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# Election 2020: Voters Are Highly Engaged, but Nearly Half Expect To Have Difficulties Voting

*Biden maintains lead despite Trump's advantage in strong support*

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## How we did this

Pew Research Center conducted this study to understand American voters' attitudes toward and engagement with the 2020 presidential election and campaigns. For this analysis, we surveyed U.S. adults online and by telephone.

We surveyed 11,001 U.S. adults online – including 7,485 registered voters – in July and August 2020. Everyone who took part is a member of Pew Research Center's American Trends Panel (ATP), an online survey panel that is recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses. This way nearly all U.S. adults have a chance of selection. The survey is weighted to be representative of the U.S. adult population by gender, race, ethnicity, partisan affiliation, education and other categories. Read more about the [ATP's methodology](#).

We also surveyed 1,750 U.S. adults by telephone – including 1,455 registered voters – in July and August 2020. The surveys were conducted in both English and Spanish over the phone under the direction of Abt Associates. Respondents to this survey were randomly selected via a combination of landline and cell phone random-digit-dial samples. To ensure that the results of this survey reflect a balanced cross-section of the nation, the data are weighted to match the U.S. adult population by gender, age, education, race and ethnicity and other categories.

Here are [the questions](#) used for the report, along with responses, and its [methodology](#).

# Election 2020: Voters Are Highly Engaged, but Nearly Half Expect To Have Difficulties Voting

*Biden maintains lead despite Trump's advantage in strong support*

As Democrats and Republicans prepare for their party conventions, a new national survey finds high voter engagement with the presidential campaign – and a record share saying it “really matters” who wins in November when it comes to making progress on important national issues.

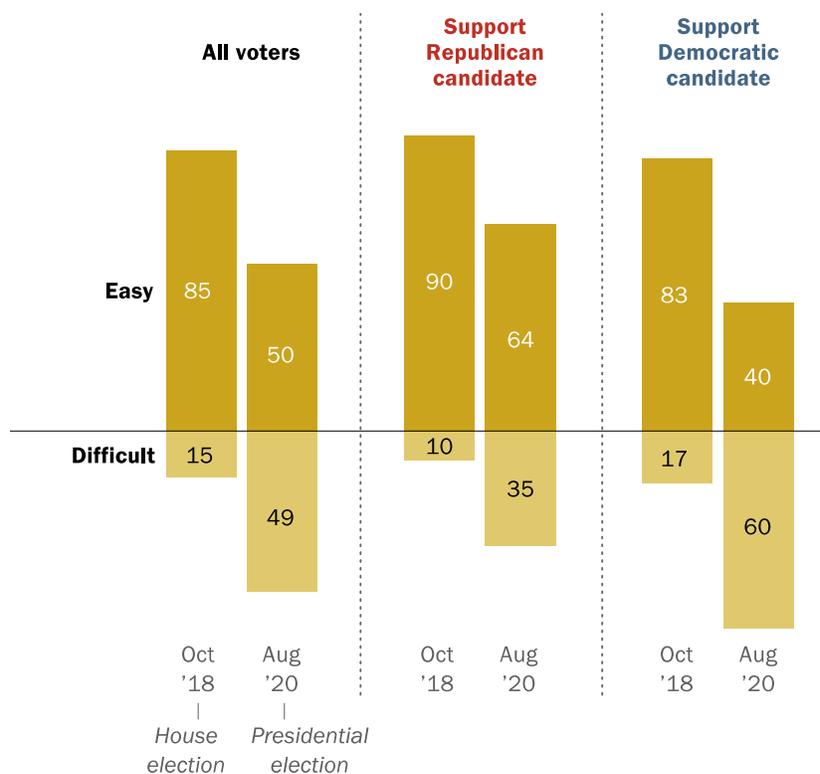
Yet the coronavirus outbreak continues to cast a large shadow over the 2020 presidential election.

Just half of U.S. registered voters (50%) say it will be very or somewhat easy to vote in the upcoming elections, while about the same share (49%) expects to have difficulties casting a ballot. That is a substantial change since October 2018, shortly before that year's midterm elections, when 85% of registered voters said it would be easy to vote.

Voters who support Donald Trump are far more likely than those who support Joe Biden to say it will be easy to vote this year. However, the shares of both Trump and Biden supporters who expect it will be easy to vote are much lower than the shares of voters who said this in 2018 – regardless of which party's candidate they supported.

## Half of voters, including a majority of Biden supporters, expect it will be difficult to vote in this year's election

% of registered voters who expect voting in the November elections to be ...



Notes: Based on registered voters. Based on supporters of Republican and Democratic House candidates in 2018, Trump and Biden supporters in 2020. No answer responses not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

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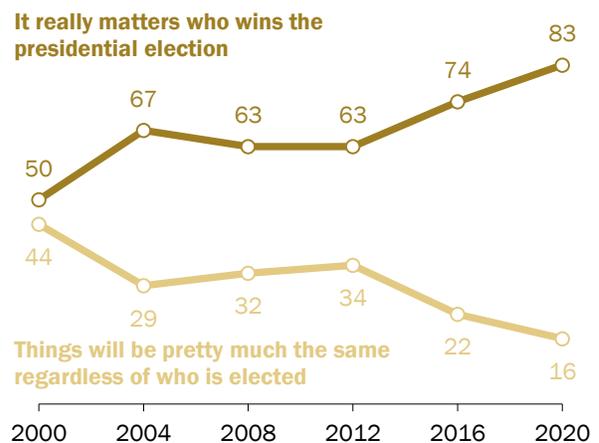
There also are stark differences between Trump and Biden supporters about *how* they prefer to vote. Most registered voters who support Trump or lean toward supporting him would rather vote in person in the presidential election (80%), either on Election Day (60%) or earlier (20%); only 17% prefer to vote by mail. By contrast, a majority of voters who support or lean toward supporting Biden say their preference is to vote by mail in the presidential election (58%).

In the midst of a pandemic that has taken more than 160,000 American lives and ravaged the nation's economy, interest in the presidential campaign is about as high as it was in June 2016 and much higher than during the previous three elections when incumbent presidents were on the ballot.

Currently, 83% of registered voters say it really matters who wins the presidency, up from 74% four years ago and the highest share saying this in two decades of Pew Research Center surveys. Nearly identical shares of registered voters in both parties say it really matters who prevails; other indicators of engagement with the election are equally high among Republican and Democratic voters.

### More voters say it 'really matters' who wins the presidency than at any point in the last 20 years

% of registered voters who say ...



Notes: Based on registered voters. Volunteered and don't know responses not shown. Data for prior years from June surveys. Source: Telephone survey of U.S. adults conducted July 23-Aug. 4, 2020.

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With less than three months until Election Day, Biden has an advantage over Trump in voter preferences: 53% of registered voters say if the election were held today they would vote for Biden or lean toward voting for him, while 45% support or lean toward voting for Trump.

At this point, Biden has a broader base of support among voters, while Trump’s support is much stronger. Two-thirds of Trump’s supporters (66%) say they support him strongly, compared with fewer than half (46%) of Biden’s supporters.

However, nearly identical shares of Biden and Trump supporters say they are certain to vote for their candidate in the presidential election (84% of Biden supporters, 85% of Trump supporters).

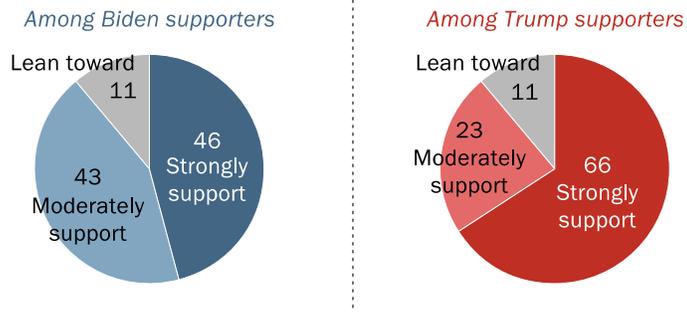
While virtually all of the “strong” supporters of both Biden and Trump say they are certain to vote for their preferred candidate, 90% of Biden’s “moderate” supporters express certainty about voting for him; a somewhat smaller majority of Trump supporters (83%) say they are certain to vote for him.

### Biden has overall advantage, despite lagging Trump in strong support

% of registered voters who support ...

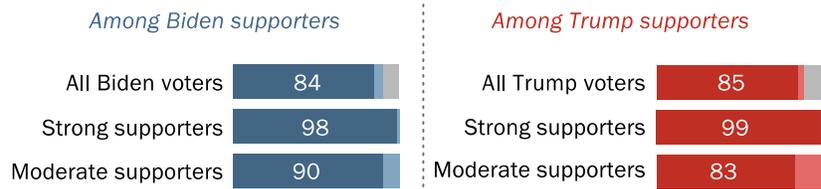


% of registered voters who \_\_ preferred candidate



% of registered voters who say they \_\_ preferred candidate

■ Are certain they will support    ■ May change their mind about    ■ Lean toward



Notes: Based on registered voters. Support for each presidential candidate based on results from four questions. Those who lean toward either candidate not asked about strength of support or whether they were likely to change their mind. No answer responses not shown. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

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For Biden supporters, opposition to Trump is by far the most frequently mentioned reason why they support him. Asked an open-ended question about the main reason they support or lean toward Biden, a 56% majority of his supporters cite their opposition to Trump; far fewer mention Biden's leadership or performance as a candidate (19%) or his personality (13%).

By comparison, Trump supporters cite a variety of reasons for supporting him, including his leadership and performance as president (23%), his issue and policy positions, as well as their opposition to Biden (19%).

This is very different from [the 2016 presidential campaign](#), when opposition to the other candidate was among the top reasons given by supporters of *both* Trump and Hillary Clinton for their voting decisions.

The concerns expressed by Trump and Biden supporters about *their own* candidate also are very different. As was the case during the 2016 campaign, many voters who support Trump have reservations about his temperament: In an open-ended question, 25% mention an aspect of his temperament as their biggest concern, with another 14% specifically citing his tweeting.

For Biden, by contrast, the most frequently mentioned concerns among his supporters center on his age and health. Nearly a third of Biden supporters (31%) say that his age or his health is what concerns them about him – far more than the shares citing his issue or policy positions (15%) or other concerns. Just 1% of Trump supporters express concerns about his age or health.

## Top reason Biden supporters give for voting for him: He's not Trump

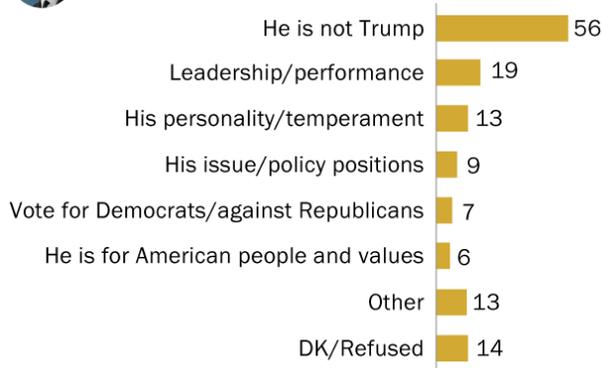
*In your own words, what is the main reason you support or lean toward \_\_\_ in the 2020 presidential election? (%)*



**Donald Trump (R)**



**Joe Biden (D)**



Notes: Based on registered voters. Open-ended questions asked only of those who support/lean toward Trump or Biden. See topline for full set of responses. Total exceeds 100% because of multiple responses.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

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The study of voters' views of the 2020 presidential campaign, which includes views of the candidates and the parties, the importance of major issues and concerns about voting amid the coronavirus outbreak, is based on two national surveys by Pew Research Center: A survey conducted July 27-Aug. 2 among 11,001 adults, including 9,114 registered voters, on the Center's American Trends Panel; and a separate survey, conducted July 23-Aug. 4 on cellphones and landlines among 1,750 adults, including 1,455 registered voters.

## Other major findings of the surveys

**Biden supporters say they'd be relieved if he wins and angry if Trump wins.** A majority of Biden supporters (77%) say they would be relieved if he wins the election; just 16% say they'd be excited. And a larger share of Biden supporters (61%) say they would be angry if Trump wins, compared with Hillary Clinton supporters in 2016 (46% angry). Today, more Trump supporters say they would be relieved (61%) than excited (30%) if their candidate wins this year. And while 37% of Trump supporters say they would be angry if Biden wins, that is lower than the share who said they would be angry if Clinton won in 2016 (46%).

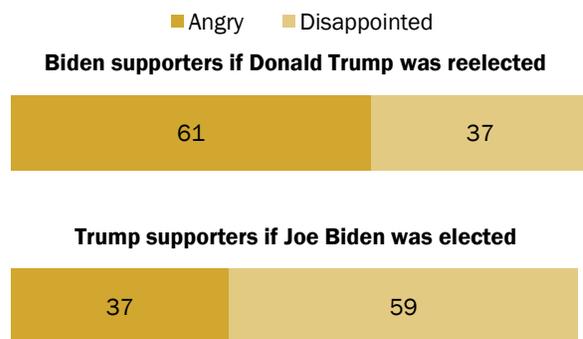
### Voters are divided over who they think will win.

Half of registered voters say that, regardless of whom they support, they think Trump will win the presidential election, while about as many (48%) expect a Biden victory. Throughout the 2016 campaign, majorities of voters consistently said they expected Clinton to win.

**The economy is voters' top issue.** A sizable majority of registered voters (79%) say the economy will be very important in their decision about whom to vote for; smaller shares say health care (68%), Supreme Court appointments (64%) and the coronavirus outbreak (62%) are very important issues. Trump supporters overwhelmingly cite the economy as a very important issue (88%), while large majorities of Biden supporters say health care (84%) and the coronavirus outbreak (82%) are very important to their vote.

### Biden supporters far more likely than Trump supporters to say they'd be angry if their candidate loses

Among registered voters, % who say they would feel \_\_\_\_\_ if the **opposing candidate** was elected in November



Notes: Candidates' supporters include leaners. Excited and relieved responses (<4%) and no answer responses not shown. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

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**GOP leads on the economy but trails on other issues, including the coronavirus.** By 49% to 40%, registered voters are more likely to say the Republican Party, rather than the Democratic Party, can do a better job on the economy. The Democratic Party holds wide leads on several issues, including climate change, abortion and contraception, health care, issues involving race and ethnicity, and handling the public health impacts of the coronavirus outbreak. Nearly half of voters (47%) say the Democratic Party could do a better job in handling the public health impact of the coronavirus outbreak, compared with 35% who say the GOP could do better.

**Record share of voters see clear differences between the candidates.** Fully 86% of registered voters say Trump and Biden take different positions on the issues, the highest share saying this in presidential elections dating to 2000 (this question was not asked in 2016). And just 8% of voters agree that *either* candidate would make a good president. That is only slightly lower than four years ago, but in 2012 nearly a quarter of voters (24%) agreed that either Barack Obama or Mitt Romney would make a good president.

## 1. The 2020 Trump-Biden matchup

With less than three months until the 2020 presidential election, a larger share of registered voters say they would support Joe Biden (53%) over Donald Trump (45%) if the election were held today. But when it comes to how strongly voters back their chosen candidate, 66% of Trump supporters say they support him *strongly*, while just 46% of Biden supporters say the same.

Nearly a quarter of voters who back Trump say they support him moderately (23%).

Another 11% say they lean toward Trump (voters who declined to express a preference between the two major candidates in an initial question were asked which candidate they lean toward).

Support for Biden is more tepid; 43% of registered voters who say they would vote for Biden if the presidential election were held today say they *moderately* support him. About one-in-ten (11%) lean toward Biden.

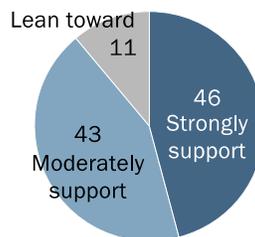
### More voters back Biden over Trump overall, but strength of support greater among Trump voters

% of registered voters who support ...

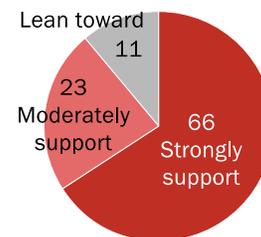


% of registered voters who \_\_ preferred candidate

Among Biden supporters



Among Trump supporters



Notes: Based on registered voters. Support for each presidential candidate based on results from three questions. Those who lean toward either candidate not asked about strength of support or certainty about vote choice. No answer responses not shown. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

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The overwhelming majority of registered voters who currently support Biden and Trump (excluding those who lean toward either candidate) are locked into their choices. More than eight-in-ten Biden voters (86%) and Trump voters (85%) say they are *certain* to support their preferred candidate in the upcoming presidential election. Only about 5% of voters who support either of the two candidates say there is a chance they will change their mind (5% of Biden supporters, 4% of Trump voters).

Among each candidate's *strong* supporters, nearly all say they are certain to support their preferred candidate in the presidential election (98% of Biden's strong supporters and 99% of Trump's).

