



TOPLINE AND METHODOLOGY

FiveThirtyEight/Ipsos September 29th Pre-Debate Poll

Conducted by Ipsos using KnowledgePanel®
A survey of the American general population (ages 18+)

Interview dates: September 21st to 28th, 2020
Number of interviews: 3,133

Margin of error: +/-1.9 percentage points at the 95% confidence level

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Reduced bases are unweighted values.

NOTE: * = less than 0.5%, - = no respondents

Annotated Questionnaire:

1. On November 3rd, the election for president of the United States will be held. How likely are you to vote in this upcoming election?

	Total
Not likely at all	8
Not too likely	2
About 50-50	5
Very likely	10
Absolutely certain to vote	72
I have already voted in the election (by mail, absentee ballot, or early voting)	2
Skipped	*

2. How excited are you about voting in this year's presidential election?

	Total
Very excited	40
Somewhat excited	21
Not too excited	21
Not at all excited	18
Skipped	*
Total Excited (net)	61
Total Not Excited (net)	39



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3. How favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following presidential candidates?

Joe Biden	Total
Very favorable	26
Somewhat favorable	22
Somewhat unfavorable	12
Very unfavorable	34
Heard of, no opinion	4
Never heard of	1
Skipped	1
Total Favorable (net)	49
Total Unfavorable (net)	46

Donald Trump	Total
Very favorable	24
Somewhat favorable	13
Somewhat unfavorable	8
Very unfavorable	51
Heard of, no opinion	3
Never heard of	*
Skipped	1
Total Favorable (net)	37
Total Unfavorable (net)	59



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4. How likely are you to vote for each of the following candidates for president? Use a scale of 0 to 10, with 0 meaning there is no chance at all that you would vote for them and 10 means you are absolutely certain you will vote for them. For each candidate enter a number from 0 to 10. If you have already voted for president, please select a 10 for the candidate you voted for and a 0 for all others.

Donald Trump	Total
10	32
9	1
8	1
7	1
6	2
5	3
4	1
3	1
2	2
1	2
0	55
Mean	3.82

Joe Biden	Total
10	43
9	1
8	2
7	1
6	2
5	3
4	2
3	1
2	2
1	2
0	41
Mean	5.04



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4. How likely are you to vote for each of the following candidates for president? Use a scale of 0 to 10, with 0 meaning there is no chance at all that you would vote for them and 10 means you are absolutely certain you will vote for them. For each candidate enter a number from 0 to 10. If you have already voted for president, please select a 10 for the candidate you voted for and a 0 for all others.

Jo Jorgensen	Total
10	1
9	-
8	*
7	*
6	*
5	1
4	1
3	1
2	3
1	4
0	90
Mean	0.28

Howie Hawkins	Total
10	*
9	*
8	*
7	-
6	*
5	*
4	*
3	1
2	2
1	4
0	93
Mean	0.15



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4. How likely are you to vote for each of the following candidates for president? Use a scale of 0 to 10, with 0 meaning there is no chance at all that you would vote for them and 10 means you are absolutely certain you will vote for them. For each candidate enter a number from 0 to 10. If you have already voted for president, please select a 10 for the candidate you voted for and a 0 for all others.

Someone else	Total
10	1
9	*
8	*
7	*
6	*
5	1
4	1
3	*
2	2
1	3
0	91
Mean	0.33

	Total
I will not vote	9%
Skipped	3%

5. Regardless of who you did vote for/may vote for, how likely do you think each of the following is to win? Use a scale of 0 to 10, with 0 meaning there is no chance at all that candidate will be elected president and 10 means you are absolutely certain they will win. For each candidate, enter a number from 0 to 10.

Donald Trump	Total
10	20
9	2
8	3
7	3
6	7
5	18
4	12
3	5
2	4
1	2
0	21
Mean	4.83



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5. Regardless of who you did vote for/may vote for, how likely do you think each of the following is to win? Use a scale of 0 to 10, with 0 meaning there is no chance at all that candidate will be elected president and 10 means you are absolutely certain they will win. For each candidate, enter a number from 0 to 10.

Joe Biden	Total
10	16
9	2
8	4
7	5
6	12
5	18
4	8
3	4
2	4
1	3
0	25
Mean	4.61

Jo Jorgensen	Total
10	*
9	-
8	-
7	-
6	-
5	*
4	*
3	*
2	1
1	3
0	95
Mean	0.09



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5. Regardless of who you did vote for/may vote for, how likely do you think each of the following is to win? Use a scale of 0 to 10, with 0 meaning there is no chance at all that candidate will be elected president and 10 means you are absolutely certain they will win. For each candidate, enter a number from 0 to 10.

Howie Hawkins	Total
10	*
9	-
8	*
7	-
6	*
5	*
4	-
3	*
2	1
1	3
0	96
Mean	0.07

Someone else	Total
10	*
9	-
8	-
7	-
6	-
5	*
4	*
3	*
2	1
1	3
0	96
Mean	0.1



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6. Which of the following do you feel are the three most important issues facing the US today? Rank your top three options and write in the numbers in the boxes where “1” being the most important issue, “2” second most important and “3” third most important.

