



## November 2020 American Perspectives Survey Topline Questionnaire

Total N=2,016 adults. | Interview dates: November 13–November 21, 2020.

*Note: All results shown are percentages. An asterisk (\*) replaces percentages greater than zero but less than 0.5 percent. Responses may not total to 100 percent due to rounding.*

### ASK ALL:

**Q.1** In general, do you think America's best days are ahead of us or behind us? Select one answer only.

57	Ahead of us
43	Behind us
1	Refused

### Now, thinking about the recent election...

**Q.2** Which presidential candidate did you vote for? Select one answer only. **[RANDOMIZE]**

30	Donald Trump
32	Joe Biden
1	Some other candidate
32	Did not vote
4	Refused

**Q.3** Do you happen to know who your spouse or partner voted for in the 2020 presidential election? Select one answer only.

32	Donald Trump
33	Joe Biden
2	Some other candidate
20	Did not vote
11	Not sure
2	Refused

**ASK IF VOTED FOR DONALD TRUMP, JOE BIDEN, OR SOME OTHER CANDIDATE [N=1,301]:**

- Q.4** Some people feel comfortable sharing how they are voting while others do not. What about you? Thinking about the people you know, did they know you [IF Q2=1 INSERT: "voted for Donald Trump"; IF Q2=2 INSERT: "voted for Joe Biden"; IF Q2=4 INSERT: "did not vote" IF Q2=3 INSERT: "voted for some other candidate"] or do they not know?

**ASK IF HAS SPOUSE OR PARTNER (PPMARIT=1 OR 6) [N=1,986]:**

- A. Your spouse or partner
- 83 Yes, know how you were voting  
15 No, did not know how you were voting  
2 Refused

**ASK ALL:**

- B. Your close friends
- 65 Yes, know how you were voting  
34 No, did not know how you were voting  
1 Refused
- C. Your neighbors
- 33 Yes, know how you were voting  
65 No, did not know how you were voting  
2 Refused
- D. Immediate family members
- 72 Yes, know how you were voting  
26 No, did not know how you were voting  
1 Refused

**ASK IF VOTED FOR DONALD TRUMP, JOE BIDEN, OR SOME OTHER CANDIDATE [N=1,772]:**

- Q.5** When did you finally make your decision to vote for [IF Q2=1 INSERT: "Donald Trump"; IF Q2=2 INSERT: "Joe Biden"; IF Q2=3 INSERT "Some other candidate"]? Select one answer only.

- 3 In the last few days  
2 In the last week  
8 In October  
5 In September  
15 Sometime this summer  
68 Before that  
\* Refused

**ASK IF DID NOT VOTE [N=244]:**

**Q.6** When did you finally make the decision that you would not vote in the 2020 presidential election? Select one answer only.

- |    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 7  | In the last few days |
| 5  | In the last week     |
| 7  | In October           |
| 3  | In September         |
| 5  | Sometime this summer |
| 62 | Before that          |
| 10 | Refused              |

**ASK IF VOTED FOR DONALD TRUMP, JOE BIDEN, OR SOME OTHER CANDIDATE [N=1,772]:**

**Q.7** And did you vote... Select one answer only.

- |    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 25 | In person on Election Day     |
| 27 | In person before Election Day |
| 48 | By mail or absentee ballot    |
| *  | Refused                       |

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,008]:**

**Q.8a** How much of an impact, if any, will the outcome of the 2020 election have on your daily life? Select one answer only.

- |    |              |
|----|--------------|
| 32 | A great deal |
| 38 | Some         |
| 20 | Not too much |
| 10 | None at all  |
| 1  | Refused      |

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,008]:**

**Q.8b** How much of an impact, if any, will the outcome of the 2020 election have on the direction of the country? Select one answer only.

- |    |              |
|----|--------------|
| 69 | A great deal |
| 22 | Some         |
| 5  | Not too much |
| 4  | None at all  |
| *  | Refused      |

**ASK ALL:**

**Regardless of how you might have voted...**

**Q.9** Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19)? Select one answer only.

- |    |            |
|----|------------|
| 38 | Approve    |
| 60 | Disapprove |
| 2  | Refused    |

**Q.10** Do you think the Trump administration has had a strategy for responding to the coronavirus outbreak (COVID-19) or do you think there has not been a strategy? Select one answer only.

40	Yes, administration has a strategy
58	No, administration does not have a strategy
2	Refused

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,008]:**

**Q.11a** Which would you say better describes how Americans overall have responded to coronavirus outbreak? Would you say most people... Select one answer only.

50	Are doing their best to be careful and considerate of others
48	Are being thoughtless and inconsiderate
2	Refused

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,008]:**

**Q.11b** Which would you say better describes how people in your neighborhood have responded to coronavirus outbreak? Would you say most people... Select one answer only.

