The Economist/YouGov Poll
December 13 - 15, 2020 - 1500 U.S. Adult citizens

Sample   1500 U.S. Adult citizens
Conducted   December 13 - 15, 2020
Margin of Error   ±3.2%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	18%
Off on the wrong track	64%
Not sure	18%

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

Optimistic	38%
Pessimistic	39%
Not sure	24%

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

Better off now	41%
Better off four years ago	37%
Not sure	21%

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

Better off now	27%
Better off four years ago	54%
Not sure	20%

5. Right now, do you think the 2020 election...

United the U.S. more	10%
Divided the U.S. more	64%
Has not made any difference	16%
Not sure	10%

6. Are you optimistic or pessimistic that Americans of different political views can still come together and work out their differences?

Optimistic	31%
Pessimistic	48%
Not sure	21%

7. Did any of your close friends or family members vote for [Donald Trump/Joe Biden]
Among those who voted for Trump or Biden in 2020

Yes	39%
No	41%
Not sure	20%

8. Thinking for a moment about people who voted for [Donald Trump/Joe Biden], which of these comes closer to your views about them?

Among those who voted for Trump or Biden in 2020

People who voted for [Donald Trump/Joe Biden] feel differently than I do about politics, but they probably share many of my other values and goals …………………………………31%

People who voted for [Donald Trump/Joe Biden] probably don't share many of my other values and goals …………………………………………………………………69%

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

A great deal …………………………………………………………………38%
Quite a bit …………………………………………………………………10%
A moderate amount …………………………………………………………10%
Only a little …………………………………………………………………8%
None at all …………………………………………………………………27%
Not sure …………………………………………………………………6%

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

Enthusiastic …………………………………………………………………26%
Satisfied but not enthusiastic ………………………………………………23%
Dissatisfied but not upset …………………………………………………15%
Upset …………………………………………………………………26%
Not sure …………………………………………………………………10%

11. When it comes to U.S. presidential elections which would you prefer?

Amend the Constitution so the candidate who receives the most total votes nationwide wins the election …………………………………………………………………46%

Keep the current system where the candidate who wins the most votes in the Electoral College wins the election …………………………………………………………34%

Not sure …………………………………………………………………20%

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

He should concede …………………………………………………………63%
He should NOT concede ……………………………………………………37%

13. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of William Barr?

Very favorable …………………………………………………………………4%
Somewhat favorable …………………………………………………………14%
Somewhat unfavorable ………………………………………………………16%
Very unfavorable ………………………………………………………………28%
Don't know …………………………………………………………………39%

14. How much voter fraud do you think occurred in this election?

A lot	31%
A little	26%
None	31%
Not sure	12%

15. Do you think the amount of voter fraud in the election caused Donald Trump to lose any of the states he lost in the election this year, or did it not change who won those states?
Among those who think some voter fraud might have occurred

Enough fraud to change who won the election	55%
Did not change who won any of the states	45%

16. Should U.S. states be able to sue other states in court over the way they conduct elections?

Yes	29%
No	50%
Not sure	21%

17. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President-Elect Joe Biden is handling the post-election period?

Strongly Approve	34%
Somewhat Approve	18%
Somewhat Disapprove	10%
Strongly Disapprove	22%
Not Sure	16%

18. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling the post-election period?

Strongly Approve	19%
Somewhat Approve	11%
Somewhat Disapprove	13%
Strongly Disapprove	47%
Not Sure	10%

19. How likely do you think it is that there will be a peaceful transition of power in January?

Very likely	17%
Somewhat likely	28%
Not very likely	26%
Not likely at all	16%
Not sure	13%

20. Do you think that Joe Biden will be inaugurated President in January 2021?

Yes	65%
No	13%
Not sure	22%

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

Very closely 41%
Somewhat closely 40%
Not very closely 13%
Not following at all 6%

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

Yes, me 13%
Yes, a family member 21%
Yes, a close friend 23%
No 49%
Prefer not to say 3%

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

Yes, me 3%
Yes, a family member 29%
Yes, a close friend 34%
No 40%
Prefer not to say 4%

