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**FOR RELEASE: OCTOBER 29, 2020**

## **LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY HORNSTEIN CENTER NATIONAL POLL: WHAT AMERICA THINKS ABOUT THE 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**

**BROOKVILLE, N.Y., Oct. 29, 2020** -- Results of a breaking Long Island University Steven S. Hornstein Center for Policy, Polling, and Analysis national poll reveals what Americans think in the final days before the 2020 presidential election to be held on November 3, 2020.

### **WHO ALREADY VOTED?**

**DEMOCRATS 66%; REPUBLICANS 54%; INDEPENDENT/OTHER 43%**

Americans were asked if they already voted. More than half (54 percent) of all respondents said they already cast their ballot. 66 percent of Democrats and 54 percent of Republicans already voted. Respondents who identify as independent or other party have been less inclined to vote early (43 percent). At the time of this national poll, [more than 70 million Americans have already voted](#), exceeding half of the 2016 presidential election's total turnout.

### **WHO WOULD YOU VOTE FOR IF THE ELECTION WERE HELD TODAY?**

**OCTOBER 27: BIDEN 47%; TRUMP 36%; UNDECIDED 9%; ANOTHER CANDIDATE 5%**

**OCTOBER 1: BIDEN 48%; TRUMP 31%; UNDECIDED 9%; ANOTHER CANDIDATE 7%**

Americans were asked who they would vote for if the election were held today. Respondents said they would vote for Biden (47 percent), Trump (36 percent), and another candidate (5 percent). An additional 9 percent of respondents said they were undecided and 3 percent said they wouldn't vote if the elections were held today. By comparison to an [earlier national poll held on October 1](#), Trump has gained 5 points from 31 percent to 36 percent, while Biden holds steady at 47 percent, losing 1 point since earlier in the month.

### **AGE MATTERS**

**HIGHEST MAJORITY WHO ALREADY VOTED: AGE 18-29 (58%); OVER 60 YEARS OLD (60%)**

The highest rates of early voting occurred by respondents in the age range of 18 to 29 (58 percent) and those who are over 60 years old (60 percent). Respondents in the age range of 18 to 29 prefer Biden (50 percent) over Trump (28 percent). Respondents over 60 years old also prefer Biden (46 percent) over Trump (42 percent).

### **THE INDEPENDENT VOTE**

**57% OF INDEPENDENTS HAVE NOT YET VOTED**

The highest number of votes yet to be counted come from respondents that reported as independent or other party (57 percent). The issues that matter most to Independent/other respondents were the economy (24 percent), coronavirus (13 percent), and health care (13 percent). Independents and

Democrats both rated the issues of health care and coronavirus over ten points higher than Republicans as the one issue that mattered most on deciding how to vote. Republicans reported the economy at a higher rate (53 percent) than Independents (24 percent) and Democrats (14 percent).

#### **VOTING METHOD OF CHOICE**

Americans were asked how they voted. Among the respondents, 21 percent said they voted in person, 35 percent said they voted by mail-in ballot, and 44 percent said they did not vote yet.

#### **FINAL STRETCH**

The 2020 presidential election will be held in 4 days on November 3, 2020.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

This Long Island University Steven S. Hornstein Center for Policy, Polling, and Analysis online poll was conducted through SurveyMonkey from October 26–27, 2020, among a national sample of 1,573 adults, ages 18 and up. Respondents for this survey were selected from the nearly three million people who take surveys on the SurveyMonkey platform each day. Data for this week have been weighted for age, race, sex, education, and geography using the Census Bureau's American Community Survey to reflect the demographic composition of the United States. The modeled error estimate for this survey is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

#### **ABOUT THE LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY STEVEN S. HORNSTEIN CENTER FOR POLICY, POLLING, AND ANALYSIS**

The Long Island University Steven S. Hornstein Center for Policy, Polling, and Analysis conducts independent polling, empirical research, and analysis on a wide range of public issues. Our studies inform the public and policy makers about critical issues, attitudes, and trends shaping the world. Faculty and scholars from all schools of study at Long Island University participate in data collection and analysis. Visit [liu.edu/Hornstein](https://liu.edu/Hornstein) for more information and results from this national poll.

