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Public's Mood Turns Grim; Trump Trails Biden on Most Personal Traits, Major Issues

Just 17% say they are 'proud' when thinking about state of the U.S.

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How we did this

Pew Research Center conducted this study to understand how Americans are viewing national conditions and the upcoming 2020 presidential election. For this analysis, we surveyed 4,708 U.S. adults in June 2020. Everyone who took part is a member of Pew Research Center's American Trends Panel (ATP), an online survey panel that is recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses. This way nearly all U.S. adults have a chance of selection. The survey is weighted to be representative of the U.S. adult population by gender, race, ethnicity, partisan affiliation, education and other categories. Read more about the [ATP's methodology](#).

Here are the questions used for the report, along with responses, and its methodology.

Public's Mood Turns Grim; Trump Trails Biden on Most Personal Traits, Major Issues

Just 17% say they are 'proud' when thinking about state of the U.S.

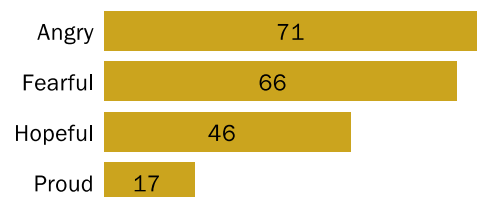
With less than five months until the 2020 elections, Americans are deeply unhappy with the state of the nation. As the United States simultaneously struggles with a pandemic, an economic recession and protests about police violence and racial justice, the share of the public saying they are satisfied with the way things are going in the country has plummeted from 31% in April, during the early weeks of the coronavirus outbreak, to just 12% today.

Anger and fear are widespread. Majorities of Democrats *and* Republicans say they feel both sentiments when thinking about the country, though these feelings are more prevalent among Democrats. And just 17% of Americans – including 25% of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents and 10% of Democrats and Democratic leaners – say they feel proud when thinking about the state of the country.

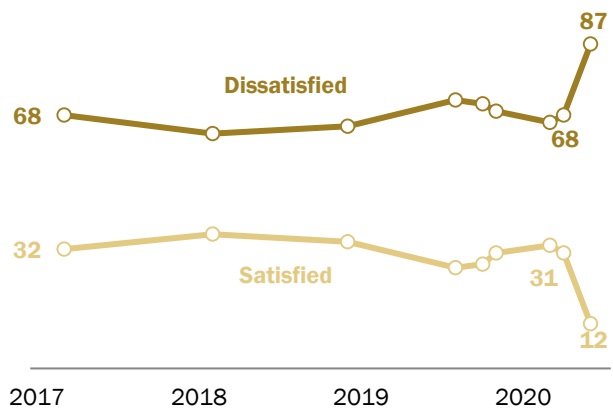
However, nearly half of adults (46%) say they feel hopeful about the state of the country, although a 53% majority says they are not hopeful.

Majorities feel anger, fear with state of nation; few feel proud

% who say, in thinking about the state of the country these days, they feel ...



% who say they are ____ with the way things are going in this country today



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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In the presidential contest, Donald Trump faces a 10 percentage point deficit in his race against Joe Biden: 54% of registered voters say if the election were held today, they would support Biden or lean toward voting for him, while 44% support Trump or lean toward supporting him.

As has been the case throughout his presidency, and even during his successful campaign for the White House four years ago, Trump continues to engender strong loyalty – and intense opposition. About three-quarters of registered voters who support Trump (76%) say they view

their presidential ballot primarily as a vote *for* the president. By comparison, only 33% of Biden voters view their vote more as an expression of support for him; about twice as many (67%) view it as vote *against* Trump.

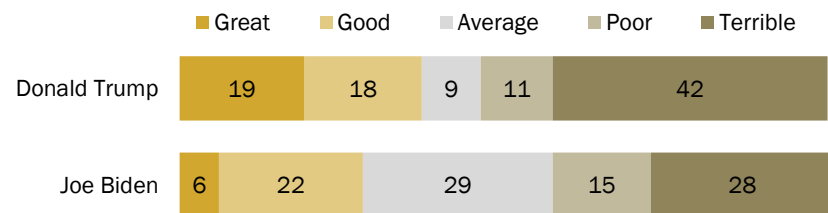
The new national survey by Pew Research Center, conducted June 16-22 among 4,708 adults, including 3,577 registered voters, finds sharp differences in how voters evaluate Trump's presidency compared with Biden's presidency, if he is elected.

Very few voters – just 9% – say Trump is an average president; 37% say he is a good or great president; and a much larger share (53%) say he is poor or terrible, including 42% who think he is a terrible president.

Fewer voters (28%) say Biden *would be* a good or great president than say that about Trump as president. And compared with Trump, many more say Biden would be average; 29% say he would be an average president. However, 43% say Biden would be poor or terrible, which is 10 percentage points lower than the share expressing such negative views about Trump as president.

Few voters say Trump is an 'average' president; far more describe Biden's possible presidency that way

% of voters who say Trump is/Biden would be a ____ president



Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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When it comes to voters' views of the candidates' personal traits and characteristics, Trump and Biden are a study in contrasts. Across six personal traits, Trump draws his lowest rating for being even-tempered. Just 25% of voters say "even-tempered" describes Trump very or fairly well; nearly three times as many (74%) say this phrase describes him not too well or not at all well. Even among voters who support Trump in the fall election, just 53% describe him as even-tempered.

Biden gets his most positive rating for his temperament: 60% of registered voters describe him as even-tempered, more than twice the share who describe Trump this way. Moreover, a 54% majority describes Biden as caring about the needs of ordinary people; only 41% say this phrase describes Trump very or somewhat well. And more voters say Biden is a good role model and describe him as honest than say that about Trump, by 15 percentage points and 12 points, respectively.

Yet Biden has a notable weakness. Just 40% of voters describe him as energetic – his lowest rating among the six traits included on the survey. This is Trump's most positive attribute in the eyes of voters, with a 56% majority describing him as energetic. There is only one trait of the six on which voters have similar views of the candidates; 46% say Trump is courageous while 45% describe Biden this way, although more say this description applies to Trump *very* well (28% vs. 15% for Biden).

Biden's strengths: even-tempered, good role model, empathetic, honest; Trump widely viewed as energetic

% of voters who say ____ describes each candidate *very or somewhat well*

		Very	Somewhat		ADVANTAGE
Energetic	Trump	30	26	56 NET	
	Biden	8	32	40	Trump +16
Courageous	Trump	28	18	46	
	Biden	15	31	45	Trump +1
Honest	Trump	15	21	36	
	Biden	15	33	48	Biden +12
Cares about the needs of ordinary people	Trump	25	16	41	
	Biden	23	31	54	Biden +13
A good role model	Trump	11	21	31	
	Biden	16	31	46	Biden +15
Even-tempered	Trump	7	18	25	
	Biden	17	43	60	Biden +35

Notes: Based on registered voters. Questions are independent measures. See topline for full question wording.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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Trump also engenders relatively little confidence in handling most major issues, with one notable exception. About half of voters (51%) say they are very or somewhat confident in Trump to make good decisions about economic policy, including 33% who are *very* confident. Roughly as many (48%) have confidence in Biden on the economy, though just 13% are very confident.

On most other major issues, including handling the public health impact from the coronavirus outbreak, Trump draws far less confidence than Biden. And only about a third of voters (35%) have confidence in Trump to effectively handle race relations; 48% have confidence in Biden in dealing with race relations.

Trump gets his lowest rating – among six issues and challenges included in the survey – on bringing the country closer together. Only about three-in-ten voters (31%) are very or somewhat confident in Trump to unify the country; 68% are not too or not at all confident.

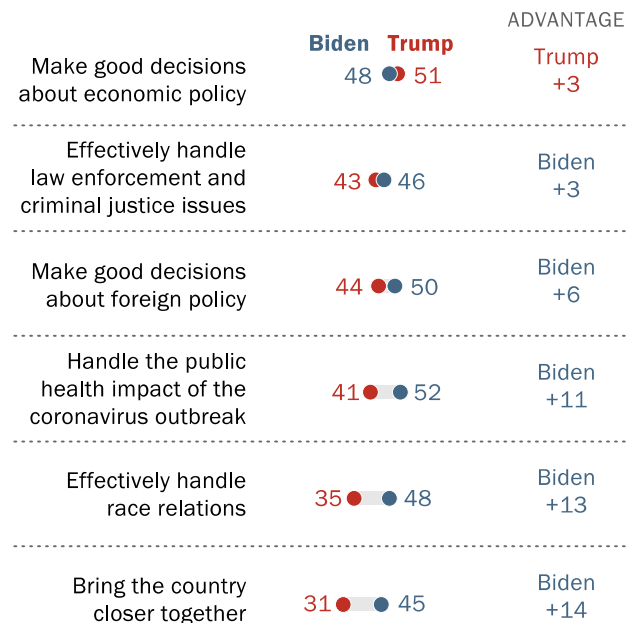
Biden's ratings are on balance more negative than positive, but he draws much greater confidence than Trump: 45% of voters say they are at least somewhat confident in Biden to bring the country closer, while 55% have little or no confidence in him to do this.

Other important findings

Optimism about life for future generations has increased among Black adults. In views of the current state of the country, Black and Hispanic adults are about as likely as white adults to express anger and fear. But a larger share of Black people (33%) than Hispanics (26%) or whites (22%) say life for future generations of Americans will be better than life today. And since last September, the shares of Black and Hispanic adults saying this have risen sharply – 16 points and 10 points, respectively – while remaining stable among white adults.

Trump draws more confidence on economy than on coronavirus or race

% of voters who say they are **very or somewhat confident** that ____ can do each of the following



Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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Trump's approval declines to 39%. Currently, 39% of Americans approve of how Trump is handling his job as president, while 59% disapprove. Trump's job rating has fallen from 44% in April; it stood at 45% in March. Since April, Trump's job approval has declined among most partisan and demographic groups. Trump's approval rating is now more negative than positive across all age groups, except adults 65 and older (48% approve, 48% disapprove). Large majorities of Black (86%) and Hispanic adults (69%) disapprove of Trump's job performance; white adults are divided (50% disapprove, 48% approve).

