



From: Jim Williams, Public Policy Polling

To: Interested Parties

Subject: Voters Oppose RFK Jr's HHS Nomination, Hold Deep Concerns About His Views and Background

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A new national Public Policy Polling survey finds that Robert F. Kennedy Jr. remains highly unpopular – only 39% view him favorably, and voters oppose his nomination to be Secretary of Health and Human Services – 48% of voters oppose the nomination while just 43% support it.

After hearing his views, a majority of 51% say they oppose Kennedy's nomination, just 41% still support it.

Majorities of voters have deep concerns about Kennedy's positions and statements:

- A total of 61% said they have very serious concerns (51%) or somewhat serious concerns (10%) that Kennedy has said “there’s no vaccine that is safe and effective.” Even 33% of Republicans have very serious (17%) or somewhat serious (16%) concerns here.
- A total of 68% said they have very serious concerns (54%) or somewhat serious concerns (14%) that Kennedy has proposed stopping infectious disease research for 8 years. Even 42% of Republicans have very serious (23%) or somewhat serious (19%) concerns here.
- A total of 64% said they have very serious concerns (53%) or somewhat serious concerns (11%) that Kennedy traveled to Samoa and spread misinformation about vaccines that led to one of the worst measles outbreaks in modern times, killing dozens of children and infecting thousands. Even 38% of Republicans have very serious (20%) or somewhat serious (18%) concerns here.



- A total of 61% said they have very serious concerns (49%) or somewhat serious concerns (12%) that Kennedy doesn't have the experience and is not qualified to run a major department, especially one that administers vital programs like Medicare and Medicaid. Even 34% of Republicans have very serious (14%) or somewhat serious (20%) concerns here.

Other key findings from the survey include:

- When asked what type of background they'd like an HHS Secretary to have, 60% chose "someone who has professional experience in healthcare," followed by 26% who chose "whoever the President nominates." Even among Republicans, a third (33%) said the HHS secretary should be someone with "professional experience in healthcare," and only 50% of Republicans chose that option.
- Voters don't personally like Kennedy too much either: just 39% say they have a favorable opinion of him, while 46% view him unfavorably.

Public Policy Polling surveyed 517 registered voters nationally from January 24-25, 2025. The margin of error is +/- 4.3%. 75% of interviews for the survey were conducted by text message and 25% by telephone.

National Survey Results

- Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of President Donald Trump's job performance?
- | | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| <i>Approve</i> | 48% |
| <i>Disapprove</i> | 46% |
| <i>Not sure</i> | 7% |
- Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Robert Kennedy Jr?
- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| <i>Favorable</i> | 39% |
| <i>Unfavorable</i> | 46% |
| <i>Not sure</i> | 15% |
- Q3** Donald Trump has nominated Robert Kennedy Jr to be Secretary of Health and Human Services. Do you support or oppose this nomination?
- | | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| <i>Support</i> | 43% |
| <i>Oppose</i> | 48% |
| <i>Not sure</i> | 9% |
- Q4** How much trust do you have in Robert Kennedy Jr to handle health care issues as Secretary of Health and Human Services: a lot of trust, some trust, not too much trust, or no trust at all?
- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| <i>A lot of trust</i> | 28% |
| <i>Some trust</i> | 19% |
| <i>Not too much trust</i> | 11% |
| <i>No trust at all</i> | 37% |
| <i>Not sure</i> | 5% |
- Q5** If the Secretary of Health and Human Services had a history of being anti-vaccination, including in public schools, how big of a threat do you think that would be to public health: a very serious threat, a somewhat serious threat, or not a threat?
- | | |
|--|-----|
| <i>A very serious threat</i> | 49% |
| <i>A somewhat serious threat</i> | 14% |
| <i>Not a threat</i> | 31% |
| <i>Not sure</i> | 6% |
- Q6** If the Secretary of Health and Human Services wanted to halt research into infectious diseases and cures at the National Institutes of Health, how big of a threat do you think that would be to public health: a very serious threat, a somewhat serious threat, or not a threat?
- | | |
|--|-----|
| <i>A very serious threat</i> | 53% |
| <i>A somewhat serious threat</i> | 17% |
| <i>Not a threat</i> | 22% |
| <i>Not sure</i> | 8% |
- Q7** Generally speaking, when thinking about the background of the person you'd like to see as Secretary of Health and Human Services, would you prefer someone who has professional experience in healthcare, someone who is against vaccines, a current or former elected official, or whoever the President nominates?
- | | |
|--|-----|
| <i>Someone who has professional experience in healthcare</i> | 60% |
| <i>Someone who is against vaccines</i> | 5% |
| <i>A current or former elected official</i> | 1% |
| <i>Whoever the President nominates</i> | 26% |
| <i>Not sure</i> | 8% |



