State Innovation Exchange

Multi-State Poll - Georgia Findings July 2020



Survey Methodology



TargetSmart designed and administered this multimodal survey. Four hundred and forty-two interviews were conducted online among panelists who were matched to the TargetSmart voter file (425 weighted), 267 interviews were conducted online using text-to-web and email-to-web (36 email, 231 SMS) solicits from the TargetSmart voter file (256 weighted), and 48 interviews were conducted over the phone (40 on wireless phones, 8 on landlines). In total, the survey reached 757 adults, age 18 or older, who are registered to vote in Georgia. Quotas were designed to reflect the demographic and geographic distribution of registered voters in Georgia. The data were weighted by gender, age, race from file, TargetSmart Partisan Score, TargetSmart High School Only Score, and region by congressional district 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 +/- 3.6%. 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

- Georgia voters are highly pessimistic about the direction of the US (26 percent right direction, 64 percent wrong track), and are more mixed, but pessimistic on net, about the direction of the state (36 percent right track, 51 percent wrong track).
- The coronavirus pandemic surfaces as a top issue priority for Georgians, with 30 percent of voters citing it as the most important issue facing Georgia these days. Public opinion on the pandemic is quite pessimistic, as 60 percent of voters believe the worst of the outbreak is still yet to come.
- Furthermore, a majority of Georgia voters indicate that their feelings about how Black people and Black communities are treated in America have changed over the last month in light of recent events (54 percent).



Georgians Highly Pessimistic About Direction of the US; Slightly More Optimistic, but Pessimistic on Net, About Direction of the State

Direction of the US and Georgia



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 Georgia 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 Top-of-Mind Issue for Georgia Voters



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



Concern Around the Pandemic Spans Party Lines

Issue priorities by Party ID



ID Democrat

- 1. Coronavirus pandemic 33%
 - 2. Black Lives Matter 25%
 - 3. Economic recovery 8%



ID independent

- 1. Coronavirus pandemic 28%
 - 2. Black Lives Matter 20%
 - 3, Economic recovery 15%



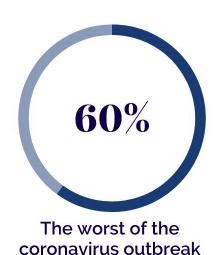
ID Republican

- 1. Coronavirus pandemic 27%
 - 2. Economic recovery 22%
 - 3. Black Lives Matter 13%

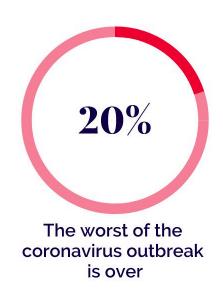


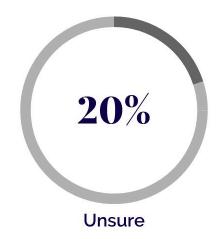
Public Opinion On the State of the Coronavirus Pandemic is Generally Pessimistic

Worst is yet to come vs. worst is over



is yet to come





9. Do you believe....



Democrats, Independents, Voters of Color, Younger Voters Most Likely to Believe Worst is Yet to Come

State of Pandemic by Key Demographics

	Worst is yet to come	Worst is over
All voters	60%	20%
) Democrat	78%	11%
) independent	64%	18%
) Republican	38%	35%
hite	53%	23%
ос	74%	14%
Jnder 50	68%	15%
Over 50	51%	26%



Georgians Want More State Investment, Even if it Means More Taxes, By a 3:1 Margin

State Investment vs. Tax Cuts



State government in Georgia 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 Georgia 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; Republicans Divided but Support Investment on Net

Investment vs. Taxes by Key Demographics

	Invest more	Lower Taxes	Margin
All voters	61%	20%	+42
ID Democrat	77%	11%	+67
ID independent	63%	17%	+47
ID Republican	41%	35%	+6
White	57%	23%	+34
POC	72%	14%	+58
Under 50	66%	19%	+47
Over 50	55%	21%	+35

Georgia Voters Want State Government To Play a Major Role in Election Administration - Education, Coronavirus, and Access to Food Fall Closely Behind

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

92%

Safely and fairly administering elections.

78% major role

87%

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

65% major role

86%

Stopping the spread of the coronavirus.

67% major role

83%

Ensuring struggling families and children have access to food.

57% major role

80%

Ensuring equal pay for equal work.

57% major role

77%

Ensuring access to affordable health care.

53% major role

15.Please indicate whether you think state government in Georgia 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 Addressing Racism, Paid Sick and Family Leave, Affordable Childcare, Affordable Housing

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

73%

Acknowledging and addressing systemic racism.

