Vanderbilt University Poll: 2022 Nashville Edition

March 18th – April 16th, 2022
John G. Geer & Joshua D. Clinton, Co-Directors
1,008 residents of Nashville/Davidson County, TN MoE: +/- 4.3 percentage points
Nashville, Right Direction or Wrong Track over Time

Do you think things in the Nashville area are generally headed in the right direction, or do you feel that things are off on the wrong track?

![Graph showing the percentage of people thinking things in Nashville are generally headed in the right direction or wrong track over time from 2015 to 2022.](image-url)
Opinion on Nashville’s Economy Over Time

- Very or fairly good:
  - 2015: 83%
  - 2017: 86%
  - 2018: 86%
  - 2019: 82%
  - 2020: 62%
  - 2021: 71%
  - 2022: 64%

- Fairly or very bad:
  - 2015: 15%
  - 2017: 12%
  - 2018: 12%
  - 2019: 18%
  - 2020: 38%
  - 2021: 30%
  - 2022: 35%
Opinion of Nashville’s Economy by Income Level

- **People making less than $45,000 a year**
  - Fairly or very good: 53%
  - Fairly or very bad: 45%

- **People making more than $100,000 a year**
  - Fairly or very good: 86%
  - Fairly or very bad: 15%
Approval of Mayor John Cooper by Party ID Over Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Independents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Opinions on How Mayor Cooper is Handling Specific Issues

- The coronavirus pandemic: 66%
- The quality of public schools and education: 51%
- Economic growth: 55%
- How Metro Nashville police deal with civilains of all races and ethnicities: 57%
- Crime rates: 47%
- Public transportation: 50%
- Homelessness: 27%
- Property taxes and government spending: 36%
“Top Priorities” For Mayor and City Council

- 73% Improving public education
- 65% Increasing the amount of affordable housing
- 63% Reducing crime
- 62% Dealing with the problems of low-income people
- 55% Taking steps to ensure the city's long-term financial health
- 48% Dealing with homelessness
- 43% Improving public transportation systems
- 30% Addressing issues related to garbage collection and recycling
- 29% Bringing new companies and jobs to the city

Percentage rating as "top priority"
Opinion on What Should be Mayor’s “Top Priorities” (largest gaps) by Income Level

- Increasing the amount of affordable housing: 71% (below $45,000), 35% (above $100,000)
- Reducing crime: 73% (below $45,000), 62% (above $100,000)
- Dealing with the problems of low-income people and those in need: 71% (below $45,000), 47% (above $100,000)
- Dealing with homelessness: 51% (below $45,000), 42% (above $100,000)
- Addressing issues related to garbage collection and recycling: 52% (below $45,000), 33% (above $100,000)
- Bringing new companies and jobs to the city: 47% (below $45,000), 20% (above $100,000)
Increasing Affordable Housing as a “Top Priority”
2020/2022

How much of a priority do you think increasing the amount of affordable housing should be for Mayor Cooper?

% who believe increasing affordable housing should be a "top priority"

- 42% in 2020
- 65% in 2022
Opinions on whether Metro Nashville is Moving in the Right Direction or is on the Wrong Track by People who Plan to Move Away From the City

- 37% in the Right Direction
- 61% on the Wrong Track
City’s Growth
Opinion on Nashville’s Population Growth Over Time

Opinion of Construction of New Buildings and Properties in Nashville Over Time

- Too quickly
- About the right amount
- Not quickly enough

2015: 9%
2017: 5%
2018: 5%
2019: 7%
2020: 4%
2021: 4%
2022: 5%
2015: 47%
2017: 42%
2018: 60%
2019: 65%
2020: 64%
2021: 62%
2022: 64%
2015: 9%
2017: 5%
2018: 5%
2019: 7%
2020: 4%
2021: 4%
2022: 5%
2015: 64%
2017: 62%
2018: 64%
2019: 64%
2020: 64%
2021: 64%
2022: 71%
Observations on Neighborhood New Construction

Are older houses being torn down and new homes built in your neighborhood, or not, or are you not sure?

52% Yes
35% No
13% Not sure
Opinions on Neighborhood New Construction

Do you think replacing older homes with bigger and more expensive homes is generally a good thing or a bad thing?

- 77% think it is a bad thing
- 23% think it is a good thing
COVID -19
Opinions of Where We are With the Covid-19 Pandemic by Party ID

Thinking about the Covid-19 pandemic today, which of the following comes closest to your view?