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

Yes, a family member 9%
Yes, a close friend 14%
No 73%
Prefer not to say 5%

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

Very worried 26%
Somewhat worried 38%
Not too worried 23%
Not worried at all 13%

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

Always 62%
Most of the time 20%
Some of the time 13%
Never 5%

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

Increasing 57%
Not changing 18%
Decreasing 7%
Not sure 19%

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

Increasing 71%
Not changing 10%
Decreasing 8%
Not sure 11%

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

The pandemic is going to get worse 41%
We are currently in the worst part of the pandemic 29%
The worst part of the pandemic is behind us 14%
Not sure 16%

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

Fewer than 100,000 Americans 13%
100,000-150,000 Americans 10%
150,000-200,000 Americans 8%
200,000-250,000 Americans 12%
250,000-500,000 Americans 43%
500,000-750,000 Americans 5%
750,000-1 million Americans 4%
More than 1 million Americans 6%

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

It is safe right now 17%
In about two weeks 3%
In a month or so 5%
In several months 28%
In about a year or longer 30%
Not sure 18%

32. When a coronavirus vaccine becomes available, will you get vaccinated?

Yes 41%
No 31%
Not sure 28%

33. How long do you think it will be before a vaccine for COVID-19 is available for you?
Among those who definitely will, or might get vaccinated

By the end of 2020 . . . . .9%
By the spring of 2021 . . . . .38%
By the summer of 2021 . . . . .26%
By the end of 2021 . . . . 11%
2022 or later 2%
Not sure 13%

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

Very concerned 31%
Somewhat concerned 31%
Not very concerned 19%
Not concerned at all 11%
Not sure 7%

35. Do you believe that the number of American deaths due to COVID-19 per day is increasing, decreasing, or staying the same?

Increasing 61%
Staying the same 15%
Decreasing 10%
Not sure 14%

36. Do you think the United States is handling the coronavirus outbreak:

Better than most other countries 15%
About as well as most other countries 24%
Worse than other countries 49%
Not sure 11%

37. Do you believe there will be enough doses to vaccinate everyone in the U.S. who needs it?

Yes 34%
No 38%
Not sure 28%

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

Strongly approve 21%
Somewhat approve 17%
Somewhat disapprove 9%
Strongly disapprove 45%
Not sure 8%

39. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion Anthony Fauci?

Very favorable …………………………………………………………………………… 33%
Somewhat favorable …………………………………………………………………… 18%
Somewhat unfavorable ………………………………………………………………… 12%
Very unfavorable ………………………………………………………………………… 14%
Don't know ………………………………………………………………………………… 22%

40. How much do you trust medical advice from each of the following public health officials?

	Trust a lot	Trust somewhat	Neither trust nor distrust	Distrust somewhat	Distrust a lot	Not sure
Joe Biden	22%	21%	14%	8%	28%	7%
Donald Trump	16%	13%	12%	6%	48%	5%
Anthony Fauci	34%	19%	14%	9%	13%	11%
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	24%	36%	15%	12%	9%	4%
The World Health Organization (WHO)	23%	28%	14%	9%	20%	6%
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	19%	36%	19%	11%	8%	6%

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

It would be a violation of civil liberties …………………………………………………… 28%
It would not be a violation of civil liberties ……………………………………………… 57%
Don't know ………………………………………………………………………………… 15%

42. How much have you heard in the news recently about BREXIT or the U.K. leaving the European Union?

A lot ………………………………………………………………………………………… 15%
A little ……………………………………………………………………………………… 48%
Nothing at all ……………………………………………………………………………… 36%

43. In 2016, the majority of voters in the United Kingdom voted for the UK to leave the European Union or BREXIT. Do you think the UK leaving the European Union is a good thing or a bad thing for the United States?

Good thing ………………………………………………………………………………… 21%
Bad thing …………………………………………………………………………………… 19%
Not sure …………………………………………………………………………………… 59%

44. In 2016, the majority of voters in the United Kingdom voted for the UK to leave the European Union or BREXIT. Do you think the UK leaving the European Union is a good thing or a bad thing for the United Kingdom?

