THE 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION: TRUMP VS. BIDEN VOTERS ON THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES IN THEIR VOTE CHOICE

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THE 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION: TRUMP VS. BIDEN VOTERS ON THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES IN DECIDING THEIR VOTE CHOICE

This report focuses on the views of likely American voters as they head into the 2020 presidential election. It focuses on national priorities among likely voters, what likely voters mean when they say that each of several issues is extremely important in deciding how they will vote for president, and likely voters' views on seven important election issues.

PART I: NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Likely voters were asked to describe how important each of 19 issues will be when they decide how to vote in this year's presidential election. The poll was conducted before the death of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and the debate about her replacement. It is not yet clear how this will affect the election agenda.

Table 1 shows that no single issue is considered extremely important by even half of likely voters as they head into the 2020 presidential election. The implication is that the candidates will need to deal with multiple issues, not just concentrate on a single issue.

Table 1. Likely Voters' Top Issues in Deciding How to Vote for President, by Presidential Vote Preference

% saying "extremely important"

I	Total likely voters		Trump voters			Biden voters		
Rank	Issue	%	Rank	Issue	%	Rank	Issue	%
1	Economy/jobs	38	1	Economy/jobs	37	1	Racial discrimination	48
2	Schools/education	37	2	Terrorism (foreign and domestic)	35	2	COVID-19	46
3t	COVID-19	35	3	Taxes	31	3	Police violence	45
3t	Police violence	35	4	Schools/education	29	4	Schools/education	42
3t	Racial discrimination	35	5	Gun control policy	27	5	Economy/jobs	40
6	Terrorism (foreign and domestic)	34	6	Immigration	25	6	Health care, not incl. COVID-19	38
7	Gun control policy	32	7t	Civic unrest	24	7	Gun control policy	35
8	Health care, not incl. COVID-19	30	7t	Abortion	24	8	Environment/ climate change	34

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The voting agenda has shifted from other recent elections. While the economy is a top issue, as it usually is in presidential elections, the next three issues – schools and education, COVID-19, and police violence – are relatively new as salient issues in how likely voters say they will decide their presidential vote. Also, COVID-19 has overtaken problems of the health care system as a main issue in this election.

COVID-19 and schools are not just policy issues, they are personal in this election. What may be unusual is that their impact on individuals may be more important in the vote choices of likely voters than in previous elections, when people tended to vote on general policies and principles.

While the economy/jobs and schools/education are among the top priorities for both Trump and Biden likely voters, most other high priorities differ dramatically by presidential vote preference. For instance, among likely Trump voters, the top three issues are the economy/jobs, terrorism (foreign and domestic), and taxes. Among likely Biden voters, the top three issues are racial discrimination, COVID-19, and police violence. Trump voters are less likely than Biden voters to name specific issues as extremely important. The upcoming election is likely to be more about the incumbent administration than about specific issues.

PART II: ECONOMY/JOBS

Likely voters who said that the economy and jobs are extremely important to their presidential vote were asked what issue relating to the economy was most important in their vote choice. As shown in Table 2, the top issue was jobs (63%), among economy/jobs voters overall, as well as both Trump (57%) and Biden (67%) economy/jobs voters.

Table 2. Economy/Jobs Voters' Top Economic Issues in Deciding How to Vote for President, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Total economy/ jobs voters	Trump economy/ jobs voters	Biden economy/ jobs voters
Jobs	63	57	67
The financial health of businesses	18	24	15
Inflation	13	11	15
The stock market	3	5	2
Other/None of these (vol)	1	2	1
Don't know/Refused	2	1	-

POLITICO/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, The 2020 Presidential Election: Trump vs. Biden Voters on the Most Important Issues in Deciding Their Vote Choice, August 25 – September 6, 2020. Base: Likely voters who said economy and jobs were an extremely important issue in deciding how to vote for president in the 2020 election.

PART III: SCHOOLS/EDUCATION

Even though there has been a national controversy over what public schools should do when they reopen, Table 3 shows that likely voters generally support (63%) the decisions their own local communities have made about handling public school reopening and the education of students. This is true of both Trump (68%) and Biden (61%) voters. This finding could change as the situation in the public schools evolves.

Table 3. Likely Voters' Approval Rating of Their Community's Plans for Handling Public School Reopening and the Education of Students, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters
Strongly approve	23	28	20
Somewhat approve	40	40	41
Somewhat disapprove	16	12	17
Strongly disapprove	18	17	18
Don't know/Refused	3	3	4

POLITICO/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, The 2020 Presidential Election: Trump vs. Biden Voters on the Most Important Issues in Deciding Their Vote Choice, August 25 – September 6, 2020. Base: Likely voters in the 2020 presidential election.

