



## PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

### More than 1 in 3 Americans believe a ‘deep state’ is working to undermine Trump

NPR/Ipsos poll finds widespread concerns about the spread of false information, despite some believing in COVID-19 and QAnon-related conspiracies

#### Topline Findings

**Washington, DC, December 30, 2020** – According to a recent NPR/Ipsos poll, a strong majority of Americans are concerned about the spread of false information and specifically that information they receive on social media is not accurate. However, there are also signs that recent misinformation, including false claims related to COVID-19 and QAnon, are gaining a foothold among some Americans.

#### Detailed Findings

1. The American public is deeply concerned about the spread of false information and are particularly concerned about COVID-19-related misinformation.
  - More than eight in ten (83%) say they are concerned about the spread of false information, and a majority (54%) report being *very* concerned.
  - Eighty percent are specifically concerned about the spread of false information about the coronavirus and vaccines.
  - More than two-thirds are concerned both that the information they receive on social media is not accurate (69%), and also about foreign interference in social media (67%).
2. Despite these concerns, there are signs that misinformation, most prominently around COVID-19, QAnon, and recent Black Lives Matter protests, is becoming more mainstream.
  - In a “knowledge test,” where respondents were given 10 true or false statements about historical events, most Americans correctly answered questions about past events (e.g., the moon landing, Barack Obama’s birthplace, and 9/11), yet show more ambiguity on recent events.
  - Specifically, a plurality of Americans (40%) believe it is true that COVID-19 was created in a lab in China – more answered true than false. There is [no indication](#) this is true.
  - Moreover, fewer than half (47%) are able to correctly identify that this statement is [false](#): “A group of Satan-worshipping elites who run a child sex ring are trying to control our politics and media.” Thirty-seven percent are unsure whether this theory backed by QAnon is true or false, and 17% believe it to be true.
  - Nearly half (47%) believe the majority of protests this summer were violent, while just 38% correctly indicated that this is a [false statement](#).
  - Both partisanship and education play a role in belief of these events. Both Democrats and college-educated Americans answered more statements correctly than Republicans, Independents, or those without a college degree.
3. More than one in three Americans believe in the existence of a so-called “deep state;” however, most accept the results of the election and want to see a peaceful transition.
  - Thirty-nine percent of Americans agree there is a deep state working to undermine President Trump – another tenet of QAnon. This belief is driven primarily by Republicans and FOX News viewers (a majority of both groups agree with this), though nearly half of white men and rural residents (49% each) agree as well.





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- However, many more accept the results of the 2020 presidential election (69%) and want to see a peaceful transition to the Biden administration in January (70%).
  - A similar number to those who would like to see a peaceful transition are also worried about political violence over the next four years (73%).
4. Despite the ambiguity around the origins of COVID-19, there are indications that most Americans are taking the virus seriously. For example, a majority agree there should be a law in their state requiring masks in public at all times.
- Three-quarters (74%) of Americans agree that masks are an effective tool to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Though majorities of both Democrats and Republicans agree with this statement, Democrats are significantly more likely to do so (90% agree vs. 61% of Republicans).
  - Nearly two-thirds (64%) feel there should be a law in their state requiring mask use in public, at all times. The partisan gap is even wider on a mask mandate, though: 85% of Democrats are in favor, compared to 45% of Republicans.
  - A majority (59%) *disagree* that COVID-19 is no more of a serious threat than the flu. Almost all demographic groups (gender, age, educational attainment, religion, etc.) disagree with this statement. Only Republicans and FOX News viewers are evenly split on whether or not COVID-19 is more serious than the flu.
5. Most Americans are unwilling to point fingers at a specific group of people for being more susceptible to believing conspiracy theories. Majorities say “all equally” when asked about different ages, racial/ethnic groups, partisans, or people of different education levels.
- However, there are a few exceptions. Compared with the general public, younger people (18-34) say in larger numbers that older people are more likely to believe conspiracy theories, while more older people (age 55+) say the same about younger people.
  - A plurality of Democrats (44%) say Republicans are more likely to believe conspiracy theories; in comparison, most Republicans (55%) say “all equally.”
  - People with college degrees are more likely to say that those who did not go to college are more susceptible to believing conspiracy theories (41% say this, compared to 19% of those without degrees and 26% overall).

