

Government Fear Campaign Turning People Off to Vaccines – New Poll

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A <u>poll</u> by the Cato Institute and YouGov suggests that people would have been more open to receiving the COVID-19 vaccine if the government didn't force it on its employees or employers with 100 or more workers.

The online poll conducted between September 2 and 13 of 2,000 people show that 13 percent were taking a "wait and see" approach to getting the vaccine. Sixty-seven percent indicated they have had a least one dose of the vaccine. Of the 33 percent who were unvaccinated, 74 percent indicated they would be opposed to getting the vaccine if *not* getting it meant some kind of financial penalty. <u>Delta Airlines</u>, for one, said it would charge unvaccinated employees higher health insurance premiums.

That response is not surprising to Jeffrey Singer, M.D., and Michael Cannon of the Cato Institute. "These results are consistent with the effects of a similar health insurance surcharge," write Singer and Cannon in the <u>Orange County Register</u> on October 4. "ObamaCare allows health insurers to charge tobacco smokers 50 percent more than non-smokers. Research suggests those surcharges backfire by leading smokers to drop not smoking, but health insurance."

Other Poll Results

The poll revealed some other noteworthy findings on vaccine compliance. Most likely to get the vaccine females, over the age of 65, white, household income of \$100k or more, with a college degree, living in the West, identify as Democrat and very liberal.

Those who are against getting the vaccine are generally male, aged 18 - 29, white, no college degree, with a household income under \$50k a year, who live in the South and identify as Republican and very conservative.

Total Polled: 2,000

Date: September 2 -13, 2021

One vaccine dose: 67 percent

Unvaccinated:

Open to get the vaccine but have not done so: 16 percent

Reject vaccine altogether: 17 percent

Wait and see approach: 13 percent