The 2020 election

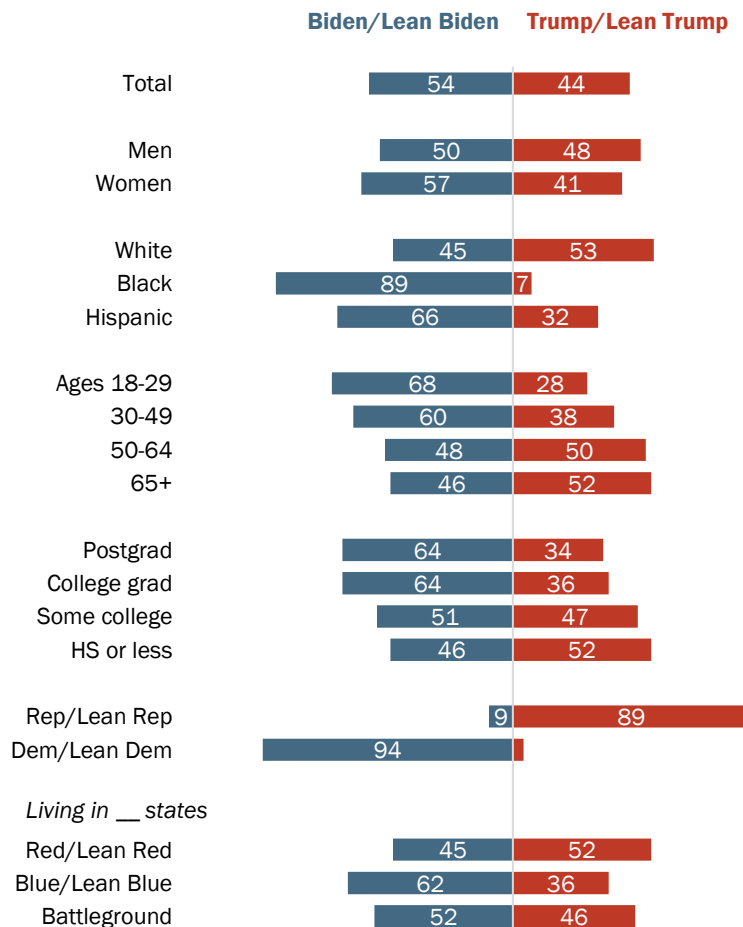
With the general election less than five months away, a larger share of registered voters say they would vote for Joe Biden than Donald Trump (54% vs. 44%) if the election were held today. For the most part, the demographic patterns in candidate preferences from the 2016 elections are evident today. (See [this study](#) for a detailed analysis of the 2016 electorate, based on validated voters.)

Among men, roughly similar shares say they would vote for Trump or Biden (48% vs. 50%), while a 57% majority of women say they would support Biden.

A larger share of white voters say they would vote for Trump (53%) than Biden (45%). Black voters favor Biden over Trump by an overwhelming margin (89% to 7%). Two-thirds of Hispanic voters (66%) support Biden, compared with 32% who back Trump.

As in 2016, wide divides by gender, race and ethnicity, age and education in 2020 voter preferences

% of registered voters who would vote for ___ if the 2020 presidential election were held today



Notes: Based on registered voters. Whites and Blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race. See appendix for state categorization. No answer responses not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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By well more than two-to-one (68% to 28%), voters ages 18 to 29 favor Biden over Trump. Biden also has a wide advantage (60% to 38%) among registered voters ages 30 to 49. Comparable shares of voters 50 and older say, if the election were today, they would support Trump (51%) and Biden (47%).

Nearly two-thirds (64%) of voters with postgraduate experience say they would vote for Biden. The same share of those with a four-year degree also support Biden. Among voters with some college experience or no college experience, neither candidate has an advantage.

Overwhelming majorities of Republican and Democratic voters favor their party's candidate. Among voters in Republican-leaning states, Trump has a modest advantage (52% vs 45%), while Biden's lead is wider in Democratic-leaning states (62% vs 36%). In battleground states, neither candidate currently has a statistically significant advantage. (See the appendix for how states are categorized.)

Trump voters far more likely to see their vote as 'for' their candidate

Trump and Biden supporters differ substantially on whether they view their vote as more of an expression of support "for" their preferred candidate or "against" his opponent.

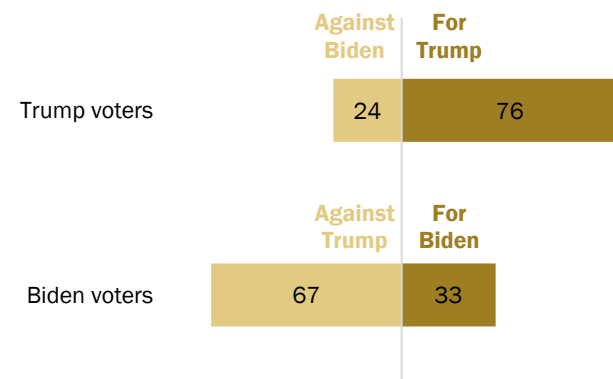
Among registered voters who say they would vote for Donald Trump, a large majority (76%) say that their choice of Trump is more a vote for Trump, while just 24% say their choice is more of a vote against Biden.

Biden supporters, by contrast, are far more likely than Trump supporters to see their vote as a vote against the opponent: 67% say their choice is more of a vote against Trump, while only about half as many (33%) say it is more of a vote for Biden.

There are sizable demographic divides among Biden supporters in views of whether they see their vote more as for Biden or against Trump. By contrast, there are only modest differences in these views among Trump voters.

Just a third of Biden supporters view vote as 'for' their candidate

% of voters who say their choice is more a vote ...



Notes: Based on registered voters. No answer responses not shown.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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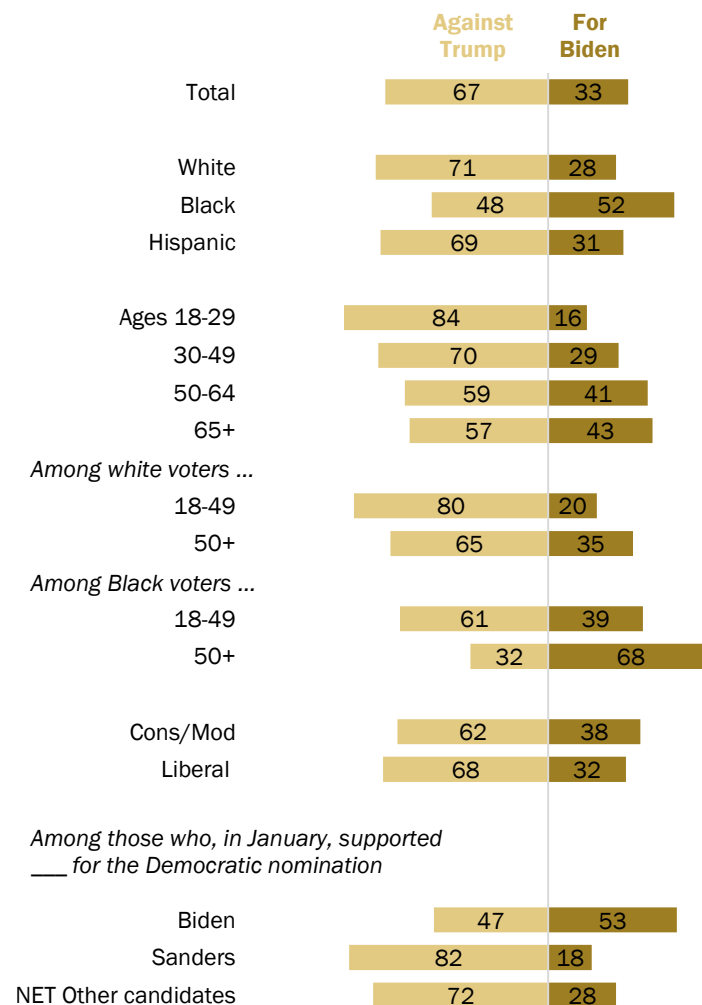
Younger Biden voters are more likely to say their choice is a vote against Trump. An overwhelming majority of those ages 18 to 29 (84%) say their vote is against Trump, while just 16% say it is more a vote for Biden. Among Biden supporters ages 50 and older, a narrower majority (58%) say their vote is more a vote against Trump.

While large shares of white and Hispanic Biden voters say their vote is more against Trump (71% and 69% respectively), Black voters who support Biden are divided on whether their vote is more for Biden (52%) or against Trump (48%).

The age differences in positive support for Biden are particularly stark among Black voters who support him. Among Black voters ages 50 and older, 68% say their vote is more for Biden; among those younger than 50, just 39% say the same.

Older Black voters much more likely than younger Black voters to view their vote as ‘for’ Biden

% of **Biden voters** who say their choice is more a vote ...



Notes: Based on registered voters. Whites and Blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race. Ideology based on Democrats and those who lean Democratic. No answer responses not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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About half of Biden general election supporters who also said in January that he was their first choice in the Democratic primary say they consider their vote to be more of a vote for Biden, while roughly as many consider their vote to mainly be a vote against Trump (53% vs. 47%, respectively). Among those who said their first choice was either Bernie Sanders or another candidate, large majorities say their vote is more of a vote against Trump.

More voters have negative than positive views of Trump as president and Biden as a possible president

Voters' perceptions of Trump as president – and Biden as a possible president – differ substantially. And while voters generally hold positive feelings about their own preferred candidate, supporters of Donald Trump have more positive views of Trump's presidency than Biden supporters have of his potential presidency.