Good thing ………………………………………………………………………………… 26%
Bad thing …………………………………………………………………………………… 25%
Not sure …………………………………………………………………………………… 49%

45. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
Jobs and the economy	74%	23%	2%	1%
Immigration	44%	37%	15%	4%
Climate change and the environment	46%	27%	14%	13%
National Security and foreign policy	53%	35%	9%	3%
Education	60%	29%	8%	3%
Health care	73%	19%	4%	3%
Taxes and government spending	56%	34%	7%	3%
Civil rights and civil liberties	61%	27%	8%	4%
Gun control	43%	31%	14%	12%
Crime and criminal justice reform	52%	36%	8%	3%

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

Jobs and the economy	24%
Immigration	5%
Climate change and the environment	10%
National Security and foreign policy	7%
Education	4%
Health care	27%
Taxes and government spending	6%
Civil rights and civil liberties	10%
Gun control	3%
Crime and criminal justice reform	4%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Donald Trump	27%	14%	8%	46%	5%
Joe Biden	24%	25%	12%	33%	7%
Mike Pence	24%	15%	12%	34%	15%
Kamala Harris	25%	18%	9%	35%	13%
Nancy Pelosi	13%	20%	13%	41%	13%
Mitch McConnell	6%	20%	14%	36%	24%

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

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
The Democratic Party	17%	25%	15%	34%	9%
The Republican Party	15%	22%	17%	36%	10%

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

Strongly approve 26%
Somewhat approve 16%
Somewhat disapprove 9%
Strongly disapprove 44%
Not sure 5%

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

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
Jobs and the economy	32%	17%	12%	30%	9%
Immigration	30%	13%	10%	40%	7%
Climate change and the environment	20%	15%	10%	42%	14%
Terrorism	30%	16%	11%	33%	11%
Education	20%	17%	11%	35%	16%
Health care	20%	19%	11%	40%	10%
Taxes and government spending	24%	20%	10%	36%	9%
Civil rights and civil liberties	24%	16%	9%	39%	11%
Gun control	27%	15%	10%	35%	13%
Crime and criminal justice reform	25%	17%	12%	35%	12%

51. Would you say Donald Trump is...

Very liberal 4%
Liberal 3%
Moderate 15%
Conservative 29%
Very conservative 23%
Not sure 27%

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

A lot 25%
Some 14%
Not much 10%
Doesn't care at all 44%
Not sure 6%

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

Like a lot 15%
Like somewhat 14%
Neither like nor dislike 14%
Dislike somewhat 8%
Dislike a lot 42%
Not sure 6%

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

Very strong 32%
Somewhat strong 20%
Somewhat weak 12%
Very weak 37%

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

Honest and trustworthy 30%
Not honest and trustworthy 55%
Not sure 15%

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

Confident 37%
Uneasy 51%
Not sure 12%

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

Appropriate 25%
Inappropriate 60%
Not sure 15%

58. Would you say Joe Biden is...

Very liberal 23%
Liberal 23%
Moderate 28%
Conservative 6%
Very conservative 2%
Not sure 19%

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

A lot ……………………………………………………………………………25%
Some ……………………………………………………………………………25%
Not much …………………………………………………………………………16%
Doesn't care at all …………………………………………………………………27%
Not sure …………………………………………………………………………… 8%

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

Like a lot ………………………………………………………………………… 23%
Like somewhat …………………………………………………………………… 18%
Neither like nor dislike …………………………………………………………… 18%
Dislike somewhat ………………………………………………………………… 9%
Dislike a lot ………………………………………………………………………23%
Not sure ………………………………………………………………………… 8%

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

Very strong ………………………………………………………………………19%
Somewhat strong ………………………………………………………………31%
Somewhat weak …………………………………………………………………18%
Very weak ………………………………………………………………………32%

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

Honest and trustworthy ………………………………………………………… 41%
Not honest and trustworthy …………………………………………………… 39%
Not sure …………………………………………………………………………21%

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

Confident …………………………………………………………………………41%
Uneasy ……………………………………………………………………………42%
Not sure …………………………………………………………………………17%

64. Do you think United States relations with allied countries will get better or worse with Joe Biden as president?

Better …………………………………………………………………………… 44%
Worse ……………………………………………………………………………31%
No change ……………………………………………………………………… 7%
Not sure …………………………………………………………………………17%

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

Confident …………………………………………………………………………45%
Uneasy ……………………………………………………………………………38%
Not sure …………………………………………………………………………18%

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

Get better 35%
Get worse 36%
Stay the same 11%
Not sure 17%

67. Do you think that Joe Biden will be able to bring the country together as President?

Yes 26%
No 46%
Not sure 29%

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

Optimistic 43%
Pessimistic 38%
Not sure 19%

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

Strongly approve 4%
Somewhat approve 9%
Neither approve nor disapprove 16%
Somewhat disapprove 24%
Strongly disapprove 35%
Not sure 11%

