

The Economist/YouGov Poll

November 21 - 24, 2020 - 1500 U.S. Registered Voters



Sample 1500 U.S. Registered Voters
 Conducted November 21 - 24, 2020
 Margin of Error ±3.2%

1. Would you say things in this country today are...

Generally headed in the right direction	20%
Off on the wrong track	70%
Not sure	11%

2. Do you consider the countries listed below to be an ally or an enemy of the United States?

	Ally	Friendly	Unfriendly	Enemy	Not sure
Canada	60%	29%	4%	1%	5%
China	2%	10%	41%	34%	13%
France	45%	36%	8%	1%	10%
Germany	42%	35%	8%	3%	12%
Iran	1%	5%	33%	47%	14%
Israel	45%	28%	8%	4%	16%
Japan	42%	36%	7%	3%	13%
North Korea	1%	4%	24%	59%	11%
South Korea	42%	31%	9%	6%	12%
Mexico	23%	53%	11%	3%	11%
Russia	2%	9%	36%	40%	13%
United Kingdom	62%	26%	3%	1%	8%
Ukraine	8%	37%	18%	4%	33%

3. Do you think United States relations with each of the following countries will get better or worse with Joe Biden as president?

	Better	Worse	No change	Not sure
China	40%	34%	14%	12%
Iran	35%	35%	17%	13%
Russia	17%	44%	23%	16%
North Korea	15%	42%	28%	15%

4. Are you confident in Joe Biden's ability to manage United States foreign relations with allied countries, or are you uneasy about his approach?

Confident	48%
Uneasy	47%
Not sure	5%

5. Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the future of the country?

Optimistic	43%
Pessimistic	41%
Not sure	15%

6. Are you better off now than you were four years ago?

Better off now	47%
Better off four years ago	37%
Not sure	16%

7. Is the country better off now than it was four years ago?

Better off now	37%
Better off four years ago	51%
Not sure	12%

8. Did you vote in the November 2020 general election?

Yes	89%
No	11%

9. How did you vote in the presidential election this year?

In person on election day	23%
In person before the election	28%
By mail	37%
I did not vote this year	12%

10. Who did you vote for in the election for President in 2020?

Joe Biden	45%
Donald Trump	40%
Jo Jorgensen	0%
Howie Hawkins	0%
Other	0%
Did not vote for President	14%

11. How much confidence do you have that your vote in the 2020 presidential election was counted accurately?

Among 2020 voters

A great deal	50%
Quite a bit	15%
A moderate amount	10%
Only a little	9%
None at all	14%
Not sure	2%

12. How much confidence do you have that the 2020 presidential election was held fairly?

A great deal	42%
Quite a bit	11%
A moderate amount	8%
Only a little	8%
None at all	28%
Not sure	3%

13. Do you think the following statement is true or not true?

	Definitely true	Probably true	Probably not true	Definitely not true
We will never know the real outcome of this election	15%	28%	12%	44%

14. Some states are doing recounts of the vote. In general, do recounts make you more or less confident in the outcome of the election?

Much more confident	10%
More confident	29%
No change	51%
Less confident	7%
Much less confident	3%

15. How do you feel about the next 4 years with Joe Biden as president?

Enthusiastic	30%
Satisfied but not enthusiastic	21%
Dissatisfied but not upset	14%
Upset	31%
Not sure	4%

16. Would you say that Joe Biden legitimately won the election, or not?

Biden legitimately won the election	61%
Biden did NOT legitimately win the election	39%

17. Do you think Donald Trump should concede the election, or not?

He should concede	63%
He should NOT concede	37%

18. Do you think that the federal government should begin the post-election transition process, or not?

They should start the transition	65%
They should NOT start the transition	35%

19. Do you think that President-Elect Joe Biden should be given access to classified intelligence briefings?	
He should be given access to classified intelligence briefings	64%
He should NOT be given access to classified intelligence briefings	36%
20. Do you think that President Trump's Coronavirus Task Force should share information with President-Elect Biden's coronavirus response team?	
They should share coronavirus information	78%
They should NOT share coronavirus information	22%
21. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President-Elect Joe Biden is handling the post-election period?	
Strongly Approve	40%
Somewhat Approve	15%
Somewhat Disapprove	11%
Strongly Disapprove	26%
Not Sure	8%
22. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling the post-election period?	
Strongly Approve	22%
Somewhat Approve	15%
Somewhat Disapprove	9%
Strongly Disapprove	51%
Not Sure	3%
23. How likely do you think it is that there will be a peaceful transition of power in January?	
Very likely	22%
Somewhat likely	26%
Not very likely	25%
Not likely at all	16%
Not sure	12%
24. Do you think that Joe Biden will be inaugurated President in January 2021?	
Yes	65%
No	15%
Not sure	20%
25. How closely are you following the news about COVID-19?	
Very closely	48%
Somewhat closely	37%
Not very closely	11%
Not following at all	3%