A slight majority of likely voters (52%) disapprove of President Trump's handling of public school reopenings, while 45% approve.

Table 4. Likely Voters' Approval Rating of President Trump's Handling of Public School Reopenings, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters
Strongly approve	23	51	2
Somewhat approve	22	32	15
Somewhat disapprove	16	7	21
Strongly disapprove	36	5	62
Don't know/Refused	3	5	*

POLITICO/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, The 2020 Presidential Election: Trump vs. Biden Voters on the Most Important Issues in Deciding Their Vote Choice, August 25 – September 6, 2020. Base: Likely voters in the 2020 presidential election.

PART IV: COVID-19

Likely voters in the 2020 presidential election generally give higher ratings to public health leaders than to President Trump or the federal government in their handling of the COVID-19 outbreak. As shown in Table 5, six in ten likely voters – including majorities of both Trump (65%) and Biden (56%) voters – approve of how public health leaders have handled the outbreak. In contrast, majorities disapprove of the performance of both the federal government (55%) and President Trump (57%). Among Trump voters, approval of the President's (91%) and the federal government's (76%) handling of COVID-19 substantially higher, while approval among Biden voters is much lower – 6% for the President and 21% for the federal government.

Table 5. Likely Voters' Ratings of Handling of COVID-19, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Total likely	Trump	Biden
	voters	voters	voters
Public health leaders			
Approve	60	65	56
Disapprove	39	35	43
Federal government			
Approve	44	76	21
Disapprove	55	23	79
President Trump			
Approve	42	91	6
Disapprove	57	8	94

POLITICO/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, The 2020 Presidential Election: Trump vs. Biden Voters on the Most Important Issues in Deciding Their Vote Choice, August 25 – September 6, 2020. Base: Likely voters in the 2020 presidential election.

Likely voters who said that COVID-19 is extremely important to their presidential vote were asked what issue relating to COVID-19 was most important in their vote choice. As shown in Table 6, the top COVID-19-related issue is the competency of the federal government in addressing the outbreak (43%), followed by decisions the federal government has made about shutting down or reopening businesses and schools (30%). Trump COVID-19 voters are more likely to name decisions about shutting or reopening businesses and schools (48%), while Biden COVID-19 voters are more likely to cite competence (54%) as most important.

Table 6. COVID-19 Voters' Top COVID-19 Issues in Deciding How to Vote for President, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Total COVID-19	Trump COVID-19	Biden COVID-19
	voters	voters	voters
The competency of the federal government in			
addressing the outbreak	43	18	54
Decisions the federal government has made			
about shutting down or reopening businesses			
and schools	30	48	24
Shortages of critical items to respond to the			
COVID-19 outbreak	13	15	10
Not enough federal funding to address the			
outbreak	12	14	11
Other/None of these (vol)	1	4	1
Don't know/Refused	1	1	-

POLITICO/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, The 2020 Presidential Election: Trump vs. Biden Voters on the Most Important Issues in Deciding Their Vote Choice, August 25 – September 6, 2020. Base: Likely voters who said COVID-19 was an extremely important issue in deciding how to vote for president in the 2020 election.

On question of what effect an announcement by President Trump that the U.S. had an effective and safe vaccine for COVID-19 that would be available at the end of the year (sometimes called the "October surprise") would have on their vote choice, more than eight in ten said it would not make a difference.

Table 7. Likely Voters' Views on How an Announcement by President Trump of an Effective and Safe Vaccine for COVID-19 Would Affect Their Presidential Vote Choice, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters
Make you more likely to vote for President Trump	7	15	*
Make you less likely	6	1	10
Wouldn't make a difference	86	84	89
Don't know/Refused	1	*	1

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PART V: POLICE VIOLENCE

Likely voters who said that police violence was extremely important to their presidential vote are divided in their level of confidence in the police to work in the public interest. As shown in Table 8, about half (48%) say they have a great deal or quite a lot of confluence, while 51% said they have very little confidence or none at all.