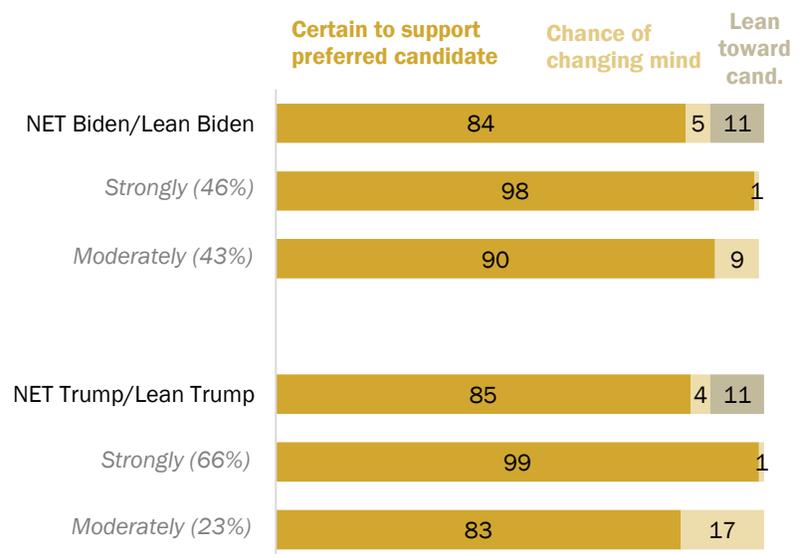
However, while a much larger share of Biden supporters support him moderately compared with Trump supporters (43% vs. 23%), they are more certain in their choice than are those who say they support Trump only moderately.

Among Biden's moderate supporters, 90% say they are certain to support him for president, and 10% say there is a chance they will change their mind. Among Trump's moderate supporters, 17% say there is a chance they will change their mind about their preferred candidate for the 2020 presidential election.

Voters who say they lean toward *either* of the two major candidates (10% of Biden's support overall, 11% of Trump's support overall) were not asked about the certainty of their choice.

### Large majority of Biden, Trump voters say they are certain to support their preferred candidate

% of registered voters who say ...



Notes: Based on registered voters. Results above based on results from three questions. Leaners not asked if they were certain to support their candidate in the general election. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

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Many of the demographic divides that were [evident in the 2016 presidential contest](#) are just as wide today as they were four years ago – especially by race, education and gender. (See [detailed tables for further information on voter preferences](#))

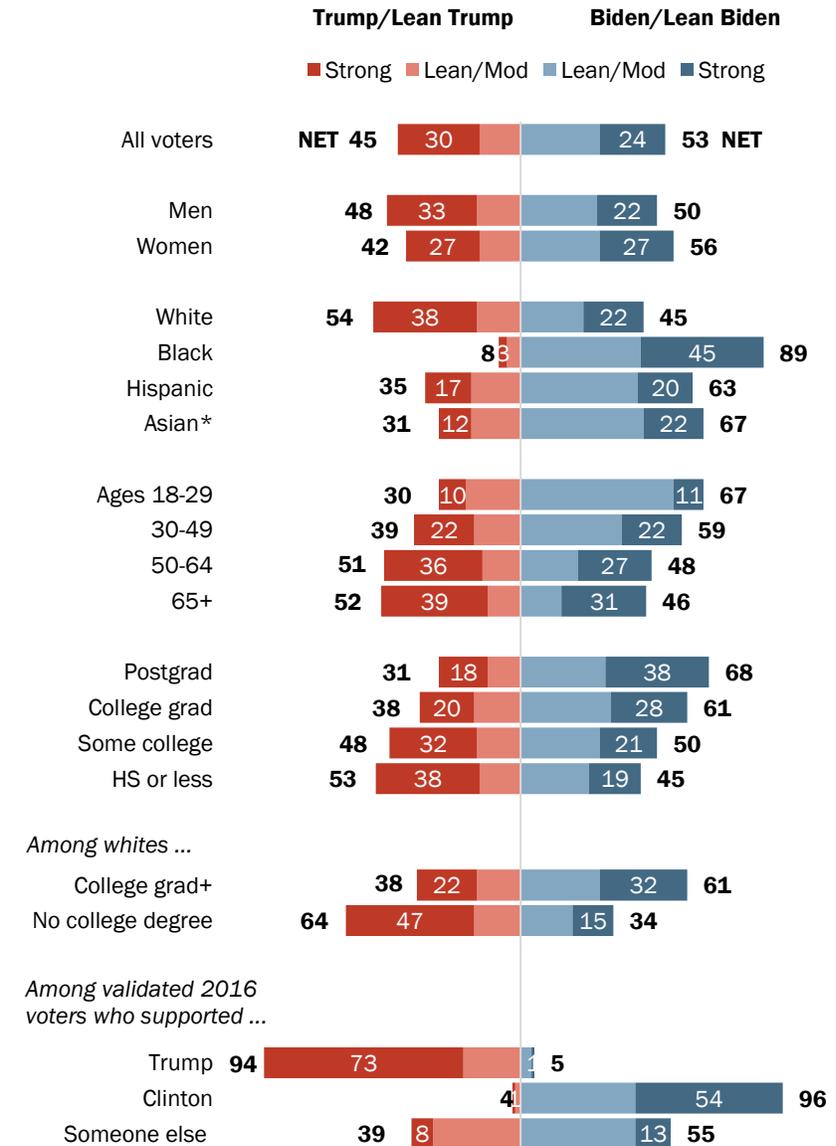
While Biden enjoys more support among women, Black, Hispanic, and Asian American voters, Trump fares better among older and less-educated voters. These divisions were evident [earlier this summer](#), as well as four years ago.

And while gaps in support among these groups are not new, many of the differences in strength of support are striking. For example, while a 54% majority of white voters favor Trump, 38% support him strongly. Fewer white voters support Biden (45%), including just 22% who back him strongly.

Black voters overwhelmingly support Biden (89% to 8%). And close to half of Black voters (45%) support Biden strongly, a larger share than

### Demographic divides from 2016 still evident in 2020; Biden leads among third-party voters from 2016

*% of registered voters who would vote for \_\_\_ if the 2020 presidential election were being held today*



\*Asian adults were interviewed in English only.  
 Notes: Based on registered voters. White and Black adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.  
 Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

among his supporters in most other demographic groups.

Trump draws support from 53% of those with a high school diploma or less, including 38% who say they *strongly* support him for reelection. In contrast, 68% of voters with a postgraduate degree say they support Biden for president, including 38% who say they strongly support him.

The educational divide is even wider among white voters. Nearly two-thirds (64%) of white voters with no college degree say they support Trump; 47% *strongly* support him. By contrast, 61% of white voters with a four-year college degree or more say they would vote for or lean toward Biden – including about a third who say they strongly support him.

Today, substantial majorities of registered voters who cast ballots for Trump or Clinton in 2016 are largely sticking to their same party's candidate. Among those [voters who were matched to a voter file](#) and reported supporting Trump in 2016, 94% say they will vote for Trump again this November; about 5% say they will support Biden.

The pattern is largely the same among 2016 Clinton voters: 96% say they will cast a ballot for Biden this fall, while just 4% say they will support Trump.

Among those voters who reported casting a ballot for someone other than Trump or Clinton in 2016, including Gary Johnson and Jill Stein, more say they would support Biden over Trump (55% vs. 39%) if the election were held today. Relatively small shares report either candidate *strongly* (8% say they support Trump strongly vs. 13% who say they support Biden strongly).

## Registered voters divided on which candidate will win

Overall, registered voters are divided over who they think will win the 2020 November election: While 50% of voters believe that Trump will win the presidential election, 48% predict a victory for Biden.

And although voters' predictions for who will win the presidential election largely align with their candidate preference, voters who support Trump or lean toward voting for him are slightly more likely than Biden supporters to say that their candidate will win (90% vs. 82%).

Throughout the 2016 presidential campaign, majorities of voters consistently expected a Hillary Clinton victory. In August of 2016, 55% said Clinton would win, compared with 42% who expected Trump to win.

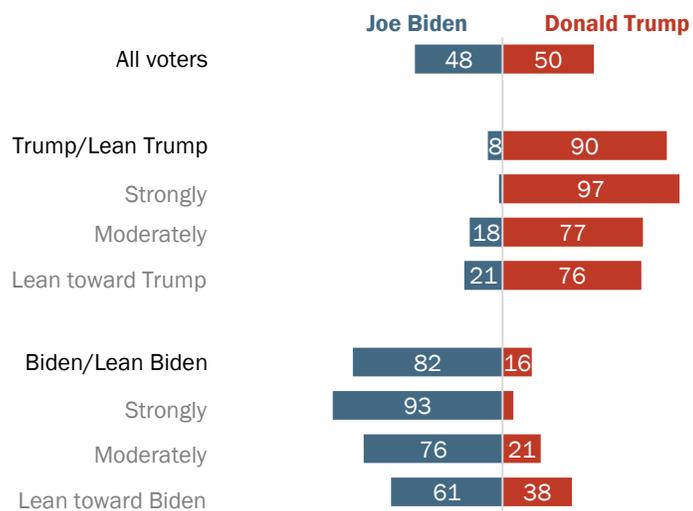
Trump supporters are far more confident their candidate will win today than they were four years ago. Currently, 90% of Trump supporters expect him to win; at about the same point in the campaign four years ago, only 74% of Trump supporters said he would prevail over Clinton.

By contrast, roughly the same share of Biden supporters are confident of victory today (82%) as Clinton supporters four years ago (85%).

Today, voters who are more certain of their choice in candidate are more likely to expect that their candidate will win the 2020 election. Nearly all strong Trump supporters (97%) expect him to win, compared with 77% of his more moderate supporters. Similarly, among Biden supporters, those

### Trump supporters are somewhat more confident of election victory than are Biden supporters

Among registered voters, % who think \_\_\_ will win the presidential election



Notes: Based on registered voters. No response not shown. Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

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who support Biden strongly (93%) are more likely than those who support him moderately (76%) to expect him to win the November election.

But among voters who are more unsure of who they are voting for, those who lean toward voting for Trump (76%) are more likely than those who lean toward Biden (61%) to expect their candidate to win.

## How Trump and Biden supporters would react to victory and defeat

When asked about their reactions to the outcome of the November 2020 election, voters say they would have more positive reactions to Biden winning the election than to Trump being reelected president. And voters' reactions to Trump's possible reelection are more intense – both positively and negatively – than to a Biden victory.

About half of registered voters (51%) say they would be excited or relieved if Biden was elected president, while 47% say they would be disappointed or angry.

Among voters who say they would react positively to a Biden victory, far more would be relieved (42%) than excited (9%). Among those who expect to react negatively, more say they would be disappointed (30%) than angry (17%).

More voters say they would react to a Trump victory with negative (57%) than positive (42%) emotions. Nearly twice as many voters say they would be angry if Trump wins reelection (33%) than if Biden is elected president (17%).

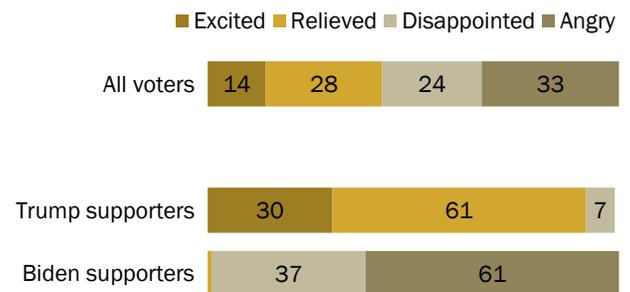
Yet somewhat more voters also say they would be excited by a Trump victory than a Biden victory.

Although both Trump and Biden supporters express positive reactions to their own candidate winning the November election, Trump supporters (30%) are about twice as likely to say they would be excited if their candidate won the 2020 election than Biden supporters (16%) are of their own candidate.

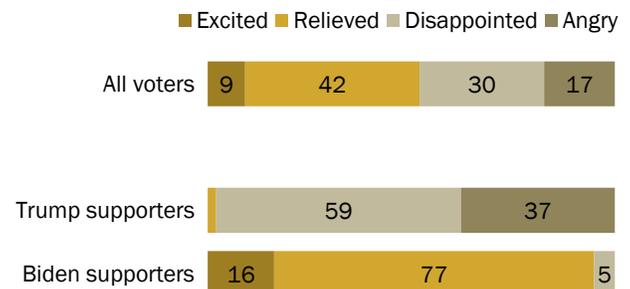
By contrast, Biden supporters are more likely to express relief about the possibility of their candidate winning. About eight-in-ten Biden supporters (77%) say they would be relieved if Biden were elected in 2020, compared with 61% of Trump supporters.

### Prospect of Trump reelection elicits more voter anger – and excitement – than a Biden win

Among registered voters, % who say they would feel \_\_\_\_ if **Donald Trump** was reelected in November



Among registered voters, % who say they would feel \_\_\_\_ if **Joe Biden** was elected in November



Notes: Based on registered voters. No response not shown. Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

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When it comes to the prospect of the opposing candidate winning the November election, Biden supporters are far more likely than Trump supporters to express anger. While a majority (61%) of Biden supporters say they would be angry if Trump won reelection, 37% of Trump supporters say they would feel angry if Biden won the presidential election.

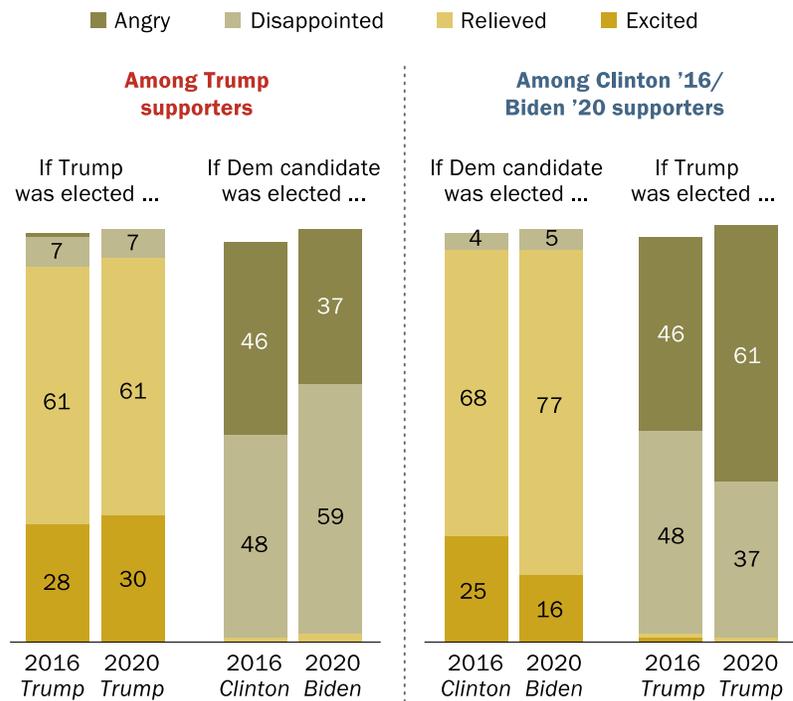
On the other hand, Trump supporters are more likely to express disappointment toward Biden’s potential election. About six-in-ten Trump supporters say they would be disappointed if Biden won the November election, compared with 37% of Biden supporters who express this view of Trump’s potential reelection.

Biden supporters have different reactions to possible defeat and victory today than supporters of Hillary Clinton did in [September 2016](#). In reaction to their own candidate winning, Biden supporters in 2020 (16%) are less likely than Clinton supporters were in 2016 (25%) to express excitement over the prospect of their own candidate winning. Instead, a larger share of Biden supporters say they would feel relief in the event he wins: 77% say they would be relieved if Biden won the November election. In 2016, 68% of Clinton supporters said they would feel relief.

But the possibility of Trump’s reelection would elicit more anger from Biden supporters today than the possibility of Trump’s election did from Clinton supporters in 2016. A 61% majority of Biden supporters say they would be angry if Trump won reelection. In September 2016, 46% of Clinton supporters said they would be angry if Trump won.

**Biden supporters more likely than Clinton supporters in 2016 to say they’d be angry if Trump wins**

*Among registered voters, % who would feel ...*



Notes: Based on registered voters. No response not shown. Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

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Among Trump supporters, the outlook toward a possible Trump victory is little different than it was in 2016. As was the case then, far more Trump supporters say they would be relieved (61%) than excited (30%) if Trump wins. However, when asked about their potential reaction to Biden winning the presidential election in 2020, a smaller share (37%) say they would be angry than the share who said they would react in this way (46%) in 2016 when asked about a possible Clinton victory.

## 2. Perceptions of Trump and Biden

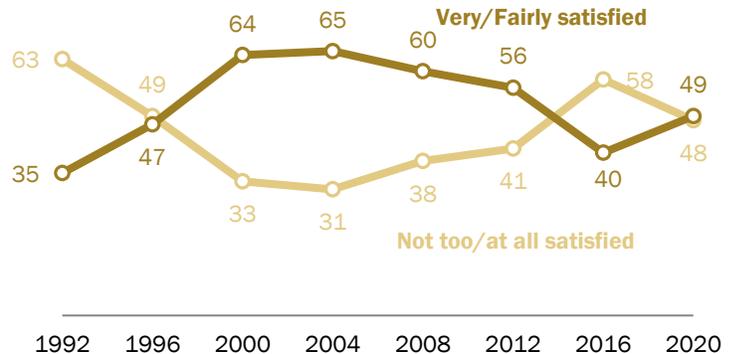
About half (49%) of registered voters say they are very or fairly satisfied with the presidential candidates, while a similar share (48%) say they are not too or not at all satisfied. Voter satisfaction with the candidates is higher than it was in 2016, when just 40% expressed satisfaction, but lower than it was for the 2000, 2004, 2008 and 2012 elections.

About six-in-ten Republican voters (59%) say they are very or fairly satisfied with the presidential candidates, compared with 42% of Democratic voters. In 2016, there was no significant partisan gap in satisfaction with the candidates.

