

Reuters/Ipsos: Ginsburg and Supreme Court Vacancy (09/21/2020)

A majority of Americans want this November's winner to appoint next Justice

Topline Findings

Washington, DC, September 21, 2020 – The latest public opinion poll from Reuters/Ipsos finds that a majority of Americans (62%) believe the winner of the election in November should be able to appoint the replacement for the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, including about half of Republicans (49%) and 84% of Democrats. Most Americans are split on the expected impact Ginsburg's death may have on the election, with 23% saying it will increase support for President Donald Trump, 29% saying it will increase support for former Vice President Joe Biden, 23% saying it will have no impact, and 25% are unsure.

For full results, please refer to the following annotated questionnaire.





		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
With which political party do you most identify? Detailed	Democrat	43%	100%	0%	0%
	Republican	38%	0%	100%	0%
	Independent	12%	0%	0%	100%
	None/DK	8%	0%	0%	0%
	Total	1006	463	374	113
How familiar are you, if at all, with the recent death of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and the resulting vacancy on the Supreme Court?	Very familiar	44%	51%	47%	29%
	Somewhat familiar	24%	24%	29%	18%
	Have heard of it, but that's it	18%	17%	17%	27%
	Have not heard about it	14%	8%	8%	26%
	Total	1006	463	374	113
Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?President Donald Trump should nominate a replacement for Ruth Bader Ginsburg before his term ends :	Strongly agree	26%	12%	51%	12%
	Somewhat agree	20%	14%	28%	21%
	Somewhat disagree	9%	10%	8%	12%
	Strongly disagree	31%	58%	6%	22%
	Don't know	13%	7%	7%	33%
	Total	1006	463	374	113
Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?The winner of the election should be able to appoint Ruth Bader Ginsburg's replacement on the Supreme Court :	Strongly agree	38%	59%	25%	21%
	Somewhat agree	24%	25%	24%	21%
	Somewhat disagree	13%	7%	21%	11%
	Strongly disagree	11%	2%	20%	10%
	Don't know	15%	6%	11%	37%
	Total	1006	463	374	113
How will Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's death impact your vote in the upcoming presidential election?	I will be more likely to vote for Trump	25%	7%	53%	11%
	I will be more likely to vote for Biden	30%	56%	9%	12%
	No impact	38%	33%	35%	55%
	Don't know	8%	3%	3%	21%
	Total	1006	463	374	113
How do you expect the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg to impact the presidential election?	Increase support for Trump	23%	6%	50%	7%
	Increase support for Biden	29%	56%	10%	10%
	No impact	23%	18%	21%	39%
	Don't know	25%	20%	19%	44%
	Total	1006	463	374	113

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About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between September 19-20, 2020, on behalf of Thomson Reuters. For this survey, a sample of 1,006 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The sample includes 463 Democrats, 374 Republicans and 113 independents.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos' online panel, partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing a sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2018 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Posthoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, and education.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online non-probability polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval=+/-5.0 percentage points).

The poll also has a credibility interval of plus or minus 5.2 percentage points for Democrats, plus or minus 5.8 percentage points for Republicans, and plus or minus 10.5 percentage points for independents.

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About Ipsos

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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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