## **State Innovation Exchange**

Multi-State Poll - Florida Findings July 2020



### **Survey Methodology**



TargetSmart designed and administered this multimodal survey. Four hundred and ninety-four interviews were conducted online among panelists who were matched to the TargetSmart voter file (469 weighted), 35 interviews were conducted online using text-to-web and email-to-web (8 email, 27 SMS) solicits from the TargetSmart voter file (42 weighted), and 61 interviews (79 weighted) were conducted over the phone (56 on wireless phones, 5 on landlines). In total, the survey reached 590 adults, age 18 or older, who are registered to vote in Florida. Quotas were designed to reflect the demographic and geographic distribution of registered voters in Florida. The data were weighted by gender, age, race from file, TargetSmart Partisan Score, TargetSmart High School Only Score, and region by county to ensure an accurate reflection of the population.

The credibility interval (the theoretical margin of error for a blended-methodology poll that relies partially on telephone-based probability sampling, and partially on non-probability based online panel sampling) is +/- 4.0%. The margin of error for subgroups is larger and varies. Percentage totals may not add up precisely due to rounding.



# Issue Environment and the Role of State Government

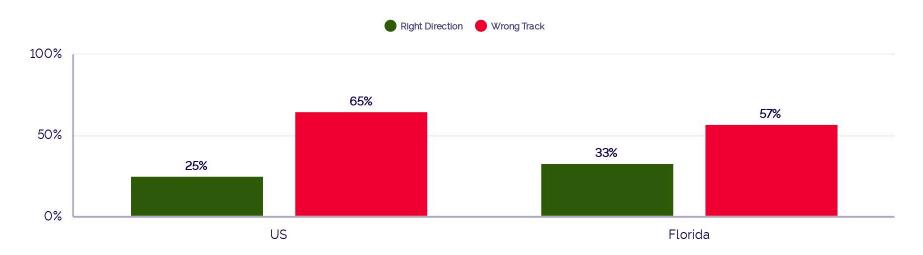
### **Issue Environment: Key Findings**

- Florida voters are more pessimistic about the direction of the US than they are about the state, but solid majorities believe both are heading in the wrong direction.
- Unsurprisingly, the coronavirus is the top issue priorities cited by voters (47 percent), outpacing concerns for the economy (14 percent), systematic racism (8 percent), and Governor DeSantis' poor leadership on the pandemic (7 percent).
- Nearly two-thirds of Florida voters (65 percent) believe the worst is yet to come when it comes to the pandemic, compared to just 18 percent believing the worst is over.
- We also see a majority of Florida voters indicate that their feelings about how Black people and communities are treated in American have changed over the last month in light of recent events (58 percent).



# Floridians Highly Pessimistic About Direction of the U.S. and the State

#### Direction of the US and Florida



5.Generally speaking, do you think that things in the United States are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?
6.And generally speaking, do you think that things in Florida are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?



### Coronavirus Pandemic Surfaces as a Clear Priority for Florida Voters



7. What would you say is the most important issue facing the state of Florida these days?



### **Concerns About the Coronavirus Spans Across Party Lines**

Issue priorities by Party ID



ID Democrat

1. COVID-19/virus spread - 51%

- 2. Systematic racism 10%
- 3, DeSantis negative 9%



ID independent

1. COVID-19/virus spread - 46%

- 2. Economy/jobs 12%
- 3. DeSantis negative 8%



ID Republican

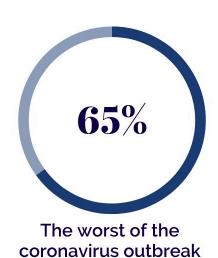
1. COVID-19/virus spread - 46%

- 2. Economy/jobs 21%
- 3. Systematic racism 9%

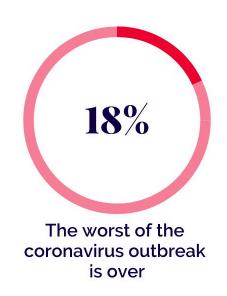


#### Two-in-Three Floridians Believe The Worst of the Pandemic Is Yet to Come

Worst is yet to come vs. worst is over



is yet to come





9. Do you believe....



### Solid Majority of Independents, Plurality of Republicans Believe Worst is Yet to Come

State of Pandemic by Key Demographics

	Worst is yet to come	Worst is over
All voters	65%	18%
D Democrat	89%	7%
D independent	63%	17%
D Republican	41%	33%
Men	61%	25%
Women	68%	13%
Jnder 50	73%	14%
Over 50	59%	21%



#### By Wide Margin Floridians Want More State Investment, Even if it Means More Taxes

State Investment vs. Tax Cuts



State government in Florida should invest more in the state and its residents, ensuring they are safe, healthy, are economically secure, even if it means some people have to contribute a little more in taxes.