Table 8. Police Violence Voters' Confidence in the Police to Work in the Public Interest, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Likely voters who said police violence is an extremely important issue in deciding how to vote for president	Total likely voters	Total Trump voters	Total Biden voters	Total White likely voters	Total Black likely voters
Great deal	22	31	54	14	35	13
Quite a lot	26	34	34	34	37	25
Very little	39	27	10	40	24	34
None at all	12	7	2	11	3	27
Don't know/ Refused	1	1	*	1	1	1

POLITICO/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, The 2020 Presidential Election: Trump vs. Biden Voters on the Most Important Issues in Deciding Their Vote Choice, August 25 – September 6, 2020. Base: Likely voters in the 2020 presidential election.

Among likely voters as a whole, nearly two-thirds (65%) express a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in the police. This view is held by a large majority of Trump voters (88%), but only 48% of Biden voters. Only 38% of Black likely voters have a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in the police, while about six in ten (61%) do not.

PART VI: HEALTH CARE, NOT INCLUDING COVID-19

Likely voters who said that health care, not including COVID-19, is extremely important to their presidential vote were asked what health care issue was most important in their vote choice. As shown in Table 9, high health care costs in general, together with high drug costs, are the top issue among health care voters overall (56%), as well as both Trump (60%) and Biden (54%) health care voters. About one in five health care voters said the problems of the nation's uninsured was the most important health care issue, including 15% of Trump and 23% of Biden health care voters. The poll suggests that at least in the current environment, voters are most concerned about cost, and the issue of covering the uninsured is less salient at this time.

Table 9. Health Care Voters' Top Health Care Issues, Not Including COVID-19, in Deciding How to Vote for President, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Total health care voters	Trump health care voters	Biden health care voters
High healthcare costs	48	51	48
The problems of the nation's uninsured	21	15	23
Problems getting healthcare	13	15	13
High drug costs	8	9	6
Medicare	7	7	7
Other/None of these (vol)	3	3	2
Don't know/Refused	*	-	1

POLITICO/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, The 2020 Presidential Election: Trump vs. Biden Voters on the Most Important Issues in Deciding Their Vote Choice, August 25 – September 6, 2020. Base: Likely voters who said health care, not including COVID-19, was an extremely important issue in deciding how to vote for president in the 2020 election.

Likely voters were asked whether or not it is the responsibility of the federal government to make sure all Americans have health care coverage. Table 10 shows that a majority of likely voters (61%) believe it is the responsibility of the federal government, while 38% believe it is not.

A wide chasm exists between Republican and Democratic likely voters on this topic. While 65% of Republican likely voters say it is not the responsibility of the federal government to ensure health insurance coverage, a great majority (85%) of Democrats believe it is.

Table 10. Likely Voters' Views on the Responsibility of the Federal Government to Make Sure All Americans Have Health Care Coverage, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters
Responsibility of the federal government	61	34	85
Not the responsibility of the federal government	38	65	15
Don't know/Refused	1	1	*

POLITICO/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, The 2020 Presidential Election: Trump vs. Biden Voters on the Most Important Issues in Deciding Their Vote Choice, August 25 – September 6, 2020. Base: Likely voters in the 2020 presidential election.

As shown in Table 11, about six in ten likely voters (62%) approve of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Not surprisingly, there is a large difference by presidential voting preference. About nine in ten (91%) of Biden voters approve of the ACA, while 72% of Trump voters disapprove.

Table 11. Likely Voters' Views on the Affordable Care Act or Obamacare, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Total likely	Trump	Biden
	voters	voters	voters
Favorable	62	26	91
Unfavorable	37	72	9
Don't know/Refused	1	2	*

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Overall, a majority of likely voters (56%) disapprove of President Trump's handling of health care, while 43% approve.

Table 12. Likely Voters' Approval Rating of President Trump's Handling of Health Care, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters
Strongly approve	25	58	*
Somewhat approve	18	30	9
Somewhat disapprove	19	10	26
Strongly disapprove	37	1	65
Don't know/Refused	1	1	-

POLITICO/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, The 2020 Presidential Election: Trump vs. Biden Voters on the Most Important Issues in Deciding Their Vote Choice, August 25 – September 6, 2020. Base: Likely voters in the 2020 presidential election.

The poll results point strongly to how polarized voters are on policy choices for after the election. There are major differences between Trump and Biden voters in their views about the future direction of the country. For a number of major issues, the outcome of the election really matters.

PART VII: IMMIGRATION

Likely voters who said that immigration was extremely important to their presidential vote were asked what immigration-related issue was most important in their vote choice. As shown in Table 13, for most of these voters, their views do not fall neatly into two of the major concerns frequently discussed: the U.S. government not doing enough to aid those unauthorized immigrants living in the U.S. today (30%) or the number of unauthorized immigrants in the country (25%). Four in ten immigration voters (41%) say some other concern related to U.S. immigration policies is most important.

