

The Washington Post



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This Washington Post-Ipsos poll was conducted online January 2-8, 2020 among a random national sample of 1,088 non-Hispanic black adults age 18 and over. The sample was drawn through the Ipsos KnowledgePanel, an ongoing survey panel recruited through random sampling of U.S. households. Overall results have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points; the error margin is plus or minus four points among the sample of 769 Democratic-leaning registered voters. Sampling, field work and data processing by Ipsos of Washington, D.C.

(Full methodological details at the end of this document.)

*= less than 0.5 percent

1. How often do you feel optimistic about your life?

| | --- All/Most of time --- | | | | - Hardly ever/Never - | | | |
|--------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------------|-------|------------|
| | NET | All of the time | Most of the time | Sometimes | NET | Hardly ever | Never | No opinion |
| 1/8/20 | 65 | 23 | 41 | 25 | 11 | 6 | 5 | * |

2. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) If the Democratic primary or caucus in your state were held today, for whom would you vote? Which candidate would you lean toward?

Among Democratic-leaning registered voters; N=769

| | 1/8/20 |
|---------------------|--------|
| Joe Biden | 48 |
| Bernie Sanders | 20 |
| Elizabeth Warren | 9 |
| Mike Bloomberg | 4 |
| Cory Booker | 4 |
| Andrew Yang | 3 |
| Pete Buttigieg | 2 |
| Tom Steyer | 2 |
| Michael Bennet | * |
| John Delaney | * |
| Tulsi Gabbard | * |
| Amy Klobuchar | * |
| Deval Patrick | * |
| Marianne Williamson | * |
| Another candidate | 3 |
| Not sure | 1 |
| I would not vote | 2 |

3. (ASK IF CHOSE A CANDIDATE) After [NAMED CANDIDATE IN Q2], who would your second choice be?

Among Democratic-leaning registered voters; N=769

| | 1/8/20 |
|---------------------|--------|
| Bernie Sanders | 24 |
| Elizabeth Warren | 20 |
| Joe Biden | 17 |
| Cory Booker | 8 |
| Mike Bloomberg | 5 |
| Amy Klobuchar | 4 |
| Pete Buttigieg | 3 |
| Tom Steyer | 3 |
| Andrew Yang | 4 |
| John Delaney | * |
| Michael Bennet | * |
| Tulsi Gabbard | * |
| Deval Patrick | * |
| Marianne Williamson | * |
| None of these | 11 |
| No opinion | 1 |

4. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) Are there any candidates you would definitely NOT consider supporting for the Democratic nomination? You may select multiple candidates.

Note: Percentages add to more than 100 because respondents may select multiple candidates

Summary table among Democratic-leaning registered voters; N=769

| | 1/8/20 |
|---|--------|
| Tulsi Gabbard | 23 |
| Mike Bloomberg | 17 |
| Pete Buttigieg | 15 |
| Michael Bennet | 14 |
| Marianne Williamson | 14 |
| John Delaney | 13 |
| Deval Patrick | 13 |
| Amy Klobuchar | 11 |
| Tom Steyer | 11 |
| Andrew Yang | 10 |
| Cory Booker | 7 |
| Bernie Sanders | 7 |
| Elizabeth Warren | 6 |
| Joe Biden | 5 |
| I would support any of the candidates above | 44 |

5. How favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Democratic presidential candidates? If you haven't heard of them, please indicate.