53% major role

73%

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

47% major role

71%

Ensuring access to affordable childcare.

42% major role

70%

Ensuring access to affordable housing.

42% major role

66%

Reducing income inequality by raising the minimum wage and increasing taxes on the wealthy.

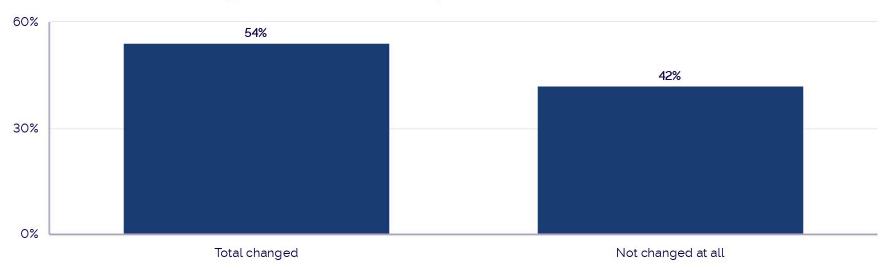
46% major role

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



A Majority of Georgians 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

- Public opinion is unanimous when it comes to state government's role in election administration -- 92 percent of voters believe state government should have a "major" or "some" role in safely and fairly administering elections.
- A narrow majority of voters (54 percent) believe elections will be administered "well" in Georgia, notably lower than benchmarks set by other states across the body of research.
- Georgians are quite mixed on how they intend to vote in November -- 37 percent plan to vote in-person on Election Day, 30 percent plan to vote early in-person, and 30 percent plan to vote by mail using Tennessee's absentee voter system.
- We also find that a majority of Georgia voters acknowledge systematic racism in the voting system that has prevented Black people and communities from participating in our democracy, and nearly 7-in-10 voters want state government to reduce barriers that stop Black people from voting (68 percent).



Democracy Key Findings: Voting Reforms

- About a third of Georgia voters plan to vote early in-person, and prioritize reforms to make early voting easier and more accessible. Over 8-in-10 voters support lengthening the early voting window and letting voters cast a ballot in-person up through the day before Election Day (85 percent).
- Another third of Georgia voters plan to vote-by-mail, and most strongly support
 policies intended to make the vote-by-mail process more efficient and streamlined.
- Eight-in-ten voters support allowing any registered Georgia voter to vote-by-mail (80 percent), and over 2-in-3 voters of voters support mailing all registered Tennessee voters applications to vote-by-mail (67 percent).
- What's more, Georgia voters are broadly supportive of reforms to make processing mail-in ballots easier. Over 2-in-3 voters support counting mail-in ballots postmarked by and received after Election Day (67 percent), and 6-in-10 voters support counting mail in ballots postmarked by Election Day and received up to 10 days after Election Day (60 percent).



Democracy Key Findings: Coronavirus and Voting

- Most voters in Georgia plan to vote in-person, whether it be early or on Election Day, so it follows that they strongly agree with measures to increase safety and sanitary standards at polling places.
- Nine-in-ten voters agree that poll workers should be provided with PPE like masks and gloves (90 percent), and 91 percent of voters agree that polling locations should conform with CDC guidelines.
- What's more, 9-in-10 voters support opening additional polling locations to reduce crowds and lines (90 percent).
- Voters also oppose consolidating polling places in anticipation of poll worker shortages (58 percent oppose).



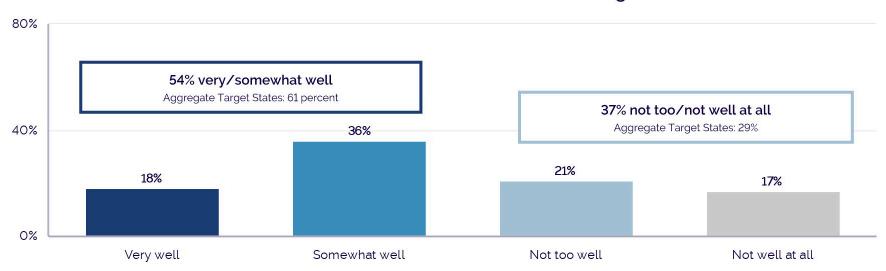
Democracy Key Findings: Voting Security

- Although voting by mail is not the most popular option for Georgians, voters here still place a high importance on voting security as it relates to voting by mail.
- Nearly 9-in-10 voters believe ballot tracking for mail-in ballots is important (87 percent), with 63 percent of voters believing this to be very important.
- Likewise, 90 percent of voters believe it is important for election officials to notify voters if there is a problem with their submitted mail-in ballot, and 73 percent of voters find this to be very important.



