

The Economist/YouGov Poll

October 31 - November 2, 2020 - 1500 U.S. Registered Voters



Sample 1500 U.S. Registered Voters
Conducted October 31 - November 2, 2020
Margin of Error $\pm 3\%$

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

Generally headed in the right direction	29%
Off on the wrong track	63%
Not sure	8%

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

Optimistic	44%
Pessimistic	34%
Not sure	22%

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

Better off now	44%
Better off four years ago	42%
Not sure	14%

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

Better off now	34%
Better off four years ago	55%
Not sure	11%

5. How much attention have you been paying to the 2020 election campaign for president?

A lot	68%
Some	21%
Only a little	9%
None at all	1%

6. Did you vote in the Democratic or Republican Presidential primary or caucus in your state in 2020?

Democratic primary/caucus	45%
Republican primary/caucus	34%
Neither one	19%
Not sure	1%

7. How likely is it that you will vote in the 2020 presidential election?

Definitely will not vote	6%
Probably will not vote	1%
Maybe will vote	1%
Probably will vote	3%
Definitely will vote	28%
Already voted	60%
Don't know	0%

8. Who will you vote for in the election for President in November?

Those who already have voted were asked, "Who did you vote for in the election for President in November?"

Joe Biden	49%
Donald Trump	40%
Other	2%
Not sure	2%
I would not vote	6%

9. Who will you vote for in the election for President in November?

Likely voters only

Joe Biden	53%
Donald Trump	43%
Other	2%
Not sure	2%

10. Would you say that your mind is made up about how you will vote?

Among those who intend to vote for either Joe Biden or Donald Trump

I will definitely vote for [Joe Biden / Donald Trump] in November.	97%
There is a chance I will change my mind between now and the election.	3%

11. How do you plan on voting in the presidential election this year?

Those who already have voted were asked, "How did you vote in the presidential election this year?"

In person on election day	25%
In person before the election	28%
By mail	40%
I will not vote this year	7%

12. You said earlier you [plan to vote / voted] by mail this year. Do you feel that the process for getting and casting a mail ballot in [State]?

Among those who voted or plan on voting by mail

Easy	78%
Convenient, but not easy	12%
Inconvenient, but not difficult	9%
Difficult	1%

13. You said earlier you [plan to vote / voted] in-person this year. Do you feel that the process for voting at an in-person polling location in [State]?

Among those who voted or plan on voting in person

Easy	69%
Convenient, but not easy	14%
Inconvenient, but not difficult	15%
Difficult	1%

14. Have you requested your mail-in ballot?

Among those who plan on voting by mail but do not live in states that automatically send mail-in ballots

Yes	67%
No, not yet	31%
Not sure	1%

15. Have you received your mail-in ballot?

Among those who have already requested a mail-in ballot or live in states that automatically send mail-in ballots

Yes	80%
No, not yet	14%
Not sure	7%

16. How long are you willing to wait in line in order to cast your vote?

Among those plan on voting in person

Up to half an hour	19%
A half hour to an hour	13%
An hour to two hours	4%
As long as it takes	64%

17. How long did you wait in line in order to cast your vote?

Among those who have already voted in person

Less than half an hour	71%
A half hour to an hour	19%
An hour to two hours	7%
Longer than two hours	3%

18. Do you know where your polling location is?

Among those who intend to vote in person

Yes	94%
No, not yet	5%
Not sure	1%

19. Thinking about voting in-person, how concerned are you about...

Among those who intend to vote in person on Election Day

	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not concerned at all	Not sure
The spread of COVID-19	18%	28%	19%	35%	0%
The threat of violence or intimidation at the polls	11%	17%	20%	50%	2%
The availability or accessibility of polling locations	10%	9%	16%	63%	2%

20. How important is voting for president this November?

Very important	93%
Somewhat important	5%
Not very important	1%
Not important at all	1%

21. How enthusiastic [are / were] you about voting for president in the upcoming presidential election in November?

Extremely enthusiastic	59%
Very enthusiastic	17%
Somewhat enthusiastic	13%
Not too enthusiastic	7%
Not at all enthusiastic	5%

22. Would you say you are mostly voting FOR Joe Biden or AGAINST Donald Trump?

Asked of those who would vote for Joe Biden

I'm mostly voting FOR Joe Biden	42%
I'm mostly voting AGAINST Donald Trump	55%
Not sure	3%

23. Would you say you are mostly voting FOR Donald Trump or AGAINST Joe Biden?

Asked of those who would vote for Donald Trump

I'm mostly voting FOR Donald Trump	81%
I'm mostly voting AGAINST Joe Biden	17%
Not sure	2%

