African American Research Collaborative
Understanding and Communicating Black Political Action

The Impact of the Black Vote
Findings of the 2020 American Election Eve Poll

NAACP

Vera Institute of Justice
About the survey

Total N=15,200 registered voters (Margin of Error [MOE] = +/- 0.8%)

- Representative samples: Latino, African American, AAPI, American Indian, and White voters
- Black over samples: FL, GA, MI, NC, NV, OH, PA, TX, WI (for each of these states, n = 400)
- Black sample: n = 4,100
- MOE is +/-1.5 (Blacks in total sample) and +/- 4.9% (Blacks in state samples)

Field Dates: October 23 - November 2, 2020

- Screen already voted, certain voted
- Blended sample, % online,% live telephone interviews
- Language according to respondent preference: English, Spanish, Chinese Mandarin, Chinese Cantonese, Korean, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Hmong

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
12 State Samples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Samples Total N</th>
<th>Latino</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>AAPI</th>
<th>American Indian</th>
<th>White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOE</td>
<td>+/- 4.9%</td>
<td>+/- 4.9%</td>
<td>+/- 2.4%</td>
<td>+/- 5.6%</td>
<td>+/- 5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(+/- 3.5%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>.</td>
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<td>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total n=10,300

National samples were collected in states not represented in the state by state data collection.

State samples of n=400 carry +/- 4.9% margin of error for each group, while samples of 300 in a state have a margin of error of +/- 5.6%.

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Overview of results

- Presidential Election
- Top Issue Concerns & Support for Progressive Agenda
- Attitudes Towards Trump & Trumpism
- Political Involvement
- COVID-19 & Pandemic Politics

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Presidential Election
Vote choice by race/ethnicity

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Poll Comparisons: Black Vote Consolidation

Support for Joe Biden

- **July 2020 (AU Poll)**
  - Black Women: 57%
  - Black Men: 43%

- **September 2020 (ACLU Poll)**
  - Black Women: 77%
  - Black Men: 78%

- **October 2020 (AEEP)**
  - Black Women: 92%
  - Black Men: 86%

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Vote choice by race/ethnicity and gender

- Black women: 92%
- Black men: 86%
- White women: 45%
- White men: 38%

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Horse race (age breakdowns among Black voters)

Vote Choice for President

- **Ages 18 - 39**
  - Democrat: 83%
  - Republican: 4%
  - Someone else: 13%

- **Age 40 - 60**
  - Democrat: 91%
  - Republican: 2%
  - Someone else: 7%

- **Older than 60**
  - Democrat: 95%
  - Republican: 1%
  - Someone else: 4%

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Asked of Black voters: What if Trump loses?

If Donald Trump loses the election, what one word would you use to describe how you will feel?

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Top Issue Concerns & Support for Progressive Agenda
## Issue priorities

...what are the most important issues facing your community that our politicians should address?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue prioritities</th>
<th>Latino/a</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>AAPI</th>
<th>American Indian</th>
<th>White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coronavirus pandemic</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discrimination and racial justice</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobs and economy</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care costs</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-overlapping issue</th>
<th>Police brutality/Police reform</th>
<th>Police brutality/police reform</th>
<th>Medicare and Social Security</th>
<th>Medicare and Social Security</th>
<th>Medicare and Social Security</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police brutality/Police reform</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td><strong>30%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare and Social Security</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
The overriding salience of racism

BLM Tackles Important Issues

- Total agree: 90% Black women, 88% Black men
- Total disagree: 9% Black women, 12% Black men

White Supremacy a Major Threat

- Total agree: 92% Black women, 90% Black men
- Total disagree: 7% Black women, 10% Black men

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
The accessibility of voting

Every voter in every state should have the choice to either vote by mail, vote early, or vote in person on election day.

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Health care policy

Our government should ensure that everyone has access to affordable health care.

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Criminal justice policy and de-carceration

Our government should take steps to reduce the number of people in jails/prisons.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Black women</th>
<th>Black men</th>
<th>Latinas</th>
<th>Latinos</th>
<th>White women</th>
<th>White men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total agree</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total disagree</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
While cutting funds for police alone is unpopular, reducing violence by redirecting funds from policing to social workers and youth programs is popular with people of color.

