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Thursday, Jan. 7, 2021

### Today's headlines:

- [Study summarizes attitudes about COVID-19](#)
- [Registration open for Leadership Development Program](#)
- [Cybersecurity bill signed into law](#)

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## Study summarizes attitudes about COVID-19

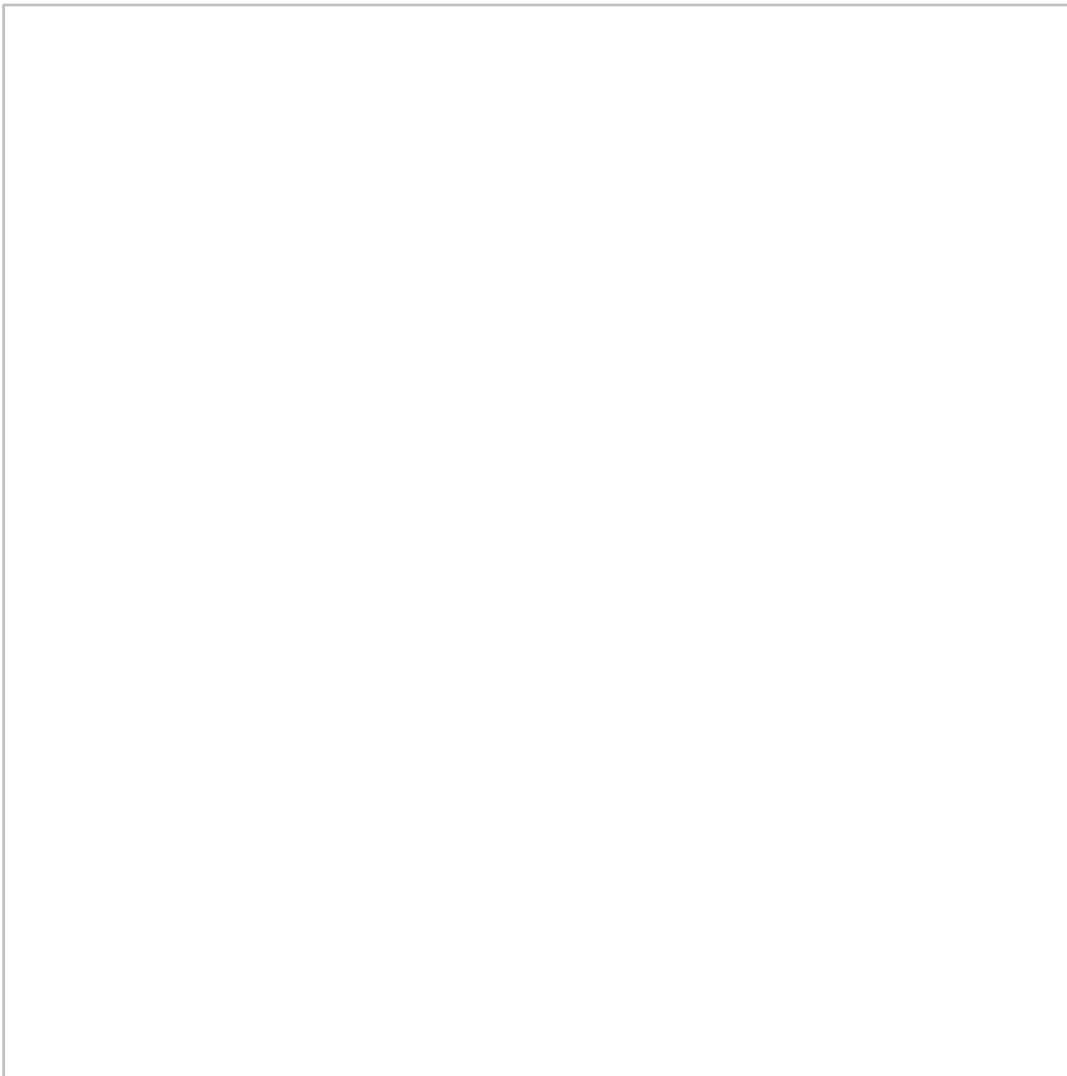
Research firm Public Opinion Strategies has tracked public opinion surveys conducted over the past few weeks to analyze key data about the impact the COVID-19 outbreak continues to have on

Americans amid the fall/winter surge.