24. How do you feel about the presidential candidates listed below?

	Enthusiastic	Satisfied but not enthusiastic	Dissatisfied but not upset	Upset	Not sure
Joe Biden	26%	23%	13%	35%	2%
Donald Trump	33%	11%	6%	49%	1%

25. Who do you think will win the 2020 presidential election?

Joe Biden	40%
Donald Trump	39%
Not sure	21%

26. Who do you think will win the popular vote in the 2020 presidential election?

Joe Biden	55%
Donald Trump	31%
Not sure	14%

27. By how much do you think [Joe Biden / Donald Trump] will win the popular vote?

Joe Biden will win the popular vote by a lot	35%
Joe Biden will win the popular vote by a little	15%
Donald Trump will win the popular vote by a lot	16%
Donald Trump will win the popular vote by a little	13%
Joe Biden will win the popular vote, but I'm not sure by how much	5%
Donald Trump will win the popular vote, but I'm not sure by how much	3%
Not sure who will win the popular vote	14%

28. Who do you think will win the Electoral College vote in the 2020 presidential election?

Joe Biden	34%
Donald Trump	41%
Not sure	24%

29. By how much do you think [Joe Biden / Donald Trump] will win the Electoral College?

Joe Biden will win the Electoral College by a lot	17%
Joe Biden will win the Electoral College by a little	15%
Donald Trump will win the Electoral College by a lot	22%
Donald Trump will win the Electoral College by a little	16%
Joe Biden will win the Electoral College, but I'm not sure by how much	3%
Donald Trump will win the Electoral College, but I'm not sure by how much	3%
Not sure who will win the Electoral College	24%

30. Which party do you think will win majority control of the U.S. Senate in 2020?

The Democratic Party	40%
The Republican Party	40%
Not sure	20%

31. In the election for the U.S. House of Representatives in the district where you live, which party's candidate [did you / do you plan to] vote for?

The Democratic Party candidate	48%
The Republican Party candidate	39%
Other	1%
Not sure	4%
I would not vote	8%

32. Which party do you think will win majority control of the U.S. House of Representatives in 2020?

The Democratic Party	53%
The Republican Party	28%
Not sure	19%

33. Do you approve or disapprove of voting by mail?

Strongly approve	46%
Somewhat approve	18%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	20%
Not sure	4%

34. How much confidence do you have that your vote in the 2020 presidential election will be counted accurately?

A great deal	38%
Quite a bit	22%
A moderate amount	20%
Only a little	8%
None at all	2%
Not sure	3%
Will not vote in 2020 presidential election	7%

35. How much confidence do you have that the 2020 presidential election will be held fairly?

A great deal	17%
Quite a bit	19%
A moderate amount	31%
Only a little	20%
None at all	8%
Not sure	5%

36. From what you know about the presidential election process, when do you think we will know who won the presidential election this November?

The night of the election	15%
The day after the election	13%
A few days after the election	25%
A week after the election	17%
A few weeks after the election	12%
A month after the election or later	7%
Don't know	10%

37. Do you think it would be acceptable or unacceptable for us to know the results [the night of the election / the day after the election / a few days after the election / a week after the election / a few weeks after the election / a month after the election or later]?

Acceptable	70%
Unacceptable	21%
Not sure	9%

38. If Joe Biden wins the election, how likely do you think it is that there will be a peaceful transition of power in January?

Very likely	23%
Somewhat likely	25%
Not very likely	22%
Not likely at all	19%
Not sure	11%

39. How likely do you think it is that there will be mass protests if Joe Biden wins the 2020 presidential election?

Very likely	22%
Somewhat likely	29%
Not very likely	24%
Not likely at all	15%
Not sure	10%

40. How likely do you think it is that there will be mass protests if Donald Trump wins the 2020 presidential election?

Very likely	58%
Somewhat likely	23%
Not very likely	8%
Not likely at all	4%
Not sure	7%

41. How worried are you that there might be violence if Joe Biden wins the 2020 presidential election?

Asked of those who think protests are likely if Biden wins

Very worried	32%
Somewhat worried	42%
Not too worried	20%
Not worried at all	6%

42. How worried are you that there might be violence if Donald Trump wins the 2020 presidential election?

Asked of those who think protests are likely if Trump wins

Very worried	34%
Somewhat worried	41%
Not too worried	20%
Not worried at all	5%

43. Would you say Joe Biden is...

Very liberal	33%
Liberal	21%
Moderate	34%
Conservative	3%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	7%

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

A lot	35%
Some	18%
Not much	14%
Doesn't care at all	30%
Not sure	4%

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

Like a lot	30%
Like somewhat	16%
Neither like nor dislike	15%
Dislike somewhat	10%
Dislike a lot	26%
Not sure	3%

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

Very strong	22%
Somewhat strong	30%
Somewhat weak	12%
Very weak	37%

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

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

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

Confident	49%
Uneasy	42%
Not sure	9%

49. Do you think the U.S. economy will get better, get worse or will it stay the same if Joe Biden is elected President in 2020?