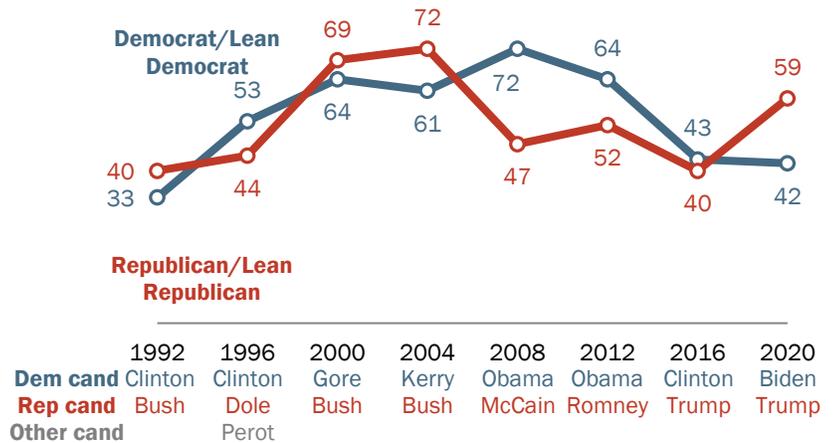
In the prior three elections in which an incumbent president ran for reelection, members of the incumbent's party were more satisfied with the candidates the summer prior to the election. In 1996, satisfaction was 9 percentage points higher among Democratic voters than among GOP voters. In 2004, Republican voters were 11 points more likely than Democratic voters to express satisfaction, and the gap was similar in 2012 (Democratic satisfaction 12 points higher than GOP satisfaction). Today, satisfaction is 17 points higher among Republican voters than Democratic voters.

### GOP satisfaction with the presidential candidates higher than in 2016

% of registered voters who say they are \_\_\_ with the presidential candidates



% of registered voters who are very/fairly satisfied with the presidential candidates...



Notes: Based on registered voters. Volunteered and don't know responses not shown. Data for prior years from June surveys. Source: Telephone survey of U.S. adults conducted July 23-Aug. 4, 2020.

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## Few say *neither* Trump nor Biden would make a good president; even fewer say *either* would

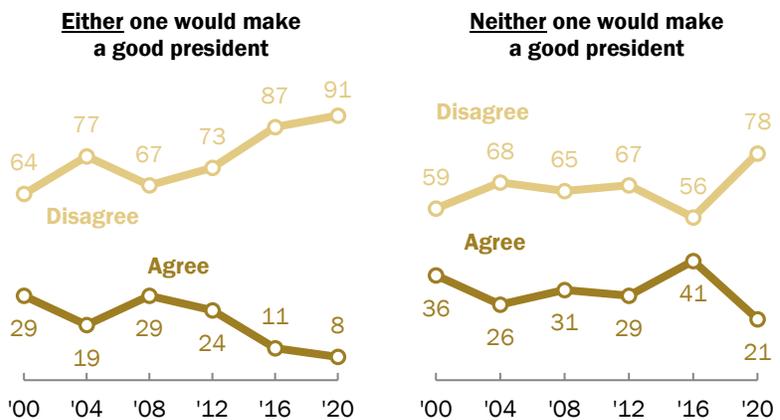
Just 8% of registered voters agree with the statement “it is difficult to choose between Donald Trump and Joe Biden because *either* one would make a good president,” while only about two-in-ten (21%) agree that the choice would be difficult “because *neither* one would make a good president.”

The share who say the choice is hard because either would make a good president is as low as it has been at any point since the question was first asked in 2000 (11% said this of the Trump-Clinton matchup in 2016). And the share who think the choice is difficult because *neither* one would make a good president is also at a historic low. Four years ago, 41% of voters said the choice was hard because neither Trump nor Clinton would make a good president – only about half as many say the same about the choice between Trump and Biden today.

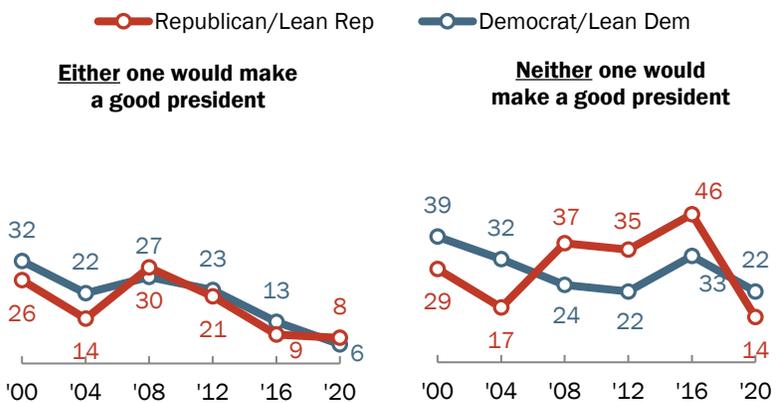
Few in either party say it would be difficult to choose between the candidates because either one would make a good president (just 8% of Republican voters and 6% of Democratic voters).

### Record low shares of voters say either – or neither – would make a good president

*% of registered voters who say it is difficult to choose between the candidates because ...*



*% of voters who agree it would be difficult to choose between the candidates because ...*



Notes: Based on registered voters. Volunteered and don't know responses not shown. Data for prior years from June surveys.

Source: Telephone survey of U.S. adults conducted July 23-Aug. 4, 2020.

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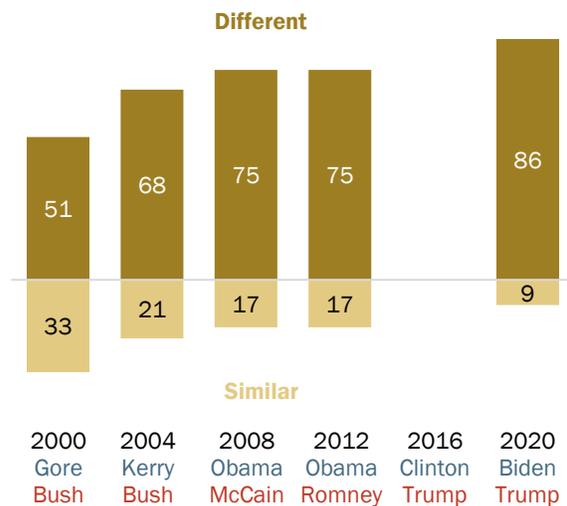
Just 14% of GOP voters say it would be difficult to choose between the candidates because neither one would make a good president – 46% said this of the Trump-Clinton race in 2016. While a slightly larger share of Democratic than Republican voters today say the choice is hard because neither Biden nor Trump would make a good president, just 22% say this, down from the 33% of Democratic voters who said this about the choice between Clinton and Trump in 2016.

## Share saying the two major party candidates differ on the issues has grown over time

An overwhelming majority of voters – 86% – say that Trump and Biden take different positions on the issues, with just 9% seeing their positions on the issues as similar. The share who see the presidential candidates’ positions as different is now 35 percentage points higher than it was two decades ago.

### Voters overwhelmingly say Trump and Biden differ on the issues

*% of registered voters who say that the major party candidates take \_\_\_ positions on the issues*



Notes: Based on registered voters. Question not asked in 2016.  
Source: Telephone survey conducted July 23-Aug. 4, 2020.

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## In their own words: Supporters of Trump and Biden give reasons for their voting decisions and concerns about their candidates

When asked to explain in their own words the main reasons why they support Joe Biden or Donald Trump, Biden supporters are far more likely than Trump supporters to volunteer that opposition to the other candidate is a main motivating factor.

A majority (56%) of registered voters who support Biden and those who lean toward supporting him say their main reason for supporting him is that he is not Trump. Just 19% of Trump supporters cite opposition to Biden as a central motivation.

Voters who cite negative reasons for their support of a candidate do not mince words when describing the opponent. A 37-year-old living in the South says the main reason they support Biden is *“because having Trump as president for another four years will be a disaster for this country.”*

A 44-year-old Southern Trump supporter uses similar language to explain their rationale for voting for Trump, saying simply, *“Because Biden would be a disaster.”*

Biden supporters’ relatively large emphasis on voting against Trump, and Trump supporters’ relatively large emphasis on other factors, represents a change from four years ago. In 2016, nearly identical proportions of Trump supporters (33%) and Clinton supporters (32%) said that [opposition to the other candidate was](#)

### Top reason for voting for Biden among his supporters: He’s not Trump

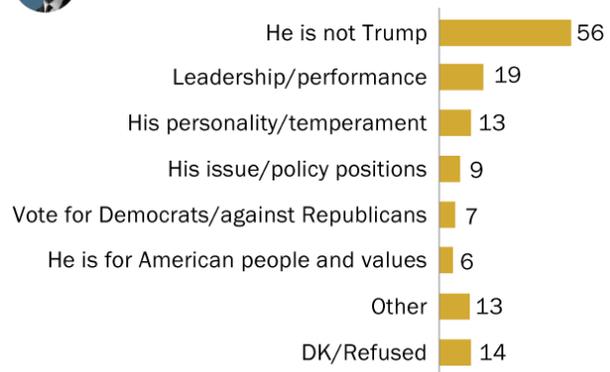
*In your own words, what is the main reason you support or lean toward \_\_\_\_ in the 2020 presidential election?*  
(%)



**Donald Trump (R)**



**Joe Biden (D)**



Notes: Based on registered voters. Open-ended questions asked only of those who support/lean toward Trump or Biden. See topline for full set of responses. Total exceeds 100% because of multiple responses.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

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[a main factor in their likely vote choice](#). In 2020, supporters of both candidates are more likely to cite their attitudes about Trump, the incumbent, in explaining their decisions.

While more Biden than Trump supporters cite opposition to the other candidate as the main reason for their vote, partisanship is a bigger factor for Trump supporters: 16% of voters who support Trump say their main reason for backing Trump is to support Republicans or oppose Democrats; a smaller share of Biden supporters (7%) cite partisanship as the main reason for their vote.

About one-in-five Trump supporters (23%) say they are basing their support on Donald Trump's leadership or performance, while a similar share (21%) cite Trump's position on the issues. About one-in-ten (11%) point to Trump's personality and willingness to speak his mind, compared with about 19% of Trump supporters who cited similar reasons in 2016. A 58-year-old Trump supporter in the South explains their choice this way: *"Because he gets stuff done. He's not perfect, but he's honest and tries."*

While opposition to Trump is cited most often as the main reason for supporting Biden, 19% mention Biden's leadership and 13% cite his performance or his personality. Some Biden supporters describe Biden's attributes in relative terms: As a 41-year-old Northeastern Biden supporter writes, *"I think he has stronger moral fortitude, is kinder, and will think more before he speaks than our current president."*

When asked what, if anything, concerns them about their preferred candidate, one-quarter of registered voters who support Trump express concerns about his temperament or personality. This includes 13% of Trump supporters who specifically worry that he speaks without thinking or is too hot-headed.

A relatively large share of Trump supporters (14%) also express concerns about their candidate’s use of Twitter. Some say that Trump spends too much time or focuses too much of his attention on Twitter, while others worry about the content he posts. One 47-year-old supporter in the West writes that they are concerned about: *“His tweets. He doesn’t THINK before he tweets.”* Several others describe his use of Twitter as “immature” or “childish.”

About one-in-ten Trump supporters (11%) express concerns about the president’s performance in office to date. A similar share (9%) are concerned about one or more of his issue positions, including 3% who specifically cite his handling of the [COVID-19 pandemic](#).

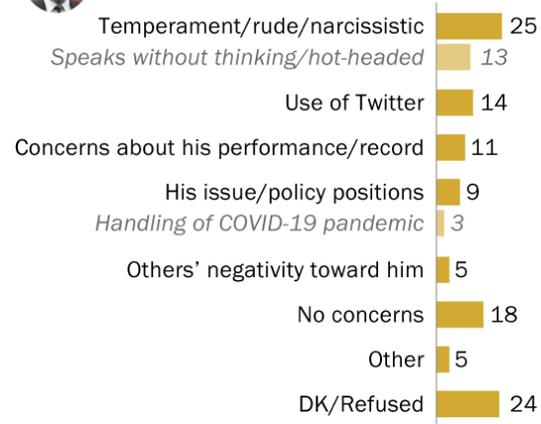
About three-in-ten Biden supporters list Biden’s age or health as a major concern regarding their chosen candidate. While many simply say that his age concerns them, others are more specific. For example, one 73-year-old Biden supporter in the Northeast wishes that *“he were younger so that I could feel confident in him in the remaining days of the campaign. I worry about him screwing up.”* A Western 46-year-old writes: *“Biden’s age concerns me but I am also concerned about Trump’s age. I am not sure either when one considers age and*

## Trump’s temperament, Biden’s age and health are most common concerns among their supporters

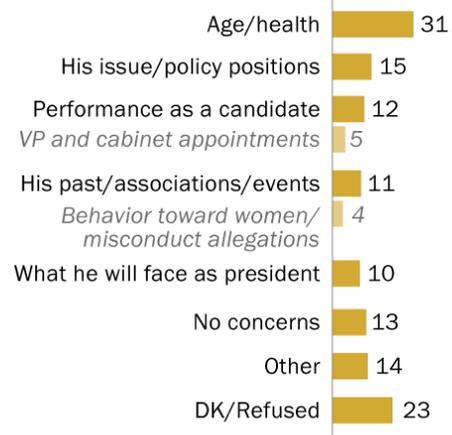
And while you support or lean toward \_\_\_\_ in the 2020 presidential election, what, if anything, concerns you about him? (%)



### Donald Trump (R)



### Joe Biden (D)



Notes: Based on registered voters. Open-ended questions asked only of those who support/lean toward Trump or Biden. See topline for full set of responses. Total exceeds 100% because of multiple responses.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

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*race can fully grasp what is happening in the country but Biden is more empathetic to the plight and needs of people of color.”*

Despite several Biden supporters noting the candidates' similar ages (Trump is currently 74 while Biden is 77), just 1% of Trump supporters name the incumbent's age or health as a concern when discussing their own preferred candidate.

Voters who support Biden also express concerns about his issue positions (15%), his performance as a candidate (12%), his history in public life (11%) and the magnitude of the job he would face in office (10%). Included among those concerned about Biden's history are 4% of Biden supporters who specifically note his behavior toward women, some of whom mention recent allegations of sexual misconduct.

Overall, Trump supporters are 5 percentage points more likely than Biden supporters to say that they have *no* concerns about their chosen candidate. However, important differences exist within Biden's coalition. Among Biden supporters, Black voters are twice as likely to say they have no concerns about Biden (22%) than either whites (11%) or Hispanics (9%).

### 3. Views of the 2020 campaign and voting in November

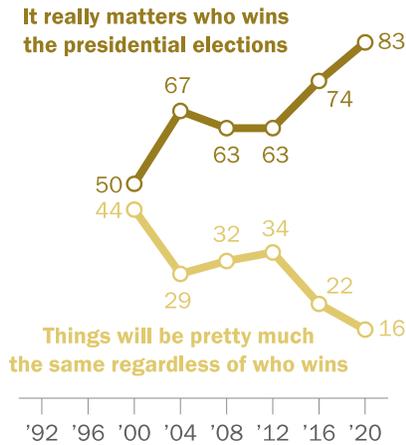
The 2020 presidential campaign is attracting a high level of interest from voters. Three measures of voter attitudes and engagement are among the highest seen for presidential elections over the last few decades.

Today, 83% of registered voters say that it “really matters who wins” the presidential election, higher than the share who said this at similar points in any prior presidential elections dating back to 2000. In 2016, about three-quarters (74%) said the outcome of the election really mattered, while smaller majorities in 2012 (63%), 2008 (63%) and 2004 (67%) also said it really mattered who won.

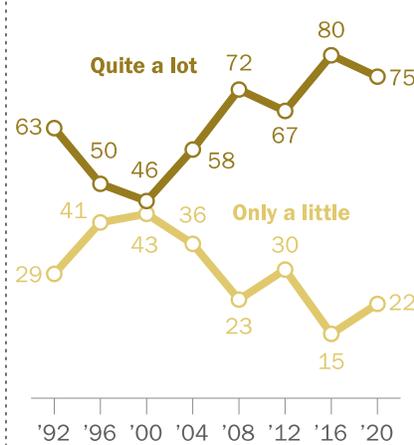
#### More voters say it really matters who wins the presidency than at any point in the last two decades

% of registered voters who say ...

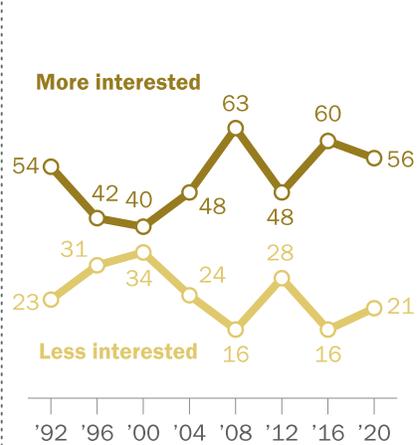
**When it comes to making progress on important issues facing the country ...**



**Thought about the election ...**



**Interest in politics compared to last presidential year ...**



Notes: Based on registered voters. Volunteered and don't know responses not shown. Data for prior years from June surveys. Source: Telephone survey of U.S. adults conducted July 23-Aug. 4, 2020.

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Three-quarters of voters say they have thought quite a lot about the election. The share of voters saying they have thought a lot about the election is slightly lower than the share who said this in 2016 (80%), though higher than for most other elections dating back to 1992.

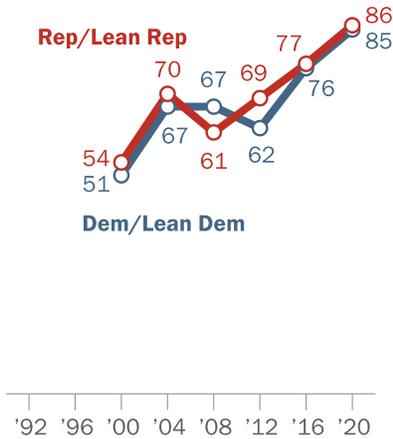
A 56% majority say they are more interested in politics they were in 2016 – which was one of the highest interest elections in recent years (and when 60% said they were more interested in politics than they had been in previous elections).

