State Innovation Exchange

Multi-State Poll - Wisconsin Findings July 2020



Survey Methodology



TargetSmart designed and administered this multimodal survey.

Four-hundred and seventy-seven interviews were conducted online among panelists who were matched to the TargetSmart voter file (431 weighted) and 53 interviews were conducted online using text-to-web and email-to-web (25 email, 28 SMS) solicits from the TargetSmart voter file (70 weighted). In total, the survey reached 530 adults (500 weighted), age 18 or older, who are registered to vote in Wisconsin. Quotas were designed to reflect the demographic and geographic distribution of registered voters in Wisconsin. The data were weighted by gender, age, race on file, TargetSmart Partisan Score, TargetSmart High School Only Score, and region by media market 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 +/- 4.4%. 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

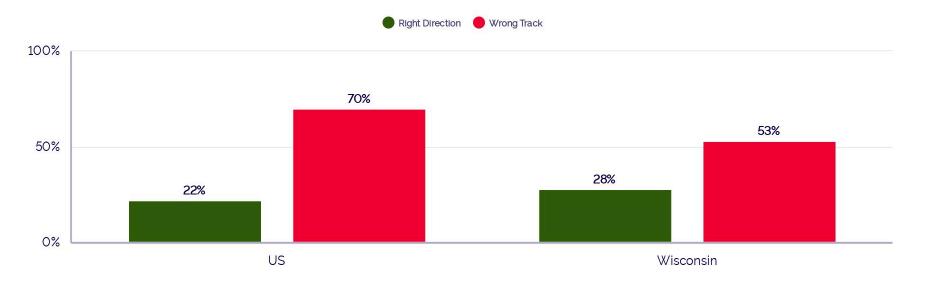
Issue Environment: Key Findings

- Wisconsinites are generally pessimistic about the direction of both the U.S. (22 percent right direction, 70 percent wrong track) and the state (28 percent right direction, 53 percent wrong track).
- The coronavirus surfaces as a top issue priority among Wisconsin voter with over 1-in-4 citing it as the most important issue facing Wisconsin these days. Concern for the pandemic outpaces concern for employment, violent protests, and education.
- Public opinion on the state of the coronavirus is quite pessimistic, with 51 percent of voters believing the worst is yet to come compared to just 25 percent of voters believing the worst is over.
- Furthermore, a solid majority of Wisconsin voters indicate that their feelings about how Black people and communities are treated in America have changed over the last month in light of recent events (56 percent).



Wisconsin Voters Pessimistic About Direction of the U.S. and State

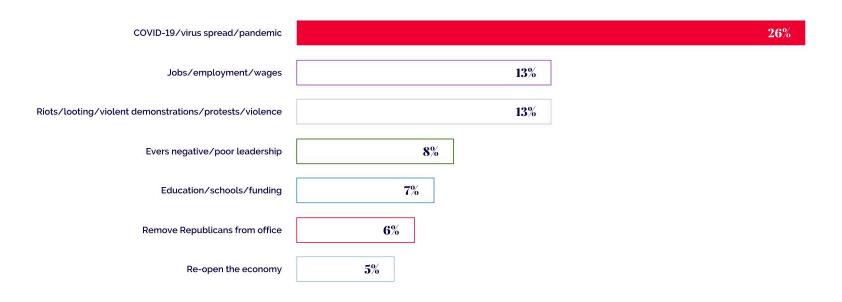
Direction of the US and Wisconsin



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 Wisconsin are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?



Coronavirus Surfaces as a Top Priority for Wisconsin Voters; Jobs and Violent Protests Follow as Second Tier Priorities



^{7.} What would you say is the most important issue facing the state of Wisconsin these days?



Concern for the Coronavirus Pandemic Spans Party Lines

Issue priorities by Party ID



ID Democrat

- 1. Coronavirus spread 34%
- 2. Remove Republicans 11%
- 3. Jobs/employment 10%



ID independent

- 1. Coronavirus spread 19%
- 2. Jobs/employment 16%
- 3. Looting/violent demonstrations 10%



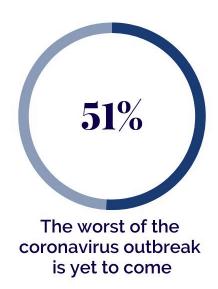
ID Republican

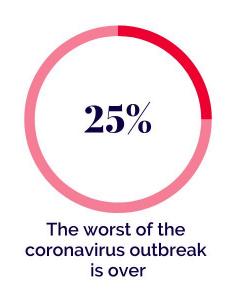
- 1. Coronavirus spread 24%
- 2. Looting/violent demonstrations 21%
- 3. Evers negative/poor leadership 17%



