

This Washington Post poll was conducted by telephone Nov. 12-17, 2019, among a random sample of 905 adult residents of the District of Columbia reached on conventional and cellular phones by live interviewers. The margin of sampling error for overall results is plus or minus four percentage points. Sampling, data collection and tabulation by Abt Associates of Cambridge, Mass.

(Full methodological details appended at the end.)

* = less than .5 percent
RV=Registered voters

1. First, do you think things in the District of Columbia are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

	Right direction	Wrong track	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
11/17/19	59	30	NA	11
11/15/15	57	32	NA	10
11/15/15 RV	56	36	NA	8
3/23/14 RV	62	29	5	4
1/12/14 RV	59	33	5	3
1/12/14	59	32	5	4
7/17/12	40	45	8	6
5/31/11*	46	36	11	7
8/26/10	56	29	9	6
1/28/10	52	29	11	8
1/8/08	56	31	8	5
7/18/06	42	46	7	5
5/19/02	54	33	8	5
2/7/00	69	22	6	3
8/27/98**	47	46	NA	7
5/18/98	31	58	4	6
5/4/97	20	71	6	2
5/19/96	14	78	NA	2
2/29/96	16	80	NA	4
3/02/95	15	80	NA	5
12/21/93	11	83	NA	6
7/86	42	47	NA	12

*Washington Post-KFF

2. In your own words, what is the biggest problem facing the District today, the one you want the mayor to work the hardest to solve? (Open-ended)

	11/17/19	6/18/17	11/15/15	5/31/11*
Housing/housing costs/ low income housing/ more affordable housing	23	19	18	4
Crime/violence	18	13	34	12
Poverty/homelessness	9	7	6	2
Education/improving schools	8	11	9	25
TRANSPORTATION NET	8	11	8	NA
Traffic/road quality/ parking problems	5	8	6	5
Metrorail or bus/public transit	3	3	NA	NA
Other transportation	1	*	NA	NA
Race issues/income inequality/ gentrification	6	3	2	NA
ECONOMY NET	5	9	11	22
Economy/econ development/				

improving quality of life/ cost of living	3	3	5	5
Jobs/creating more employment opportunities	1	4	5	16
Taxes	1	1	1	1
Want D.C. to be self-governing/ Congressional representation/ Congressional oversight/statehood	2	5	2	2
CITY GOVERNMENT NET	2	4	2	13
Corruption in city government	1	1	NA	NA
Balanced budget/ improve finances	1	1	1	5
Improve city government/ increase efficiency**	*	1	1	6
Mayor/issues involving Mayor	0	*	*	1
Trump/Trump administration	2	1	NA	NA
Drugs/marijuana	1	2	1	NA
Health care/mental health/ senior health	1	*	NA	NA
Infrastructure	1	NA	NA	NA
Rats	*	NA	NA	NA
Improving city services	*	2	1	3
Policing/police reform	*	1	NA	NA
Youth/services for young people	NA	1	NA	NA
Infrastructure (unspecified)	NA	1	NA	NA
Terrorism/Homeland Security	NA	x	NA	NA
Nothing	NA	*	NA	*
Other	6	5	5	4
Don't know	6	6	4	4

*Washington Post-KFF

**11/15/15 and previous: Included "less corrupt"

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Muriel Bowser is handling her job as Mayor? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opin.
11/17/19	67	19	48	21	10	11	12
6/18/17	67	20	47	19	12	8	13
11/15/15	58	17	41	25	14	10	18

Compare to Vincent Gray:

3/23/14 RV	46	16	30	45	24	21	9
1/12/14	51	13	37	39	23	16	11
7/17/12	29	9	21	59	24	35	12
5/31/11*	41	10	31	40	26	14	20

*Washington Post-KFF

Compare to Adrian Fenty:

8/26/10 RV	47	15	32	46	19	27	8
1/28/10 RV	40	13	27	53	20	33	7
1/28/10	42	13	29	49	20	29	9
1/8/08 RV	72	31	41	22	11	11	6
1/8/08	72	32	40	21	11	10	7

Compare to Anthony Williams:

7/18/06 RV	54	20	34	40	16	24	6
5/19/02 RV	64	24	40	29	11	18	7
5/19/02	64	22	42	28	11	17	8
2/7/00	77	36	40	17	9	7	7

Compare to Marion Barry:

5/18/98	35	16	19	52	17	34	14
5/4/97	31	13	19	63	21	41	6
5/19/96	50	25	25	47	21	26	3
2/29/96	48	19	29	45	19	26	7
3/02/95	58	28	30	27	13	14	15
5/89	28	NA	NA	62	NA	NA	10
8/21/87	44	NA	NA	41	NA	NA	15
7/86	50	NA	NA	38	NA	NA	12

Compare to Sharon Pratt Kelly:

12/21/93	30	7	23	67	32	35	3
2/2/92	54	20	34	42	19	23	4

*Washington Post-KFF

4. Now I'm going to mention some issues that face our community, and for each, please tell me whether you think Mayor Bowser is doing an excellent job, good, not-so-good or poor job in dealing with this issue. First, [ITEM]. Is Mayor Bowser doing an excellent job, good, not-so-good or poor job in dealing with this issue?