Among all registered voters, larger shares say that if Biden wins in November, he would be a poor or terrible president (43%) than a good or great president (28%); 29% expect him to be an average president. Evaluations of Trump's presidency also are more negative than positive: 53% say he is poor or terrible, while 37% view him as a good or great president. Just 9% say Trump is an average president.

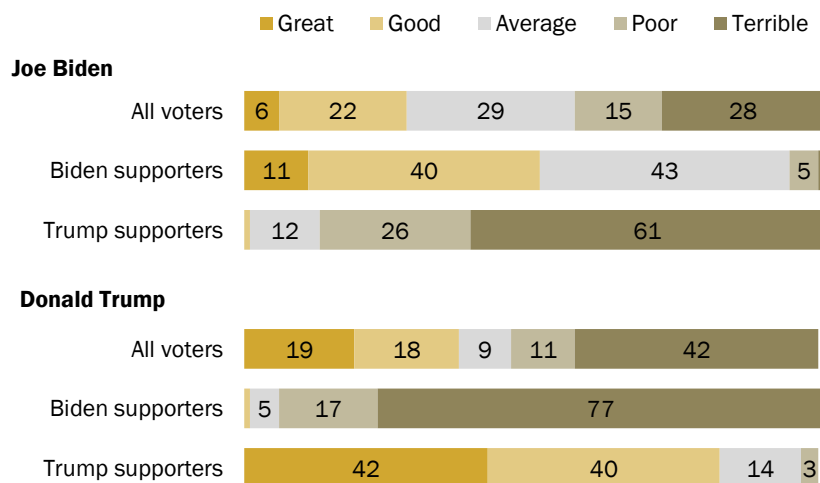
Registered voters who support Biden express mixed views about how he would be as president. About half say that, if elected, he would be a great (11%) or good (40%) president. About four-in-ten Biden voters (43%) say he would be an average president. Just 7% say he would be a poor or terrible president.

Voters who support Trump are much more positive about his presidency. About eight-in-ten say he is a great (42%) or good (40%) president. While 14% view Trump as an average president, just 4% of Trump voters say he is a poor or terrible president.

And while Biden supporters have more mixed views of their own candidate, their views of Trump's presidency are more united and intensely negative. About nine-in-ten Biden voters (93%) have negative assessments of Trump as president, with 77% saying he is a terrible president.

Biden's supporters have mixed views of his possible presidency; Trump voters are much more positive about him as president

% of voters who saying Trump is/Biden would be a ____ president



Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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Similarly, nearly nine-in-ten Trump supporters (87%) have negative views of Biden's potential presidency, but their views are less intense: 61% of these voters say Biden would be a terrible president and 25% say he would be poor.

More voters describe Biden as even-tempered, empathetic, a good role model and honest

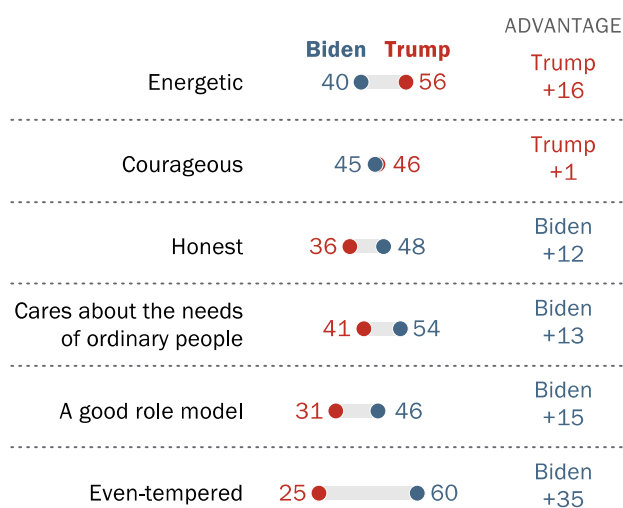
Biden has sizable advantages over Trump on several personal traits and characteristics, especially in views of the candidates' temperaments: 60% of registered voters say the phrase "even-tempered" describes Biden very or somewhat well, while just 25% say this description applies to Trump.

More voters also say the phrase "a good role model" describes Biden (46%) than Trump (31%). And more say Biden than Trump cares about the needs of ordinary people (54% to 41%) and is honest (48% to 36%).

Roughly the same shares of voters view Biden (45%) and Trump (46%) as courageous. And Trump is more widely viewed as energetic than is Biden; 56% say Trump is energetic, compared with 40% who say this describe Biden.

Biden leads Trump on many personal traits, but not 'energetic'

% of voters who say each of the following describe _____
very or somewhat well



Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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While Trump and Biden supporters generally see their candidates in a positive light, they make distinctions about whether specific descriptions apply. Notably, an overwhelming share of registered voters who back Biden (84%) say the phrase even-tempered describes Biden, which is among the positive evaluations of the candidate among his supporters.

But only about half of Trump supporters (53%) describe him as even-tempered, by far the lowest share saying that about Trump of any of the six traits included in the survey.

The reverse is true when it comes to perceptions of the candidates as energetic. More than nine-in-ten Trump voters (93%) describe him as energetic; a much smaller majority of Biden supporters (64%) say this describes Biden very or somewhat well.

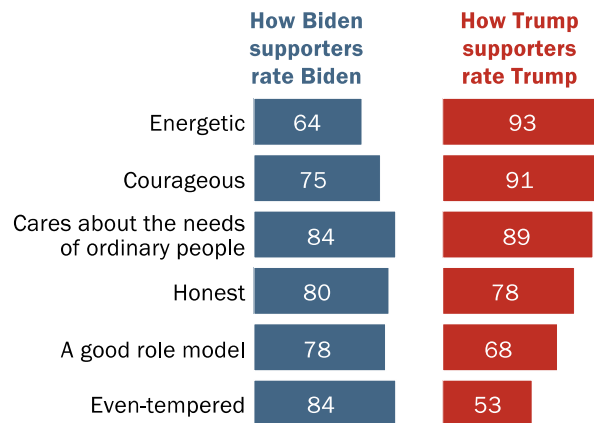
There also is a significant difference in views of whether Trump and Biden are courageous.

While 91% of voters who support Trump describe their candidate as courageous, fewer Biden supporters (75%) say the same about him.

Large majorities of Trump and Biden supporters view their preferred candidates as empathetic and honest. But Biden supporters are 10 percentage points more likely than Trump supporters to say the phrase “a good role model” describes their candidate (78% of Biden supporters, 68% of Trump supporters).

Narrow majority of Trump supporters describe him as even-tempered

% of voters who say each of the following describe _____
very or somewhat well



Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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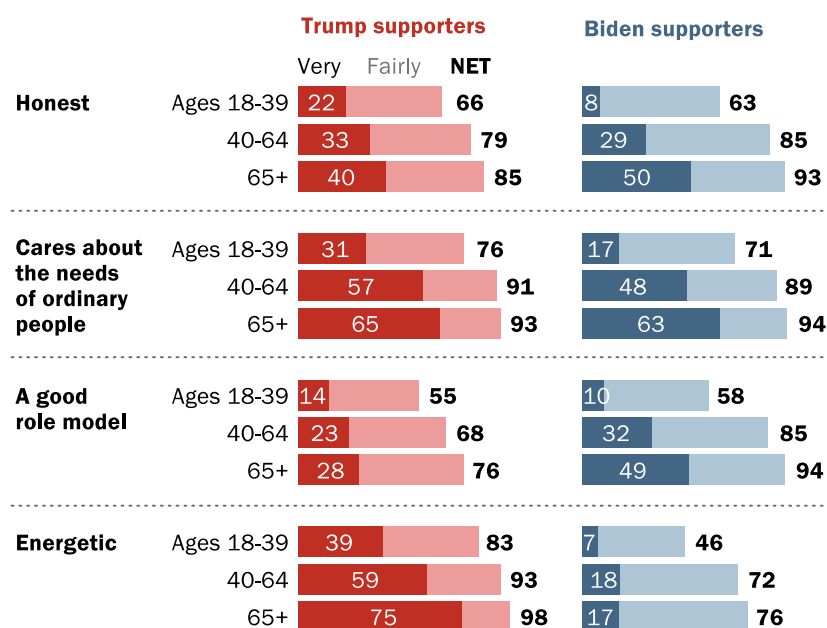
Younger supporters of both Trump and Biden are less likely to ascribe positive traits to their choice candidates than older supporters in their cohorts.

For example, while 71% of Trump voters ages 40 and older describe Trump as a good role model, a much smaller majority of those under age 40 describe him this way. There also are wide age differences among Trump supporters in perceptions of Trump as honest and that he cares about ordinary people, with fewer younger Trump supporters saying these descriptions apply.

A similar pattern is seen among voters who support Biden, particularly when it comes to views of him as energetic. More than seven-in-ten Biden supporters (73%) over 40 describe Biden as energetic, compared with 46% of those younger than 40.

Younger Trump and Biden supporters are less likely to have positive views of their preferred candidates

*% of voters who say each of the following describe the candidate they support **very or fairly well***



Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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Voters more confident in Biden on several issues and on bringing country closer together

Overall, similar shares of registered voters are very or somewhat confident in Trump (51%) and Biden (48%) to make good decisions about economic policy, although voters are more likely to say they are *very* confident in Trump (33% vs. 13%). And about as many voters express confidence in Biden (46%) as Trump (43%) to effectively handle law enforcement and criminal justice issues.

On four of the six issues included on the survey, however, voters are more likely to say they have confidence in Biden than Trump.

About half of voters (52%) are very or somewhat confident in Biden's abilities to handle the public health impact of the coronavirus, while 41% say they are confident in Trump.

And more voters are confident in Biden than Trump to bring the country closer together. Still, fewer than half of voters are confident in Biden to help unify the country (45%), while just 31% are confident in Trump.

