

The Washington Post



This Washington Post-Ipsos poll was conducted online January 2-8, 2020 among a random national sample of 1,088 non-Hispanic black adults age 18 and over. The sample was drawn through the Ipsos KnowledgePanel, an ongoing survey panel recruited through random sampling of U.S. households. Overall results have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points; the error margin is plus or minus four points among the sample of 769 Democratic-leaning registered voters. Sampling, field work and data processing by Ipsos of Washington, D.C.

(Full methodological details at the end of this document.)

*= less than 0.5 percent

1. How often do you feel optimistic about your life?

	--- All/Most of time ---				- Hardly ever/Never -			
	NET	All of the time	Most of the time	Sometimes	NET	Hardly ever	Never	No opinion
1/8/20	65	23	41	25	11	6	5	*

2. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) If the Democratic primary or caucus in your state were held today, for whom would you vote? Which candidate would you lean toward?

Among Democratic-leaning registered voters; N=769

	1/8/20
Joe Biden	48
Bernie Sanders	20
Elizabeth Warren	9
Mike Bloomberg	4
Cory Booker	4
Andrew Yang	3
Pete Buttigieg	2
Tom Steyer	2
Michael Bennet	*
John Delaney	*
Tulsi Gabbard	*
Amy Klobuchar	*
Deval Patrick	*
Marianne Williamson	*
Another candidate	3
Not sure	1
I would not vote	2

3. (ASK IF CHOSE A CANDIDATE) After [NAMED CANDIDATE IN Q2], who would your second choice be?

Among Democratic-leaning registered voters; N=769

	1/8/20
Bernie Sanders	24

Elizabeth Warren	20
Joe Biden	17
Cory Booker	8
Mike Bloomberg	5
Amy Klobuchar	4
Pete Buttigieg	3
Tom Steyer	3
Andrew Yang	4
John Delaney	*
Michael Bennet	*
Tulsi Gabbard	*
Deval Patrick	*
Marianne Williamson	*
None of these	11
No opinion	1

4. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) Are there any candidates you would definitely NOT consider supporting for the Democratic nomination? You may select multiple candidates.

Note: Percentages add to more than 100 because respondents may select multiple candidates

Summary table among Democratic-leaning registered voters; N=769

	1/8/20
Tulsi Gabbard	23
Mike Bloomberg	17
Pete Buttigieg	15
Michael Bennet	14
Marianne Williamson	14
John Delaney	13
Deval Patrick	13
Amy Klobuchar	11
Tom Steyer	11
Andrew Yang	10
Cory Booker	7
Bernie Sanders	7
Elizabeth Warren	6
Joe Biden	5
I would support any of the candidates above	44

5. How favorable or unfavorable is your opinion of each of the following Democratic presidential candidates? If you haven't heard of them, please indicate.

1/8/20 - Summary table among black adults

	---- Favorable ----			--- Unfavorable ---			Heard of,	Never	No
	NET	Strngly	Smwht	NET	Smwht	Strngly	no op.	heard of	op
a. Joe Biden	69	44	25	13	7	6	12	3	2
b. Elizabeth Warren	51	19	32	12	7	5	18	17	2
c. Bernie Sanders	63	29	34	15	9	6	15	5	2
d. Pete Buttigieg	26	6	20	18	10	8	21	34	2
e. Cory Booker	42	12	31	13	8	4	18	25	2
f. Mike Bloomberg	29	7	22	23	13	10	26	20	2
g. Andrew Yang	28	6	22	13	9	4	28	29	2
h. Amy Klobuchar	22	4	18	13	9	5	24	38	3

1/8/20 - Summary table among leaned Democrats; N=876

	---- Favorable ----			--- Unfavorable ---			Heard of, no op.	Never heard of	No op
	NET	Strngly	Smwht	NET	Smwht	Strngly			
a. Joe Biden	78	52	26	11	7	4	7	2	1
b. Elizabeth Warren	58	23	36	10	7	3	14	16	1
c. Bernie Sanders	71	35	36	13	9	4	11	4	1
d. Pete Buttigieg	30	8	22	17	11	7	20	31	2
e. Cory Booker	49	14	35	12	8	3	16	22	1
f. Mike Bloomberg	33	9	24	23	13	10	24	19	1
g. Andrew Yang	32	7	25	13	9	3	28	26	2
h. Amy Klobuchar	25	5	20	12	9	4	24	36	2

6. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) In your opinion, which candidate [ITEM]?