Republican (86%) and Democratic (85%) registered voters are about equally likely to say this year’s election outcome really matters – and record shares in both parties say this. There are also no significant differences in the shares of Republican and Democratic voters who say they have thought quite a lot about the election (77% and 78%, respectively) or say that they are more interested in politics than they were in 2016 (57% and 59%, respectively).

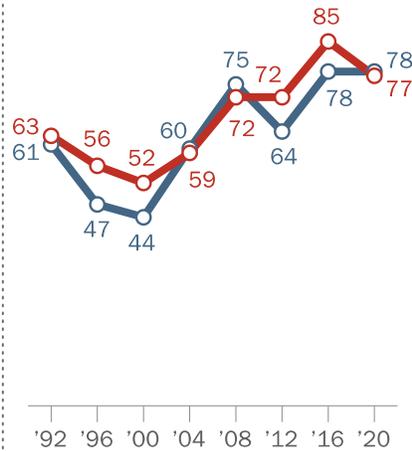
### Record-high shares of both Republican and Democratic voters say the election outcome ‘really matters’

*% of registered voters who say ...*

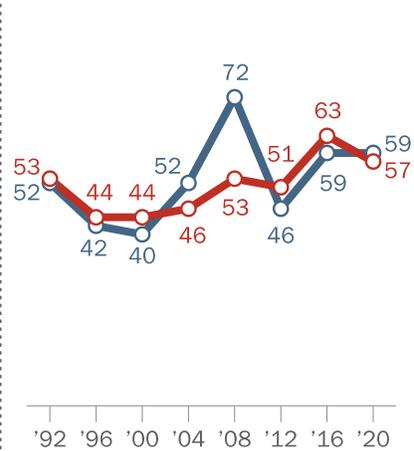
**“Really matters” who wins the election when it comes to making progress on important issues facing the country**



**Thought “quite a lot” about the election**



**Are “more interested in politics” compared to last presidential year**



Notes: Based on registered voters. Results from prior surveys were conducted in June of election years. Source: Telephone survey of U.S. adults conducted July 23-Aug. 4, 2020.

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Among Republican registered voters, 77% say they have thought “quite a lot” about the upcoming presidential election, down from 2016 when 85% said they had thought a lot about the election – higher than in previous elections. Democratic registered voters are as likely to say they have given the election a lot of thought as they were in 2016 (78% in both years).

A majority of Republicans (57%) say they are more interested in politics this year than they were in the last presidential election year. This is down from 63% in 2016 (a GOP high in recent elections),

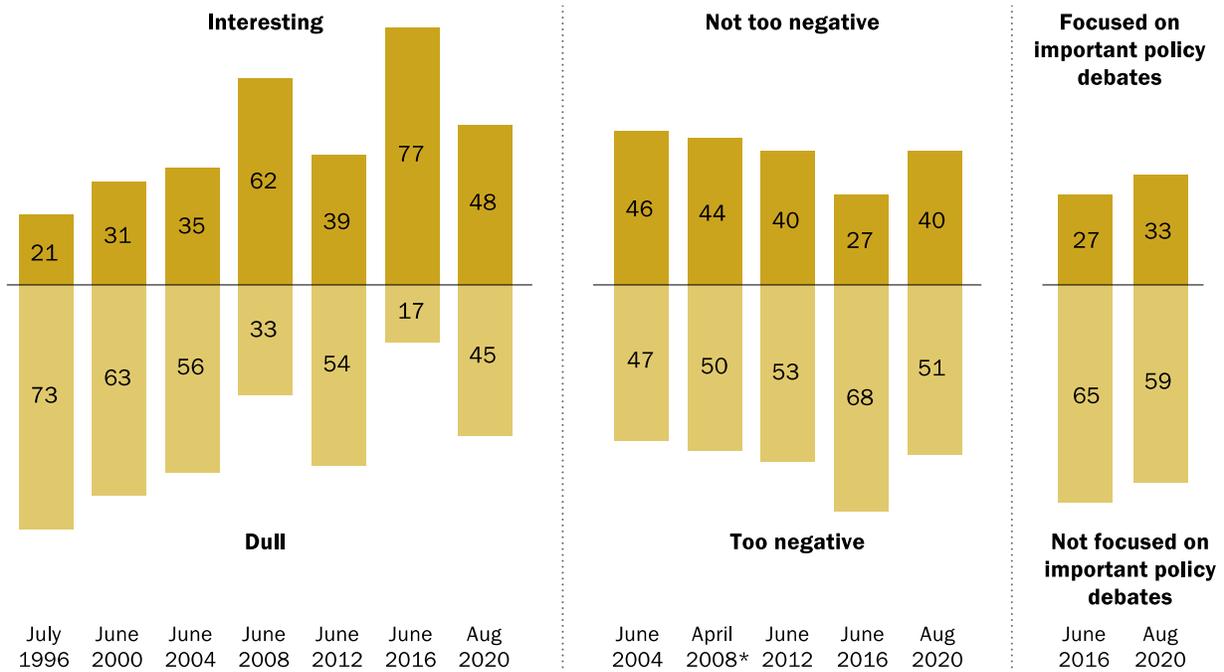
but is higher than in most other recent elections. Among Democrats, 59% say they are more interested in politics today than they were in 2016. The share of Democrats saying they are more interested than in the prior election is identical to the share who said this in 2016 and higher than in most recent elections – with the exception of 2008, when 72% of Democrats said they were more interested in politics than they had been in 2004.

## Most say 2020 campaign not focused on important policy debates

About half of registered voters say the presidential campaign has been interesting (48%), with roughly as many characterizing it as dull (45%). Voters are finding the 2020 campaign far less interesting than they found the 2016 race – three-quarters (77%) said the 2016 campaign was interesting, higher than for any prior election dating back to 1992. Still, the share of voters saying the campaign is interesting is higher than in the last several elections involving an incumbent president.

### Voters find 2020 campaign less interesting than 2016, though fewer also say it is 'too negative'

% of registered voters saying presidential campaign is ...



\*April 2008 based on general public.  
 Notes: Based on registered voters. Other/Don't know responses not shown.  
 Source: Telephone survey of U.S. adults conducted July 23-Aug. 4, 2020

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About half of voters are say the campaign has been too negative (51%), while fewer (40%) say it has not been too negative. This is on par with evaluations of most recent elections – except 2016, when 68% of voters said the 2016 campaign was too negative.

A majority of voters (59%) say that this year's presidential campaign is not focused on important policy debates; one-third say the campaign is focused on important debates. Voters are more likely to view the campaign this year as focused on important policy debates than they were in 2016 (33% vs. 27%)

While demographic differences on these measures are relatively modest, there are some age and educational differences.

Voters without a college degree are more likely than those with one to say that the presidential campaign has been interesting (52% vs. 41%).

Younger registered voters are more likely to view the presidential campaign as too negative. Nearly two-thirds of registered voters ages 18 to 29 (63%) say the campaign has been too negative; 49% of all other voters say this.

Younger voters are also more likely to say that the campaign

has not been focused on major issues. Among voters under 50, 65% say the campaign has not been focused on important debates, while 54% of those ages 50 and older say the same.

## Impressions of the 2020 campaign

*% of registered voters who say the presidential campaign so far has been ...*

	Interesting	Dull	Not too negative	Too negative	Focused on impt. debates	Not focused on impt. debates
	%	%	%	%	%	%
All voters	48	45	40	51	33	59
White	49	43	40	52	34	57
Black	52	44	40	53	29	67
Hispanic	41	53	50	42	29	59
Ages 18-29	54	40	31	63	30	67
30-49	41	52	42	50	29	65
50-64	50	46	44	47	40	54
65+	52	39	40	52	31	53
College grad+	41	50	37	55	30	62
Some coll or less	52	43	42	50	34	58
Rep/Lean Rep	46	47	42	50	37	54
Dem/Lean Dem	52	41	40	52	32	62

Notes: Based on registered voters. White and Black adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race. Other/Don't know responses not shown.

Source: Telephone survey of U.S. adults conducted July 23-Aug. 4, 2020

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## Trump, Biden supporters differ over whether they prefer to vote in person or by mail in November

With less than three months before the general election and as state election administrators prepare to conduct elections in the midst of the coronavirus outbreak, American voters are divided in how they would prefer to cast their ballots: 40% say they prefer to vote in person on Election Day, 39% say they would prefer to vote by mail and 18% say they would like to vote in person prior to Election Day.

There is a wide gap between Trump voters and Biden voters in their preferences for how they would like to vote: Nearly six-in-ten Biden voters (58%) say they would prefer to vote by mail, while just 17% of Trump voters say this. A majority of Trump voters (60%) say they would prefer to vote on Election Day in person.

White voters are substantially more likely than other racial and ethnic groups to say they prefer to vote in person on Election Day (43% of white voters say this compared with 33% of Black voters, 28% of Hispanic voters and 21% of Asian voters). To a large extent,

this reflects the differences in the partisan leaning of these groups – for instance, 20% of white Biden supporters express a preference for Election Day voting, little different than the 21% of Hispanic Biden supporters and lower than the share of Black Biden supporters (33%) who say this.

### Six-in-ten Trump backers say they would rather vote in person on Election Day – about the same share of Biden supporters would prefer to vote by mail

*% of registered voters who say they prefer to \_\_\_\_ for the election in November*

	Vote in person Election Day	Vote in person early	Vote by mail	Not vote
All voters	40	18	39	3
White	43	17	37	2
Black	33	25	37	5
Hispanic	28	18	48	6
Asian*	21	15	62	3
Ages 18-29	28	16	49	6
30-49	37	19	41	3
50-64	47	18	33	2
65+	41	18	40	1
Postgrad	29	19	51	<1
College degree	31	20	48	1
Some college	41	18	38	2
HS or less	49	16	29	5
<i>Among those who support or lean toward...</i>				
Trump	60	20	17	2
Biden	23	17	58	2

\*Asian adults were interviewed in English only.

Notes: Based on registered voters. No answer responses not shown. White, Black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27- Aug. 2, 2020.

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By comparison, 63% of white Trump supporters say their preference would be to vote in person on Election Day.

Hispanic and Asian American voters are more likely than white and Black voters to say they prefer voting by mail, with nearly half (48%) of Hispanic and 62% of Asian American voters preferring this method compared with 37% of both white and Black voters.

Voters with higher levels of education are more likely to prefer voting by mail to other alternatives. About half of those with a college degree (51% among those with a postgraduate degree and 48% among those with a four-year degree) say they prefer to vote by mail, while 29% of voters with no college experience say this.

## Black voters less likely than others to say voting in November will be ‘easy’

Overall, 50% of registered voters say that they expect voting in the November election will be at least somewhat easy, with 23% saying they think it will be very easy.

Trump supporters are much more likely than Biden backers to say that they expect voting in the November elections will be easy (64% of Trump voters say this, compared with 40% of Biden voters).

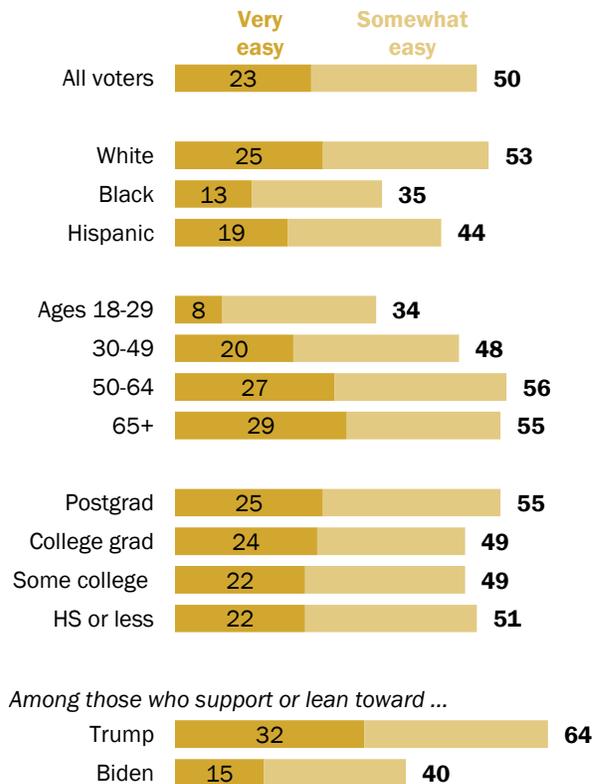
Voters’ assessments of how easy voting will be for them this year differ across demographic groups, with younger voters and Black and Hispanic voters less likely than older voters and white voters to say that voting will be easy.

Voters younger than 30 are less likely than older voters to say they expect voting will be easy: 34% say this, compared with 48% of voters ages 30 to 49 and over half (55%) of voters ages 50 and older.

Overall views of how difficult or easy it will be to vote in November vary only modestly by education, with those with a postgraduate education more likely than others to say they expect voting to be easy in November.

### Just 34% of voters under 30 expect it will be easy to vote in November

*% of registered voters who expect voting in the November elections to be ...*



Notes: Based on registered voters. No answer responses not shown. White and Black adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27- Aug. 2, 2020.

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## 4. Important issues in the 2020 election

With the country in the midst of a recession, nearly eight-in-ten registered voters (79%) say the economy will be very important to them in making their decision about who to vote for in the 2020 presidential election – the top issue of 12 included in the survey.

The economy is consistently a top voting issue. In a survey asking a similar, though not identical, list of issues [in June 2016](#), the economy also was the top voting issue.

In the current survey, 68% of voters say health care is very important to their vote, while 64% cite Supreme Court appointments.

As the country continues to grapple with the [coronavirus outbreak](#), 62% of voters say the outbreak will be a very important factor in their decision about who to support in the fall.

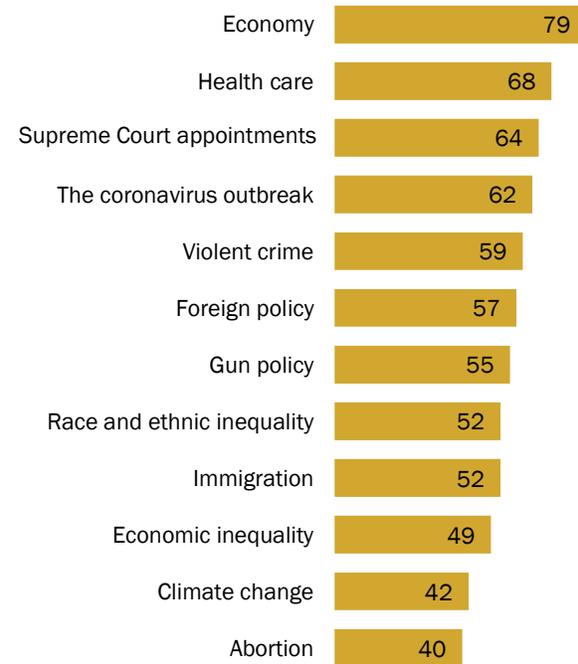
About six-in-ten (59%) say violent crime will be very important to their 2020 decision, and 57% say this about foreign policy.

Immigration and racial and ethnic inequality rank toward the lower end of the list for voters (52% each call these issues very important to their vote).

Fewer than half say climate change (42%) or abortion (40%) will be very important factors in their decision (though majorities say these issues will be at least *somewhat* important to them).

### Economy is top issue for voters in the 2020 election

*% of registered voters saying each is 'very important' to their vote in the 2020 presidential election*



Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

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## Trump and Biden voters diverge over importance of COVID-19 to their vote this fall

There are stark differences in how registered voters who support Donald Trump and Joe Biden view the importance of these issues. In fact, of 12 issues included, the only ones that comparable shares of Biden supporters and Trump supporters view as very important are foreign policy and Supreme Court appointments.

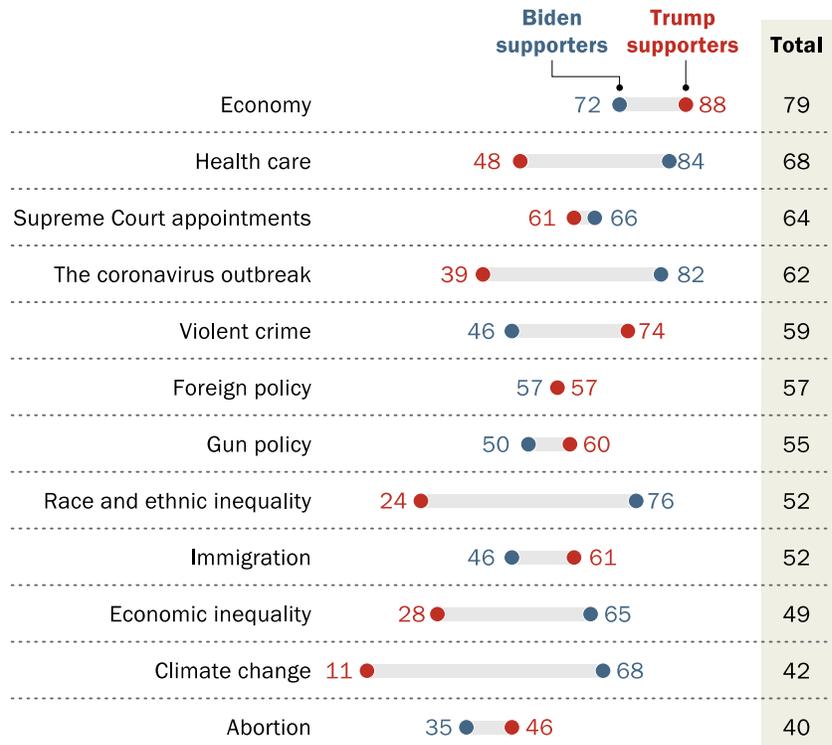
For Trump supporters, the economy (88%) and violent crime (74%) are the most salient issues. Roughly six-in-ten Trump supporters cite immigration (61%), gun policy (60%) and foreign policy (57%) as very important to their vote.

