

# The Polling Institute

## Saint Leo University | Questions as Asked

### 2020-September 27 – October 2

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, the 2020 election, Pope Francis, the COVID-19 pandemic, racial justice, politics in sports and trust in the law enforcement and justice systems. 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. Have you already or how likely are you to vote in the November 2020 election? Would you say...

- 01 Already voted or very likely to vote
- 02 Somewhat likely to vote
- 03 Somewhat unlikely to vote
- 04 Not at all likely to vote
- 05 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
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2. The job <b>Donald Trump</b> is doing as President	01	02	03	04	05
3. The job <b>Mitch McConnell</b> is doing as U.S. Senate Majority Leader	01	02	03	04	05

4. 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 COVID-19 pandemic
- 18 Some other issue
- 19 Don't know / not sure

The following issues are frequently discussed in the 2020 campaigns for Congress and president. Please indicate how important or impactful each was or will be in your own vote this November. Please use a scale of one to ten where one is very important and ten is not at all important.

Issue	Very Important										Not at all Important	Unsure
5. The COVID-19 pandemic	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
6. Second Amendment rights	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	
7. Recent rioting/property destruction	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	

8. Economy and jobs	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
9. Protests/free speech	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
10. Climate change	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
11. Racial injustice issues	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12. Closures and lockdowns by the government	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
13. Attacks on and murder of police officers in 2020	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
14. Efforts to defund police departments	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
15. Abortion	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
16. The U.S. Supreme Court vacancy	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11

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

- 01 Republican
- 02 Democrat
- 03 Unaffiliated or independent
- 04 Member of some other party
- 05 Don't know / not sure

18. If the November presidential election was held today between Joe Biden and Donald Trump, which candidate did you or will you support?

Q#	Go to Q20	Go to Q20	Go to Q20	Continue
18	01 Joe Biden	02 Donald Trump	03 Other	04 Unsure

19. While you are undecided, please indicate which candidate you are leaning toward.

Q#			
19	01 Joe Biden	02 Donald Trump	03 Other

20. Now, hypothetically, if Mike Pence and Kamala Harris were running for president instead of Donald Trump and Joe Biden, which of these two candidates would you support or lean towards?

- 01 Vote for Mike Pence
- 02 Lean toward voting for Mike Pence
- 03 Lean toward voting for Kamala Harris
- 04 Vote for Kamala Harris
- 05 Undecided

21. Using a scale of one to ten, please describe your vote for president in 2020 where one means your vote will be entirely in support of the candidate of your choice and ten means your vote means your vote is entirely to stop or block the opposing candidate.

My Vote for President in 2020 is...	Entirely in support of my candidate										Entirely to stop the other candidate	Unsure or N/A
	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	

22. How did you or do you plan to vote in November 2020?

- 01 In-person on election day - November 3, 2020
- 02 Requesting an absentee ballot
- 03 By a mail-in ballot I received or will be receiving
- 04 By early, in-person, voting
- 05 Will not be voting
- 06 Unsure / Have not decided yet

The following are several statements regarding the integrity of the voting process in 2020. For each, please indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree.

Voting Process Integrity	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unsure
23. I have confidence Election 2020 will result in a legitimate winner	01	02	03	04	05
24. I have personal health and safety concerns over voting in person	01	02	03	04	05
25. I have confidence that my vote will be accurately recorded in my polling place (2018-4)	01	02	03	04	05
26. I have confidence in the integrity and security of voting machines/systems in this country (2018-4)	01	02	03	04	05

27. Voter fraud and manipulation of November results is a real concern and likely to occur (2016)	01	02	03	04	05
28. Voter suppression and efforts to keep eligible voters from the polls is a real concern and likely to occur (2016)	01	02	03	04	05
29. This election has me frustrated and wondering if I'll even vote at all (2016)	01	02	03	04	05

## Pope Francis, the Catholic Church, and Faith and Politics

30. 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

31. 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

The following are a few statements about faith and politics. For each, please indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree.

Faith and Politics Statements	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know / not sure
32. I use my own religious beliefs to inform how I vote for candidates in elections	01	02	03	04	05
33. Elected officials should use their own religious beliefs in guiding how they govern and make decisions	01	02	03	04	05
34. Americans should use religious convictions when voting in elections for candidates and ballot measures	01	02	03	04	05

35. The United States is more of a secular nation than a Christian nation	01	02	03	04	05
36. I'm comfortable when my religious leaders offer political views during sermons, homilies or in messages	01	02	03	04	05
37. Religious leaders should be more active in reducing the national political divide and tensions we face today	01	02	03	04	05
38. For me, I use the issue of abortion above all others when deciding on a candidate	01	02	03	04	05

## **Society and Racial Justice**

2019-1 / Pride 2018-2 / BLM 2016-3 / 2017-3

The following are several statements regarding racial justice and divides within America today. For each, please indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree.

