The Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky commissioned the Insights on the COVID-19 Pandemic and Vaccines in Kentucky Poll, in June and July 2022. At the time of the poll, the COVID-19 pandemic had been underway for more than two years and the BA.5 Omicron subvariant was spreading across the Commonwealth. As of June 18, 2022, the COVID-19 vaccine was available to everyone 6 months and older.

Is the pandemic over?

Almost two thirds (65.4%) of Kentucky adults said they believed the pandemic was not yet over. However, about a third (31.7%) of respondents said they would describe the pandemic as over in Kentucky. Breaking it down by gender, twice as many males as females said they felt the pandemic was over.

The poll found age was a factor in whether Kentuckians believed the pandemic was over. Half of Kentuckians between the ages of 18 to 29 said the pandemic was over. That percentage decreased with age, with a little more than one-fifth (22.2%) of Kentuckians ages 65 and older saying the pandemic was over.

These findings, unless otherwise noted, are from the “Insights on the COVID-19 Pandemic and Vaccines in Kentucky Poll,” funded by the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky. This Poll was conducted June 4-July 13, 2022, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 814 adults from throughout Kentucky was interviewed by telephone. The full sample estimates will be accurate to ±3.4%. These are rounded percentages. There are other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as nonresponse, question wording or context effects that can introduce error or bias.
Is the pandemic over, as it pertains to your own personal life?

Those that participated in the survey were also asked: “Regardless of whether the pandemic is over for others in Kentucky ... do you consider it to be over as it pertains to your own life?” Kentuckians were close to split on the answer, with 53.3% saying yes and 44.7% saying no.

Breaking it down by gender, a little less than two thirds (61.1%) of males said yes and almost half (45.9%) of females said yes.

Responses by age were slightly more varied this time. At the time of the poll, 65.5% of Kentuckians ages 18-29 answered yes, 51.5% of Kentuckians ages 30-45 answered yes, 45.3% of Kentuckians ages 46-64 answered yes, and 54.3% of Kentuckians ages 65 and older answered yes.

Source: “Insights on the COVID-19 Pandemic and Vaccines in Kentucky Poll”, commissioned by the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky. Margin of error +/- 3.4%. (June 4 - July 13, 2022)