Get better	42%
Get worse	42%
Stay the same	9%
Not sure	7%

50. Would you say Donald Trump is...

Very liberal	3%
Liberal	2%
Moderate	12%
Conservative	35%
Very conservative	28%
Not sure	20%

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

A lot	34%
Some	11%
Not much	6%
Doesn't care at all	48%
Not sure	2%

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

Like a lot	21%
Like somewhat	13%
Neither like nor dislike	10%
Dislike somewhat	7%
Dislike a lot	48%
Not sure	2%

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

Very strong	37%
Somewhat strong	12%
Somewhat weak	9%
Very weak	41%

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

Honest and trustworthy	35%
Not honest and trustworthy	56%
Not sure	9%

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

Confident	41%
Uneasy	54%
Not sure	4%

56. Do you think the U.S. economy will get better, get worse or will it stay the same if Donald Trump is re-elected President in 2020?

Get better	45%
Get worse	40%
Stay the same	9%
Not sure	5%

57. How closely are you following the news about COVID-19?

Very closely	50%
Somewhat closely	35%
Not very closely	12%
Not following at all	4%

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

Yes, me	11%
Yes, a family member	21%
Yes, a close friend	21%
No	54%
Prefer not to say	2%

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

Yes, me	3%
Yes, a family member	21%
Yes, a close friend	29%
No	52%
Prefer not to say	2%

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

Yes, a family member	6%
Yes, a close friend	14%
No	79%
Prefer not to say	2%

61. 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	24%
Somewhat worried	38%
Not too worried	24%
Not worried at all	14%

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

Always	59%
Most of the time	22%
Some of the time	13%
Never	6%

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

Increasing	54%
Not changing	19%
Decreasing	13%
Not sure	14%

64. Looking at the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S., do you believe that...

The pandemic is going to get worse	51%
We are currently in the worst part of the pandemic	14%
The worst part of the pandemic is behind us	25%
Not sure	11%

65. How many Americans, in total, do you think will have died this year due to complications from COVID-19?

Fewer than 100,000 Americans	12%
100,000-150,000 Americans	11%
150,000-200,000 Americans	8%
200,000-250,000 Americans	33%
250,000-1 million Americans	32%
More than 1 million Americans	5%

66. When do you think it will be safe to end social distancing measures and reopen businesses as normal?

It is safe right now	18%
In about two weeks	1%
In a month or so	3%
In several months	21%
In about a year or longer	36%
Not sure	20%

67. If and when a coronavirus vaccine becomes available, will you get vaccinated?

Yes	42%
No	25%
Not sure	33%

68. 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	2%
By the end of 2020	23%
By the summer of 2021	39%
By the end of 2021	17%
2022 or later	6%
Not sure	14%

69. Coronavirus vaccines are being fast-tracked through the approval process. How concerned are you about the safety of coronavirus vaccines?

Very concerned	41%
Somewhat concerned	32%
Not very concerned	12%
Not concerned at all	11%
Not sure	4%

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

Strongly approve	26%
Somewhat approve	16%
Somewhat disapprove	5%
Strongly disapprove	51%
Not sure	3%

71. 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	34%
It would not be a violation of civil liberties	57%
Don't know	9%

72. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	79%	19%	1%	1%
Immigration	50%	34%	13%	3%
Climate change and the environment	48%	24%	16%	13%
National Security and foreign policy	62%	30%	6%	1%
Education	60%	32%	6%	2%
Health care	75%	21%	3%	1%
Taxes and government spending	62%	30%	6%	1%
Civil rights and civil liberties	64%	26%	7%	3%
Gun control	51%	25%	14%	10%
Crime and criminal justice reform	55%	36%	7%	2%

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

Jobs and the economy	27%
Immigration	4%
Climate change and the environment	11%
National Security and foreign policy	6%
Education	5%
Health care	24%
Taxes and government spending	6%
Civil rights and civil liberties	10%
Gun control	3%
Crime and criminal justice reform	2%

74. 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	33%	10%	5%	50%	1%
Joe Biden	30%	20%	10%	39%	2%
Mike Pence	33%	12%	8%	42%	4%
Kamala Harris	30%	18%	6%	40%	5%
Nancy Pelosi	19%	21%	10%	45%	5%
Mitch McConnell	11%	22%	12%	45%	11%