26. Do you personally know anyone who... [has been laid off from work due to covid-19]? Check all that apply.

Yes, me	12%
Yes, a family member	20%
Yes, a close friend	22%
No	55%
Prefer not to say	1%

27. Do you personally know anyone who... [has tested positive for covid-19]? Check all that apply.

Yes, me	2%
Yes, a family member	25%
Yes, a close friend	35%
No	45%
Prefer not to say	2%

28. Do you personally know anyone who... [has died due to complications from covid-19]? Check all that apply.

Yes, a family member	7%
Yes, a close friend	14%
No	78%
Prefer not to say	2%

29. Taking into consideration both your risk of contracting it and the seriousness of the illness, how worried are you personally about experiencing COVID-19?

Very worried	25%
Somewhat worried	38%
Not too worried	23%
Not worried at all	14%

30. In the past seven days, how often have you worn a mask on your face when outside your home?

Always	63%
Most of the time	18%
Some of the time	14%
Never	5%

31. Do you think the number of cases of COVID-19 in the community where you live is...

Increasing	63%
Not changing	17%
Decreasing	6%
Not sure	14%

32. Looking at the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S., do you believe that...	
The pandemic is going to get worse	50%
We are currently in the worst part of the pandemic	23%
The worst part of the pandemic is behind us	16%
Not sure	12%
33. How many Americans, in total, do you think will have died this year due to complications from COVID-19?	
Fewer than 100,000 Americans	11%
100,000-150,000 Americans	8%
150,000-200,000 Americans	7%
200,000-250,000 Americans	24%
250,000-1 million Americans	43%
More than 1 million Americans	6%
34. When do you think it will be safe to end social distancing measures and reopen businesses as normal?	
It is safe right now	15%
In about two weeks	2%
In a month or so	5%
In several months	27%
In about a year or longer	36%
Not sure	16%
35. If and when a coronavirus vaccine becomes available, will you get vaccinated?	
Yes	50%
No	25%
Not sure	26%
36. How long do you think it will be before a vaccine for COVID-19 is available to the public?	
Before the end of the summer	0%
Before November	0%
By the end of 2020	27%
By the summer of 2021	49%
By the end of 2021	11%
2022 or later	3%
Not sure	10%
37. Coronavirus vaccines are being fast-tracked through the approval process. How concerned are you about the safety of coronavirus vaccines?	
Very concerned	29%
Somewhat concerned	36%
Not very concerned	18%
Not concerned at all	12%
Not sure	4%

38. Do you think the number of cases of COVID-19 in the United States is...

Increasing	79%
Not changing	9%
Decreasing	5%
Not sure	8%

39. Do you think the following statements are true or not true?

	Definitely true	Probably true	Probably not true	Definitely not true
The coronavirus is a hoax.	4%	9%	14%	73%
The threat of the coronavirus is being exaggerated for political reasons.	21%	20%	10%	49%
China is responsible for the worldwide pandemic.	36%	28%	18%	18%
Vaccines have been shown to cause autism.	5%	13%	35%	46%

40. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump has handled COVID-19?

Strongly approve	27%
Somewhat approve	15%
Somewhat disapprove	6%
Strongly disapprove	50%
Not sure	2%

41. Do you believe that a federal mask mandate would be a violation of your civil liberties, or not?

It would be a violation of civil liberties	33%
It would not be a violation of civil liberties	59%
Don't know	8%

42. Do you personally plan on doing any shopping in a store on the Friday after Thanksgiving?

Yes	11%
No	78%
Maybe	11%

43. How safe do you believe it is for people to go shopping in a store on the Friday after Thanksgiving?

Completely safe	13%
Somewhat safe	31%
Not very safe	36%
Not at all safe	19%

44. How worried are you about in-person shopping the Friday after Thanksgiving leading to an outbreak of COVID-19?

Very worried	29%
Somewhat worried	34%
Not too worried	21%
Not worried at all	16%

45. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	78%	19%	2%	1%
Immigration	47%	37%	12%	3%
Climate change and the environment	45%	22%	16%	17%
National Security and foreign policy	64%	29%	5%	1%
Education	61%	30%	6%	3%
Health care	70%	23%	5%	2%
Taxes and government spending	61%	32%	5%	2%
Civil rights and civil liberties	61%	27%	8%	3%
Gun control	48%	26%	13%	13%
Crime and criminal justice reform	52%	37%	8%	3%

