Fall 2021 - Vanderbilt University Poll

November 16- December 6, 2021

John G. Geer & Joshua D. Clinton, Co-Directors

1,002 registered voters in Tennessee

MoE: +/- 3.7 percentage points
Approval of President Biden by Party ID  Spring 2021/ Fall 2021
% Responding “approve”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Spring 2021</th>
<th>Fall 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CSDI
Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Approval of Governor Lee by Party ID
Spring 2021 / Fall 2021
% Responding “approve”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Spring 2021</th>
<th>Fall 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Perceptions of the Economy
(% Responding “Good” or “Fairly Good”)

- TN economy
- U.S. economy
Top Priorities For Tennessee State Government by Party ID

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republican</th>
<th>Democrat</th>
<th>Independent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economy</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covid - 19</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Economy

- Republican: 42%
- Democrat: 29%
- Independent: 26%
- Total: 13%

Education

- Republican: 20%
- Democrat: 20%
- Independent: 16%
- Total: 21%

Health Care

- Republican: 13%
- Democrat: 13%
- Independent: 24%
- Total: 23%

Infrastructure

- Republican: 10%
- Democrat: 10%
- Independent: 7%
- Total: 13%

Covid - 19

- Republican: 9%
- Democrat: 5%
- Independent: 10%
- Total: 19%
PANDEMIC OPINIONS & POLICY
Covid-19 vaccine by Party ID

Have you already gotten the COVID-19 vaccine, do you plan to get it but have not gotten one yet, or do you not plan to get it?

Have already gotten one: 72% (Total), 61% (Republicans), 96% (Democrats), 1% (Independents)

Plan to get one: 73% (Total), 1% (Republicans), 1% (Democrats), 1% (Independents)

Do not plan to get one: 24% (Total), 34% (Republicans), 2% (Democrats), 23% (Independents)
Fear of Contracting the Coronavirus by Party ID Spring 2021 / Fall 2021

% Responding somewhat or very worried

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Spring 2021</th>
<th></th>
<th>Fall 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td></td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CSDI - Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Opinion of State Law Prohibiting Private Companies From Requiring COVID-19 Vaccine by Party ID

Do you approve or disapprove of a new state law that prohibits private companies from requiring their employees to be vaccinated against COVID-19 or to provide proof of vaccination, or do you not know enough to say?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Approve</strong></td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Disapprove</strong></td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Do not know enough to say</strong></td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Vanderbilt University
Opinion of Allowing Employees Who Refuse Covid-19 Vaccine to Receive Unemployment by Party ID

Do you approve or disapprove of a new state law that allows employees who refuse to be vaccinated against COVID-19 be eligible for unemployment benefits, or do you not know enough to say?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Approve</strong></td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Disapprove</strong></td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Do not know enough to say</strong></td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Opinion of State Government Control over Local Government During a Pandemic by Party ID

Do you approve or disapprove of a new state law putting limits on what local governments are able to do in response to a pandemic, or do you not know enough to say?

- **Total**: 19% Approve, 26% Disapprove, 56% Do not know enough to say
- **Republicans**: 22% Approve, 14% Disapprove, 64% Do not know enough to say
- **Democrats**: 19% Approve, 26% Disapprove, 55% Do not know enough to say
- **Independents**: 22% Approve, 23% Disapprove, 55% Do not know enough to say
OPINIONS ABOUT ABORTION POLICY
Opinion of State Law that makes Abortion Illegal After Six Weeks by Party Id

Do you approve or disapprove of a potential new state law that makes abortion illegal after six weeks, or do you not know enough to say?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opinion</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Approve</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disapprove</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not know enough to say</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CSDI Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Vanderbilt University
Opinion of State Law that makes Abortion Illegal After Six Weeks by Gender

Do you approve or disapprove of a potential new state law that makes abortion illegal after six weeks, or do you not know enough to say?

- **Total**: 43% Approve, 42% Disapprove, 14% Do not know enough to say
- **Male**: 52% Approve, 33% Disapprove, 13% Do not know enough to say
- **Female**: 43% Approve, 49% Disapprove, 15% Do not know enough to say

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Opinion of State Law Making it a Crime for a Doctor to Perform an Abortion After Six Weeks by Party Id

Do you approve or disapprove of a potential new state law that makes it a crime for a doctor to perform an abortion after six weeks, or do you not know enough to say?

