



The Associated Press-NORC
Center for Public Affairs Research

The December 2020 AP-NORC Center Poll

Conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research
With funding from The Associated Press and NORC at the University of Chicago

*Interviews: 12/3-7/2020
1,117 adults*

*Margin of sampling error: +/- 3.9 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all
adults*

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.

CUR2. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

If don't know, skipped, or refused in CUR2

CUR3. If you had to choose, do you lean more toward approving or disapproving of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

If approve in CUR2

CUR3A. Would you say you approve of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president strongly or do you approve just somewhat?

If disapprove in CUR2

CUR3B. Would you say you disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president strongly or do you disapprove just somewhat?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Lean toward approv- ing	Do not lean either way	Dis- approve NET	Lean toward disapp- roving	Some- what dis- approve	Strongly dis- approve	DK	SKP /REF
12/3-7/2020 (N=1,117)	40	24	16	-	*	58	*	12	46	-	1
10/08-12/2020 (N=1,121)	39	22	17	*	*	61	*	15	46	*	*
09/11-14/2020 (N = 1,108)	43	25	17	*	1	56	*	11	44	-	*
08/17-19/2020 (N=1,075)	35	18	16	*	*	65	1	19	46	*	*
07/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	38	24	14	*	1	61	*	11	50	-	*
06/11-15/2020 (N=1,310)	39	21	17	*	1	60	*	10	49	-	1
05/14-18/2020 (N=1,056)	41	22	19	*	*	58	*	14	44	-	1
04/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	42	22	20	-	-	57	*	16	41	-	1
03/26-29/2020 (N=1,057)	43	26	17	-	*	56	*	16	39	-	*
02/13-16/2020 (N=1,074)	43	24	19	*	1	56	*	16	40	-	1
01/16-21/2020 (N=1,353)	41	24	17	1	*	58	*	14	44	-	*
12/5-9/2019 (N=1,053)	40	23	17	*	-	60	*	15	45	-	*

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Lean toward approv- ing	Do not lean either way	Dis- approve NET	Lean toward disapp- roving	Some- what dis- approve	Strongly dis- approve	DK	SKP /REF
10/24-28/2019 (N=1,075)	42	25	17	*	1	56	*	14	42	-	1
09/20-23/2019 (N=1,286)	40	24	16	*	1	59	*	16	42	-	1
8/15-18/2019 (N=1,060)	36	21	15	*	*	62	-	16	46	*	2
6/13-17/2019 (N=1,116)	38	19	19	*	*	60	*	17	43	-	1
5/17-20/2019 (N=1,137)	38	19	18	*	1	61	1	13	47	*	1
4/11-14/2019 (N=1,108)	39	19	20	*	1	60	*	13	46	-	*
3/14-18/2019 (N=1,063)	40	22	18	*	*	58	1	15	42	-	1
1/16-20/2019 (N=1,062)	34	18	16	*	*	65	1	11	53	*	*
12/13-16/2018 (N=1,067)	42	21	21	*	1	56	*	14	42	-	1
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	40	21	19	*	1	59	*	14	45	-	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	38	18	20	-	1	60	1	17	43	-	1
6/13-18/2018 (N=1,109)	41	21	20	*	1	57	*	16	42	*	*
4/11-16/2018 (N=1,140)	40	19	20	*	1	59	*	15	44	-	1
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	42	20	21	*	1	58	*	14	44	-	*
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	35	19	17	-	1	64	*	17	46	*	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	32	15	17	*	*	67	*	16	51	-	*
9/28- 10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	32	20	12	*	*	67	*	17	50	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	35	16	18	*	1	64	*	17	47	*	1
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	42	20	22	*	*	58	*	14	43	-	1

VIRUS2. How worried are you about you or someone in your family being infected with ...

