

Americans' trust in establishment is low across party lines

New Ipsos poll finds that most Americans feel that politicians don't care about people like them

Topline Findings

Washington, DC, September 14, 2020

These are the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between September 1-2, 2020. For this survey, a sample of 1,113 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.3 percentage points for all respondents.

Full Annotated Questionnaire

1. Are you currently registered to vote?

	Total (N=1,113)	Rep (N=448)	Dem (N=481)	Ind (N=119)
Yes	87%	91%	92%	75%
No	13%	9%	8%	25%

2. This November, the next presidential election will be held. Using a 1-to-10 scale, how likely are you to vote in the next presidential election?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
10 – Completely certain you will vote	63%	72%	71%	36%
9	6%	5%	6%	9%
8	5%	5%	6%	2%
7	4%	3%	4%	2%
6	2%	2%	2%	2%
5	5%	4%	3%	13%
4	1%	*	*	7%
3	1%	2%	1%	3%
2	1%	*	*	3%
1 – Completely certain you will not vote	9%	5%	5%	14%
Don't know	4%	1%	2%	10%
Mean	8.4	8.8	8.9	6.6





3. Thinking about the rules and processes in place for voting in US presidential elections, how much confidence do you have that the presidential election will be open and fair?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
A great deal of confidence	20%	26%	18%	12%
A fair amount of confidence	41%	43%	42%	35%
Not too much confidence	28%	23%	27%	38%
No confidence at all	12%	8%	12%	15%
Confidence (Net)	60%	69%	60%	47%
No confidence (Net)	40%	31%	40%	53%

4. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following.

Total Agree Summary

,	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
We are in a battle for the soul of the nation.	75%	78%	77%	68%
16 million workers are without a job and a paycheck; it did not have to be this bad.	74%	68%	83%	67%
We must follow the advice of medical experts and wear a mask to beat the coronavirus.	73%	59%	89%	68%
There is chaos and destruction going on in America's inner cities.	72%	84%	65%	65%
Sending federal law enforcement into cities makes matters worse instead of better.	46%	19%	72%	41%
China could've stopped the virus and they chose not to.	46%	69%	29%	33%
The Democratic Party has been taken over by socialists and the radical left.	44%	81%	15%	35%
COVID-19 has a 99% recovery rate.	38%	61%	20%	33%
Universal vote-by-mail systems are unconstitutional and have already led to massive voter fraud.	37%	61%	19%	27%





a. There is chaos and destruction going on in America's inner cities.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	46%	59%	36%	39%
Somewhat agree	26%	26%	29%	26%
Neither agree nor disagree	13%	9%	16%	19%
Somewhat disagree	8%	5%	12%	8%
Strongly disagree	4%	2%	5%	5%
Don't know	2%	*	2%	3%
Agree (Net)	72%	84%	65%	65%
Disagree (Net)	12%	7%	17%	13%

b. Universal vote-by-mail systems are unconstitutional and have already led to massive voter fraud.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	21%	38%	9%	8%
Somewhat agree	16%	23%	9%	18%
Neither agree nor disagree	18%	17%	14%	33%
Somewhat disagree	9%	9%	10%	6%
Strongly disagree	31%	10%	53%	24%
Don't know	5%	2%	4%	10%
Agree (Net)	37%	61%	19%	27%
Disagree (Net)	40%	19%	63%	30%

c. The Democratic Party has been taken over by socialists and the radical left.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	30%	60%	6%	22%
Somewhat agree	14%	21%	10%	13%
Neither agree nor disagree	19%	12%	18%	30%
Somewhat disagree	9%	3%	14%	13%
Strongly disagree	24%	2%	49%	12%
Don't know	5%	2%	4%	11%
Agree (Net)	44%	81%	15%	35%
Disagree (Net)	33%	5%	63%	25%





d. COVID-19 has a 99% recovery rate.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	21%	37%	8%	17%
Somewhat agree	17%	24%	12%	15%
Neither agree nor disagree	22%	18%	21%	31%
Somewhat disagree	17%	11%	22%	16%
Strongly disagree	16%	6%	27%	10%
Don't know	8%	3%	9%	11%
Agree (Net)	38%	61%	20%	33%
Disagree (Net)	32%	18%	49%	25%

e. Sending federal law enforcement into cities makes matters worse instead of better.