1/8/20 - Summary table among black adults

| | ---- Favorable ---- | | | --- Unfavorable --- | | | Heard of, | Never | No |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------|-------|---------------------|-------|---------|-----------|----------|----|
| | NET | Strngly | Smwht | NET | Smwht | Strngly | no op. | heard of | op |
| a. Joe Biden | 69 | 44 | 25 | 13 | 7 | 6 | 12 | 3 | 2 |
| b. Elizabeth Warren | 51 | 19 | 32 | 12 | 7 | 5 | 18 | 17 | 2 |
| c. Bernie Sanders | 63 | 29 | 34 | 15 | 9 | 6 | 15 | 5 | 2 |
| d. Pete Buttigieg | 26 | 6 | 20 | 18 | 10 | 8 | 21 | 34 | 2 |
| e. Cory Booker | 42 | 12 | 31 | 13 | 8 | 4 | 18 | 25 | 2 |
| f. Mike Bloomberg | 29 | 7 | 22 | 23 | 13 | 10 | 26 | 20 | 2 |
| g. Andrew Yang | 28 | 6 | 22 | 13 | 9 | 4 | 28 | 29 | 2 |
| h. Amy Klobuchar | 22 | 4 | 18 | 13 | 9 | 5 | 24 | 38 | 3 |

1/8/20 - Summary table among leaned Democrats; N=876

| | ---- Favorable ---- | | | --- Unfavorable --- | | | Heard of, no op. | Never heard of | No op |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------|-------|---------------------|-------|---------|---------------------|-------------------|----------|
| | NET | Strngly | Smwht | NET | Smwht | Strngly | | | |
| a. Joe Biden | 78 | 52 | 26 | 11 | 7 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 1 |
| b. Elizabeth Warren | 58 | 23 | 36 | 10 | 7 | 3 | 14 | 16 | 1 |
| c. Bernie Sanders | 71 | 35 | 36 | 13 | 9 | 4 | 11 | 4 | 1 |
| d. Pete Buttigieg | 30 | 8 | 22 | 17 | 11 | 7 | 20 | 31 | 2 |
| e. Cory Booker | 49 | 14 | 35 | 12 | 8 | 3 | 16 | 22 | 1 |
| f. Mike Bloomberg | 33 | 9 | 24 | 23 | 13 | 10 | 24 | 19 | 1 |
| g. Andrew Yang | 32 | 7 | 25 | 13 | 9 | 3 | 28 | 26 | 2 |
| h. Amy Klobuchar | 25 | 5 | 20 | 12 | 9 | 4 | 24 | 36 | 2 |

6. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) In your opinion, which candidate [ITEM]?

- a. has the best chance to defeat President Donald Trump in the general election
- b. would best handle issues that are important to black Americans
- c. would do the most to unite the country
- d. has the strongest personal character
- e. is closest to you on the issues

1/8/20 -- Summary table among leaned Democrats

| | Best chance defeat Trump | Handle issues impt. to blacks | Would unite country | Strongest character | Closest on issues |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Biden | 53 | 32 | 43 | 33 | 35 |
| Sanders | 18 | 19 | 19 | 20 | 20 |
| Warren | 5 | 7 | 6 | 10 | 9 |
| Booker | 2 | 14 | 3 | 6 | 7 |
| Bloomberg | 6 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| Yang | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Buttigieg | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Steyer | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Klobuchar | * | * | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Delaney | * | 1 | 1 | 1 | * |
| Bennet | * | * | * | * | * |
| Gabbard | 0 | * | 0 | * | * |
| Patrick | * | 1 | * | * | * |
| Williamson | * | 1 | * | 1 | * |
| Other | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| None of these candidates | 8 | 15 | 11 | 12 | 11 |
| No opinion | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 |

7. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) What is most important to you - that Democrats nominate the presidential candidate...

1/8/20 -- Summary table among leaned Democrats

| | Whose positions on the issues come closest to yours | Who seems most likely to defeat President Trump in November 2020 | Who has the strongest personal character | No opinion |
|--------|---|--|--|---------------|
| 1/8/20 | 33 | 57 | 9 | 1 |

8. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) Thinking about your vote for the Democratic presidential nomination, does the fact that Joe Biden served as President Barack Obama's vice president for 8 years make you...

