Spring 2021 - Vanderbilt University Poll

May 3-20, 2021

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

1,000 registered voters in Tennessee
MoE: +/- 3.7 percentage points
Top Priorities For Tennessee State Government by Party ID

- **Covid-19...**
  - Total: 16%
  - Republican: 8%
  - Democrat: 9%
  - Independent: 9%
  - Independent: 9%

- **Economy**
  - Total: 34%
  - Republican: 28%
  - Democrat: 34%
  - Independent: 32%

- **Education**
  - Total: 34%
  - Republican: 15%
  - Democrat: 13%

- **Health Care**
  - Total: 22%
  - Republican: 10%
  - Democrat: 9%
  - Independent: 13%

- **Infrastructure**
  - Total: 15%
  - Republican: 10%
  - Democrat: 9%
  - Independent: 6%

- **Immigration**
  - Total: 17%
  - Republican: 10%
  - Democrat: 2%
  - Independent: 9%
Rating Immigration as TOP priority for state government by Party ID - Fall 2020/Spring 2021

Which of the following do you think should be the TOP priority of the Tennessee state government?

- 1%
- 10%
- 2%
- 17%
- 0%
- 2%
- 9%
- 20%
- 40%
- 60%
- 80%
- 100%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall 2020</th>
<th>Spring 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>9%</td>
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CSDI - Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Perceptions of State Unity by Party ID

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

% Responding “mostly or somewhat united”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party ID</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>24%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>37%</td>
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Perceptions of the Country’s Unity by Party ID

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 or mostly divided?

% Responding “mostly or somewhat united”

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republican</th>
<th>Democrat</th>
<th>Independent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>6%</td>
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VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
Perceptions of the Economy
(% Responding “Good” or “Fairly Good”)

- TN economy
- U.S. economy

Spring 2016: 67%
Fall 2016: 66%
Spring 2017: 73%
Fall 2017: 71%
Spring 2018: 80%
Fall 2018: 77%
Spring 2019: 82%
Fall 2019: 82%
Spring 2020: 84%
Fall 2020: 81%
Spring 2021: 74%

TN economy vs U.S. economy
Proud to be a Tennessean by Party ID

I am proud to be a Tennessean

% responding “agree”

Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents

91% | 99% | 76% | 91%
Proud to be an American by Party ID

I am proud to be an American

% responding “agree”

- Total: 94%
- Republicans: 97%
- Democrats: 92%
- Independents: 93%

Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Perceptions About Stage of COVID-19 Pandemic by Party ID

The COVID-19 pandemic is largely over and we should go back to the way things were. % responding “agree”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>48%</td>
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<td>14%</td>
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COVID-19 Vaccine by Party ID

Have you already gotten at least one dose of a 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: Total 58%, Republicans 49%, Democrats 56%, Independents 5%
- Plan to get one: Total 79%, Republicans 12%, Democrats 11%, Independents 10%
- Do not plan to get one: Total 28%, Republicans 37%, Democrats 5%, Independents 30%
Perceptions of 2020 Election Winner by Party ID

Joe Biden won the 2020 presidential election fair and square.

% responding “agree”

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
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<td></td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>65%</td>
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<td>80%</td>
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<td>100%</td>
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Vanderbilt University
Perceptions of Validity of the 2020 Presidential Election by Party ID

Joe Biden stole the 2020 Presidential election

% responding “agree”

- Total: 71%
- Republicans: 40%
- Democrats: 5%
- Independents: 30%
Opinion of Legality to Carry a Handgun Without a Permit by Party ID

Do you approve or disapprove of a law that would make it legal for people age 21 and older to carry a handgun without a permit in Tennessee.

% responding “approve”

Total: 39%, Republicans: 57%, Democrats: 8%, Independents: 38%

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Opinion on Immigrants by Party ID

Please choose the statement that comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right. 1. Immigrants today strengthen our country because of their hard work and talents. 2. Immigrants today are a burden on our country because they take our jobs, housing and health care.
Opinion of American Rescue Plan Act 2021 by Party ID

In March, an economic plan called the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was passed by Congress and signed by President Biden. The plan provides low-income families with a $3,600 credit per child for children age 5 or younger, or a $3,000 credit per child for children age 6 to 17. Do you approve or disapprove of this child tax credit?

% responding “approve”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party ID</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>66%</td>
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Opinion of American Rescue Plan Act 2021 Without Calling it by Name or Mentioning President Biden by Party ID

Some have talked about a plan that would provide low-income families with a $3,600 credit per child for children age 5 or younger, or a $3,000 credit per child for children age 6 to 17. Do you approve or disapprove of this child tax credit?