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC		Extremely /Very worried NET	Extremely worried	Very worried	Some- what worried	Not too/Not at all worried NET	Not too worried	Not at all worried	DK	SKP/ REF
The coronavirus	12/3-7/2020 (N=1,117)	43	22	21	34	23	16	8	-	*
	10/08-12/2020 (N=1,121)	42	22	19	32	26	18	8	-	*
	09/11-14/2020 (N = 1,108)	38	19	19	31	31	22	9	-	*
	08/17-19/2020 (N=1,075)	42	20	22	31	26	17	9	*	*
	07/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	49	25	24	31	19	11	8	*	*
	06/11-15/2020 (N=1,310)	32	16	16	35	32	22	9	-	1
	05/14-18/2020 (N=1,056)	42	21	21	31	25	18	7	*	1
	04/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	43	23	20	35	22	17	5	*	-
	03/26-29/2020 (N=1,057)	50	28	22	34	16	13	3	-	*
	03/12-16/2020 (N=1,003)	31	14	17	35	33	23	10	*	1
	02/13-16/2020 (N=1,074)	22	11	11	23	55	37	19	-	*

AP-NORC		Extremely /Very worried NET	Extremely worried	Very worried	Some- what worried	Not too/Not at all worried NET	Not too worried	Not at all worried	DK	SKP/ REF
The flu	12/3-7/2020 (N=1,117)	17	8	9	31	52	39	13	-	-
	10/08-12/2020 (N=1,121)	20	9	10	34	47	33	14	*	*
	09/11-14/2020 (N = 1,108)	21	8	12	33	46	32	14	-	*
	08/17-19/2020 (N=1,075)	16	7	9	31	52	37	15	-	1
	07/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	19	9	10	34	47	33	15	-	*
	06/11-15/2020 (N=1,310)	15	7	9	27	56	41	16	-	1
	05/14-18/2020 (N=1,056)	17	7	10	28	54	38	15	-	1
	04/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	22	10	13	30	47	35	12	-	*
	03/26-29/2020 (N=1,057)	22	11	12	35	43	34	8	-	*
	03/12-16/2020 (N=1,003)	15	6	9	33	50	37	13	-	1
	02/13-16/2020 (N=1,074)	23	10	14	40	37	29	7	-	*

VIRUS7. In response to the coronavirus outbreak, do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose each of the following?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP-NORC		Strongly /Some- what favor NET	Strongly favor	Some- what favor	Neither favor nor oppose	Somewhat /Strongly oppose NET	Some- what oppose	Strongly oppose	DK	SKP/ REF
Requiring bars and restaurants to close	12/3-7/2020 (N=1,117)	45	22	23	19	36	18	18	-	-
	10/08-12/2020 (N=1,121)	41	19	21	23	36	18	18	*	*
	07/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	54	29	25	19	27	16	10	*	*
	05/14-18/2020 N=1,056	62	34	28	15	22	13	9	-	1
	04/16-20/2020 N=1,057	76	47	29	11	12	8	3	*	*
	03/26-29/2020 N=1,057	76	51	25	13	11	8	3	-	*
Requiring Americans to stay in their homes except for essential errands	12/3-7/2020 (N=1,117)	50	24	26	16	34	16	18	-	-
	10/08-12/2020 (N=1,121)	44	22	21	15	41	19	22	-	*
	07/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	53	23	30	18	29	14	15	-	*
	06/11-15/2020 N=1,310	50	20	29	15	34	18	16	-	1
	05/14-18/2020 N=1,056	62	36	26	13	24	12	13	*	1
	04/16-20/2020 N=1,057	80	50	30	9	11	6	5	-	*
	03/26-29/2020 N=1,057	78	55	23	11	11	6	5	-	*

AP-NORC		Strongly /Some- what favor NET	Strongly favor	Some- what favor	Neither favor nor oppose	Somewhat /Strongly oppose NET	Some- what oppose	Strongly oppose	DK	SKP/ REF
Requiring Americans to limit gathering to 10 people or fewer	12/3-7/2020 (N=1,117)	66	43	23	12	22	11	11	*	*
	10/08-12/2020 (N=1,121)	63	38	24	13	24	11	13	-	*
	07/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	66	41	24	15	19	10	10	-	*
	06/11-15/2020 N=1,310	59	29	30	15	25	15	10	*	1
	05/14-18/2020 N=1,056	69	47	23	13	17	9	8	*	*
	04/16-20/2020 N=1,057	82	59	23	8	9	7	2	*	1
	03/26-29/2020 N=1,057	84	60	24	11	5	2	2	-	*
Requiring Americans to wear face masks when they're around other people outside their homes	12/3-7/2020 (N=1,117)	75	61	13	11	15	7	8	-	-
	10/08-12/2020 (N=1,121)	72	59	14	12	16	8	8	-	*
	07/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	75	59	16	11	13	5	9	-	*