Majority of Wisconsinites Believe the Worst of the Pandemic is Yet to Come

Worst is yet to come vs. worst is over







9. Do you believe....



Democrats, Independents, Women, 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	51%	25%
) Democrat	63%	13%
D independent	55%	21%
D Republican	34%	43%
1en	46%	25%
Women	55%	25%
Jnder 50	57%	26%
Over 50	48%	24%



Almost 6-in-10 Wisconsinites Want More State Investment, Even if it Means More Taxes

State Investment vs. Tax Cuts



State government in Wisconsin 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 Wisconsin 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?



Democrats and Independents Prefer State Investment, While Republicans Prefer Lower Taxes

Investment vs. Taxes by Key Demographics

	Invest more	Lower Taxes	Margin
All voters	57%	21%	+36
ID Democrat	83%	6%	+77
ID independent	56%	33%	+33
ID Republican	29%	36%	-7
College graduate	63%	19%	+44
Non-college	52%	23%	+29
Under 50	68%	18%	+51
Over 50	51%	24%	+27



Election Administration Stands Out As Issue On Which Most Voters Believe Government Should Have a Major Role; Education, Coronavirus, and Food Access Fall Closely Behind

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

86%

Safely and fairly administering elections.

61% major role

83%

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

46% major role

79%

Stopping the spread of the coronavirus.

53% major role

79%

Ensuring struggling families and children have access to food.

40% major role

78%

Ensuring equal pay for equal work.

40% major role

77%

Ensuring access to affordable health care.

46% major role

15.Please indicate whether you think state government in Wisconsin 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 Leave, Affordable Housing, Childcare, and Income Inequality

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

65%

Acknowledging and addressing systemic racism.

36% major role

65%

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

34% major role

65%

Ensuring access to affordable housing.

25% major role

60%

Ensuring access to affordable childcare.

24% major role

58%

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

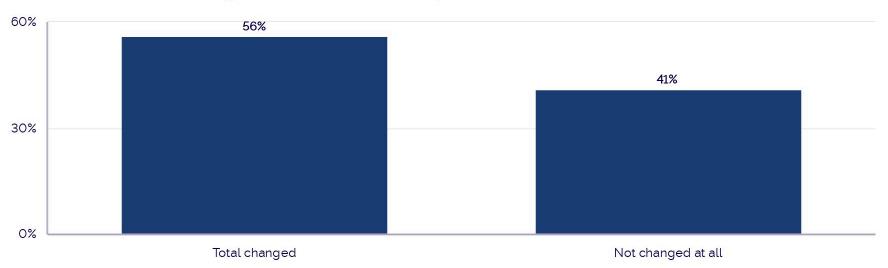
32% major role

15.Please indicate whether you think state government in Wisconsin 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 Wisconsinites 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

- State government's involvement in election administration is a high priority for Wisconsin voters, with 86 percent wanting state government to play a "major" or "some role" in safely and fairly administering elections.
- What's more, most Wisconsinites are optimistic about how November's elections will be run, with 60 percent believing they will be administered well, compared to just 31 percent believing they will not be administered well.
- Wisconsin voters are almost evenly split between planning to vote by mail (45 percent) and vote in-person on Election Day (39 percent) this year. Early in-person voting is far less popular, with just 14 percent of voters planning to use this option.
- We also find that Wisconsin voters acknowledge systematic racism in the voting system and nearly 2-in-3 voters want state government to reduce barriers that stop Black people from voting and participating in Democracy (64 percent).



Democracy Key Findings: Voting Reforms

- Voters strongly support and prioritize reforms to streamline the vote-by-mail process.
- Over 8-in-10 voters support allowing any registered Wisconsin voter to vote-by-mail (82 percent), and 62 percent of voters support mailing all registered Wisconsin voters applications to vote by mail.
- Furthermore Wisconsinites are broadly supportive of reforms to make processing mail-in ballots easier. Over 3-in-4 voters support counting mail-in ballots postmarked by and received after Election Day (76 percent) and nearly 7-in-10 voters support allowing election officials to begin processing, but not counting, mail-in ballots before Election Day (69 percent).
- Though few Wisconsin voters plan to vote early in person, they are supportive of reforms to lengthen the early voting window and letting voters cast ballots in-person through election day (80 Percent).