79	Are doing their best to be careful and considerate of others
20	Are being thoughtless and inconsiderate
2	Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.12** Do you plan on getting or have you already gotten the flu vaccine or do you not plan on getting the flu vaccine this year? Select one answer only. **[ROTATE]**

50	Yes, have gotten the flu vaccine
16	Have not gotten the vaccine, but plan to get it
33	Have not gotten the flu vaccine and do not plan to
1	Refused

**Q.13** If an FDA (Food and Drug Administration)-approved vaccine to prevent coronavirus/COVID-19 was available right now at no cost, would you agree to be vaccinated? Select one answer only. **[ROTATE]**

51	Yes
47	No
2	Refused

**ASK IF WOULD NOT TAKE VACCINE [N=889]:**

**Q.14** What is the most important reason you would not take a vaccine to prevent coronavirus? Is it because you... Select one answer only. **[LIST IN ORDER] [ROTATE]**

59	Have concerns about safety
15	Have concerns about effectiveness
16	Do not believe vaccine is necessary
10	Some other reason [SPECIFY]
*	Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.15** Which statement best describes what you do when you leave your house or apartment... Select one answer only.

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 69 | I always wear a mask when I leave the house |
| 20 | I usually wear a mask, but not always       |
| 5  | I occasionally wear a mask, but not often   |
| 3  | I rarely wear a mask                        |
| 3  | I never wear a mask                         |
| 1  | Refused                                     |

**Q.16** Now, read each statement and please say whether you agree or disagree with each one. **[RANDOMIZE]**

A. Wearing a mask is more about being politically correct than it is about stopping the spread of COVID-19

- |    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 13 | Completely agree    |
| 16 | Somewhat agree      |
| 15 | Somewhat disagree   |
| 54 | Completely disagree |
| 1  | Refused             |

B. In general, regardless of who is in power, politicians can't be trusted

- |    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 24 | Completely agree    |
| 51 | Somewhat agree      |
| 20 | Somewhat disagree   |
| 4  | Completely disagree |
| 1  | Refused             |

**Q.17** Would you favor or oppose passing a national mandate to require people to wear a mask in public places to reduce the spread of COVID-19? Select one answer only.

- |    |         |
|----|---------|
| 69 | Favor   |
| 30 | Oppose  |
| 1  | Refused |

**RELIG** What is your present religion, if any?

30	Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, Jehovah's Witness, etc.)
20	Roman Catholic (Catholic)
2	Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/LDS)
*	Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or some other orthodox church)
1	Jewish (Judaism)
1	Muslim (Islam)
*	Buddhist
1	Hindu
6	Atheist (do not believe in God)
5	Agnostic (not sure if there is a God)
14	Nothing in particular
15	Just Christian
2	Something else [Specify]
2	Refused

**ASK IF PROTESTANT, JUST CHRISTIAN, OR SOMETHING ELSE [N=968]:**

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

43	Yes
56	No
1	Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.18** How would you describe your household's financial situation? Would you say you... Select one answer only.

38	Live comfortably
38	Meet your basic expenses with a little leftover for extras
18	Just meet your basic expenses
5	Don't even have enough to meet basic expenses
1	Refused

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,008]:**

**Q.19a** Since February 2020, has your household's income...? Select one answer only.

3	Increased substantially
14	Increased slightly
56	Remained the same
16	Decreased slightly
9	Decreased substantially
2	Refused

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,008]:**

**Q.19b** Since February 2020, has your household's savings...? Select one answer only.

- |    |                         |
|----|-------------------------|
| 7  | Increased substantially |
| 18 | Increased slightly      |
| 39 | Remained the same       |
| 20 | Decreased slightly      |
| 15 | Decreased substantially |
| 2  | Refused                 |

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.20** Before the coronavirus outbreak, did you have an emergency or rainy-day funds that would cover your expenses for 3 months in case of sickness, job loss, economic downturn, or other emergencies? Select one answer only.

- |    |         |
|----|---------|
| 61 | Yes     |
| 38 | No      |
| 1  | Refused |

**ASK IF HAD EMERGENCY FUNDS [N=1,339]:**

**Q.21** Over the last few months, how much, if at all, have you spent of your emergency or rainy day fund? Select one answer only.

- |    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 7  | All of it           |
| 7  | Most of it          |
| 6  | About half of it    |
| 23 | Just a little of it |
| 57 | None of it          |
| 1  | Refused             |

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,008]:**

**Q.22a** Thinking about the December holidays, do you plan to spend more money on holiday shopping this year (2020) than you did last year, less money, or about the same amount? Select one answer only.

- |    |                       |
|----|-----------------------|
| 4  | More money            |
| 45 | Less money            |
| 48 | About the same amount |
| 2  | Refused               |

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,008]:**

**Q.22b** Now thinking about the amount of money you generally donate during the holiday season to charities or other organizations, thinking about your current finances do you expect to give more, about the same, or less than you did last year? Select one answer only.

