



**CENTER FOR POLITICAL  
COMMUNICATION**

**Delaware Voter Survey 2020**  
Methodology and topline results

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## Methodology

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Survey firm:         | Abt Associates   |
| Field dates:         | 09/21/2020-09/27/2020                                      |
| Mode:                | Telephone (landlines and cellular phones)                  |
| Universe:            | Registered voters  |
| Geographic coverage: | State of Delaware  |
| Sample size:         | 976 respondents  |
| Weights:             | Vendor-supplied weights                                    |
| Response Rate:       | 3.0% for cell phones, 2.0% for landline phones (AAPOR RR3) |

The National Agenda Opinion Project research was funded by the University of Delaware's Center for Political Communication (CPC) with support from the College of Arts and Sciences. The study was supervised by the CPC's Research Director, Paul Brewer, a professor in the Departments of Communication and Political Science & International Relations.

The study was fielded by Abt Associates and obtained telephone interviews with a representative sample of 976 adults living in Delaware, including 911 registered voters and 847 likely voters. A total of 327 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone and 649 were interviewed on a cell phone. Interviewing was conducted from September 21-27, 2020, in English. Samples were drawn from both landline and cell phone random digit dialed (RDD) frames and a list of Delaware registered voters. Both the landline and cell phone RDD samples were provided by Dynata.

Statistical results are weighted for telephone service, sample frame, age, gender, race/ethnicity, education, and voter registration status by county to match the population parameters of the adult population in Delaware. The margin of sampling error for registered voters is  $\pm 4$  percentage points (the margin of sampling error is larger for results from subsamples). Overall, the response rate (AAPOR RR3) was 2% for the landline RDD sample, 3% for the cell RDD sample, 4% for landline numbers from the RV sample, and 2% for cell numbers from the RV sample.

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## Topline results

Note: All statistics are calculated using vendor-supplied survey weights. Some questions designed for administrative purposes and/or concerning sensitive data have been withheld from this release.

**Q1:** First, how likely are you to vote in the general election this November? Will you definitely vote, probably vote, probably not vote, or definitely not vote?

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Definitely will vote     | 93.0% |
| Probably will vote       | 5.2%  |
| Probably will not vote   | 1.2%  |
| Definitely will not vote | 0.5%  |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 0.1%  |

**Q3:** If the election for Delaware Governor were being held today and the candidates were [**ROTATE:** (John Carney, the Democrat), (Julianne Murray, the Republican), (John Machurek the Libertarian) and (Kathy DeMatteis of the Independent Party of Delaware)], who would you vote for?

|                                    | All Respondents | Excluding DK/Ref. Responses |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| John Carney                        | 52.9%           | 55.0%                       |
| Julianne Murray                    | 28.4%           | 26.0%                       |
| John Machurek                      | 2.0%            | 2.0%                        |
| Kathy DeMatteis                    | 3.8%            | 4.0%                        |
| None of them/Other candidate (VOL) | 2.3%            | 13.0%                       |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL)           | 10.5%           |                             |

**Q4:** If the election for United States Representative were being held today and the candidates were [**RANDOMIZE:** (Lisa Blunt Rochester, the Democrat), (Lee Murphy, the Republican), (David Rogers, the Libertarian) and (Catherine Purcell, the Independent)], who would you vote for?

|                                    | All Respondents | Excluding DK/Ref. Responses |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Lisa Blunt Rochester               | 48.2%           | 51.0%                       |
| Lee Murphy                         | 31.0%           | 29.0%                       |
| David Rogers                       | 2.9%            | 3.0%                        |
| Catherine Purcell                  | 4.2%            | 5.0%                        |
| None of them/Other candidate (VOL) | 2.1%            | 13.0%                       |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL)           | 11.7%           |                             |

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**Q5:** If the election for United States Senator were being held today and the candidates were **[RANDOMIZE:(Chris Coons (PRONOUNCED: KOONZ), the Democrat), (Lauren Witzke, the Republican, (Nadine Frost, the Libertarian),and (Mark Turley of the Independent Party of Delaware)],**who would you vote for?

|                                    | All Respondents | Excluding DK/Ref. Responses |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Chris Coons                        | 53.9%           | 57.0%                       |
| Lauren Witzke                      | 29.1%           | 27.0%                       |
| Nadine Frost                       | 2.3%            | 3.0%                        |
| Mark Turley                        | 3.5%            | 4.0%                        |
| None of them/Other candidate (VOL) | 2.3%            | 11.0%                       |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL)           | 8.9%            |                             |

**Q6:** Is your overall opinion of **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? How **about [NEXT NAME]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Just in general, is your overall opinion of [NAME] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TODISTINGUISH BETWEEN “NEVER HEARD OF” AND “CAN’T RATE”]**