or containing rotation and control and con				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	24%	6%	42%	17%
Somewhat agree	22%	13%	30%	24%
Neither agree nor disagree	17%	16%	14%	26%
Somewhat disagree	13%	20%	7%	15%
Strongly disagree	21%	44%	5%	12%
Don't know	3%	2%	2%	6%
Agree (Net)	46%	19%	72%	41%
Disagree (Net)	34%	64%	12%	27%

f. We are in a battle for the soul of the nation.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	48%	48%	53%	36%
Somewhat agree	27%	30%	24%	32%
Neither agree nor disagree	13%	12%	13%	19%
Somewhat disagree	5%	5%	5%	5%
Strongly disagree	5%	4%	4%	5%
Don't know	2%	2%	1%	4%
Agree (Net)	<i>7</i> 5%	78%	77%	68%
Disagree (Net)	10%	9%	9%	10%

g. 16 million workers are without a job and a paycheck; it did not have to be this bad.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	48%	40%	57%	45%
Somewhat agree	26%	28%	26%	22%
Neither agree nor disagree	13%	17%	8%	24%
Somewhat disagree	6%	8%	5%	5%
Strongly disagree	3%	4%	1%	3%
Don't know	3%	3%	2%	2%
Agree (Net)	74%	68%	83%	67%
Disagree (Net)	9%	12%	6%	8%

2020 K Street, NW, Suite 410 Washington DC 20006 +1 202 463-7300 Contact: Chris Jackson

Senior Vice President, US, Public Affairs

Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025







h. We must follow the advice of medical experts and wear a mask to beat the coronavirus.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	54%	36%	76%	44%
Somewhat agree	19%	24%	13%	24%
Neither agree nor disagree	12%	18%	5%	18%
Somewhat disagree	6%	9%	1%	8%
Strongly disagree	7%	13%	2%	5%
Don't know	2%	1%	2%	1%
Agree (Net)	73%	59%	89%	68%
Disagree (Net)	13%	22%	4%	13%

i. China could've stopped the virus and they chose not to.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	25%	39%	14%	14%
Somewhat agree	21%	30%	15%	19%
Neither agree nor disagree	21%	18%	22%	30%
Somewhat disagree	13%	6%	20%	13%
Strongly disagree	13%	3%	23%	13%
Don't know	7%	4%	6%	11%
Agree (Net)	46%	69%	29%	33%
Disagree (Net)	26%	9%	43%	26%





5. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following.

Total Agree Summary

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
People who talk about their conservative beliefs are often disrespected.	51%	70%	42%	39%
People who talk about their liberal or progressive beliefs are often disrespected.	44%	33%	60%	32%
These days I feel like a stranger in my own country.	55%	57%	57%	46%
When jobs are scarce, employers should prioritize hiring people of this country over immigrants.	56%	76%	41%	53%
America needs a strong leader to take the country back from the rich and powerful.	71%	62%	84%	59%
The American economy is rigged to advantage the rich and powerful.	63%	44%	80%	57%
The mainstream media is more interested in making money than telling the truth.	68%	87%	51%	66%
Traditional parties and politicians don't care about people like me.	67%	66%	67%	66%

a. People who talk about their conservative beliefs are often disrespected.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	22%	39%	10%	14%
Somewhat agree	29%	31%	32%	24%
Neither agree nor disagree	30%	20%	33%	41%
Somewhat disagree	9%	5%	13%	10%
Strongly disagree	4%	2%	7%	2%
Don't know	6%	2%	5%	8%
Agree (Net)	51%	70%	42%	39%
Disagree (Net)	13%	8%	20%	12%

b. People who talk about their liberal or progressive beliefs are often disrespected.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	16%	12%	21%	13%
Somewhat agree	28%	21%	39%	19%
Neither agree nor disagree	29%	29%	23%	42%
Somewhat disagree	12%	17%	10%	6%
Strongly disagree	10%	18%	4%	9%
Don't know	6%	4%	4%	12%
Agree (Net)	44%	33%	60%	32%
Disagree (Net)	21%	35%	14%	15%

2020 K Street, NW, Suite 410 Washington DC 20006 +1 202 463-7300 Contact: Chris Jackson

Senior Vice President, US, Public Affairs

Email: chris.jackson@ipsos.com
Tel: +1 202 420-2025





c. These days I feel more like a stranger in my own country.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	22%	22%	23%	17%
Somewhat agree	33%	35%	35%	29%
Neither agree nor disagree	24%	22%	22%	34%
Somewhat disagree	11%	12%	12%	10%
Strongly disagree	9%	9%	8%	8%
Don't know	1%	*	1%	2%
Agree (Net)	55%	57%	57%	46%
Disagree (Net)	20%	21%	20%	18%