Georgians Tend to Be Less Optimistic Than Voters in Other States When it Comes to Election Administration

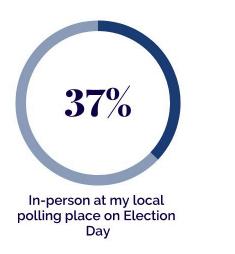
November Election Administration in Georgia

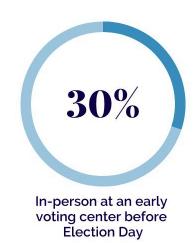


21. Switching gears a bit, do you think the elections this November in Georgia will be run and administered very well, somewhat well, not too well, or not well at all?



Georgians Split on How They Intend to Vote This November







voter system



^{4.} And how do you intend to vote in the general election for President and other offices this November?

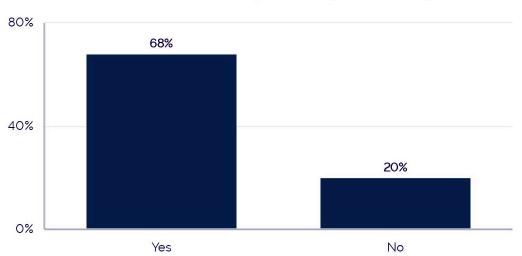
Georgians Acknowledge Racism as a Barrier to Voting; Want Barriers that Prevent Black People from Voting Removed

56% of Georgian 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."

36% disagree with this statement.

Reduce Barriers That Stop Black People From Voting



18. Do you believe the state of Georgia 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



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

71% strongly agree



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

72% strongly agree

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.



Strong Majorities of Voters Have Clear Understanding of Alternatives to In-Person Voting; A Majority of Voters Also Express Concerns Around Vote-by-Mail Reliability

Voting Reforms - % total agree

80%

I have a clear understanding of the in-person early voting options available to me in my state.

49% strongly agree

72%

I have a clear understanding of how to request a vote-by-mail ballot in my state.

45% strongly agree

56%

I am concerned that the mail system in my state cannot be relied upon to get vote-by-mail ballots to election officials in time for them to be counted.

29% strongly agree

35% total disagree

37%

I don't have enough information about how to take advantage of alternatives to voting in-person on Election Day.

14% strongly agree

52% total disagree

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.



Reforms to Make Voting Easier and More Accessible During the Pandemic Are Broadly Popular; Voters Oppose Consolidating Polling Locations

Voting Method Reforms - % Total Support

90%

Open additional polling locations to reduce crowds and lines.

20% support 1st rank

85%

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

21% support 1st rank

80%

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

23% support 1st rank

71%

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

10% support 1st rank

67%

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

15% support 1st rank

50%

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

8% support 1st rank 50% total oppose 42%

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 Georgia. 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 Popular

Ballot Return Reforms - % Total Support

74%

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

16% support 1st rank

71%

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

34% support 1st rank

70%

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

11% support 1st rank

67%

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

12% support 1st rank

60%

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

13% support 1st rank

50%

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

> 6% support 1st rank 44% total oppose

24.And to help citizens vote safely during the coronavirus outbreak, elections officials in Georgia 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.



Two-in-Three Voters in Georgia are Likely to Vote in Person; Paid Postage Increases the Likelihood to Vote By Mail

Ballot Return Methods - % Almost Certain/Good Chance



Vote in-person at my neighborhood precinct location

48% almost certain



Return my ballot through the mail with postage paid-for

39% almost certain



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

32% almost certain



Return my ballot via secure, local drop-box

24% almost certain



Return my ballot at a drive-through voting center

18% almost certain



Not vote in the 2020 elections

5% almost certain

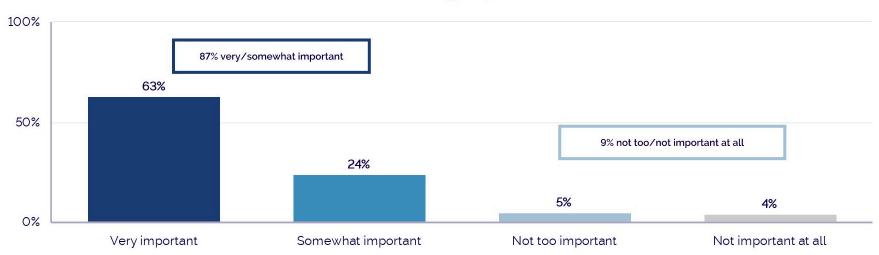
64% no chance

25. And assuming each of the following were available to you in Georgia, 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 Over 8-in-10 Georgia Voters; Majority Indicate it is "Very" Important