% responding “approve”

- Total: 63%
- Republicans: 51%
- Democrats: 89%
- Independents: 61%

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Opinion of the American Jobs Infrastructure Plan by Party ID

Do you approve or disapprove of the American Jobs Plan, President Biden’s proposal that would invest about $2.3 trillion dollars to upgrade the country’s infrastructure over the next ten years, including improving roads and bridges, electric grids, drinking water, and access to broadband internet?

% responding “somewhat or strongly approve”

Total: 57%  Republicans: 29%  Democrats: 96%  Independents: 62%
Opinion of the American Jobs Infrastructure Plan Without Calling it by Name or Mentioning President Biden by Party ID

Do you approve or disapprove of investing about 2.3 trillion dollars to upgrade the country’s infrastructure over the next ten years, including improving roads and bridges, electric grids, drinking water, and access to broadband internet? % responding “somewhat or strongly approve”

- Total: 73%
- Republicans: 59%
- Democrats: 96%
- Independents: 73%
Republican’s Opinion of the American Jobs Infrastructure Plan Depending on How it is described

% responding “somewhat or strongly approve”

Do you approve or disapprove of the American Jobs Plan, President Biden’s proposal that would invest about 2.3 trillion dollars to upgrade the country’s infrastructure over the next ten years, including improving roads and bridges, electric grids, drinking water, and access to broadband internet?
In the past few years, have you lost or ended any friendships or other relationships because of disagreements you had about political or election news, or has this not happened? % responding “Yes”

- Total: 16%
- Republicans: 14%
- Democrats: 23%
- Independents: 14%
Opinion on “canceling” Public Figures and Companies by Party ID

Do you agree or disagree with the practice of withdrawing support or ‘canceling,’ public figures and companies after they have done or said something considered objectionable or offensive?

% responding “agree”

- Total: 31%
- Republicans: 17%
- Democrats: 60%
- Independents: 28%

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Opinion on Changing Tennessee Unemployment Laws by Party ID

Individuals who lose their job in Tennessee currently receive $275 a week for 26 weeks from the Tennessee state government. Some have proposed changing the laws so the number of weeks a person receives unemployment benefits will be based on the state’s unemployment rate, where the minimum would be 12 weeks and the maximum would be 20 weeks. Do you agree or disagree with this proposed change?

% responding “agree”

- Total: 68%
- Republicans: 58%
- Democrats: 42%
- Independents: 59%
Perceptions of Shared Problems – City v. Rural by Party ID

People who live in cities have the same problems as people who live in rural areas.

% responding “agree”

- Total: 20%
- Republicans: 23%
- Democrats: 20%
- Independents: 16%

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Reporting of Friendships with People From a Different Political Party by Party ID

I am good friends with someone who belongs to a different political party. % responding “agree”

- Total: 84%
- Republicans: 82%
- Democrats: 78%
- Independents: 89%

Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Opinion on Race Relations in Tennessee by Party ID

Do you think race relations in the United States are generally good or generally bad?

% Responding “generally good”

- Total: 63%
- Republican: 78%
- Democrat: 37%
- Independent: 64%

Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Opinion on Race Relations in the United States by Party ID

Do you think race relations in the United States are generally good or generally bad?

% Responding “generally good”

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% Responding</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>39%</td>
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Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Vanderbilt University
Opinion on the affects of slavery by Party ID

How much, if at all, do you think the legacy of slavery affects the position of black people in American society today, a great deal, a fair amount, not much or not at all?

% Responding “a great deal or fair amount”

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<tr>
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<td>55%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>60%</td>
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VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
Opinion of the Black Lives Matter Movement by Party ID

Do you have a favorable, unfavorable or neither favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Black Lives Matter Movement

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<th>Total</th>
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<th>Independent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very or somewhat favorable</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither favorable or unfavorable</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat or very unfavorable</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>42%</td>
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Concern for Elementary School Students by Party ID

Since the pandemic began, many students in Tennessee missed school for an extended period of time or had to attend school in a non-traditional manner, like through online classes. How concerned, if at all, are you about diminished learning for our elementary school students?

% Responding “somewhat or very concerned”

- Total: 90%
- Republican: 95%
- Democrat: 86%
- Independent: 90%

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Concern for Middle School Students by Party ID

Since the pandemic began, many students in Tennessee missed school for an extended period of time or had to attend school in a non-traditional manner like through online classes. How concerned, if at all, are you about diminished learning for our middle school students?

% Responding “somewhat or very concerned”

- Total: 88%
- Republican: 86%
- Democrat: 85%
- Independent: 93%

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Vanderbilt University
Concern for High School Students by Party ID

Since the pandemic began, many students in Tennessee missed school for an extended period of time or had to attend school in a non-traditional manner like through online classes. How concerned, if at all, are you about diminished learning for our high school students?

% Responding “somewhat or very concerned”

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<th>Democrat</th>
<th>Independent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% Responding</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>86%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total
Republican
Democrat
Independent