Approve
- Total: 58%
- Republicans: 35%
- Democrats: 42%
- Independents: 44%

Disapprove
- Total: 61%
- Republicans: 14%
- Democrats: 23%
- Independents: 22%

Do not know enough to say
- Total: 26%
- Republicans: 18%
- Democrats: 25%
- Independents: 27%
Opinion of Different Congressional Redistricting Methods by Party Id

As you may know, each state is required to redraw their congressional district maps every 10 years using new population totals from the Census. This process is about to start in Tennessee.

Thinking about the redistricting process in Tennessee, do you support, oppose, or neither support nor oppose each of the following?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Responding Support</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holding public hearings on redrawing the congressional district maps</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping current practices and allow the state legislature to draw the new congressional maps</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forming an independent, nonpartisan commission to draw the new congressional maps</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping Metro Nashville as a single congressional district</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As you may know, each state is required to redraw their congressional district maps every 10 years using new population totals from the Census. This process is about to start in Tennessee. Do you support, oppose or neither support or oppose holding public hearings on redrawing of the congressional district maps?

- Support: Total 60%, Republicans 59%, Democrats 58%, Independents 63%
- Oppose: Total 9%, Republicans 10%, Democrats 14%, Independents 5%
- Neither Support or Oppose: Total 25%, Republicans 24%, Democrats 24%, Independents 25%
As you may know, each state is required to redraw their congressional district maps every 10 years using new population totals from the Census. This process is about to start in Tennessee. Do you support, oppose or neither support or oppose keeping current practices and allowing the state legislature to draw the new congressional district maps?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Neither Support or Oppose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Republicans</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrats</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independents</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Neither Support or Oppose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republicans</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrats</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independents</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As you may know, each state is required to redraw their congressional district maps every 10 years using new population totals from the Census. This process is about to start in Tennessee. Do you support, oppose or neither support or oppose forming an independent, non-partisan commission to draw the new congressional district maps?
As you may know, each state is required to redraw their congressional district maps every 10 years using new population totals from the Census. This process is about to start in Tennessee. Do you support, oppose or neither support or oppose keeping Metro Nashville as a single congressional district?
EDUCATION POLICY
Opinion on Importance of Access to Good Public Education by Party ID

In general, how important to you and your family is access to good quality k-12 public school education?

- Somewhat or very important:
  - Total: 90%
  - Republicans: 95%
  - Democrats: 93%
  - Independents: 91%

- Not too or not at all important:
  - Total: 9%
  - Republicans: 8%
  - Democrats: 6%
  - Independents: 5%
Opinion on Importance of Access to Good Public Education by Kids or No Kids in Public Schools

In general, how important to you and your family is access to good quality k-12 public school education?

- Somewhat or very important: 91% (Total), 99% (Public K-12 Parent), 89% (Others)
- Not too or Not at all important: 8% (Total), 1% (Public K-12 Parent), 9% (Others)
Knowledge of where School Funding Comes From In Tennessee by Party ID

Schools in Tennessee receive funding from a combination of sources. Where do you think local public schools get most of their funding from?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal government</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State government</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CSDI Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Opinion on School Funding Amounts by Party ID

In terms of the amount of school funding that school districts get from the state, do you believe your public schools receive...

- too much
- about the right amount
- too little

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>too much</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>about the right amount</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>too little</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Opinion on School Funding Amounts by Kids or No Kids in Public Schools

In terms of the amount of school funding that school districts get from the state, do you believe your public schools receive....

- 4% too much
- 26% about the right amount
- 61% too little

Total
- Public K-12 Parent
- Others

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Opinion on funding amounts for public schools by Party ID – Poverty

Do you think the amount of funding a school district receives from the state should be based on:

- the number of students being taught regardless of student need
- student need, with more funding provided to schools that have more student need such as for students living in poverty

![Bar chart showing opinions by party ID](chart.png)

**Total**
- 26%: Should be based on the number of students being taught regardless of student need
- 70%: Should be based on student need, with more funding provided to schools that have more student need such as for students living in poverty

**Republicans**
- 31%: Should be based on the number of students being taught regardless of student need
- 65%: Should be based on student need, with more funding provided to schools that have more student need such as for students living in poverty

**Democrats**
- 20%: Should be based on the number of students being taught regardless of student need
- 78%: Should be based on student need, with more funding provided to schools that have more student need such as for students living in poverty

**Independents**
- 21%: Should be based on the number of students being taught regardless of student need
- 72%: Should be based on student need, with more funding provided to schools that have more student need such as for students living in poverty
Opinion on funding amounts for public schools by Party ID – Students with Disabilities

Do you think the amount of funding a school district receives from the state.....

