

# The Polling Institute

## Saint Leo University

### 2019 Spring Poll – Questions as Asked

The Polling Institute at Saint Leo University needs your help. We are conducting a survey of Americans on their opinions and views on national politics, Pope Francis, President Trump, divisions among Americans, and views on the environment. Thank you very much.

#### Screener

A. Are you currently a resident of the United States and 18 years of age and older?

- 01 Yes (continues)
- 02 No (terminate)
- 03 Don't know / Unsure (terminate)

B. What state do you live in?

[Enter state]

#### Politics, Campaigns and Elections

1. Please think about voting and elections. How often would you say you vote in most elections? Would you say...

- 01 Always
- 02 Most of the time
- 03 Sometimes
- 04 Seldom
- 05 Never
- 06 Unsure or not registered

## How would you rate...

How would you rate...	Strongly Approve	Somewhat Approve	Somewhat Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove	Don't know / not sure
2.The job <b>Donald Trump</b> is doing as President	01	02	03	04	05
3.The job <b>Mike Pence</b> is doing as Vice President	01	02	03	04	05
4. The job Congresswoman <b>Nancy Pelosi</b> is doing as Speaker of the House	01	02	03	04	05`
5. The job <b>Mitch McConnell</b> is doing as U.S. Senate Majority Leader	01	02	03	04	05

6. What do you think is the **most important** issue facing the country today?

- 01 Jobs and the economy
- 02 Health care
- 03 Education
- 04 Government spending and the federal budget deficit
- 05 Homeland security and anti-terror policy
- 06 Immigration
- 07 Foreign affairs
- 08 Energy policy
- 09 Global climate change
- 10 Gun control / Second Amendment rights
- 11 Terrorism
- 12 Declining U.S. status worldwide
- 13 Crime
- 14 International trade imbalance
- 15 Gun violence
- 16 Internet / data security / identity theft
- 17 Some other issue
- 18 Don't know / not sure

7. In political terms, which one of the following best describes you? Do you consider yourself to be a...?

- 01 Republican **(Go to Q9)**
- 02 Democrat **(Continue)**
- 03 Unaffiliated or independent **(Go to Q9)**
- 04 Member of some other party **(Go to Q9)**
- 05 Don't know / not sure **(Go to Q9)**

8. The following are the notable declared and probable candidates for the Democratic nomination to run for President of the United States. Which of the following could you support in a future primary? **Please indicate all that apply.**

<b>Declared and Probable Candidates</b>	
Joe Biden	01
Michael Bennet	01
Cory Booker	01
Pete Buttigieg	01
Julian Castro	01
John Delaney	01
Tulsi Gabbard	01
Kirsten Gillibrand	01
Kamala Harris	01
Amy Klobuchar	01
Beto O'Rourke	01
Bernie Sanders	01
Howard Schultz	01
Elizabeth Warren	01
Marianne Williamson	01
Andrew Yang	01
None of these	01

It is early. However, based on all you know or have heard, please tell us your opinion of the declared and likely Democratic candidates for president using a scale of one to ten where one is very favorable and ten is not at all favorable. If you are unsure or don't know enough, simply indicate "unsure".

Your Opinion of...	Very Favorable										Not at all Favorable	Unsure
9. Joe Biden	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
10. Michael Bennet	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
11. Cory Booker	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
12. Pete Buttigieg	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
13. Julian Castro	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
14. John Delaney	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
15. Tulsi Gabbard	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
16. Kirsten Gillibrand	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
17. Kamala Harris	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
18. Amy Klobuchar	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
19. Beto O'Rourke	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
20. Bernie Sanders	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
21. Howard Schultz	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
22. Elizabeth Warren	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
23. Marianne Williamson	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
24. Andrew Yang	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	

### Pope Francis and the Catholic Church

25. Changing topics for a moment, please tell us if your opinion of the Catholic Church in the United States is...

- 01 Strongly favorable
- 02 Somewhat favorable
- 03 Somewhat unfavorable
- 04 Not at all favorable
- 05 Don't know / unsure

26. Please tell us if your opinion of Pope Francis is...

- 01 Strongly favorable
- 02 Somewhat favorable
- 03 Somewhat unfavorable
- 04 Not at all favorable
- 05 Haven't heard of Pope Francis
- 06 Don't know / unsure

Now, please think about the issues the pope is addressing and give us your opinion regarding how he is doing...