11/17/19 - Summary table*

	- Excellent/Good -			-- Not Good/Poor --			No
	NET	Excel.	Good	NET	Not Good	Poor	op.
a. reducing crime in the city	45	3	42	50	35	15	5
b. creating and maintaining affordable housing in the District	29	3	26	64	37	27	7
c. addressing homelessness in the District	32	3	29	61	37	24	7
d. improving District public schools	59	9	50	28	21	7	13
e. reducing the influence of political donors on government decisions	37	4	33	41	27	13	23

*Items a-c asked of half sample a; items d-e asked of half sample b

Trend:

a. Reducing crime in the city

	---Excellent/Good---			---Not-so-good/Poor---			No
	NET	Excel.	Good	NET	Not good	Poor	opin.
11/17/19	45	3	42	50	35	15	5
6/18/17	53	7	46	40	29	11	8
11/15/15	33	3	30	63	37	26	5
1/12/14 Gray	55	5	50	39	30	10	5
1/28/10 Fenty	51	8	44	44	29	15	4
1/8/08 Fenty	41	5	36	55	40	15	4

b. creating and maintaining affordable housing in the District

	---Excellent/Good---			---Not-so-good/Poor---			No
	NET	Excel.	Good	NET	Not good	Poor	opin.
11/17/19	29	3	26	64	37	27	7
6/18/17	37	4	33	55	34	22	7

c. addressing homelessness in the district

	---Excellent/Good---			---Not-so-good/Poor---			No
	NET	Excel.	Good	NET	Not good	Poor	opin.

11/17/19	32	3	29	61	37	24	7
6/18/17	32	4	28	62	41	21	6
12/21/93 Kelly*	23	NA	NA	73	NA	NA	-

*"dealing with helping the homeless"

d. improving District public schools

	---Excellent/Good---			---Not-so-good/Poor---			No opin.
	NET	Excel.	Good	NET	Not good	Poor	
11/17/19	59	9	50	28	21	7	13
6/18/17	51	10	41	33	24	9	16
11/15/15	49	7	42	36	24	12	15
1/12/14 Gray	38	5	33	49	36	14	12
7/17/12 Gray	34	4	31	55	33	22	11
1/28/10 Fenty	42	10	32	49	26	24	9
1/8/08 Fenty	52	12	41	42	24	18	5
5/19/02 Williams	31	3	28	58	38	20	11
2/7/00 Williams	45	5	40	44	30	14	11

e. reducing the influence of political donors on government decisions

	---Excellent/Good---			---Not-so-good/Poor---			No opin.
	NET	Excel.	Good	NET	Not good	Poor	
11/17/19	37	4	33	41	27	13	23
6/18/17*	31	2	29	48	33	16	21
11/15/15	31	3	27	51	28	23	18

*6/18/17 and previous: "influence of wealthy political donors"

5. Do you think Muriel Bowser should or should not run for a third term as mayor when her term expires in 2022?

	Should	Should not	No opinion
11/17/19	52	40	8

6. Do you believe that corruption is a big problem in the District government, a small problem, or not a problem at all?

	Big problem	Small problem	Not a problem	No opinion
11/17/19	41	46	9	4
5/31/11*	52	39	6	4
12/21/93	57	36	3	4
2/2/92	44	45	7	4
5/90	65	28	4	3
5/89	74	20	3	3
8/87	67	23	5	5

*Washington Post-KFF

7. Thinking about housing policies in D.C., would you support or oppose the District government [ITEM]? How about [NEXT ITEM]? IF NEEDED: Would you support or oppose the District government [NEXT ITEM]?

11/17/19 - Summary table

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
a. providing more housing vouchers to low-income residents	89	8	3
b. providing funds to build more low-cost apartments	88	10	2
c. making more apartments			

subject to rent control 78 19 4

8. Do you think it would be a good idea or a bad idea for the District to increase the number of government-subsidized apartment units in your neighborhood? Would you say this idea is very good/bad or somewhat good/bad?

	----- Good idea -----			----- Bad idea -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	opinion
11/17/19	73	33	40	22	13	9	5

Questions 9-24 held for release.

On another subject,

25. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of Jack Evans, or perhaps you don't know enough to say?