Ballot Tracking Importance

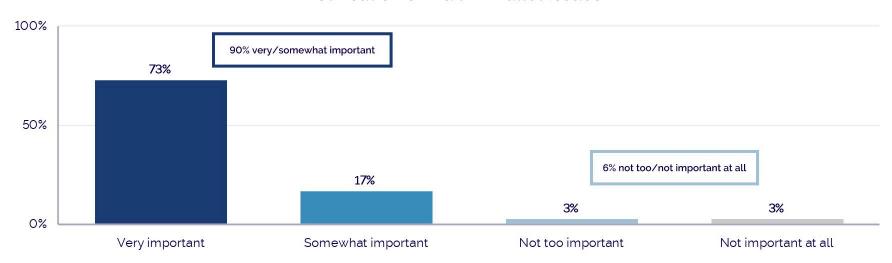


26. And do you think it is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all for election officials in Georgia to allow voters to track the status of their mail-in ballot in case any issues come up?



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 Georgia 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 Broadly Supported by Georgia Electorate

Voter Registration Reforms - % Total Support

76%

Allow verified eligible voters to register to vote online

36% support 1st rank

66%

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

20% support 1st rank

59%

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

50%

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

10% support 1st rank

28.Switching gears a bit, below are several reforms related to voter registration in Georgia. 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

- When it comes to the debate between economic vitality and public health, Georgia voters express more concern about health and safety (59 percent) than they do about the pandemic's impact on jobs and income (34 percent).
- Voters tend to believe businesses should be required to provide safe working environments and be held liable if they do not (62 percent). Fewer than 1-in-4 voters believes businesses should be protected from liability if an employee gets sick on the job (23 percent).
- Although Georgians generally prioritize health and safety over jobs and income, they do have strong concerns around employment and business closures. Nearly 9-in-10 voters are concerned about people in Georgia losing work and income due to the coronavirus outbreak (87 percent) and over 8-in-10 voters are concerned about small businesses and restaurants closing in Georgia (85 percent).



Economic and Fiscal Key Findings: Budget and Revenue

- Voters believe Georgia state government should invest more in its residents to ensure they are safe, healthy, and economically secure (61 percent), over state government keeping taxes low and cutting funds to key services like education, unemployment, and health insurance (20 percent).
- Furthermore, 7-in-10 voters express concern about the state of Georgia losing tax revenues and facing budget cuts in the wake of the pandemic (70 percent), with over 1-in-3 voters expressing they are very concerned about this (35 percent).
- At the same time, voters here want corporations and the wealthy to pay their fair share, strongly supporting policies that close corporate tax loopholes, increase taxes and penalties on companies that pollute the state's water, and increase taxes on the wealthiest Georgians.



Economic and Fiscal Key Findings: Economy and Workplace Policies

- Nearly 3-in-4 Georgia voters believe state government should have a role in addressing systematic racism (73 percent), and 61 percent believe the state of Georgia should address economic barriers faced by Black people and the Black community.
- Likewise, consensus public opinion emerges around government ensuring equal pay for equal work as 80 percent of voters believe state government should play a role in making pay equity a reality.
- Over 2-in-3 voters also support extending the length of time Georgians can receive unemployment compensation and increasing the amount laid-off workers receive (67 percent support).
- Most voters (73 percent) also believe government should have a role in ensuring workers have access to paid sick days and paid family leave.
- Similarly, we find over 7-in-10 voters believe state government should have a role in ensuring Georgians have access to affordable childcare (71 percent).
- It follows that 85 percent of voters support requiring workplaces to provide paid sick days to their
 employees, 81 percent support 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, and 73 percent support eliminating tax breaks for corporations that don't offer paid sick and
 family leave to employees.



Economic and Fiscal Key Findings: Health Policy

- Policies relating to affordable health care and insurance during the coronavirus pandemic surface as some of the top economic proposals tested in this survey.
- Near-consensus public opinion emerges around the following policies related to health insurance and health care:
- Extending a grace period for people to pay health insurance bills before their coverage can be cancelled (88 percent support).
- Limiting what drug companies can charge for prescription drugs (85 percent support).
- Ending surprise medical billing (85 percent support).
- Offering Georgians the option to buy into the public health insurance plans that are available to state employees (84 percent support).