- a. has the best chance to defeat President Donald Trump in the general election
- b. would best handle issues that are important to black Americans
- c. would do the most to unite the country
- d. has the strongest personal character
- e. is closest to you on the issues

1/8/20 -- Summary table among leaned Democrats

	Best chance defeat Trump	Handle issues impt. to blacks	Would unite country	Strongest character	Closest on issues
Biden	53	32	43	33	35
Sanders	18	19	19	20	20
Warren	5	7	6	10	9
Booker	2	14	3	6	7
Bloomberg	6	3	4	4	5
Yang	1	1	3	3	3
Buttigieg	1	1	2	2	2
Steyer	1	1	2	2	1
Klobuchar	*	*	1	2	2
Delaney	*	1	1	1	*
Bennet	*	*	*	*	*
Gabbard	0	*	0	*	*
Patrick	*	1	*	*	*
Williamson	*	1	*	1	*
Other	2	2	2	1	2
None of these candidates	8	15	11	12	11
No opinion	2	2	3	2	3

7. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) What is most important to you - that Democrats nominate the presidential candidate...

1/8/20 -- Summary table among leaned Democrats

	Whose positions on the issues come closest to yours	Who seems most likely to defeat President Trump in November 2020	Who has the strongest personal character	No opinion
1/8/20	33	57	9	1

8. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) Thinking about your vote for the Democratic presidential nomination, does the fact that Joe Biden served as President Barack Obama's vice president for 8 years make you...

1/8/20 -- Summary table among leaned Democrats

	More likely to vote for him	Less likely to vote for him	It doesn't make much of a difference	No opinion
1/8/20	56	2	41	1

9. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) If a white candidate wins the Democratic presidential nomination, how important, if at all, would it be to you personally that the nominee choose a vice-presidential running mate who is black?

	- More important --			----- Less important -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Not so important	Not at all important	
1/8/20	27	9	17	72	35	38	1

10. How likely are you to vote in the presidential election in November 2020?

	Absolutely certain to vote	Will probably vote	There is a 50-50 chance I will vote	There is a less than 50% chance I will vote	No opinion
1/8/20	71	10	9	9	1

11. How much does the outcome of the 2020 presidential election matter to you?

	----- Great deal/Good amount -----			---- Little/Not at all ----			No opinion
	NET	A great deal	A good amount	NET	A little	Not at all	
1/8/20	83	60	23	16	9	7	1

12. If the 2020 presidential election were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were ([ITEM], the Democrat) or (Donald Trump, the Republican)?

Summary table among registered voters

	Democrat	Trump	Another candidate	I would not vote	No opinion
a. Joe Biden	82	4	5	6	3
b. Bernie Sanders	74	4	10	8	4
c. Elizabeth Warren	71	4	11	10	3
d. Pete Buttigieg	57	4	21	14	3
e. Cory Booker	67	4	15	11	3
f. Mike Bloomberg	62	4	17	14	3
g. Andrew Yang	62	4	18	12	4
h. Amy Klobuchar	58	5	20	13	3

13. (ASK IF NOT TRUMP IN ANY Q12 ITEM) How important is it to you personally that President Trump does not win a second term as president?

Among registered voters

	----- Important -----			----- Less important -----			No opinion
	NET	Extremely	Very	NET	Somewhat	Less than that	
1/8/20	89	75	14	10	5	5	1

Q12/Q13 NET:

	----- Not Trump in any item -----					Support Trump at least once
	NET	Extremely important	Very imp.	Somewhat important	Less imp.	No opinion

1/8/20 93 70 13 5 4 1 7

14. Thinking about different types of people you might consider supporting for president, how would you feel about supporting someone who is...

	Enthusiastic about supporting	Comfortable with supporting	Have some reservations about supporting	Be very uncomfortable with supporting	No op.
a. Over 70 years old	4	48	34	11	3
b. Younger than age 40	9	54	25	8	3
c. A gay man	8	49	20	21	3
d. A white man	6	70	16	5	3
e. A white woman	11	65	15	7	3
f. A billionaire	4	41	38	15	3

15. How well does each of the following represent your views and interests?

1/8/20 -- Summary table

	----- Well -----			----- Less well -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
a. The Democratic Party	82	37	45	16	8	8	2
b. The Republican Party	13	2	11	81	27	55	5

16. In the last 10 years, have you ever tried to vote in a local, state or national election and were not allowed to vote for some reason, or hasn't this happened to you?

	Yes, has happened	No, has not happened	No opinion
1/8/20	7	92	1

Question 17 held for release.

18. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
1/8/20	7	2	5	90	16	75	2

19. In your opinion, are the things that Donald Trump is doing as president good, bad, or neither good nor bad for African Americans?

	----- Good -----			Neither good nor bad	----- Bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat		NET	Somewhat	Very	
1/8/20	4	1	3	18	76	18	58	2

20. In your opinion, are the things that Barack Obama did as president good, bad, or neither good nor bad for African Americans?

