Center for American Progress National Online Poverty Survey

February 2-7, 2021 2000 Registered Voters 740 Self-identified Democrats 580 Self-identified Independents 680 Self-identified Republicans

Q.2 Do you describe yourself as a man, a woman, or in another way?

	Man	Total	Dem 44	Ind 49	Rep 47
	Woman		56	49 50	52
	Another way		0	1	_
	Another way	0	U	I	0
Q.3 In what	year were you born?				
	•	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
	18 - 24	9	10	8	7
	25 - 29	8	7	9	7
	30 - 34	9	9	10	7
	35 - 39	9	10	8	8
	40 - 44	7	9	6	4
	45 - 49	7	5	7	8
	50 - 54	10	9	10	11
	55 - 59	7	7	6	8
	60 - 64	11	9	10	14
	Over 64	24	23	25	25
	(No answer)		-	-	-
O 5 Are you	currently registered to vote in (STATE)?				
Q.5 Are you	currently registered to vote in (STATE)?	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Q.5 Are you	currently registered to vote in (STATE)? Yes		Dem 100	Ind 100	Rep 100
Q.5 Are you	, ,	100			
Q.5 Are you	Yes	100			
·	Yes	100	100 - -		
·	Yes No Don't know	100	100 - - ? Dem		
·	Yes No Don't know	100 ompleted [*]	100 - - ? Dem 3	100 - - - Ind 4	100 - - - - Rep 5
Q.6 What is	Yes No Don't know the last year of schooling that you have co	100 ompleted ² Total 4	100 - - ? Dem	100 - - Ind	100 - - - Rep
Q.6 What is	Yes No	100 ompleted' Total 4 26	100 - - ? Dem 3 26	100 - - - Ind 4 25	100 - - - Rep 5 27
Q.6 What is	Yes No	100 ompleted' Total 4 26	100 - - ? Dem 3 26	100 - - Ind 4 25	100 - - - Rep 5 27
Q.6 What is	Yes No	100 ompleted' Total 4 26 16	100 - - ? Dem 3 26 3 17	100 - - Ind 4 25 4 15	100 - - - Rep 5 27
Q.6 What is	Yes No	100 ompleted' Total 4 26 16	100 - - ? Dem 3 26	100 - - Ind 4 25	100 - - - Rep 5 27
Q.6 What is	Yes	100 completed' Total 4 26 16 11	100 - - ? Dem 3 26 3 17	100 - - - Ind 4 25 4 15 10	100 - - - Rep 5 27 3 15 13
Q.6 What is	Yes No	100 completed' Total 4 26 16 11	100 - - ? Dem 3 26 3 17	100 - - Ind 4 25 4 15	100 - - - Rep 5 27





17

degree......15

13

15

Q.7 What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

	i otai	Dem	Ind	Rep
White or Caucasian	69	55	71	82
African American or Black	13	24	12	2
Hispanic or Latino/a/x	12	14	9	12
Asian, South Asian, or Pacific Islander	4	4	5	3
Native American or Alaska Native	1	0	1	1
Other	1	2	2	0

Q.9 Generally speaking, do you think that things in this country are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

Right directionWrong track		Dem 62 38	Ind 35 65	Rep 25 75
Right direction - Wrong track	17	24	-30	-50

Q.10 Do you think your family's income is going up faster than the cost of living, staying about even with the cost of living, or falling behind the cost of living?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Income going up faster	11	13	9	10
Income staying even	55	55	56	52
Income falling behind	35	33	34	37
Going up faster - Falling behind	24	-20	-25	-27



Next, you will see some pairs of statements. After reading both statements, please indicate which statement comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.

·								Α
	Α	Α	В	В	Not	Total	Total	-
	Strng	Weak \	N eak	Strng	Sure	Α	В	В
11 Statement A: The government								
should help ensure that all families								
have access to basic living standards								
like health care, nutrition, and housing								
if their wages are too low or they can't								
make ends meet.								
OR Statement B: Wolfare programs tree								
Statement B: Welfare programs trap people in poverty by leaving them								
dependent on the government and								
penalizing work	41	18	14	22	5	58	36	22
Democrat		20	9	8	4	78	17	61
Independent		20	15	21	7	57	36	21
Republican		14	18	38	6	38	57	-19
12 Statement A: It is more important to								
me that the government help provide								
basic living standards like housing,								
nutrition, and health care for those								
struggling to make ends meet. OR								
Statement B It is more important to me that the government address large								
budget deficits by reducing overall								
spending on government assistance								
programs for low-income people	44	21	12	16	6	65	29	36
Democrat		20	8	7	3	83	14	68
Independent		21	13	16	9	63	29	34
Republican	27	21	17	27	7	48	45	3



