

**VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY**  
**2019 NASHVILLE/DAVIDSON COUNTY POLL**  
**TOPLINE RESULTS**

Total N=910 Nashville/Davidson County, TN residents ages 18+  
Margin of Error:  $\pm$  4.6 percentage points for results based on Total [N=910]  
Interviewing dates: March 5-April 3, 2019  
Interview language: English and Spanish  
Interview mode: Telephone, Web, and Mail

**INTRODUCTION:**

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_ and I'm calling for Vanderbilt University. We're conducting a survey about some important issues facing your local community today. This call may be monitored for quality assurance.

**RDD LANDLINE:**

- LLS1. May I please speak with the YOUNGEST [RANDOMIZE: (MALE / FEMALE)], age 18 or older, who is now at home? [READ IF NECESSARY: Your phone number has been randomly selected to complete the survey. We are not selling anything.]
- LLS2. [IF NO (MALE/FEMALE), ASK:] Then may I please speak with the YOUNGEST [RANDOMIZE: (FEMALE / MALE)], age 18 or older, who is now at home?

**RDD/LISTED CELL:**

- CPAGE. Just to confirm... What is your age? [CONTINUE IF 18 OR OLDER]
- CPAGEREF. [IF CPAGE=DON'T KNOW OR REFUSED:] Keeping in mind that this is a completely confidential survey... Could you please tell me if you are under 18, 18 to 29, 30 to 34, 35 to 44, 45 to 54, 55 to 64, or 65 or older? [CONTINUE IF 18 OR OLDER]
- CPS2. I know I am calling you on a cell phone. If you are now driving a car or doing any activity requiring your full attention, I need to call you back later.

**ABS WEB INTRODUCTION:**

ABSS1. Thank you for participating in this survey for the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions (CSDI) at Vanderbilt University. As a thank you for participating, we can send you a \$10 gift card upon completion of the survey.

Please enter your passcode: [TEXT BOX]

Click "Start" to continue to the survey

LANG. Select the language you wish to continue in:  
Selecciona el idioma que desea a continuar:

- 1 English
- 2 Español

ABS MAIL INTRODUCTION:

Thank you for participating in this survey for the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions (CSDI) at Vanderbilt University. To ensure our poll is representative, we'd like for the adult (age 18 or older) in your household who most recently had a birthday to complete our survey. If it's you, please go to the first question below. If it's someone else, please ask her or him to answer the questions. Your responses to this survey are completely confidential – any information you provide will be held in the strictest confidence.

Please read each question carefully. Using a blue or black pen, please mark the box next to the appropriate response as indicated. It should not take you more than about 20 minutes to complete the survey. Once you have completed the survey, please return it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

As a thank you for participating, we can send you a \$10 check for mailing back the completed survey.

If you prefer, you can complete this survey online. Please visit <<SURVEY URL>> and enter this passcode: <<XXXX>>.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact <<CONTACT NAME>> at <<CONTACT EMAIL>> or <<CONTACT PHONE NUMBER>>.

MAIN SCREENING INTERVIEW

RDCOUNTY. What county in Tennessee do you currently live in? / Do you currently live in Davidson County, Tennessee? [CONTINUE IF DAVIDSON COUNTY]

TREND INFORMATION

2018 trends are from the Vanderbilt University "2018 Nashville-Davidson County Poll" conducted under the direction of SSRS from February 08-19, 2018 among 800 Nashville/Davidson County, TN residents, age 18 or older, reached on either a landline or cell phone. Interviews were conducted in English.

2017 trends are from the Vanderbilt University "2017 Nashville-Davidson County Poll" conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI) from February 27-March 19, 2017 among 1,106 Nashville/Davidson County, TN residents, age 18 or older, reached on either a landline or cell phone. Interviews were conducted in either English or Spanish.

2015 trends are from the Vanderbilt University "2015 Nashville-Davidson County Poll" conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI) from September 14-27, 2015 among 1,000 Nashville/Davidson County, TN residents, age 18 or older, reached on either a landline or cell phone. Interviews were conducted in either English or Spanish.