Biden also has a 13 percentage point advantage over Trump on effectively handling race relations (48% of voters have confidence in Biden, 35% in Trump).

More voters confident in Biden on unifying U.S., race, coronavirus; Trump, Biden seen similarly on economy

% of voters who say they are **very or somewhat confident** that ____ can do each of the following

		Very	Somewhat		ADVANTAGE
Make good decisions about economic policy	Trump	33	18	51 NET	
	Biden	13	34	48	Trump +3
Effectively handle law enforcement and criminal justice issues	Trump	21	22	43	
	Biden	12	34	46	Biden +3
Make good decisions about foreign policy	Trump	25	19	44	
	Biden	19	31	50	Biden +6
Handle the public health impact of the coronavirus outbreak	Trump	20	22	41	
	Biden	17	35	52	Biden +11
Effectively handle race relations	Trump	15	20	35	
	Biden	13	35	48	Biden +13
Bring the country closer together	Trump	12	19	31	
	Biden	15	29	45	Biden +14

Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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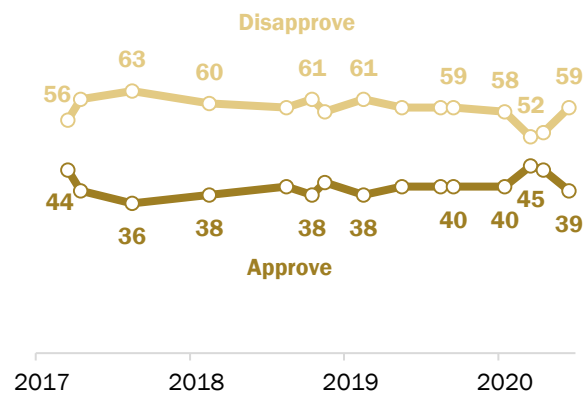
Trump's job approval rating declines

Donald Trump's job approval rating has declined since the spring. Currently, 39% of U.S. adults say they approve of how he is handling his job as president, while 59% say they disapprove. In March and April of this year, during the early stages of the COVID-19 outbreak in the U.S., larger shares said they approved of Trump's job performance (45% and 44%, respectively). While Trump's job rating has declined in recent months, it has now returned to about where it had been throughout much of his presidency.

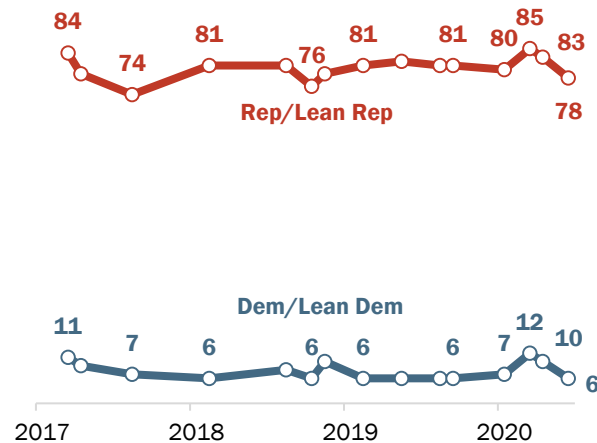
The recent decline in Trump's job approval can be seen across most demographic and political groups. For instance, Republicans and Republican leaners are now 7 percentage points less likely to say they approve of Trump than in March (78%, vs. 85% then). Among Democrats and Democratic leaners, Trump's approval rating is down 6 points over this period of time (from 12% in March to 6% today). The partisan gap in ratings of Trump remains as wide or wider than those seen for other previous U.S. presidents in the polling era.

Nearly six-in-ten disapprove of how Trump is handling his job as president

% who ____ of the way Trump is handling his job as president



% who approve of the way Trump is handling his job as president



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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There continue to be wide differences in assessments of Trump's job performance across demographic groups.

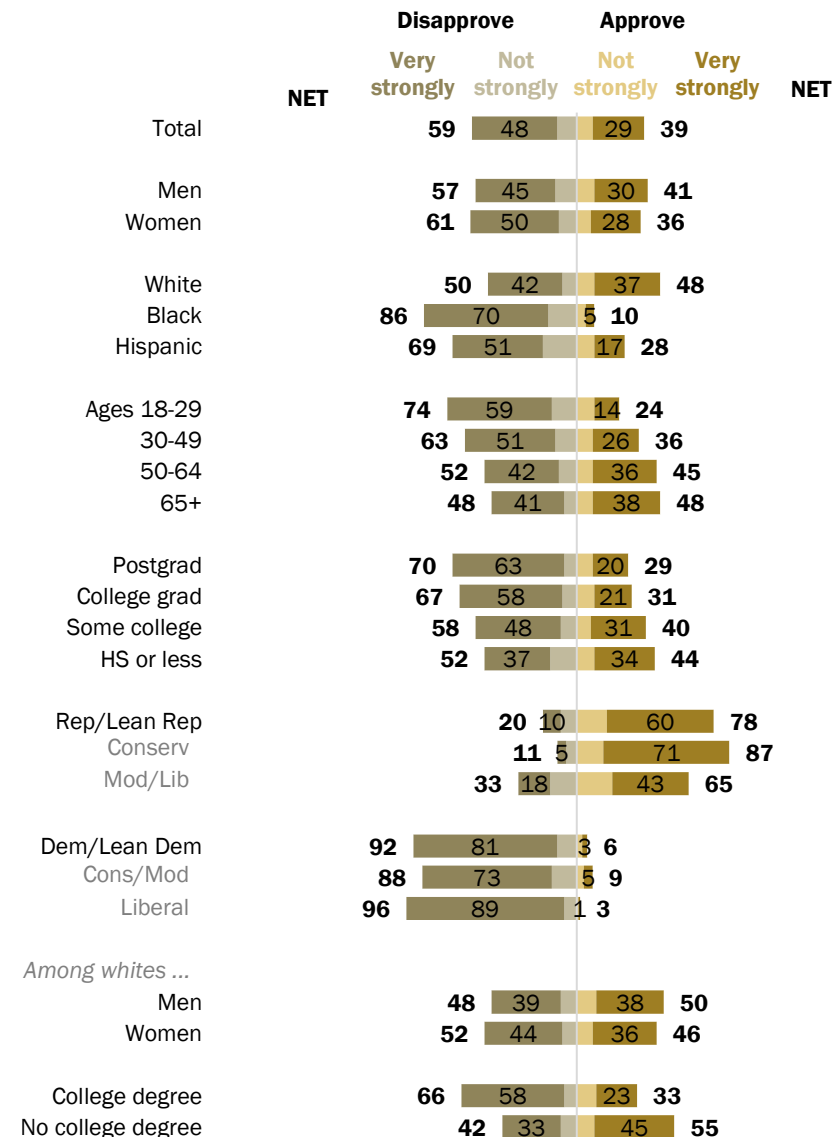
White adults are now about evenly split in their views of Trump: 48% approve of how he's handling his job, while 50% say they disapprove. In March, Trump's ratings among whites tilted positive (54% approved, 44% disapproved).

Roughly seven-in-ten Hispanic adults (69%) disapprove of Trump's job performance, as does an even larger majority of Black adults (86%). Disapproval among Black adults is especially deeply held: 70% say they *very strongly* disapprove of his job performance; in March, 58% said this.

Younger adults remain much more critical of Trump's performance than older adults. About three-quarters (74%) of those ages 18 to 29 disapprove of how Trump is handling his job. The oldest adults (ages 65 and older) are as likely to say they approve (48%) as disapprove (48%) of Trump. Disapproval of Trump has edged higher among all age groups since earlier this year.

Nearly three-quarters of young adults say they disapprove of Trump's job performance

% who ____ of the way Trump is handling his job as president



Notes: No answer responses not shown. Whites and Blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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Trump continues to receive positive ratings, on balance, from white adults without a college degree: 55% say they approve of Trump, while 42% disapprove. As with other groups, Trump's ratings among whites without a college degree are more negative than they were in March, when 62% said they approved of his performance and just 36% said they disapproved.

Who has changed their views on Trump?

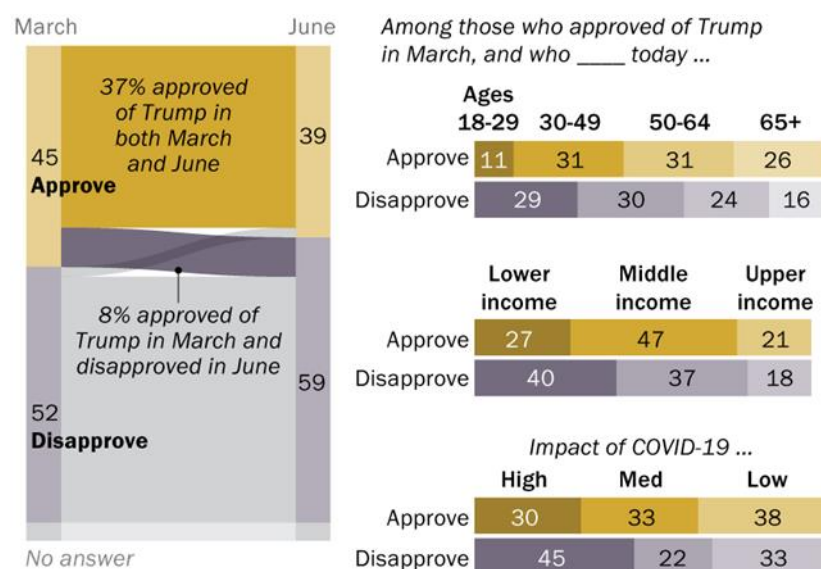
While Trump's overall approval has slipped several points from where it stood in March, most Americans' views of the president have remained relatively stable over the past three months. Looking at the same group of adults who were surveyed in both March and June, 17% of those who approved of Trump in March now disapprove of him (representing 8% of the public overall). They are somewhat different demographically from those who approved of the president's performance in March and continue to do so; 81% of those who approved in March also do so today.