Democracy Key Findings: Coronavirus and Voting

- In the wake of Wisconsin's much-criticized spring elections, voters also broadly support reforms to make in-person voting safer and more convenient during the coronavirus pandemic.
- Voters unanimously support providing poll workers with PPE (90 percent) and polling locations conforming with CDC guidelines and social distancing (89 percent).
- Similarly, 86 percent of voters support opening additional polling locations to reduce crowds and 70 percent of voters oppose consolidating polling locations in anticipation of poll worker shortages.



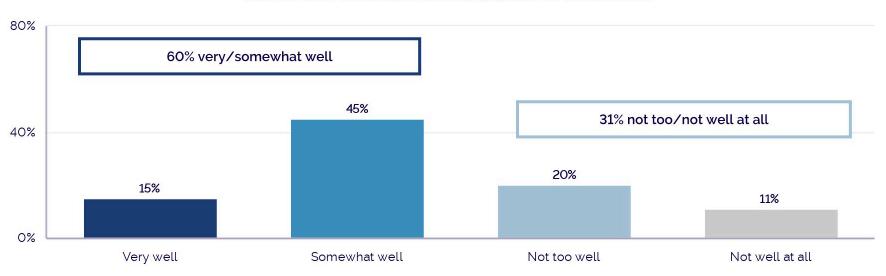
Democracy Key Findings: Voting Security

- Vote-by-mail is a popular option for Wisconsinites, so voters here place a high importance on voting security, particularly as it pertains to mail-in ballots.
- Eight-in-ten voters believe ballot tracking for mail-in ballots is important (80 percent).
- Likewise, 85 percent of voters believe it is important for election officials to immediately notify voters if there is a problem with their submitted mail in ballot, and 62 percent of voters find this to be very important.



Six-in-Ten Voters Believe Elections Will Be Run "Well" in Wisconsin This November

November Election Administration in Wisconsin



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



A Plurality of Wisconsinites Plan to Vote by Mail; Voting In-Person on Election Day is Also Quite Popular



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



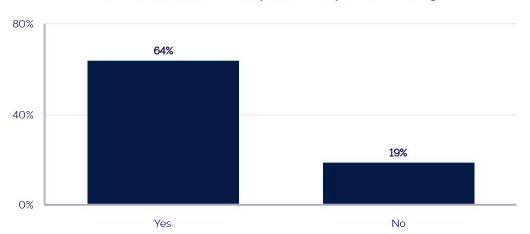
Wisconsinites Want Barriers that Prevent Black People from Voting Removed; Closely Divided on Whether or Not Systemic Racism Prevents Black People from Participating in Democracy

47% of Wisconsin 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."

43% disagree with this statement.

Reduce Barriers That Stop Black People From Voting



18. Do you believe the state of Wisconsin 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.

72% strongly agree



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

65% 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; Narrow Majority are Concerned About the Reliability of Vote-by-Mail

Voting Reforms - % total agree

76%

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

50% strongly agree

74%

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

44% strongly agree

52%

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.

24% strongly agree

40% total disagree

24%

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

7% strongly agree

66% 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

Voting Method Reforms - % Total Support

86%

Open additional polling locations to reduce crowds and lines.

19% support 1st rank

82%

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

28% support 1st rank

80%

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

15% support 1st rank

62%

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

17% support 1st rank

53%

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

6% support 1st rank

44%

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

11% support first rank

57% total oppose

30%

Consolidate polling locations in anticipation of poll worker shortages.

5% support 1st rank

70% total oppose

23. Switching gears a bit, below are several reforms related to voting in Wisconsin. 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 with Wisconsinites

Ballot Return Reforms - % Total Support

76%

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

16% support 1st rank

76%

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

11% support 1st rank

73%

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

11% support 1st rank

69%

Allowing county election officials to begin processing, but not counting, mail-in ballots before Election Day.