*Notes: Because percentages are rounded, they may not total 100%.*

*An asterisk (\*) indicates less than 0.5%.*

*Data collection was conducted via telephone, web, and mail. Verbiage in this topline reflect telephone wording. Web and mail wording may differ slightly due to self-administered interviewing.*

## MAIN INTERVIEW

1. I'd like your views on some government organizations and public officials. As I read each, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of how each is handling their job. (First,) do you approve or disapprove of [INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE]?

		APPROVE	DIS- APPROVE	(VOL.) NEED TO WAIT AND SEE / TOO EARLY TO TELL	(VOL.) DK <sup>1</sup>	(VOL.) REF <sup>2</sup>
a.	The job the Metro Nashville Council is doing <sup>3</sup>					
	2019	57	34	5	4	*
	2018	59	25	2	12	2
	2017	59	21	3	16	1
	2015	58	21	2	18	1
b.	The job the Metro Nashville School Board is doing					
	2019	37	52	5	5	*
	2018	51	30	3	14	2
	2017	49	32	3	15	1
	2015	43	37	1	18	1
c.	The job Donald Trump is doing as President					
	2019	29	70	1	*	1
	2018	30	65	2	2	1
	2017	27	61	7	4	1
d.	The job David Briley is doing as Mayor <sup>4</sup>					
	2019	66	27	4	3	*
	<u>Megan Barry trends:</u>					
	2018	61	33	1	3	1
	2017	72	16	2	9	*
	2015	41	12	27	20	1
e.	The job the Metro Nashville Police Department is doing					
	2019	75	23	2	*	*
	2018	84	13	*	2	1
	2017	80	15	1	4	*

*(Continued on next page)*

<sup>1</sup> The abbreviation DK stands for "Don't know"

<sup>2</sup> The abbreviation REF stands for "Refused"

<sup>3</sup> 2015: "The job the Metro City Council is doing"

<sup>4</sup> 2017 and 2018: "The job Megan Barry is doing as Mayor". 2015: "The job Megan Barry is doing as the newly elected Mayor"

1. I'd like your views on some government organizations and public officials. As I read each, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of how each is handling their job. (First,) do you approve or disapprove of [INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE]? (CONTINUED)

		APPROVE	DIS- APPROVE	(VOL.) NEED TO WAIT AND SEE / TOO EARLY TO TELL	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
f.	The job Congressman Jim Cooper is doing					
	2019	62	26	5	8	*
	2018	57	24	4	15	1
	2017	53	21	3	22	1
g.	The job Dr. Shawn Joseph is doing as Director of Metro Nashville Public Schools					
	2019	33	54	6	7	*
	2018	46	25	3	23	2

## NO QUESTION 2

3. 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?

	RIGHT DIRECTION	WRONG TRACK	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF	(N)
2019	53	45	1	1	(910)
2018*	61	36	2	*	(408)
2017*	68	26	5	1	(560)
2015	72	22	6	*	(1,000)

\*Asked of a half sample.

ECONNASH. How would you rate the condition of the Nashville economy these days? Is it: [READ LIST; ROTATE HALF CODES 1-4 / HALF CODES 4-1]

	VERY GOOD	FAIRLY GOOD	FAIRLY BAD	VERY BAD	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF	(N)
2019	32	50	13	5	*	*	(910)
2018*	35	51	8	4	1	*	(408)
2017*	32	54	8	4	2	*	(560)
2015*	20	63	8	7	2	0	(502)

\*Asked of a half sample.

4. I'd like your views on some city leaders and prominent citizens. As I read each, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable view of them, or if you don't know them well-enough to know. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of [INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE], or do you not know them well enough to say?

	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW WELL ENOUGH	(VOL.) REF
a. Former Nashville Mayor Megan Barry	39	43	17	1
b. Businessman Bill Freeman	25	10	65	*
c. Councilman John Cooper	25	10	64	1
d. Tennessee State Representative John Ray Clemmons	12	8	79	*
e. Businessman David Fox	12	11	76	1
f. Councilwoman Erica Gilmore	26	8	66	*

5. Now I'd like to ask you about priorities for the Nashville mayor and the Metro Nashville government. As I read from a list, tell me how much of a priority you think each should be. First, how about [INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE]? Do you think this should be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done?<sup>5</sup>

Next, [INSERT NEXT ITEM]. [READ AS NECESSARY: Do you think this should be a top priority for the Nashville mayor and the Metro Nashville government, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done?]