Compared with those who continue to approve of Trump, those who previously approved and now disapprove are younger, have lower family incomes and are more likely to live in places hardest hit by the coronavirus outbreak.

Those who approved of the president in March and now disapprove are also about evenly divided in their partisan leanings (51% are Republicans or Republican-leaning independents and 42% are Democrats or Democratic leaners). Those who approved at both points are overwhelmingly Republican or Republican-leaning (91%). There are no substantial differences in the gender or educational makeup of these two groups.

Those who approved of Trump in March but disapprove today are younger, lower income, more likely to live in places hit hard by COVID-19 than steady approvers

% who ____ of the way Trump is handling his job as president in ...



Notes: No answer responses in either survey are combined. There are too few respondents who disapproved of Trump in March but now approve of him to analyze separately. See appendix for details on the COVID-19 impact categories.

Source: Surveys of U.S. adults conducted March 19-24 and June 16-22, 2020.

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Those who formerly approved of Trump but now disapprove are about as likely as those who approved at both points to live in 2020 battleground states (see appendix for details on battleground states).

Nearly all – 95% – of those who disapproved of Trump in March continue to disapprove of him today; just 3% say they now approve.

Public critical of Trump's impact on tone of U.S. political debate

On balance, the public believes that Trump has had a negative impact on the tone and nature of political debate in the U.S. A narrow 55% majority says he's changed the tone of debate for the worse, compared with just 25% who say he's changed it for the better; 19% say he hasn't changed the tone of political debate much either way. Views on this question are nearly identical to those in the spring of 2019.

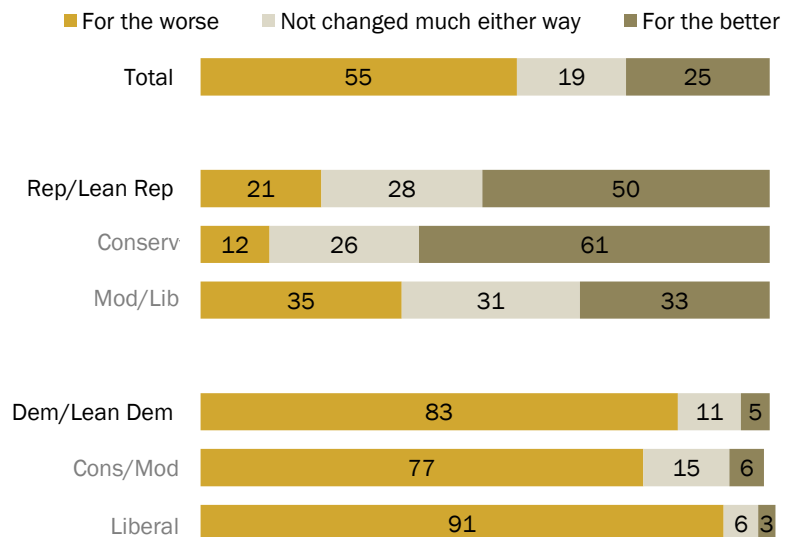
A large majority of Democrats and Democratic leaners (83%) say Trump has changed the tone and nature of political debated for the worse.

Among Republicans and Republican leaners, views are more mixed. Half say he has changed the nature of political debate in the country for the better, while 28% say he hasn't changed it much and 21% say

he's changed it for the worse. There is a significant divide in views on this question among Republicans by ideology. Far more conservative Republicans say Trump has changed U.S. political debate for the better than for the worse (61% vs. 12%). By contrast, moderate and liberal Republicans are about as likely to say he's changed debate for the worse (35%) as for the better (33%).

Majority says Trump has changed the tone of political debate in the U.S. for the worse

% who say Trump has change the tone of political debate in the U.S. ...



Note: No answer responses not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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Does Trump have a responsibility to release his tax returns?

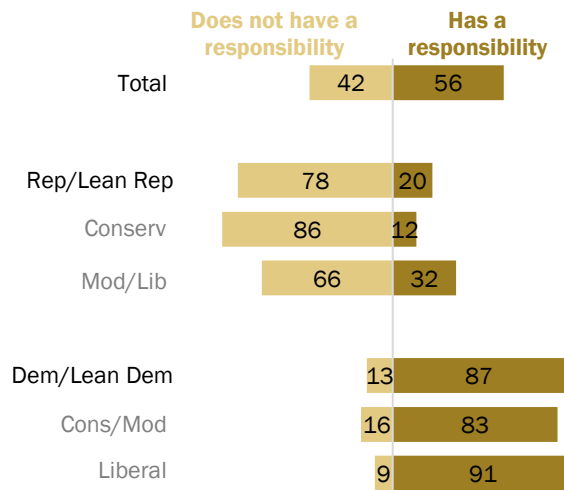
By 56% to 42%, more Americans say Trump has a responsibility to publicly release his tax returns than say he does not have this responsibility.

Partisans take opposing views on this question: 78% of Republicans and Republican leaners say Trump does not have a responsibility to release his tax returns; an even larger share of Democrats and Democratic leaners (87%) say he does have this responsibility.

Among Republicans, conservatives are 20 points more likely than moderates and liberals to say Trump does not have a responsibility to release his tax returns (86% vs. 66%). There is a more modest ideological gap among Democrats.

Majority of public says Trump has responsibility to release tax returns

% who say Trump ___ to publicly release his tax returns



Note: No answer responses not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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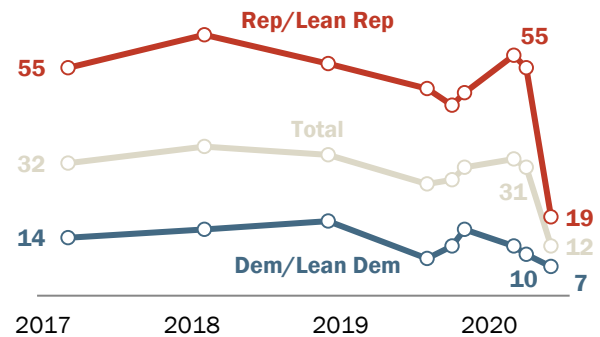
National satisfaction drops

Just 12% of Americans say they are satisfied with the way things are going in this country today – a 19 percentage point decline in national satisfaction since April and lower than at any previous point in Trump’s presidency. Nearly nine-in-ten (87%) now say they are dissatisfied with the way things are going.

The partisan gap in levels of satisfaction has narrowed to just 12 percentage points, with 19% of Republicans and Republican leaners and 7% of Democrats and Democratic leaners now saying they are satisfied with the way things are going. Until today, GOP satisfaction had been above 50% for nearly all of Trump’s presidency – including 55% of Republicans reporting they were satisfied with the way things were going as recently as April. While Democratic satisfaction is also lower than it was two months ago, this reflects a more modest decline (from 10% to 7%).

Sharp decline in GOP satisfaction with the way things are going in the country

% who say they are satisfied with the way things are going in this country today



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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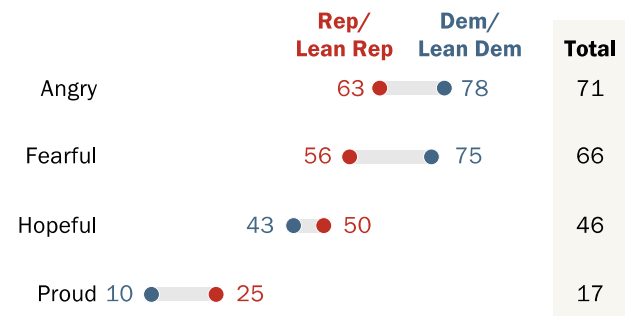
Most Americans feel anger, fear about the state of the nation

About seven-in-ten Americans (71%) say they feel angry about the state of the country these days, while roughly two-thirds (66%) say they feel fearful. While majorities in both parties say this, these views are more widespread among Democrats than Republicans. Nearly eight-in-ten Democrats (78%) report feeling angry about the state of the nation; 63% of Republicans say the same. And while 75% of Democrats say they feel fearful thinking about the state of the country these days, a narrower majority of Republicans (56%) say this.

Far smaller shares of Americans report feeling hopeful or proud thinking about current national conditions – 46% say they feel hopeful, while just 17% report feeling proud.

About three-quarters of Democrats feel angry, fearful about state of the nation

% who say, in thinking about the state of the country these days, they feel ...



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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Republicans are modestly more likely than Democrats to say they are hopeful (50% vs. 43%). Only a quarter of Republicans report feeling proud thinking about the country these days. Still, that is substantially higher than the share of Democrats saying this (10%).

There are only minor demographic differences in reported emotional reactions about the state of the country. Two-thirds or more across all age groups say they are angry about the state of the nation, with those ages 18 to 29 modestly more likely than older groups to say this (76% report feeling angry). And roughly two-thirds across age groups say they are fearful about the state of the country these days. There are similarly no significant age differences in the shares saying they are hopeful or proud.

About two-thirds of white (66%), Black (67%) and Hispanic (68%) adults each say they feel fearful about the state of the country. Identical shares of white and Black adults say they feel angry (72% each), while roughly as many Hispanic adults (67%) say this.

Anger, fear about state of the nation felt across age groups and among Black, white and Hispanic adults

% who say, in thinking about the state of the country these days, they feel ...

	Angry	Fearful	Hopeful	Proud
Total	71	66	46	17
Ages 18-29	76	65	44	15
30-49	70	66	46	16
50-64	68	67	47	18
65+	70	66	48	17
White	72	66	45	16
Black	72	67	48	12
Hispanic	67	68	50	22

Note: Whites and Blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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Views about prospects for future generations improve among Black and Hispanic Americans

About half of the public (48%) says life for future generations of Americans will be worse than life today, while a quarter (25%) say it will be better and a similar share (26%) say it will be about the same. Within nearly all major demographic and political groups, more say life will be worse for future generations than say it will be better.

