

2020 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
Wave 79 PATHWAYS
FINAL TOPLINE
November 18-29, 2020
N=12,648

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF TRUMPPSTFOL AND BIDENPOSTFOL

ASK ALL:

TRUMPPSTFOL How closely, if at all, have you been following DONALD TRUMP's public statements since the election?

Nov 18-29

2020

22	Very closely
33	Fairly closely
29	Not too closely
15	Not at all closely
1	No answer

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF TRUMPPSTFOL AND BIDENPOSTFOL

ASK ALL:

BIDENPOSTFOL How closely, if at all, have you been following JOE BIDEN's public statements since the election?

Nov 18-29

2020

20	Very closely
32	Fairly closely
29	Not too closely
17	Not at all closely
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

CAMPIMPCT In your view, how much of an impact, if any, did each of the following have on this year's presidential election? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	A major <u>impact</u>	A minor <u>impact</u>	Not much of an impact <u>at all</u>	No <u>answer</u>
a. News media coverage of the campaigns Nov 18-29, 2020	63	28	9	1
b. Advertisements from the campaigns and other groups Nov 18-29, 2020	32	49	18	1
c. Decisions social media companies made about election content on their platforms Nov 18-29, 2020	48	36	15	1

CAMPIMPCT CONTINUED ...

	A major <u>impact</u>	A minor <u>impact</u>	Not much of an impact <u>at all</u>	No <u>answer</u>
d. Made-up news and information intended to mislead the public				
Nov 18-29, 2020	60	26	14	*

**DISPLAY ORDER OF ELECTTRUMPMSG AND ELECTBIDENMSG IN SAME ORDER AS
TRUMPPOSTFOL AND BIDENPOSTFOL SO THAT RESPONDENTS SEES SAME CANDIDATE FIRST
IN BOTH SETS**

ASK ALL:

ELECTTRUMPMSG From what you've seen or heard, do you generally think DONALD TRUMP has
been delivering the right message or the wrong message to the country following
the presidential election? **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF OPTIONS 1-4 AND 4-1;
USE SAME ORDER FOR ELECTBIDENMSG]**

Nov 18-29
2020

11	Completely RIGHT message
23	Mostly RIGHT message
21	Mostly WRONG message
43	Completely WRONG message
2	No answer

**DISPLAY ORDER OF ELECTTRUMPMSG AND ELECTBIDENMSG IN SAME ORDER AS
TRUMPPOSTFOL AND BIDENPOSTFOL SO THAT RESPONDENTS SEES SAME CANDIDATE FIRST
IN BOTH SETS**

ASK ALL:

ELECTBIDENMSG From what you've seen or heard, do you generally think JOE BIDEN has been
delivering the right message or the wrong message to the country following the
presidential election? **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF OPTIONS 1-4 AND 4-1; USE
SAME ORDER FOR ELECTTRUMPMSG]**

Nov 18-29
2020

24	Completely RIGHT message
40	Mostly RIGHT message
20	Mostly WRONG message
14	Completely WRONG message
3	No answer

ASK ALL:

ELECTNTMIX How many different sources of news did you turn to, if any, to follow the results of the
presidential election on Election Day (Nov. 3) after polls closed?

Nov 18-29
2020

14	Just one source
59	Two to four different sources
16	Five or more different sources
10	Did not follow results of the election
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

CAMPCOVEROWN2

Thinking about news coverage of Election Day (Nov. 3) and its aftermath, how well do you think the news sources YOU TURN TO MOST OFTEN have done at...

[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

	Very <u>well</u>	Somewhat <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at <u>all well</u>	No <u>answer</u>
g. Covering Donald Trump's reaction to the election results Nov 18-29, 2020	34	42	15	8	1
h. Covering Joe Biden's reaction to the election results Nov 18-29, 2020	36	46	11	5	1
i. Explaining the process of counting votes after polls closed on Election Day (Nov. 3) Nov 18-29, 2020	34	37	18	10	1
j. Explaining the different ways that people could have voted across the country this year Nov 18-29, 2020	37	41	14	7	1

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF ATTENVTFRAUD AND ATTENDTCONCEDE**ASK ALL:**

ATTENVTFRAUD

All in all, do you think that allegations of voter fraud in this year's presidential election have been getting... **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2; ALWAYS ASK OPTION 3 LAST; USE SAME ORDER FOR ATTENDTCONCEDE]**

Nov 18-29

2020

42	Too much attention
31	Too little attention
25	About the right amount of attention
2	No answer

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF ATTENVTFRAUD AND ATTENDTCONCEDE**ASK ALL:**

ATTENDTCONCEDE

All in all, do you think that Donald Trump not conceding the election after Joe Biden was projected to win has been getting... **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2; ALWAYS ASK OPTION 3 LAST; USE SAME ORDER FOR ATTENVTFRAUD]**