- 52%: It's time to learn to live with the virus
- 48%: Stopping the spread of the virus must continue to be the highest priority
- 72%: Other (Not shown)
- 28%: Other (Not shown)

Graph showing approval by party ID:

- Total: 52% for It's time to learn to live with the virus, 48% for Stopping the spread of the virus must continue to be the highest priority
- Republicans: 72% for It's time to learn to live with the virus, 28% for Stopping the spread of the virus must continue to be the highest priority
- Democrats: 59% for It's time to learn to live with the virus, 41% for Stopping the spread of the virus must continue to be the highest priority
- Independents: 59% for It's time to learn to live with the virus, 41% for Stopping the spread of the virus must continue to be the highest priority
Concern for Contracting Coronavirus Over Time

How concerned, if at all, are you that you or someone you know will get sick from the coronavirus?

- Very concerned: 52%, 49%, 31%
- Somewhat concerned: 30%, 25%, 30%
- Not too concerned: 12%, 10%, 20%
- Not concerned at all: 3%, 5%, 7%
- This has already happened: 3%, 12%, 11%
Reporting of Covid Prevalence 2021-2022

Have you or someone currently living with you already had the coronavirus, or not?

- 2021: 26% Yes, 74% No
- 2022: 54% Yes, 46% No
Hot Topics
Fear of Crime Close to Home - Over Time

Is there any area near where you live – that is, within a mile or so - where you would be afraid to walk alone at night?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
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CSDI Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
Opinions on Redrawing of 5th Congressional District by Party ID

The state legislature redrew the congressional district covering Nashville and represented by Democrat Jim Cooper into 3 different districts by combining Davidson county with surrounding counties.

Do you support or oppose this change?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party ID</th>
<th>Strongly or somewhat approve</th>
<th>Strongly or somewhat disapprove</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Opinion on Bringing Major League Baseball to Nashville

There has been some talk about bringing a Major League Baseball team to Nashville. It would require building a new stadium. Do you support such an effort, or not, or are you not sure?

- Yes: 39%
- No: 35%
- Not sure: 26%

If it were built without any taxpayer funds, would you support building a new stadium to bring a Major League Baseball team to Nashville, or not, or are you not sure? (asked of respondents who responded "no" to building a new stadium to bring an MLB team.)

- Yes: 42%
- No: 27%
- Not sure: 30%
Opinions on Allowing Parents to Review and Remove Books From Public School Libraries by Party ID

Do you approve or disapprove of policies that allow parents to review and remove books they find objectionable from public school libraries?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly or somewhat approve</th>
<th>Strongly or somewhat disapprove</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

CSDI Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
Opinions on America’s Colleges and Universities

Now thinking about America’s colleges and universities, how much do you think they contribute to each of the following?

- Scientific advances that benefit society
- Students being prepared for a well-paying job in today’s economy
- America’s national prosperity and development

A lot: 49%, 21%, 42%
Some: 36%, 48%, 30%
A little: 12%, 20%, 18%
Almost nothing: 3%, 10%, 9%
SCHOOL PERFORMANCE
Opinion on Performance of Nashville Public Preschools, Kindergartens & Elementary Schools Over Time

- **2020**: 51% Excellent/good, 37% Average, 11% Below average/failing
- **2021**: 34% Excellent/good, 40% Average, 25% Below average/failing
- **2022**: 31% Excellent/good, 44% Average, 21% Below average/failing

Legend:
- Black: Excellent/good
- Light Brown: Average
- Red: Below average/failing
Opinion on Performance of Nashville Public Middle Schools Over Time

- **2020:**
  - Excellent/good: 35%
  - Average: 45%
  - Below average/failing: 19%

- **2021:**
  - Excellent/good: 27%
  - Average: 49%
  - Below average/failing: 27%

- **2022:**
  - Excellent/good: 25%
  - Average: 43%
  - Below average/failing: 24%

Legend:
- **Black** = Excellent/good
- **Gray** = Average
- **Red** = Below average/failing
Opinion on Performance of Nashville Public High Schools Over Time

- 2020:
  - Excellent/good: 35%
  - Average: 41%
  - Below average/failing: 23%
- 2021:
  - Excellent/good: 26%
  - Average: 42%
  - Below average/failing: 32%
- 2022:
  - Excellent/good: 26%
  - Average: 44%
  - Below average/failing: 27%