



Written by [Veronika Kyrylenko](#) on January 28, 2022

spreading in the country (86 percent vs. 48 percent).

When it comes to the change in behavior related to Omicron, the vaccinated were more likely than their unvaccinated counterparts to use additional protections against the strain. Forty-nine percent of the vaccinated said they were more likely to wear a mask in public, compared to 25 percent of the unvaccinated, and 45 percent of the vaccinated also decided to avoid large gatherings, while only 15 percent of the vaccinated did the same.

The vaccination status and change in behavior closely correlate with the respondents' party affiliation: 62 percent of Democrats said they were likely to use masks and 55 percent would avoid large gatherings, while only 22-23 percent of Republicans believed those measures were worth taking.

Despite the Biden administration and the president himself [warning](#) unvaccinated Americans of a "winter of severe illness and death" as Omicron made its way to America, the strain does not appear to be motivating unvaccinated adults to get a COVID shot. Only eight percent of those questioned said the strain has made them more likely to get vaccinated, but 15 percent said Omicron has made them *less likely* to do so. Those numbers suggest that the vaccines are not viewed by the unvaccinated as an effective tool for protection.

The KFF survey's findings come as recent polling has shown that President Biden's approval ratings, and more specifically approval of his handling of the pandemic, have steadily declined.

A Pew Research Center [poll](#) published Tuesday found Biden's approval rating on the pandemic had dropped from 65 percent last March to 44 percent this month.

Per the poll, the erosion in confidence in Biden's handling of the pandemic has come among members of both parties, but is especially evident among Democrats.

Biden ran for president on the platform of "shutting down the virus," harshly criticizing President Donald Trump for being unable to deal with the pandemic.

"I'll put in place a plan to deal with this pandemic responsibly, I've already done it. I'm not going to shut down the country, I'm not going to shut down the economy, but I'm going to shut down the virus," Biden said in some variation while on the campaign trail and after taking office, Townhall [recalls](#).

Back in July, the president [said](#) the nation was "closer than ever" to declaring "independence from the deadly virus."

In November, however, the number of deaths associated with COVID in 2021 [surpassed](#) the 2020 total — even though the vaccines were not available until December 2020.

Despite United States health authorities admitting that the vaccines prevent neither infection from nor transmission of the virus, vaccinations remain the cornerstone of Biden's strategy to tackle the pandemic. And since evidence suggests the vaccines have a so-called negative efficacy, meaning they make their recipients *more* likely to catch the virus (see [here](#) and [here](#)), it's no wonder the people are seeing that Biden's "plan" is failing.



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COUNTERING COVID-19 Overreach

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