	TOP PRIORITY	IMPT., LOWER PRIORITY	NOT TOO IMPT.	SHOULD NOT BE DONE	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF	(N)	
b. Improving public education								
	2019	81	16	2	1	*	*	(910)
	*2018	86	13	1	1	*	*	(400)
	2017	86	12	1	*	*	*	(1,106)
	2015	84	14	1	*	1	*	(1,000)
d. Improving public transportation <sup>6</sup>								
	2019	51	36	9	4	*	*	(910)
	2018	56	32	7	4	*	*	(800)
	2017	63	28	6	2	*	*	(1,106)
	2015	56	34	8	2	1	*	(1,000)

*\*Asked of a half sample.  
(Continued on next page)*

<sup>5</sup> 2015 question wording: "Now I'd like to ask you about priorities for the new Nashville mayor and the Metro city government."

<sup>6</sup> 2015, 2017, 2018: "Improving public transportation systems"

5. Now I'd like to ask you about priorities for the Nashville mayor and the Metro Nashville government. As I read from a list, tell me how much of a priority you think each should be. First, how about [INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE]? Do you think this should be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done? (CONTINUED)

		TOP PRIORITY	IMPT., LOWER PRIORITY	NOT TOO IMPT.	SHOULD NOT BE DONE	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF	(N)
e.	Taking steps to ensure the city's long-term financial health							
	2019	65	31	3	1	*	*	(910)
	*2018	71	25	2	1	1	1	(400)
	2017	73	24	2	*	1	*	(1,106)
	2015	71	24	3	1	2	*	(1,000)
f.	Reducing crime							
	2019	72	23	4	1	0	*	(910)
	*2018	80	17	3	*	*	*	(400)
	2017	77	19	2	1	1	0	(1,106)
	2015	76	21	2	1	1	*	(1,000)
g.	Dealing with the problems of low-income people and those in need <sup>7</sup>							
	2019	55	39	4	2	*	*	(910)
	*2018	64	29	4	2	*	0	(400)
	2017	73	23	3	1	*	*	(1,106)
	2015	69	26	3	1	1	*	(1,000)
i.	Bringing new companies and jobs to the city <sup>8</sup>							
	2019	36	42	16	5	0	*	(910)
	*2018	49	40	8	4	*	0	(400)
	2017	47	37	11	4	1	*	(1,106)
	2015	47	40	9	2	2	*	(1,000)
m.	Increasing the amount of affordable housing in Nashville							
	2019	55	30	7	6	1	*	(910)
	*2018	64	26	6	4	*	*	(400)
	2017	64	26	6	3	1	*	(1,106)

\*Asked of a half sample.

<sup>7</sup> 2015 and 2017: "Dealing with the problems of the poor and people in need"

<sup>8</sup> 2015 and 2017: "Bringing new businesses to the city"

[READ TO ALL:] Next we'd like to get your views on some issues that are being discussed today.

6. Thinking about education in Nashville... What grade would you give the performance of public PRESCHOOLS, KINDERGARTENS, and ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS in your school district? [READ LIST]

	A, EXC- ELLENT	B, GOOD	C, AVERAGE	D, BELOW AVERAGE	F, FAILING	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF	(N)
2019	9	32	36	12	4	6	1	(910)
2018	9	31	32	14	3	9	2	(800)
2017*	10	29	35	11	3	11	1	(548)
2015*	10	34	32	7	3	13	*	(500)

*\*Asked of a half sample.*

7. What grade would you give the performance of public MIDDLE SCHOOLS in your school district? [READ LIST]

	A, EXC- ELLENT	B, GOOD	C, AVERAGE	D, BELOW AVERAGE	F, FAILING	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF	(N)
2019	4	24	44	16	6	5	*	(910)
2018	6	24	38	16	5	9	2	(800)

8. What grade would you give the performance of public HIGH SCHOOLS in your school district? [READ LIST]

	A, EXC- ELLENT	B, GOOD	C, AVERAGE	D, BELOW AVERAGE	F, FAILING	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF	(N)
2019	5	18	38	24	10	4	*	(910)
2018	5	18	33	21	13	9	1	(800)

9. As you may know, there has been a lot of discussion about the best ways to reform the public school system in Tennessee, including the adoption of charter schools. Charter schools are publicly funded, and function independently of the local district as long as they meet certain standards set by state and local government. Which ONE of these statements comes closer to your own view? [READ LIST]

	I SUPPORT CHARTER SCHOOLS	I HAVE MIXED FEELINGS ABOUT CHARTER SCHOOLS	I OPPOSE CHARTER SCHOOLS	I DO NOT KNOW ENOUGH TO HAVE A CLEAR OPINION	(VOL.) REF	(N)
2019	30	34	15	21	*	(910)
2018* <sup>9</sup>	27	29	12	32	*	(399)

\*Asked of a half sample.