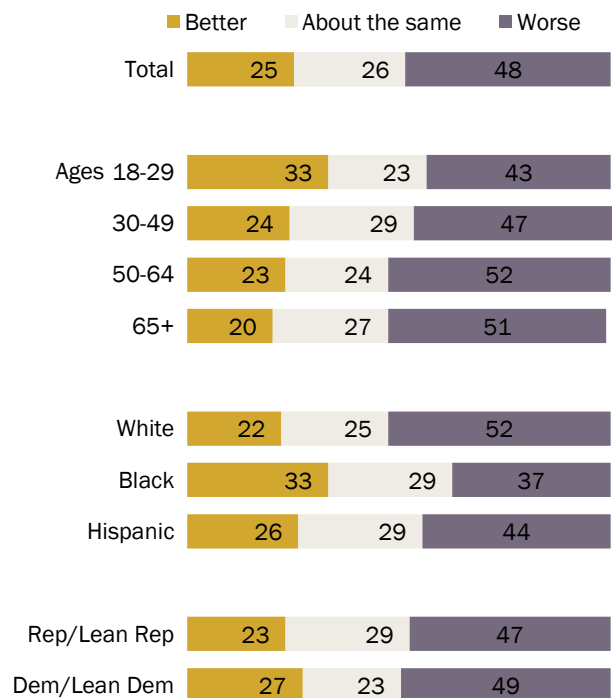
Younger adults are somewhat more likely than older adults to say life will be better for future generations. A third of those ages 18 to 29 say this, compared with about a quarter of those ages 30 to 49 (24%) and 50 to 64 (23%) and 20% of adults 65 and older.

A third of Black Americans (33%) say life will be better for future generations, while a smaller share of white Americans (22%) say this. About a quarter of Hispanic Americans (26%) say life will be better for future generations.

There are only modest partisan differences on this question, though Democrats are slightly more optimistic (27% say life for future generations of Americans will be better, as do 23% of Republicans).

Nearly half of Americans say life for future generations will be worse than life today

% who say life for future generations of Americans will be ____ than life today



Note: No answer responses not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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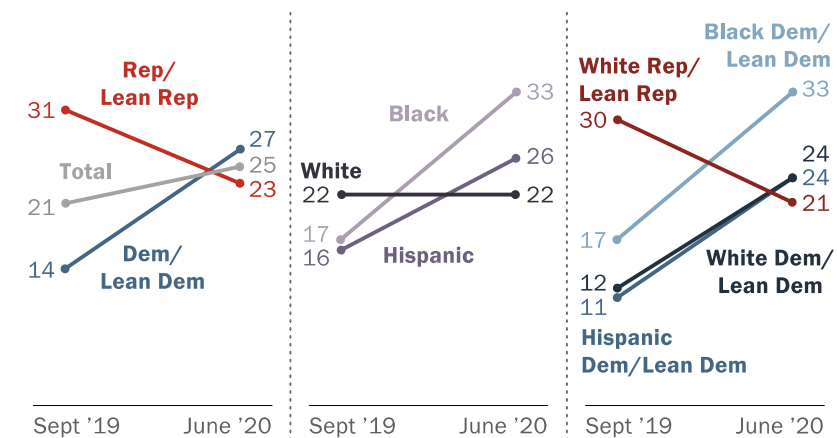
However, Democrats have become more optimistic about how life will be for future generations of Americans since the question was last asked last fall, while Republicans have become less optimistic. In September, just 14% of Democrats said life would be better for future generations; today, roughly double that share say this (27%). In contrast, the proportion of Republicans saying life would be better decreased from 31% to 23% over the same period.

The share of white Americans saying life will be better for future generations has not changed since the fall (22% then and now). However, the shares of Black and Hispanic Americans expressing optimism for life for future generations have increased substantially, from 16% to 26% among Black adults and nearly doubling – from 17% to 33% – among Hispanic adults.

While white Americans' opinion on this question is little changed overall, the views of white Democrats and white Republicans have moved in opposite directions. The share of white Democrats who say life will be better for future generations doubled from 12% in September to 24%. The share of white Republicans saying life will be better has decreased from 30% to 21%.

Since last fall, Black and Hispanic adults – and white Democrats – have grown more optimistic about life for future generations

% who say life for future generations of Americans will be better than life today



Note: Whites and Blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020.

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Acknowledgments

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Others at Pew Research Center also gave valuable assistance on this project, including Associate Director Alec Tyson and Research Assistant Justin Nortey.

Methodology

The American Trends Panel survey methodology

The American Trends Panel (ATP), created by Pew Research Center, is a nationally representative panel of randomly selected U.S. adults. Panelists participate via self-administered web surveys. Panelists who do not have internet access at home are provided with a tablet and wireless internet connection. The panel is being managed by Ipsos.

Data in this report is drawn from the panel wave conducted June 16 to June 22, 2020. A total of 4,708 panelists responded out of 6,080 who were sampled, for a response rate of 77%.

This does not include one panelist who was removed from the data due to extremely high rates of refusal or straightlining. The cumulative response rate accounting for nonresponse to the recruitment surveys and attrition is 4.3%. The break-off rate among panelists who logged on to the survey and completed at least one item is 1.4%. The margin of sampling error for the full sample of 4,708 respondents is plus or minus 1.8 percentage points.

American Trends Panel recruitment surveys

Recruitment dates	Mode	Invited	Joined	Active panelists remaining
Jan. 23 to March 16, 2014	Landline/ cell RDD	9,809	5,338	2,307
Aug. 27 to Oct. 4, 2015	Landline/ cell RDD	6,004	2,976	1,335
April 25 to June 4, 2017	Landline/ cell RDD	3,905	1,628	684
Aug. 8 to Oct. 31, 2018	ABS/web	9,396	8,778	6,407
Aug. 19 to Nov. 30, 2019	ABS/web	5,900	4,720	4,682
	Total	35,014	23,440	15,415

Note: Approximately once per year, panelists who have not participated in multiple consecutive waves or who did not complete an annual profiling survey are removed from the panel. Panelists also become inactive if they ask to be removed from the panel.

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This study featured a stratified random sample from the ATP. The sample was allocated according to the following strata, in order: tablet households, Mexican-born Hispanics, U.S. born Hispanics, other foreign-born Hispanics, Cuban-born Hispanics, non-internet, high school education or less, not registered to vote, nonvolunteers, people aged 18-34, non-Hispanic Blacks, and all other categories not already falling into any of the above.

The ATP was created in 2014, with the first cohort of panelists invited to join the panel at the end of a large, national, landline and cellphone random-digit-dial survey that was conducted in both English and Spanish. Two additional recruitments were conducted using the same method in 2015

and 2017, respectively. Across these three surveys, a total of 19,718 adults were invited to join the ATP, of which 9,942 agreed to participate.

In August 2018, the ATP switched from telephone to address-based recruitment. Invitations were sent to a random, address-based sample (ABS) of households selected from the U.S. Postal Service's Delivery Sequence File. In each household, the adult with the next birthday was asked to go online to complete a survey, at the end of which they were invited to join the panel. For a random half-sample of invitations, households without internet access were instructed to return a postcard. These households were contacted by telephone and sent a tablet if they agreed to participate. A total of 9,396 were invited to join the panel, and 8,778 agreed to join the panel and completed an initial profile survey. The same recruitment procedure was carried out on August 19, 2019, from which a total of 5,900 were invited to join the panel and 4,720 agreed to join the panel and completed an initial profile survey. Of the 23,440 individuals who have ever joined the ATP, 15,415 remained active panelists and continued to receive survey invitations at the time this survey was conducted.

The U.S. Postal Service's Delivery Sequence File has been estimated to cover as much as 98% of the population, although some studies suggest that the coverage could be in the low 90% range.¹ The American Trends Panel never uses breakout routers or chains that direct respondents to additional surveys.

¹ AAPOR Task Force on Address-based Sampling. 2016. "[AAPOR Report: Address-based Sampling](#)."

Weighting

The ATP data was weighted in a multistep process that begins with a base weight incorporating the respondents' original selection probability. The next step in the weighting uses an iterative technique that aligns the sample to population benchmarks on the dimensions listed in the accompanying table.

Analyses of Trump approval among panelists who responded to both this wave and waves 59 or 64 also align the sample to an additional dimension for Trump approval from the previous wave, in order for Trump approval from the current wave to cleanly reflect change in panelists' attitudes over time.

Sampling errors and test of statistical significance take into account the effect of weighting. Interviews are conducted in both English and Spanish.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Weighting dimensions

Variable	Benchmark source
Gender	2018 American Community Survey
Age	
Education	
Race/Hispanic origin	
Born inside vs. outside the U.S. among Asians	2019 CPS March Supplement
Country of birth among Hispanics	
Years lived in the United States	
Home internet access	
Region x Metropolitan status	2017 CPS Volunteering & Civic Life Supplement
Volunteerism	
Voter registration	2018 CPS Voting and Registration Supplement
Party affiliation	Average of the three most recent Pew Research Center telephone surveys.

Note: Estimates from the ACS are based on non-institutionalized adults. Voter registration is calculated using procedures from Hur, Achen (2013) and rescaled to include the total U.S. adult population.