Table 13. Immigration Voters' Top Immigration Issues in Deciding How to Vote for President, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Total	Trump	Biden
	immigration	immigration	immigration
	voters	voters	voters
The U.S. government not doing			
enough to aid those unauthorized			
immigrants living in the U.S. today	30	14	42
The number of unauthorized			
immigrants in the country today	25	45	11
Some other concerns related to U.S.			
immigration policies today	41	33	45
Other/None of these (vol)	2	4	-
Don't know/Refused	2	4	2

POLITICO/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, The 2020 Presidential Election: Trump vs. Biden Voters on the Most Important Issues in Deciding Their Vote Choice, August 25 – September 6, 2020. Base: Likely voters who said immigration was an extremely important issue in deciding how to vote for president in the 2020 election.

However, as shown in Table 14, about seven in ten likely voters (71%) favor renewing the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy (DACA), which grants temporary legal status to people brought to the U.S. illegally as children. Trump voters are split in the views, with 47% in favor of renewing DACA, 46% opposed. In contrast, nearly nine in ten Biden voters (89%) favor renewing DACA.

Table 14. Likely Voters' Views About Renewing DACA, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters
Favor	71	47	89
Oppose	25	46	9
Don't know/Refused	4	7	3

POLITICO/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, The 2020 Presidential Election: Trump vs. Biden Voters on the Most Important Issues in Deciding Their Vote Choice, August 25 – September 6, 2020. Base: Likely voters in the 2020 presidential election.

PART VIII: ABORTION

A majority (57%) of likely voters who said that abortion was extremely important to their presidential vote believe that abortion should be legal in all or most cases.

Table 15. Abortion Voters' Views on Whether Abortion Should Be Legal or Illegal, by Presidential Vote Preference

	Likely voters who said abortion is an extremely important issue in deciding how to vote for president	Total likely voters	Total Trump voters	Total Biden voters
Legal in all cases	25	15	6	23
Legal in most cases	32	35	33	36
Illegal in most cases	24	33	37	28
Illegal in all cases	19	14	20	10
Don't know/ Refused	-	3	4	3

POLITICO/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, The 2020 Presidential Election: Trump vs. Biden Voters on the Most Important Issues in Deciding Their Vote Choice, August 25 – September 6, 2020. Base: Likely voters in the 2020 presidential election.

Among likely voters overall, a majority of Trump voters (57%) believe abortion should be illegal in all or most cases, while a majority of Biden voters (59%) believe abortion should be legal in all or most cases.

METHODOLOGY

The results are based on polling conducted by *Politico* and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Representatives of the two organizations worked closely to develop the survey questionnaires and analyze the results of the polls. *Politico* and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health paid for the surveys and related expenses.

The project team was led by Robert J. Blendon, Sc.D., Professor of Public Health and Professor of Health Policy and Political Analysis Emeritus, at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and Joanne Kenen, Executive Editor, Health Care at *Politico/Politico Pro*. Harvard research team also included John M. Benson and Chelsea Whitton Pearsall.

Interviews were conducted with a nationally representative sample of 1,459 randomly selected likely voters via telephone (including cell phones and landlines) by SSRS of Glen Mills, Pennsylvania. The interviewing period was August 25 – September 6, 2020. In this survey, "likely voters" are defined as adults age 18 or older who said they were registered to vote and were absolutely certain they would vote in the 2020 presidential election or had already voted. The interviews were conducted in English and Spanish.

When interpreting these findings, one should recognize that all surveys are subject to sampling error. The margin of error for the full sample is ± 3.0 percentage points. For questions asked of half-samples, the margin of error is ± 4.3 percentage points.

Possible sources of non-sampling error include non-response bias, as well as question wording and ordering effects. Non-response in telephone surveys produces some known biases in survey-derived estimates because participation tends to vary for different subgroups of the population. To compensate for these known biases and for variations in probability of selection within and across households, sample data are weighted by household size, cell phone/landline use and demographics (sex, age, race/ethnicity, education, and region) to reflect the true population. Other techniques, including random-digit dialing, replicate subsamples, and systematic respondent selection within households, are used to ensure that the sample is representative.