10. Thinking about online home-sharing services -- such as Airbnb, VRBO, or HomeAway... Do you think that home-sharing services that provide short-term rentals should be allowed or should NOT be allowed to operate in residential neighborhoods in Metro Nashville?

	SHOULD BE ALLOWED	SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF	(N)
2019	62	35	3	*	(910)
2018*	62	32	5	*	(401)

\*Asked of a half sample.

11. Overall, how welcoming do you think Nashville is to people who are moving to the area? [READ LIST]

	VERY WELCOMING	SOMEWHAT WELCOMING	SOMEWHAT UN- WELCOMING	VERY UN- WELCOMING	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
2019	52	39	5	3	*	*
2018	58	36	6	1	*	*
2017	63	31	4	1	1	0
2015 <sup>10</sup>	70	23	3	2	2	*

<sup>9</sup> 2018 question wording: "As you may know, there has been a lot of discussion about the best ways to reform the public school system in Tennessee, including the adoption of charter schools. Charter schools are public, and function independently of the local district as long as they meet certain standards set by state and local government. Please tell me which ONE of these statements comes closer to your own view?"

<sup>10</sup> 2015 question wording: "Overall, how welcoming do you think Nashville is to people who are thinking about moving to the area?"



12. Do you think Nashville’s population is growing: [READ LIST; ROTATE HALF CODES 1-3 / HALF CODES 3-1]

	TOO QUICKLY	ABOUT THE RIGHT AMOUNT	NOT QUICKLY ENOUGH	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF	(N)
2019	78	20	1	*	*	(910)
2018*	75	23	2	*	1	(405)
2017*	65	32	3	*	0	(568)
2015*	50	44	5	1	*	(523)

\*Asked of a half sample.

13. Do you think construction of new buildings and properties in Nashville is growing: [READ LIST; ROTATE HALF CODES 1-3 / HALF CODES 3-1 IN SAME ORDER AS PREVIOUS QUESTION]

	TOO QUICKLY	ABOUT THE RIGHT AMOUNT	NOT QUICKLY ENOUGH	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF	(N)
2019	64	29	7	*	*	(910)
2018*	65	30	5	*	*	(395)
2017*	60	33	5	2	*	(538)
2015*	47	42	9	2	*	(477)

\*Asked of a half sample.

14. Overall, do you think it would be a good use of taxpayer money for the Metro city government to offer tax incentives to keep or attract businesses operating within the city, or would you rather see this money spent on something else in Metro Nashville?

	GOOD USE OF TAXPAYER MONEY	RATHER SEE TAXPAYER MONEY SPENT ON SOMETHING ELSE	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
2019	24	74	2	*

15. Would you support an increase in property taxes if the increase were to go towards [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]?

	YES	NO	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
a. Increasing the pay of teachers	67	32	1	*
b. Increasing the amount of affordable housing in the city	49	50	*	1
c. Improving public transportation	43	56	*	1

16. 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?

	YES	NO	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
2019	59	41	*	*
2018	46	53	1	0

17. In general, do you think the increase in electric scooters around Nashville is a good thing or a bad thing for the city? [IF DEPENDS, PROBE: All things considered, do you think it is a good thing or a bad thing OVERALL?]

	GOOD THING	BAD THING	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
2019	39	58	2	1

18. An election for Nashville's next mayor will take place during the city's next general election on August 2nd. Which ONE the following is the most important quality you would like to see in the next mayor? [READ LIST; RANDOMIZE]

2019	
34	Cares about the needs and problems of people like you
28	Is honest and trustworthy
14	Shares your values
11	Has strong leadership qualities
6	Has experience in business
2	Has experience in politics
1	(VOL.) Don't know
2	(VOL.) Refused

19. In general, do you think that having a public commission to oversee the Metro Nashville Police Department is a good thing or a bad thing for the city? [IF DEPENDS, PROBE: All things considered, do you think it is a good thing or a bad thing OVERALL?]