VAX2. When a vaccine against the coronavirus becomes available, do you plan to get vaccinated, or not?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	AP-NORC 12/3-7/2020	AP-NORC ¹ 05/14-18/2020
Yes, I will get a coronavirus vaccine	47	49
No, I will not get a coronavirus vaccine	26	20
Not sure	27	31
SKIPPED/REFUSED	*	1
N=	1,117	1,056

If Yes in VAX2

VAX3. Which of the following are reasons you would get a coronavirus vaccine? *Select all that apply.*

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

	AP-NORC 12/3-7/2020	AP-NORC 05/14-18/2020
I want to protect my family	83	88
I want to protect my community	76	78
I want to protect myself	83	93
I have a chronic health condition, such as asthma or diabetes, so it is important that I receive a coronavirus vaccine	31	33
My doctor recommends vaccines	38	46
It would be the best way to avoid getting seriously ill from the coronavirus	78	82
It would allow me to feel safe around other people	75	81
Life won't go back to normal until most people are vaccinated	75	72
I have confidence in the vaccine development and approval process ²	58	-
It would allow me to go back to normal activities like work or school ³	52	-
Other – please specify:	5	5
DON'T KNOW	-	-
SKIPPED/REFUSED	*	-
N=	546	559

¹ Question wording stated "When a vaccine against the coronavirus becomes available to you, do you plan to get vaccinated, or not?"

² Option not available for AP-NORC 05/14-18/2020

³ Option not available for AP-NORC 05/14-18/2020

If No or Not sure in VAX2

VAX4. Which of the following are reasons you would not get a coronavirus vaccine? *Select all that apply.*

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

	AP-NORC 12/3-7/2020	AP-NORC 05/14-18/2020 ⁴
I am allergic to vaccines	5	5
I don't like needles	10	10
I'm not concerned about getting seriously ill from the coronavirus	24	31
I won't have time to get vaccinated	2	2
I would be concerned about getting infected with the coronavirus from the vaccine	37	42
I would be concerned about side effects from the vaccine	71	70
I don't think vaccines work very well	15	30
The coronavirus outbreak is not as serious as some people say it is	16	24
I'm concerned about the development and approval process ⁵	57	-
Other – please specify:	13	22
DON'T KNOW	-	-
SKIPPED/REFUSED	*	*
N=	570	174

Show if Yes or Not sure in VAX2.

VAX5. Would you consider getting vaccinated as soon as you can or would you prefer to wait until others have gotten vaccinated to see that it's safe?

	AP-NORC 12/3-7/2020
As soon as I can	42
Wait until others get vaccinated	57
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED/REFUSED	1
N=	854

Show if No in VAX2.

VAX6. Is your mind made up about not getting vaccinated, or is it possible you would change your mind?

	AP-NORC 12/3-7/2020
Mind made up	75
Might change mind	25
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED/REFUSED	-
N=	261

⁴ Question not asked of "not sure" in VAX2

⁵ Option not available for AP-NORC 05/14-18/2020

VAX7. How much have you heard or read about the development and approval process for the coronavirus vaccines?

	AP-NORC 12/3-7/2020
A lot/Some NET	68
A lot	25
Some	43
Only a little/Nothing at all NET	32
Only a little	27
Nothing at all	5
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED/REFUSED	*

N=

1,117

VAX8. How much do you trust each of the following sources for information about coronavirus vaccines?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE SHOWN RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP-NORC 12/3-7/2020	A great deal/ Quite a bit NET	A great deal	Quite a bit	A moderate amount	Only a little /Not at all NET	Only a little	Not at all	DK	SKP/ REF
The Food and Drug Administration or FDA	41	13	27	34	25	17	8	-	*
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services or HHS	38	14	24	36	26	18	7	*	*
The World Health Organization or WHO	36	14	22	28	35	18	17	1	*
Donald Trump	16	8	8	16	68	19	50	*	*
Joe Biden	33	14	19	21	45	19	27	*	1
Dr. Anthony Fauci	48	25	23	21	30	16	14	*	*
Pharmaceutical companies	20	5	15	38	42	25	17	1	*
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or CDC	46	20	26	32	21	15	6	1	*
Health professionals, including doctors, nurses, and pharmacists	58	24	34	28	14	11	3	*	*
News media	16	4	11	27	56	27	29	*	1

N = 1,117

VAX9. How confident are you that when a coronavirus vaccine becomes available:

