

New hires see vaccine mandates as perk more than penalty

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FULL TEXT

Americans are more likely to see employer vaccine mandates as a plus than a minus, according to a new Fast Company-Harris Poll. The survey of U.S. adults currently in the workforce found that 47% would be more willing to accept a job offer from a company with such a mandate, compared to only 29% who said they would be less likely. More than 3,500 organizations have already implemented vaccine mandates for COVID-19, according to White House Covid coordinator Jeffrey Zients, and the Biden administration's requirement that companies over 100 people mandate vaccines or regularly test employees could be finalized as soon as next week.

Here are the poll's key findings:

Higher education level correlated with more positive attitudes toward employer vaccine mandates (high school diploma or less: 33%, some college: 44%, college grad: 58%).

Regions with higher vaccination rates in general are more likely to favor employers that mandate vaccines (Northeast: 56%, South: 47%, West: 42%, and Midwest: 41%).

People of color are more likely to be incentivized by employee vaccine mandates compared with white adults (52% vs 43%).

Men are significantly more likely than women to accept a job offer with an employer vaccine mandate (52% vs 41%).

Among respondents who said they would be more willing to accept a job if there was an employer vaccine mandate, 59% cited "increased comfort interacting with coworkers" as primary factor, while 58% cited "a sense of personal safety."

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