State government in Florida should keep taxes low, even if it means cutting funding for education and infrastructure, and cutting unemployment insurance and healthcare coverage.

14.And which of these statements comes closer to your own view, even if neither of them is exactly right?



### Voters Across the Board Prefer State Investment, Including Republicans

Investment vs. Taxes by Key Demographics

	Invest more	Lower Taxes	Margin
All voters	64%	16%	+48
ID Democrat	79%	11%	+68
ID independent	71%	10%	+60
ID Republican	42%	28%	+14
White	60%	18%	+42
Non-white	75%	13%	+62
Under 50	71%	13%	+58
Over 50	59%	19%	+40

### Florida Voters Want State Government To Play a Role in Election Administration and Stopping the Coronavirus - Education Falls Closely Behind

Government Involvement on Issues - top tier issues based on % major/some role

92%

Safely and fairly administering elections.

69% major role

90%

Stopping the spread of the coronavirus.

69% major role

89%

Ensuring equal access to high quality K through 12 public education.

63% major role

84%

Ensuring struggling families and children have access to food.

55% major role

81%

Ensuring equal pay for equal work.

55% major role

15.Please indicate whether you think state government in Florida should have a major role, some role, a minor role, or no real role in dealing with each of the following issues.



# Most Voters See Role for Government Involvement in Health Care, Housing, Childcare, Addressing Racism, and Paid Sick Leave

Government Involvement on Issues - second tier issues based on % major/some role

78%

Ensuring access to affordable health care.

52% major role

**73**%

Ensuring access to affordable housing.

44% major role

**70%** 

Ensuring access to affordable childcare.

38% major role

**70%** 

Acknowledging and addressing systemic racism.

48% major role

69%

Ensuring workers have access to paid sick days and paid family leave.

43% major role

15.Please indicate whether you think state government in Florida should have a major role, some role, a minor role, or no real role in dealing with each of the following issues.



### A Solid Majority of Floridians Indicate Their Feelings Have Changed About the Treatment of Black People in America

#### Feelings About How Black People and Communities Are Treated



16. Would you say your feelings about how Black people and Black communities are treated in America have changed a lot, a changed a little, or not changed at all in the last month or so?



# **Election and Democracy Reforms**

# Democracy Key Findings: Government's Role, Voting Options, and Intersection with Race

- Election administration surfaces as the top policy area Florida voters would like government to play a role in, with 92 percent of voters believing state government should play a "major" or "some" role in safely and fairly administering elections.
- A solid majority of Florida voters plan to vote by mail (52 percent), however 47 percent of voters still plan to vote in-person -- 27 percent on Election Day and 20 percent early before Election Day.
- We also find that over 2-in-3 Florida voters want state government to reduce barriers that stop Black people and communities from voting (67 percent).



#### **Democracy Key Findings: Voting Reforms**

- Florida voters support and highly prioritize policies to make voting by mail easier.
- We find that 61 percent of voters support mailing all registered Florida voters applications to vote by mail.
- Moreover, we find Florida voters to be more likely to return their ballot through the mail when postage is paid for (60 percent almost certain/good chance) compared to when postage is not paid for (51 percent almost certain/good chance).
- Furthermore, Florida voters are also broadly supportive of reforms to make processing mail-in ballots easier. Over 2-in-3 voters support counting mail-in ballots postmarked by but received after Election Day.
- Florida voters support reforms to open additional polling locations to reduce crowds (84 percent) and lengthen the early voting window to let voters cast a ballot up through the day before Election Day (82 percent).