Politico/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Poll

THE 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION: TRUMP VS. BIDEN VOTERS ON THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES IN DECIDING THEIR VOTE CHOICE

This survey was conducted for *Politico* and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health via telephone (cell phone and landline) by SSRS, an independent research company. Interviews were conducted August 25 - September 6, 2020, among a nationally representative sample of 1,459 likely voters (those who said they were registered to vote and were either absolutely certain they would vote in the 2020 presidential election or had already voted). The margin of error for total respondents is ±3.0 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. For questions asked of half-samples, the margin of error is approximately ±4.3 percentage points. More information about SSRS can be obtained by visiting www.ssrs.com.

POLQ1. Some states allow individuals to vote before Election Day, that is vote early at a polling station or by filling out an absentee ballot. How about you? Have you already voted in this year's presidential election or not?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Yes	7	5	5	5	9
No	93	95	94	95	90
Don't know/Refused	*	-	1	-	1

(Asked of likely voters who have not yet voted; n=1,368)

POLQ5. Do you plan to vote in person or by mail-in ballot?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Vote in person	72	85	63	83	64
Vote by mail-in ballot	26	14	35	16	35
Don't know/Refused	2	1	2	1	1

[&]quot;Trump voters' = likely voters who said they would vote for or were leaning toward voting for Donald Trump.

[&]quot;Biden voters" = likely voters who said they would vote for or were leaning toward voting for Joe Biden.

[&]quot;Rep likely voters" = likely voters who self-identified as Republicans.

[&]quot;Dem likely voters" = likely voters who self-identified as Democrats.

POLQ6. (Thinking ahead to the November 2020 election,) please tell me how important each of the following issues (will be/were) when you (decide/decided) how to vote for President. How about... (INSERT ITEM)?

a. Covid-19

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	35	22	46	28	47
Very important	38	31	43	31	42
Somewhat important	16	23	9	23	8
Not very important	6	12	1	8	2
Not at all important	5	11	1	9	1
Don't know/Refused	*	1	*	1	*

b. Health care, not including COVID-19

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	30	21	38	24	42
Very important	48	45	50	47	49
Somewhat important	16	24	11	20	7
Not very important	4	7	1	7	1
Not at all important	2	3	*	2	1
Don't know/Refused	*	*	*	*	*

c. Abortion

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	22	24	19	26	22
Very important	36	37	36	36	37
Somewhat important	25	21	29	23	26
Not very important	10	11	10	9	9
Not at all important	7	7	6	5	6
Don't know/Refused	*	*	*	1	*

d. The economy and jobs

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	38	37	40	41	43
Very important	52	56	49	52	46
Somewhat important	8	6	9	6	9
Not very important	1	*	*	*	1
Not at all important	1	1	1	1	1
Don't know/Refused	-	-	1	-	-

e. Immigration

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	24	25	24	26	27
Very important	42	43	42	44	40
Somewhat important	23	22	23	20	22
Not very important	7	6	8	7	7
Not at all important	3	4	3	3	4
Don't know/Refused	1	*	*	*	*

f. Racial discrimination

	Total likely	Tuumn	Biden	Don lilraly	Dom lilroly
	voters	Trump voters	voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	35	20	48	21	48
Very important	41	41	40	42	42
Somewhat important	15	22	8	21	7
Not very important	5	9	2	9	1
Not at all important	4	8	1	6	1
Don't know/Refused	*	*	1	1	1

Police violence g.

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	35	22	45	23	47
Very important	39	37	42	38	42
Somewhat important	14	19	10	20	8
Not very important	6	11	2	10	1
Not at all important	4	9	1	6	2
Don't know/Refused	2	2	*	3	-

h. Schools and education

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	37	29	42	34	44
Very important	47	49	46	47	44
Somewhat important	12	17	9	15	9
Not very important	2	1	2	2	1
Not at all important	1	3	1	2	1
Don't know/Refused	1	1	-	*	1

(Asked of half sample A likely voters; n=739) i. Civic unrest

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	28	24	31	26	31
Very important	44	46	44	42	46
Somewhat important	18	18	19	17	16
Not very important	6	8	4	11	3
Not at all important	2	2	2	2	2
Don't know/Refused	2	2	*	2	2

(Asked of half sample A likely voters; n=739)

j. The environment and climate change

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	25	13	34	18	32
Very important	31	20	41	24	42
Somewhat important	26	34	19	29	16
Not very important	11	21	4	21	5
Not at all important	6	11	1	8	3
Don't know/Refused	1	1	1	*	2

(Asked of half sample A likely voters; n=739)

k. Supreme Court nominees

	Total likely	Trump	Biden	Rep likely	Dem likely
	voters	voters	voters	voters	voters
Extremely important	22	20	23	25	27
Very important	47	46	47	43	46
Somewhat important	20	22	18	23	16
Not very important	7	6	8	5	6
Not at all important	4	5	3	4	4
Don't know/Refused	*	1	1	*	1