By contrast, the largest shares of Biden supporters view health care (84%) and the coronavirus outbreak (82%) as very important. A sizable majority also rates racial and ethnic inequality as important to their vote (76%).

While there are substantial differences between Trump and Biden supporters on the importance of most issues, the widest gaps are on climate change (57 percentage points) and racial and ethnic inequality (52 points).

### Top issues for Trump supporters are economy, crime; Biden supporters prioritize health care, coronavirus

*% of registered voters saying each is 'very important' to their vote in the 2020 presidential election*



Note: Based on registered voters.  
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27-Aug. 2, 2020.

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In addition, Biden supporters are more than twice as likely than Trump supporters to say the coronavirus outbreak (82% of Biden supporters, 39% of Trump supporters) and economic inequality (65% of Biden supporters, 28% of Trump supporters) as very important.

Larger shares of Trump than Biden supporters say violent crime (74% vs. 46%), immigration (61% vs. 46%) and gun policy (60% vs. 50%) are very important to their decision about who to vote for in 2020.

## Republicans lead on the economy; Democrats have advantages on climate, health, racial issues

Among registered voters, the Republican Party holds a 9 percentage point edge over the Democrats on the issue of being better able to handle the economy (49% Republican Party, 40% Democratic Party). And as has been the case for many years, more voters say the GOP could do a better job than the Democratic Party on terrorism (46% vs. 37%).

By contrast, the Democratic Party holds wide advantages among voters on climate change (58% to 27% over the GOP), abortion and contraception (51% to 36%) and health care (51% to 37%). In addition, the Democratic Party has 12-point leads on handling the public health impact of the coronavirus and issues involving race and ethnicity.

### GOP holds edge on economy; Democrats lead on climate change, coronavirus

% of registered voters who say \_\_\_\_ could do a better job dealing with ...

	Democratic Party	Republican Party	Both/ neither/ DK	D-R Gap
Climate change	58	27	15	D+31
Abortion and contraception policies	51	36	14	D+15
Health care	51	37	12	D+14
Public health impact of COVID-19	47	35	18	D+12
Issues involving race and ethnicity	49	37	15	D+12
Immigration	48	41	11	D+7
Foreign policy	42	44	14	R+2
Federal budget deficit	39	42	19	R+3
Law enforcement and criminal justice	42	46	12	R+4
Gun policy	43	48	9	R+5
Economy	40	49	11	R+9
Terrorism	37	46	17	R+9

Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 23-Aug. 4, 2020.

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On other issues, including immigration, gun policy, the federal budget deficit and law enforcement and criminal justice, neither party has a significant edge among voters.

## Acknowledgments

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Others at Pew Research Center also gave valuable assistance on this project, including Associate Director Alec Tyson, Research Analyst Katherine Schaeffer and Research Assistant Justin Nortey.

## Appendix: Validated vote measures

### 2016 validated voters:

Measures of 2016 turnout and vote choice rely on panelists' responses to questions about voter turnout and candidate preference on American Trends Panel surveys conducted between Nov. 29 - Dec. 12, 2016 and Nov. 7-16, 2018. Self-reported vote choice collected immediately after the election was used for panelists recruited prior to the 2016 election. For panelists recruited after the 2016 election (in the 2017 and 2018 panel recruitments detailed in the methodology statement), a retrospective vote choice measure was collected in 2018.<sup>1</sup> Panelists recruited in the 2019 recruitment (and those from the 2018 recruitment who were not eligible to vote in the 2016 elections) were excluded from this part of the analysis.

Panelists' turnout in 2016 was verified by matching the panelists to commercial voter file databases, which collect official state voting records. Researchers attempted to match panelists who completed the 2016 survey to five commercial voter file databases (see [this report](#) for a detailed discussion of how this was accomplished); panelists recruited after 2016 were matched to two commercial voter file databases. Panelists who were verified as having voted in at least one of the commercial voter databases were considered to be validated voters.

### 2018 validated voters:

To produce estimates of validated 2018 voters, researchers attempted to match responses about voter turnout from an ATP survey conducted just after the election Nov. 7-16, 2018 to two commercial voter file databases. Panelists who were verified as having voted in at least one of the commercial voter file databases were considered to be validated voters. Candidate choice for 2018 verified voters was measured in this post-election survey.

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<sup>1</sup> The set of panelists for whom we have contemporaneous vote choice information were also asked the retrospective measure in 2018. Comparing the responses to these two questions – measured nearly two years apart – revealed a great deal of stability in individual responses.

## Methodology

### The American Trends Panel survey methodology

The American Trends Panel (ATP), created by Pew Research Center, is a nationally representative panel of randomly selected U.S. adults. Panelists participate via self-administered web surveys. Panelists who do not have internet access at home are provided with a tablet and wireless internet connection. Interviews are conducted in both English and Spanish. The panel is being managed by Ipsos.

Data in this report is drawn from the panel wave conducted July 27 to Aug. 2, 2020. A total of 11,001 panelists responded out of 14,407 who were sampled, for a response rate of 76%.

This does not include 10 panelists who were removed from the data due to extremely high rates of refusal or straightlining. The cumulative response rate accounting for nonresponse to the recruitment surveys and attrition is 4.2%. The break-off rate among panelists who logged on to the survey and completed at least one item is 1.3%. The margin of sampling error for the full sample of 11,001 respondents is plus or minus 1.5 percentage points.

#### American Trends Panel recruitment surveys

Recruitment dates	Mode	Invited	Joined	Active panelists remaining
Jan. 23 to March 16, 2014	Landline/ cell RDD	9,809	5,338	2,303
Aug. 27 to Oct. 4, 2015	Landline/ cell RDD	6,004	2,976	1,335
April 25 to June 4, 2017	Landline/ cell RDD	3,905	1,628	684
Aug. 8 to Oct. 31, 2018	ABS/web	9,396	8,778	6,403
Aug. 19 to Nov. 30, 2019	ABS/web	5,900	4,720	4,681
	<b>Total</b>	<b>35,014</b>	<b>23,440</b>	<b>15,406</b>

Note: Approximately once per year, panelists who have not participated in multiple consecutive waves or who did not complete an annual profiling survey are removed from the panel. Panelists also become inactive if they ask to be removed from the panel.

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A portion of this report comes from data from the set of panelists who responded to both this wave and to a previous wave conducted Nov. 7 to 16, 2018. A total of 7,651 panelists responded to both waves. The margin of sampling error for these 7,651 panelists is plus or minus 1.7 percentage points.

The ATP was created in 2014, with the first cohort of panelists invited to join the panel at the end of a large, national, landline and cellphone random-digit-dial survey that was conducted in both English and Spanish. Two additional recruitments were conducted using the same method in 2015

and 2017, respectively. Across these three surveys, a total of 19,718 adults were invited to join the ATP, of which 9,942 agreed to participate.

In August 2018, the ATP switched from telephone to address-based recruitment. Invitations were sent to a random, address-based sample (ABS) of households selected from the U.S. Postal Service's Delivery Sequence File. In each household, the adult with the next birthday was asked to go online to complete a survey, at the end of which they were invited to join the panel. For a random half-sample of invitations, households without internet access were instructed to return a postcard. These households were contacted by telephone and sent a tablet if they agreed to participate. A total of 9,396 were invited to join the panel, and 8,778 agreed to join the panel and completed an initial profile survey. The same recruitment procedure was carried out on August 19, 2019, from which a total of 5,900 were invited to join the panel and 4,720 agreed to join the panel and completed an initial profile survey. Of the 23,440 individuals who have ever joined the ATP, 15,406 remained active panelists and continued to receive survey invitations at the time this survey was conducted.

The U.S. Postal Service's Delivery Sequence File has been estimated to cover as much as 98% of the population, although some studies suggest that the coverage could be in the low 90% range.<sup>2</sup> The American Trends Panel never uses breakout routers or chains that direct respondents to additional surveys.

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<sup>2</sup> AAPOR Task Force on Address-based Sampling. 2016. "[AAPOR Report: Address-based Sampling](#)."

## Weighting

The ATP data was weighted in a multistep process that begins with a base weight incorporating the respondents' original selection probability. The next step in the weighting uses an iterative technique that aligns the sample to population benchmarks on the dimensions listed in the accompanying table.

Analyses of the 7,651 panelists who responded to both this wave and the Nov. 2018 wave incorporate a weight that additionally aligns the smaller sample to the weighted proportion of all 11,001 respondents to this wave who supported Trump, Biden, neither, or were not registered voters.

Sampling errors and test of statistical significance take into account the effect of weighting.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

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## Weighting dimensions

Variable	Benchmark source
Gender	2018 American Community Survey
Age	
Education	
Race/Hispanic origin	
Born inside vs. outside the U.S. among Asians	2019 CPS March Supplement
Country of birth among Hispanics	
Years lived in the United States	
Home internet access	
Region x Metropolitan status	2017 CPS Volunteering & Civic Life Supplement
Volunteerism	
Voter registration	2018 CPS Voting and Registration Supplement
Party affiliation	Average of the three most recent Pew Research Center telephone surveys.

Note: Estimates from the ACS are based on non-institutionalized adults. Voter registration is calculated using procedures from Hur, Achen (2013) and rescaled to include the total US adult population.

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The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

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*Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 27- Aug. 2, 2020*

<b>Group</b>	<b>Unweighted sample size</b>	<b>Weighted %</b>	<b>Plus or minus ...</b>
Total sample	11,001		1.5 percentage points
<i>Half sample</i>	At least 5,500		2.1 percentage points
Registered voters	9,114		1.5 percentage points
<i>Half sample</i>	At least 4,538		2.2 percentage points
White, non-Hispanic	6,202		1.7 percentage points
Black, non-Hispanic	715		5.1 percentage points
Hispanic	1,652		4.6 percentage points
Asian	195		10.2 percentage points
Rep/Lean Rep RVs	3,759	46	2.3 percentage points
<i>Half sample</i>	At least 1,859		3.2 percentage points
Dem/Lean Dem RVs	5,159	51	2.1 percentage points
<i>Half sample</i>	At least 2,574		2.9 percentage points
Among those who support...			
Trump/Lean Trump	3,575		2.4 percentage points
<i>Half sample</i>	At least 1,762		3.4 percentage points
Biden/Lean Biden	5,411		2.0 percentage points
<i>Half sample</i>	At least 2,701		2.8 percentage points
Respondents to Wave 39 (Nov. 2018)	7,651		1.7 percentage points

---

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

## Survey conducted July 23-Aug. 4, 2020, via telephone

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted July 23-Aug. 4, 2020, among a national sample of 1,750 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (350 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 1,400 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 955 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted by interviewers under the direction of Abt Associates. A combination of landline and cell phone random digit dial samples were used; both samples were provided by Dynata.

Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. The weighting procedure corrected for the different sampling rates.

For detailed information about our survey methodology, see

<http://www.pewresearch.org/methodology/u-s-survey-research/>.

The combined landline and cellphone sample is weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and nativity and region to parameters from the Census Bureau's 2018 American Community Survey one-year estimates and population density to parameters from the decennial census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status (landline only, cell phone only, or both landline and cell phone), based on extrapolations from the 2019 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size among respondents with a landline phone. The margins of error reported and statistical tests of significance are adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, a measure of how much efficiency is lost from the weighting procedures.

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Survey conducted July 23- Aug. 4, 2020

<b>Group</b>	<b>Unweighted sample size</b>	<b>Weighted %</b>	<b>Plus or minus ...</b>
Total sample	1,750		2.7 percentage points
Half sample	At least 849		3.9 percentage points
Registered voters	1,455		3.0 percentage points
Rep/Lean Rep	679	44	4.4 percentage points
Dem/Lean Dem	683	48	4.4 percentage points

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Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

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**2020 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL  
WAVE 71 July 2020  
FINAL TOPLINE  
JULY 27-AUGUST 2, 2020  
N=11,001**

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK IF U.S. CITIZEN (F\_CITIZEN=1) [N=10,390]**

VOTEGEN If the 2020 presidential election were being held today, would you vote for... **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

**ASK IF NONE/OTHER CANDIDATE OR SKIPPED VOTEGEN (VOTEGEN=3, 99) [N=1,338]:**

VOTEGEN3 As of TODAY, do you... **[SHOW OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS VOTEGEN]**

*Note: Display choice 3 Neither only if the question is skipped without selecting choice 1 or 2*

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=9,114]:**

July 27- Aug 2, <u>2020</u>		June 16-22 <u>2020</u>
45	Donald Trump, the Republican/Lean more toward Trump	44
53	Joe Biden, the Democrat/Lean more toward Biden	54
2	Vote for neither/Other	2
*	No Answer	*

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:****ASK IF U.S. CITIZEN (F\_CITIZEN=1)**

VOTEGENA If the 2020 presidential election were being held today, would you vote for...

**[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

**ASK IF NONE/OTHER CANDIDATE OR SKIPPED VOTEGENA (VOTEGENA=3, 99):**

VOTEGENB As of TODAY, do you... **[SHOW OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS VOTEGENA]**

Apr 8-12 <u>2020</u> <sup>3</sup>	
45	Donald Trump, the Republican/Lean more toward Trump
47	Joe Biden, the Democrat/Lean more toward Biden
8	Vote for neither/Other
*	No Answer

<sup>3</sup> Based on registered voters. Only W65 respondents who completed the survey on or after April 8, the day Bernie Sanders suspended his campaign for the Democratic nomination, were asked VOTEGENA or VOTEGENB. In W65 survey, respondents who skipped VOTEGENA or selected neither or other were given explicit "Neither" in the follow-up question about leaning toward either candidate.

**VOTEGEN TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...  
2016 TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

Oct 25- Nov 8 <u>2016</u>		Sept 27- Oct 10 <u>2016</u>	Aug 16- Sept 12 <u>2016</u>	July 12- Aug 8 <u>2016</u> <sup>4</sup>	June 7- July 5 <u>2016</u>
42	Donald Trump/Lean Trump	39	38	46	45
46	Hillary Clinton/Lean Clinton	46	45	50	51
6	Gary Johnson/Lean Johnson	10	10	n/a	n/a
4	Jill Stein/Lean Stein	4	4	n/a	n/a
1	None/Other	1	2	3	3
*	No Answer	0	1	1	1

**ASK IF SELECTED CANDIDATE (VOTEGEN=1,2):**

VOTEGEN2 And would you say ...

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=8,150]**

July 27-Aug 2

2020

**Among Trump supporters (VOTEGEN=1) [N=3,204]**

95	You are certain you will vote for Donald Trump over Joe Biden
5	There is a chance you might change your mind
*	No answer

**Among Biden supporters (VOTEGEN=2) [N=4,946]**

94	You are certain you will vote for Joe Biden over Donald Trump
5	There is a chance you might change your mind
*	No answer

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

**ASK IF SELECTED CANDIDATE (VOTEGEN=1,2):**

VOTEGEN2 And would you say ...

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS**

Oct 25- Nov 8 <u>2016</u>		Sept 27- Oct 10 <u>2016</u>	Aug 16- Sept 12 <u>2016</u>	July 12- Aug 8, <u>2016</u>	June 7- July 5, <u>2016</u>
<b>Among Trump supporters</b>					
91	You are certain to vote for Trump	90	85	91	92
9	There is a chance you might change your mind	10	15	8	8
0	No Answer	0	0	0	0
<b>Among Clinton supporters</b>					
93	You are certain to vote for Clinton	88	85	90	91
6	There is a chance you might change your mind	12	14	9	7
*	No Answer	0	1	1	2

4. Survey conducted July 12 – August 8 and June 7- July 5 asked only about Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. Later waves included Gary Johnson and Jill Stein.

**ASK IF U.S. CITIZEN (F\_CITIZEN=1) [N=10,390]**

VOTEGEN If the 2020 presidential election were being held today, would you vote for... [RANDOMIZE  
**OPTIONS 1 AND 2 WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

**ASK IF NONE/OTHER CANDIDATE OR SKIPPED VOTEGEN (VOTEGEN=3, 99) [N=1,338]:**

VOTEGEN3 As of TODAY, do you... [SHOW OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS VOTEGEN]

Note: Display choice 3 Neither only if the question is skipped without selecting choice 1 or 2

**ASK IF SELECTED CANDIDATE (VOTEGEN =1,2)**

VOTESTRONG Do you support [Joe Biden/Donald Trump]...