### **Democracy Key Findings: Coronavirus and Voting**

- Although voting in-person on or before Election Day are slightly less popular voting options for Floridians, voters here still strongly agree with measures to increase safety and sanitation standards at polling places.
- Over 9-in-10 voters agree with both equipping poll workers with PPE like masks and gloves (93 percent) and conforming with CDC guidelines and social distancing at polling locations (93 percent).
- Voters are also supportive of opening additional polling locations to reduce crowds (84 percent) and oppose consolidating polling places in anticipation of poll worker shortages (58 percent oppose).



#### **Democracy Key Findings: Voting Security**

- Since voting by mail is quite popular among the Florida electorate, voters here place a high importance on voting security as it pertains to mail in ballots.
- Over 8-in-10 voters believe ballot tracking for mail-in ballots is important (86 percent), with over 2-in-3 voters believing this to be very important (65 percent).
- Likewise, nearly 9-in-10 voters believe it is important for election officials to immediately notify voters if there is a problem with their submitted mail-in ballot (89 percent), and 76 percent of voters find this to be very important.



# A Majority of Floridians Plan to Vote by Mail in November's Elections; 47 Percent Still Plan Vote In-Person





<sup>4.</sup> And how do you intend to vote in the general election for President and other offices this November?

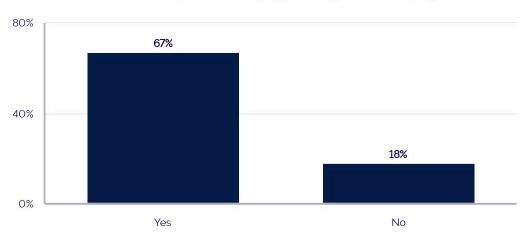
#### While Floridians Are Divided on Whether Systematic Racism has Prevented Black People from Voting, Two-Thirds Want State Government to Reduce Barriers to Voting for Black People

# 49% of Florida voters agree with the following statement:

"Systemic racism has prevented Black people and other people of color from being able to fully participate in our democracy."

45% disagree with this statement.

#### Reduce Barriers That Stop Black People From Voting



18. Do you believe the state of Florida should reduce barriers that stop Black people from voting?

22. Please indicate whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements about different ways people can vote in the United States.



# **Near Unanimous Support for Increased Safety Standards at Polling Places**

Voting Reforms - % total agree



Poll workers should be provided with personal protective equipment like masks and gloves.

81% strongly agree



Polling locations should conform with CDC guidelines on sanitation and social distancing.

77% strongly agree

<sup>22.</sup> Please indicate whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements about different ways people can vote in the United States.

# **Voters Across the Partisan Spectrum Strongly Support Safety and Health Standards At In-Person Polling Places**

Polling Place Safety Standards by Party ID, % strongly agree

	All voters
PPE for poll workers	81%
CDC guidelines at polling places	77%

ID Democrat	ID independent	ID Republican
89%	79%	75%
86%	76%	67%



### Reforms to Make Voting More Accessible During the Pandemic Are Broadly Popular

Voting Method Reforms - % Total Support

84%

Open additional polling locations to reduce crowds and lines.

16% support 1st rank

82%

Lengthening the early voting window and letting voters cast a ballot in-person up through the day before Election Day.

19% support 1st rank

80%

Allowing any registered Florida voter to vote-by-mail.

28% support 1st rank

**71%** 

Allow Florida voters to cast their ballot at any polling location in their county.

10% support 1st rank

61%

Mailing all registered Florida voters applications to vote-by-mail.

14% support 1st rank

48%

Directly mailing all registered Florida voters a ballot, without requiring an application.

9% support 1st rank

51% total oppose

41%

Consolidate polling locations in anticipation of poll worker shortages.

3% support 1st rank

58% total oppose

23. Switching gears a bit, below are several reforms related to voting in Florida. By dragging the reforms to the "support" or "oppose" box, please indicate which ones you support and which ones you oppose. Then, by dragging the reforms up and down within each box, please indicate which ones you support the MOST and which ones you oppose the MOST.



#### Various Ballot Return Options Are Broadly Popular with Floridians

Ballot Return Reforms - % Total Support

71%

Returning mail-in ballots through the mail WITH postage prepaid by the government.