How would you rate the job Pope Francis is doing on...	Strongly Approve	Somewhat Approve	Somewhat Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove	Don't know / not sure
27. Environmental issues	01	02	03	04	05
28. Advancing the cause of the poor	01	02	03	04	05
29. Human rights	01	02	03	04	05
30. Migration / Immigration	01	02	03	04	05
31. Marriage and family issues	01	02	03	04	05
32. Handling cases of sexual abuse involving Catholic clergy	01	02	03	04	05
33. Handling cases of sexual abuse of nuns by priests and bishops	01	02	03	04	05

## The Divided Nation

### Engagement

34. Since the 2016 presidential election, which of the following describes your own engagement or political activities (such as staying informed or attending events, posting on social media, volunteering and donating)?

- 01 More active;
- 02 Less active, but still engaged;
- 03 Less active, almost not engaged;
- 04 No longer active; or
- 05 Was never active/engaged in the 2016 election cycle.
- 06 Unsure

The following are several statements about the political divisions in the United States. For each, please indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree.

Statements	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know / not sure
35. We are more divided as a nation than ever before	01	02	03	04	05
36. I see democracy slipping away in the United States	01	02	03	04	05
37. At times, physical violence during demonstrations is justified	01	02	03	04	05
38. At times, property damage during demonstrations is justified	01	02	03	04	05
39. I have strong trust in the mainstream news media (such as U.S. newspapers, broadcasters, and online media such as CBS, ABC, NBC, CNN, Associated Press, Washington Post, New York Times) to accurately cover politics in this nation	01	02	03	04	05
40. I trust the statements, releases and tweets from the White House administration	01	02	03	04	05
41. Not all free speech patterns should be protected	01	02	03	04	05
42. I am very optimistic about reducing political discord	01	02	03	04	05
43. I expect the outcome of the Mueller investigation on possible Russian election collusion will help heal some of the divisions in this country	01	02	03	04	05

## Environment

The following are several questions about the environment and global climate change.

44. How concerned are you about global climate change? Would you say...

- 01 Very concerned
- 02 Somewhat concerned
- 03 Somewhat unconcerned
- 04 Not at all concerned
- 05 Don't know / not sure

45. Which one of the following best reflects what you believe?

- 01 Global climate change is caused entirely by human activity
- 02 Global climate change is caused entirely by nature
- 03 Global climate change is caused by a combination of human activity and nature
- 04 I don't believe global climate change is occurring
- 06 Don't know / not sure

46. Which of the following things have occurred in your state or region?

**Please indicate all that apply.**

- 01 Ocean rising or seacoast flooding
- 02 Beach erosion
- 03 Warmer temperatures
- 04 Worsened drought conditions
- 05 Worsened air quality
- 06 Unusually severe weather and/or storms
- 07 Inland flooding
- 08 Loss or threatened loss of habitats
- 09 Loss or threatened loss of species
- 10 Bomb cyclones (rapidly intensifying cyclonic storms)
- 11 Increased polar oscillations (also called a polar vortex or displaced polar air)
- 12 None of these
- 13 Unsure / don't know

How much do you think global climate change is responsible for the following? For each, please indicate very responsible, somewhat responsible, not very responsible or not at all responsible.

<b>Responsibility for Global Climate Change?</b>	<b>Very Responsible</b>	<b>Somewhat Responsible</b>	<b>Not Very Responsible</b>	<b>Not at all Responsible</b>	<b>Don't know / not sure</b>
47. Ocean rising or seacoast flooding	01	02	03	04	05
48. Beach erosion	01	02	03	04	05
49. Warmer temperatures	01	02	03	04	05
50. Worsened drought conditions	01	02	03	04	05
51. Worsened air quality	01	02	03	04	05
52. Unusually severe weather / storms	01	02	03	04	05
53. Loss or threatened loss of habitats	01	02	03	04	05
54. Loss or threatened loss of species	01	02	03	04	05
55. Inland flooding	01	02	03	04	05
56. Bomb cyclones (rapidly intensifying cyclonic storms)	01	02	03	04	05
57. Increased polar oscillations (also called a polar vortex or displaced air)	01	02	03	04	05



58. Which of the following do you trust as reliable sources of information about global climate change? **Please indicate all that apply.**

- 01 Mainstream media such as U.S. newspapers, broadcasters, online media such as CBS, ABC, NBC, CNN, Associated Press, New York Times, Washington Post and The Weather Channel
- 02 Social media
- 03 Fox News, Washington Times, radio commentators such as Sean Hannity and/or Rush Limbaugh
- 04 MSNBC, Huffington Post
- 05 Scientist and Cosmos TV series host Neil deGrasse Tyson
- 06 President Trump
- 07 U.S. government
- 08 Non-government scientists and educators
- 09 Environmental groups
- 10 Business or industry groups
- 11 Utility companies
- 12 Entertainers and celebrities
- 13 College professors/educators
- 14 Family, friends, or co-workers
- 15 Don't know / not sure