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
11/17/19	4	NA	NA	29	NA	NA	67
7/17/12	35	10	25	13	8	5	52
5/19/02	40	NA	NA	9	NA	NA	51
8/27/98	42	NA	NA	15	NA	NA	43
5/18/98	27	NA	NA	11	NA	NA	62

Trend among Democratic registered voters:

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
11/17/19 Dem	4	NA	NA	34	NA	NA	62
1/12/14 Dem	37	NA	NA	15	NA	NA	48
7/17/12 Dem*	43	13	30	14	10	4	43

*Registered voters who identify as Democratic

26. D.C. council member Jack Evans was paid by some companies to be a consultant while in office and took actions as a council member that benefited these companies without disclosing his clients. Evans said he always did what was best for the city, regardless of his clients' interests. Do you think Evans did something wrong, or do you think he did nothing wrong? (IF DID SOMETHING WRONG) Was this seriously wrong, or wrong, but not seriously?

	----- Did something wrong -----			Did nothing	No
	NET	Seriously	Not seriously	wrong	opinion
11/17/19	72	56	16	11	17

27. Considering everything, do you think Jack Evans should or should not step down as council member?

	Should	Should not	No opinion
11/17/19	64	15	21

28. The District pays council members about \$140,000 a year. Do you think council members should or should not be allowed to hold outside jobs in addition to their public office?

	Should	Should not	No opinion
11/17/19	36	57	7

On another topic..

29. Would you support or oppose the Washington Redskins building a new football stadium where RFK Stadium now stands?

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
11/17/19	59	33	7

30. (IF SUPPORT BUILDING A NEW STADIUM) Would you support or oppose the District government providing the Redskins with land to build a new stadium?

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
11/17/19	65	32	2

NET 29/30

	- Support building new stadium - ----- Provide land -----			Oppose new stadium	No opinion	
	NET Support	Oppose	No opinion	stadium	opinion	
11/17/19	59	39	19	2	33	7

31. (IF SUPPORT BUILDING A NEW STADIUM) Would you support or oppose using city funds to help finance a new stadium for the Redskins?

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
11/17/19	47	52	1

NET 29/31

	- Support building new stadium - ----- Use city funds -----			Oppose new stadium	No opinion	
	NET Support	Oppose	No opinion	stadium	opinion	
11/17/19	59	28	31	1	33	7

32. Thinking about Washington's professional sports teams, would you say your favorite team is the (Redskins), (Nationals), (Wizards), (D.C. United), (Mystics) or (Capitals), or don't you prefer any of these teams?

	11/17/19	3/29/10
Nationals	28	7
Redskins	13	34
Capitals	10	6
Mystics	8	2
Wizards	8	13
D.C. United	6	1
Don't prefer any of these teams	23	29
Ravens (vol.)	*	0
Kastles (vol.)	*	0
Orioles (vol.)	0	1
No opinion	4	6

END

METHODOLOGICAL DETAILS

This poll was sponsored and funded by The Washington Post. The questionnaire was administered with the exact questions in the exact order as appears in this document. The poll was conducted in English among a random sample of D.C. adult residents.

Voter registration and demographic information are not shown. If a question was asked of a reduced base of the sample, a parenthetical preceding the question identifies the group asked. Questions that contain parenthetical phrases indicate clauses that were randomly rotated for respondents. Trended references to results with "RV" indicate results among registered voters.

A dual frame landline and cell phone telephone sample was generated using Random Digit Dialing procedures. A supplemental sample of non-202 cell phones was drawn from Survey Sampling International (SSI). The survey was conducted with 224 respondents reached on landline phones and 681 reached on cellular phones. The cell sample included 228 interviews with respondents who have non-2020 area codes. A total of 117 interviews were completed with D.C. residents who participated in a May Washington Post-Schar School poll of the Washington D.C. area.

Interviewers calling landlines asked to interview the youngest male or youngest female who is at home at the time. Interviewers calling cellular phones interviewed the respondent if they were eligible to participate.

This survey uses statistical weighting procedures to account for differential chances of selection depending on phone ownership and to match known demographic benchmarks. The overall adult sample is weighted using a raking procedure to match the demographic makeup of the population by sex, city wards, age, education, race/ethnicity and the share of cell phone only/landline only/dual service household.

Sources for weighting targets include the most recent American Community Survey (age, sex, education, race, city wards) and the most recent National Health Interview Survey (telephone use).

All error margins have been adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, which is 1.7 in this survey. The design effect is a factor representing the survey's deviation from a simple random sample, and takes into account decreases in precision due to sample design and weighting procedures. Surveys that do not incorporate a design effect overstate their precision.

The Washington Post is a charter member of AAPOR's Transparency Initiative, which recognizes organizations that disclose key methodological details on the research they produce.

Contact polls@washpost.com for further information about how The Washington Post conducts polls.