Nov 18-29

2020

35	Too much attention
19	Too little attention
45	About the right amount of attention
2	No answer

ASK ALL:

ELECTNEWSPAIR

For each pair of opposite phrases, which one do you feel better describes the news media's coverage of the presidential election since polls closed on Election Day (Nov. 3)? **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF ITEMS; SHOW RESPONSES 1-3 IN ORDER; DISPLAY A-D ON THE SAME SCREEN WITH A LINE SEPARATING EACH SET OF RESPONSES]**

a.	Largely <u>accurate</u>	Largely <u>inaccurate</u>	Neither <u>applies</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Nov 18-29, 2020	44	32	23	1
b.	Getting me the <u>information I need</u>	Not getting me the <u>information I need</u>	Neither <u>applies</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Nov 18-29, 2020	48	32	19	1
c.	Protecting <u>democracy</u>	Hurting <u>democracy</u>	Neither <u>applies</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Nov 18-29, 2020	36	36	27	1
d.	Highly <u>professional</u>	Not <u>professional</u>	Neither <u>applies</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Nov 18-29, 2020	38	37	23	1

ASK ALL:

CAMPNEWSFACTS

When it comes to following news about the presidential election since polls closed on Election Day (Nov. 3), would you say most Americans... **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS]**

Nov 18-29
2020

30
69
1

Generally got the SAME basic facts regardless of their news sources
Often got DIFFERENT basic facts depending on their news sources
No answer

ASK ALL:

RESULTFOLDIFF

How easy or difficult was it for you to make sense of the results of the presidential election as they were coming in? **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-4 AND 4-1]**

Nov 18-29
2020

23
38
28
10
1

Very easy
Somewhat easy
Somewhat difficult
Very difficult
No answer

ASK ALL:

RESULTJOURNDIFF How easy or difficult do you think it was for journalists to make sense of the results of the presidential election as they were coming in? **[DISPLAY OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS RESULTFOLDIFF]**

Nov 18-29

2020

18	Very easy
37	Somewhat easy
34	Somewhat difficult
8	Very difficult
3	No answer

ASK ALL:

CAMP20NEWS2 Please indicate whether each of the following has been a source of news for you about the presidential election since polls closed on Election Day (Nov. 3). **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; SPLIT ITEMS RANDOMLY ACROSS TWO SCREENS]**

	<u>Major source</u>	<u>Minor source</u>	<u>Not a source</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Fox News Cable Channel Nov 18-29, 2020	22	32	45	1
b. CNN Nov 18-29, 2020	27	30	42	1
c. MSNBC Nov 18-29, 2020	17	28	54	1
d. ABC, CBS, or NBC national network TV Nov 18-29, 2020	37	36	26	1
e. NPR Nov 18-29, 2020	14	22	63	1
f. The New York Times Nov 18-29, 2020	16	27	56	1
g. Washington Post Nov 18-29, 2020	12	28	60	1
h. Talk radio, such as Sean Hannity or Rush Limbaugh Nov 18-29, 2020	11	18	70	1

ASK ALL:

ELECTTALK How much, if at all, did you talk with others about the results of the presidential election as they were coming in, whether online or in person?

Nov 18-29

2020

28	A lot
38	Some
23	Not too much
10	Not at all
*	No answer

ASK ALL:

ELECTSMSHARE Have you posted or shared any news and information about the election results on social media?

Nov 18-29

2020

6	Yes, I have posted a lot
18	Yes, I have posted a little bit
75	No, I have not posted anything
*	No answer

ASK ALL:

SOCRESP When it comes to news about political campaigns and candidates, how much do you approve or disapprove of social media companies blocking or flagging news and information on their platforms that they judge to be inaccurate or misleading?

Nov 18-29

2020

27	Strongly approve
25	Somewhat approve
16	Somewhat disapprove
31	Strongly disapprove
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

CAMP20MISINFO How much, if any, news and information have you seen or heard about the 2020 presidential election that seemed completely made up?

Nov 18-29

2020

28	A lot
45	Some
20	Not much
6	None at all
1	No answer

Aug 31-Sep 7

2020

25
44
22
7
2

ASK IF SAW AT LEAST NOT MUCH MADE UP NEWS (CAMP20MISINFO=1-3) [N=12,006]:

MISINFOSELF Did you come across any made-up news or information that you think was targeted at you specifically?