31% support 1st rank

**70%** 

Returning ballots received in the mail via secure, local drop-box.

14% support 1st rank

68%

Counting mail-in ballots postmarked by Election Day, but received after Election Day.

16% support 1st rank

67%

Returning ballots received in the mail at drive-through voting centers.

14% support 1st rank

**56%** 

Counting mail-in ballots postmarked by Election Day and received up to 10 days after Election Day.

12% support 1st rank

38%

Allowing registered community organizers to collect and return ballots received in the mail for registered voters.

> 5% support 1st rank 61% total oppose

24.And to help citizens vote safely during the coronavirus outbreak, elections officials in Florida are considering several ways voters can cast or return their ballot in this year's elections. By dragging the proposals to the "support" or "oppose" box, please indicate which ones you support and which ones you oppose. Then, by dragging the proposals up and down within each box, please indicate which ones you support the MOST and which ones you oppose the MOST.



# Floridians Likely to Return Ballots Through the Mail; Prepaid Postage Increases Likelihood

Ballot Return Methods - % Almost Certain/Good Chance

60%

Return my ballot through the mail with postage paid-for

47% almost certain

51%

Return my ballot through the mail, even if postage is not paid-for

36% almost certain

49%

Vote in-person at my neighborhood precinct location

36% almost certain

38%

Return my ballot via secure, local drop-box

19% almost certain

36% unlikely/no chance

37%

Return my ballot at a drive-through voting center

20% almost certain

39% unlikely/no chance

12%

Not vote in the 2020 elections

8% almost certain

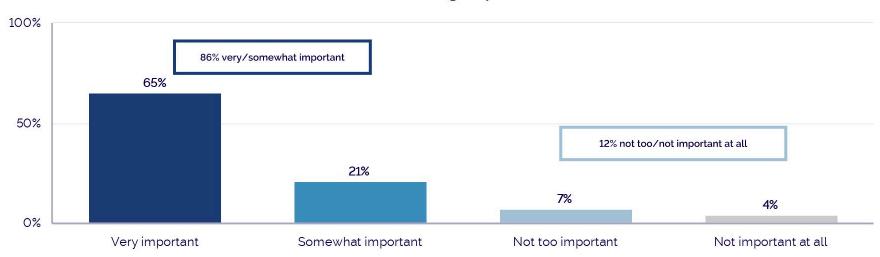
80% unlikely/no chance

25. And assuming each of the following were available to you in Florida, how likely would you be to use each of these options for casting your vote or returning your ballot in the upcoming election?



# Ballot Tracking Important to Nearly 9-in-10 Florida Voters; 2-in-3 Voters Indicate it is "Very" Important

#### **Ballot Tracking Importance**

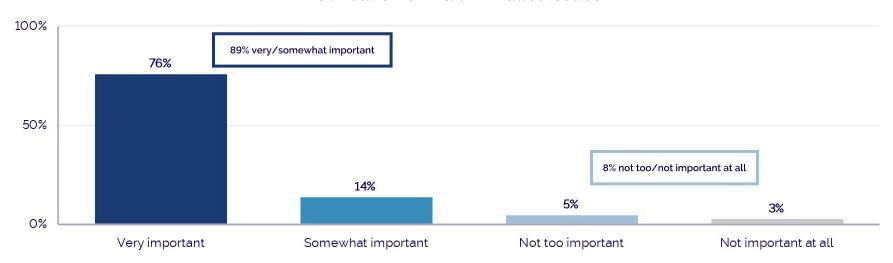


26. And do you think it is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all for election officials in Florida to allow voters to track the status of their mail-in ballot in case any issues come up?



# Consensus Public Opinion Around Notifying Voter If There is a Problem With Their Mail-In Ballot

#### Notification of Mail-in-Ballot Issues



27. And do you think it is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all for election officials in Florida to immediately notify voters if there is a problem with their submitted mail-in ballot, such as if they forgot to sign their ballot, so the voter has an opportunity to correct it.



### Online and Same-Day Voter Registration Highly Supported by Florida Electorate; Majority Also Supports Removing Registration Deadlines

Voter Registration Reforms - % Total Support

73%

Allow verified eligible voters to register to vote online

43% support 1st rank

61%

Allow verified eligible voters to register to vote on Election Day.

