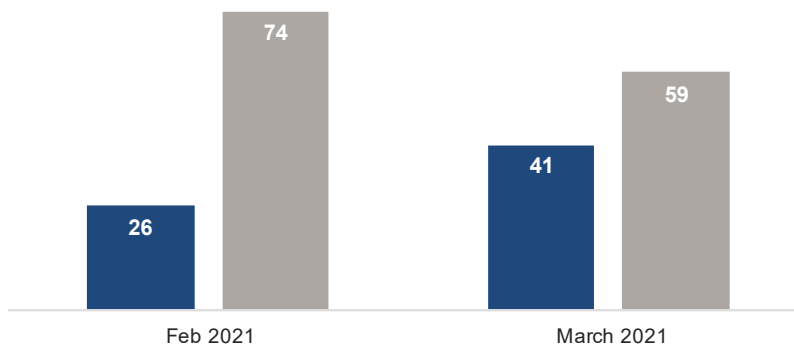
Very/somewhat difficult Not at all difficult



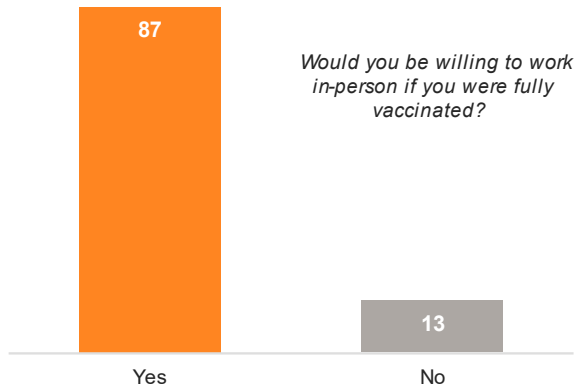
Vaccine Info

(If intend to schedule/Not sure) Do you feel you have enough information about how and when to schedule your vaccine for COVID-19?

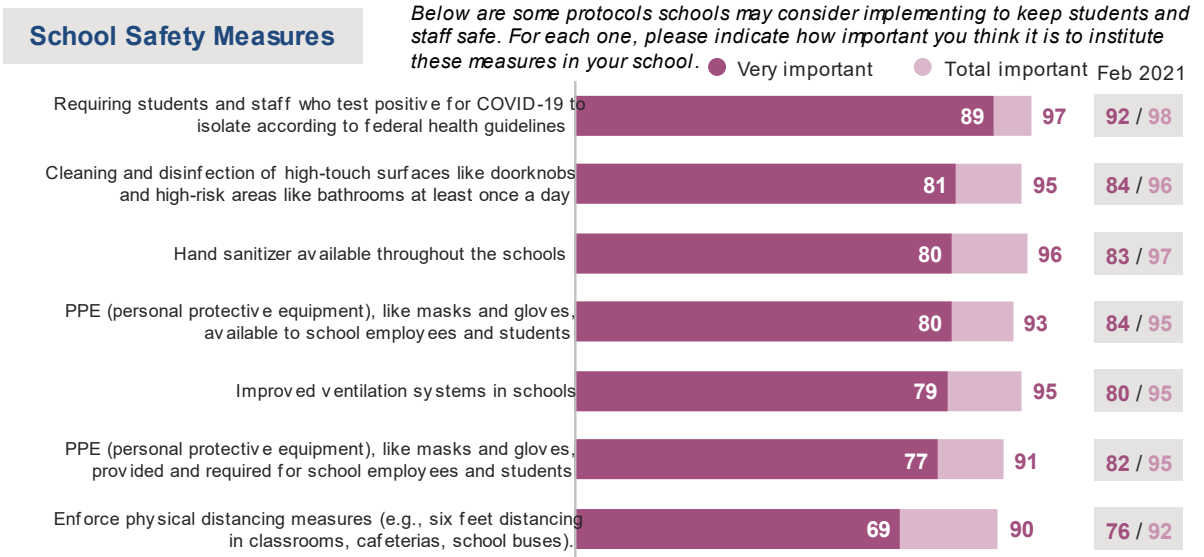
Yes No



- **Vast majority of members are willing to work in-person if they are fully vaccinated.** Most members (87 percent) said they are willing to work in-person if they are fully vaccinated and would feel safer in schools if they were vaccinated. This is true across partisan lines, with Democrats (88 percent), Independents (86 percent), and Republicans (88 percent) saying they would be willing to work in-person if they were fully vaccinated.