Q8 I'm going to give you some information about Robert Kennedy Jr, and after each one, ask you if hearing that information gives you very serious concerns, somewhat serious concerns, or no real concerns about his nomination to be Secretary of Health and Human Services. Here's the first one: Robert Kennedy Jr has said that "there's no vaccine that is safe and effective." Does hearing this give you very serious concerns, somewhat serious concerns, or no real concerns about Robert Kennedy Jr's nomination to be Secretary of Health and Human Services?

Very serious concerns 51%
Somewhat serious concerns..... 10%
No real concerns 36%
Not sure 4%

Q9 Here's the next one: Robert Kennedy Jr has proposed stopping infectious disease research for 8 years. Does hearing this give you very serious concerns, somewhat serious concerns, or no real concerns about Robert Kennedy Jr's nomination to be Secretary of Health and Human Services?

Very serious concerns 54%
Somewhat serious concerns..... 14%
No real concerns 29%
Not sure 3%

Q10 Here's the next one: Robert Kennedy Jr traveled to Samoa and spread misinformation about vaccines that led to one of the worst measles outbreaks in modern times, killing dozens of children and infecting thousands. Opponents say that if he's confirmed to lead Health and Human Services, Robert Kennedy Jr will endanger the lives of America's children and put our health at risk. Does hearing this give you very serious concerns, somewhat serious concerns, or no real concerns about Robert Kennedy Jr's nomination to be Secretary of Health and Human Services?

Very serious concerns 53%
Somewhat serious concerns..... 11%
No real concerns 29%
Not sure 6%

Q11 Here's the last one: Opponents say that Robert Kennedy Jr doesn't have the experience and is not qualified to run a major department, especially one that administers vital programs like Medicare and Medicaid. Does hearing this give you very serious concerns, somewhat serious concerns, or no real concerns about Robert Kennedy Jr's nomination to be Secretary of Health and Human Services?

Very serious concerns 49%
Somewhat serious concerns..... 12%
No real concerns 37%
Not sure 3%

Q12 Having heard some more information, let me ask you again: Donald Trump has nominated Robert Kennedy Jr to be Secretary of Health and Human Services. Do you support or oppose this nomination?

Support 41%
Oppose 51%
Not sure 8%



Q13 In the 2024 election for President, did you vote for Republican Donald Trump, Democrat Kamala Harris, someone else, or did you not vote in the election?

Donald Trump 48%
Kamala Harris 46%
Someone else / Did not vote 6%

Q14 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2. If you are gender non-binary, press 3.

Woman 52%
Man 46%
Gender non-binary 2%

Q15 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If an independent, press 3.

Democrat 35%
Republican 35%
Independent 30%

Q16 If you are Hispanic or Latino, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic or Latino 9%
White 75%
African-American 11%
Other 5%

Q17 If you are 18-45 years old, press 1. If 46-65, press 2. If older than 65, press 3.

18 to 45 36%
46 to 65 40%
Older than 65 24%

Q18 What is the highest level of education you have received: high school graduate or less, some college but did not finish, 2-year college degree, 4-year college degree, or post-graduate degree?

High school graduate or less 20%
Some college but did not finish 25%
2-year college degree 13%
4-year college degree 24%
Post-graduate degree 18%

Q19 Mode

Landline 25%
Text 75%