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=9,114]:**

	<b>Trump</b>	<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Moderately/ Lean Trump</i>	No answer	<b>Biden</b>	<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Moderately/ Lean Biden</i>	No answer	<b>Neither</b>	No answer
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	45	30	15	*	53	24	29	*	2	*

**PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

	<b>Trump</b>	<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Only mod</i>	<i>DK</i>	<b>Clinton</b>	<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Only mod</i>	<i>DK</i>	(VOL.) <b>Other/ DK/Ref</b>
Jun 15-26, 2016	42	19	22	1	51	23	27	1	7

**TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:**

	<b>Romney</b>	<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Only mod</i>	<i>DK</i>	<b>Obama</b>	<i>Strongly</i>	<i>Only mod</i>	<i>DK</i>	<b>Johnson</b>	<b>Stein</b>	(VOL.) <b>Other/ DK/Ref</b>
<b>2012</b>											
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012	42	30	12	*	49	37	12	*	3	1	5
Oct 24-28, 2012	45	30	15	*	47	32	15	*	2	1	5
Oct 4-7, 2012	46	31	14	*	46	32	15	*	n/a	n/a	8
Sep 12-16, 2012	42	24	18	*	51	35	16	*	n/a	n/a	7
Jul 16-26, 2012 <sup>5</sup>	41				51				n/a	n/a	7
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	43	15	28	1	50	32	18	*	n/a	n/a	6
Jun 7-17, 2012	46	17	27	1	50	30	20	*	n/a	n/a	5
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	42				49				n/a	n/a	9
Apr 4-15, 2012	45				49				n/a	n/a	6
Mar 7-11, 2012	42				54				n/a	n/a	4
Feb 8-12, 2012	44				52				n/a	n/a	4
Jan 11-16, 2012	45				50				n/a	n/a	6
Nov 9-14, 2011	47				49				n/a	n/a	4
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	48				48				n/a	n/a	4
<b>2008</b>											
November, 2008	39	21	18	*	50	35	14	1	1	1	9
Late October, 2008	36	20	15	1	52	39	12	1	3	1	8
Mid-October, 2008	38	21	16	1	52	36	16	*	n/a	n/a	10
Early October, 2008	40	21	18	1	50	36	14	*	n/a	n/a	10
Late September, 2008	42	23	19	*	49	33	15	1	n/a	n/a	9
Mid-September, 2008	44	25	19	*	46	30	15	1	n/a	n/a	10
August, 2008	43	17	26	*	46	27	19	*	n/a	n/a	11
July, 2008	42	17	24	1	47	24	22	1	n/a	n/a	11
June, 2008	40	14	26	*	48	28	19	1	n/a	n/a	12
Late May, 2008	44				47				n/a	n/a	9
April, 2008	44				50				n/a	n/a	6
March, 2008	43				49				n/a	n/a	8
Late February, 2008	43				50				n/a	n/a	7

5. After July 2012, August 2008, June 2004, July 2000, July 1996, June 1992, and June 1988 the question specified vice presidential candidates.

## TRENDS FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...

<b>2004</b>	<b>Bush</b>	<i>Only</i>			<b>Kerry</b>	<i>Only</i>			<b>Nader</b>	<b>Other/ DK/Ref</b>	
		<i>Strongly</i>	<i>mod</i>	<i>DK</i>		<i>Strongly</i>	<i>mod</i>	<i>DK</i>			
November, 2004	45	34	11	*	46	29	16	1	1	8	
Mid-October, 2004	45	32	13	*	45	28	16	1	1	9	
Early October, 2004	48	35	12	1	41	24	17	*	2	9	
September, 2004	49	33	15	1	43	22	20	1	1	7	
August, 2004	45	32	13	*	47	28	19	*	2	6	
July, 2004	44				46				3	7	
June, 2004	46				42				6	6	
May, 2004	43				46				6	5	
Late March, 2004	44				43				6	7	
Mid-March, 2004	42				49				4	5	
<b>Two-way trial heats:</b>											
June, 2004	48				46				n/a	6	
May, 2004	45				50				n/a	5	
Late March, 2004	46				47				n/a	7	
Mid-March, 2004	43				52				n/a	5	
Late February, 2004	44				48				n/a	8	
Early February, 2004	47				47				n/a	6	
Early January, 2004	52				41				n/a	7	
October, 2003	50				42				n/a	8	
<b>2000</b>	<b>Bush</b>	<i>Only</i>			<b>Gore</b>	<i>Only</i>			<b>Nader</b>	<b>Buchanan</b>	<b>Other/ DK/Ref</b>
		<i>Strongly</i>	<i>mod</i>	<i>DK</i>		<i>Strongly</i>	<i>mod</i>	<i>DK</i>			
November, 2000	41	26	15	*	45	25	19	1	4	1	9
Late October, 2000	45	29	16	*	43	24	19	*	4	1	7
Mid-October, 2000	43	25	18	*	45	22	23	*	4	1	7
Early October, 2000	43	26	17	*	44	22	22	*	5	*	8
September, 2000	41	21	19	1	47	25	21	1	2	1	9
July, 2000	42				41				6	2	9
Late June, 2000	42				35				2	2	19
Mid-June, 2000	41				42				4	3	10
January, 2000	51				39				n/a	4	6
September, 1999	49				35				n/a	10	6
<b>Two-way trial heats:</b>											
July, 2000	48				46				n/a	n/a	6
Mid-June, 2000	45	20	25	*	46	18	27	1	n/a	n/a	9
May, 2000	46				45				n/a	n/a	9
March, 2000	43				49				n/a	n/a	8
February, 2000	46	19	27	*	45	18	26	1	n/a	n/a	9
December, 1999	55				40				n/a	n/a	5
October, 1999	54				39				n/a	n/a	7
September, 1999	54				39				n/a	n/a	7
July, 1999	53				42				n/a	n/a	5
March, 1999	54				41				n/a	n/a	5
January, 1999	50				44				n/a	n/a	6
Early September, 1998	53				40				n/a	n/a	7

## TRENDS FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...

1996	<u>Dole</u>	<i>Only</i>			<u>Clinton</u>	<i>Only</i>			<u>Perot</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
		<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>		<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>		
November, 1996	32	17	15	*	51	26	24	1	9	8
October, 1996	34	17	16	1	51	25	26	*	8	7
Late September, 1996	35	16	18	1	51	26	25	*	7	7
Early September, 1996	34	17	17	*	52	26	26	0	8	6
July, 1996	34				44				16	6
March, 1996	35				44				16	5
September, 1995	36				42				19	3
July, 1994	36				39				20	5
<b>Two-way trial heats:</b>										
July, 1996	42	11	30	*	53	20	31	1	n/a	5
June, 1996	40	13	23	1	55	22	29	1	n/a	5
April, 1996	40				54					6
March, 1996	41				53					6
February, 1996	44				52					4
January, 1996	41				53					6
July, 1994	49				46					5

1992	<u>Bush Sr.</u>	<i>Only</i>			<u>Clinton</u>	<i>Only</i>			<u>Perot</u>	<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
		<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>		<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>		
Late October, 1992	34	20	14	--	44	26	18	--	19	3
Early October, 1992	35	14	21	--	48	23	25	--	8	9
June, 1992	31				27				36	6
<b>Two-way trial heats:</b>										
September, 1992	38	14	21	--	53	25	28	--	n/a	9
August, 1992	37	14	23	--	57	24	33	--	n/a	6
June, 1992	46	13	33	--	41	9	32	--	n/a	13
May, 1992	46	15	31	--	43	10	33	--	n/a	11
Late March, 1992	50	19	31	--	43	9	34	--	n/a	7

1988	<u>Bush Sr.</u>	<i>Only</i>			<u>Dukakis</u>	<i>Only</i>			<u>Other/ DK/Ref</u>
		<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>		<u>Strongly</u>	<u>mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	
October, 1988	50	24	26	--	42	20	22	--	8
September, 1988	50	26	24	--	44	19	25	--	6
May, 1988	40	12	28	--	53	14	39	--	7

## ADDITIONAL QUESTION HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

**RANDOMIZE ORDER OF EMTPRESTRUMP EMTPRESBIDEN****ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=5,501]:**

EMTPRESTRUMP How would you feel if Donald Trump was reelected in the November 2020 election? [**SHOW OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER FOR RANDOM HALF OF SAMPLE, DISPLAY IN SAME ORDER AS EMTPRESBIDEN**]

July 27- Aug 2, <u>2020</u>		Jan 6-19 <u>2020</u>	Sep 3-15 <u>2019</u>
13	Excited	15	14
27	Relieved	24	24
27	Disappointed	35	34
31	Angry	23	26
2	No Answer	3	2

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

*How do you feel about Donald Trump winning the presidential election?*

Nov 29- Dec 12 <u>2016</u>		Oct 25- Nov 8 <u>2016</u> <sup>6</sup>	Aug 16- Sept 12 <u>2016</u>	Apr 5- May 2 <u>2016</u>
18	Excited	12	10	14
25	Relieved	26	25	16
41	Disappointed	37	37	37
15	Angry	23	24	29
2	No Answer	2	4	4

**RANDOMIZE ORDER OF EMTPRESTRUMP EMTPRESEBIDEN****ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N =5,501]:**

EMTPRESBIDEN How would you feel if Joe Biden was elected in the November 2020 election? [**SHOW OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER FOR RANDOM HALF OF SAMPLE, DISPLAY IN SAME ORDER AS EMTPRESTRUMP**]

July 27- Aug 2, <u>2020</u>	
8	Excited
43	Relieved
32	Disappointed
16	Angry
2	No answer

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

*How would you feel if Hillary Clinton won the presidential election in November 2016?*

Oct 25- Nov 8 <u>2016</u>		Aug 16- Sept 12 <u>2016</u>	Apr 5- May 2 <u>2016</u>
11	Excited	13	15
36	Relieved	36	25
31	Disappointed	29	34
20	Angry	19	22
2	No Answer	4	4

<sup>6.</sup> Prior to the November 2016 survey, this question was asked as a hypothetical, "How would you feel if Donald Trump won the presidential election?"

**ASK ALL:**  
WHOWIN2

Regardless of who you support, who do you think will win the 2020 presidential election?  
[RANDOMIZE]

July 27-  
Aug 2,  
2020

51	Donald Trump
46	Joe Biden
3	No answer

**TREND FOR COMPARISON**

WHOWIN2 *Regardless of who you support, who do you think will win the 2020 presidential election?*

Jan 6-19  
2020

16	Donald Trump will definitely win
29	Donald Trump will probably win
19	Democratic candidate will probably win
6	Democratic candidate will definitely win
29	Don't know
1	No answer

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK IF FORM 1 AND TRUMP SUPPORTERS (VOTEGEN =1 OR VOTEGEN3 =1) [N=2,028]**

DTPRES In your own words, what is the main reason you support or lean toward Donald Trump in the 2020 presidential election?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,762]**

July 27-  
Aug 2,  
2020

- 23 LEADERSHIP/PERFORMANCE**
- 21 ISSUE POSITIONS**
- 19 HE IS NOT BIDEN**
- 17 HE IS FOR AMERICAN PEOPLE AND VALUES**
- 16 VOTE FOR REPUBLICANS/AGAINST DEMOCRATS**
- 11 NET PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS**
  - 6 Tells it like it is/Not PC
  - 5 Personality/Temperament
- 12 OTHER**
- 13 REFUSED**

*Total exceeds 100% because of multiple responses*

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

DTPRES In your own words, what is the main reason you **[IF VOTEGENA=1: support]**  
**[IF VOTEGENB=1: lean toward]** Donald Trump for president?

**BASED ON VOTERS WHO SUPPORT/LEAN TOWARD TRUMP**

Aug 16-  
Sep 12  
2016

- 33 NOT OR NOT AS BAD AS CLINTON/VOTE AGAINST HER**
- 27 NET CHANGE/OUTSIDE OF THE SYSTEM**
  - 12 Outsider/Not a politician
  - 8 Will change things/Shake things up/Need new blood
  - 4 Business experience/Successful businessman
  - 4 Will not be influenced by special interests/Not corrupt
  - 2 Change from Obama
- 26 NET ISSUE POSITIONS**
  - 10 Economic policy (debt, trade, taxes, jobs, middle class)
  - 8 Immigration
  - 7 Defense and military/Terrorism/Law and order/Keep American safe
  - 4 Supreme Court appointments
  - 7 Other specific issues/General issues/Represents my values
- 19 NET PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS/ASSOCIATIONS**
  - 13 He tells it like it is/Not politically correct/Honest/Trusted
  - 7 Personality/Right person for job
- 10 MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN/HE IS FOR AMERICAN PEOPLE AND VALUES**
- 4 NET HE'S A REPUBLICAN/NOT A DEMOCRAT**
  - 2 Republican nominee/He's a Republican/He's conservative
- 4 OTHER**
- 7 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED**

*Total exceeds 100% because of multiple responses*

**ASK IF FORM 1 AND BIDEN SUPPORTERS (VOTEGEN =2 OR VOTEGEN3 =2) [N=3,068]**

JBPRES In your own words, what is the main reason you support or lean toward Joe Biden in the 2020 presidential election?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2,710]**

July 27-  
Aug 2,  
2020

<b>56</b>	<b>HE IS NOT TRUMP</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>LEADERSHIP/PERFORMANCE</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>PERSONALITY/TEMPERAMENT</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>ISSUE POSITIONS</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>VOTE FOR DEMOCRATS/AGAINST REPUBLICANS</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>HE IS FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND VALUES</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>OTHER</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>REFUSED</b>

*Total exceeds 100% because of multiple responses*

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

HRCPRES In your own words, what is the main reason you **[IF VOTEGENA=2: support]** **[IF VOTEGENB=2: lean toward]** Hillary Clinton for president?

**BASED ON VOTERS WHO SUPPORT/LEAN TOWARD CLINTON**

Aug 16-  
Sep 12  
2016

<b>32</b>	<b>NET EXPERIENCE/QUALIFICATIONS/ABILITY TO GOVERN</b>
27	Experience/Qualified/Political knowledge
6	Ability to govern/Competence/Will get things done
<b>32</b>	<b>NOT OR NOT AS BAD AS TRUMP/VOTE AGAINST HIM</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>NET ISSUE POSITIONS</b>
3	Economic policy (jobs, taxes, middle class and poor)
3	Immigration
3	Supreme Court appointments
2	Foreign policy/Relationship with other countries
13	Other specific issues/General issues/Represents my values
<b>17</b>	<b>NET PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS/ASSOCIATIONS</b>
12	Temperament/Personality
4	Woman/First woman president
<b>5</b>	<b>NET SHE'S A DEMOCRAT/NOT A REPUBLICAN</b>
5	Democratic nominee/She's a Democrat/She's liberal
<b>3</b>	<b>SHE IS FOR AMERICAN PEOPLE AND VALUES</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>OTHER</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW/REFUSED</b>

*Total exceeds 100% because of multiple responses*

**ASK IF FORM 2 AND TRUMP SUPPORTERS (VOTEGEN =1 OR VOTEGEN3 =1) [N=2,067]**

DTCRN And while you support or lean toward Donald Trump in the 2020 presidential election, what, if anything, concerns you about him?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,813]**

July 27-  
Aug 2,  
2020

<b>25</b>	<b>TEMPERAMENT/RUDE/NARCISSISTIC</b>
13	Speaks without thinking/hot-headed
<b>14</b>	<b>USE OF TWITTER</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>CONCERNS ABOUT HIS PERFORMANCE AND RECORD</b>
1	Age or health
<b>9</b>	<b>ISSUES POSITIONS</b>
3	COVID-19
<b>5</b>	<b>NEGATIVITY TOWARD HIM</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>NOTHING</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>OTHER</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>DK/REFUSED</b>

*Total exceeds 100% because of multiple responses*

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

DTCRN And while you [**IF VOTEGENA=1**: support] [**IF VOTEGENB=1**: lean toward] Donald Trump for president, what, if anything, concerns you about him as a candidate?

**BASED ON VOTERS WHO SUPPORT/LEAN TOWARD TRUMP**

Aug 16-  
Sep 12  
2016

<b>40</b>	<b>NET PERSONALITY TRAITS</b>
34	Temperament – Speaks without thinking/Unpredictable/Hot-headed
2	Arrogance
2	Lack of presidential traits
<b>11</b>	<b>NET CONCERNS ABOUT PERFORMANCE/GRIDLOCK</b>
4	Lack of experience
3	Lack of knowledge of foreign affairs/Ineptitude with other countries
2	Will be ineffective with/Obstructed by Congress or Republican Party
<b>3</b>	<b>NET ISSUE POSITIONS</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>NEGATIVITY TOWARD HIM/HE MAY LOSE</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>NET OTHER</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>NO CONCERNS</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW/REFUSED</b>

*Total exceeds 100% because of multiple responses*

**ASK IF FORM 2 AND BIDEN SUPPORTERS (VOTEGEN =2 OR VOTEGEN3 =2) [N=3,045]**

JBCRN And while you support or lean toward Joe Biden in the 2020 presidential election, what, if anything, concerns you about him as a candidate?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2,701]**

July 27-

Aug 2,

2020

<b>31</b>	<b>AGE/HEALTH</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>ISSUE POSITIONS</b>
5	Too conservative/Not liberal enough
2	Too liberal/Will be pulled left
<b>12</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE AS A CANDIDATE</b>
5	VP and cabinet appointments
<b>11</b>	<b>HIS PAST/ASSOCIATIONS/EVENTS</b>
4	Behavior toward women/Misconduct allegations
<b>10</b>	<b>WHAT HE WOULD FACE AS PRESIDENT</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>PERSONALITY TRAITS</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>NOTHING</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>OTHER</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>DK/REFUSED</b>

*Total exceeds 100% because of multiple responses*

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

HRCCRN And while you [**IF VOTEGENA=2: support**] [**IF VOTEGENB=2: lean toward**] Hillary Clinton for president, what, if anything, concerns you about her as a candidate?