**[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

a. Governor John Carney

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Very favorable       | 25.5% |
| Mostly favorable     | 36.3% |
| Mostly unfavorable   | 14.5% |
| Very unfavorable     | 14.7% |
| Never heard of (VOL) | 1.8%  |
| Can't Rate (VOL)     | 5.0%  |
| Refused (VOL)        | 2.2%  |

b. Lieutenant Governor Bethany Hall-Long

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Very favorable       | 12.0% |
| Mostly favorable     | 27.8% |
| Mostly unfavorable   | 7.0%  |
| Very unfavorable     | 5.3%  |
| Never heard of (VOL) | 20.5% |
| Can't Rate (VOL)     | 24.3% |
| Refused (VOL)        | 3.2%  |

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c. Attorney General Kathy Jennings

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Very favorable       | 9.7%  |
| Mostly favorable     | 28.1% |
| Mostly unfavorable   | 7.2%  |
| Very unfavorable     | 6.6%  |
| Never heard of (VOL) | 18.4% |
| Can't Rate (VOL)     | 25.7% |
| Refused (VOL)        | 4.3%  |

d. Senator Chris Coons

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Very favorable       | 30.1% |
| Mostly favorable     | 27.3% |
| Mostly unfavorable   | 14.1% |
| Very unfavorable     | 19.5% |
| Never heard of (VOL) | 2.4%  |
| Can't Rate (VOL)     | 5.0%  |
| Refused (VOL)        | 1.5%  |

e. Senator Tom Carper

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Very favorable       | 18.9% |
| Mostly favorable     | 34.7% |
| Mostly unfavorable   | 14.4% |
| Very unfavorable     | 12.6% |
| Never heard of (VOL) | 6.6%  |
| Can't Rate (VOL)     | 11.1% |
| Refused (VOL)        | 1.8%  |

f. Representative Lisa Blunt Rochester

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Very favorable       | 24.4% |
| Mostly favorable     | 28.5% |
| Mostly unfavorable   | 10.5% |
| Very unfavorable     | 8.6%  |
| Never heard of (VOL) | 10.5% |
| Can't Rate (VOL)     | 14.7% |
| Refused (VOL)        | 2.7%  |

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**Q7:** Do you support or oppose laws that protect transgender students from discrimination in schools?

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Support                  | 80.5% |
| Oppose                   | 10.5% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 9.0%  |

**[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q8 & Q9]**

**Q8:** Do you support or oppose requiring everyone to wear face masks in public?

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Support                  | 76.2% |
| Oppose                   | 20.1% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 3.7%  |

**Q9:** How often do you wear a mask when outside your home—always, very often, sometimes, rarely, or never?

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Always                   | 67.6% |
| Very often               | 17.2% |
| Sometimes                | 10.2% |
| Rarely                   | 2.1%  |
| Never                    | 1.9%  |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 1.0%  |

**Q10:** How much of the time do you trust **[INSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE NAMES]** to do what is right—just about always, most of the time, only some of the time, or never? How about **[NEXT NAME; IF NECESSARY: How much of the time do you trust [INSERT NAME]** to do what is right—Just about always, most of the time, only some of the time, or never?]

A. The government in Washington

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Just about always        | 2.5%  |
| Most of the time         | 13.7% |
| Only some of the time    | 54.6% |
| Never                    | 25.7% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 3.5%  |

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## B. Donald Trump

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Just about always        | 16.0% |
| Most of the time         | 19.4% |
| Only some of the time    | 13.4% |
| Never                    | 48.7% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 2.4%  |

**Q11:** Please tell me how concerned you feel about each of the following happening in this year's general election. The first one is: **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**-do you feel very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not concerned at all? **[NEXT ITEM; IF NECESSARY:** Do you feel very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not concerned at all about this?]

### **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

#### A. Voter fraud

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Very concerned           | 40.5% |
| Somewhat concerned       | 19.1% |
| Not too concerned        | 15.3% |
| Not concerned at all     | 23.8% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 1.3%  |

#### B. The election being rigged

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Very concerned           | 37.0% |
| Somewhat concerned       | 25.7% |
| Not too concerned        | 14.4% |
| Not concerned at all     | 21.2% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 1.8%  |

#### C. Eligible voters not being allowed to vote

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Very concerned           | 46.2% |
| Somewhat concerned       | 20.1% |
| Not too concerned        | 12.6% |
| Not concerned at all     | 16.7% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 4.4%  |

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**Q12:** How often do you watch [INSERT; RANDOMIZE]: regularly, sometimes, hardly ever or never? How about [NEXT ITEM]? IF NECESSARY: regularly, sometimes, hardly ever or never?