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE SHOWN RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP-NORC 12/3-7/2020	Extremely /very confident NET	Extremely confident	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very /at all confident NET	Not very confident	Not at all confident	DK	SKP/ REF
It will have been properly tested for safety and effectiveness	28	6	22	40	32	18	14	-	*
It will be distributed fairly	20	3	17	41	39	26	13	*	*
It will be distributed quickly and safely	22	4	18	46	31	22	9	*	*

N = 1,117

VAX10. When a coronavirus vaccine first becomes available and is in limited supply, should each of the following groups be given high priority, moderate priority or low priority for getting the vaccine?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 12/3-7/2020	A high priority	A moderate priority	A low priority	DK	SKP/ REF
Health care workers	90	7	2	-	*
Nursing home workers and residents	86	11	2	*	1
First responders like police officers, firefighters, and paramedics	82	15	3	*	*
Essential workers like grocery store employees, bus drivers, or utility workers	58	37	4	*	1
People who are high risk because of medical problems	83	15	1	-	*
People over 65	73	24	3	*	*
Teachers	59	35	6	*	*
Elected officials	15	45	39	*	*
Athletes	6	32	62	*	*
People like you	20	49	31	*	*

N = 1,117

VAX11. When the coronavirus vaccine becomes available, do you think each of the following types of communities should or should not be given higher priority than other types of communities for getting the vaccine?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 12/3-7/2020	Should	Should not	DK	SKP/ REF
Communities with large populations of racial and ethnic minority groups who have been hit especially hard by the virus	75	24	*	1
Crowded living situations such as homeless shelters, college dormitories, or prisons where the virus can spread quickly	81	18	*	1
Communities with large populations of people with high risk jobs who are especially likely to be exposed to the virus	88	11	*	1
High-density urban areas where the virus can spread quickly	77	21	*	1

N = 1,117

VAX12. Which of the following statements comes closer to your opinion, even if neither is exactly right?

[RESPONSE OPTIONS RANDOMIZED]

	AP-NORC 12/3-7/2020	UChicago Harris AP-NORC 9/11-14/2020
The United States should keep any vaccine it develops for Americans first, even if it means fewer people around the world are vaccinated right away	59	58
The United States should make any vaccine it develops immediately available to other countries, even if it means fewer Americans are vaccinated right away	38	39
DON'T KNOW	1	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2	2

N=

1,117

1,053

HOL3. How well do each of the following words describe the way you feel during the December holiday season this year?⁶

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC		Extremely /Very well NET	Extremely well	Very well	Moderately well	Not very well/ Not well at all NET	Not very well	Not well at all	DK	SKP /REF
Grateful	12/3- 7/2020 (N=1,117)	60	30	30	30	10	5	4	*	*
	12/5- 9/2019 (N=1,121)	73	36	37	21	5	3	3	-	*
Stressed	12/3- 7/2020 (N=1,117)	35	16	19	36	29	19	10	*	*
	12/5- 9/2019 (N=1,121)	29	10	19	39	32	20	11	-	*
Festive	12/3- 7/2020 (N=1,117)	22	8	14	38	39	25	13	*	1
	12/5- 9/2019 (N=1,121)	49	18	31	31	19	15	4	1	*
Lonely	12/3- 7/2020 (N=1,117)	22	11	11	28	50	24	26	-	*
	12/5- 9/2019 (N=1,121)	19	6	13	22	58	25	32	-	1
Generous	12/3- 7/2020 (N=1,117)	37	13	24	44	18	14	4	1	*
	12/5- 9/2019 (N=1,121)	52	15	37	37	10	8	2	-	1
Sad	12/3- 7/2020 (N=1,117)	21	8	13	31	48	26	21	*	*
	12/5- 9/2019 (N=1,121)	19	7	12	25	55	28	27	-	1

⁶ In December 2019 question read: How well do each of the following words describe the way you feel during the December holiday season?

VIRUS14. Have you or has a close friend or relative been diagnosed with the coronavirus by a health care provider, or not?

	AP-NORC 12/3- 7/2020	AP- NORC 09/11- 14/2020	AP- NORC 7/16- 20/2020	AP-NORC 06/11- 15/2020	AP-NORC 05/14- 18/2020	AP-NORC 04/16- 20/2020	AP-NORC 03/26- 29/2020
Yes	50	31	27	17	20	12	6
No	50	69	72	82	79	87	93
DON'T KNOW	-	-	*	*	*	*	-
SKIP/REFUSED	*	*	1	1	1	*	*
N=	1,117	1,108	1,057	1,310	1,056	1,057	1,057

VIRUS15. Has a close friend or relative died from the coronavirus or respiratory illness since March 1, 2020?