1/8/20 -- Summary table among leaned Democrats

| | More likely to vote for him | Less likely to vote for him | It doesn't make much of a difference | No opinion |
|--------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------------|
| 1/8/20 | 56 | 2 | 41 | 1 |

9. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) If a white candidate wins the Democratic presidential nomination, how important, if at all, would it be to you personally that the nominee choose a vice-presidential running mate who is black?

| | - More important -- | | | ----- Less important ----- | | | No opinion |
|--------|---------------------|------|--------|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| | NET | Very | Fairly | NET | Not so important | Not at all important | |
| 1/8/20 | 27 | 9 | 17 | 72 | 35 | 38 | 1 |

10. How likely are you to vote in the presidential election in November 2020?

| | Absolutely certain to vote | Will probably vote | There is a 50-50 chance I will vote | There is a less than 50% chance I will vote | No opinion |
|--------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|---------------|
| 1/8/20 | 71 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 1 |

11. How much does the outcome of the 2020 presidential election matter to you?

| | ----- Great deal/Good amount ----- | | | ---- Little/Not at all ---- | | | No opinion |
|--------|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------------------|----------|------------|---------------|
| | NET | A great deal | A good amount | NET | A little | Not at all | |
| 1/8/20 | 83 | 60 | 23 | 16 | 9 | 7 | 1 |

12. If the 2020 presidential election were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were ([ITEM], the Democrat) or (Donald Trump, the Republican)?

Summary table among registered voters

| | Democrat | Trump | Another candidate | I would not vote | No opinion |
|---------------------|----------|-------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| a. Joe Biden | 82 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 3 |
| b. Bernie Sanders | 74 | 4 | 10 | 8 | 4 |
| c. Elizabeth Warren | 71 | 4 | 11 | 10 | 3 |
| d. Pete Buttigieg | 57 | 4 | 21 | 14 | 3 |
| e. Cory Booker | 67 | 4 | 15 | 11 | 3 |
| f. Mike Bloomberg | 62 | 4 | 17 | 14 | 3 |
| g. Andrew Yang | 62 | 4 | 18 | 12 | 4 |
| h. Amy Klobuchar | 58 | 5 | 20 | 13 | 3 |

13. (ASK IF NOT TRUMP IN ANY Q12 ITEM) How important is it to you personally that President Trump does not win a second term as president?

Among registered voters

| | ----- Important ----- | | | ----- Less important ----- | | | No opinion |
|--------|-----------------------|-----------|------|----------------------------|----------|----------------|---------------|
| | NET | Extremely | Very | NET | Somewhat | Less than that | |
| 1/8/20 | 89 | 75 | 14 | 10 | 5 | 5 | 1 |

Q12/Q13 NET:

----- Not Trump in any item ----- Support Trump

| | | Extremely | Very | Somewhat | Less | No | at least once |
|--------|-----|-----------|------|-----------|------|---------|---------------|
| | NET | important | imp. | important | imp. | opinion | |
| 1/8/20 | 93 | 70 | 13 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 7 |

14. Thinking about different types of people you might consider supporting for president, how would you feel about supporting someone who is...

| | Enthusiastic about supporting | Comfortable with supporting | Have some reservations about supporting | Be very uncomfortable with supporting | No op. |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|-----------|
| a. Over 70 years old | 4 | 48 | 34 | 11 | 3 |
| b. Younger than age 40 | 9 | 54 | 25 | 8 | 3 |
| c. A gay man | 8 | 49 | 20 | 21 | 3 |
| d. A white man | 6 | 70 | 16 | 5 | 3 |
| e. A white woman | 11 | 65 | 15 | 7 | 3 |
| f. A billionaire | 4 | 41 | 38 | 15 | 3 |

15. How well does each of the following represent your views and interests?

1/8/20 -- Summary table

| | ----- Well ----- | | | ----- Less well ----- | | | No |
|-------------------------|------------------|------|----------|-----------------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | NET | Very | Somewhat | NET | Not too | Not at all | opinion |
| a. The Democratic Party | 82 | 37 | 45 | 16 | 8 | 8 | 2 |
| b. The Republican Party | 13 | 2 | 11 | 81 | 27 | 55 | 5 |

16. In the last 10 years, have you ever tried to vote in a local, state or national election and were not allowed to vote for some reason, or hasn't this happened to you?

| | Yes, has happened | No, has not happened | No opinion |
|--------|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1/8/20 | 7 | 92 | 1 |

Question 17 held for release.

18. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

| | ----- Approve ----- | | | ----- Disapprove ----- | | | No |
|--------|---------------------|----------|----------|------------------------|----------|----------|---------|
| | NET | Strongly | Somewhat | NET | Somewhat | Strongly | opinion |
| 1/8/20 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 90 | 16 | 75 | 2 |

19. In your opinion, are the things that Donald Trump is doing as president good, bad, or neither good nor bad for African Americans?

| | ----- Good ----- | | | Neither | ----- Bad ----- | | | No |
|--------|------------------|------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------|------|---------|
| | NET | Very | Somewhat | good nor bad | NET | Somewhat | Very | opinion |
| 1/8/20 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 18 | 76 | 18 | 58 | 2 |

20. In your opinion, are the things that Barack Obama did as president good, bad, or neither good nor bad for African Americans?

| | ----- Good ----- | | | Neither | ----- Bad ----- | | | No |
|--------|------------------|------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------|------|---------|
| | NET | Very | Somewhat | good nor bad | NET | Somewhat | Very | opinion |
| 1/8/20 | 73 | 42 | 31 | 20 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 2 |

21. Should the next president...

| | Change to more liberal or progressive policies than President Obama's | Generally continue President Obama's policies | Change to less liberal or progressive policies than President Obama's | No op. |
|--------|---|---|---|-----------|
| 1/8/20 | 21 | 61 | 13 | 5 |

Question 22 held for release.

23. The national unemployment rate among black adults stands at 5.5 percent, which is near an all-time low. How much credit do you think President Trump deserves for this?

| | ----- Deserves credit ----- | | | --- Deserves less credit --- | No | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------------------|-----------|------------|---------|
| | NET | A great deal | A good amount | NET | Only some | Hardly any | opinion |
| 1/8/20 | 20 | 9 | 11 | 77 | 26 | 51 | 3 |

24. In general, do you think it is a good or a bad time to be a...

| | Good time | Bad time | No opinion |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| a. black person in America | 30 | 65 | 4 |
| b. white person in America | 77 | 18 | 5 |

[Order of Q25/Q26 rotated]

25. How many black children born in the U.S. today have a good opportunity to achieve a comfortable standard of living?

| | ---- At least most ---- | About half | ----- Fewer than half ----- | No | | | | |
|--------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-----|----------------|----------|---------|---|
| | NET | Nearly all | Most | NET | Less than half | Very few | opinion | |
| 1/8/20 | 16 | 4 | 12 | 28 | 52 | 35 | 17 | 3 |

26. How many white children born in the U.S. today have a good opportunity to achieve a comfortable standard of living?

| | ---- At least most ---- | About half | ----- Fewer than half ----- | No | | | | |
|--------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-----|----------------|----------|---------|---|
| | NET | Nearly all | Most | NET | Less than half | Very few | opinion | |
| 1/8/20 | 75 | 28 | 47 | 15 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 5 |

27. Do you think most white Americans do or do not understand the level of discrimination black Americans face in their lives?

| | Most white Americans do understand | Most white Americans do not understand | No opinion |
|--------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| 1/8/20 | 19 | 78 | 3 |

28. Do you think President Trump has made racism a...

| | Bigger problem in the U.S. | Smaller problem in the U.S. | Has not made a difference | No opinion |
|--------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 1/8/20 | 83 | 2 | 13 | 2 |

29. Do you think President Trump is a racist?

| | Yes | No | No opinion |
|--------|-----|----|------------|
| 1/8/20 | 83 | 13 | 4 |

[Order of Q30/Q31 rotated]