(Asked of half sample A likely voters; n=739)

l. Opioid and drug abuse

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	18	16	19	18	24
Very important	41	45	40	45	37
Somewhat important	29	26	30	27	29
Not very important	7	6	8	4	8
Not at all important	5	7	3	6	2
Don't know/Refused	*	-	*	-	*

(Asked of half sample A likely voters; n=739)

m. Trade and tariffs

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	16	20	14	19	21
Very important	38	45	33	45	30
Somewhat important	33	27	37	28	35
Not very important	8	6	11	7	9
Not at all important	4	2	5	1	4
Don't know/Refused	1	*	*	*	1

(Asked of half sample B likely voters; n=720)

n. Gun control policy

	Total likely	Trump	Biden	Rep likely	Dem likely
	voters	voters	voters	voters	voters
Extremely important	32	27	35	28	41
Very important	40	42	40	41	38
Somewhat important	15	15	15	18	12
Not very important	5	7	5	6	6
Not at all important	7	9	5	6	3
Don't know/Refused	1	*	-	1	-

(Asked of half sample B likely voters; n=720)

o. Taxes

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	27	31	24	29	28
Very important	45	49	44	49	42
Somewhat important	21	16	24	17	22
Not very important	5	2	6	3	6
Not at all important	2	2	2	2	2
Don't know/Refused	*	-	*	-	-

(Asked of half sample B likely voters; n=720)

p. Terrorism

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	34	35	32	33	36
Very important	40	43	40	44	39
Somewhat important	18	16	18	18	16
Not very important	5	4	6	3	6
Not at all important	2	2	3	2	2
Don't know/Refused	1	*	1	-	1

(Asked of half sample B likely voters; n=720)

q. Foreign policy

	Total likely	Trump	Biden	Rep likely	Dem likely
	voters	voters	voters	voters	voters
Extremely important	20	22	19	22	22
Very important	49	51	46	54	41
Somewhat important	24	19	29	17	29
Not very important	5	6	4	5	5
Not at all important	2	2	2	2	3
Don't know/Refused	-	-	-	-	-

(Asked of half sample B likely voters; n=720)

r. The federal budget deficit

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	22	23	20	24	25
Very important	42	40	45	37	46
Somewhat important	27	28	26	28	21
Not very important	6	6	6	7	4
Not at all important	3	3	3	3	4
Don't know/Refused	*	*	-	1	-

(Asked of half sample B likely voters; n=720)

Poverty s.

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Extremely important	25	19	28	22	33
Very important	48	45	53	44	48
Somewhat important	20	25	15	28	12
Not very important	4	5	3	3	5
Not at all important	2	5	1	3	1
Don't know/Refused	1	1	*	*	1

POLQ6 (a-s) Extremely Important Summary Based on total likely voters asked

	Total	Twomp	Didon	Don lilvaly	Dom lilzalı
	likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
The economy and jobs	38	37	40	41	43
Schools and education	37	29	42	34	44
COVID-19	35	22	46	28	47
Police violence	35	22	45	23	47
Racial discrimination	35	20	48	21	48
Terrorism ^b	34	35	32	33	36
Gun control policy b	32	27	35	28	41
Health care, not including COVID-19	30	21	38	24	42
Civic unrest ^a	28	24	31	26	31
Taxes b	27	31	24	29	28
The environment and climate change ^a	25	13	34	18	32
Poverty ^b	25	19	28	22	33
Immigration	24	25	24	26	27
Abortion	22	24	19	26	22
Supreme Court nominees a	22	20	23	25	27
The federal budget deficit ^b	22	23	20	24	25
Foreign policy ^b	20	22	19	22	22
Opioid and drug abuse a	18	16	19	18	24
Trade and tariffs a	16	20	14	19	21

^a = Asked of half-sample A likely voters (n = 739) ^b = Asked of half-sample B likely voters (n = 720)

(Asked of likely voters who said health care, not including COVID-19, is extremely important in deciding how to vote for President; n=432)

POLQ7. Which <u>ONE</u> of the following is the most important health care issue for you in the election? Is it...?