Georgians Want More State Investment, Even if it Means More Taxes, By a Near 3:1 Margin

State Investment vs. Tax Cuts



State government in Georgia 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.



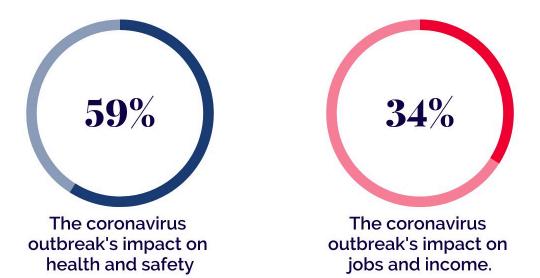
State government in Georgia should keep taxes low, even if it means cutting funding for education and infrastructure, and cutting unemployment insurance and healthcare coverage.

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



Voters 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, Younger Voters, College Graduates Most Concerned About Pandemic's Impact on Health and Safety

Health and Safety vs. Jobs and Income by Key Demographics

	Health and Safety	Jobs and Income	Margin
All voters	59%	34%	+25
ID Democrat	79%	17%	+62
ID independent	56%	37%	+19
ID Republican	37%	53%	-16
Under 50	63%	30%	+32
Over 50	53%	38%	+15
College grad	62%	33%	+29
Non-college	55%	36%	+19



A Solid Majority of Voters Side With Workplace Safety Argument 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.



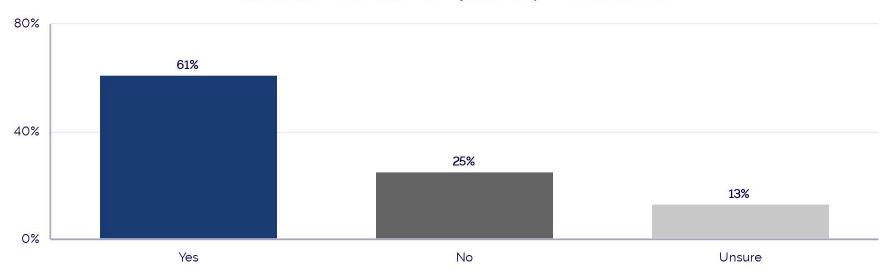
Protected from liability if workers get sick on the job so they can get people back to work.

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



Over 3-in-5 Georgia Voters Want State Government To Address Economic Barriers Black People And Communities Face

Address Economic Barriers Faced by Black People and Communities



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



Small Business Loans and Health Care Reforms Are Top Priorities for Georgia Voters

Top Tier Economic Proposals - % Total Support

92%

Providing low-interest loans to small businesses to help them make it through the crisis.

9% support 1st rank

88%

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

5% support 1st rank

85%

Banning the practice of surprise medical billing.

7% support 1st rank

85%

Limiting what drug companies can charge for prescription drugs.

16% support 1st rank

84%

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

7% support 1st rank



Paid Sick and Family Leave Policies Also Resonate Strongly with Georgia Voters

Top Tier Economic Proposals - % Total Support

85%

Requiring workplaces to provide paid sick days to their employees.

9% support 1st rank

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.

6% support 1st rank

73%

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

9% support 1st rank



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

Middle Tier Economic Proposals - % Total Support

76%

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

6% support 1st rank

76%

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

72%

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



Georgians Reject Anti-Worker Policies

Bottom Tier Economic Proposals - % Total Oppose

85%

Allowing businesses to pay less than the minimum wage

42% oppose 1st rank

85%

Allowing businesses to stop paying more for overtime hours.

22% oppose 1st rank



Two-in-Three Georgian Voters Support Extending the Length of Time Laid-Off Workers Can Receive Unemployment Benefits

Bottom Tier Economic Proposals - % Total support

67%

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

6% support 1st rank

33% total oppose



Democrats, Independents, Younger Voters, Women Most Supportive of Expanding Overtime Compensation

Extending length of unemployment benefits by key demographics

	Support	Oppose
All voters	67%	33%
ID Democrat	87%	13%
ID independent	63%	37%
ID Republican	44%	55%
Under 50	76%	23%
Over 50	56%	44%
Men	64%	36%
Women	70%	30%



Array of Revenue Raisers Supported by Georgia Voters

Top Tier Revenue Proposals - % Total Support

85%

Close corporate tax loopholes.

25% support 1st rank

84%

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

18% support 1st rank

74%

Increase taxes on the wealthiest individuals in Georgia.