#### **ABOUT LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY**

Long Island University, founded in 1926, continues to redefine higher education, providing high quality academic instruction by world-class faculty. Recognized by Forbes for its emphasis on experiential learning and by the Brookings Institution for its "value added" to student outcomes, LIU offers over 250 degree programs, with a network of 270,000 alumni that includes industry leaders and entrepreneurs across the globe. Visit [liu.edu](https://liu.edu) for more information.



**STEVEN S. HORNSTEIN CENTER FOR POLICY, POLLING, AND ANALYSIS**

**LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY HORNSTEIN CENTER NATIONAL POLL:  
WHAT AMERICA THINKS ABOUT THE 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**

OCTOBER 26-27, 2020

1,573 RESPONDENTS

MODELED ERROR ESTIMATE +/- 3.5%

**If the election for president were being held today, for whom would you vote?**

	GENDER		AGE				HOUSEHOLD INCOME					EDUCATION		PARTY IDENTIFICATION			
	TOTAL	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-60	60+	\$0-\$49,999	\$50,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$149,999	\$150,000-\$199,999	\$200,000 and over	Less than Bach.	Bach. or more	Rep	Dem	Ind/Other
<b>Trump</b>	36%	35%	36%	28%	29%	43%	42%	35%	37%	39%	38%	28%	41%	29%	84%	5%	25%
<b>Biden</b>	47%	48%	46%	50%	50%	43%	46%	42%	50%	49%	54%	61%	40%	56%	10%	86%	40%
<b>Another candidate</b>	5%	6%	5%	8%	7%	3%	4%	6%	4%	7%	3%	4%	6%	5%	2%	4%	9%
<b>Undecided</b>	9%	8%	9%	11%	9%	9%	6%	12%	7%	5%	4%	7%	9%	8%	3%	3%	19%
<b>Wouldn't vote</b>	3%	3%	3%	4%	4%	3%	2%	5%	1%	1%	1%	0%	4%	2%	1%	2%	6%

**Is your mind made up, or do you think you might change your mind before the election?**

	GENDER		AGE				HOUSEHOLD INCOME					EDUCATION		PARTY IDENTIFICATION			
	TOTAL	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-60	60+	\$0-\$49,999	\$50,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$149,999	\$150,000-\$199,999	\$200,000 and over	Less than Bach.	Bach. or more	Rep	Dem	Ind/Other
<b>Mind made up</b>	78%	78%	79%	69%	75%	81%	87%	71%	82%	83%	90%	80%	76%	82%	88%	84%	65%
<b>Might change</b>	14%	15%	13%	21%	16%	11%	8%	17%	12%	12%	7%	15%	15%	12%	8%	12%	20%
<b>Don't Know/No Answer</b>	8%	8%	8%	11%	9%	8%	5%	12%	6%	4%	3%	4%	9%	6%	4%	4%	15%

