Shibley Telhami, Director
Stella Rouse, Associate Director

Public Dissonance Over The State Of U.S. Democracy And Issues Priorities Of A Polarized Electorate

March 2021 Methodology

The University of Maryland's Critical Issues Poll was carried out March 17-22, 2021 online from a nationally representative sample of Nielsen Scarborough's probability-based panel, originally recruited by mail and telephone using a random sample of adults provided by Survey Sampling International. The national poll was conducted among 2,393 respondents, with a margin of error of +/- 2%. Overall, the sample was adjusted to reflect population estimates (Scarborough USA+/Gallup) for Americans. The survey variables balanced through weighting were: age, gender, race/ethnicity, household income, level of education, census regional division, and political party affiliation.

Note: These questions were fielded as part of a larger poll on foreign and domestic issues. Participants in this study were provided by Nielsen from Nielsen's sample of respondents.

Q11C. We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. Here is a seven-point scale on which the political views that people hold are arranged from extremely liberal to extremely conservative. Where would you please yourself on this scale? **[RANDOMLY REVERSE]**

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Extremely liberal	0%	2%	14%	6%
2. Liberal	1	1	33	16
3. Slightly liberal	2	6	17	10
4. Moderate; middle of the road	19	66	31	29
5. Slightly conservative	19	9	4	11
6. Conservative	42	10	1	20
7. Extremely conservative	17	4	<1	8
Refused	<1	1	<1	<1

Q18. How much do you agree that vote-by-mail leads to greater instances of voter fraud? **[RANDOMLY REVERSE]**

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Strongly agree	63%	23%	4%	32%
2. Somewhat agree	19	27	6	14
3. Somewhat disagree	9	20	12	11
4. Strongly disagree	10	29	77	43
Refused	<1	1	<1	<1

Q24. In general, would you say that you are very satisfied, satisfied, dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied with the way democracy works in the United States? **[RANDOMLY REVERSE]**

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Very satisfied	4%	5%	7%	5%
2. Satisfied	29	28	47	37
3. Dissatisfied	42	41	36	39
4. Very dissatisfied	25	24	10	18
Refused	1	2	1	1

Q25A. What is your opinion about the following voting-related laws that have recently been proposed or passed in a number of states?

Q25AA (1). Limit mail-in voting to only the elderly, disabled, and those out of town

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Support Strongly	67%	33%	9%	36%
2. Support Somewhat	16	13	8	12
3. Oppose Somewhat	7	29	12	12
4. Oppose Strongly	10	23	70	39
Refused	1	2	1	1

Q25AB (2). Require all voters to show a government issued ID to vote

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Support Strongly	91%	24%	30%	59%
2. Support Somewhat	5	27	26	17
3. Oppose Somewhat	2	11	17	10
4. Oppose Strongly	2	5	26	14
Refused	1	2	1	1

Q25AC (3). Eliminate same day voter registration

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Support Strongly	55%	22%	10%	31%
2. Support Somewhat	17	17	13	15
3. Oppose Somewhat	16	30	20	19
4. Oppose Strongly	12	28	56	35
Refused	1	2	1	1

Q26. What is your **primary** source for political information? Please select one.
[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS]

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Newspapers and news magazines (in print and online)	13%	15%	17%	15%
2. Public broadcasting (NPR or PBS)	4	8	13	9
3. Christian News Radio	2	1	0	1
4. Network TV news broadcasts (For example: ABC, NBC, or CBS)	13	20	21	18
5. CNN	2	9	16	9
6. Fox News	30	6	2	15
7. MSNBC	1	1	11	6
8. A Christian news network (For example: TBN or CBN)	5	1	0	2
9. Spanish language television	1	1	<1	1
10. Internet/Social Media	27	36	19	24
Refused	3	2	1	2

Q51. What approach would you like to see your representatives in Congress take toward legislation?

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. My representatives should compromise to get legislation passed	34%	51%	73%	54%
2. My representatives should not compromise on principles even if less legislation gets passed	63	42	24	43
Refused	3	7	3	3

Q53. How concerned are you about the spread of false information? **[RANDOMLY REVERSE]**

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Very concerned	78%	65%	79%	78%
2. Somewhat concerned	15	29	18	18
3. Not very concerned	5	3	2	3
4. Not at all concerned	2	2	<1	1
Refused	<1	2	1	1

Q54. How likely is it that the information you receive from the following sources on social media is accurate?