	----- Good -----			Neither good nor bad	----- Bad -----			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat		NET	Somewhat	Very	
1/8/20	73	42	31	20	5	3	2	2

21. Should the next president...

	Change to more liberal or progressive policies than President Obama's	Generally continue President Obama's policies	Change to less liberal or progressive policies than President Obama's	No op.
1/8/20	21	61	13	5

Question 22 held for release.

23. The national unemployment rate among black adults stands at 5.5 percent, which is near an all-time low. How much credit do you think President Trump deserves for this?

	----- Deserves credit -----			--- Deserves less credit ---			No opinion
	NET	A great deal	A good amount	NET	Only some	Hardly any	
1/8/20	20	9	11	77	26	51	3

24. In general, do you think it is a good or a bad time to be a...

	Good time	Bad time	No opinion
a. black person in America	30	65	4
b. white person in America	77	18	5

[Order of Q25/Q26 rotated]

25. How many black children born in the U.S. today have a good opportunity to achieve a comfortable standard of living?

	---- At least most ----			About half	----- Fewer than half -----			No opinion
	NET	Nearly all	Most	NET	Less than half	Very few		
1/8/20	16	4	12	28	52	35	17	3

26. How many white children born in the U.S. today have a good opportunity to achieve a comfortable standard of living?

	---- At least most ----			About half	----- Fewer than half -----			No opinion
	NET	Nearly all	Most	NET	Less than half	Very few		
1/8/20	75	28	47	15	4	3	1	5

27. Do you think most white Americans do or do not understand the level of discrimination black Americans face in their lives?

	Most white Americans do understand	Most white Americans do not understand	No opinion
1/8/20	19	78	3

28. Do you think President Trump has made racism a...

	Bigger problem in the U.S.	Smaller problem in the U.S.	Has not made a difference	No opinion
1/8/20	83	2	13	2

29. Do you think President Trump is a racist?

	Yes	No	No opinion
1/8/20	83	13	4

[Order of Q30/Q31 rotated]

30. Do you support or oppose having a national health plan, sometimes called Medicare-for-all, in which all Americans would get their insurance from a single government plan?

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
1/8/20	66	28	6

31. Do you support or oppose having a government-administered health plan, sometimes called a public option, that would compete with private health insurance plans and be available to all Americans?

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
1/8/20	77	17	6

32. In each of the following, do you generally trust police to treat people of all races equally?

1/8/20 -- Summary table

	Yes, I trust the police to treat people of all races equally	No, I do not trust the police to treat people of all races equally	No opinion
a. The U.S.	14	83	2
b. Your community	28	70	3

33. On another subject, how would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days?

	----- Positive -----			----- Negative -----			No opinion
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Not so good	Poor	
1/8/20	42	3	39	56	45	11	2

34. Aside from the economy, how would you describe the way things are going in the nation?

	----- Positive -----			----- Negative -----			No opinion
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Not so good	Poor	
1/8/20	16	*	15	82	61	21	2

35. During the last few years, has your financial situation been...?

	Getting better	Staying the same	Getting worse	No opinion
1/8/20	19	54	26	1

PARTYID Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as:

	A Democrat	A Republican	An independent	Other party	No opinion
1/8/20	70	5	20	4	2

METHODOLOGICAL DETAILS

This poll was jointly sponsored and funded by The Washington Post and Ipsos. The poll is a random sample of adults in the United States who identify as non-Hispanic black, including those who identify as black alone and those who identify as black and one or more other races. All interviews were conducted in English.

This questionnaire was administered with the exact questions in the exact order as they appear in this document. Demographic questions are not shown. If a question was asked of a reduced base of the sample, a parenthetical preceding the question identifies the group asked. Phrases surrounded by parentheses within questions indicate clauses that were randomly rotated for respondents.

Ipsos conducted sampling, interviewing, and tabulation for the survey using the KnowledgePanel, a representative panel of adults age 18 and over living in the United States. KnowledgePanel members are recruited through probability sampling methods using address-based sampling. Panel members who do not have internet access are provided with a netbook and internet service.

Ipsos drew a sample of non-Hispanic black adults from the KnowledgePanel; the sample included adults who identify as both black and another race.

This survey uses statistical weighting procedures to account for deviations in the survey sample from known population characteristics, which helps correct for differential survey participation and random variation in samples. The overall sample was weighted to match the demographic makeup of the non-Hispanic black population by sex, region, age, education, and household income according to the Census Bureau's 2018 American Community Survey.

The margin of sampling error including the design effect for the full sample is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. For results based on other subgroups, the margin of sampling error may be higher. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

All error margins have been adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, which is 1.4 for 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.

Group	Unweighted sample size	Error margin
Black adults	1,088	+/- 3.5 points
Registered voters	900	4
Leaned Democrats	876	4
Leaned Democratic voters	769	4

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.