*These are the findings of an NPR/Ipsos poll conducted between December 21-22, 2020. For this survey, a sample of 1,115 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.*

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





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### Full Annotated Questionnaire

1. Which three of the following topics do you find the most worrying? (Select up to three)

	<b>Total (N=1,115)</b>	<b>Republican (N=405)</b>	<b>Democrat (N=517)</b>	<b>Independent (N=118)</b>
COVID-19/coronavirus	53%	43%	64%	49%
Healthcare	25%	20%	29%	28%
Unemployment	22%	21%	24%	18%
Political extremism or polarization	20%	26%	19%	18%
Racial injustice	20%	6%	31%	15%
Climate change	18%	9%	28%	16%
Crime or gun violence	17%	15%	16%	16%
Government budget and debt	13%	22%	7%	15%
Immigration	12%	20%	6%	16%
Taxes	11%	17%	8%	11%
Terrorism	11%	16%	6%	19%
Education	10%	9%	10%	11%
Social inequality	9%	4%	14%	7%
Opioid or drug addiction	8%	10%	5%	7%
Natural disasters	7%	9%	5%	5%
Nuclear conflict	4%	5%	3%	7%
Foreign conflicts	4%	5%	3%	4%
Other	5%	8%	2%	5%
None of these	3%	3%	1%	4%





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<i>Trending</i>	12/21-22, 2020 (N=1,115)	8/20-21, 2020 (N=1,186)	7/30-31, 2020 (N=1,115)	6/19-20, 2018 (N=1,071)
COVID-19/coronavirus	53%	46%	46%	-
Healthcare	25%	26%	25%	37%
Unemployment	22%	20%	17%	12%
Racial injustice	20%	18%	22%	-
Political extremism or polarization	20%	16%	24%	22%
Climate change	18%	20%	18%	18%
Crime or gun violence	17%	23%	21%	33%
Government budget and debt	13%	14%	17%	16%
Immigration	12%	14%	11%	25%
Terrorism	11%	14%	14%	29%
Taxes	11%	11%	12%	16%
Education	10%	10%	11%	12%
Social inequality	9%	14%	13%	16%
Opioid or drug addiction	8%	9%	7%	-
Natural disasters	7%	6%	6%	11%
Nuclear conflict	4%	5%	4%	12%
Foreign conflicts	4%	4%	5%	8%
Other	5%	3%	4%	5%
None of these	3%	3%	3%	3%

### 2. Generally speaking, how much do you trust each of the following people?

#### Total Trust Summary

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Your personal doctor	85%	84%	89%	86%
Your faith or spiritual leader	61%	72%	56%	59%
Dr. Anthony Fauci	59%	45%	78%	53%
Joe Biden	53%	18%	87%	47%
The governor of [STATE]	53%	48%	61%	50%
Bill Gates	51%	36%	68%	47%
Donald Trump	37%	76%	12%	27%
Elon Musk	33%	37%	33%	33%
Rachel Maddow	25%	9%	44%	9%
Wolf Blitzer	25%	17%	35%	19%
Tucker Carlson	20%	35%	12%	15%





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### a. Your personal doctor

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
A great deal	47%	50%	50%	34%
A fair amount	38%	33%	38%	52%
Not very much	7%	10%	4%	6%
None at all	3%	2%	3%	4%
Don't know/Never heard of this person	6%	4%	4%	4%
<i>A great deal/fair amount (Net)</i>	<i>85%</i>	<i>84%</i>	<i>89%</i>	<i>86%</i>
<i>Not very much/None at all (Net)</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>10%</i>