	GOOD THING	BAD THING	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
2019	70	28	2	*

20. In general, do you think the growth and changes in Nashville over the past few years have made your day-to-day life: [READ LIST; ROTATE HALF CODES 1-2 / HALF CODES 2-1]

[IF NECESSARY, IF RESPONDENT RECENTLY MOVED TO NASHVILLE: Please think about the growth and changes in Nashville since you moved to the area.]

	BETTER	WORSE	OR HAVE THE GROWTH AND CHANGES IN NASHVILLE NOT HAD MUCH IMPACT ON YOUR DAY-TO-DAY LIFE	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
2019	26	36	38	*	*
2018	27	32	41	*	*
2017	36	25	37	2	*

NO QUESTION 21

[READ TO ALL:] Moving on...

22. On a typical WEEKDAY, how much total time do you spend in traffic? [READ LIST]

	LESS THAN A HALF HOUR	A HALF HOUR TO AN HOUR	ONE HOUR TO AN HOUR AND A HALF	AN HOUR AND A HALF TO 2 HOURS	2 HOURS OR MORE	(VOL.) DO NOT DRIVE	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF	(N)
2019	28	29	21	9	8	5	0	0	(910)
2018*	37	28	19	7	6	2	*	1	(382)
2017*	24	31	23	9	8	4	*	*	(532)
2015*	25	34	18	9	11	2	1	*	(500)

\*Asked of a half sample.

23. How often, if ever, do you use public transportation in Nashville? [READ LIST]

	ALMOST EVERY DAY	A FEW TIMES A WEEK	A FEW TIMES A MONTH	ABOUT ONCE A MONTH	A FEW TIMES A YEAR	NEVER	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF	(N)
2019	3	3	3	2	13	76	*	0	(910)
2018*	3	3	2	2	10	80	0	0	(379)
2017*	3	3	5	3	15	71	*	0	(553)

\*Asked of a half sample.

24. How often, if ever, do you use private ride-share services like Uber or Lyft in Nashville? [READ LIST]

	ALMOST EVERY DAY	A FEW TIMES A WEEK	A FEW TIMES A MONTH	ABOUT ONCE A MONTH	A FEW TIMES A YEAR	NEVER	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF	(N)
2019	1	6	16	9	27	41	0	*	(910)
2018*	2	5	11	8	18	56	0	0	(421)
2017*	3	6	10	6	14	60	*	1	(553)

\*Asked of a half sample.

[READ TO ALL:] Next...

REGIST. These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?

2019	
79	Yes, registered
21	No, not registered
*	(VOL.) Don't know
0	(VOL.) Refused

PARTY. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a: [READ LIST]

2019	
41	Democrat
18	Republican
26	Independent, OR
13	Something else?
1	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

IDEO5. How would you generally describe your views on most political matters? Are you: [READ LIST; ROTATE HALF CODES 1-5 / HALF CODES 5-1]

2019	
7	Very conservative
21	Conservative
44	Moderate
18	Liberal
9	Very liberal
1	(VOL.) Don't know
1	(VOL.) Refused

[READ TO ALL:] A few last questions for statistical purposes only...

25. How often, if ever, do you talk to any of your neighbors? [READ LIST]

2019	
17	Almost every day
32	A few times a week
19	A few times a month
8	About once a month
13	A few times a year
10	Or never?
0	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

26. Looking ahead, do you plan on staying in Nashville, or do you expect to move away from Nashville if you get a chance?

2019	
72	Stay
27	Move
1	(VOL.) Don't know
*	(VOL.) Refused

THE REMAINING DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS AND L1, L1A, C1, CONTACT ARE NOT REPORTED IN THIS TOPLINE.

THANK AND END INTERVIEW: THANK YOU again for sharing your thoughts and opinions! Have a nice rest of the day. [READ IF NECESSARY: This survey is being conducted by the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions at Vanderbilt University. If you have any questions about the survey, please feel free to contact CSDI at (XXX) XXX-XXXX.]