46. Which of these is the most important issue for you?

Jobs and the economy	24%
Immigration	5%
Climate change and the environment	13%
National Security and foreign policy	7%
Education	4%
Health care	24%
Taxes and government spending	10%
Civil rights and civil liberties	9%
Gun control	3%
Crime and criminal justice reform	3%

47. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Donald Trump	32%	12%	6%	48%	1%
Joe Biden	31%	19%	12%	36%	2%
Mike Pence	30%	13%	11%	40%	6%
Kamala Harris	31%	18%	7%	40%	4%
Nancy Pelosi	17%	22%	11%	45%	5%
Mitch McConnell	11%	20%	13%	45%	11%

48. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the political parties?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
The Democratic Party	21%	26%	12%	40%	2%
The Republican Party	15%	25%	16%	42%	3%

49. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as President?

Strongly approve	31%
Somewhat approve	12%
Somewhat disapprove	8%
Strongly disapprove	47%
Not sure	1%

50. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling these specific issues?

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
Jobs and the economy	41%	11%	12%	32%	4%
Immigration	37%	10%	7%	44%	2%
Climate change and the environment	27%	12%	8%	46%	7%
Terrorism	37%	9%	9%	40%	5%
Education	22%	20%	10%	39%	9%
Health care	23%	19%	9%	43%	5%
Taxes and government spending	27%	19%	10%	40%	4%
Civil rights and civil liberties	27%	16%	7%	45%	5%
Gun control	33%	11%	8%	39%	8%
Crime and criminal justice reform	31%	14%	12%	37%	7%

51. Would you say Donald Trump is...

Very liberal	2%
Liberal	2%
Moderate	16%
Conservative	33%
Very conservative	28%
Not sure	19%

52. How much do you think Donald Trump cares about the needs and problems of people like you?

A lot	32%
Some	11%
Not much	8%
Doesn't care at all	48%
Not sure	1%

53. Regardless of whether you agree with him, do you like or dislike Donald Trump as a person?

Like a lot	19%
Like somewhat	13%
Neither like nor dislike	12%
Dislike somewhat	9%
Dislike a lot	45%
Not sure	2%

54. Would you say Donald Trump is a strong or a weak leader?

Very strong	36%
Somewhat strong	13%
Somewhat weak	10%
Very weak	40%

55. Do you think Donald Trump is honest and trustworthy, or not?

Honest and trustworthy	37%
Not honest and trustworthy	55%
Not sure	8%

56. Are you confident in Donald Trump's ability to deal wisely with an international crisis, or are you uneasy about his approach?

Confident	42%
Uneasy	54%
Not sure	4%

57. Do you think the way Donald Trump uses Twitter is appropriate or inappropriate for the President of the United States?

Appropriate	27%
Inappropriate	62%
Not sure	11%

58. Would you say Joe Biden is...

Very liberal	28%
Liberal	28%
Moderate	33%
Conservative	3%
Very conservative	1%
Not sure	6%

59. How much do you think Joe Biden cares about the needs and problems of people like you?

A lot	30%
Some	23%
Not much	13%
Doesn't care at all	31%
Not sure	3%

60. Regardless of whether you agree with him, do you like or dislike Joe Biden as a person?

Like a lot	29%
Like somewhat	18%
Neither like nor dislike	15%
Dislike somewhat	9%
Dislike a lot	26%
Not sure	2%

61. Would you say Joe Biden is a strong or a weak leader?

Very strong	22%
Somewhat strong	27%
Somewhat weak	14%
Very weak	36%

62. Do you think Joe Biden is honest and trustworthy, or not?

Honest and trustworthy	47%
Not honest and trustworthy	43%
Not sure	10%

63. Are you confident in Joe Biden's ability to deal wisely with an international crisis, or are you uneasy about his approach?

Confident	48%
Uneasy	45%
Not sure	7%

64. Are you confident in Joe Biden's ability to deal with the COVID-19 outbreak, or are you uneasy about his approach?

Confident	50%
Uneasy	40%
Not sure	9%

65. Do you think the U.S. economy will get better, get worse or will it stay the same with Joe Biden as President?

Get better	39%
Get worse	42%
Stay the same	10%
Not sure	9%

66. Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the next four years with Joe Biden as President?

Optimistic	46%
Pessimistic	43%
Not sure	11%

67. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the United States Congress is handling its job?

