



PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Kentuckians give AG Cameron mixed reviews over Breonna Taylor case

Spectrum News/Ipsos poll finds that most approve of Gov. Andy Beshear, including his handling of crime and public safety

Topline Findings

Washington, DC, October 21, 2020

These are the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between October 7-15, 2020 on behalf of Spectrum News. For this survey, a sample of 1,001 adults age 18+ from Kentucky was interviewed online in English. The poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for all respondents.

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

Full Annotated Questionnaire

		Kentucky (N=1,001)
1. Which of the following do you consider to be the main problem facing Kentucky today? You may select up to three.	Healthcare	24%
	Crime or violence	22%
	Immigration	5%
	Unemployment	34%
	Education	17%
	Taxes	8%
	Climate change/natural disasters	4%
	COVID-19/coronavirus	50%
	Racial injustice	19%
	Opioid or drug addiction	39%
	Affordable housing	13%
	Gun control	7%
	Other	4%
	None of these	3%
2. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Andy Beshear is handling his job as governor?	Strongly approve	32%
	Somewhat approve	31%
	Somewhat disapprove	14%
	Strongly disapprove	14%
	Don't know	9%
	<i>NETS</i>	<i>Approve</i>
4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Sen. Mitch McConnell is handling his job as U.S. Senate Majority Leader?	<i>Disapprove</i>	28%
	Strongly approve	15%
	Somewhat approve	24%
	Somewhat disapprove	12%
	Strongly disapprove	39%
	Don't know	11%
<i>NETS</i>	<i>Approve</i>	39%
5. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way	<i>Disapprove</i>	51%
	Strongly approve	37%
	Somewhat approve	28%
COVID-19		





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Andy Beshear is handling the following?		Somewhat disapprove	13%
		Strongly disapprove	15%
		Don't know	7%
	NETS	Approve	66%
		Disapprove	28%
	Jobs and the economy	Strongly approve	20%
		Somewhat approve	36%
		Somewhat disapprove	18%
		Strongly disapprove	14%
		Don't know	12%
	NETS	Approve	56%
		Disapprove	32%
	Crime and public safety	Strongly approve	20%
		Somewhat approve	36%
		Somewhat disapprove	18%
		Strongly disapprove	13%
		Don't know	13%
	NETS	Approve	55%
		Disapprove	32%
	Protests and social unrest	Strongly approve	20%
		Somewhat approve	29%
		Somewhat disapprove	17%
		Strongly disapprove	20%
		Don't know	13%
	NETS	Approve	49%
		Disapprove	38%
	Plans for sending children back to school	Strongly approve	21%
		Somewhat approve	33%
		Somewhat disapprove	21%
		Strongly disapprove	16%
		Don't know	10%
	NETS	Approve	53%
		Disapprove	37%
	Climate change	Strongly approve	15%
		Somewhat approve	26%
		Somewhat disapprove	11%
		Strongly disapprove	11%
		Don't know	37%
	NETS	Approve	42%
		Disapprove	22%
7. How would you rate how the following are handling the COVID-19 pandemic?	The federal government	Excellent	8%
		Good	26%
		Just fair	26%
		Poor	34%
		Don't know	5%
	NETS	Excellent/Good	34%
		Just fair/Poor	60%

7. How would you rate how the following are handling the COVID-19 pandemic?	Your state government	Excellent	17%
		Good	36%
		Just fair	24%