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The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 16-22, 2020

Group	Unweighted sample size	Weighted %	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	4,708		1.8 percentage points
Half sample	At least 2,353		2.5 percentage points
Rep/Lean Rep	1,994	44	2.7 percentage points
<i>Half sample</i>	<i>At least 983</i>		<i>3.8 percentage points</i>
Dem/Lean Dem	2,545	52	2.5 percentage points
<i>Half sample</i>	<i>At least 1,258</i>		<i>3.6 percentage points</i>
Registered voters	3,577		2.0 percentage points
<i>Rep/Lean Rep</i>	<i>1,540</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>2.9 percentage points</i>
<i>Dem/Lean Dem</i>	<i>1,946</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>2.7 percentage points</i>
Respondents to W59	4,375		1.9 percentage points
Respondents to W64	4,385		1.9 percentage points

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

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Appendix

Categorization of battleground states in this report

To identify battleground states for the November presidential election, researchers consulted several experts' forecasts (including [Larry Sabato's Crystal Ball](#), the [Cook Political Report](#), [Inside Elections](#) and Nate Cohn's New York Times ratings) to come up with a categorization of each state as either likely to back the Democrat (Blue/lean blue), likely to back the Republican (Red/lean Red), or a "battleground state." The specific states in each category can be found in the accompanying table.

Categorization of battleground states

Blue/Lean blue	Battleground	Red/Lean red
California	Arizona	Alabama
Colorado	Florida	Alaska
Connecticut	Michigan	Arkansas
Delaware	North Carolina	Georgia
District of Columbia	Pennsylvania	Idaho
Hawaii	Wisconsin	Indiana
Illinois		Iowa
Maine		Kansas
Maryland		Kentucky
Massachusetts		Louisiana
Minnesota		Mississippi
Nevada		Missouri
New Hampshire		Montana
New Jersey		Nebraska
New Mexico		North Dakota
New York		Ohio
Oregon		Oklahoma
Rhode Island		South Carolina
Vermont		South Dakota
Virginia		Tennessee
Washington		Texas
		Utah
		West Virginia
		Wyoming

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Categorization of COVID-19 county health impact in this report

This report uses the number of deaths attributed to COVID-19 in each respondent's county as a measure of the scale of the health impact of the outbreak for each individual in the survey. These numbers are then adjusted for differences in county population (per 100,000 residents). Counties are categorized as having a high, medium or low rate of COVID-19 deaths.

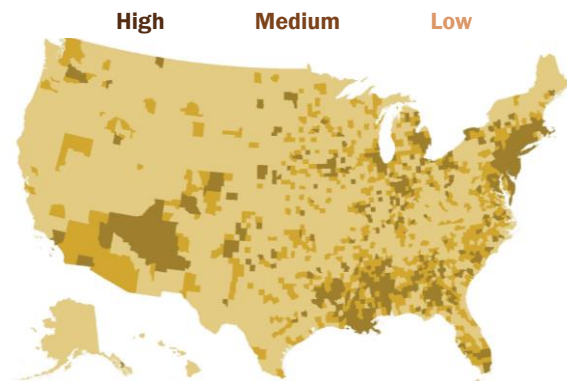
Counties are classified as "high" if they had 28 or more deaths per 100,000 people as of June 17, 2020. "Low" counties had fewer than seven deaths per 100,000 people. The remaining counties are classified as "medium" impact.

Data for deaths attributed to COVID-19 by county are taken from the 2019 Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 (2019-nCoV) Data Repository maintained at John Hopkins University (downloaded on June 19, 2020).

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Categorization of COVID-19 death rate by county

Counties where COVID-19 has had a _____ impact on county health (as of June 17)



Note: COVID-19 county health impact based on number of deaths per 100,000 people reported in each county as of June 17, 2020. Source: John Hopkins University 2019 Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 (2019-nCoV) Data Repository.

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2020 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 69 June 2020
June 16-22, 2020
N=4,708

ASK ALL:

SATIS All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>No answer</u>
June 16-22, 2020	12	87	1
Apr 7-12, 2020	31	68	1
Mar 19-24, 2020	33	66	1
Oct 29-Nov 11, 2019	31	69	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	28	71	1
July 22-Aug 4, 2019	27	72	1
Nov 27-Dec 10, 2018	34	65	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018 ¹	36	63	1
Feb 28-Mar 12, 2017 ²	32	68	0
Sep 27-Oct 10, 2016	23	75	2
Jun 7-Jul 5, 2016 ³	19	80	1
Sep 15-Oct 3, 2014	25	75	0

ASK ALL:

POL1DT Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>No answer</u>
June 16-22, 2020	39	59	2
Apr 7-12, 2020	44	53	3
Mar 19-24, 2020	45	52	2
Jan 6-19, 2020	40	58	1
Sep 3-15, 2019	40	59	1
July 22-Aug 4, 2019	40	59	1
Apr 29-May 13, 2019	40	59	1
Feb 4-17, 2019	38	61	1
Nov 7-13, 2018	41	58	1
Sep 24-Oct 7, 2018	38	61	2
Jul 30-Aug 12, 2018	40	59	2
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	38	60	2
Aug 8-21, 2017	36	63	1
Apr 4-18, 2017	39	61	1
Feb 28-Mar 12, 2017 ⁴	44	56	1

¹ In W31 and previous surveys, question was called SATISF.

² The W24.5 Mode Study survey was administered by web and phone. Results reported here are from web mode only.

³ SATISF in the W18 survey was asked to a random half of the sample assigned to Form 2 [N=2,366].

⁴ The W24.5 Mode Study survey was administered by web and phone. Results reported here are from web mode only.

ASK ALL:

POL1DT Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

ASK IF ANSWERED POL1DT (POL1DT=1,2) [N=4,601]:

POL1DTSTR Do you [IF POL1DT=1: approve; IF POL1DT=2: disapprove] of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president...

BASED ON TOTAL:

	NET Approve	<i>Very</i> <i>strongly</i>	<i>Not so</i> <i>strongly</i>	<i>No</i> <i>answer</i>	NET Disapprove	<i>Very</i> <i>strongly</i>	<i>Not so</i> <i>strongly</i>	<i>No</i> <i>answer</i>	<i>No</i> <i>answer</i>
June 16-22, 2020	39	29	9	1	59	48	11	*	2
Apr 7-12, 2020	44	33	10	1	53	42	11	*	3
Mar 19-24, 2020	45	34	10	1	52	40	11	*	2
Jan 6-19, 2020	40	31	9	*	58	46	11	1	1
Sep 3-15, 2019	40	31	9	*	58	46	11	1	1
Apr 29-May 13, 2019	40	29	10	*	59	48	10	*	1
Jul 30-Aug 12, 2018	40	31	9	*	59	48	10	*	2
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	38	29	9	*	60	48	12	*	2
Aug 8-21, 2017	36	26	10	*	63	49	13	*	1
Apr 4-18, 2017	39	27	12	*	61	45	15	*	1
Feb 28-Mar 12, 2017 ⁵	44	30	13	*	56	43	12	*	1

ASK ALL:

FUTGEN Do you think life for future generations of Americans will be...

June 16-22 <u>2020</u>		Sep 3-15 <u>2019</u>
25	Better than life today	21
48	Worse than life today	51
26	About the same as life today	28
1	No answer	*

[RANDOMIZE FEEL_COUNTRY_ANGRY, FEEL_COUNTRY_FEAR, FEEL_COUNTRY_HOPEFUL, FEEL_COUNTRY_PROUD ON SAME PAGE]**ASK ALL:**

FEEL_COUNTRY_ANGRY Thinking about the state of the country these days, would you say you feel ...

June 16-22 <u>2020</u>	
71	Angry
29	Not angry
*	No answer

ASK ALL:

FEEL_COUNTRY_FEAR Thinking about the state of the country these days, would you say you feel ...

June 16-22 <u>2020</u>	
66	Fearful
33	Not fearful
*	No answer

⁵ The W24.5 Mode Study survey was administered by web and phone. Results reported here are from web mode only.

ASK ALL:

FEEL_COUNTRY_HOPEFUL Thinking about the state of the country these days, would you say you feel ...

June 16-22

2020

46	Hopeful
53	Not hopeful
*	No answer

ASK ALL:

FEEL_COUNTRY_PROUD Thinking about the state of the country these days, would you say you feel ...

June 16-22

2020

17	Proud
83	Not proud
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

PRZCMPGN How much thought, if any, have you given to candidates who are running for president in 2020?

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not much</u>	<u>None at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
June 16-22, 2020	43	31	17	9	*
Apr 7-12, 2020	42	33	18	7	*
Jan 6-19, 2020	30	37	21	11	*
Sept 3-15, 2019	30	37	22	11	*
July 22-Aug 4, 2019	26	37	23	14	*
2016 election					
May 10-June 6, 2016	55	27	9	8	1
Apr 5-May 2, 2016	52	31	11	5	1
Mar 2-28, 2016	56	28	9	6	1
Mar 10-Apr 6, 2015 ⁶	26	40	23	11	*

⁶ W10 (March 10-April 6, 2014) had a minor difference in question wording: "How much thought, if any, have you given to candidates who may be running for president in 2016?"

ASK IF U.S. CITIZEN (F_CITIZEN=1) [N=4,452]

VOTEGEN If the 2020 presidential election were being held today, would you vote for...

[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**ASK IF NONE/OTHER CANDIDATE OR SKIPPED VOTEGEN (VOTEGEN=3,99) [N=713]:**VOTEGEN3 As of TODAY, do you... **[SHOW OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS VOTEGEN]***Note: Display choice 3 Neither only if the question is skipped without selecting choice 1 or 2.***BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=3,577]:**

June 16-22

2020

44	Donald Trump, the Republican/Lean more toward Trump
54	Joe Biden, the Democrat/Lean more toward Biden
2	Vote for neither/Other
*	No Answer

TREND FOR COMPARISON:**ASK IF U.S. CITIZEN (F_CITIZEN=1) [N=4,756]**

VOTEGENA If the 2020 presidential election were being held today, would you vote for...