**BASED ON VOTERS WHO SUPPORT/LEAN TOWARD CLINTON**

Aug 16-

Sep 12

2016

<b>18</b>	<b>NET PERSONALITY TRAITS</b>
14	Dishonest/Untrustworthy/Disingenuous
3	Secrecy/Lack of transparency/Not forthright with press
<b>16</b>	<b>NET PAST/ASSOCIATIONS/EVENTS</b>
5	Corruption/Ties to financial interests/Wall Street
3	Positions on war/Hawkish
3	Email server
5	Political legacy (general)
<b>5</b>	<b>NET ISSUE POSITIONS</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>NEGATIVITY TOWARD HER/SHE MAY LOSE</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>NET CONCERNS ABOUT PERFORMANCE/GRIDLOCK</b>
2	Concerns about barriers to governing/Gridlock/Obstruction from GOP
<b>7</b>	<b>NET OTHER</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>NO CONCERNS</b>
<b>35</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW/REFUSED</b>

*Total exceeds 100% because of multiple responses*

**ASK ALL:**

ISSUEPRES How important, if at all, are each of the following issues in making your decision about who to vote for in the 2020 presidential election? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=9,114]**

	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not too important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>	<u>No answer</u>
<b>ASK FORM 1 [N=4,538]</b>					
a. Immigration July 27-Aug 2, 2020	52	34	10	3	*
b. Abortion July 27-Aug 2, 2020	40	28	19	13	1
c. Foreign policy July 27-Aug 2, 2020	57	35	6	2	*
d. Economic Inequality July 27-Aug 2, 2020	49	34	12	5	1
e. The coronavirus outbreak July 27-Aug 2, 2020	62	22	10	5	*
f. Violent crime July 27-Aug 2, 2020	59	27	10	4	*
<b>ASK FORM 2 [N=4,576]</b>					
g. The economy July 27-Aug 2, 2020	79	17	2	1	*
h. Health care July 27-Aug 2, 2020	68	24	6	2	*
i. Racial and ethnic inequality July 27-Aug 2, 2020	52	28	13	7	*
j. Climate change July 27-Aug 2, 2020	42	26	18	14	*
k. Gun policy July 27-Aug 2, 2020	55	29	13	4	*
l. Supreme court appointments July 27-Aug 2, 2020	64	26	8	2	*

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK ALL:**

VOTING

Which statement comes closer to your own views — even if neither is exactly right?

**[RANDOMIZE]**

	Voting gives people like me some say about how <u>government runs things</u>	Voting by people like me doesn't really affect how <u>government runs things</u>	No <u>answer</u>
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	63	36	1
Sep 3-15, 2019	62	37	*
Sep 24-Oct 7, 2018	68	31	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	61	38	1

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK ALL:**

CIVIC\_ENG\_ACTYR

Here's a list of activities some people do and others do not. Please indicate if you have done each of the following activities in the past year. **[RANDOMIZE]**

	Yes, in the past <u>year</u>	No, not in the <u>past year</u>	No <u>answer</u>
<b>NO ITEM A</b>			
b. Worked or volunteered for a political party, candidate or campaign			
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	6	93	*
Jul 30-Aug 12, 2018	7	92	1
<b>NO ITEM C</b>			
d. Contributed money to a candidate running for public office or to a group working to elect a candidate			
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	20	80	*
Jul 30-Aug 12, 2018	16	83	1
<b>NO ITEM E</b>			
f. Publicly expressed your support for a political campaign on Facebook, Twitter or other social media			
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	29	71	*
Jul 30-Aug 12, 2018 <sup>7</sup>	30	70	1

See [here](#) for trend on previous question about civic engagement.

<sup>7</sup> In August 2018, this item was asked as "Publicly expressed your support for a candidate, elected official or political campaign on Facebook, Twitter or other social media"

**ASK CONTRIBUTORS (CIVIC\_ENG\_ACTYR\_d=1) [N=2,985]:**

CONTRHOWMUCH Thinking about the contributions you have made to a candidate running for public office or to a group working to elect a candidate in the past year, would you say all of those contributions added up to...

July 27- Aug 2 <u>2020</u>		Jan 29- Feb 13 <u>2018</u>
52	Less than \$100	53
32	\$100 to less than \$250	31
16	More than \$250	15
1	No Answer	*

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK IF FORM 1 [N=5,500]:**

VTEASY Overall, do you personally expect voting in the November elections to be... **[RANDOMIZE ORDER 1-4 FOR HALF, 4-1 FOR OTHER HALF. RECORD IF RESPONDENT WAS SHOWN 1-4 OR 4-1]**

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=4,538]**

July 27- Aug 2 <u>2020</u>	
23	Very easy
28	Somewhat easy
38	Somewhat difficult
11	Very difficult
1	No answer

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:**

VTEASY Overall, **[IF VTPLAN=1, 2: "do", IF VTPLAN=3, 4, SYSMIS: "would"]** you personally expect voting in the November elections to be... **[RANDOMIZE ORDER 1-4 FOR HALF, 4-1 FOR OTHER HALF. RECORD IF RESPONDENT WAS SHOWN 1-4 OR 4-1]**

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS:**

Sep 24- Oct 7 <u>2018</u>	
46	Very easy
39	Somewhat easy
13	Somewhat difficult
2	Very difficult
*	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

VOTEHOW Thinking ahead to the election in November, would your preference be to ...

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=9,114]**

July 27-	
Aug 2	
<u>2020</u>	
40	Vote in person on Election Day
18	Vote in person early
39	Vote by mail
3	No answer

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK ALL:**

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

**ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING:**

PARTYLN	As of today do you lean more to... <sup>8</sup>						
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	Something <u>else</u>	No <u>answer</u>	Lean <u>Rep</u>	Lean <u>Dem</u>
	28	29	27	14	1	17	21

<sup>8</sup>. Party and PartyIn asked in a prior survey.

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
JULY 2020 POLITICAL SURVEY  
FINAL TOPLINE  
JULY 23-AUG. 4, 2020  
N=1,750**

**QUESTIONS 1-2,9,12-14 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE  
NO QUESTIONS 3-8, 10-11**

**ASK ALL:**

CAMPNII How closely have you been following news about candidates for the 2020 presidential election ... very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,455]:**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
<b>2020 Election</b>					
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	50	31	12	7	*
<b>2016 Election</b>					
Oct 20-25, 2016	55	35	7	3	*
Aug 9-16, 2016	50	36	10	4	*
Jun 15-26, 2016	51	35	11	3	1
<b>2012 Election</b>					
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012	55	31	8	5	1
Oct 24-28, 2012	61	27	8	3	*
Oct 4-7, 2012	47	33	13	5	1
Sep 12-16, 2012	44	34	15	7	*
Jun 7-17, 2012 <sup>9</sup>	37	35	18	9	*
<b>2008 Election</b>					
November, 2008	56	33	8	3	*
Late October, 2008	53	33	9	4	1
Mid-October, 2008	54	35	7	4	*
Mid-September, 2008	50	38	8	4	*
June, 2008	46	34	12	7	1
<b>2004 Election</b>					
November, 2004	52	36	8	4	*
Mid-October, 2004	54	29	11	5	1
Early September, 2004	46	35	11	7	1
August, 2004	38	38	14	10	*
July, 2004	34	39	16	11	1
June, 2004	32	36	18	13	1
April, 2004	31	33	19	16	1
Mid-March, 2004	35	34	18	13	*
Late February, 2004	24	40	23	12	1
Early February, 2004	29	37	20	13	1
<b>2000 Election</b>					
November, 2000	39	44	12	5	*
Mid-October, 2000	40	37	15	8	*
Early October, 2000	42	36	15	6	1
September, 2000	27	46	18	8	1
July, 2000	25	40	19	15	1
June, 2000	27	34	22	16	1
April, 2000	18	39	22	20	1
March, 2000	26	41	19	13	1

<sup>9</sup> For June 7-17, 2012, and earlier surveys (except for July 1992), question was asked as part of a list. In 2000, the story was listed as "News about candidates for the 2000 presidential election. In 1988, the story was introduced as being from "this past year" and was listed as "News about the presidential campaign in 1988."

**CAMPNII CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
February, 2000	26	36	21	17	*
January, 2000	19	34	28	18	1
<b>1996 Election</b>					
November, 1996	34	45	15	6	*
Early September, 1996	29	39	19	13	*
July, 1996	25	42	21	11	1
<b>1992 Election</b>					
October, 1992	55	36	7	2	0
September, 1992	47	36	11	6	*
August, 1992	36	51	11	2	0
July, 1992	24	47	24	5	*
May, 1992	32	44	16	8	*
<b>1988 Election</b>					
October, 1988	43	44	11	2	*
August, 1988	39	45	13	3	*
May, 1988	22	46	23	6	3

See full CAMPNII trend based on the general public here.

**ASK ALL:**

THOUGHT How much thought have you given to the coming presidential election ... Quite a lot or only a little?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,455]:**

	<u>Quite a lot</u>	<b>(VOL.) Some</b>	<u>Only a little</u>	<b>(VOL.) None</b>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
<b>2020 Election</b>					
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	75	2	22	1	*
<b>2016 Election</b>					
Oct 20-25, 2016	84	3	12	1	1
Aug 23-Sep 2, 2016	75	4	17	3	1
Aug 9-16, 2016	80	1	17	1	1
Jun 15-26, 2016	80	3	15	1	*
Apr 12-19, 2016	79	4	14	1	1
Mar 17-26, 2016	85	3	12	1	*
<b>2012 Election</b>					
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012	81	2	14	2	1
Oct 24-28, 2012	78	3	15	3	1
Oct 4-7, 2012	73	3	21	2	1
Sep 12-16, 2012	70	4	23	2	1
Jul 16-26, 2012	61	5	28	6	1
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	65	3	29	3	*
Jun 7-17, 2012	67	1	30	2	1
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	61	2	33	3	1
Apr 4-15, 2012	64	2	30	4	1
Mar 7-11, 2012	66	2	30	1	1
<b>2008 Election</b>					
November, 2008	81	3	13	2	1
Late October, 2008	81	3	13	2	1
Mid-October, 2008	81	3	13	3	*
Early October, 2008	81	2	14	2	1
Late September, 2008	80	3	14	2	1
Mid-September, 2008	78	4	14	3	1
August, 2008	74	6	17	2	1

## THOUGHT CONTINUED...

	Quite a lot	(VOL.) Some	Only a little	(VOL.) None	(VOL.) DK/Ref
July, 2008	74	2	20	3	1
June, 2008	72	2	23	2	1
Late May, 2008	75	4	17	3	1
April, 2008	77	7	13	2	1
March, 2008	78	3	15	3	1
Late February, 2008	74	3	19	2	2
<b>2004 Election</b>					
November, 2004	82	3	12	2	1
Mid-October, 2004	76	5	15	3	1
Early October, 2004	74	4	19	2	1
September, 2004	71	3	22	3	1
August, 2004	69	2	26	2	1
July, 2004	67	2	28	2	1
June, 2004	58	3	36	2	1
May, 2004	59	6	30	4	1
Late March, 2004	60	4	31	4	1
Mid-March, 2004	65	2	31	2	*
<b>2000 Election</b>					
November, 2000	72	6	19	2	1
Late October, 2000	66	6	24	4	*
Mid-October, 2000	67	9	19	4	1
Early October, 2000	60	8	27	4	1
September, 2000	59	8	29	3	1
July, 2000	46	6	45	3	*
June, 2000	46	6	43	5	*
May, 2000	48	4	42	5	1
April, 2000	45	7	41	7	*
<b>1996 Election</b>					
November, 1996	67	8	22	3	*
October, 1996	65	7	26	1	1
Late September, 1996	61	7	29	2	1
Early September, 1996	56	3	36	4	1
July, 1996	55	3	41	1	*
June, 1996	50	5	41	3	1
<b>1992 Election</b>					
Early October, 1992	77	5	16	1	1
September, 1992	69	3	26	1	1
August, 1992	72	4	23	1	*
June, 1992	63	6	29	1	1
<b>1988 Election</b>					
Gallup: November, 1988	73	8	17	2	0
Gallup: October, 1988	69	9	20	2	0
Gallup: September, 1988	57	18	23	2	0
Gallup: August, 1988	61	10	27	2	0

## ASK ALL:

Q.17 Are you more interested or less interested in politics this year than you were in 2016 — the last presidential election year?

	More	Less	(VOL.) Same	(VOL.) DK/Ref
<b>2020 Election</b>				
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	54	25	20	1
<b>2016 Election</b>				
Jun 15-26, 2016	58	19	21	2
<b>2012 Election</b>				

**Q.17 CONTINUED...**

	<u>More</u>	<u>Less</u>	<u>(VOL.) Same</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Jun 7-17, 2012	45	34	19	2
<b>2008 Election</b>				
Mid-September, 2008	63	13	22	2
June, 2008	60	20	18	2
<b>2004 Election</b>				
June, 2004	47	28	23	2
<b>2000 Election</b>				
June, 2000	38	38	22	2
<b>1996 Election</b>				
July, 1996	42	38	19	1
June, 1996	41	35	22	2
<b>1992 Election</b>				
June, 1992	55	24	19	2
March, 1992	57	27	14	2

**NO QUESTIONS 18-19****ASK ALL:**

Q.20 What's your impression...do **[RANDOMIZE: Donald Trump and Joe Biden]** take different positions on the issues, or are they pretty similar in their positions on the issues?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,455]:**

	<u>Different</u>	<u>Similar</u>	<u>(VOL.) Don't know/Refused</u>
<b>Trump/Biden</b>			
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	86	9	5
<b>Obama/Romney</b>			
June 7-17, 2012	75	17	8
<b>Obama/McCain</b>			
June 2008	75	17	8
<b>Bush/Kerry</b>			
June 2004	68	21	11
<b>Bush/Gore</b>			
Late Oct 2000	60	34	6
Early Oct 2000	61	30	9
Sept 2000	56	32	12
June 2000	51	33	16
July 1999	47	24	29

**ASK ALL:**

Q.21 What's your opinion of the presidential candidates for this year? Would you say that you are very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not too satisfied, or not at all satisfied with the choices?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,455]:**

	<u>Very satisfied</u>	<u>Fairly satisfied</u>	<u>Not too satisfied</u>	<u>Not at all satisfied</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
<b>2020</b>					
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	21	27	27	21	4
<b>2016</b>					
Aug 23-Sep 2, 2016	10	22	30	33	5
Jun 15-26, 2016	13	27	27	31	2
<b>2012</b>					
September 20-23, 2012	20	35	21	18	6

**Q.21 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Very satisfied</u>	<u>Fairly satisfied</u>	<u>Not too satisfied</u>	<u>Not at all satisfied</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
June 7-17, 2012	17	39	26	14	3
<b>2008</b>					
Mid-September, 2008 <sup>10</sup>	24	48	17	9	2
June, 2008	19	41	24	14	2
<b>2004</b>					
Mid-October, 2004	23	43	22	9	3
June, 2004	17	48	19	12	4
<b>2000</b>					
June, 2000	14	50	22	11	3
March, 2000	13	47	27	11	2
July, 1999	13	40	25	12	10
<b>1996</b>					
Late October, 1996	11	48	27	11	3
Late September, 1996	11	50	26	10	3
June, 1996	10	37	31	18	4
<b>1992</b>					
October, 1992	10	41	33	14	2
August, 1992	11	42	31	15	27
June, 1992	6	29	36	27	2

**ASK ALL:**

Q.22 As far as making progress on the important issues facing the country is concerned, does it really matter who wins the 2020 presidential election, or will things be pretty much the same regardless of who is elected president?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,455]:**

	<u>Really matters who wins the election</u>	<u>Things will pretty much be the same</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	83	16	1
Oct 20-25, 2016	77	19	4
Jun 15-26, 2016	74	22	4
Sep 12-16, 2012	76	20	4
Jun 7-17, 2012	63	34	3
Oct 2008	72	24	4
Mid-Sep 2008	70	24	6
June 2008	63	32	5
Jun 2004	67	29	4
Mid-Mar 2004	70	26	4
Jun 2000	50	44	6
Aug 1976 <sup>11</sup>	45	46	9

**NO QUESTION 23**

<sup>10</sup> In September 2008, June 2008, June 2004, and March 2000 the question was worded "As it's shaping up so far, what's your opinion of the presidential candidates this year? Would you say that you are very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not too satisfied, or not at all satisfied with the choices?"

<sup>11</sup> August 1976 question asked by Opinion Research Corporation, based on general public.