d. When jobs are scarce, employers should prioritize hiring people of this country over immigrants.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	34%	54%	17%	31%
Somewhat agree	22%	22%	24%	22%
Neither agree nor disagree	28%	19%	35%	31%
Somewhat disagree	9%	4%	13%	12%
Strongly disagree	5%	1%	8%	3%
Don't know	2%	1%	3%	*
Agree (Net)	56%	76%	41%	53%
Disagree (Net)	13%	5%	21%	15%

e. America needs a strong leader to take the country back from the rich and powerful.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	46%	36%	59%	36%
Somewhat agree	25%	25%	24%	22%
Neither agree nor disagree	19%	22%	11%	32%
Somewhat disagree	6%	9%	2%	7%
Strongly disagree	3%	6%	2%	1%
Don't know	2%	1%	1%	2%
Agree (Net)	71%	62%	84%	59%
Disagree (Net)	9%	15%	4%	8%





f. The American economy is rigged to advantage the rich and powerful

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	37%	16%	57%	30%
Somewhat agree	25%	27%	23%	27%
Neither agree nor disagree	18%	22%	12%	25%
Somewhat disagree	9%	16%	4%	7%
Strongly disagree	8%	16%	3%	6%
Don't know	2%	1%	1%	5%
Agree (Net)	63%	44%	80%	57%
Disagree (Net)	17%	33%	7%	13%

g. The mainstream media is more interested in making money than telling the truth.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
Strongly agree	46%	66%	29%	41%	
Somewhat agree	22%	20%	22%	25%	
Neither agree nor disagree	15%	8%	19%	20%	
Somewhat disagree	8%	3%	14%	8%	
Strongly disagree	7%	1%	15%	1%	
Don't know	2%	1%	2%	5%	
Agree (Net)	68%	87%	51%	66%	
Disagree (Net)	15%	4%	28%	9%	

h. Traditional parties and politicians don't care about people like me.

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Strongly agree	32%	27%	33%	37%
Somewhat agree	34%	39%	34%	29%
Neither agree nor disagree	20%	22%	18%	23%
Somewhat disagree	8%	7%	10%	7%
Strongly disagree	3%	3%	3%	-
Don't know	2%	2%	1%	4%
Agree (Net)	67%	66%	67%	66%
Disagree (Net)	11%	10%	14%	7%





6. For each of the following words or phrases, please indicate whether that describes Donald Trump or Joe Biden better.

Total Describes Better Summary

y			
Trump Better	Rep	Dem	Ind
41%	19%	69%	27%
40%	81%	9%	31%
36%	75%	9%	26%
33%	73%	4%	20%
31%	66%	4%	21%
30%	65%	5%	21%
	Trump Better 41% 40% 36% 33% 31%	Trump Better Rep 41% 19% 40% 81% 36% 75% 33% 73% 31% 66%	Trump Better Rep Dem 41% 19% 69% 40% 81% 9% 36% 75% 9% 33% 73% 4% 31% 66% 4%

	Biden Better	Rep	Dem	Ind
Honest and trustworthy	40%	7%	75%	30%
Understands the common person	39%	9%	73%	30%
Mentally fit enough to be president	38%	8%	70%	30%
Cares about people like me	38%	6%	74%	29%
Stands up for America	37%	8%	68%	31%
Political extremist	24%	46%	8%	21%

a. Mentally fit to be president

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Describes Trump, much better	27%	60%	4%	13%
Describes Trump, somewhat better	9%	15%	4%	13%
Describes Biden, somewhat better	9%	3%	14%	9%
Describes Biden, much better	29%	5%	56%	21%
Both	4%	5%	3%	4%
Neither	17%	10%	14%	32%
Don't know	6%	2%	4%	9%
Describes Trump better	36%	75%	9%	26%
Describes Biden better	38%	8%	70%	30%





b. Honest and trustworthy

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Describes Trump, much better	19%	44%	2%	9%
Describes Trump, somewhat better	11%	21%	2%	12%
Describes Biden, somewhat better	11%	4%	17%	13%
Describes Biden, much better	28%	3%	58%	17%
Both	2%	2%	2%	4%
Neither	22%	21%	15%	38%
Don't know	6%	4%	3%	7%
Describes Trump better	30%	65%	5%	21%
Describes Biden better	40%	7%	75%	30%

c. Political extremist

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Describes Trump, much better	31%	11%	55%	13%
Describes Trump, somewhat better	11%	8%	14%	14%
Describes Biden, somewhat better	7%	13%	4%	7%
Describes Biden, much better	17%	34%	4%	14%
Both	9%	10%	6%	11%
Neither	12%	13%	9%	16%
Don't know	14%	11%	8%	25%
Describes Trump better	41%	19%	69%	27%
Describes Biden better	24%	46%	8%	21%