59. Which **one** of the following do you think is best able to prevent the causes of global warming?

- 01 Local governments
- 02 State governments
- 03 Federal or national government
- 04 International bodies
- 05 Private sector businesses or entrepreneurs
- 06 Personal responsibility of every individual
- 07 Don't know / not sure

60. Whose responsibility is it to deal with the problems attributed to global climate change? **Please indicate all that apply.**

- 01 Local governments
- 02 State governments
- 03 Federal or national government
- 04 International bodies
- 05 Private sector businesses or entrepreneurs
- 06 Don't know / not sure

61. Which **one** of the following entities do you think is **best able** to deal with problems attributed to global climate change?

- 01 Local governments
- 02 State governments
- 03 Federal or national government
- 04 International bodies
- 05 Private sector businesses or entrepreneurs
- 06 Don't know / not sure

62. Which of the following **have been effective** in dealing with the problems attributed to global climate change? **Please indicate all that apply.**

- 01 Local governments
- 02 State governments
- 03 Federal or national government
- 04 International bodies
- 05 Private sector businesses or entrepreneurs
- 06 Don't know / not sure

63. How important or unimportant would you say it is for your own community or area to establish a department with employees or start a program to work on the issue of climate change on the local level? Would you say...

- 01 Very important
- 02 Somewhat important
- 03 Somewhat unimportant
- 04 Not at all important
- 05 Unsure/Don't know

64. And, to the best of your knowledge, does your own community or area have such a department or professional organization currently engaged?

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 03 Unsure/Don't know

The following are several potential measures or actions related to climate change or environmental protection. For each, please indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree.

Climate Change Actions	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unsure
65. Climate change should be taught as accepted theory in public primary and secondary schools	01	02	03	04	05
66. Plastic straws should be banned	01	02	03	04	05
67. Single use plastic shopping bags should be banned	01	02	03	04	05

68. Which of the following **have you done** to reduce carbon pollution? **Please indicate all that apply.**

- 01 Reduced or stop eating meat
- 02 Reduced or stop eating dairy products
- 03 Pay higher energy taxes to fund environmental efforts
- 04 Car pool or use mass transit
- 05 Installed or purchased alternative energy sources such as solar for my home
- 06 Pay higher taxes for the construction of mass transit infrastructure
- 07 Bought a smaller or more fuel-efficient car
- 08 Bought an electric car
- 09 Added insulation to my home
- 10 Planted tree(s)
- 11. Purchased higher efficiency appliances
- 12 None of these
- 13 Don't know / not sure

69. Which of the following would you be **willing to do** to reduce carbon pollution?  
**Please indicate all that apply.**

- 01 Reduce or stop eating meat
- 02 Reduce or stop eating dairy products
- 03 Pay higher energy taxes to fund environmental efforts
- 04 Car pool or use mass transit
- 05 Install or purchase alternative energy sources such as solar for my home
- 06 Pay higher taxes for the construction of mass transit infrastructure
- 07 Buy a smaller or more fuel-efficient car
- 08 Buy an electric car
- 09 Add insulation to my home
- 10 Plant tree(s)
- 11 Purchase higher efficiency appliances
- 12 None of these
- 13 Don't know / not sure

70. Would you say you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree that protecting the environment is an important responsibility for people of religious faith?

- 01 Strongly agree
- 02 Somewhat agree
- 03 Somewhat disagree
- 04 Strongly disagree
- 05 Don't know / not sure

71. Which of the following reflects your own views on environmental protections? **Please indicate all that apply.**

- 01 Environmental protections are absolutely critical no matter what
- 02 Environmental protections are important even when they negatively impact the economy
- 03 Environmental protections should not be pursued if they negatively impact the economy
- 04 Environmental protections create new economic opportunities
- 05 Environmental protection is not an important issue
- 06 Environmental protections are harmful to the economy
- 07 Unsure/don't know

## Lent in 2019

72. Please indicate which religion you belong to or follow?

- 01 Catholic
- 02 Protestant (Baptist, Lutheran, Congregational, Presbyterian)
- 03 Christian (non-denominational)
- 04 Greek Orthodox
- 05 Jewish **(Go to Q75)**
- 01 Buddhist **(Go to Q75)**
- 02 Muslim **(Go to Q75)**
- 03 Latter Day Saint / Mormon **(Go to Q75)**
- 04 Other **(Go to Q75)**
- 05 No preference / no religious affiliation **(Go to Q75)**
- 06 Don't know / not sure **(Go to Q75)**

73. Many Christians observe Lent, a period of around 40 days leading up to Easter, by giving up something as a form of sacrifice or penitence. Which of the following statements best describes whether you observe Lent by giving something up?