Q54A (1). People you know

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Very likely	10%	9%	8%	9%
2. Somewhat likely	53	44	53	52
3. Somewhat unlikely	27	25	30	29
4. Very unlikely	9	17	8	9
Refused	2	6	1	2

Q54B (2). Politicians you follow

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Very likely	9%	4%	11%	10%
2. Somewhat likely	45	24	57	49
3. Somewhat unlikely	24	29	21	23
4. Very unlikely	18	37	10	16
Refused	3	5	1	2

Q54C (3). News outlets you follow

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Very likely	16%	10%	33%	23%
2. Somewhat likely	44	50	53	49
3. Somewhat unlikely	21	18	10	15
4. Very unlikely	17	18	4	11
Refused	2	5	1	2

Q56. How much do you agree with the following statement? *The actions of the people who forcefully entered the U.S. Capitol on January 6th were justified.* **[RANDOMLY REVERSE]**

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Strongly agree	7%	5%	2%	5%
2. Somewhat agree	11	8	3	7
3. Somewhat disagree	23	16	4	13
4. Strongly disagree	58	70	90	74
Refused	1	1	1	1

Q59. There has been disagreement about who is responsible for the attacks on the Capitol on January 6th. How responsible do you think the following people or groups are for the attack on the Capitol on January 6th?

Q59A (1). Donald Trump

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Very responsible	12%	49%	91%	53%
2. Somewhat responsible	9	17	5	8
3. A little responsible	23	11	2	12
4. Not at all responsible	54	20	3	27
Refused	2	2	1	1

Q59B (2). Republicans in Congress

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Very responsible	7%	28%	50%	29%
2. Somewhat responsible	19	31	34	27
3. A little responsible	26	21	9	18
4. Not at all responsible	46	15	6	24
Refused	3	6	1	2

Q59C (3). Democrats in Congress

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Very responsible	40%	17%	3%	21%
2. Somewhat responsible	24	26	5	15
3. A little responsible	19	23	20	20
4. Not at all responsible	14	28	71	42
Refused	3	6	1	2

Q59D (4). The media

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Very responsible	60%	36%	17%	37%
2. Somewhat responsible	21	27	29	26
3. A little responsible	11	14	29	20
4. Not at all responsible	8	8	25	16
Refused	1	6	1	1

Q60. In your opinion, how likely is it that there was significant voter fraud in the 2020 presidential election to a degree that could have changed the outcome? **[RANDOMLY REVERSE]**

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Very likely	61%	23%	3%	30%
2. Somewhat likely	22	16	5	13
3. Somewhat unlikely	9	17	8	9
4. Not at all likely	8	42	83	47
Refused	<1	3	<1	1

Q64. How reflective of your values is your political party? **[RANDOMLY REVERSE]**

	Rep	**Ind**	**Dem**	**Total**
1. Very reflective	15%	6%	23%	18%
2. Somewhat reflective	60	32	63	59
3. Somewhat not reflective	16	18	8	12
4. Not reflective	7	33	4	8
Refused	2	10	3	3

Q65. How similar do you think your values are compared to the values of people belonging to a different political party than you? **[RANDOMLY REVERSE]**

	Rep	**Ind**	**Dem**	**Total**
1. Very similar	3%	2%	4%	3%
2. Somewhat similar	22	34	21	23
3. Somewhat different	29	35	38	34
4. Very different	45	20	36	38
Refused	1	9	2	2

CRITICAL ISSUES POLL

With Nielsen Scarborough

Shibley Telhami, Director
Stella Rouse, Associate Director

Public Dissonance Over The State Of U.S. Democracy And Issues Priorities Of A Polarized Electorate

Summer 2021 Methodology

The University of Maryland's Critical Issues Poll was carried out June 22 - July 21, 2021 online from a nationally representative sample of Nielsen Scarborough's probability-based panel, originally recruited by mail and telephone using a random sample of adults provided by Survey Sampling International. The national poll was conducted among 3,379 respondents, with a margin of error of +/- 1.69%. Overall, the sample was adjusted to reflect population estimates (Scarborough USA+/Gallup) for Americans. The survey variables balanced through weighting by age, gender, race/ethnicity, household income, level of education, census regional division, and political party affiliation.

Note: These questions were fielded as part of a larger poll on foreign and domestic issues. Participants in this study were provided by Nielsen from Nielsen's sample of respondents.