### b. Your faith or spiritual leader

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
A great deal	31%	41%	25%	23%
A fair amount	30%	31%	30%	36%
Not very much	9%	10%	9%	5%
None at all	8%	4%	11%	11%
Don't know/Never heard of this person	22%	14%	24%	24%
<i>A great deal/fair amount (Net)</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>72%</i>	<i>56%</i>	<i>59%</i>
<i>Not very much/None at all (Net)</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>17%</i>

### c. Dr. Anthony Fauci

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
A great deal	30%	17%	47%	23%
A fair amount	29%	28%	31%	31%
Not very much	13%	23%	7%	11%
None at all	12%	20%	5%	16%
Don't know/Never heard of this person	15%	12%	9%	20%
<i>A great deal/fair amount (Net)</i>	<i>59%</i>	<i>45%</i>	<i>78%</i>	<i>53%</i>
<i>Not very much/None at all (Net)</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>27%</i>

### d. Donald Trump

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
A great deal	19%	44%	4%	10%
A fair amount	18%	32%	8%	16%
Not very much	14%	13%	11%	19%
None at all	46%	10%	75%	50%
Don't know/Never heard of this person	3%	1%	1%	4%
<i>A great deal/fair amount (Net)</i>	<i>37%</i>	<i>76%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>27%</i>
<i>Not very much/None at all (Net)</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>23%</i>	<i>87%</i>	<i>69%</i>



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### e. Joe Biden

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
A great deal	25%	5%	47%	14%
A fair amount	29%	14%	41%	33%
Not very much	18%	26%	8%	24%
None at all	25%	53%	4%	24%
Don't know/Never heard of this person	4%	3%	-	5%
<i>A great deal/fair amount (Net)</i>	<i>53%</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>87%</i>	<i>47%</i>
<i>Not very much/None at all (Net)</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>78%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>48%</i>

### f. The governor of [STATE]

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
A great deal	20%	21%	24%	16%
A fair amount	32%	27%	37%	34%
Not very much	22%	23%	19%	26%
None at all	20%	25%	17%	19%
Don't know/Never heard of this person	5%	4%	3%	4%
<i>A great deal/fair amount (Net)</i>	<i>53%</i>	<i>48%</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>50%</i>
<i>Not very much/None at all (Net)</i>	<i>42%</i>	<i>48%</i>	<i>36%</i>	<i>45%</i>

### g. Bill Gates

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
A great deal	16%	8%	24%	11%
A fair amount	35%	27%	44%	36%
Not very much	24%	32%	18%	24%
None at all	18%	28%	10%	19%
Don't know/Never heard of this person	7%	5%	4%	10%
<i>A great deal/fair amount (Net)</i>	<i>51%</i>	<i>36%</i>	<i>68%</i>	<i>47%</i>
<i>Not very much/None at all (Net)</i>	<i>42%</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>43%</i>

### h. Elon Musk

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
A great deal	8%	8%	10%	4%
A fair amount	25%	28%	23%	28%
Not very much	28%	24%	35%	20%
None at all	14%	13%	15%	16%
Don't know/Never heard of this person	25%	26%	17%	31%
<i>A great deal/fair amount (Net)</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>37%</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>33%</i>
<i>Not very much/None at all (Net)</i>	<i>42%</i>	<i>37%</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>36%</i>





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### i. Rachel Maddow

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
A great deal	10%	3%	19%	3%
A fair amount	15%	6%	25%	6%
Not very much	14%	15%	14%	17%
None at all	18%	30%	10%	20%
Don't know/Never heard of this person	42%	46%	32%	55%
<i>A great deal/fair amount (Net)</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>9%</i>
<i>Not very much/None at all (Net)</i>	<i>32%</i>	<i>45%</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>36%</i>