	Total	Trump	Biden		Dem
	health care	health care	health care	Rep health	health care
	voters	voters	voters	care voters	voters
High healthcare costs	48	51	48	56	44
The problems of the nation's uninsured	21	15	23	12	29
Problems getting healthcare	13	15	13	9	11
High drug costs	8	9	6	9	8
Medicare	7	7	7	10	5
Other/None of these (vol)	3	3	2	4	3
Don't know/Refused	*	-	1	-	-

(Asked of half sample A likely voters; n=739)

POLQ8. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling healthcare? (If approve/disapprove) Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Strongly approve	25	58	*	60	5
Somewhat approve	18	30	9	23	10
Somewhat disapprove	19	10	26	11	22
Strongly disapprove	37	1	65	6	63
Don't know/Refused	1	1	-	-	-

(Asked of half sample A likely voters; n=739)

POLQ9. Do you think it is the responsibility of the federal government to make sure all Americans have health care coverage, or is that not the responsibility of the federal government?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Responsibility of the federal government	61	34	85	39	82
Not the responsibility of the federal government	38	65	15	60	18
Don't know/Refused	1	1	*	1	*

(Asked of half sample A likely voters; n=739)

POLQ10. As you may know, a health reform bill was signed into law in 2010, known commonly as the Affordable Care Act or Obamacare. Given what you know about the health reform law, do you have a generally favorable or generally unfavorable opinion of it?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Favorable	62	26	91	27	90
Unfavorable	37	72	9	71	9
Don't know/Refused	1	2	*	2	1

(Asked of half sample B likely voters; n=720)

POLQ11. Do you think abortion should be legal in all cases, legal in most cases, illegal in most cases, or illegal in all cases?

	Likely voters who said abortion is an extremely important issue in deciding how to vote for president	Total abortion voters	Total Trump abortion voters	Total Biden abortion voters	Total Rep abortion voters	Total Dem abortion voters
Legal in all cases	25	15	6	23	7	23
Legal in most cases	32	35	33	36	31	33
Illegal in most cases	24	33	37	28	37	32
Illegal in all cases	19	14	20	10	20	11
Don't know/Refused	-	3	4	3	5	1

(Asked of likely voters who said the economy and jobs are extremely important in deciding how to vote for President; n=537)

POLQ12. Which <u>ONE</u> of the following is the most important economic issue for you in the election? Is it...?

	Total	Trump	Biden	Rep	Dem
	economy/	economy/	economy/	economy/	economy/
	jobs voters				
Jobs	63	57	67	58	65
The financial health of					
businesses	18	24	15	22	18
Inflation	13	11	15	12	15
The stock market	3	5	2	6	1
Other/None of these (vol)	1	2	1	2	-
Don't know/Refused	2	1	-	-	1

(Asked of total likely voters)

POLQ13. Since the start of the COVID-19 outbreak, have you or anyone else in your household lost their job, their business, been furloughed, had their wages or hours reduced, or taken mandatory unpaid leave, or not?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Yes	35	30	39	23	40
No	65	70	61	77	60
Don't know/Refused	*	*	-	*	*

(Asked of likely voters who said COVID-19 is extremely important in deciding how to vote for President; n=499)

POLQ14. Which <u>ONE</u> of the following is the most important issue related to COVID-19 for you in the election? Is it...?

	Total COVID-19 voters	Trump COVID-19 voters	Biden COVID-19 voters	Rep COVID-19 voters	Dem COVID-19 voters
The competency of the federal government in addressing the outbreak	43	18	54	25	48
Decisions the federal government has made about shutting down or reopening businesses and schools	30	48	24	45	26
Shortages of critical items to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak	13	15	10	13	13
Not enough federal funding to address the outbreak	12	14	11	11	13
Other/None of these (vol)	1	4	1	4	-
Don't know/Refused	1	1	-	2	-

(Asked of sample B likely voters; n=720)

POLQ15. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling the Covid-19 outbreak? (If approve/disapprove) Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Strongly approve	25	60	*	59	2
Somewhat approve	17	31	6	29	8
Somewhat disapprove	14	6	19	8	20
Strongly disapprove	43	2	75	3	70
Don't know/Refused	1	1	*	1	-

(Asked of half sample B likely voters; n=720)

POLQ16. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the federal government is handling the COVID-19 outbreak? (If approve/disapprove) Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Strongly approve	17	36	3	38	4
Somewhat approve	27	40	18	36	22
Somewhat disapprove	24	13	32	16	30
Strongly disapprove	31	10	47	8	44
Don't know/Refused	1	1	*	2	-

(Asked of half sample B likely voters; n=720)