	AP-NORC 12/xx-x/2020
Yes	17
No	82
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	1
N=	1,117

PID1. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?

If Democrat:

PIDA. Do you consider yourself a strong or moderate Democrat?

If Republican:

PIDB. Do you consider yourself a strong or moderate Republican?

If independent, none of these, don't know, skipped, or refused:

PIDI. Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

Combines PID1, PIDI, PIDA, and PIDB.

	AP-NORC 12/xx-x/2020
Democrat NET	45
Strong Democrat	17
Moderate Democrat	18
Lean Democrat	10
Independent/None – Don't lean	16
Republican NET	38
Lean Republican	9
Moderate Republican	18
Strong Republican	11
N=	1,117

D3. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

If liberal:

D4. Do you consider yourself very liberal or somewhat liberal?

If conservative:

D5. Do you consider yourself very conservative or somewhat conservative?

Combines D3, D4, D5:

	AP-NORC 12/xx-x/2020
Liberal NET	22
Very liberal	10
Somewhat liberal	12
Moderate	47
Conservative NET	28
Somewhat conservative	17
Very conservative	11
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2

N=

1,117

DM5. How would you describe the community you live in now?

	AP-NORC 12/xx-x/2020
Urban	24
Suburban	46
Rural	30
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N=

1,117

AGE

	AP-NORC 12/xx-x/2020
18-29	21
30-39	17
40-59	32
60-64	8
65 +	22

N=

1,117

GENDER

	AP-NORC 12/xx-x/2020
Male	48
Female	52

N= 1,117

RACE/ETHNICITY

	AP-NORC 12/xx-x/2020
White	63
Black or African American	12
Hispanic	17
Other	9

N= 1,117

MARITAL STATUS

	AP-NORC 12/xx-x/2020
Married	54
Not married	46

N= 1,117

EDUCATION

	AP-NORC 12/xx-x/2020
Less than a high school diploma	8
High school graduate or equivalent	28
Some college	28
College graduate or above	36

N= 1,117

INCOME

	AP-NORC 12/xx-x/2020
Under \$10,000	5
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	9
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	15
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	11
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	9
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	17
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	13
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	14
\$150,000 or more	7

N= 1,117

Study Methodology

This survey was conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and with funding from The Associated Press and NORC at the University of Chicago.

Data were collected using the AmeriSpeak Omnibus®, a monthly multi-client survey using NORC's probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. The survey was part of a larger study that included questions about other topics not included in this report. During the initial recruitment phase of the panel, randomly selected U.S. households were sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame and then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, and field interviewers (face-to-face). The panel provides sample coverage of approximately 97 percent of the U.S. household population. Those excluded from the sample include people with P.O. Box only addresses, some addresses not listed in the USPS Delivery Sequence File, and some newly constructed dwellings.

Interviews for this survey were conducted between December 3rd and 7th, 2020, with adults age 18 and over representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 1,117 completed the survey—1,028 via the web and 89 via telephone. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish, depending on respondent preference. The final stage completion rate is 20.3 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 21.0 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 80.4 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 3.4 percent. The overall margin of sampling error is +/-3.9 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups.

Once the sample has been selected and fielded, and all the study data have been collected and made final, a poststratification process is used to adjust for any survey nonresponse as well as any noncoverage or under and oversampling resulting from the study specific sample design. Poststratification variables included age, gender, census division, race/ethnicity, and education. Weighting variables were obtained from the 2020 Current Population Survey. The weighted data reflect the U.S. population of adults age 18 and over. The sample is also weighted to match the average of self-identified party identification in the previous two waves of the AmeriSpeak Omnibus survey and this current survey.

For more information, email info@apnorc.org.

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The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research taps into the power of social science research and the highest-quality journalism to bring key information to people across the nation and throughout the world.

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- NORC at the University of Chicago is one of the oldest and most respected, independent research institutions in the world.

The two organizations have established The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals.

The founding principles of The AP-NORC Center include a mandate to carefully preserve and protect the scientific integrity and objectivity of NORC and the journalistic independence of AP. All work conducted by the Center conforms to the highest levels of scientific integrity to prevent any real or perceived bias in the research. All of the work of the Center is subject to review by its advisory committee to help ensure it meets these standards. The Center will publicize the results of all studies and make all datasets and study documentation available to scholars and the public.