17% support 1st rank

**52**%

Remove all voter registration deadlines, allowing verified eligible voters to register to vote any day up to and on Election Day.

19% support 1st rank

40%

Allow verified eligible voters to register to vote online, even if they do not have DMV - issued ID.

7% support 1st rank

28.Switching gears a bit, below are several reforms related to voter registration in Florida. By dragging the reforms to the "support" or "oppose" box, please indicate which ones you oppose. Then, by dragging the reforms up and down within each box, please indicate which ones you support the MOST and which ones you oppose the MOST.



# Fiscal Policy and the Economy

### **Economic and Fiscal Key Findings: Coronavirus and the Economy**

- By a two-to-one margin, Floridians express more concern about the pandemic's impact on health and safety (62 percent) than they do about the impact on jobs and income (30 percent).
- Furthermore, a solid majority of Florida voters believe businesses should be required to provide safe working environments and be held liable if they do not (56 percent), while just 25 percent of voters believe businesses should be protected from liability if an employee gets sick on the job.
- Although Floridians prioritize health and safety when it comes to the pandemic, there are still acute concerns about employment and small businesses. Over 8-in-10 voters express concerns about small business closures in Florida (84 percent) and losing work and income (84 percent).



### **Economic and Fiscal Key Findings: Budget and Revenue**

- By a 4 to 1 margin, Florida voters want more state investment in services over lower taxes and budget cuts. Sixty-four percent of voters believe state government in Florida should invest more in its residents to ensure they are safe, healthy, and economically secure, while just 16 percent of voters believe state government should keep taxes low by cutting funding to education, infrastructure, and unemployment.
- Florida voters are also concerned about the state of Florida losing tax revenues and facing budget cuts in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic (68 percent).
- Floridians want corporations and the wealthy to pay their fair share, strongly supporting progressive revenue streams such as closing corporate tax loopholes, increasing taxes on companies that pollute, increasing taxes on the wealthiest Floridians, and establishing a carbon tax.



### **Economic and Fiscal Key Findings: Economy and Workplace Policies**

- Seven-in-ten Florida voters believe state government should have a role in addressing systematic racism (70 perent), and a solid majority of voters believe state government should address economic barriers faced by Black people and the Black community (58 percent).
- Likewise, Floridians want state government to play a role in making gender pay equity a reality, with 81
  percent of voters believing state government should play a "major" or "some" role in ensuring equal pay
  for equal work.
- Florida voters also solidly support extending the length of time that laid-off workers can receive unemployment compensation and increasing the amount they receive (65 percent).
- Most voters also see a role for government in workplace policies such as ensuring access to affordable childcare (70 percent major or some role) and ensuring workers have access to paid sick days and family leave (69 percent major or some role).
- It follows that workplace policies resonate strongly with the Florida electorate -- 81 percent of voters support creating an insurance plan to provide aid family and medical leave for employees, 80 percent of voters support paid sick requirements, and 74 percent support eliminating tax breaks for corporations that don't offer paid sick and family leave to their employees.



### **Economic and Fiscal Key Findings: Health Policy**

#### Florida

- We find that policies relating to health care and health insurance during the coronavirus pandemic are some of the most resonant economic proposals tested in this survey.
- Near-consensus public opinion emerges around the following policies related to health insurance and health care:
- Extending grace periods for people to pay health insurance bills (88 percent support).
- Limiting what drug companies can charge for prescription drugs (87 percent support).

This tends to be the highest priority economic proposal tested in the survey

- Offering Floridians public health insurance options (86 percent support).
- Banning the practice of surprise medical billing (86 percent support).



# Floridians Want More State Investment, Even if it Means More Taxes, By a 4:1 Margin

State Investment vs. Tax Cuts



State government in Florida should invest more in the state and its residents, ensuring they are safe, healthy, are economically secure, even if it means some people have to contribute a little more in taxes.