POLQ17. Do you approve or disapprove of the way public health leaders are handling the COVID-19 outbreak? (If approve/disapprove) Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Strongly approve	19	23	16	27	16
Somewhat approve	41	42	40	43	39
Somewhat disapprove	20	16	24	14	23
Strongly disapprove	19	19	19	15	21
Don't know/Refused	1	*	1	1	1

(Asked of total likely voters)

POLQ18. Do you approve or disapprove of your community's plans for handling public school reopening and the education of students? (If approve/disapprove) Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Strongly approve	23	28	20	31	17
Somewhat approve	40	40	41	41	42
Somewhat disapprove	16	12	17	13	18
Strongly disapprove	18	17	18	13	20
Don't know/Refused	3	3	4	2	3

POLQ19. What is your community doing in terms of reopening public schools? Is it doing...?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Full-time in-school education	13	17	9	18	10
Part-time in-school learning, and part-time distance learning using the internet	41	45	39	43	39
Full-time distance learning using the internet	36	26	42	28	42
Don't know/Refused	10	12	10	11	9

POLQ20. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling public school reopenings? (If approve/disapprove) Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Strongly approve	23	51	2	53	4
Somewhat approve	22	32	15	29	16
Somewhat disapprove	16	7	21	9	21
Strongly disapprove	36	5	62	5	59
Don't know/Refused	3	5	*	4	*

(Asked of half sample B likely voters; n=720)

POLQ21. If President Trump were to announce that the U.S. had an effective and safe vaccine for COVID-19 that would be available at the end of the year, would that make you more likely or less likely to vote for President Trump, or wouldn't it make much difference in your vote?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
More likely	7	15	*	16	1
Less likely	6	1	10	1	9
Wouldn't make a difference	86	84	89	83	90
Don't know/Refused	1	*	1	*	-

(Asked of total likely voters)

POLQ22. How much confidence do you have in the police to work in the public's interest? A great deal, quite a lot, very little, or none at all?

	Likely voters who said police violence is an extremely important issue in deciding how to vote for president	Total likely voters	Total Trump voters	Total Biden voters	Total Rep likely voters	Total Dem likely voters	Total White likely voters	Total Black likely voters
A great deal	22	31	54	14	52	14	35	13
Quite a lot	26	34	34	34	35	31	37	25
Very little	39	27	10	40	10	42	24	34
None at all	12	7	2	11	2	12	3	27
Don't know/ Refused	1	1	*	1	1	1	1	1

(Asked of total likely voters)

POLQ23. Do you believe that excessive force by police on Black Americans today is a problem or not? (If a problem) Is it a very serious problem, somewhat serious, or not too serious?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters	White likely voters	Black likely voters
Very serious	47	20	68	21	67	44	74
Somewhat serious	24	26	22	25	24	26	15
Not too serious	12	24	4	21	5	13	6
Not a problem	16	30	5	31	4	17	2
Don't know/ Refused	1	*	1	2	-	*	3

(Asked of likely voters who said immigration is extremely important in deciding how to vote for President; n=329)

POLQ24. Which <u>ONE</u> of the following is the most important immigration issue for you in the election? Is it... (READ LIST)?

	Total immi- gration voters	Trump immi- gration voters	Biden immi- gration voters	Rep immi- gration voters	Dem imm- gration voters
The U.S. government not doing enough to aid those unauthorized immigrants living in the U.S. today	30	14	42	18	37
The number of unauthorized immigrants in the country today	25	45	11	43	13
Some other concerns related to U.S. immigration policies today	41	33	45	33	49
Other/None of these (vol)	2	4	-	2	-
Don't know/Refused	2	4	2	4	1

(Asked of total likely voters)

POLQ25. Do you favor or oppose renewing the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy, or DACA, which grants temporary legal status to people brought to the United States illegally as children?

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Favor	71	47	89	50	88
Oppose	25	46	9	46	11
Don't know/Refused	4	7	2	4	1

POLQ3. (In the 2020 presidential election did you vote for.../If the 2020 presidential election were being held today, would you vote for...?

(Asked of likely voters who have not yet voted and said they are voting for neither Trump nor Biden, or are unsure of which candidate they will vote for)

POLQ4. Which candidate are you leaning toward?

POLQ3/POLQ4 Combo Table - Based on total likely voters

	Total likely voters	Trump voters	Biden voters	Rep likely voters	Dem likely voters
Trump or leaning Trump	42	100	-	91	7
Biden or leaning Biden	52	-	100	6	90
Other	1	-	-	1	-
Neither	2	-	-	*	1
Don't know/Refused	3	-	-	2	2