<b>Statements</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Somewhat Agree</b>	<b>Somewhat Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't know / not sure</b>
39. We are more divided as a nation than ever before	01	02	03	04	05
40. I see democracy slipping away in the United States	01	02	03	04	05
41. At times, physical violence during demonstrations is justified	01	02	03	04	05
42. At times, property damage during demonstrations is justified	01	02	03	04	05
43. Not all free speech patterns should be protected	01	02	03	04	05
44. I support the Black Lives Matter movement	01	02	03	04	05
45. Confederate symbols such as statues, plaques or memorabilia should be removed from public areas	01	02	03	04	05
46. Retaining Confederate history is important	01	02	03	04	05

## **Trust and Confidence**

**2018-3**

Please think for a moment about your own trust and confidence in police officers, police departments, and the judicial system. Please rate each of the following based on your own trust and confidence that you would be **treated in a fair, impartial and objective manner if involved with law enforcement.** Please use a scale of one to 10 where one means you have strong trust and confidence and 10 means you have no trust and confidence.

Trust and Confidence in...	Very Strong Trust									No Trust at All	Unsure or N/A
47. Trust in police officers	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
48. Trust in police departments	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
49. Trust in the judicial system including courts, prosecutors, and judges	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
50. Trust in juries to do the right thing	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11

**Issue Statements**

The following are several statements about police and policing. For each, please indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree.

Statements	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unsure or N/A
51. Police officers should be required to wear body cameras to better assist in reviewing difficult incidents	01	02	03	04	05
52. I personally know a police officer in my community	01	02	03	04	05
53. I have had positive interactions or conversations with community police officers unrelated to law enforcement issues	01	02	03	04	05
54. Gun violence would decrease with more controls and restrictions	01	02	03	04	05
55 I have, or I know someone who has experienced abuse by police officers	01	02	03	04	05
56. Law enforcement officers treat everyone, regardless of race, fairly and evenly	01	02	03	04	05

57. The transfer of donated, used military hardware, ammunition, and equipment to community police departments	01	02	03	04	05
58. Most law enforcement officers racially profile when deciding to stop motorists	01	02	03	04	05
59. The act of killing a police officer should also carry a hate crime charge	01	02	03	04	05

60. Please think about the local / municipal funding of police departments. Which of the following comes closest to your own view on funding police departments?

- 01 Funding should be increase **(Go to Q62)**
- 02 Funding should be maintained **(Go to Q62)**
- 03 Funding should be decreased **(Continue)**
- 04 Funding should be eliminated **(Continue)**
- 05 Unsure **(Go to Q62)**

61. Which of the following should be done with the funds that are removed from the police departments? **Please indicate all that apply.**

- 01 Returned to taxpayers as a tax cut
- 02 Moved to mental and behavioral health services for those in need
- 03 Moved over to expand other general services, such as mental and physical health, and social, and economic services
- 04 Unsure **(exclusive)**

## Politics in Sports

### Knee 2016-3

62. In the past, sports figures such as Colin Kaepernick (football player), and Megan Rapinoe (soccer player), sat or kneeled during the pre-game/match national anthem. In these instances, Colin Kaepernick and Megan Rapinoe were protesting the treatment of Black Americans by police. Today, more athletes and entire teams are expressing their views and protest in this manner. How strongly do you support or oppose kneeling during the national anthem? Would you say...

- 01 Strongly support
- 02 Somewhat support
- 03 Somewhat oppose
- 04 Strongly oppose



The following are several statements regarding politics in sports. For each, please indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree.

Statements	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unsure or N/A
63. The Black national Anthem, “Lift Every Voice and Sing,” should be played before national sport league games/matches	01	02	03	04	05
64. The national anthem, “The Star-Spangled Banner” should be played before national sport league games/matches	01	02	03	04	05
65. Professional athletes that are protesting are creating a platform to create a long-term movement, rather than just a moment related to social justice	01	02	03	04	05

## The COVID-19 Pandemic

The following are several questions about COVID-19 and the coronavirus pandemic.

66. How concerned are you about COVID-19? Would you say...

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

67. Which of the following do you trust as reliable sources of information about COVID-19?

**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
- 02 Social media

- 03 Fox News, Washington Times, radio commentators such as Sean Hannity and/or Rush Limbaugh
- 04 MSNBC, Huffington Post
- 05 Epidemiologist and head of the NIAID, Dr. Anthony Fauci
- 06 President Trump
- 07 The U.S. federal government
- 08 Non-government scientists, physicians and educators
- 09 Your personal physician(s)
- 10 Business or industry groups
- 11 Scientific journals (Science, Nature, the New England Journal of Medicine, etc.)
- 12 Entertainers and celebrities
- 13 College professors/educators
- 14 Family, friends, or co-workers
- 15 Don't know / not sure

How would you rate your trust and confidence in the following when it comes to providing information and solutions to the COVID-19 pandemic? Please use a scale of one to ten where one is very strong trust and ten means no trust at all.