### j. Wolf Blitzer

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
A great deal	7%	3%	10%	4%
A fair amount	18%	14%	25%	16%
Not very much	19%	23%	18%	20%
None at all	14%	22%	8%	15%
Don't know/Never heard of this person	42%	38%	40%	46%
<i>A great deal/fair amount (Net)</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>17%</i>	<i>35%</i>	<i>19%</i>
<i>Not very much/None at all (Net)</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>45%</i>	<i>26%</i>	<i>35%</i>

### k. Tucker Carlson

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
A great deal	8%	16%	4%	2%
A fair amount	12%	19%	9%	12%
Not very much	15%	16%	16%	18%
None at all	23%	13%	33%	22%
Don't know/Never heard of this person	41%	36%	39%	46%
<i>A great deal/fair amount (Net)</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>35%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>15%</i>
<i>Not very much/None at all (Net)</i>	<i>39%</i>	<i>29%</i>	<i>49%</i>	<i>40%</i>

3. To the best of your knowledge, please indicate whether you believe each of the statements below are true or false. *Correct answers are noted with an asterisk.*

#### a. A group of Satan-worshipping elites who run a child sex ring are trying to control our politics and media

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
True	17%	23%	13%	12%
False*	47%	38%	57%	49%
Don't know	37%	38%	30%	39%



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b. COVID-19 was created in a lab in China

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
True	40%	62%	26%	33%
False*	32%	14%	46%	33%
Don't know	29%	24%	28%	33%

c. There is no evidence vaccinations cause autism

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
True*	51%	49%	61%	43%
False	12%	14%	9%	12%
Don't know	37%	37%	30%	45%

d. President Trump worked with Russia to win the 2016 presidential election

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
True	32%	12%	51%	27%
False*	35%	66%	15%	33%
Don't know	33%	22%	34%	40%

e. Barack Obama was born in the United States

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
True*	59%	38%	82%	56%
False	19%	32%	9%	18%
Don't know	22%	29%	9%	26%

f. Several mass shootings in recent years were staged hoaxes

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
True	12%	16%	9%	8%
False*	61%	57%	71%	56%
Don't know	27%	26%	20%	36%

g. The majority of protests that occurred this summer were violent

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
True	47%	66%	34%	43%
False*	38%	21%	54%	32%
Don't know	16%	13%	12%	25%

h. Humans landed on the moon in the late 60s and 70s

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
True*	72%	80%	71%	69%
False	8%	7%	11%	1%
Don't know	20%	12%	18%	30%







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- i. The September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon were carried out by 19 terrorists supported by Al-Qaeda

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
True*	73%	80%	75%	66%
False	7%	6%	7%	8%
Don't know	20%	14%	19%	26%

- j. Humans do not play a significant role in climate change

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
True	17%	28%	11%	13%
False*	69%	58%	80%	71%
Don't know	14%	14%	9%	15%

### Total grade for the 10 true/false questions

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
<b>A</b> (9 or 10 correct)	13%	5%	20%	12%
<b>B</b> (8 correct)	12%	7%	16%	12%
<b>C</b> (6 or 7 correct)	25%	29%	26%	20%
<b>D</b> (5 correct)	14%	16%	13%	13%
<b>F</b> (4 or fewer correct)	37%	42%	25%	42%

4. Do you agree or disagree with the following?

### Total Agree Summary

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Masks are an effective tool to prevent the spread of COVID-19	74%	61%	90%	68%
There should be a law in [STATE NAME] requiring mask usage in public, at all times	64%	45%	85%	60%
I will take the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it is made available to me	54%	49%	65%	46%
The economy will recover quickly once a vaccine is released	38%	40%	41%	32%
COVID-19 is no more of a serious threat than the seasonal flu	34%	45%	27%	29%
The COVID-19 restrictions in my community are too strict	26%	42%	16%	25%





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a. COVID-19 is no more of a serious threat than the seasonal flu