Α	A	В	В				A -
Strng	Weak	Weak	Strng	Sure	A	В	В
	11 7	20 16	45 60	6 1	30 20	65 76	-35 -55
18	14	20	41	7	31	61	-30 -18
20	10	27	02	0	30	30	-10
60 43	23 20 23 27	15 9 16 21	12 7 10 19	6 4 7 7	67 80 67 54	27 16 26 39	41 64 41 15
		19 11 13 7 18 14 25 13 60 20 43 23	19 11 20 13 7 16 18 14 20 25 13 24 25 13 24	19 11 20 45 13 7 16 60 18 14 20 41 25 13 24 32 44 23 15 12 60 20 9 7 43 23 16 10	19 11 20 45 6 13 7 16 60 4 18 14 20 41 7 25 13 24 32 6	19 11 20 45 6 30 13 7 16 60 4 20 18 14 20 41 7 31 25 13 24 32 6 38 25 13 24 32 6 38 44 23 15 12 6 67 60 20 9 7 4 80 43 23 16 10 7 67	Strng Weak Weak Strng Sure A B 19 11 20 45 6 30 65 13 7 16 60 4 20 76 18 14 20 41 7 31 61 25 13 24 32 6 38 56 44 23 15 12 6 67 27 60 20 9 7 4 80 16 43 23 16 10 7 67 26



15 Statement A: Access to basic living standards like health care, nutrition, and housing is a fundamental human right, and government should help ensure that all families have access to these basic living standards if their	A Strng	A Weak	B Weak	B Strng		Total A	Total B	A - B
wages are too low or they can't make ends meet. OR Statement B: Government assistance programs suffer from widespread abuse and fraud. Instead of guaranteeing benefits for those who are looking to avoid work, we need to promote self-sufficiency by tightening eligibility requirements for these								
programs. Democrat Independent Republican	61 37	14 15 16 11	15 9 16 19	26 11 24 45	5 4 7 5	54 76 52 31	41 20 40 64	13 56 12 -33
16 Statement A: With state budgets crushed by the pandemic, the federal government should step in and directly provide aid to help struggling families keep their homes, put food on the table, and otherwise make ends meet. OR Statement B: State governments must tighten their spending in the face of this pandemic, even if it temporarily reduces benefits for the unemployed and those who rely on government								
programs. The federal government should not bail states out during this pandemic. Democrat Independent Republican	66 47	19 18 17 21	12 6 14 17	14 7 14 23	6 4 8 8	68 84 64 53	26 13 28 40	41 71 36 13



Q.17 Thinking back to one year ago, how would you rate your current personal economic situation compared to before the coronavirus pandemic?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Much better now	7	7	6	7
Somewhat better now	13	14	13	13
About the same	54	52	55	55
Somewhat worse now	19	20	17	19
Much worse now	7	7	9	6
Total Better	20	21	18	20
Total Worse	26	27	26	25

Q.18 Below is a list of economic challenges facing many Americans today. Have you or a member of your immediate family had a serious problem with this issue over the past year? Falling behind on rent or mortgage payments

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Yes, I have personally faced this issue Yes, a member of immediate family	14	16	14	12
faced this issue No, neither I nor anyone in my	12	14	13	10
immediate family has faced this issue	76	73	76	80
Total Yes	24	27	24	20

Q.19 Below is a list of economic challenges facing many Americans today. Have you or a member of your immediate family had a serious problem with this issue over the past year? Falling behind on gas, electric, or phone bills

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Yes, I have personally faced this issue Yes, a member of immediate family faced	19	22	18	17
this issue No, neither I nor anyone in my immediate	13	15	15	11
family has faced this issue	72	69	72	74
Total Yes	28	31	28	26

Q.20 Below is a list of economic challenges facing many Americans today. Have you or a member of your immediate family had a serious problem with this issue over the past year? Being unable to get medical care because of the cost

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Yes, I have personally faced this issue	15	17	17	12
Yes, a member of immediate family				
faced this issue	14	15	14	13
No, neither I nor anyone in my				
immediate family has faced this issue	74	72	72	79
Total Yes	26	28	28	21



Q.21 Below is a list of economic challenges facing many Americans today. Have you or a member of your immediate family had a serious problem with this issue over the past year? Having too little money to buy enough food

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Yes, I have personally faced this issue Yes, a member of immediate family faced	20	21	19	19
this issue	13	16	13	11
family has faced this issue	71	68	71	75
Total Yes	29	32	29	25