Trust and Confidence in...	Very Strong Trust									No Trust at All	Unsure or N/A
68. Head of the NIAID, Dr. Anthony Fauci	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
69. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC)	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
70. The Food & Drug Administration (FDA)	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
71. The World Health Organization (WHO)	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
72. The private companies working on developing COVID-19 vaccines and treatments	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
73. President Donald Trump	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
74. The public sector (government) agencies working on developing COVID-19 vaccines and treatments	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11

The following are several statements regarding COVID-19. For each, please indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree.

<b>Public Health Actions</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Somewhat Agree</b>	<b>Somewhat Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Unsure</b>
75. When approved by U.S. scientists, I am willing to get the COVID-19 vaccine	01	02	03	04	05
76. When approved by U.S. scientists, I would be willing to have my own or see other children vaccinated	01	02	03	04	05
77. When approved by U.S. scientists, the vaccine for COVID-19 should be mandatory for the entire population	01	02	03	04	05
78. Over 2020, I have seen a disparity in the health care of those with COVID-19 based on race	01	02	03	04	05
79. Over 2020, I have seen a disparity in health care of those with COVID-19 based on economic lines	01	02	03	04	05
80. Some politicians are keeping businesses/schools closed longer than necessary to impact the November 2020 election	01	02	03	04	05
81. I or I and my family will likely decline holiday invitations this year due to COVID-19 concerns	01	02	03	04	05

Americans faced closures and lockdowns over 2020, for each of the following, do you feel these closures went too far, not far enough or were the closures about right?

<b>Public Health Actions</b>	<b>Too Far</b>	<b>About Right</b>	<b>Not Far Enough</b>	<b>Unsure</b>
82. Closing down and locking down businesses/the economy	01	02	03	04
83. Closing down public schools	01	02	03	04
84. Closing down places of worship	01	02	03	04
85. Closing down bars	01	02	03	04
86. Closing down restaurants	01	02	03	04

## Demographics

The following questions are used for statistical purposes only.

87. Are you male or female?

- 01 Male
- 02 Female

88. How old are you?

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

89. 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

90. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

- 01 Yes (Go to Q92)**
- 02 No
- 03 Don't know / not sure

91. 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

92. What is your highest grade of school completed?

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

93. 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

94. 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

95. 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
- 01 Buddhist
- 02 Muslim
- 03 Latter Day Saint / Mormon
- 04 Other
- 05 No preference / no religious affiliation
- 06 Don't know / not sure

## Florida Sample

96. 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

97. 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

98. 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

The following are a couple COVID-19 decisions in Florida. Please indicate if your strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose each.

<b>Policy Discussion in Florida</b>	<b>Strongly Support</b>	<b>Somewhat Support</b>	<b>Somewhat Oppose</b>	<b>Strongly Oppose</b>	<b>Unsure</b>
99. State Education Commissioner Richard Corcoran's and Governor Ron DeSantis' mandate to re-open K-12 public schools five days a week in August 2020	01	02	03	04	05
100. Governor DeSantis' recent decision to drop COVID-19 restrictions on bars and restaurants	01	02	03	04	05

The following are a few potential ballot measures in Florida. Please indicate if you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose each. 2020-1

Policy Discussion in Florida	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Unsure
101. Restate the wording in the Florida State Constitution to say that only U.S. citizens may vote in federal, state or local elections held in Florida	01	02	03	04	05
102. Increase the minimum wage to \$15 by 2026	01	02	03	04	05
103. Establish a top-two open primary system for state elected offices – where there is just one primary for state races and the two-top vote-getting candidates, regardless of party affiliation, advance to the general election	01	02	03	04	05
104. Require that voter-approved constitutional amendments be approved by voters <u>at a second general election</u>	01	02	03	04	05

-- End of file ---

105. Please indicate the Florida county you currently live in.

<u>Code</u>	<u>Florida County</u>
1	Alachua
2	Baker
3	Bay
4	Bradford
5	Brevard
6	Broward
7	Calhoun
8	Charlotte
9	Citrus
10	Clay
11	Collier
12	Columbia
13	DeSoto
14	Dixie
15	Duval
16	Escambia
17	Flagler
18	Franklin
19	Gadsden
20	Gilchrist
21	Glades
22	Gulf
23	Hamilton
24	Hardee
25	Hendry
26	Hernando
27	Highlands
28	Hillsborough
29	Holmes
30	Indian River
31	Jackson
32	Jefferson
33	Lafayette

34	Lake
35	Lee
36	Leon
37	Levy
38	Liberty
39	Madison
40	Manatee
41	Marion
42	Martin
43	Miami-Dade
44	Monroe
45	Nassau
46	Okaloosa
47	Okeechobee
48	Orange
49	Osceola
50	Palm Beach
51	Pasco
52	Pinellas
53	Polk
54	Putnam
55	Santa Rosa
56	Sarasota
57	Seminole
58	St. Johns
59	St. Lucie
60	Sumter
61	Suwannee
62	Taylor
63	Union
64	Volusia
65	Wakulla
66	Walton
67	Washington

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