The CDC has issued new guidance relaxing mask usage and social distancing for vaccinated individuals. This has had a significant impact on companies, especially in retail and other customer-facing industries.

Tuesday, May 25, 2021
108 Responses
How are you approaching mask protocol now that the CDC has said masks are not required anywhere for vaccinated individuals?

- 46% Will follow CDC guidance*
- 39% Still considering what to do
- 9% Will keep the mask mandate for all
- 3% Will drop for customers, but not employees
- 3% Will drop for all individuals

*(i.e., drop mask mandate for vaccinated individuals unless prohibited by local law)*
Many companies plan to use new CDC guidance in tandem with additional company policies designed to keep employees safe.

A significant number of respondents indicate that while they plan to follow CDC recommendations, they will await additional guidance from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) or local authorities. However, OSHA has not yet issued its own guidance in response to the CDC’s announcement that fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear a mask or socially distance in non-health care settings, leaving employers to figure out how the CDC guidance impacts workplace masking and social distancing policies.

Though many companies have yet to finalize their plans, most respondents say they will follow CDC guidance with additional policies in place depending on industry or situation. For example, several plan to relax mask requirements while employees are in individual workspaces, but will continue to require masks in common areas and small spaces.

Using the honor system, many respondents plan to relax mask requirements for vaccinated individuals. Some will continue to require masks in certain situations.
If your company plans to drop the mask mandate for vaccinated individuals, how will you handle this?

- **50%** Honor system
- **23%** Require proof of vaccination
- **19%** Require attestation of vaccination
- **8%** Require compliance with company policy
Of those still determining a policy, most will likely use a combination of attestation and the honor system.

Of the respondents who plan to drop the mask requirements for vaccinated individuals, 13% are still determining the best course of action to do so safely and effectively. Most say that while they will not require proof of vaccination, they will likely use some form of employee attestation. At least one company will require a daily check-in before employees are allowed at the workplace.

At least one company will require daily check-ins before employees can enter the workplace.