



NEWS RELEASE

Latino Decisions
Everything Latino Politics

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****PRESS TELECONFERENCE AT 12:30 P.M. ET TODAY****

Seven Percent of Latino Voters Say They Have Voted as Biden and Harris See Sharp Increases in Net Favorability

With just three weeks until Election Day, Latino Voters Coalesce around Biden on Critical Issues

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Results from the sixth week of the 2020 Latino Weekly Tracking Poll from NALEO Educational Fund and Latino Decisions offer exclusive insight into the Latino electorate's views on the 2020 presidential election. The poll, conducted by Latino Decisions October 4 – October 10, has a margin of error of +/- 4.9 percent. The first week of the poll was September 1-6, with each week seeing an additional 400 Latino registered voters (500 in Week 5) take the survey. Over the course of the nine-week tracking poll, 3,700 unique Latino voters are being asked about the candidates for President and Vice President of the United States, how they plan to vote in November, and their feelings about major issues facing the country.

For the duration of the poll, NALEO Educational Fund and Latino Decisions will be holding a weekly press call to discuss the results every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. ET/9:30 a.m. PT.

"With November 3 just around the corner and early voting underway, Latino voters are solidifying their opinions on who they trust on the issues they find most important," stated Arturo Vargas, NALEO Educational Fund Chief Executive Officer. "The candidates, parties, and other organizations are engaging more with the Latino electorate as we head into Election Day. As these efforts continue, the dialogue about the election among Latino voters with family and friends and on social media is increasing. These realities, coupled with the seven percent of Latino voters who have already cast ballots, paint a picture of a civically-engaged community, enthusiastic about participating in our democracy."

"As we saw last week, the COVID-19 moment seems to have been a pivotal point for the metrics we have been following throughout the last two months," said Dr. Stephen Nuño-Perez, Director of Communications and Senior Analyst at Latino Decisions. "The President's handling of the COVID-19 crisis at a personal level seems to have had its biggest impact on Latinos. While vote choice continues to be stable, the last few weeks are clearly having an impact on how Latinos view the party and the candidates."

Key findings from Week 6 include:

Candidate Favorability

- Vice President Joe Biden, Senator Kamala Harris, Speaker Nancy Pelosi, and Democrats in Congress saw sizeable increases in net favorability among survey respondents with the following breakdowns:
 - Biden: +48 percent (up 14 points from last week)
 - Harris: +34 percent (up 10 points from last week)
 - Pelosi: +21 percent (up seven points from last week)
 - Democrats: +39 percent (up 13 points from last week)
- Vice President Joe Biden saw a 43-point advantage in favorability over President Donald Trump (highest difference in the survey) (up 10 points from Week 1), and Senator Kamala Harris saw a 30-point advantage in favorability over Vice President Mike Pence
- 67 percent of survey respondents plan on voting for Vice President Joe Biden, and 24 percent plan on voting for President Donald Trump

Issues

- Health, racism and discrimination, and jobs remain the most important issues among survey respondents, with the following breakdown:
 - COVID-19: 47 percent
 - Lowering healthcare costs: 27 percent (down five points from last week)
 - Racism and discrimination: 26 percent
 - Jobs and wages: 25 percent
 - Stopping discrimination against immigrants and Latinos: 19 percent (up six points from last week)
- Vice President Joe Biden continues to lead President Donald Trump with respect to whom respondents trust in handling the following issues:
 - Access to affordable healthcare
 - Biden (68 percent)
 - Trump (18 percent)
 - Improving the economy
 - Biden (55 percent)
 - Trump (29 percent)
 - Bringing the country together
 - Biden (67 percent) (high point in the survey)
 - Trump (18 percent)
- 79 percent of survey respondents believe President Donald Trump contracted COVID-19 because he failed to take the proper precautions and was acting irresponsibly
- 72 percent disapprove of the way President Trump is handling the COVID-19 response

- With Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s passing, 70 percent of survey respondents say that the Senate should wait until after the election to let the next president make the nomination for her replacement
 - 30 percent say the Senate should vote on President Trump’s nominee
- Of the 92 percent of survey respondents who say they have completed the census, most respondents (48 percent this week) say they have responded online

Voter Enthusiasm and Preferences

- Seven percent of respondents say they have already voted
- With 75 percent of survey respondents saying they are almost certain they will vote in 2020, 80 percent are either just as or more enthusiastic about voting in 2020 than they were in 2016, with 59 percent say they are more enthusiastic about 2020
- Survey respondents are split with 51 percent expressing a preference to vote by mail and 49 percent saying they prefer to vote in person
 - 26 percent of respondents say they are not familiar with how to request a mail-in-ballot
 - Among the respondents who plan to vote in person, 43 percent intend to vote early before November 3
 - For those who do plan to vote by mail, 77 percent plan on voting right away
- 32 percent of survey respondents say they do not trust that mail-in-ballots will be correctly delivered back to county elections departments
- Over three-quarters of survey respondents (76 percent) think ballot drop boxes are a good idea

Voter Engagement

- 86 percent of respondents say they are following the news of the presidential election
- 83 percent (high point in the survey) of survey respondents said they discussed politics with family and friends
- 55 percent (up eight points from last week) (high point in the survey) of respondents said they have discussed a candidate or political issue on social media
- 69 percent of respondents say they encouraged family or friends to register to vote
- Over half of survey respondents (54 percent) (high point in the survey) have been contacted by a representative from a political party, campaign, or other organization in the lead up to Election 2020
 - Of those who said they had been contacted, 62 percent indicate someone from the Democratic Party contacted them, 36 percent indicate someone from the Republican Party, and 28 percent indicate someone from a non-partisan or civic organization

COVID-19 Challenges

- In addition to the 32 percent of survey respondents who say they know someone who has died from COVID-19, 25 percent say they have had trouble getting access to food, medicine, or basic household needs, as a result of the pandemic, and 44 percent say they had to use savings or retirement money to pay for expenses
- 28 percent of survey respondents have lost their job as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic

Weekly Press Call

Weekly press calls to discuss topline and key findings of the previous week's polling data will be held on Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. ET/9:30 a.m. PT on the Zoom platform, with the final press call on Monday, November 2, at 12:30 p.m. ET/9:30 a.m. PT.

You can register to join [here](#). Speakers will include NALEO Educational Fund Director of Civic Engagement Research Dorian Caal and Latino Decisions analyst and research methodologist Angie Gutierrez.

Methodology

This nine-week survey will continue through the week of the election, with a survey sample each week of 400 unique Latino registered voters (500 in Week 5). By the end of the project, data from 3,700 eligible Latino voters will have been collected on political attitudes, voting preferences, the impact of COVID-19, vote-by-mail, outreach, and voter enthusiasm. Interviews were conducted in English or Spanish, according to the respondent's choice. Surveys were conducted online with a resulting +/- 4.9 percent margin of error.

For more information, you can view the 2020 Latino Weekly Tracking Poll [toplines](#) and [crosstabs](#) for this polling week.

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About NALEO Educational Fund

NALEO Educational Fund is the nation's leading non-partisan, non-profit organization that facilitates the full participation of Latinos in the American political process, from citizenship to public service.

About Latino Decisions

Latino Decisions is the nation's leading polling and research firm on Latino Americans, being called the "gold-standard in Latino American polling" by Time Magazine, and has implemented its weekly political tracking poll of Latino voters every cycle since 2010.