

Reuters/Ipsos: President Trump diagnosed with COVID-19

Two-thirds believe Trump would not be sick if he had taken COVID-19 more seriously

Topline Findings

Washington, DC, October 4, 2020 – The latest public opinion poll from Reuters/Ipsos finds that most Americans are aware that President Donald Trump has been diagnosed with coronavirus/COVID-19 (94%). Sixty-three percent believe that President Trump does, in fact, have coronavirus/COVID-19, while 12% do not believe it, and 26% are unsure. Two-thirds of Americans believe that if President Trump had taken coronavirus/COVID-19 more seriously, he probably would not have been infected with it (65%). A majority of Americans say that either nothing President Trump has said about the virus is true (30%) or that just some of what he has said is true (25%). Three-quarters of Americans remain concerned about the on-going spread of coronavirus/COVID-19 (76%), and 56% of Americans disapprove of President Trump's handling of the coronavirus/COVID-19.

On the campaign front, former Vice President Joe Biden maintains his lead (51%) over President Trump (41%) among likely voters. A majority of Americans believe that the presidential debates should be delayed until President Trump has been cleared of coronavirus/COVID-19 (59%). Strong majorities also believe that both the Trump campaign and the Biden campaign should stop holding in-person rallies (67%), and cease door-knocking and 'get out the vote' efforts (56%).

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





		All Respondents	All Registered Voters	Likely Voters
With which political party do you most identify? Detailed	Democrat	44%	46%	48%
	Republican	40%	43%	44%
	Independent	12%	9%	8%
	None/DK	5%	1%	1%
	Total	1005	852	596
Are you currently registered to vote at your current address, or not?	Yes, registered to vote at my current address	82%	100%	100%
	No, not registered to vote at my current address	15%	0%	0%
	Not sure	3%	0%	0%
	Total	1005	852	596
	10- Completely certain you will vote	63%	75%	95%
	9	5%	5%	5%
	8	5%	5%	0%
How likely are you to vote in the	7	4%	3%	0%
	6	2%	2%	0%
	5	4%	3%	0%
next presidential election?	4	2%	1%	0%
	3	2%	1%	0%
	2	1%	1%	0%
	1-Completely certain you will NOT vote	8%	2%	0%
	Don't know	4%	1%	0%
	Total	1005	852	596
	Donald Trump	37%	40%	41%
If the 2020 presidential election	Joe Biden	45%	48%	51%
were held today, would you vote for [RANDOMLY ROTATE ORDER OF 'Donald Trump' and 'Joe Biden'] Donald Trump or Joe Biden?	Some other candidate	5%	5%	4%
	I would not vote	7%	2%	0%
	Not sure	7%	6%	4%
	Total	1005	852	596

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		All Respondents	All Registered Voters	Likely Voters
	Strongly approve	18%	20%	21%
Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling the following issues?: Coronavirus - - COVID-19	Somewhat approve	16%	16%	16%
	Lean towards approve	7%	7%	6%
	Lean towards disapprove	7%	6%	4%
	Somewhat disapprove	8%	7%	6%
	Strongly disapprove	42%	43%	48%
	Don't know	3%	1%	0%
	Total	1005	852	596
How much have you heard, if anything, about President Trump being diagnosed with coronavirus/COVID-19?	A great deal	40%	44%	47%
	A fair amount	32%	34%	35%
	Have heard of it, but that's it	23%	19%	16%
	Have not heard about it	6%	4%	3%
	Total	1005	852	596
	Yes, he does	63%	66%	69%
Do you believe that Donald Trump	No, he does not	12%	12%	9%
does, in fact, have coronavirus/COVID-19?	Not sure	26%	22%	22%
	Total	1005	852	596
Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following: If President Trump had taken	Strongly agree	42%	44%	47%
	Somewhat agree	23%	23%	21%
	Somewhat disagree	11%	11%	9%
coronavirus/COVID-19 more seriously, he probably would not	Strongly disagree	16%	17%	18%
have been infected with the coronavirus/COVID-19	Not sure	8%	6%	5%
	Total	1005	852	596
	Strongly agree	36%	37%	42%
Please indicate how much you	Somewhat agree	24%	24%	21%
agree or disagree with the following: The presidential debates should be delayed until Donald Trump is clear of coronavirus/COVID-19	Somewhat disagree	13%	12%	11%
	Strongly disagree	18%	17%	19%
	Not sure	10%	9%	7%
	Total	1005	852	596
	Strongly agree	39%	41%	43%
Places indicate how much you	Somewhat agree	28%	28%	28%
Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following: Both presidential campaigns should stop holding in-person rallies	Somewhat disagree	14%	14%	13%
	Strongly disagree	10%	10%	11%
	Not sure	10%	8%	6%
	Total	1005	852	596

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		All Respondents	All Registered Voters	Likely Voters
Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following: Both presidential campaigns should stop door-knocking and 'get out the vote' efforts	Strongly agree	26%	25%	26%
	Somewhat agree	30%	30%	28%
	Somewhat disagree	16%	16%	17%
	Strongly disagree	13%	15%	18%
	Not sure	15%	13%	12%
	Total	1005	852	596
Thinking about all of President Trump's communications to the public about coronavirus/COVID-19, which of the following comes closest to your opinion?	Everything he has said is true	14%	16%	15%
	Most of what he has said is true	20%	20%	17%
	Some of what he has said is true	25%	25%	25%
	Nothing he has said is true	30%	31%	36%
	Not sure	11%	8%	5%
	Total	1005	852	596
How concerned are you personally about the spread of coronavirus/COVID-19?	Very concerned	46%	49%	54%
	Somewhat concerned	30%	29%	28%
	Not very concerned	13%	14%	12%
	Not at all concerned	8%	7%	6%
	Don't know	3%	1%	0%
	Total	1005	852	596





About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between October 2-3, 2020, on behalf of Thomson Reuters. For this survey, a sample of 1,005 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The sample includes 852 registered voters and 596 likely voters.

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 3.8 percentage points for registered voters and plus or minus 4.6 percentage points for likely voters.

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