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		Poor	17%
		Don't know	6%
	NETS	Excellent/Good	53%
		Just fair/Poor	41%
	Your local/city government	Excellent	10%
		Good	42%
		Just fair	28%
		Poor	14%
		Don't know	6%
	NETS	Excellent/Good	51%
		Just fair/Poor	42%
8. In light of the current circumstances, how long do you think it will be before life in your city or community will get back to normal?		Less than a month	1%
		1-2 months	4%
		3-under 6 months	9%
		6 months-1 year	28%
		Longer than a year	40%
		Never	8%
		Don't know	11%
	NETS	Under 6 months	14%
		6 months or longer	68%
9. How likely are you to vote in the upcoming presidential election?		Very likely	57%
		Somewhat likely	9%
		Somewhat unlikely	3%
		Very unlikely	13%
		I have already voted	12%
		Don't know	7%
	NETS	Likely	66%
		Unlikely	16%
10. Thinking about the upcoming presidential election, regardless of your plans to vote (including if you have already voted), what would be your preferred method of voting this year?		In-person on Election Day	33%
		In-person before Election Day	17%
		By mail or absentee ballot	28%
		By dropping off your ballot at an election office or polling place	9%
		Other	1%
		I do not plan to vote	12%
11. Regardless of your plan to vote, how confident are you that your vote will be counted if you voted...	In-person on Election Day	Very confident	57%
		Somewhat confident	22%
		Not very confident	7%
		Not confident at all	7%
		Don't know	7%
	NETS	Confident	79%
		Not confident	13%
	In-person before Election Day	Very confident	46%
		Somewhat confident	28%
		Not very confident	10%
		Not confident at all	8%
		Don't know	8%
	NETS	Confident	74%
		Not confident	18%
11. Regardless of your plan to vote, how confident are you that your vote will be counted if you voted...	By mail or absentee ballot	Very confident	28%
		Somewhat confident	27%
		Not very confident	18%
		Not confident at all	19%



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		Don't know	8%
	NETS	<i>Confident</i>	55%
		<i>Not confident</i>	37%
	By dropping off your ballot at an election office or polling place	Very confident	34%
		Somewhat confident	30%
		Not very confident	15%
		Not confident at all	13%
		Don't know	8%
	NETS	<i>Confident</i>	64%
		<i>Not confident</i>	28%
	13. How likely are you to trust the outcome of the presidential election, regardless of who wins?	Very likely	24%
		Somewhat likely	38%
		Somewhat unlikely	14%
		Very unlikely	9%
		Don't know	15%
	NETS	<i>Likely</i>	62%
		<i>Unlikely</i>	23%
	14. Have the following made you more or less favorable towards President Donald Trump ahead of this November's election?	Much more favorable	19%
	The handling of the current vacancy in the U.S. Supreme Court	Somewhat more favorable	15%
		No impact	25%
		Somewhat less favorable	7%
		Much less favorable	27%
		Don't know	8%
	NETS	<i>More favorable</i>	33%
		<i>Less favorable</i>	34%
	The nomination of Amy Coney Barrett to the U.S. Supreme Court	Much more favorable	21%
		Somewhat more favorable	13%
		No impact	26%
		Somewhat less favorable	7%
		Much less favorable	24%
		Don't know	10%
	NETS	<i>More favorable</i>	34%
		<i>Less favorable</i>	31%
	The recent reporting on Trump's tax returns	Much more favorable	9%
		Somewhat more favorable	8%
		No impact	36%
		Somewhat less favorable	9%
		Much less favorable	30%
		Don't know	8%
	NETS	<i>More favorable</i>	17%
		<i>Less favorable</i>	39%
	The national recovery plan from the coronavirus	Much more favorable	16%
		Somewhat more favorable	19%
		No impact	20%
		Somewhat less favorable	9%
		Much less favorable	29%
		Don't know	8%
	NETS	<i>More favorable</i>	34%
		<i>Less favorable</i>	38%
	14. Have the following made you more or less favorable towards President Donald Trump ahead of this November's election?	Much more favorable	15%
	Trump's performance in the first presidential debate	Somewhat more favorable	12%
		No impact	24%
		Somewhat less favorable	9%
		Much less favorable	34%
		Don't know	7%



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	<i>NETS</i>	<i>More favorable</i>	27%
		<i>Less favorable</i>	43%
Trump's handling of jobs and the economy		Much more favorable	24%
		Somewhat more favorable	20%
		No impact	16%
		Somewhat less favorable	10%
		Much less favorable	26%
		Don't know	5%
	<i>NETS</i>	<i>More favorable</i>	43%
		<i>Less favorable</i>	36%
The fact that Trump contracted COVID-19		Much more favorable	9%
		Somewhat more favorable	8%
		No impact	46%
		Somewhat less favorable	6%
		Much less favorable	24%
		Don't know	7%
	<i>NETS</i>	<i>More favorable</i>	17%
		<i>Less favorable</i>	30%
Trump's public comments around mask wearing and social distancing		Much more favorable	12%
		Somewhat more favorable	12%
		No impact	25%
		Somewhat less favorable	9%
		Much less favorable	36%
		Don't know	6%
	<i>NETS</i>	<i>More favorable</i>	24%
		<i>Less favorable</i>	45%
15. President Trump recently announced that he had tested positive for COVID-19. What impact, if any, do you think this announcement will have on the upcoming election?		Major impact	17%
		Minor impact	32%
		No impact	35%
		Don't know	16%
18. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	There should be a state law in Kentucky mandating that masks be worn at all times in public	Strongly agree	37%
		Somewhat agree	23%
		Somewhat disagree	13%
		Strongly disagree	20%
		Don't know	7%
	<i>NETS</i>	<i>Agree</i>	60%
		<i>Disagree</i>	33%
There are an adequate number of COVID-19 testing sites in my community		Strongly agree	23%
		Somewhat agree	31%
		Somewhat disagree	18%
		Strongly disagree	10%
		Don't know	19%
	<i>NETS</i>	<i>Agree</i>	53%
		<i>Disagree</i>	27%

18. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	I feel comfortable dining inside a restaurant	Strongly agree	17%
		Somewhat agree	29%
		Somewhat disagree	20%
		Strongly disagree	28%
		Don't know	6%
	<i>NETS</i>	<i>Agree</i>	46%
		<i>Disagree</i>	48%



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I will take the first generation COVID-19 vaccine when it is approved by the FDA	Strongly agree	13%	
	Somewhat agree	23%	
NETS	Somewhat disagree	15%	
	Strongly disagree	29%	
I am having trouble, or have had trouble, paying my bills as a result of COVID-19	Don't know	20%	
	Agree	36%	
NETS	Disagree	45%	
	Strongly agree	20%	
I am having trouble, or have had trouble, paying my bills as a result of COVID-19	Somewhat agree	22%	
	Somewhat disagree	22%	
NETS	Strongly disagree	30%	
	Don't know	6%	
COVID-19 lockdowns in my community have been too restrictive	Agree	43%	
	Disagree	52%	
NETS	Strongly agree	12%	
	Somewhat agree	18%	
I feel comfortable returning to my workplace right now	Somewhat disagree	28%	
	Strongly disagree	34%	
NETS	Don't know	7%	
	Agree	31%	
I feel comfortable returning to my workplace right now	Disagree	62%	
	IF EMPLOYED	N=423	
NETS	Strongly agree	30%	
	Somewhat agree	34%	
The governor has overstepped his authority with his executive orders related to COVID-19	Somewhat disagree	16%	
	Strongly disagree	14%	
NETS	Don't know	6%	
	Agree	63%	
The governor has overstepped his authority with his executive orders related to COVID-19	Disagree	31%	
	Strongly agree	17%	
NETS	Somewhat agree	16%	
	Somewhat disagree	20%	
I feel comfortable returning to my workplace right now	Strongly disagree	35%	
	Don't know	12%	
NETS	Agree	33%	
	Disagree	55%	
19. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	IF CHILD AGE 5-17	N=227	
	My child is falling behind in school because of COVID-19	Strongly agree	19%
NETS	Somewhat agree	28%	
	Somewhat disagree	23%	
I feel comfortable returning to my workplace right now	Strongly disagree	25%	
	Don't know	5%	
NETS	Agree	47%	
	Disagree	48%	
19. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	All colleges and universities in Kentucky should be closed and only offer virtual classes	Strongly agree	28%
	NETS	Somewhat agree	32%
I feel comfortable returning to my workplace right now		Somewhat disagree	17%
	NETS	Strongly disagree	15%
I feel comfortable returning to my workplace right now		Don't know	8%
	NETS	Agree	59%
I feel comfortable returning to my workplace right now		Disagree	32%
	NETS	Strongly agree	16%
I feel comfortable returning to my workplace right now		Somewhat agree	42%