Strongly approve	4%
Somewhat approve	9%
Neither approve nor disapprove	14%
Somewhat disapprove	25%
Strongly disapprove	44%
Not sure	5%

68. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Nancy Pelosi is handling her job as the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	47%
Not sure	7%

69. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Mitch McConnell is handling his job as Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate?

Strongly approve	10%
Somewhat approve	22%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	45%
Not sure	10%

70. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Supreme Court of the United States is handling its job?

Strongly approve	14%
Somewhat approve	36%
Somewhat disapprove	22%
Strongly disapprove	11%
Not sure	17%

71. In general, how would you describe the political viewpoint of the Supreme Court of the United States?

Very liberal	2%
Liberal	4%
Moderate	34%
Conservative	28%
Very conservative	15%
Not sure	17%

72. Overall, do you think the economy is getting better or worse?

Getting better	19%
About the same	29%
Getting worse	44%
Not sure	9%

73. Do you think the stock market will be higher or lower 12 months from now?

Higher	25%
About the same	20%
Lower	30%
Not sure	25%

74. Would you say that you and your family are...

Better off financially than you were a year ago	29%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	42%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	24%
Not sure	5%

75. Six months from now do you think there will be...

More jobs	26%
The same amount of jobs	18%
Fewer jobs	35%
Not sure	21%

76. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	11%
Somewhat worried	32%
Not very worried	57%

77. If you lost your job, how hard would it be for you to find a new job that paid as much as you are making now?

Very hard – I would probably have to take a pay cut.	33%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	38%
Not very hard	19%
Not sure	10%

78. How happy would you say you are with your current job?

Very happy	28%
Happy	38%
Neither happy nor unhappy	24%
Unhappy	7%
Very unhappy	3%

79. In general, how would you describe your own political viewpoint?

Very liberal	13%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	29%
Conservative	22%
Very conservative	13%
Not sure	4%

80. Who did you vote for in the election for President in 2020?

Joe Biden	45%
Donald Trump	40%
Other	1%
Did not vote for President	14%

81. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?

Democrat	39%
Republican	29%
Independent	27%
Other	3%
Not sure	2%

82. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?

Strong Democrat	28%
Not very strong Democrat	11%
Lean Democrat	8%
Independent	13%
Lean Republican	10%
Not very strong Republican	9%
Strong Republican	20%
Not sure	1%

83. Are you... ?	
Male	47%
Female	53%
84. Respondent age by category	
Under 30	14%
30-44	22%
45-64	37%
65+	27%
85. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?	
White	73%
Black	12%
Hispanic	9%
Other	6%
86. What is the highest level of education you have completed?	
No degree	60%
College grad	40%
87. What is the highest level of education you have completed?	
HS or less	30%
Some college	30%
College grad	25%
Postgrad	15%
88. What is your marital status?	
Married	52%
Separated	2%
Divorced	11%
Widowed	5%
Never married	25%
Domestic / civil partnership	5%
89. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 18?	
Yes	24%
No	76%

90. Calculated from respondent's state of residence	
Northeast	17%
Midwest	23%
South	38%
West	22%
91. Do you own or rent the place you currently live?	
Own	65%
Rent	30%
Other	5%
92. Thinking back over the last year, what was your family's annual income?	
Under \$50K	38%
\$50-100K	30%
\$100K or more	21%
Prefer not to say	11%
93. How important is religion in your life?	
Very important	39%
Somewhat important	24%
Not too important	14%
Not at all important	22%
94. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?	
More than once a week	8%
Once a week	18%
Once or twice a month	8%
A few times a year	13%
Seldom	23%
Never	29%
Don't know	2%
95. Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?	
Yes	31%
No	69%

96. People practice their religion in different ways. Outside of attending religious services, how often do you pray?

Several times a day	28%
Once a day	15%
A few times a week	12%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	8%
Seldom	14%
Never	18%
Don't know	2%

97. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	34%
Roman Catholic	21%
Mormon	3%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	0%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	6%
Agnostic	5%
Nothing in particular	20%
Something else	6%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	November 21 - 24, 2020
Target population	US Registered Voters
Sampling method	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in Internet panel using sample matching. A random sample (stratified by gender, age, race, education, and region) was selected from the 2018 American Community Study. Voter registration was imputed from the November 2018 Current Population Survey Registration and Voting Supplement.
Weighting	The sample was weighted based on gender, age, race, education, news interest, and 2020 Presidential vote (or non-vote). The weights range from 0.052 to 5.151, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.781.
Number of respondents	1500
Margin of error	± 3.2% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	44 questions not reported.