**What one issue matters most to you in deciding how you vote for president?**

	GENDER		AGE				HOUSEHOLD INCOME					EDUCATION		PARTY IDENTIFICATION			
	TOTAL	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-60	60+	\$0-\$49,999	\$50,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$149,999	\$150,000-\$199,999	\$200,000 and over	Less than Bach.	Bach. or more	Rep	Dem	Ind/Other
<b>Economy</b>	29%	30%	29%	20%	31%	35%	29%	27%	32%	32%	38%	35%	31%	27%	53%	14%	24%
<b>Racial inequality</b>	9%	9%	10%	16%	9%	8%	5%	10%	10%	6%	4%	15%	9%	9%	2%	16%	8%
<b>Law and order</b>	8%	9%	8%	9%	7%	8%	10%	9%	7%	10%	4%	2%	9%	7%	15%	3%	8%
<b>Coronavirus</b>	16%	18%	14%	17%	16%	14%	18%	17%	16%	16%	20%	13%	14%	19%	7%	27%	13%
<b>Foreign policy</b>	2%	3%	1%	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%	3%	4%	0%	2%	2%	3%	3%	1%	3%
<b>Health care</b>	12%	9%	14%	12%	12%	11%	13%	14%	10%	11%	11%	7%	13%	11%	5%	17%	13%
<b>Climate change</b>	5%	4%	5%	7%	4%	4%	4%	5%	5%	3%	6%	7%	4%	6%	1%	7%	6%
<b>Immigration</b>	3%	3%	3%	5%	4%	2%	2%	3%	3%	4%	3%	2%	3%	2%	3%	3%	3%
<b>Supreme Court</b>	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	2%	1%	2%	1%
<b>Education</b>	2%	2%	2%	4%	3%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
<b>Other</b>	11%	11%	12%	7%	10%	12%	15%	11%	12%	12%	11%	13%	12%	11%	8%	7%	19%

**Have you already voted for a presidential candidate?**

	GENDER		AGE				HOUSEHOLD INCOME					EDUCATION		PARTY IDENTIFICATION			
	TOTAL	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-60	60+	\$0-\$49,999	\$50,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$149,999	\$150,000-\$199,999	\$200,000 and over	Less than Bach.	Bach. or more	Rep	Dem	Ind/Other
<b>Yes</b>	54%	57%	52%	58%	52%	49%	60%	48%	56%	59%	63%	65%	49%	62%	54%	66%	43%
<b>No</b>	46%	43%	48%	42%	48%	51%	40%	52%	44%	41%	37%	35%	51%	38%	46%	34%	57%

**If you have already voted, did you vote by absentee ballot or in person?**

	GENDER		AGE				HOUSEHOLD INCOME					EDUCATION		PARTY IDENTIFICATION			
	TOTAL	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-60	60+	\$0-\$49,999	\$50,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$149,999	\$150,000-\$199,999	\$200,000 and over	Less than Bach.	Bach. or more	Rep	Dem	Ind/Other
<b>I voted in person</b>	21%	23%	19%	21%	22%	21%	21%	21%	23%	22%	14%	20%	23%	19%	29%	18%	17%
<b>I voted by mail in ballot</b>	35%	36%	34%	40%	32%	30%	41%	32%	34%	38%	51%	48%	29%	43%	26%	50%	29%
<b>I didn't vote yet</b>	44%	40%	47%	40%	46%	49%	38%	48%	43%	40%	35%	33%	48%	38%	45%	32%	54%

**Nature of Sample:**

**National Poll**

<b>AGE</b>	<b>Percent age</b>
< 18	0%
18-29	21%
30-44	26%
45-60	28%
> 60	26%

<b>GENDER</b>	<b>Percent age</b>
Male	47%
Female	53%

<b>HOUSEHOLD INCOME</b>	<b>Percent age</b>
\$0-\$49,999	40%
\$50,000-\$99,999	30%
\$100,000-\$149,999	14%
\$150,000-\$199,999	5%
\$200,000+	3%
Prefer not to answer	8%

<b>EDUCATION</b>	<b>Percent age</b>
Less than Bachelor's degree	57%
Bachelor's degree or more	43%

<b>PARTY IDENTIFICATION</b>	<b>Percent age</b>
Republican	30%
Democrat	35%
Independent/Other	35%

<b>REGION</b>	<b>Percent age</b>
New England	4%
Middle Atlantic	13%
East North Central	16%
West North Central	6%
South Atlantic	17%
East South Central	6%
West South Central	11%
Mountain	7%
Pacific	19%

<b>DEVICE TYPE</b>	<b>Percent age</b>
iOS Phone / Tablet	59%
Android Phone / Tablet	33%
Other Phone / Tablet	0%
Windows Desktop / Laptop	6%
MacOS Desktop / Laptop	1%
Other	1%