Q.22 Below is a list of economic challenges facing many Americans today. Have you or a member of your immediate family had a serious problem with this issue over the past year? Finding or keeping a decent job with good wages

Yes, I have personally faced this issue Yes, a member of immediate family	Total 19	Dem 23	Ind 18	Rep 16
faced this issue No, neither I nor anyone in my	17	19	18	14
immediate family has faced this issue	67	62	67	72
Total Yes	33	38	33	28

Q.23 (IF SELF IN ANY OF Q18-22)¹ Did you face these economic pressures before the COVID pandemic, or do you feel the COVID pandemic was the primary cause of the economic pressures you faced?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Faced similar economic pressures				-
before the pandemic	43	42	46	42
Pandemic was the primary cause of				
economic pressures	51	54	46	50
Not sure	6	5	8	8

Q.24 (IF FAMILY IN ANY OF Q18-22) Did your family member(s) face these economic pressures before the COVID pandemic, or do you feel the COVID pandemic was the primary cause of the economic pressures they faced?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Faced similar economic pressures before the pandemic	38	35	40	42
Pandemic was the primary cause of				
economic pressures	57	62	52	53
Not sure		2	8	5

¹ 682 Respondents





Q.25 Thinking about your own family - both your immediate family living with you, as well as other close relatives like aunts, uncles, cousins, and so on - as far as you know, is anyone in your family currently receiving government assistance for housing, health care, food, disability, or unemployment?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Yes, myself	19	23	17	17
Yes, immediate family	15	18	14	12
Yes, close relatives	14	17	15	10
No, neither I nor anyone in my family is				
receiving assistance	54	47	56	61
Don't know	7	7	7	8
Total Vac	20	46	27	20
Total Yes	59	40	37	32

Q.26 (SPLIT A)² Which of the following comes closest to your own view about those impacted by the coronavirus pandemic?

iarii de parideriile i				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Those living in poverty in this country have been more impacted by the coronavirus pandemic than others	55	67	54	45
Those living in poverty in this country have been less impacted by the coronavirus pandemic than others	5	4	4	7
has been the same across communities	29	20	32	38
I'm not sure	10	9	11	11

 $^{^{2}}$ Half of all respondents answered questions marked as SPLIT A while the other half answered questions marked as SPLIT B.



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Q.27 (SPLIT A) Official data from the Centers for Disease Control shows that Americans living in poverty are contracting the coronavirus and dying from it at significantly higher rates than the rest of the U.S. population. Below is a list of factors that may affect those living in poverty and could explain why they are more impacted by coronavirus than others. Which TWO of these factors do you think best explain why Americans living in poverty are more impacted by coronavirus than others?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
They often work in frontline jobs and jobs without work-from-home options,				
increasing risk of exposure to the virus They have less access to quality health	41	45	46	33
care	31	40	29	24
They often struggle to make ends meet, and the loss of income has a bigger impact than on those who do not have				
savings They often have more serious underlying	30	28	33	30
medical conditions They lack the financial resources to get	28	25	30	29
the needed treatment They took warnings about the virus less	24	28	18	23
seriously and put themselves in danger They are overrepresented in the prison population, where the outbreak is very	15	13	11	19
high	9	8	8	10
No second choice		3	10	12
Don't know		5	7	9

Q.28 (SPLIT A) Thinking about how the United States recovers after the pandemic passes, which comes closest to your own view?

•	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
We should make big changes that address historical economic inequities in health care, education, and the economy We should simply take steps to restore our health care, education, and economic systems to the way they were before the	46	63	46	29
pandemic as quickly as possible	43	31	40	60
I'm not sure	10	6	14	11
Big changes - Take steps	3	32	6	-31



Q.29 (SPLIT B) Which of the following comes closest to your own view about those impacted by the coronavirus pandemic?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Racial and ethnic minorities in this				
country, especially Black Americans and				
Hispanics, have been more impacted by				
the coronavirus pandemic than White				
Americans	46	65	44	28
Racial and ethnic minorities in this				
country, especially Black Americans and				
Hispanics, have been less impacted by				
the coronavirus pandemic than White				
Americans	4	6	3	4
The impact of the coronavirus pandemic				
has been the same across communities	39	24	40	55
I'm not sure	11	5	13	14