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My local school district is handling the COVID-19 pandemic well	Somewhat disagree	15%
	Strongly disagree	12%
	Don't know	15%
	NETS	
	Agree	58%
	Disagree	27%
IF CHILD AGE 5-17		N=227
I feel that my child is, or would be, safe attending school in-person	Strongly agree	19%
	Somewhat agree	25%
	Somewhat disagree	16%
	Strongly disagree	35%
	Don't know	6%
	NETS	
	Agree	44%
	Disagree	51%
IF CHILD AGE 5-17		N=227
My child has the necessary tools to learn in the current environment	Strongly agree	36%
	Somewhat agree	39%
	Somewhat disagree	15%
	Strongly disagree	5%
	Don't know	4%
	NETS	
	Agree	75%
	Disagree	21%
All schools in Kentucky should have started the school year with in-person learning	Strongly agree	13%
	Somewhat agree	17%
	Somewhat disagree	20%
	Strongly disagree	42%
	Don't know	8%
	NETS	
	Agree	31%
	Disagree	62%
20a. Regarding COVID-19, which of the following are true to you? Select all that apply.	I have been tested and diagnosed with COVID-19	3%
	A relative has been tested and diagnosed with COVID-19	20%
	A friend or acquaintance has been tested and diagnosed with COVID-19	28%
	A relative or friend has died from COVID-19	9%
	I suspect I have or had COVID-19	7%
	Someone I know suspects they have or had COVID-19	14%
	None of the above	49%

21. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	Police using excessive force against Black or African Americans is a widespread problem	Strongly agree	31%
		Somewhat agree	24%
		Somewhat disagree	19%
		Strongly disagree	17%
		Don't know	9%
		NETS	
	Agree	55%	
	Disagree	36%	
The recent protests regarding racial justice	Strongly agree	13%	
	Somewhat agree	22%	
	Somewhat disagree	23%	





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will bring about positive change in our society	Strongly disagree	27%
	Don't know	14%
NETS	Agree	35%
	Disagree	50%
Black Americans receive equal treatment to white Americans in this country	Strongly agree	23%
	Somewhat agree	23%
	Somewhat disagree	23%
	Strongly disagree	24%
	Don't know	7%
NETS	Agree	46%
	Disagree	47%
Racism is a significant problem in Kentucky	Strongly agree	28%
	Somewhat agree	28%
	Somewhat disagree	19%
	Strongly disagree	18%
	Don't know	8%
NETS	Agree	56%
	Disagree	37%
Lately, I do not feel safe in my community	Strongly agree	12%
	Somewhat agree	28%
	Somewhat disagree	29%
	Strongly disagree	24%
	Don't know	8%
NETS	Agree	40%
	Disagree	53%
I support reducing my local police department's budget in order to increase investment in social programs	Strongly agree	14%
	Somewhat agree	17%
	Somewhat disagree	17%
	Strongly disagree	43%
	Don't know	9%
NETS	Agree	31%
	Disagree	60%
I support the Black Lives Matter movement	Strongly agree	27%
	Somewhat agree	21%
	Somewhat disagree	12%
	Strongly disagree	29%
	Don't know	12%
NETS	Agree	47%
	Disagree	41%

22. On September 23rd, Kentucky Attorney General Daniel Cameron announced that no officers would be charged with the death of Breonna Taylor. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	Attorney General Daniel Cameron handled the grand jury proceedings well	Strongly agree	19%
		Somewhat agree	20%
		Somewhat disagree	15%
		Strongly disagree	24%
		Don't know	23%
NETS	Agree	39%	
	Disagree	38%	
The FBI should continue its independent investigation into	Strongly agree	40%	
	Somewhat agree	26%	
	Somewhat disagree	11%	





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the death of Breonna Taylor	Strongly disagree	11%
	Don't know	12%
NETS	Agree	66%
	Disagree	22%
The protests after the decision were more dangerous for the police officers than the protesters	Strongly agree	32%
	Somewhat agree	28%
	Somewhat disagree	12%
	Strongly disagree	12%
	Don't know	17%
NETS	Agree	59%
	Disagree	24%
The decision on the Breonna Taylor case has prompted me to get more involved in the elections this year	Strongly agree	14%
	Somewhat agree	20%
	Somewhat disagree	24%
	Strongly disagree	26%
	Don't know	15%
NETS	Agree	34%
	Disagree	51%
No-knock warrants should be banned in Kentucky	Strongly agree	44%
	Somewhat agree	22%
	Somewhat disagree	13%
	Strongly disagree	9%
	Don't know	13%
NETS	Agree	66%
	Disagree	22%





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About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between October 7-15, 2020, on behalf of Spectrum News. For this survey, a sample of 1,001 adults age 18+ from Kentucky was interviewed online in English.

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 population of Kentucky using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2019 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, 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 adjusted for design effect of the following (n=1,001, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=+/- 5.0 percentage points).

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