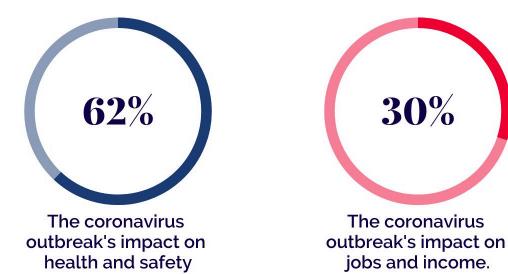
State government in Florida should keep taxes low, even if it means cutting funding for education and infrastructure, and cutting unemployment insurance and healthcare coverage.

14.And which of these statements comes closer to your own view, even if neither of them is exactly right?



# By a 2:1 Margin, Voters Express More Concern About the Pandemic's Impact on Health and Safety Than They Do About Jobs and Income

Health and safety vs. jobs and income



10.And what would you say concerns you more...



#### Democrats and Independents Broadly More Concerned About Health and Safety; Republicans are Divided

Health and Safety vs. Jobs and Income by Key Demographics

	Health and Safety	Jobs and Income	Margin
All voters	62%	30%	+47
ID Democrat	77%	19%	+58
ID independent	64%	28%	+37
ID Republican	45%	46%	=
White men	56%	36%	+20
White women	67%	26%	+41
Non-white men	57%	37%	+20
Non-white women	67%	24%	+43



### By More Than 2-to-1 Margin Florida Voters Prioritize Safe Working Conditions Over Liability Protections for Businesses

Workplace safety requirements vs. liability protections for corporations



Required to provide safe working conditions and should be penalized if workers get sick due to corporate negligence.



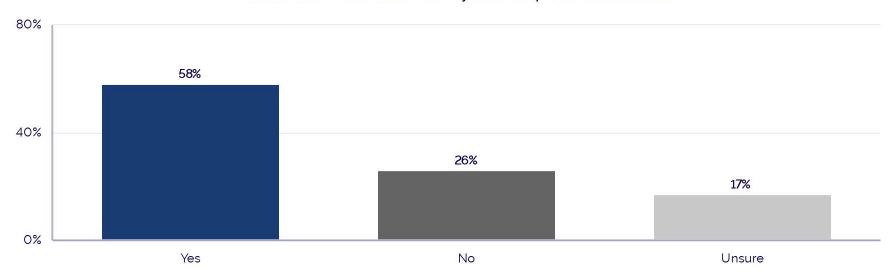
Protected from liability if workers get sick on the job so they can get people back to work.

11. And do you think businesses in Florida should be...



## Nearly 3-in-5 Floridians Want State Government To Address Economic Barriers Faced by Black People And Communities

#### Address Economic Barriers Faced by Black People and Communities



17. Do you believe the state of Florida should address economic barriers faced by Black people and the Black community?



#### Small Business Loans and Health Insurance Reforms Are Top Economic Priorities for Florida Voters

Top Tier Economic Proposals - % Total Support

94%

Providing low-interest Ex loans to small businesses to help them make it inst

through the crisis. 10% support 1st rank 88%

Extending a grace period for people to pay health insurance bills before their coverage can be cancelled.

4% support 1st rank

87%

Limiting what drug companies can charge for prescription drugs.

16% support 1st rank

86%

Offering people in Florida the option to buy into the same public health insurance plans that are available to state employees if they want to.

12% support 1st rank

85%

Banning the practice of surprise medical billing.

9% support 1st rank



### Paid Sick and Family Leave Policies Also Surface As Top Priorities For Floridians

Top Tier Economic Proposals - % Total Support

81%

Creating an insurance plan to provide paid family and medical leave for employees to care for a sick family member, bond with a new baby or recover from a major illness or injury.

3% support 1st rank

80%

Requiring workplaces to provide paid sick days to their employees.

7% support 1st rank



Eliminating tax breaks for corporations and large businesses that don't offer paid sick and family leave and health care to their employees.

9% 1st support rank



### EITC and Medicaid Expansion, Out-of-Network Cost Protections Slightly Less Salient, But Still Widely Supported Overall

Middle Tier Economic Proposals - % Total Support

**75%** 

Expanding a tax credit to provide extra income to working people with low incomes.

6% support 1st rank

71%

Protecting patients from having to pay the costs not covered by their insurance when treated at an out-of-network hospital or by an out-of-network doctor.