BASED ON TOTAL:

Nov 18-29

2020

18	Yes, I did
74	No, I did not
1	No answer
6	<i>Saw or heard "none at all"</i>
1	<i>No answer to CAMP20MISINFO</i>

ASK ALL:

FKNWSHRTPOST

Do you think made-up news and information related to the presidential election was mostly intended to hurt... **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 & 2; ALWAYS DISPLAY OPTIONS 3 & 4 LAST]**

Nov 18-29

2020

34	The Republican Party
35	The Democratic Party
21	Both parties about equally
8	Neither party in particular
1	No answer

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Do you think made-up news and information related to the presidential election will mostly be intended to hurt... **[RANDOMIZE 1 & 2; ALWAYS DISPLAY 3 & 4 LAST]**

Oct 29-Nov 11

2019

30	The Republican Party
28	The Democratic Party
34	Both parties about equally
7	Neither party in particular
2	No answer

ASK ALL:

MISINFOIMPACT

Thinking about the presidential election, how much of an impact, if any, do you think made-up news and information had on... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	A major <u>impact</u>	A minor <u>impact</u>	Not much of an impact <u>at all</u>	No <u>answer</u>
a. People's confidence in the accuracy of the election results				
Nov 18-29, 2020	63	26	10	1
b. Which candidate people decided to vote for				
Nov 18-29, 2020	53	31	15	1

MISINFOIMPACT CONTINUED ...

	A major <u>impact</u>	A minor <u>impact</u>	Not much of an impact <u>at all</u>	No <u>answer</u>
c. People's decisions about whether to vote or not				
Nov 18-29, 2020	44	35	20	1

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF KNOWTURNOUT, HOUSEGAIN AND KNOWCONCEDE**ASK ALL:**

KNOWTURNOUT Compared to the 2016 presidential election, how many Americans cast ballots in this year's presidential election? **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-2; ALWAYS ASK OPTIONS 3-4 LAST; USE SAME ORDER FOR HOUSEGAIN]**

Nov 18-29

2020

81	More Americans cast ballots (correct)
3	Fewer Americans cast ballots
3	About the same number
12	Not sure
1	No answer

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF KNOWTURNOUT, HOUSEGAIN AND KNOWCONCEDE**ASK ALL:**

HOUSEGAIN Compared to the number of seats it has now, how many seats will the Democratic Party have in the U.S. House of Representatives next year? **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-2; ALWAYS ASK OPTIONS 3-4 LAST; USE SAME ORDER AS KNOWTURNOUT]**

Nov 18-29

2020

15	More seats
46	Fewer seats (correct)
9	The same number of seats
30	Not sure
1	No answer

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF KNOWTURNOUT, HOUSEGAIN AND KNOWCONCEDE**ASK ALL:**

KNOWCONCEDE As far as you know, has there been a losing presidential candidate in modern history who has not publicly conceded the election prior to Inauguration Day?

Nov 18-29

2020

14	Yes, there has been
50	No, there has not been
35	Not sure
1	No answer

On a different topic...

ASK ALL:

COVIDFOL How closely have you been following news about the outbreak of the coronavirus strain known as COVID-19?

Nov 18-29		Oct 6-12	Aug 31-Sep 7	Jun 4-10	Apr 20-26	Mar 19-24	Mar 10-16
<u>2020</u>		<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>
37	Very closely	37	35	39	46	57	51
42	Fairly closely	42	46	46	42	35	38
15	Not too closely	16	14	11	10	7	9
5	Not at all closely	4	4	3	2	1	2
*	No answer	*	*	*	*	*	*

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

COVIDDEAL All in all, do you think that the coronavirus outbreak has been... **[RANDOMIZE ANSWER CHOICES 1 AND 2; ALWAYS ASK ANSWER CHOICE 3 LAST]**

Nov 18-29		Oct 6-12	Aug 31-Sep 7	Jun 4-10	Apr 20-26
<u>2020</u>		<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>
34	Made a BIGGER deal than it really is	36	39	38	29
30	Made a SMALLER deal than it really is	30	26	21	27
36	Approached about right	33	33	40	42
*	No answer	1	2	1	1

ASK ALL:

COVIDCONTROL Which statement comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

Nov 18-29		Oct 6-12	Aug 31-Sep 7
<u>2020</u>		<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>
36	The U.S. has controlled the outbreak as much as it could have	38	37
62	The U.S. has not controlled the outbreak as much as it could have	61	61
1	No answer	1	2

ASK ALL:

COVIDHOLIDAY How much, if at all, have you changed your Thanksgiving plans this year as a result of the coronavirus outbreak?

Nov 18-29	
<u>2020</u>	
33	A great deal
24	Some
16	Not too much
21	Not at all
5	I don't typically celebrate Thanksgiving
*	No answer

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING [N=5,546]:

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to...¹

<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Something</u> <u>else</u>	<u>No</u> <u>answer</u>	<u>Lean</u> <u>Rep</u>	<u>Lean</u> <u>Dem</u>
27	29	28	14	1	18	21

¹ PARTY and PARTYLN asked in a prior survey.