The study found that Americans:

- **Are more willing to take a vaccine.** Roughly 60% say they would take a vaccine if it were available to them today, up from 50% who said the same a few months ago. Younger Americans, Republicans, women and people of color are less likely to take a vaccine.
- **Have increasingly adapted to masking, but patience is waning for other protocols.** Nearly 73% say they wear a mask every time they leave their houses, up from 52% who said the same in May. But just 45% support the closure of bars/restaurants (down from 76% in April) and 50% support requiring people to stay in their homes except for essential errands (down from 80% in April). Further, more than 60% now support in-person schooling for elementary and secondary students.
- **Recognize the worsening COVID-19 situation.** In a significant shift from just three months prior, 74% said they believe COVID-19 is getting worse, compared to 42% who said the same at the end of September, and 51% now believe the worst is ahead of us, up from 38% who said the same in October. Nearly one-third say they know someone who has died because of COVID-19.
- **Strongly support the relief bill.** More than two-thirds say the federal government has not done enough to provide economic relief during the pandemic, which is perhaps why more than 80% approve of Congress passing the economic relief package.
- **View the health care system somewhat differently because of COVID-19.** More Americans than ever before rate honesty and ethical standards as very high or high for nurses (89%, up from 85% in 2019) and physicians (77%, up from 65% in 2019). Unsurprisingly, COVID-19 has displaced other health care concerns: 70% say “Flu/Viruses” is the most-urgent problem in 2020, while “Costs” (4% most-urgent problem, down from 25% in 2019) and “Access” (4%, down from 22% in 2019) have moved to the backburner. Despite a year of upheaval for the health care system, some things have not changed: 55% believe the US health care system should be based mostly on private insurance rather than a government-run system, a 1-point change from 2019, yet 56% believe the government bears responsibility for ensuring Americans have health care coverage.

Click [HERE](#) for the complete analysis.



## Registration open for Leadership Development Program

In today's health care environment, accepting a leadership role is far-more challenging and complex than ever before. Leadership accountabilities must be balanced with an excellent grasp of human relations skills in working closely and collaborating with others.

The [IHA Leadership Development Program](#) helps develop critical leadership skills and competencies with the objective of retaining committed, quality staff in Iowa hospitals. This program is for health care professionals with new management or leadership responsibilities and accountabilities in their organizations as well as experienced staff looking to refresh their skills and knowledge.

This program is limited to two participants per organization. If your organization is interested in additional spots, email [Tori Hanson](#) at IHA.



## Cybersecurity bill signed into law

President Trump has signed into law [a bill](#) containing provisions that require the Secretary of Health

and Human Services to consider certain recognized cybersecurity best practices when making determinations against HIPAA-covered entities and business associates victimized by a cyberattack. For example, the bill recognizes cybersecurity practices established under the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act and approaches established by the Healthcare and Public Health Sector Coordinating Council Working Group.

The law will have long-lasting positive impact for the health care sector by securing patient data and protecting patients from cyber risks. The law balances incentivizing voluntary, enhanced cybersecurity protocols in exchange for regulatory relief and recognition that breached organizations are the victims, not the perpetrators.

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## NewsStand

### Iowa news

- [Nebraska Health Information Initiative and Iowa Health Information Network announce partnership, creating a regional health data utility for the Midwest](#)
- [New facilities in eastern Iowa promise help for the most vulnerable](#)
- [Polk County to expand COVID-19 vaccinations to more health care workers](#)

### National news

- [Vaccine rollout slower than expected, smaller health departments impacted](#)
- [12 telehealth and virtual care predictions and trends for 2021 roundup](#)
- [Severe allergic reactions reported in the US after getting COVID-19 vaccine, but CDC says cases are rare](#)

Click [HERE](#) to read all of NewsStand.

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## Upcoming events

- [Patient Rights, Part 2](#): Tuesday, January 12.
- [IHA Leadership Development Program](#): Tuesday, Jan. 12-Tuesday, June 15.
- [IHA Health Care Storytellers: Leading With Empathy Virtual Series](#): Tuesday, Jan. 12-Tuesday, Feb. 9.
- [Ransomware Threats](#): Wednesday, Jan. 13.
- [Nurse Manager Leadership Workshop](#): Thursday, Jan. 14-Friday, June 11.
- [Iowa Hospital Auxiliaries and Volunteers Virtual Speaker Series](#): Wednesday, Jan. 20-Wednesday, Feb. 17.
- [Roundtable: Thriving Through a Pandemic](#): Thursday, Jan. 21.
- [Advanced Leadership Academy](#): Thursday, Jan. 21-Thursday, Nov. 11.
- [Protecting the Employee: Hospital's Responsibilities during COVID](#): Wednesday, Jan. 27.
- [Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement Program](#): Tuesday, Feb. 16.
- [Wage Index: Strategies and Trends in Iowa](#): Thursday, Feb. 25.



100 EAST GRAND, SUITE 100, DES MOINES, IA 50309-1835 | P 515.288.1955 F 515.283.9366 |  
WWW.IHAONLINE.ORG

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