d. Understands the common person

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Describes Trump, much better	21%	48%	2%	12%
Describes Trump, somewhat better	10%	18%	2%	9%
Describes Biden, somewhat better	11%	4%	18%	14%
Describes Biden, much better	28%	5%	56%	17%
Both	3%	3%	3%	7%
Neither	20%	19%	17%	32%
Don't know	6%	3%	3%	9%
Describes Trump better	31%	66%	4%	21%
Describes Biden better	39%	9%	73%	30%





e. Cares about people like me

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Describes Trump, much better	24%	54%	2%	13%
Describes Trump, somewhat better	9%	19%	2%	7%
Describes Biden, somewhat better	12%	3%	21%	13%
Describes Biden, much better	26%	3%	52%	16%
Both	3%	3%	3%	3%
Neither	20%	15%	17%	37%
Don't know	6%	3%	3%	11%
Describes Trump better	33%	73%	4%	20%
Describes Biden better	38%	6%	74%	29%

f. Stands up for America

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Describes Trump, much better	30%	66%	3%	19%
Describes Trump, somewhat better	11%	15%	6%	12%
Describes Biden, somewhat better	11%	4%	17%	15%
Describes Biden, much better	26%	4%	52%	16%
Both	6%	3%	7%	9%
Neither	10%	5%	10%	18%
Don't know	6%	2%	5%	11%
Describes Trump better	40%	81%	9%	31%
Describes Biden better	37%	8%	68%	31%

7. If the 2020 presidential election were held today, would you vote for Donald Trump or Joe Biden?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Joe Biden	42%	7%	84%	25%
Donald Trump	38%	85%	4%	21%
Some other candidate	7%	4%	4%	22%
I would not vote	6%	2%	3%	15%
Not sure	7%	3%	5%	16%

8. **[IF Q7 DOES NOT EQUAL TRUMP OR BIDEN]** If you had to choose, would you say you lean more towards supporting Donald Trump or Joe Biden?

	Total (N=182)	Rep (N=34)	Dem (N=47)	Ind (N=53)
Joe Biden	57%	32%	67%	57%
Donald Trump	43%	68%	33%	43%





9. How committed would you say the Republican party is to making sure elections in the United States are fair and accurate?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Very committed	25%	53%	6%	17%
Somewhat committed	28%	37%	18%	31%
Not too committed	21%	8%	26%	30%
Not at all committed	26%	2%	50%	22%
Committed (Net)	53%	89%	24%	48%
Not committed (Net)	47%	11%	76%	52%

10. How committed would you say the Democratic party is to making sure elections in the United States are fair and accurate?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
Very committed	31%	12%	55%	17%
Somewhat committed	24%	15%	30%	25%
Not too committed	21%	27%	13%	29%
Not at all committed	24%	46%	2%	30%
Committed (Net)	55%	27%	85%	42%
Not committed (Net)	45%	73%	15%	58%

11. Which of the following is your main source of news?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
ABC / CBS / NBC News	21%	14%	27%	19%
Digital or online news	12%	12%	12%	18%
FOX News	12%	25%	4%	5%
Social media	10%	8%	12%	7%
CNN	10%	5%	15%	11%
Your local newspaper	5%	7%	5%	3%
Public television or radio	5%	4%	5%	6%
Friends and family	4%	5%	2%	2%
New York Times or Washington Post	3%	3%	4%	2%
MSNBC	2%	1%	4%	3%
Univision / Telemundo	1%	1%	1%	2%
Other	6%	7%	4%	9%
None of these	8%	7%	4%	14%





About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between September 1-2, 2020. For this survey, a sample of 1,113 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The survey also includes a sample of 448 Republicans, 481 Democrats, and 119 independents.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos' online panel (see link below for more info on "Access Panels and Recruitment"), partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos "Ampario Overview" sample method) 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 2016 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 3.3 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 adjusted for design effect of the following (n=1,113, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=+/-4.8 percentage points).

The poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 5.3 percentage points for Republicans, plus or minus 5.1 percentage points for Democrats, and plus or minus 10.2 percentage points for independents.

For more information on this news release, please contact:

Chris Jackson Senior Vice President, US Public Affairs +1 202 420-2025 chris.jackson@ipsos.com

Kate Silverstein Media Relations Specialist, US Public Affairs +1 718 755-8829 kate.silverstein@ipsos.com





About Ipsos

lpsos is the world's third largest market research company, present in 90 markets and employing more than 18,000 people.

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).

ISIN code FR0000073298, Reuters ISOS.PA, Bloomberg IPS:FP www.ipsos.com