6% support 1st rank

**70%** 

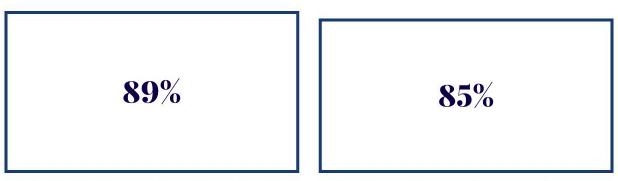
Expanding the number of people who can get healthcare through Medicaid to cover more uninsured people who otherwise can't afford healthcare coverage.

11% support 1st rank



### Floridians Reject Anti-Worker Policies

Bottom Tier Economic Proposals - % Total Oppose



Allowing businesses to pay less than the minimum wage

49% oppose 1st rank

Allowing businesses to stop paying more for overtime hours.

19% oppose 1st rank



### Nearly 2-in-4 Floridians Support Extending the Length of Time Laid-Off Workers can Receive Unemployment Benefits

Bottom Tier Economic Proposals - % Total support



Extending the length of time that laid-off workers can receive unemployment compensation and increasing the amount that they receive.

6% support 1st rank



### Voters Across the Board Support Extending Unemployment Benefits; Solid Support Across Partisan Spectrum

Extending length of unemployment benefits by key demographics

	Support	Oppose
All voters	65%	35%
ID Democrat	78%	22%
ID independent	65%	35%
ID Republican	52%	48%
Under 50	74%	26%
Over 50	58%	42%
White	59%	41%
Non-white	77%	23%



### **Array of Progressive Revenue Raisers Supported by Florida Voters**

Top Tier Revenue Proposals - % Total Support

88%

Close corporate tax loopholes.

27% support 1st rank

86%

Increase taxes and financial penalties on companies that pollute Florida's air and water.

18% support 1st rank

**77%** 

Increase taxes on the wealthiest individuals in Florida.

19% support 1st rank

**74%** 

Increase taxes on those making over \$250,000 a year in Florida.

9% support 1st rank

**70%** 

Create a carbon tax paid by companies based on how much carbon they emit.

5% support 1st rank

67%

Increase taxes on profitable corporations in Florida.

7% support 1st rank

20. As you may know, states, counties, and towns across the country are seeing tax receipts and tax revenues fall dramatically due to the coronavirus crisis and economic slowdown. Below are some proposals that are being considered to raise revenue for the state of Florida to prevent large budget cuts to things like education, health care, infrastructure, and human services. By dragging the proposals to the "support" or "oppose" box, please indicate which ones you support and which ones you oppose. Then, by dragging the proposals up and down within each box, please indicate which ones you support the MOST and which ones you oppose the MOST.



## Increasing Sales Taxes, Capital Gains Taxes, and Motor Vehicle Fees Far Less Popular

Bottom Tier Revenue Proposals - % Total Support

42%

Increase capital gains taxes on things like stocks and investment portfolios.

57% total oppose

2% support 1st rank

40%

Apply the existing sales tax in Florida to online purchases, including subscription services like Netflix and Amazon Prime.

60% total oppose

4% support 1st rank

40%

Increase motor vehicle fees and fines for speeding tickets and other moving violations.

60% total oppose

5% support 1st rank

29%

Apply the existing sales tax in Florida to services like car repairs, haircuts, accounting, and legal services.

71% total oppose

1% support 1st rank

17%

Increase the sales tax in Florida.

83% total oppose

2% support 1st rank

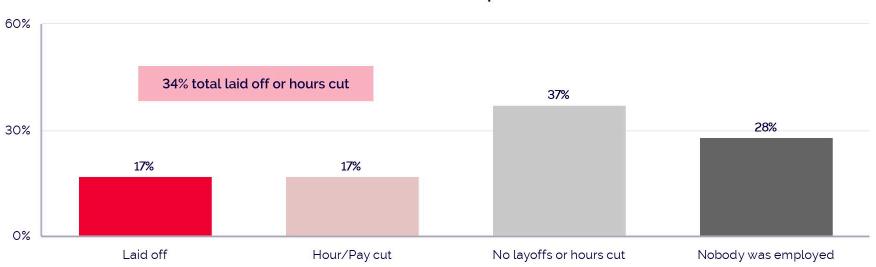
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## Coronavirus

### Over 1-in-3 Florida Voters Have Been Laid Off or Had Their Hours or Pay Cut

#### **Coronavirus Impact**



8. Have you or any member of your household been laid off, had work hours reduced, or their pay cut as a result of the coronavirus outbreak, or was nobody in your household employed before the outbreak?