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Police and criminal justice reform (Black voters)

88% 95% 97%
Get rid of laws that make it hard to prosecute police officers

91% 96% 96%
Ban chokeholds and reduce police shooting at suspects

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
### Incarcerated people eligible for Pell Grants

We should allow people in prison to use Pell Grants for education/training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Total agree</th>
<th>Total disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino/a</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAPI</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Am. Indian</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Climate policy (among Black voters only)

Congress and President should support climate policy that also advances racial and economic justice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total support</th>
<th>Total oppose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age 18 - 39</td>
<td>Age 40 - 59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
We should end the policy of separating immigrant children from their parents at the border.

- Total support:
  - Total: 85%
  - Latino/a: 87%
  - Black: 90%
  - AAPI: 81%
  - Am. Indian: 79%
  - White: 78%

- Total oppose:
  - Total: 13%
  - Latino/a: 11%
  - Black: 10%
  - AAPI: 15%
  - Am. Indian: 20%
  - White: 21%

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Immigration policy (path to citizenship)

We should establish a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants who come forward, are up to date on their taxes, and pass a background check.

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Attitudes Towards Trump & Trumpism
Candidate empathy

Joe Biden

- Truly cares: 84% (Black women) 74% (Black men)
- Does not care: 17% (Black women) 12% (Black men)
- Is hostile: 3% (Black women) 2% (Black men)

Donald Trump

- Truly cares: 10% (Black women) 18% (Black men)
- Does not care: 59% (Black women) 53% (Black men)
- Is hostile: 30% (Black women) 29% (Black men)

Combined Trump negative
- Black women: 89%
- Black men: 82%

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Discrimination in America

Over the past four years, do you think racism and discrimination have increased, stayed about the same, or decreased?

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Political Involvement
The impact of Harris as Biden’s VP pick

Did Joe Biden's selection of Kamala Harris as his running mate make you more or less enthusiastic about voting for him or did it not make a difference?

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Did Joe Biden’s selection of Kamala Harris as his running mate make you more, or less enthusiastic about voting for him, or did it not make a difference?

- Total more enthusiastic:
  - Ages 18 - 39: 64%
  - Ages 40 - 60: 61%
  - Older than 60: 52%

- Total Less enthusiastic:
  - Ages 18 - 39: 8%
  - Ages 40 - 60: 7%
  - Older than 60: 3%

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
Did you take part in any of the following activities related to the 2020 election?

- Encouraged friends or family to register or vote
- Donated money to a candidate or campaign
- Attended a campaign rally or event to support a candidate

African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020)
COVID-19 and “Pandemic Politics”
President Trump ignored the early warning signs of coronavirus and because of his mismanagement, millions of Americans became sick and more than 220,000 died.

The coronavirus is unfortunate, but there is nothing that President Trump could have done differently to limit the spread of coronavirus, or reduce the number of people who became sick or died.

Which statement is closer to your view?

- President Trump ignored the early warning signs of coronavirus and because of his mismanagement, millions of Americans became sick and more than 220,000 died: 86%
- The coronavirus is unfortunate, but there is nothing that President Trump could have done differently to limit the spread of coronavirus, or reduce the number of people who became sick or died: 13%

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
### The Impact of COVID on our Health

Have you or a family member or friend contracted coronavirus or become ill due to the coronavirus?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scenario</th>
<th>Black Women</th>
<th>Black Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, I have had coronavirus</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, someone in my household has had coronavirus</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, family outside of my household has had coronavirus</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, someone else I know has had coronavirus</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
The Impact of COVID on our Wealth

Please indicate whether any of the circumstances apply to you or someone in your household because of the coronavirus pandemic the past few months?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circumstance</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Latino/a</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>AAPI</th>
<th>Native Am.</th>
<th>White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lost job</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had work hours cut, or pay cut, but kept job</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had to temporarily or permanently close my business or my self-employment</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently unemployed and looking for work</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
As long as the coronavirus is a threat, we need a national mandate to wear masks in public.

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%
How important is it to you that the next Congress pass a comprehensive stimulus bill with over 2 trillion dollars in additional funding for unemployment benefits, stimulus payments, small business loans, and support for state and local government.

N=15,200 +/-0.8% (Oct 23-Nov 2, 2020); African Americans N=4,100, +/-1.5%