- 01 I gave/will give something up for Lent this year
- 02 I have given something up for Lent in the past, but did not/will not this year
- 03 I have never given up something for Lent **(go to Q75)**
- 04 Don't know / not sure **(go to Q75)**

74. Here is a list of things some people give up for Lent. Indicate which of the following you have given up for Lent, either this year or in the past. **Indicate all that apply:**

- 01 Candy or sweets
- 02 Swearing
- 03 Chocolate
- 04 Alcohol
- 05 Soda
- 06 Fast food
- 07 Sex
- 08 Television
- 09 Social media such as Facebook or Twitter
- 10 Meat
- 11 Coffee
- 12 Smoking
- 13 Ice cream
- 14 Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 15 Don't know / not sure

## Demographics

The following questions are used for statistical purposes only.

75. Are you male or female?

- 01 Male
- 02 Female

76. How old are you?

- 01 18-25
- 02 26-35
- 03 36-45
- 04 46-55
- 05 56-65
- 06 65 or older

77. Would you describe your political views as very conservative, conservative, moderate, liberal, or very liberal?

- 01 Very conservative
- 02 Somewhat conservative
- 03 Moderate
- 04 Somewhat liberal
- 05 Very liberal
- 06 Don't know / not sure

78. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

- 01 Yes (Go to Q80)**
- 02 No
- 03 Don't know / not sure

79. Which one of these groups would you say best represents your race?

- 01 White
- 02 Black or African-American
- 03 Asian
- 04 Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- 05 American Indian or Alaska Native
- 06 Other

80. What is your highest grade of school completed?

- 01 Did not graduate from high school
- 02 High school graduate or GED
- 03 Associates degree
- 04 Some college
- 05 College graduate
- 06 Post-graduate or professional degree

81. Which of the following categories best describes your total family income before taxes?

- 01 Under \$20,000
- 02 \$20,000 to less than \$30,000
- 03 \$30,000 to less than \$40,000
- 04 \$40,000 to less than \$50,000
- 05 \$50,000 to less than \$60,000
- 06 \$60,000 to less than \$75,000
- 07 \$75,000 to less than \$100,00
- 08 \$100,000 to less than \$200,000
- 09 \$200,00 or more
- 10 Unsure

82. How religious would you say you are today? Would you say...

- 01 Very religious
- 02 Somewhat religious
- 03 Not very religious
- 04 Not at all religious
- 05 Unsure

## Florida Sample

83. How would you rate the job Florida Governor Ron DeSantis is doing? Would you say....?

- 01 Strongly approve
- 02 Somewhat approve
- 03 Somewhat disapprove
- 04 Strongly disapprove
- 05 Unsure

84. How would you rate the job Florida U.S. Senator Rick Scott is doing? Would you say...?

- 01 Strongly approve
- 02 Somewhat approve
- 03 Somewhat disapprove
- 04 Strongly disapprove
- 05 Unsure

85. How would you rate the job Florida U.S. Senator Marco Rubio is doing? Would you say...?

- 01 Strongly approve
- 02 Somewhat approve
- 03 Somewhat disapprove
- 04 Strongly disapprove
- 05 Unsure

86. Governor DeSantis ordered the removal of Common Core teaching standards for language arts and math from Florida schools in favor of new Florida teaching standards that he wants developed. Which of the following statements best describe your reaction to his order? **Please indicate all that apply.**

- 01 The governor is right, and we need to get rid of Common Core standards
- 02 It is over-testing of students that is the real problem and that should be fixed as opposed to the Common Core standards themselves
- 03 New standards are a good idea, but it could be expensive and hard to do
- 04 Other states use Common Sore and I am afraid Florida students might be poorly prepared under new standards
- 05 Common Core standards are not the way I was taught
- 06 Don't know / unsure



87. Governor DeSantis has directed the Florida Commissioner of Education to “streamline the testing process”. Would you say you....

- 01 Strongly approve
- 02 Somewhat approve
- 03 Somewhat disapprove or
- 04 Strongly disapprove
- 05 Unsure / Don't know

**Thank you very much for your participation in this important survey.**