12% support 1st rank

72%

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

10% support 1st rank

71%

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

5% support 1st rank

60%

Increase taxes on profitable corporations in Georgia.

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 Georgia 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

47%

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

53% total oppose

4% support 1st rank

45%

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

55% total oppose

6% support 1st rank

43%

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

56% total oppose

7% support 1st rank

36%

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

64% total oppose

3% support 1st rank

23%

Increase the sales tax in Georgia.

78% total oppose

2% 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 Georgia 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.



Coronavirus

Over 2-in-5 Georgia 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 and Small Business Closures Surface As Most Salient Coronavirus Concerns

Top Tier Concerns - % total concerned

87%

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

58% very concerned

85%

Small businesses and restaurants closing down permanently in Georgia.

54% very concerned

78%

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

58% very concerned

78%

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

53% very concerned

73%

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

50% very concerned

70%

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

35% very concerned



A Majority of Voters Also Express Concerns About the Impact on Voting and the Disproportionate Impact Coronavirus Has on Black Communities

Second Tier Concerns - % total concerned

66%

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

44% very concerned

66%

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

45% very concerned

61%

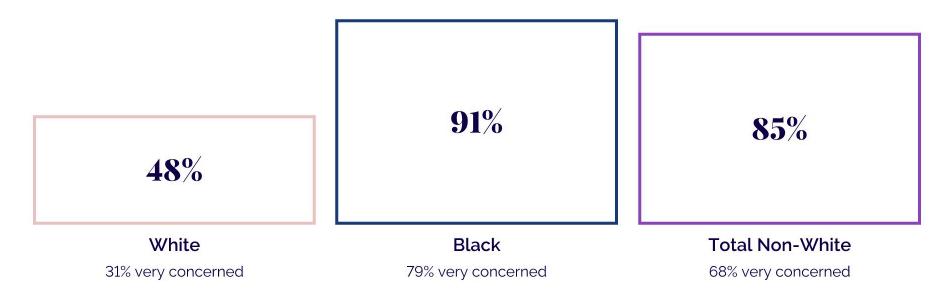
The disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on the Black community.

45% very concerned



Black Voters Overindex on Concern About the Virus' Disproportionate Impact on the Black Community

The disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on the Black community - Total Concerned By Race





Concern Around Losing Work and Income Spans Party Lines

Top Coronavirus Concerns by Party ID - % total concerned



1. Losing work and income - 89%

2. Contracting the virus - 88%

3. Rent and mortgage payments - 87%



ID independent

1. Losing work and income - 89%

1. Small business closures - 89%

2. Rent and mortgage payments - 81%

3. Contracting the virus - 77%



ID Republican

1. Small business closures - 87%

2. Losing work and income - 85%

3. Losing tax revenue - 75%



Recommendations

Democracy and Voting Narrative

- Georgia voters believe state government should have a large role in election administration, but voters here are less confident in it's ability to do so than they are in other states, likely owing to the state's well-documented recent history of voter suppression.
- When it comes to voting in-person, whether it be early or on Election Day, legislators should highlight their efforts to increase safety and sanitation standards at polling places and open up additional polling places to reduce crowds. Legislators should also stress how they are opposed to consolidating polling places.
- When it comes to voting by mail, legislators should prioritize efforts to process mail-in-ballots more efficiently and meticulously and improvements to ballot tracking and notifications about ballot issues. Highlighting these reforms could be helpful in encouraging more Georgians to pursue voting by mail this November.



Fiscal Policy and Economy Narrative

- Generally, Georgia voters want more state investment in services, and they see progressive avenues for raising the revenue to make that happen.
- Voters here have acute economic concerns related to the pandemic, particularly around small business closures and loss of work and income. We recommend centering a balanced response to the coronavirus that prioritizes the tools necessary to slow the spread of infection so that businesses can re-open safely and people can go back to work safely. This can be contrasted with the governor's irresponsible push to prematurely and unsafely re-open businesses early this summer.
- Workplace policies should be the focal point of the fiscal policy and economic narrative: workplace liability, paid sick leave, paid family leave, and affordable child care are highly popular policies that benefit both the employee AND employer - legislators should highlight their consistent efforts to push these policies.
- Health care policy is a clear opportunity to engage. Policies that make health care more
 affordable during the coronavirus pandemic are strongly supported by the electorate,
 particularly reforms that limit what drug companies can charge for prescriptions, offer public
 health insurance plans, extend grace periods to pay medical bills, and end surprise medical
 billing,



Questions?