- |    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 7  | Give more           |
| 59 | Give about the same |
| 33 | Give less           |
| 1  | Refused             |

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.23** How well, if at all, do the following describe you... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

A. I rarely ever get sick

36	Very well
45	Somewhat well
13	Not too well
4	Not at all well
1	Refused

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,008]:**

B. I have stopped talking to a friend or family member because of their politics

9	Very well
13	Somewhat well
19	Not too well
56	Not at all well
2	Refused

C. I am not generally comfortable telling people how I am going to vote

22	Very well
7	Somewhat well
23	Not too well
25	Not at all well
3	Refused

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,008]:**

D. I am not generally comfortable telling people how I voted

23	Very well
27	Somewhat well
23	Not too well
26	Not at all well
1	Refused

E. I enjoy talking about government and politics with friends and family members

11	Very well
28	Somewhat well
29	Not too well
31	Not at all well
1	Refused



**Q.24** Do you personally know anyone in the United States who has tested positive for the coronavirus?  
Select all that apply.

- 4 Yes, myself
- 5 Yes, someone in my household
- 67 Yes, someone outside my household
- 28 No, do not know anyone [Exclusive]

**ASK IF RESPONDENT HAS NOT PERSONALLY TESTED POSITIVE [N=1,938]:**

**Q.25** Given your current health and personal background, if you personally contracted COVID-19 do you think it is likely it would be... Select one answer only.

- 48 A mild case
- 34 A moderate case
- 16 A severe case
- 2 Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Now a couple of questions about yourself...**

**Q.26** Do you currently live in a city, a suburban area, a small town, or a rural area? Select one answer only.

- 28 City
- 39 Suburban area
- 18 Small town
- 15 Rural area
- 1 Refused

**Q.27** People may relocate for many different reasons. Thinking about the past few months, has any of the following happened to you? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

A. You personally moved out of where you were living, either permanently or temporarily

- 2 Yes, has happened for reasons related to the coronavirus outbreak
- 7 Yes, has happened but for reasons not related to the coronavirus outbreak
- 90 No, has not happened
- 1 Refused

B. Someone else has moved INTO your home, either permanently or temporarily

- 3 Yes, has happened for reasons related to the coronavirus outbreak
- 5 Yes, has happened but for reasons not related to the coronavirus outbreak
- 91 No, has not happened
- 1 Refused

**ASK IF MOVED [N=167]:**

**Q.28** What best describes the place you moved from... Select one answer only.

40	City
36	Suburban area
17	Small town
7	Rural area
*	Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.29** Please try to place yourself on a scale of masculinity/femininity, where 0 is completely masculine and 6 is completely feminine. Select one answer only.

27	0 – Completely masculine
9	1
7	2
4	3
9	4
9	5
29	6 – Completely feminine
4	Neither feminine nor masculine
1	Refused

**PARTY** Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as... Select one answer only.

30	Republican
31	Democrat
25	Independent
13	Something else
1	Refused

**ASK IF REPUBLICAN [N=659]:**

**PARTY1** Would you call yourself a... Select one answer only.

55	Strong Republican
44	Not very strong Republican
*	Refused

**ASK IF DEMOCRAT [N=720]:**

**PARTY2** Would you call yourself a... Select one answer only.

53	Strong Democrat
46	Not very strong Democrat
1	Refused

**ASK IF INDEPENDENT OR SOMETHING ELSE [N=629]:**

**PARTY3** Do you think of yourself as closer to the... Select one answer only.

43	Republican Party
43	Democratic Party
14	Refused

# Survey Methodology

The survey was designed and conducted by the Survey Center on American Life. Interviews were conducted among a random sample of 2,016 adults (age 18 and up) living in the United States, including all 50 states and the District of Columbia. All interviews were conducted among participants of the web-enabled KnowledgePanel, a probability-based panel designed to be representative of the US general population, not just the online population. Interviewing was conducted between November 13 and November 21, 2020. Interviews were conducted in Spanish and English.

Initially, participants are chosen scientifically by a random selection of telephone numbers and residential addresses. Persons in selected households are then invited by telephone or mail to participate in the web-enabled KnowledgePanel. For those who agree to participate but do not already have internet access, Ipsos provides at no cost a laptop and internet service provider connection. People who already have computers and internet service are permitted to participate using their own equipment. Panelists then receive unique log-in information for accessing surveys online and then are sent emails throughout each month inviting them to participate in research.

The final data were weighted to match the adult US population based on the following parameters: gender by age, race, education, Census region by metropolitan status, household income, language proficiency, and 2020 vote outcome. The sample weighting was accomplished using an iterative proportional fitting (IFP) process that simultaneously balances the distributions of all variables. The use of survey weights in statistical analyses ensures that the demographic characteristics of the sample closely approximate the demographic characteristics of the target population.

The margin of error for the qualified survey sample is  $\pm 2.8$  percentage points at the 95 percent level of confidence. The design effect for the survey is 1.6.