	Rank 1 st	Rank 2 nd	Rank 3 rd
Violent crime	5	7	8
Abortion	2	2	2
Immigration	3	6	8
Health care	8	15	14
Economic inequality	3	4	6
The COVID-19 or coronavirus outbreak	32	12	10
Gun policy	2	3	4
Climate change	5	7	8
Education	3	6	7
The economy	22	17	11
Racial inequality	7	11	10
The Supreme Court	5	6	6
Other	2	2	2
Skipped	3	3	4

7. Regardless of how you intend to vote, which candidate do you think is better on each of your 3 top issues?

Violent crime <i>Ranked as a top 3 issue</i>	Total (N=622)
Joe Biden	22
Donald Trump	77
Skipped	1

Abortion <i>Ranked as a top 3 issue</i>	Total (N=208)
Joe Biden	15
Donald Trump	84
Skipped	1



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7. Regardless of how you intend to vote, which candidate do you think is better on each of your 3 top issues?

Immigration <i>Ranked as a top 3 issue</i>	Total (N=530)
Joe Biden	28
Donald Trump	71
Skipped	1

Health care <i>Ranked as a top 3 issue</i>	Total (N=1,149)
Joe Biden	68
Donald Trump	30
Skipped	2

Economic inequality <i>Ranked as a top 3 issue</i>	Total (N=416)
Joe Biden	79
Donald Trump	18
Skipped	3

The COVID-19 or coronavirus outbreak <i>Ranked as a top 3 issue</i>	Total (N=1,699)
Joe Biden	73
Donald Trump	26
Skipped	2

Gun policy <i>Ranked as a top 3 issue</i>	Total (N=272)
Joe Biden	40
Donald Trump	59
Skipped	1



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7. Regardless of how you intend to vote, which candidate do you think is better on each of your 3 top issues?

Climate change <i>Ranked as a top 3 issue</i>	Total (N=670)
Joe Biden	93
Donald Trump	4
Skipped	3

Education <i>Ranked as a top 3 issue</i>	Total (N=432)
Joe Biden	49
Donald Trump	47
Skipped	4

The economy <i>Ranked as a top 3 issue</i>	Total (N=1,611)
Joe Biden	31
Donald Trump	67
Skipped	2

Racial inequality <i>Ranked as a top 3 issue</i>	Total (N=810)
Joe Biden	88
Donald Trump	8
Skipped	3

The Supreme Court <i>Ranked as a top 3 issue</i>	Total (N=638)
Joe Biden	50
Donald Trump	49
Skipped	1

Other <i>Ranked as a top 3 issue</i>	Total (N=112)
Joe Biden	36
Donald Trump	63
Skipped	2



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8. Does having Donald Trump as president of the United States make you feel more safe, less safe, or doesn't it have an impact on how safe you feel?

	Total
More safe	29
Less safe	52
No impact	18
Skipped	1

9. Would having Joe Biden as president of the United States make you feel more safe, less safe, or wouldn't it have an impact on how safe you feel?

	Total
More safe	42
Less safe	36
No impact	20
Skipped	1

10. Which of the following best describes how you feel about the results of the general election?

	Total
I will believe the results of the election	59
Whether I believe the results depends on who wins	29
I won't believe the results of the election	10
Skipped	2

11. Which of the following best describes how you feel about the fairness of the general election?

	Total
The election will be fair	53
The election will not be fair	45
Skipped	2



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Methodology

About the Study

This FiveThirtyEight/Ipsos September 29th Pre-debate poll was conducted September 21st to September 28th, 2020 by Ipsos using our KnowledgePanel®. This poll is based on a nationally representative probability sample of 3,133 general population adults age 18 or older.

The survey was conducted using KnowledgePanel, the largest and most well-established online probability-based panel that is representative of the adult US population. Our recruitment process employs a scientifically developed addressed-based sampling methodology using the latest Delivery Sequence File of the USPS – a database with full coverage of all delivery points in the US. Households are randomly sampled from all available households in the U.S. All persons in selected households are invited to join and participate in KnowledgePanel. Ipsos provides selected households that do not already have internet access a tablet and internet connection at no cost to them. Those who join the panel and who are selected to participate in a survey are sent a unique password-protected log-in used to complete surveys online. As a result of our recruitment and sampling methods, samples from KnowledgePanel cover all households regardless of their phone or internet status and findings can be reported with a margin of sampling error and projected to the general population.

The study was conducted in both English and Spanish. The data were weighted to adjust for gender by age, race/ethnicity, education, Census region, metropolitan status, household income, and party identification. The demographic benchmarks came from the 2019 March supplement of the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey (CPS). Party ID benchmarks are from recent ABC News/Washington Post telephone polls. The weighting categories were as follows:

- Gender (Male, Female) by Age (18–29, 30–44, 45–59, and 60+)
- Race/Hispanic Ethnicity (White Non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Other or 2+ Races Non-Hispanic, Hispanic)
- Education (High School graduate or less, Some College, Bachelor and beyond)
- Census Region (Northeast, Midwest, South, West)
- Metropolitan status (Metro, non-Metro)
- Household Income (Under \$25,000, \$25,000-\$49,999, \$50,000-\$74,999, \$75,000-\$99,999, \$100,000-\$149,999, \$150,000+)
- Party ID (Democrat, Republican, Independent, Something else)

The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 1.9 percentage points at the 95% confidence level, for results based on the entire sample of adults. The margin of sampling error takes into account the design effect, which was 1.23. The margin of sampling error is higher and varies for results based on sub-samples. In our reporting of the findings, percentage points are rounded off to the nearest whole number. As a result, percentages in a given table column may total slightly higher or lower than 100%. In questions that permit multiple responses, columns may total substantially more than 100%, depending on the number of different responses offered by each respondent.



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Our passionately curious research professionals, analysts and scientists have built unique multi-specialist capabilities that provide true understanding and powerful insights into the actions, opinions and motivations of citizens, consumers, patients, customers or employees. We serve more than 5000 clients across the world with 75 business solutions.

Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos is listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1st, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and the Mid-60 index and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

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