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Strongly agree	17%	19%	16%	15%
Somewhat agree	18%	27%	11%	15%
Somewhat disagree	16%	24%	9%	18%
Strongly disagree	43%	25%	59%	48%
Don't know	6%	6%	4%	5%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<b>34%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>29%</b>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<b>59%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>65%</b>

b. Masks are an effective tool to prevent the spread of COVID-19

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Strongly agree	47%	29%	67%	36%
Somewhat agree	27%	32%	23%	32%
Somewhat disagree	10%	15%	4%	10%
Strongly disagree	9%	16%	3%	12%
Don't know	7%	8%	3%	10%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<b>74%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>68%</b>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<b>19%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>22%</b>

c. The COVID-19 restrictions in my community are too strict

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Strongly agree	12%	19%	6%	12%
Somewhat agree	15%	22%	10%	13%
Somewhat disagree	25%	26%	24%	25%
Strongly disagree	41%	26%	54%	40%
Don't know	8%	7%	6%	10%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<b>26%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>25%</b>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<b>66%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>65%</b>

d. There should be a law in [STATE NAME] requiring mask usage in public, at all times

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Strongly agree	42%	26%	60%	36%
Somewhat agree	22%	19%	24%	23%
Somewhat disagree	14%	21%	8%	19%
Strongly disagree	16%	31%	3%	14%
Don't know	5%	3%	5%	8%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<b>64%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>60%</b>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<b>30%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>33%</b>





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e. I will take the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it is made available to me

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Strongly agree	32%	28%	40%	29%
Somewhat agree	22%	20%	25%	17%
Somewhat disagree	12%	10%	13%	11%
Strongly disagree	23%	31%	12%	26%
Don't know	12%	10%	10%	16%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>54%</i>	<i>49%</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>46%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>35%</i>	<i>41%</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>37%</i>

f. The economy will recover quickly once a vaccine is released

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Strongly agree	10%	8%	12%	10%
Somewhat agree	29%	32%	30%	23%
Somewhat disagree	27%	30%	27%	29%
Strongly disagree	17%	16%	16%	16%
Don't know	17%	14%	16%	23%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>38%</i>	<i>40%</i>	<i>41%</i>	<i>32%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>45%</i>	<i>46%</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>44%</i>

5. Do you agree or disagree with the following?

### Total Agree Summary

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
I believe there should be a smooth transition of power to the Biden administration in January	70%	53%	91%	62%
I accept the outcome of the 2020 presidential election	69%	44%	93%	67%
Republican efforts to change the results of the election are damaging the country	55%	27%	83%	53%
There is a deep state working to undermine President Trump	39%	71%	15%	37%
Voter fraud helped Joe Biden win the 2020 election	33%	67%	11%	28%





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a. I accept the outcome of the 2020 presidential election

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Strongly agree	51%	20%	80%	44%
Somewhat agree	18%	23%	12%	22%
Somewhat disagree	9%	18%	3%	8%
Strongly disagree	14%	28%	3%	16%
Don't know	8%	10%	2%	9%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<b>69%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>67%</b>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<b>23%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>24%</b>

b. I believe there should be a smooth transition of power to the Biden administration in January

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Strongly agree	48%	24%	74%	38%
Somewhat agree	22%	29%	17%	24%
Somewhat disagree	9%	13%	4%	14%
Strongly disagree	10%	21%	2%	9%
Don't know	12%	13%	4%	15%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<b>70%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>62%</b>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<b>18%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>23%</b>

c. Voter fraud helped Joe Biden win the 2020 election

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Strongly agree	22%	48%	5%	21%
Somewhat agree	11%	19%	6%	7%
Somewhat disagree	7%	7%	7%	11%
Strongly disagree	46%	12%	78%	38%
Don't know	14%	14%	4%	23%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<b>33%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>28%</b>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<b>54%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>49%</b>

d. There is a deep state working to undermine President Trump

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Strongly agree	22%	47%	6%	21%
Somewhat agree	17%	25%	10%	16%
Somewhat disagree	9%	7%	10%	9%
Strongly disagree	34%	8%	58%	33%
Don't know	19%	13%	17%	21%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<b>39%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>37%</b>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<b>42%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>42%</b>



## PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

e. Republican efforts to change the results of the election are damaging the country

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Strongly agree	38%	11%	64%	31%
Somewhat agree	17%	15%	19%	22%
Somewhat disagree	12%	20%	5%	8%
Strongly disagree	19%	41%	4%	18%
Don't know	15%	12%	7%	21%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>83%</i>	<i>53%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>26%</i>

6. How concerned, if at all, are you about the following?

### Total Concerned Summary

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
The spread of false information	83%	86%	86%	77%
False information about coronavirus and vaccines	80%	81%	82%	77%
Political violence over the next four years	73%	76%	76%	71%
The information you receive on social media is not accurate	69%	72%	70%	73%
Foreign interference in U.S. social media	67%	68%	72%	63%
People with radically different political views than you holding positions of power	65%	68%	71%	52%

a. The spread of false information

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Very concerned	54%	52%	60%	50%
Somewhat concerned	29%	34%	25%	27%
Not very concerned	7%	6%	6%	10%
Not at all concerned	4%	3%	4%	3%
Don't know	7%	5%	4%	10%
<i>Concerned (Net)</i>	<i>83%</i>	<i>86%</i>	<i>86%</i>	<i>77%</i>
<i>Not concerned (Net)</i>	<i>11%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>13%</i>



## PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

### b. False information about coronavirus and vaccines

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Very concerned	47%	43%	54%	43%
Somewhat concerned	33%	38%	28%	34%
Not very concerned	9%	10%	9%	4%
Not at all concerned	4%	4%	3%	4%
Don't know	7%	4%	5%	15%
<i>Concerned (Net)</i>	<i>80%</i>	<i>81%</i>	<i>82%</i>	<i>77%</i>
<i>Not concerned (Net)</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>8%</i>

### c. People with radically different political views than you holding positions of power

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Very concerned	30%	34%	32%	18%
Somewhat concerned	35%	33%	39%	34%
Not very concerned	16%	17%	15%	21%
Not at all concerned	5%	5%	5%	7%
Don't know	13%	11%	9%	20%
<i>Concerned (Net)</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>68%</i>	<i>71%</i>	<i>52%</i>
<i>Not concerned (Net)</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>29%</i>

### d. Political violence over the next four years

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Very concerned	36%	41%	35%	37%
Somewhat concerned	37%	35%	41%	34%
Not very concerned	12%	11%	12%	13%
Not at all concerned	6%	6%	6%	1%
Don't know	9%	7%	6%	14%
<i>Concerned (Net)</i>	<i>73%</i>	<i>76%</i>	<i>76%</i>	<i>71%</i>
<i>Not concerned (Net)</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>17%</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>14%</i>

### e. Foreign interference in U.S. social media

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Very concerned	33%	33%	38%	29%
Somewhat concerned	34%	36%	34%	34%
Not very concerned	15%	15%	14%	16%
Not at all concerned	6%	7%	6%	4%
Don't know	12%	10%	8%	17%
<i>Concerned (Net)</i>	<i>67%</i>	<i>68%</i>	<i>72%</i>	<i>63%</i>
<i>Not concerned (Net)</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>20%</i>

## PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

f. The information you receive on social media is not accurate

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Very concerned	33%	40%	30%	35%
Somewhat concerned	36%	32%	39%	37%
Not very concerned	14%	13%	17%	10%
Not at all concerned	6%	7%	6%	3%
Don't know	10%	8%	8%	14%
<i>Concerned (Net)</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>72%</i>	<i>70%</i>	<i>73%</i>
<i>Not concerned (Net)</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>13%</i>