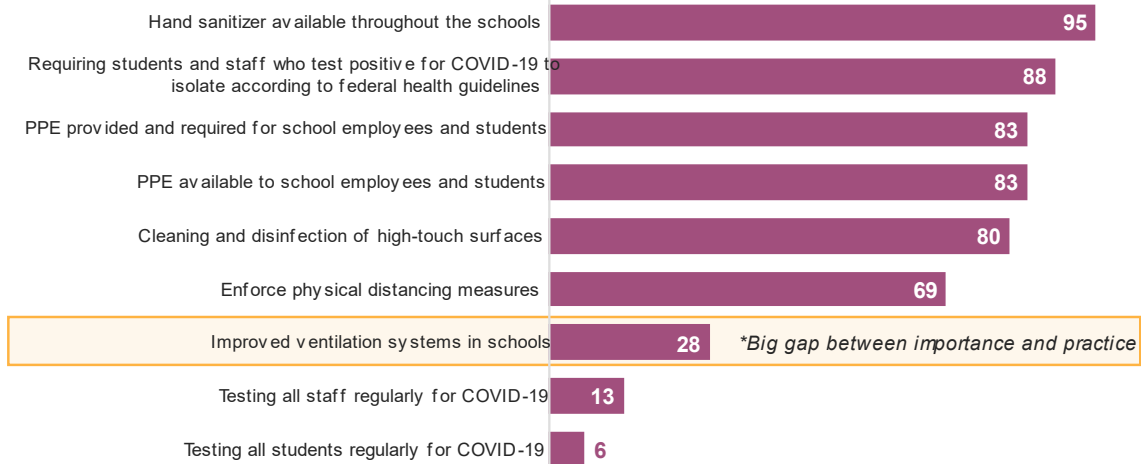
- **Members place importance on several safety protocols for re-opening.** Members favor a wide range of proposals to make school buildings safer, including near universal support for requiring students/staff to isolate if they test positive for COVID-19, thorough cleaning and disinfection of surfaces, hand sanitizer availability, and PPE availability.



Among members whose schools are providing at least some in-person instruction, most say these protocols are currently in place in their schools, with the exception of improved ventilation systems – which only 28 percent say is instituted in their school.

School Safety Measures In Place

(Among those whose schools are not doing full distance learning) Below are those same safety protocols. This time, please indicate which of the protocols are currently in place at your school.



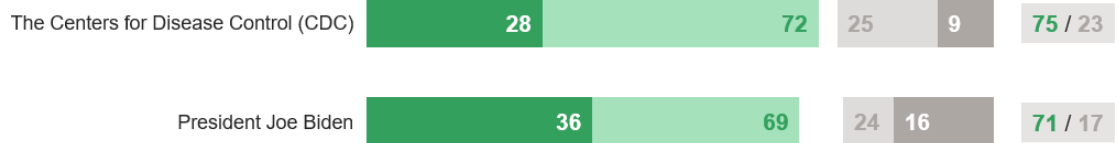
- Joe Biden’s performance on the pandemic remains strong.** Biden receives high marks from members on handling of the pandemic; 69 percent approve of the job he is doing, 36 percent strongly. The CDC also has strong approval from members, unchanged since last month.

Coronavirus Job Approval

Please indicate if you approve or disapprove of the job they are doing handling the coronavirus pandemic.

● Approve
 ● Disapprove
 Darker shade = Stronger intensity

Feb 2021



Methodology

On behalf of the National Education Association, GBAO conducted the nationally representative online survey of 3,110 non-retired NEA members February 26-March 4, 2021. The sample is subject to a +/- 1.8 percentage point margin of error at the 95 percent confidence level.