### **Employment, Small Business, Health, and Housing All Broad-Based Concerns About the Pandemic in Florida**

Top Tier Concerns - % total concerned

84%

People in Florida losing work and income due to the coronavirus outbreak.

59% very concerned

84%

Small businesses and restaurants closing down permanently in Florida.

53% very concerned

**79%** 

People in Florida contracting the virus, getting sick, and potentially dying.

60% very concerned

**79%** 

People in Florida not being able to afford their rent or mortgage payments.

53% very concerned

72%

People in Florida being forced to choose between their health and their job.

50% very concerned

68%

The state of Florida losing tax revenues and facing budget cuts.

35% very concerned

Q.13 Please indicate if you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, a little concerned at all about each of the following concerns people in Florida might have due to the coronavirus outbreak.



### Majorities of Floridians Also Express Concerns About Coronavirus and Voting and the Disproportionate Impact on Black Communities

Second Tier Concerns - % total concerned

60%

The coronavirus outbreak preventing Florida citizens from voting in this year's elections.

42% very concerned

**57%** 

Problems with administering elections in Florida, like long lines on Election Day.

38% very concerned

**56%** 

The disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on the Black community.

36% very concerned

Q.13 Please indicate if you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, a little concerned at all about each of the following concerns people in Florida might have due to the coronavirus outbreak.



# Democrats Most Concerned About People Getting Sick; Republicans, Independents Most Concerned About Income and Small Businesses

Top Coronavirus Concerns by Party ID - % total concerned



1. Contracting the virus - 91%

2. Choose between health and job - 90%

3. Rent and mortgage payments - 89%



#### **ID** independent

1. Losing work and income - 85%

2. Small business closures - 84%

3. Contracting the virus - 81%



**ID Republican** 

1. Small business closures - 82%

2. Losing work and income - 80%

3. Losing tax revenue - 69%

Q.13 Please indicate if you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, a little concerned at all about each of the following concerns people in Florida might have due to the coronavirus outbreak.



### Recommendations

### **Democracy and Voting Narrative**

- Over 9-in-10 Florida voters want state government to play an active role in election administration, and most voters are quite confident in it's ability to do so. Legislators should be emboldened to act to make voting safe in Florida in 2020, regardless of how Floridians choose to participate.
- When it comes to voting by mail, legislators should highlight their efforts to streamline ballot processing, provide prepaid postage for ballots, and improve ballot tracking and notifications about ballot issues.
- When it comes to in-person voting, legislators should focus the narrative around increase safety and sanitation standards at polling places, opening additional polling locations to reduce crowds, and lengthening the early voting window so voters have more time to cast their ballots early in-person.



### **Fiscal Policy and Economy Narrative**

- In the wake of the pandemic's acute damage to Florida, voters here tend to prioritize health
  and safety over jobs and income when it comes to a public policy response. We also find that
  Floridians want state investment in core services and they see an array of progressive
  avenues for raising the revenue to make that happen.
- But Florida voters also express strong concerns about losing work and income and small business closures, so speaking to those concerns as part of government's role in addressing the crisis will also be critical.
- Legislators should use a narrative that strikes the right balance between prioritizing health and safety and helping working families who are suffering and struggling to make ends meet.
- To do this, we recommend making workplace policies that benefit the employee AND employer a focal point of the narrative. Highlighting legislators' efforts to establish workplace liability during the pandemic, paid sick and paid family leave requirements, and affordable childcare for Floridians.
- Since health care policy resonates strongly with Floridians, we recommend making this part
  of the fiscal and economic narrative as well. Particularly highlighting policies that aim to
  extend grace periods for paying insurance bills, limit what drug companies can charge for
  prescriptions, offer public health insurance plans, and ban surprise medical billing.



# Questions?