Q7C. We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. Here is a seven-point scale on which the political views that people hold are arranged from extremely liberal to extremely conservative. Where would you place yourself on this scale? **[RANDOMLY REVERSE]**

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
1. Extremely liberal	1%	1%	13%	6%
2. Liberal	1	4	29	15
3. Slightly liberal	2	5	19	10
4. Moderate; middle of the road	16	64	32	28
5. Slightly conservative	20	15	4	12
6. Conservative	48	8	3	23
7. Extremely conservative	13	3	1	6

Q9. What is your **primary** source for political information? Please select one. **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS]**

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
11. Newspapers and news magazines (in print and online)	12%	10%	16%	14%
12. Public broadcasting (NPR or PBS)	3	8	9	6
13. Christian News Radio	2	1	<1	1
14. Network TV news broadcasts (For example: ABC, NBC, or CBS)	17	23	25	22
15. CNN	2	7	17	10
16. Fox News	30	10	3	15
17. MSNBC	1	2	11	6
18. A Christian news network (For example: TBN or CBN)	2	3	0	1
19. Spanish language television	<1	0	<1	<1
20. Internet/Social Media	30	38	20	26

Q72. Below we list policy issues that are frequently discussed by voters, politicians, and the media. How would you rank them in order of importance?
[Allow users to rank items 1-10] **[PN: RANDOMIZE 1-10]**
1. Poverty

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
Rank 1	7%	16%	13%	11%
Rank 2	10	10	15	12
Rank 3	14	11	16	15
Rank 4	22	22	13	18
Rank 5	20	10	14	16
Rank 6	13	11	8	11
Rank 7	5	10	9	8
Rank 8	5	6	5	5
Rank 9	3	4	4	3

Rank 10   1   2   2   2

2. Inequality

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
Rank 1	3%	7%	13%	9%
Rank 2	4	14	18	12
Rank 3	5	8	19	12
Rank 4	9	13	13	11
Rank 5	16	18	11	14
Rank 6	21	11	10	14
Rank 7	21	10	6	13
Rank 8	14	10	5	9
Rank 9	7	8	5	6
Rank 10	2	2	1	2

3. Corruption

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
Rank 1	26%	31%	9%	18%
Rank 2	23	13	10	16
Rank 3	19	12	8	13
Rank 4	10	10	11	11
Rank 5	7	12	9	8
Rank 6	4	8	11	8
Rank 7	4	4	15	9
Rank 8	2	5	12	7
Rank 9	3	3	10	6
Rank 10	2	3	6	4

4. Climate change

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
Rank 1	4%	13%	29%	17%
Rank 2	2	7	10	6
Rank 3	3	13	9	7
Rank 4	6	5	6	6
Rank 5	6	7	7	7
Rank 6	8	9	6	7
Rank 7	9	6	7	7
Rank 8	13	10	7	10
Rank 9	21	17	11	16
Rank 10	29	13	9	18

5. Immigration

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
Rank 1	23%	7%	4%	12%
Rank 2	17	12	5	11
Rank 3	18	10	5	11

Rank 4	10	11	8	9
Rank 5	8	12	12	10
Rank 6	7	8	9	8
Rank 7	8	15	12	11
Rank 8	4	13	14	10
Rank 9	4	7	16	10
Rank 10	1	6	16	9

6. Racism

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
Rank 1	4%	9%	17%	11%
Rank 2	5	11	19	12
Rank 3	3	11	15	10
Rank 4	8	10	15	12
Rank 5	10	8	10	10
Rank 6	14	9	8	11
Rank 7	17	14	6	11
Rank 8	21	13	5	12
Rank 9	13	10	3	8
Rank 10	6	6	1	3

7. Crime and Insecurity

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
Rank 1	31%	16%	6%	18
Rank 2	27	21	7	17
Rank 3	21	10	8	14
Rank 4	9	13	7	8
Rank 5	5	11	10	8
Rank 6	2	3	13	8
Rank 7	2	5	12	7
Rank 8	3	5	13	8
Rank 9	1	7	13	7
Rank 10	1	9	11	6

8. Police brutality

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
Rank 1	2%	5%	5%	4%
Rank 2	3	9	11	7
Rank 3	5	7	9	7
Rank 4	6	5	12	9
Rank 5	7	10	9	8
Rank 6	13	20	13	14
Rank 7	19	13	10	14
Rank 8	19	8	13	15
Rank 9	14	15	11	12
Rank 10	13	9	7	9

9. Violence against women

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
Rank 1	2%	2%	3%	3%
Rank 2	8	7	6	7
Rank 3	13	21	10	12
Rank 4	20	10	13	16
Rank 5	21	10	15	17
Rank 6	15	13	15	15
Rank 7	9	13	13	11
Rank 8	6	14	12	10
Rank 9	5	4	10	8
Rank 10	1	6	3	2

10. Transphobia

	Rep	Ind	Dem	Total
Rank 1	<1%	0%	1%	1%
Rank 2	1	1	1	1
Rank 3	1	4	3	2
Rank 4	1	3	3	2
Rank 5	1	5	4	3
Rank 6	4	8	7	6
Rank 7	6	5	9	7
Rank 8	13	11	12	12
Rank 9	29	23	17	23
Rank 10	44	41	44	44