[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**ASK IF NONE/OTHER CANDIDATE OR SKIPPED VOTEGENA (VOTEGENA=3,99) [N=576]:**VOTEGENB As of TODAY, do you... **[SHOW OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS VOTEGENA]**

Apr 8-12

2020⁷

45	Donald Trump, the Republican/Lean more toward Trump
47	Joe Biden, the Democrat/Lean more toward Biden
8	Vote for neither/Other
*	No Answer

2016 TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Oct 25- Nov 8 <u>2016</u>		Sept 27- Oct 10 <u>2016</u>	Aug 16- Sept 12 <u>2016</u>	July 12- Aug 8 <u>2016⁸</u>	June 7- July 5 <u>2016</u>
42	Donald Trump/Lean Trump	39	38	46	45
46	Hillary Clinton/Lean Clinton	46	45	50	51
6	Gary Johnson/Lean Johnson	10	10	n/a	n/a
4	Jill Stein/Lean Stein	4	4	n/a	n/a
1	None/Other	1	2	3	3
*	No Answer	0	1	1	1

⁷ Based on registered voters. Only W65 respondents who completed the survey on or after April 8, the day Bernie Sanders suspended his campaign for the Democratic nomination, were asked VOTEGENA or VOTEGENB. In W65 survey, respondents who skipped VOTEGENA or selected neither or other were given explicit "Neither" in the follow-up question about leaning toward either candidate.

⁸ Survey conducted July 12-August 8 and June 7-July 5 asked only about Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. Later waves included Gary Johnson and Jill Stein.

ASK IF U.S. CITIZEN (F_CITIZEN=1) [N=4,452]

VOTEGEN If the 2020 presidential election were being held today, would you vote for... [RANDOMIZE
OPTIONS 1 AND 2 WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]

ASK IF NONE/OTHER CANDIDATE OR SKIPPED VOTEGEN (VOTEGEN=3, 99) [N=713]:

VOTEGEN3 As of TODAY, do you... [SHOW OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS VOTEGEN]

Note: Display choice 3 Neither only if the question is skipped without selecting choice 1 or 2

ASK IF CHOSE TRUMP OR LEAN TRUMP [N=1,844]:

DTFORAGNST Would you say that your choice of Trump is more a vote ...

ASK IF CHOSE BIDEN OR LEAN BIDEN [N=2,517]:

JBFORAGNST

Would you say that your choice of Biden is more a vote ...

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=3,577]:

	Trump/Lean <u>Trump</u>	For <i>Trump</i>	Against <i>Biden</i>	Refused *	Biden/Lean <u>Biden</u>	For <i>Biden</i>	Against <i>Trump</i>	Refused *	Lean <u>Neither</u>
June 16-22, 2020	44	33	10	*	54	18	36	*	2

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF PRESGOODBIDEN, PRESGOODTRUMP; DISPLAY ON SAME PAGE]****ASK ALL:**

PRESGOODTRUMP Regardless of who you currently support in the election, do you think Donald Trump is a...

June 16-22,

2020

16	Great president
18	Good president
11	Average president
12	Poor president
41	Terrible president
1	No answer

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

What kind of president do you think Donald Trump will be - a great, good, average, poor, or terrible president?

	Great <u>president</u>	Good <u>president</u>	Average <u>president</u>	Poor <u>president</u>	Terrible <u>president</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Nov 30-Dec 5, 2016	14	22	18	13	25	8
Oct 20-25, 2016 ⁹ (RVs)	9	17	16	11	44	2
Aug 9-16, 2016 (RVs)	9	18	15	12	43	3
Mar 17-26, 2016 (RVs)	10	16	12	15	44	3
Jan 7-14, 2016	10	19	13	15	39	5

⁹ In October 20-25, 2016, and earlier, question was asked in a list with other candidates: "Regardless of who you currently support in the election, what kind of president do you think [INSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE] would be - a great, good, average, poor, or terrible president?" In October 20-25, 2016, and earlier, volunteered responses of "Never heard of" included in the "Don't know/Refused" category.

ASK ALL:

PRESGOODBIDEN Regardless of who you currently support in the election, do you think Joe Biden would be a...

June 16-22,
2020

5	Great president
21	Good president
32	Average president
15	Poor president
26	Terrible president
1	No answer

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF DTCONF AND JBCONF**ASK ALL:**

DTCONF Thinking about DONALD TRUMP'S ability to handle a number of things, how confident are you that Donald Trump can do each of the following? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; DISPLAY IN SAME ORDER AS JBCONF]**

	<u>Very confident</u>	<u>Somewhat confident</u>	<u>Not too confident</u>	<u>Not at all confident</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Handle the public health impact of the coronavirus outbreak June 16-22, 2020	18	22	16	43	1
b. Make good decisions about foreign policy June 16-22, 2020	22	21	16	41	1
c. Make good decisions about economic policy June 16-22, 2020	29	21	16	33	1
Jan 6-19, 2020	32	21	18	29	1
July 22-Aug 4, 2019	29	21	15	35	*
d. Effectively handle race relations June 16-22, 2020	13	20	17	49	1
e. Effectively handle law enforcement and criminal justice issues June 16-22, 2020	19	23	17	41	1
f. Bring the country closer together June 16-22, 2020	11	19	19	50	1

ASK ALL:

JBCONF Thinking about JOE BIDEN'S ability to handle a number of things, how confident are you that Joe Biden can do each of the following? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; DISPLAY IN SAME ORDER AS DTCONF]**

	<u>Very confident</u>	<u>Somewhat confident</u>	<u>Not too confident</u>	<u>Not at all confident</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Handle the public health impact of the coronavirus outbreak June 16-22, 2020	15	37	21	26	1

JBCONF CONTINUED...

	<u>Very confident</u>	<u>Somewhat confident</u>	<u>Not too confident</u>	<u>Not at all confident</u>	<u>No answer</u>
b. Make good decisions about foreign policy June 16-22, 2020	16	33	21	28	1
c. Make good decisions about economic policy June 16-22, 2020	12	35	23	29	1
d. Effectively handle race relations June 16-22, 2020	12	35	25	27	1
e. Effectively handle law enforcement and criminal justice issues June 16-22, 2020	11	35	25	28	1
f. Bring the country closer together June 16-22, 2020	14	30	25	30	1

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**RANDOMIZE ORDER OF TRUMPDESC AND BIDENESC****ASK ALL:**

TRUMPDESC How well does each of the following describe DONALD TRUMP? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; DISPLAY IN SAME ORDER AS BIDENESC]**

	<u>Very well</u>	<u>Fairly well</u>	<u>Not too well</u>	<u>Not at all well</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Courageous June 16-22, 2020	25	19	13	41	1
b. A good role model June 16-22, 2020	9	20	18	52	1
c. Even-tempered June 16-22, 2020	7	18	24	51	1
Feb 4-15, 2020	6	21	28	44	1
d. Honest June 16-22, 2020	13	21	16	49	1
Feb 4-15, 2020	12	24	19	44	1
e. Energetic June 16-22, 2020	27	28	18	26	1
f. Cares about the needs of ordinary people June 16-22, 2020	21	17	13	47	1

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF TRUMPDESC AND BIDENESC**ASK ALL:**

BIDENDESC How well does each of the following describe JOE BIDEN? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; DISPLAY IN SAME ORDER AS TRUMPDESC]**

	<u>Very well</u>	<u>Fairly well</u>	<u>Not too well</u>	<u>Not at all well</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Courageous June 16-22, 2020	13	31	27	26	3
b. A good role model June 16-22, 2020	14	31	24	28	2
c. Even-tempered June 16-22, 2020	16	43	20	18	2
d. Honest June 16-22, 2020	13	33	25	28	2
e. Energetic June 16-22, 2020	8	33	28	29	2
f. Cares about the needs of ordinary people June 16-22, 2020	20	33	22	23	2

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=2,355]:

TRUMPTAX Do you think Donald Trump...

June 16-22,
2020

56	Has a responsibility to publicly release his tax returns
42	Does not have a responsibility to publicly release his tax returns
2	No answer

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Do you think Trump has a responsibility to publicly release his tax returns, or does he not have this responsibility?

<u>Jan 9-14 2019</u>		<u>Jan 10-15 2018</u>	<u>Jan 4-9 2017</u>
64	Has responsibility to release returns	57	60
32	Does not have responsibility to release returns	37	33
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	6	7

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=2,353]:

DTTONE Since entering politics, has Donald Trump changed the tone and nature of political debate in the United States...

[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]

June 16-22, <u>2020</u>		Apr 29-May 13 <u>2019</u>
25	For the better	24
55	For the worse	55
19	Not changed it much either way	20
1	No answer	1

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**

EXCPWER Which of the following statements comes closer to your own view – even if neither is exactly right? **[DO NOT RANDOMIZE]**

	Many of the country's problems could be dealt with more effectively if U.S. presidents didn't have to worry so much about <u>Congress or the courts</u>	It would be too risky to give U.S. presidents more power to deal directly with many of the country's <u>problems</u>	No answer
June 16-22, 2020	24	73	3
July 22-Aug 4, 2019	25	73	2

EXCPWER PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

As I read some pairs of statements, please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views — even if neither is exactly right. The first pair is **[READ STATEMENTS IN ORDER]**.

	Many of the country's problems could be dealt with more effectively if U.S. presidents didn't have to worry so much about <u>Congress or the courts</u>	It would be too risky to give U.S. presidents more power to deal directly with many of the country's <u>problems</u>	(VOL.) Both/Neither/ DK/Ref
July 10-15, 2019	29	66	5
Mar 7-14, 2018	21	76	3
Feb 7-12, 2017 ¹⁰	17	77	6
Aug 9-16, 2016 ¹¹	23	72	5

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

¹⁰ In February 2017, item was asked as a standalone question.

¹¹ In August 2016, the first statement read: "Many of the country's problems could be dealt with more effectively if U.S. presidents didn't have to worry so much about Congress or the Supreme Court."

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING:

PARTYLN

As of today do you lean more to...¹²

<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Something</u> <u>else</u>	<u>No</u> <u>answer</u>	<u>Lean</u> <u>Rep</u>	<u>Lean</u> <u>Dem</u>
28	29	29	12	1	16	23

¹² Party and Partyln asked in a prior survey.