Q.30 (SPLIT B) Official data from the Centers for Disease Control shows that Black Americans and Hispanics are contracting the coronavirus and dying from it at significantly higher rates than the rest of the U.S. population. Below is a list of factors that may affect people of color and could explain why they are more impacted by coronavirus than others. Which TWO of these factors do you think best explain why Black Americans and Hispanics are more impacted by coronavirus than others?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
They often work in frontline jobs and jobs without work-from-home options,				-
increasing risk of exposure to the virus	38	45	41	28
They often have more serious underlying medical conditions	28	23	26	35
They have less access to quality health care	27	38	31	14
They often struggle to make ends meet, and the loss of income has a bigger			0.	
impact than on those who do not have				
savings They took warnings about the virus less	22	25	23	19
seriously and put themselves in danger They lack the financial resources to get	20	16	17	27
the needed treatment	16	18	14	14
They are overrepresented in the prison population, where the outbreak is very				
high	13	12	10	17
No second choice		5	10	15
Don't know		9	14	16



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Q.31 (SPLIT B) Thinking about how the United States recovers after the pandemic passes, which comes closest to your own view?

•	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
We should make big changes that address historical racial inequities in health care, education, and the economy We should simply take steps to restore our health care, education, and economic systems to the way they were before the	39	65	32	15
pandemic as quickly as possible	49	28	47	72
I'm not sure		8	20	12
Big changes - Take steps	10	37	-15	-57



Next, you will see some reforms that have been proposed to strengthen our economy. For each one, please indicate whether you would support or oppose this particular policy idea.

	Strng	Smwt	Smwt	Strng	Dont	Total	Total	Sup -
	_			_	Know			Opp
32 Create good jobs and make American businesses more competitive by investing \$1 trillion in our nation's infrastructure, including roads, bridges, railroads, broadband, and expanded								
production of clean energy		39	9	5	7	79	14	66
Democrat		38 37	5 10	2 5	5 7	88 77	7 15	81 62
Independent Republican		41	11	8	9	72	19	52
33 Increase the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour, make sure it rises with inflation, and extend the minimum wage to include groups like tipped workers and workers with disabilities, who are currently allowed to be paid less than the full minimum wage. Democrat	54 29	25 30 28 18	14 7 17 20	22 5 21 41	5 4 6 5	59 84 56 35	36 12 38 61	23 72 19 -26
34 Increase the Child Tax Credit and provide an extra boost for families with children under the age of five to help them make necessary investments								
during the critical early years of life Democrat		36 38	15 10	11 5	10 9	65 76	26 15	39 61
Independent		34	17	9	11	64	26	38
Republican	19	34	19	18	9	53	37	16



	Strna	Smut	Smut	Strna	Dont	Total	Total	Sup
	_			_	Know			Орр
35 (SPLIT C) ³ Provide direct monthly payments to middle-class families up to \$3,000 per year for single people earning \$50,000 per year or less, and up to \$6,000 annually for married people earning \$100,000 per year or less.	·	27	Эрр	20	9	5 4	37	17
Democrat		31	14	9	8	70	23	47
Independent		26	19	18	11	52	37	14
Republican		23	18	34	10	39	52	-13
36 (SPLIT D) Expand the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), the governmental income support program for working people, to include up to \$1,500 per year for low-income single people without children	44 29	31 33 34 28	16 10 18 20	11 4 9 19	11 10 10 14	62 76 62 47	26 14 27 39	36 62 35 8
37 Increase the level of food assistance provided via the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as food stamps) to ensure that those who need help keeping food on the table don't run out of benefits and adequate food	0.7	25	44	0	_	70	00	40
before the month is over Democrat	_	35 34	14 7	9 3	5 4	72 86	23 10	49 75
Independent		3 4	, 16	3 7	5	71	24	73 47
Republican		35	19	17	7	57	36	22

 $^{^{3}}$ Half of all respondents answered questions marked as SPLIT C while the other half answered questions marked as SPLIT D.



	_			_	Dont Know			Sup - Opp
38 Create a national paid family and medical leave plan that would provide workers part of their wages when they need time off for the birth of a child or to care for a sick or elderly family	Сир	Oup	Орр	Орр	Tanon	Сир	Орр	Opp
member	35	36	12	10	7	71	22	49
Democrat	46	40	7	3	4	86	10	75
Independent		36	15	9	7	68	25	43
Republican	25	33	16	17	9	58	33	25
39 Require all employers to provide workers with guaranteed paid time off if								
they are sick	39	35	13	7	6	74	20	54
Democrat	51	33	7	3	5	84	11	73
Independent	38	36	13	7	7	74	19	55
Republican	27	35	19	12	6	63	31	31
40 (SPLIT C) Increase the total amount of housing assistance offered to low-income families and include all families facing unaffordable housing costs Democrat	40 26	38 43 38 33	17 9 16 27	10 2 11 17	9 6 9 11	65 83 64 45	27 12 27 44	38 71 37 2
41 (SPLIT D) During crises such as the current coronavirus pandemic, provide direct housing payments to landlords or banks to prevent evictions or penalties on low-income families. Democrat	29 40 29	39 43 36 38	15 10 16 18	9 3 9 15	8 5 9 10	68 83 65 56	24 12 26 34	45 70 39 22
42 During crises such as the current coronavirus pandemic, automatically increase weekly unemployment payments to help meet basic living costs and extend unemployment insurance for the duration of the crisis rather than to a specific date not tied to improved conditions. Democrat	46 29	33 36 33	17 8 20	10 5 8	8 5 10	65 82 62	27 13 28	37 69 33
Republican	19	29	24	18	10	48	42	6