7. Of the following, who do you think is most likely to believe false information or conspiracy theories?

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Republicans	27%	13%	44%	14%
Democrats	17%	28%	12%	8%
Independents and non-partisans	4%	4%	4%	4%
All equally	53%	55%	39%	75%

8. Of the following, who do you think is most likely to believe false information or conspiracy theories?

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
Younger people	22%	34%	15%	23%
Older people	20%	14%	28%	14%
All equally	57%	53%	57%	63%

9. Of the following, who do you think is most likely to believe false information or conspiracy theories?

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
People who did not go to college	26%	21%	35%	18%
People with advanced degrees	5%	6%	6%	4%
All equally	69%	73%	59%	78%

10. Of the following, who do you think is most likely to believe false information or conspiracy theories?

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
White people	17%	10%	26%	8%
Black people	8%	10%	7%	11%
Latino/Hispanic people	3%	4%	3%	2%
Asian people	1%	2%	1%	3%
All equally	70%	74%	63%	76%



## PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

11. Overall, how many of the following types of friends would you say you have?

### Under 10 Summary

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Close friends that you interact with in real life (before or since the COVID-19 pandemic)	66%	66%	68%	66%
Close friends that you interact with primarily on social media	46%	45%	49%	43%

### 10 or More Summary

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Close friends that you interact with in real life (before or since the COVID-19 pandemic)	17%	21%	16%	18%
Close friends that you interact with primarily on social media	24%	25%	25%	25%

a. Close friends that you interact with in real life (before or since the COVID-19 pandemic)

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
None	9%	7%	10%	5%
1	6%	5%	6%	8%
2-4	36%	37%	37%	34%
5-9	23%	24%	24%	24%
10-19	9%	11%	9%	10%
20 or more	8%	11%	7%	8%
Don't know/Not applicable	8%	6%	6%	11%
<i>Under 10 (Net)</i>	66%	66%	68%	66%
<i>10 or more (Net)</i>	17%	21%	16%	18%

b. Close friends that you interact with primarily on social media

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
None	17%	17%	16%	17%
1	3%	3%	4%	3%
2-4	23%	22%	23%	25%
5-9	19%	19%	22%	14%
10-19	10%	9%	11%	13%
20 or more	14%	15%	14%	12%
Don't know/Not applicable	13%	13%	9%	15%
<i>Under 10 (Net)</i>	46%	45%	49%	43%
<i>10 or more (Net)</i>	24%	25%	25%	25%







## PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

12. Do you participate in, or belong to, any of the following groups, even before the COVID-19 pandemic? Select all that apply.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Church/Worship services	25%	37%	21%	16%
Volunteer group	14%	13%	15%	17%
Religious group	13%	17%	12%	10%
Social club	11%	10%	13%	8%
Recreational sports league	9%	10%	9%	11%
Political group	5%	4%	7%	2%
Other	2%	3%	2%	2%
None of the above	53%	45%	53%	66%

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

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
ABC / CBS / NBC News	20%	17%	25%	24%
FOX News	11%	21%	5%	12%
Social media	11%	8%	11%	11%
CNN	10%	4%	16%	4%
Digital or online news	7%	7%	7%	7%
Public television or radio	6%	6%	8%	3%
Friends and family	5%	5%	3%	8%
Your local newspaper	4%	6%	3%	5%
MSNBC	4%	1%	8%	1%
New York Times or Washington Post	2%	1%	3%	2%
Conservative online news (e.g. Breitbart, Daily Caller, Instapundit)	2%	4%	0%	4%
Other	5%	6%	5%	7%
None of these	12%	14%	6%	11%

14. In an average day, how many hours do you spend doing the following?

a. Reading through social media

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
None	29%	33%	24%	32%
1 hour	36%	39%	37%	38%
2 to 3 hours	23%	20%	25%	16%
4 to 6 hours	8%	6%	9%	10%
7 or more hours	4%	2%	5%	4%



## PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

### b. Posting on social media

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
None	52%	55%	48%	58%
1 hour	31%	31%	32%	27%
2 to 3 hours	10%	8%	10%	9%
4 to 6 hours	5%	3%	7%	5%
7 or more hours	3%	2%	3%	1%

### c. Watching or reading cable news (tv or online)

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
None	38%	44%	31%	36%
1 hour	35%	33%	36%	39%
2 to 3 hours	18%	15%	24%	14%
4 to 6 hours	7%	6%	6%	9%
7 or more hours	3%	2%	3%	2%

### d. Watching national broadcast news (tv or online)

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
None	33%	40%	23%	32%
1 hour	40%	37%	43%	42%
2 to 3 hours	21%	18%	26%	19%
4 to 6 hours	5%	3%	6%	7%
7 or more hours	2%	2%	3%	1%

### e. Talking about politics with friends and family

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Republican</b>	<b>Democrat</b>	<b>Independent</b>
None	48%	50%	39%	57%
1 hour	37%	38%	43%	32%
2 to 3 hours	10%	8%	14%	6%
4 to 6 hours	3%	3%	3%	3%
7 or more hours	2%	0%	2%	3%





## PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

15. What is your religion, if any? Select one answer only.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Mainline Protestant Christian (American Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal, United Church of Christ, etc.)	18%	22%	17%	14%
Roman Catholic	16%	15%	18%	15%
Evangelical or born-again Christian (Southern Baptist, Assemblies of God, etc.)	9%	16%	5%	10%
Jewish	3%	2%	4%	4%
Mormon	2%	3%	1%	1%
Islam/Muslim	1%	0%	1%	1%
Buddhist	1%	0%	2%	1%
Unitarian (Universalist)	1%	1%	0%	2%
Hindu	0%	1%	0%	1%
Jehovah's Witness	0%	0%	0%	0%
Greek or Russian Orthodox Church	0%	0%	1%	0%
Other Christian religion	11%	14%	7%	16%
Other-non-Christian religion	1%	2%	1%	0%
Spiritual, but no defined religion	9%	6%	13%	6%
No religion	22%	14%	26%	26%
Prefer not to answer	5%	4%	4%	3%

16. How often do you attend religious services?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
More than once a week	7%	10%	5%	5%
Once a week	16%	22%	15%	11%
Once or twice a month	8%	8%	9%	5%
A few times a year	13%	15%	13%	11%
Once a year or less	14%	13%	14%	21%
Never	35%	28%	38%	42%
Prefer not to answer	8%	5%	7%	6%





## PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

### About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between December 21-22, 2020, on behalf of NPR. For this survey, a sample of 1,115 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English with oversamples of Black and Hispanic Americans. This poll is trended against NPR/Ipsos polls conducted between August 20-21, 2020, July 30-31, 2020, and June 19-20, 2018, with a sample of 1,186, 1,115 and 1,071 U.S. adults, respectively.

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 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 3.3 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 ( $n=1,115$ ,  $DEFF=1.5$ , adjusted Confidence Interval= $\pm 4.8$  percentage points).

The poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 5.6 percentage points for Republicans, plus or minus 4.9 percentage points for Democrats, and plus or minus 10.3 percentage points for Independents.

The poll fielded from August 20-21, 2020, has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.2 percentage points, the poll fielded from July 30-31, 2020, has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.3 percentage points, and the poll fielded from June 19-20, 2018, has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.4 percentage points.

### 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](mailto:chris.jackson@ipsos.com)

Kate Silverstein  
Media Relations Specialist, US  
Public Affairs  
+1 718 755-8829  
[kate.silverstein@ipsos.com](mailto:kate.silverstein@ipsos.com)

Mallory Newall  
Director, US  
Public Affairs  
+1 202 420-2014  
[mallory.newall@ipsos.com](mailto:mallory.newall@ipsos.com)





## PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

### About Ipsos

Ipsos 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).

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