13% support 1st rank

66%

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

26% support 1st rank

45%

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

7% support first rank

55% total oppose

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



Wisconsinites Likely to Return Ballots Through the Mail; Prepaid Postage Less Impactful Than in Other States

Ballot Return Methods - % Almost Certain/Good Chance



Return my ballot through the mail with postage paid-for

43% almost certain



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

35% almost certain



Vote in-person at my neighborhood precinct location

35% almost certain



Return my ballot via secure, local drop-box

18% almost certain



Return my ballot at a drive-through voting center

14% almost certain



Not vote in the 2020 elections

4% almost certain

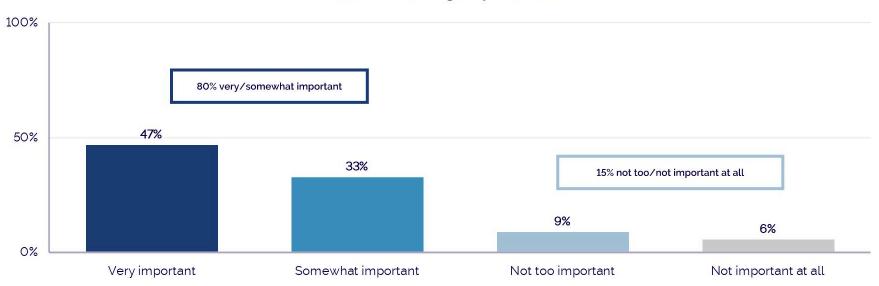
75% no chance

25. And assuming each of the following were available to you in Wisconsin, 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 8-in-10 Wisconsin Voters

Ballot Tracking Importance

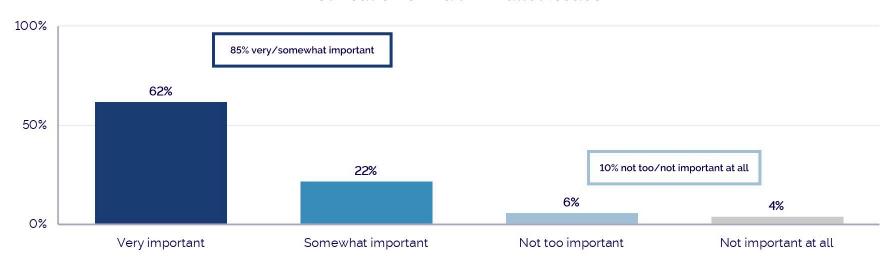


26. And do you think it is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all for election officials in Wisconsin to allow voters to track the status of their mail-in ballot in case any issues come up?



Consensus Public Opinion Around Notifying Voters 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 Wisconsin 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.



Same-Day Voter Registration Remains Very Popular; Online Registration and Eliminating Registration Deadlines Also Broadly Supported

Voter Registration Reforms - % Total Support

86%

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

41% support 1st rank

68%

Allow verified eligible voters to register to vote online

27% support 1st rank

68%

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

22% support 1st rank

48%

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

6% support 1st rank

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



Fiscal Policy and the Economy

Economic and Fiscal Key Findings: Coronavirus and the Economy

- Wisconsinites express more concern about the pandemic's impact on health and safety (52 percent) than they do about the impact on jobs and income (37 percent).
- A majority of voters also believe Wisconsin businesses should be required to provide safe working environments during the coronavirus pandemic and be held liable if they do not (52 percent). Just 23 percent of voters believe businesses should be protected from liability if an employee gets sick on the job.
- Although Wisconsinites prioritize health and safety over jobs and income, they express some acute economic concerns pertaining to the coronavirus pandemic -- particularly small business closures (83 percent concerned), losing work and income (81 percent concerned), and not being able to afford rent or mortgage payments (69 percent concerned).



Economic and Fiscal Key Findings: Budget and Revenue

- Wisconsin voters prefer state investment in services, even if it means they have to pay more in taxes. Fifty-seven percent of voters want state government to invest in its residents to ensure they are safe, healthy, and economically secure, compared to just 21 percent of voters wanting state government to keep taxes low and cut funding for education, infrastructure, and unemployment.
- Furthermore, 64 percent of Wisconsin voters express concern about the state losing tax revenues and facing budget cuts in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.
- And voters want corporations and the wealthy to pay their fair share; they strongly support progressive revenue streams, such as closing corporate loopholes, increasing taxes on companies that pollute, increasing taxes on the wealthy, and creating a carbon tax.



Economic and Fiscal Key Findings: Economy and Workplace Policies

- Nearly 2-in-3 voters believe state government should play a role in acknowledging and addressing systematic racism (65 percent) and a majority of voters believe the state of Wisconsin should address economic barriers faced by Black people and the Black community (56 percent).
- Similarly, voters believe state government should be involved in making pay equity a reality, as 78
 percent of voters believe that state government should play a "major" or "some" role in ensuring equal
 pay for equal work.
- Wisconsin voters are divided on extending the length of time that laid-off workers can receive unemployment compensation and increasing the amount that they receive (51 percent support).
- Voters also believe that state government should play a role in ensuring workers have access to paid sick days and paid family leave (65 percent) and affordable childcare (60 percent).
- It follows that voters are broadly supportive of workplace policies such as eliminating tax breaks for corporations that don't offer paid sick and family leave (75 percent), requiring workplaces to provide paid sick days (74 percent), and creating an insurance plan to provide paid family and medical leave for employees (74 percent).