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=849]:**

Q.24F1 Some people feel it is difficult to choose between [**RANDOMIZE**: Joe Biden and Donald Trump] because EITHER ONE would make a good president. Do you agree, or disagree?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=715]:**

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<b>(VOL)</b> <u>Don't know/Refused</u>
<b>Trump/Biden</b> July 23-Aug 4, 2020	8	91	1
<b>Trump/Clinton</b> June 15-26, 2016	11	87	2
<b>Obama/Romney</b> June 7-12, 2012	24	73	3
<b>Obama/McCain</b> June 2008	29	67	4
<b>Kerry/Bush</b> June 2004	19	77	4
<b>Gore/Bush</b> June 2000	29	64	7

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=901]:**

Q.25F2 Some people feel it is difficult to choose between [**RANDOMIZE**: Joe Biden and Donald Trump] because NEITHER ONE would make a good president. Do you agree, or disagree?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=740]**

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<b>(VOL)</b> <u>Don't know/Refused</u>
<b>Trump/Biden</b> July 23-Aug 4, 2020	21	78	2
<b>Trump/Clinton</b> June 15-26, 2016	41	56	3
<b>Obama/Romney</b> June 7-12, 2012	29	67	4
<b>Obama/McCain</b> June 2008	31	65	4
<b>Kerry/Bush</b> June 2004	26	68	6
<b>Gore/Bush</b> June 2000	36	58	6

**NO QUESTIONS 26-33**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.34 Overall, how would you describe the presidential election campaign so far – is it **[READ ITEM a. FIRST, THEN RANDOMIZE ITEMS b. THRU c.]**

	<u>Interesting</u>	<u>Dull</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>Neither</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.				
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	46	47	3	4
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>				
<b>2016 Presidential Election</b>				
Jun 15-26, 2016	73	21	5	1
Dec 8-13, 2015	67	26	4	3
<b>2012 Presidential Election</b>				
Oct 18-21, 2012	63	28	5	4
Sep 7-9, 2012	53	37	5	6
Jun 21-24, 2012	34	56	4	5
Mar 22-25, 2012	38	52	4	7
Jan 12-15, 2012	36	55	3	5
Oct 20-23, 2011	35	51	4	10
<b>2008 Presidential Election</b>				
Oct 10-13, 2008	71	25	3	1
Sep 12-15, 2008	68	26	5	1
June, 2008	59	35	2	4
Apr 18-21, 2008	59	35	5	1
Feb 15-18, 2008	70	25	4	1
November, 2007	41	53	3	3
October, 2007	37	55	5	3
April, 2007	34	52	6	8
<b>2004 Presidential Election</b>				
Mid-October, 2004 (RV)	66	28	5	1
Early September, 2004 (RV)	50	42	6	2
June, 2004	33	57	4	6
<b>2000 Presidential Election</b>				
June, 2000	28	65	4	3
<b>1996 Presidential Election</b>				
July, 1996	21	73	3	3
	<u>Too negative</u>	<u>Not too negative</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>Neither</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
b.				
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	51	40	3	5
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>				
<b>2016 Presidential Election</b>				
Jun 15-26, 2016	65	30	3	3
Dec 8-13, 2015	54	39	2	4
<b>2012 Presidential Election</b>				
Oct 18-21, 2012	55	37	3	5
Sep 7-9, 2012	51	39	3	6
Jun 21-24, 2012	53	37	3	8
Mar 22-25, 2012	52	34	3	11
Jan 12-15, 2012	50	41	1	7
Oct 20-23, 2011	44	41	4	11
<b>2008 Presidential Election</b>				
Oct 10-13, 2008	55	41	3	1
Sep 12-15, 2008	43	51	4	2
Apr 18-21, 2008	50	44	4	2
Feb 15-18, 2008	28	66	3	3
<b>2004 Presidential Election</b>				
Mid-October, 2004 (RV)	57	38	3	2

**Q.34b TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...**

	Too <u>negative</u>	Not too <u>negative</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Early September, 2004 (RV)	62	32	1	5
June, 2004	45	46	2	7
Mid-March, 2004	47	47	2	4
	Focused on important policy <u>debates</u>	Not focused on important policy <u>debates</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
c. July 23-Aug 4, 2020	<u>32</u>	59	3	<u>5</u>

**TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:****2016 Presidential Election**

Jun 15-26, 2016	27	65	4	4
Dec 8-13, 2015	34	58	2	6

**NO QUESTIONS 35-39, 41-45,47  
QUESTIONS 40, 46 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

Thinking about the political parties ...

Q.48 Which party could do a better job of [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]? How about [NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: Which party could do a better job of ITEM?][IF NECESSARY READ CATEGORIES: The Republican Party or the Democratic Party]

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) <u>Both equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
<b>ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=849]:</b>					
a.F1 Dealing with terrorism					
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	45	35	7	7	6
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
<i>Dealing with the terrorist threat at home</i>					
Jun 5-12, 2018	43	32	10	7	7
Oct 25-30, 2017	37	38	12	9	5
Apr 5-11, 2017	48	36	8	6	3
Apr 12-19, 2016	46	37	5	8	4
Dec 8-13, 2015	46	34	4	9	7
Jul 14-20, 2015	44	34	8	9	5
Feb 18-22, 2015	51	31	10	5	3
Oct 15-20, 2014	46	30	9	7	9
Oct 13-18, 2010	38	26	13	9	14
May 20-23, 2010	38	27	12	10	13
Feb 3-9, 2010	46	29	10	5	10
Aug 27-30, 2009	38	32	10	9	12
February, 2008	45	38	6	4	7
October, 2006	39	33	7	6	15
September, 2006	41	32	7	6	14
February, 2006	46	30	8	7	9
Mid-September, 2005	45	34	7	6	8
July, 2004	45	30	6	6	13
Late October, 2002 (RVs)	44	27	11	6	12
Early October, 2002 (RVs)	44	28	7	5	16
Early September, 2002	44	22	14	6	14
January, 2002	48	18	--	6	28

**Q.48F1 CONTINUED...**

		Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
b.F1	Dealing with global climate change					
	July 23-Aug 4, 2020	26	56	3	8	6
	Apr 12-19, 2016	30	51	4	10	5
	Dec 8-13, 2015	32	46	2	8	11
c.F1	Dealing with policies on abortion and contraception					
	July 23-Aug 4, 2020	35	50	3	6	7
	Jun 5-12, 2018	31	50	4	5	9
	Oct 25-30, 2017	33	47	6	7	7
	Apr 5-11, 2017	33	53	3	6	6
	Jul 14-20, 2015	31	50	4	8	7
	Feb 18-22, 2015	40	43	3	7	7
	Oct 15-20, 2014	35	45	4	5	11
	Jul 8-14, 2014	36	48	3	6	7
d.F1	Handling law enforcement and criminal justice					
	July 23-Aug 4, 2020	43	42	4	7	5
e.F1	Handling the public health impact of the coronavirus outbreak					
	July 23-Aug 4, 2020	34	46	4	10	6
f.F1	Dealing with the federal budget deficit					
	July 23-Aug 4, 2020	40	39	3	11	7
	Jun 5-12, 2018	41	35	6	12	6
	Oct 25-30, 2017	37	39	6	12	6
	Jul 14-20, 2015	41	37	5	12	5
	Oct 15-20, 2014	42	36	4	10	8
	Jan 15-19, 2014	45	35	6	6	8
	Sep 4-8, 2013	43	35	7	9	5
	Jan 9-13, 2013	40	39	7	8	6
	Dec 5-9, 2012	43	38	4	7	9
	Mar 7-11, 2012	42	41	2	7	7
	Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	46	37	4	6	7
	Jul 22-24, 2011	43	37	5	6	8
	May 25-30, 2011 <sup>12</sup>	41	38	4	9	8
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	46	34	8	6	7
	Oct 13-18, 2010	35	28	7	16	14
	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	43	36	5	9	7
	May 20-23, 2010	33	30	8	16	12
	Apr 21-26, 2010	38	35	6	11	10
	Feb 3-9, 2010	42	36	6	8	7
	Aug 27-30, 2009	35	36	6	13	10
	September, 2006	27	47	4	8	14
	February, 2006	33	45	6	9	7
	Early October, 2005	29	47	6	10	8
	June, 1999	37	41	5	8	9
	July, 1994	42	36	2	13	7
	December, 1993	31	36	--	18	15

<sup>12</sup> From February 2006 to May 2011 item read "Reducing the federal budget deficit;" an experiment conducted in July 2011 showed no significant difference between the current wording and this wording. In Early October 2005, the item was asked as a standalone question. In June 1999, the item was worded: "Keeping the federal budget balanced." In December 1993 the item was worded: "Reducing the budget deficit."

## Q.48 CONTINUED...

		Republican	Democratic	(VOL.) Both	(VOL.)	(VOL.)
		<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>equally</u>	<u>Neither</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
<b>ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=901]:</b>						
g.F2	Dealing with the economy					
	July 23-Aug 4, 2020	47	40	4	5	4
	Sep 18-24, 2018	40	41	6	5	7
	Jun 5-12, 2018	45	36	8	6	5
	Oct 25-30, 2017	38	41	11	7	3
	Apr 5-11, 2017	46	43	5	5	2
	Apr 12-19, 2016	45	41	4	6	4
	Dec 8-13, 2015	42	37	4	9	7
	Jul 14-20, 2015	41	44	4	8	4
	Feb 18-22, 2015	44	41	7	6	3
	Oct 15-20, 2014	41	39	6	8	6
	Jul 8-14, 2014	47	39	4	6	4
	Jan 15-19, 2014	42	38	10	7	3
	Oct 9-13, 2013	44	37	5	9	5
	May 1-5, 2013	42	38	6	8	6
	May 25-30, 2011	38	40	5	8	8
	Sep 16-19, 2010	38	37	8	10	8
	May 20-23, 2010	33	34	9	14	10
	Feb 3-9, 2010	38	41	7	6	7
	Aug 27-30, 2009	32	42	6	12	9
	February, 2008	34	53	2	5	6
	October, 2006	32	45	4	5	14
	September, 2006	32	46	5	5	12
	February, 2006	36	46	5	5	8
	Mid-September, 2005	38	44	5	7	6
	July, 2004	34	46	5	5	10
	Late October, 2002 (RVs)	37	40	5	6	12
	Early October, 2002 (RVs)	37	41	4	5	13
	Early September, 2002	36	36	9	6	13
	January, 2002	43	34	--	5	18
	May, 2001 <sup>13</sup>	33	44	8	5	10
	June, 1999	37	43	8	3	9
	March, 1999	39	44	5	3	9
	Early September, 1998	40	38	8	4	10
	March, 1998	40	40	12	3	5
	October, 1994	45	33	5	7	10
	Gallup: October, 1992 (RVs)	36	45	10	--	9
	Gallup: October, 1990	37	35	--	--	28
h.F2	Dealing with health care					
	July 23-Aug 4, 2020	37	50	4	6	4
	Sep 18-24, 2018	35	51	3	5	6
	Jun 5-12, 2018	32	48	8	7	5
	Oct 25-30, 2017	32	50	6	9	3
	Apr 5-11, 2017	35	54	2	6	3
	Jul 14-20, 2015	36	46	4	9	5
	Feb 18-22, 2015	40	47	4	7	2
	Oct 15-20, 2014	38	46	3	7	6
	Jul 8-14, 2014	40	45	4	6	5
	Jan 15-19, 2014	37	45	3	6	8
	Sep 4-8, 2013 (U)	40	39	6	9	5
	Dec 5-9, 2012	38	48	4	4	6

<sup>13</sup> In May 2001 and earlier, the item was worded: "... keeping the country prosperous."

## Q.48hF2 CONTINUED...

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 7-11, 2012	35	49	1	7	8
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	38	49	3	4	6
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	40	42	6	5	7
Oct 13-18, 2010	32	39	5	11	13
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	36	46	5	7	6
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
<i>Reforming the U.S. health care system</i>					
Feb 3-9, 2010	32	45	6	10	7
Aug 27-30, 2009	27	46	4	14	9
February, 2008	26	56	3	8	7
October, 2006	25	46	4	8	17
September, 2006	24	48	5	10	13
February, 2006	27	49	6	9	9
Mid-September, 2005	28	51	4	10	7
July, 2004	23	50	4	10	13
Early July, 2003	31	38	6	10	15
<i>Regulating health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and managed health care plans</i>					
January, 2001	30	47	--	7	16
January, 1999	25	46	--	7	22
<i>Reforming the U.S. health care system</i>					
Early September, 1998	31	43	7	7	12
March, 1998	25	53	6	8	8
October, 1994	34	41	5	10	10
July, 1994	34	48	2	8	8
<i>Reforming health care</i>					
December, 1993	25	47	--	10	18
<i>Improving health care in the U.S.</i>					
January, 1992	21	56	--	8	15
May, 1990	20	50	--	16	14
i.F2	Dealing with immigration				
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	39	48	3	6	3
Sep 18-24, 2018	39	46	4	5	6
Jun 5-12, 2018	34	48	6	6	6
Oct 25-30, 2017	38	44	6	7	5
Apr 5-11, 2017	39	50	2	6	3
Apr 12-19, 2016	42	44	3	7	4
Dec 8-13, 2015	42	40	3	9	7
Jul 14-20, 2015	40	42	4	9	6
Feb 18-22, 2015	43	45	4	4	3
Oct 15-20, 2014	41	40	5	7	7
Jul 8-14, 2014	42	40	4	7	6
Jan 15-19, 2014	38	39	8	8	7
Oct 9-13, 2013	40	39	4	8	9
May 1-5, 2013	38	38	7	8	9
Dec 5-9, 2012	35	44	5	6	10
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	45	37	3	6	9
May 25-30, 2011	39	37	4	9	11
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	28	9	12	16
May 20-23, 2010	35	27	10	14	14
Apr 21-26, 2010	36	35	7	11	12
Aug 27-30, 2009	31	36	6	13	13
February, 2008	38	43	4	6	9

**Q.48iF2 CONTINUED...**

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
October, 2006	35	33	6	8	18
September, 2006	32	37	5	10	16
April, 2006	27	43	6	11	13
February, 2006	34	38	8	9	11
<b>j.F2</b>	<b>Making wise decisions about foreign policy</b>				
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	42	42	5	7	4
Sep 18-24, 2018	37	45	6	5	7
Jun 5-12, 2018	36	44	8	6	7
Oct 25-30, 2017	34	44	7	9	6
Apr 5-11, 2017	36	49	5	6	4
Apr 12-19, 2016	46	38	4	8	5
Jul 14-20, 2015	38	41	5	8	8
Feb 18-22, 2015	48	35	6	6	5
Oct 15-20, 2014	40	39	6	9	7
Jul 8-14, 2014	43	39	5	7	6
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	40	38	10	4	7
Apr 21-26, 2010	39	34	8	8	11
August 27-30, 2009	31	44	7	8	9
February, 2008	40	45	4	4	7
July, 2004	38	40	4	4	14
Early September, 2002	40	30	10	6	14
May, 2001	39	34	11	3	13
June, 1999	37	36	7	6	14
March, 1999	42	37	6	4	11
Early September, 1998	40	31	11	5	13
March, 1998	41	33	12	4	10
October, 1994	47	30	7	5	11
July, 1994 <sup>14</sup>	51	31	4	6	8
December, 1993	49	23	--	10	18
May, 1990	39	28	--	17	16
<b>k.F2</b>	<b>Reflecting your views about gun policy</b>				
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	46	42	2	5	5
Jun 5-12, 2018	38	44	4	7	7
Oct 25-30, 2017	39	44	4	5	7
Apr 5-11, 2017	46	41	2	5	6
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
<i>Reflecting your views about gun control</i>					
Dec 8-13, 2015	43	37	3	8	10
Jul 14-20, 2015	48	36	3	6	7
May 1-5, 2013	42	39	4	6	9
Jan 9-13, 2013	38	40	5	6	11
Dec 17-19, 2012 <sup>15</sup>	27	28	12	15	18
July, 2004	34	36	3	6	21
Late October, 2002 (RV)	36	38	5	5	16
April, 2000	30	36	4	7	23
June, 1999	34	42	4	8	12
December, 1993	32	42	--	8	18
<b>l.F2</b>	<b>Dealing with issues involving race and ethnicity</b>				
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	35	49	5	8	4

<sup>14</sup> In July 1994 and May 1990, the item was worded "Making wise decisions about the country's defense policies."

<sup>15</sup> In December 2012, July 2004, and April 2000 the question was not part of a list.

## Q.48IF2 CONTINUED...

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Jun 5-12, 2018	28	52	8	6	6

## NO QUESTION 49, 52,55-56,59-65

## QUESTIONS 50-51 , 53-54,57-58,66 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

## ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?

## ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	(VOL.) No preference	(VOL.) Other party	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
July 23-Aug 4, 2020	26	30	39	2	1	2	16	18
Jan 8-13, 2020	27	27	39	3	1	2	15	18
Sep 5-16, 2019	26	29	39	2	1	2	15	18
July 10-15, 2019	28	30	36	3	1	2	15	17
Mar 20-25, 2019	26	30	37	3	1	3	14	19
Jan 9-14, 2019	25	31	40	2	1	2	16	18
Sep 18-24, 2018	25	32	37	3	1	2	15	18
Jun 5-12, 2018	25	31	38	3	1	2	15	18
Apr 25-May 1, 2018	27	28	38	4	1	2	14	19
Mar 7-14, 2018	26	28	41	3	*	1	17	18
Jan 10-15, 2018	26	33	34	3	1	3	12	18
<b>Yearly Totals</b>								
2019	26.4	30.2	37.9	2.5	1.0	2.1	15.1	18.0
2018	25.7	30.8	37.6	3.0	.8	2.0	14.7	18.3
2017	23.6	31.4	39.4	3.3	.6	1.7	15.8	18.7
2016	25.4	32.0	36.5	3.4	.5	2.2	14.6	17.0
2015	23.7	30.4	40.1	3.6	.4	1.8	16.4	17.3
2014	23.2	31.5	39.5	3.1	.7	2.0	16.2	16.5
2013	23.9	32.1	38.3	2.9	.5	2.2	16.0	16.0
2012	24.7	32.6	36.4	3.1	.5	2.7	14.4	16.1
2011	24.3	32.3	37.4	3.1	.4	2.5	15.7	15.6
2010	25.2	32.7	35.2	3.6	.4	2.8	14.5	14.1
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.7	36.0	31.5	3.6	.3	3.0	10.6	15.2
2007	25.3	32.9	34.1	4.3	.4	2.9	10.9	17.0
2006	27.8	33.1	30.9	4.4	.3	3.4	10.5	15.1
2005	29.3	32.8	30.2	4.5	.3	2.8	10.3	14.9
2004	30.0	33.5	29.5	3.8	.4	3.0	11.7	13.4
2003	30.3	31.5	30.5	4.8	.5	2.5	12.0	12.6
2002	30.4	31.4	29.8	5.0	.7	2.7	12.4	11.6
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9

**PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...**

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) No preference	(VOL.) Other party	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	Lean <u>Rep</u>	Lean <u>Dem</u>
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3	--	3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--

**Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:**

(U) Pew Research Center/USA Today polls