	_			_	j Dont Know			Sup - Opp
43 (SPLIT C) Increase direct rental and								
mortgage payment relief for families								
during crises such as the current	24	20	4.5	0	7	CO	24	45
coronavirus pandemic		39	15	9	7	69	24	45
Democrat	40	40	12	4	4	80	16	64
Independent	32	37	16	8	8	69	23	46
Republican		38	19	15	9	57	34	23
44 (SPLIT D) Put a moratorium on all								
housing evictions for the duration of								
crises such as the current coronavirus								
pandemic	33	36	13	7	10	69	20	49
Democrat		38	8	4	7	80	13	68
Independent		31	16	6	11	66	22	44
•		_		•				
Republican	21	39	15	12	13	60	27	33



Now, you will see a series of issues facing every community across America to some extent. Please indicate on a scale from 0 to 10 what role you think government should play in meeting the need on each of these issues, where 10 means it is a basic human right that should be guaranteed to everyone in the U.S. and 0 means it is an issue that government should not be involved in at all and should be left completely to the free market. You can choose any number between 0 and 10.

r	Mean	10	8-10	6-10	0-5	DK
45 Access to adequate, nutritional food	7.3	29	54	71	24	5
Democrat		40	69	85	12	3
Independent	7.3	29	53	69	25	5
Republican	6.4	17	38	58	36	5
46 Access to safe, affordable housing	6.9	24	48	67	28	5
Democrat		34	62	83	15	2
Independent		23	46	63	30	7
Republican		14	33	53	41	6
47 Access to clean water	8.5	49	74	85	11	4
Democrat		56	78	89	7	3
Independent		51	75	84	12	4
Republican		38	68	81	14	5
48 A quality public education through high school	8.0	39	64	79	16	5
Democrat		46	71	86	10	4
Independent		43	64	78	17	5
Republican		29	57	74	20	6
49 Affordable, quality child care	6.5	21	40	60	33	7
Democrat		28	54	77	19	4
Independent		22	39	56	37	6
Republican		11	27	46	45	9
50 Broadband internet access	5.7	15	32	49	42	9
Democrat	-	21	43	65	28	8
Independent		16	30	47	45	8
Republican		8	22	35	55	11



Finally, a few questions for statistical purposes.

Q.51 Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a...

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strong Democrat	25	68	-	-
Weak Democrat	12	32	-	-
Independent-lean Democrat	7	-	24	-
Independent	16	-	55	-
Independent-lean Republican	6	-	21	-
Weak Republican	12	-	-	35
Strong Republican	22	-	-	65

Q.54 Which of the following do you feel best describes your political perspective?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Conservative	35	9	22	74
Liberal	20	43	9	3
Libertarian	3	2	5	1
Moderate	35	37	50	20
Progressive	6	8	8	2
Other	2	1	6	0

Q.55 Last year, that is in 2020, what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? This is only for research purposes and your personal information will not be shared with anyone else.

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Less than \$20,000	12	14	11	11
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	11	11	12	11
\$30,000 to under \$50,000	18	19	18	17
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	20	19	19	21
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	12	12	11	13
\$100,000 or more	21	22	20	21
Prefer not to answer	6	4	8	6

Q.56 In the 2020 election for President, did you vote for Democrat Joe Biden or Republican Donald Trump?

•	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Democrat Joe Biden	52	92	50	9
Republican Donald Trump	39	4	30	86
Other candidate	3	1	7	1
Did not vote	6	4	13	3
Biden - Trump	12	88	20	-77



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Q.57 In the 2016 election for President, did you vote for Democrat Hillary Clinton or Republican Donald Trump?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep
Democrat Hillary Clinton	40	79	32	4
Republican Donald Trump	40	6	32	84
Other candidate	5	1	13	3
Did not vote	15	13	24	10
Clinton - Trump	-	73	0	-80