75. 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	22%	25%	11%	40%	2%
The Republican Party	20%	22%	13%	43%	2%

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

Strongly approve	32%
Somewhat approve	13%
Somewhat disapprove	5%
Strongly disapprove	49%
Not sure	1%

77. 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	40%	11%	12%	35%	3%
Immigration	35%	10%	6%	47%	2%
Climate change and the environment	24%	14%	7%	48%	7%
Terrorism	37%	10%	8%	41%	3%
Education	24%	17%	9%	41%	9%
Health care	23%	20%	7%	46%	4%
Taxes and government spending	28%	16%	11%	42%	3%
Civil rights and civil liberties	27%	16%	6%	46%	5%
Gun control	32%	13%	7%	40%	7%
Crime and criminal justice reform	30%	15%	9%	40%	6%

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

Appropriate	31%
Inappropriate	60%
Not sure	9%

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

Strongly approve	5%
Somewhat approve	11%
Neither approve nor disapprove	15%
Somewhat disapprove	23%
Strongly disapprove	40%
Not sure	6%

80. 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	20%
Somewhat approve	19%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	43%
Not sure	7%

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

Strongly approve	12%
Somewhat approve	22%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	44%
Not sure	11%

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

Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	34%
Somewhat disapprove	23%
Strongly disapprove	15%
Not sure	13%

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

Very liberal	2%
Liberal	4%
Moderate	32%
Conservative	30%
Very conservative	19%
Not sure	14%

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

Getting better	31%
About the same	18%
Getting worse	45%
Not sure	6%

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

Higher	34%
About the same	17%
Lower	16%
Not sure	33%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	27%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	42%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	27%
Not sure	4%

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

More jobs	39%
The same amount of jobs	18%
Fewer jobs	19%
Not sure	25%

88. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	13%
Somewhat worried	27%
Not very worried	60%

89. 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.	35%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much.	32%
Not very hard	23%
Not sure	9%

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

Very happy	29%
Happy	38%
Neither happy nor unhappy	25%
Unhappy	6%
Very unhappy	3%

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

Very liberal	13%
Liberal	17%
Moderate	30%
Conservative	21%
Very conservative	15%
Not sure	4%

92. Who did you vote for in the election for President in 2016?

Hillary Clinton	42%
Donald Trump	40%
Gary Johnson	2%
Jill Stein	2%
Evan McMullin	0%
Other	1%
Did not vote for President	12%

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

Democrat	37%
Republican	31%
Independent	28%
Other	3%
Not sure	1%

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

Strong Democrat	27%
Not very strong Democrat	10%
Lean Democrat	10%
Independent	10%
Lean Republican	10%
Not very strong Republican	8%
Strong Republican	23%
Not sure	1%

95. Are you...?

Male	46%
Female	54%

96. Respondent age by category

Under 30	15%
30-44	23%
45-64	37%
65+	26%

97. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	72%
Black	12%
Hispanic	10%
Other	6%

98. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

No degree	60%
College grad	40%

99. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

HS or less	30%
Some college	30%
College grad	25%
Postgrad	15%

100. What is your marital status?

Married	49%
Separated	2%
Divorced	12%
Widowed	7%
Never married	25%
Domestic / civil partnership	5%

101. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 18?

Yes	20%
No	80%

102. Calculated from respondent's state of residence

Northeast	18%
Midwest	22%
South	37%
West	23%

103. Do you own or rent the place you currently live?

Own	68%
Rent	28%
Other	4%

104. Thinking back over the last year, what was your family's annual income?

Under \$50K	40%
\$50-100K	28%
\$100K or more	20%
Prefer not to say	12%

105. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	39%
Somewhat important	23%
Not too important	13%
Not at all important	25%

106. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?

More than once a week	7%
Once a week	19%
Once or twice a month	5%
A few times a year	11%
Seldom	21%
Never	33%
Don't know	3%

107. Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

Yes	29%
No	71%

108. 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	14%
A few times a week	10%
Once a week	4%
A few times a month	6%
Seldom	13%
Never	21%
Don't know	3%

109. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	35%
Roman Catholic	20%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	0%
Buddhist	2%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	8%
Agnostic	7%
Nothing in particular	18%
Something else	6%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	October 31 - November 2, 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 2016 American Community Study. Voter registration was imputed from the November 2016 Current Population Survey Registration and Voting Supplement.
Weighting	The sample was weighted based on gender, age, race, education, news interest, and 2016 Presidential vote (or non-vote). The weights range from 0.117 to 4.021, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.635.
Number of respondents	1500
Margin of error	± 3% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	49 questions not reported.