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

Strongly approve 11%
Somewhat approve 19%
Somewhat disapprove 14%
Strongly disapprove 42%
Not sure 14%

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

Strongly approve 6%
Somewhat approve 18%
Somewhat disapprove 16%
Strongly disapprove 37%
Not sure 22%

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

Strongly approve	12%
Somewhat approve	31%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	15%
Not sure	22%

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

Very liberal	3%
Liberal	9%
Moderate	26%
Conservative	24%
Very conservative	10%
Not sure	28%

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

Getting better	13%
About the same	25%
Getting worse	48%
Not sure	14%

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

Higher	23%
About the same	18%
Lower	27%
Not sure	32%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	20%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	41%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	32%
Not sure	7%

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

More jobs	24%
The same amount of jobs	20%
Fewer jobs	33%
Not sure	22%

78. How worried are you about losing your job?

Very worried	12%
Somewhat worried	32%
Not very worried	56%

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

Very hard – I would probably have to take a pay cut. 29%
Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much. 36%
Not very hard 20%
Not sure 16%

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

Very happy 27%
Happy 34%
Neither happy nor unhappy 30%
Unhappy 8%
Very unhappy 3%

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

Very liberal 11%
Liberal 16%
Moderate 29%
Conservative 20%
Very conservative 12%
Not sure 11%

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82. Are you registered to vote?

Registered 73%
Not registered 27%

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

Yes 63%
No 37%

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84. How did you vote in the presidential election this year?
Among registered voters

In person on election day 20%
In person before the election 25%
By mail 36%
I did not vote this year 20%

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

Joe Biden 29%
Donald Trump 26%
Jo Jorgensen 0%
Howie Hawkins 0%
Other 0%
Did not vote for President 44%

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

Joe Biden 29%
Donald Trump 26%
Other 1%
Did not vote for President 44%

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

Democrat 30%
Republican 26%
Independent 28%
Other 3%
Not sure 12%

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

Strong Democrat 20%
Not very strong Democrat 10%
Lean Democrat 9%
Independent 18%
Lean Republican 9%
Not very strong Republican 9%
Strong Republican 17%
Not sure 8%

89. Are you. . . ?

Male 48%
Female 52%

90. Respondent age by category

Under 30 .... 20%
30-44 .... 23%
45-64 .... 34%
65+ 22%

91. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White 68%
Black 13%
Hispanic 12%
Other 7%

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

No degree 66%
College grad 34%

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

HS or less	37%
Some college	29%
College grad	22%
Postgrad	12%

94. What is your marital status?

Married	38%
Separated	3%
Divorced	13%
Widowed	6%
Never married	33%
Domestic / civil partnership	6%

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

Yes	23%
No	77%

96. Calculated from respondent's state of residence

Northeast	17%
Midwest	22%
South	38%
West	23%

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

Own	55%
Rent	39%
Other	6%

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

Under $50K	49%
$50-100K	24%
$100K or more	14%
Prefer not to say	13%

99. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	34%
Somewhat important	27%
Not too important	15%
Not at all important	25%

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

More than once a week	7%
Once a week	14%
Once or twice a month	6%
A few times a year	13%
Seldom	22%
Never	34%
Don't know	4%

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

Yes	28%
No	72%

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

Several times a day	25%
Once a day	13%
A few times a week	12%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	6%
Seldom	14%
Never	21%
Don't know	6%

103. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	29%
Roman Catholic	19%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	7%
Agnostic	6%
Nothing in particular	24%
Something else	9%

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YouGov

Sponsorship	*The Economist*
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	December 13 - 15, 2020
Target population	US Adult Population
Sampling method	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in Internet panel using sample matching. A random sample (stratified by gender, age, race, education, and region) was selected from the 2016 American Community Study. Voter registration was imputed from the November 2016 Current Population Survey Registration and Voting Supplement.
Weighting	The sample was weighted based on gender, age, race, education, and 2016 Presidential vote (or non-vote). The weights range from 0.05 to 5.049, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.789.
Number of respondents	1500 1264 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	$\pm$ 3.2% (adjusted for weighting) $\pm$ 3.4% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	43 questions not reported.