- Should be based on the number of students being taught regardless of student need
- Should be based on student need, with more funding provided to schools that have more student need such as students with disabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Opinion on funding amounts for public schools by Party ID – English Language Learners

Do you think the amount of funding a school district receives from the state should be based on the number of students being taught regardless of student need or should be based on student need, with more funding provided to schools that have more student need such as English-language learners?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should be based on the number of students being taught regardless of student need</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Should be based on student need, with more funding provided to schools that have more student need such as English-language learners</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Opinion on School Funding Going Directly to Students and Parents by Party ID

In general, would you support or oppose school funding being given directly from the Tennessee state government to students and their families so they can use the money to pay for schooling of their choice, including homeschooling or public, charter, or private schools, or do you not know enough to say?

- **Support**
  - Total: 31%
  - Republicans: 36%
  - Democrats: 13%
  - Independents: 40%

- **Oppose**
  - Total: 35%
  - Republicans: 26%
  - Democrats: 54%
  - Independents: 32%

- **Don't know enough to say**
  - Total: 33%
  - Republicans: 38%
  - Democrats: 33%
  - Independents: 28%
Opinion of Local School Board Elections Being Partisan by Party ID

Do you approve or disapprove of a potential new state law that allows local school board elections to be partisan by listing the political party of school board candidates, or do you not know enough to say?

- **Approve**: Total 16%, Republicans 18%, Democrats 26%, Independents 16%
- **Disapprove**: Total 26%, Republicans 15%, Democrats 42%, Independents 29%
- **Do not know enough to say**: Total 58%, Republicans 51%, Democrats 53%, Independents 67%
Would you like to see Donald Trump run for President in 2024 by Party ID

% Responding “yes”

- Total: 79%
- Republican: 44%
- Democrat: 4%
- Independent: 36%
Opinions of National Unity by Party ID Spring 2021 / Fall 2021

When it comes to the most pressing issues facing the country today, in general, would you say Americans are mostly united, somewhat united, somewhat divided, mostly divided?

% responding mostly or somewhat united

- Spring 2021:
  - Total: 11%
  - Republican: 13%
  - Democrat: 11%
  - Independent: 6%

- Fall 2021:
  - Total: 6%
  - Republican: 5%
  - Democrat: 5%
  - Independent: 6%

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Desire for Elected Officials to Compromise by Party ID

Which of the following comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

I would prefer my elected officials work with members of the opposite party even if it means they have to compromise on some of their values and priorities

Total: 88%
Republicans: 48%
Democrats: 67%
Independents: 74%

I would prefer my elected officials pursue their own values and priorities even if it means they are unwilling to work with members of the other political party

Total: 29%
Republicans: 46%
Democrats: 23%
Independents: 9%

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Vanderbilt University
Opinion of Trustworthiness of Different Information Sources by Party Id

For each of the following sources, please tell me how much, if at all, you trust the information they provide about current events?
% Responding “A Lot” or “Some”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local news sources</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instagram</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Opinions on Political Parties by Party ID

Which of the following comes closest to your view, even if none is exactly right?

- Democrats are a danger to our country and must be defeated at any cost
- Republicans are a danger to our country and must be defeated at any cost
- Republicans have mistaken ideas, but they are not a danger to our country
- Both parties have mistaken ideas
- Democrats have mistaken ideas, but they are not a danger to our country

Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents
--- | --- | --- | ---
63% | 34% | 1% | 18%
38% | 32% | 4% | 4%
54% | 4% | 11% | 5%
15% | 13% | 0% | 0%

CSDI
Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions

Vanderbilt University
Have you already gotten a flu shot this year, do you plan to get a flu shot but have not gotten one yet, or do you not plan to get a flu shot this year?
Interest in Owning an Electric Car by Party Id
How interested are you in owning an electric vehicle?

- **Total**
- **Republicans**
- **Democrats**
- **Independents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interest Level</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extremely or very interested</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat or slightly interested</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at all interested</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Already own one</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Opinions on Effects of Owning an Electric Car

To what extent do you think personally owning and operating an electric vehicle would help or harm each of the following?

- Somewhat or significantly help
- Neither harm or help
- Somewhat or significantly harm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Somewhat or significantly help</th>
<th>Neither harm or help</th>
<th>Somewhat or significantly harm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your personal finances</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The U.S. economy</td>
<td>34% 34%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Tennessee state economy</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The health of your neighborhood</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American public health</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>