Economic and Fiscal Key Findings: Health Policy

- Policies relating to health care and health insurance in the wake of the pandemic surface as some of the top-testing economic policies in the poll.
- Near-consensus public opinion emerges around the following policies related to health insurance and health care:
- Banning the practice of surprise medical billing (91 percent).
- Limiting what drug companies can charge for prescriptions (89 percent).
 17 percent of voters rank this as their top priority
- Offering Wisconsinites public health insurance options (86 percent).
- Extending the grace period for paying health insurance bills (83 percent).



Wisconsinites Want More State Investment, Even if it Means More Taxes

State Investment vs. Tax Cuts



State government in Wisconsin 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.



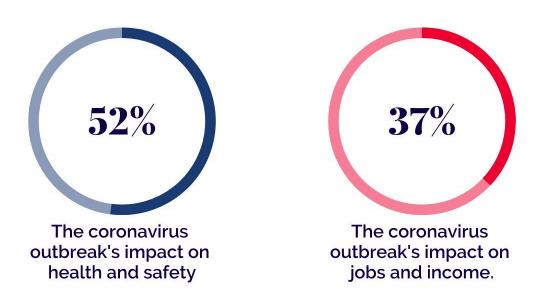
State government in Wisconsin should keep taxes low, even if it means cutting funding for education and infrastructure, and cutting unemployment insurance and healthcare coverage.

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 and Women 50+ Most Likely to Be More Concerned About Health and Safety

Health and Safety vs. Jobs and Income by Key Demographics

	Health and Safety	Jobs and Income	Margin
All voters	52%	37%	+15
ID Democrat	69%	23%	+46
ID independent	59%	28%	+31
ID Republican	27%	62%	-35
Men under 50	46%	42%	+5
Men over 50	52%	39%	+12
Women under 50	53%	36%	+17
Women over 50	58%	34%	+24



A Majority of Voters Side With Workplace Safety Argument Over Liability Protections for Corporations

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.



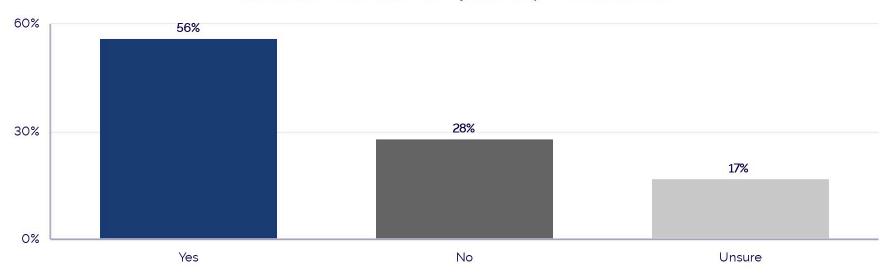
Protected from liability if workers get sick on the job so they can get people back to work.

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



A Majority of Wisconsinites 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 Wisconsin should address economic barriers faced by Black people and the Black community?



Small Business Loans and Health Insurance Reforms Are Top Priorities for Wisconsin Voters

Top Tier Economic Proposals - % Total Support

93%

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

11% support 1st rank

91%

Banning the practice of surprise medical billing.

10% support 1st rank

89%

Limiting what drug companies can charge for prescription drugs.

17% support 1st rank

86%

Offering people in Wisconsin 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

4% support 1

83%

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

4% support 1st rank



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

Top Tier Economic Proposals - % Total Support

75%

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

14% support 1st rank

74%

Requiring workplaces to provide paid sick days to their employees.

7% support 1st rank

74%

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.

5% 1st rank



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

Middle Tier Economic Proposals - % Total Support

69%

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

8% support 1st rank

67%

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.

3% support 1st rank

64%

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

4% support 1st rank



Wisconsinites Reject Anti-Worker Policies

Bottom Tier Economic Proposals - % Total Oppose

91%

Allowing businesses to stop paying more for overtime hours.