30. Do you support or oppose having a national health plan, sometimes called Medicare-for-all, in which all Americans would get their insurance from a single government plan?

| | Support | Oppose | No opinion |
|--------|---------|--------|------------|
| 1/8/20 | 66 | 28 | 6 |

31. Do you support or oppose having a government-administered health plan, sometimes called a public option, that would compete with private health insurance plans and be available to all Americans?

| | Support | Oppose | No opinion |
|--------|---------|--------|------------|
| 1/8/20 | 77 | 17 | 6 |

32. In each of the following, do you generally trust police to treat people of all races equally?

1/8/20 -- Summary table

| | Yes, I trust the police to treat people of all races equally | No, I do not trust the police to treat people of all races equally | No opinion |
|-------------------|--|--|------------|
| a. The U.S. | 14 | 83 | 2 |
| b. Your community | 28 | 70 | 3 |

33. On another subject, how would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days?

| | ----- Positive ----- | | | ----- Negative ----- | | | No opinion |
|--------|----------------------|-----------|------|----------------------|-------------|------|------------|
| | NET | Excellent | Good | NET | Not so good | Poor | |
| 1/8/20 | 42 | 3 | 39 | 56 | 45 | 11 | 2 |

34. Aside from the economy, how would you describe the way things are going in the nation?

| | ----- Positive ----- | | | ----- Negative ----- | | | No opinion |
|--------|----------------------|-----------|------|----------------------|-------------|------|------------|
| | NET | Excellent | Good | NET | Not so good | Poor | |
| 1/8/20 | 16 | * | 15 | 82 | 61 | 21 | 2 |

35. During the last few years, has your financial situation been...?

| | Getting better | Staying the same | Getting worse | No opinion |
|--------|----------------|------------------|---------------|------------|
| 1/8/20 | 19 | 54 | 26 | 1 |

PARTYID Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as:

| | | | | | |
|--------|------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|------------|
| | A Democrat | A Republican | An independent | Other party | No opinion |
| 1/8/20 | 70 | 5 | 20 | 4 | 2 |

METHODOLOGICAL DETAILS

This poll was jointly sponsored and funded by The Washington Post and Ipsos. The poll is a random sample of adults in the United States who identify as non-Hispanic black, including those who identify as black alone and those who identify as black and one or more other races. All interviews were conducted in English.

This questionnaire was administered with the exact questions in the exact order as they appear in this document. Demographic questions are not shown. If a question was asked of a reduced base of the sample, a parenthetical preceding the question identifies the group asked. Phrases surrounded by parentheticals within questions indicate clauses that were randomly rotated for respondents.

Ipsos conducted sampling, interviewing, and tabulation for the survey using the KnowledgePanel, a representative panel of adults age 18 and over living in the United States. KnowledgePanel members are recruited through probability sampling methods using address-based sampling. Panel members who do not have internet access are provided with a netbook and internet service.

Ipsos drew a sample of non-Hispanic black adults from the KnowledgePanel; the sample included adults who identify as both black and another race.

This survey uses statistical weighting procedures to account for deviations in the survey sample from known population characteristics, which helps correct for differential survey participation and random variation in samples. The overall sample was weighted to match the demographic makeup of the non-Hispanic black population by sex, region, age, education, and household income according to the Census Bureau's 2018 American Community Survey.

The margin of sampling error including the design effect for the full sample is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. For results based on other subgroups, the margin of sampling error may be higher. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

All error margins have been adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, which is 1.4 for this survey. The design effect is a factor representing the survey's deviation from a simple random sample and takes into account decreases in precision due to sample design and weighting procedures. Surveys that do not incorporate a design effect overstate their precision.

| Group | Unweighted sample size | Error margin |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Black adults | 1,088 | +/- 3.5 points |
| Registered voters | 900 | 4 |
| Leaned Democrats | 876 | 4 |
| Leaned Democratic voters | 769 | 4 |

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Contact polls@washpost.com for further information about how The Washington Post conducts polls.