18% oppose 1st rank



Allowing businesses to pay less than the minimum wage

49% oppose 1st rank



Wisconsinites Divided on Extending the Length of Time Laid-Off Workers Can Receive Unemployment Benefits

Bottom Tier Economic Proposals - % Total support

52%

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

4% support 1st rank

48% total oppose



Extension of Unemployment Benefits Polarized Along Partisan Lines

Extending length of unemployment benefits by key demographics

	Support	Oppose
All voters	52%	48%
ID Democrat	67%	33%
ID independent	51%	49%
ID Republican	35%	65%
Under 50	58%	42%
Over 50	47%	53%
College grad	55%	45%
Non-college	48%	52%

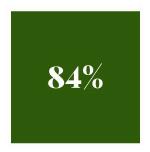
Array of Progressive Revenue Raisers Supported by Wisconsin Voters

Top Tier Revenue Proposals - % Total Support



Close corporate tax loopholes.

35% support 1st rank



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

11% support 1st rank

79%

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

9% support 1st rank

76%

Increase taxes on the wealthiest individuals in Wisconsin.

22% support 1st rank

71%

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

4% support 1st rank

60%

Increase taxes on profitable corporations in Wisconsin.

4% 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 Wisconsin 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

44%

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

56% total oppose

5% support 1st rank

43%

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

57% total oppose

3% support 1st rank

37%

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

63% total oppose

3% support 1st rank

35%

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

65% total oppose

3% support 1st rank

18%

Increase the sales tax in Wisconsin.

82% total oppose

1% 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 Wisconsin 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 1-in-3 Wisconsin 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

83%

Small businesses and restaurants closing down permanently in Wisconsin.

50% very concerned

81%

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

44% very concerned

69%

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

37% very concerned

67%

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

44% very concerned

64%

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

24% very concerned

Q.13 Please indicate if you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, a little concerned, or not concerned at all about each of the following concerns people in Wisconsin might have due to the coronavirus outbreak.



Smaller Number of Voters Express Concerns About the Impacts on Voting and the Disproportionate Impact on Black Communities

Second Tier Concerns - % total concerned

54%

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

32% very concerned

54%

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

31% very concerned

48%

The disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on the Black community.

22% very concerned

Q.13 Please indicate if you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, a little concerned, or not concerned at all about each of the following concerns people in Michigan might have due to the coronavirus outbreak.



Economic Concerns Span Party Lines; Democrats Express Most Concerns About Contracting the Virus

Top Coronavirus Concerns by Party ID - % total concerned



1. Losing work - 93%

2. Contracting the virus - 89%

3. Rent and mortgage payments - 85%



ID independent

1. Small business closures - 81%

2. Losing work - 76%

3. Rent and mortgage payments - 65%



ID Republican

1. Small business closures - 85%

2. Losing work - 74%

3. Losing tax revenue - 60%

Q.13 Please indicate if you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, a little concerned, or not concerned at all about each of the following concerns people in Wisconsin might have due to the coronavirus outbreak.



Recommendations

Democracy and Voting Narrative

- With the debacle the state faced in the spring elections, Wisconsin voters are looking at state government to play an active role in election administration, and most voters are quite confident in it's ability to do so.
- As voters here are mixed between planning on voting in person and voting by mail, the narrative should highlight legislators' efforts to ensure safe, secure, and reliable elections in November, regardless of how Wisconsinites vote.
- When it comes to voting by mail, legislators should prioritize process improvements so mail in ballots are processed efficiently and meticulously and enhancements to ballot tracking and notifications about ballot issues, allaying some of the latent concerns that exist about mail-in voting.
- When it comes to in-person voting, legislators should prioritize sanitation and safety enhancements at polling places and opening up more polling locations to reduce crowds, and make sure Wisconsinites can vote safely.



Fiscal Policy and Economy Narrative

- Wisconsin voters tend to prioritize health and safety over jobs and income when it comes to a public policy response to the coronavirus. Wisconsinites generally want more state investment in services, and support several progressive avenues for raising the revenue to make that happen.
- However, voters here have some acute economic concerns related to the pandemic, particularly around small business closures, loss of work and income, and housing. 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.
- Workplace policies should be the focal point of the fiscal policy and economic narrative.
 Legislators should highlight their consistent efforts to push for workplace liability, paid sick and paid family leave, and affordable childcare.
- Furthermore, we see health care policy as another clear opportunity to engage. Policies that make health care and insurance more affordable during the coronavirus pandemic are strongly supported by the electorate, particularly reforms that ban surprise medical billing, limit what drug companies can charge for prescription drugs, provide public health insurance options, and expand grace periods for paying insurance bills.



Questions?