A. The Fox News Cable Channel

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Regularly                | 17.9% |
| Sometimes                | 23.8% |
| Hardly ever              | 16.4% |
| Never                    | 41.5% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 0.4%  |

B. MSNBC

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Regularly                | 17.9% |
| Sometimes                | 20.2% |
| Hardly ever              | 17.0% |
| Never                    | 44.1% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 0.8%  |

C. CNN

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Regularly                | 19.8% |
| Sometimes                | 27.4% |
| Hardly ever              | 15.4% |
| Never                    | 37.0% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 0.4%  |

D. National network evening news programs such as ABC World News, CBS Evening News, or NBC Nightly News

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Regularly                | 31.3% |
| Sometimes                | 27.6% |
| Hardly ever              | 14.6% |
| Never                    | 26.3% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 0.2%  |

**Q13:** How often do you get your news online: regularly, sometimes, hardly ever, or never?

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Regularly                | 52.6% |
| Sometimes                | 20.9% |
| Hardly ever              | 11.1% |
| Never                    | 15.3% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 0.2%  |



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**Q14:** How often do you read a daily newspaper in print or online: regularly, sometimes, hardly ever, or never?

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Regularly                | 33.6% |
| Sometimes                | 22.4% |
| Hardly ever              | 17.8% |
| Never                    | 26.0% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 0.2%  |

## DEMOGRAPHICS

**EDUC2:** What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received? **[DO NOT READ]**

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Less than high school (Grades 1-8 or no formal schooling)  | 0.6%  |
| High school incomplete (Grades 9-11 or Grade 12 with NO diploma)   | 3.0%  |
| High school graduate (Grade 12 with diploma or GED certificate)  | 23.6% |
| Some college, no degree (includes some community college)  | 16.8% |
| Two year associate degree from a college or university   | 11.4% |
| Four year college or university degree/Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)  | 22.5% |
| Some postgraduate or professional schooling, no postgraduate degree  | 3.0%  |
| Postgraduate or professional degree, including master's, doctorate, medical, or law degree (e.g., MA, MS, PhD, MD, JD) | 18.1% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL)   | 1.0%  |

**HISP:** Are you, yourself, of Hispanic or Latino origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or some other Spanish background?

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Yes                      | 5.1%  |
| No                       | 93.3% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 1.5%  |

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**RACE:** What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian, or some other race? **[IF R SAYS HISPANIC OR LATINO, PROBE:** Do you consider yourself a WHITE (Hispanic/Latino) or a BLACK (Hispanic/Latino)? **IF R DOES NOT SAY WHITE, BLACK OR ONE OF THE RACE CATEGORIES LISTED, RECORD AS ‘OTHER’ (CODE 6)]** IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS MORE THAN ONE RACE, CODE AS “4” (MIXED RACE).]

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| White                           | 73.1% |
| Black or African-American       | 15.5% |
| Asian or Pacific Islander       | 1.3%  |
| Mixed race                      | 1.9%  |
| Native American/American Indian | 0.9%  |
| Other ( <b>SPECIFY</b> )        | 3.9%  |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL)        | 3.4%  |

**PARTY:** In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Republican               | 26.0% |
| Democrat                 | 40.3% |
| Independent              | 29.6% |
| No preference (VOL)      | 1.8%  |
| Other Party (VOL)        | 0.8%  |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 1.5%  |

**IF ANSWERED REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT IN PARTY, ASK:**

**PARTYSTR:** Would you call yourself a strong [Democrat/Republican] or not a very strong [Democrat/Republican]?

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Strong                         | 76.2% |
| Not very strong                | 21.7% |
| Other/Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 2.2%  |

**IF ANSWERED INDEPENDENT OR OTHER IN PARTY, ASK:**

**PARTYLN:** As of today, do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Republican                     | 41.7% |
| Democratic                     | 39.4% |
| Other/Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 18.9% |

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**IDEO:** In general, would you describe your political views as... **[READ]**

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Very conservative        | 12.5% |
| Somewhat conservative    | 22.6% |
| Moderate                 | 34.1% |
| Somewhat liberal [OR]    | 17.0% |
| Very liberal             | 11.0% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 2.7%  |

**INC:** Last year—that is, in 2019—approximately what was your total family income before taxes? Just tell me when I get to the right category. **(READ)**

|                              |       |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Less than \$10,000           | 2.7%  |
| \$10,000 to under \$20,000   | 4.8%  |
| \$20,000 to under \$30,000   | 7.4%  |
| \$30,000 to under \$40,000   | 7.9%  |
| \$40,000 to under \$50,000   | 8.2%  |
| \$50,000 to under \$75,000   | 12.3% |
| \$75,000 to under \$100,000  | 14.7% |
| \$100,000 to under \$150,000 | 15.5% |
| \$150,000 or over            | 13.0% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL)     | 13.5% |

**HH1:** How many adults, age 18 and over, currently live in your household INCLUDING YOURSELF?

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| 1                        | 25.1% |
| 2                        | 52.8% |
| 3                        | 13.1% |
| 4                        | 5.6%  |
| 5                        | 1.7%  |
| 6 or greater             | 0.7%  |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 1.0%  |

## ASK ALL LANDLINE SAMPLE

**L1:** Now thinking about your telephone use... Do you have a working cell phone?

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Yes                      | 90.5% |
| No                       | 8.9%  |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 0.7%  |

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## ASK IF NO CELL PHONE AND MULTI-PERSON HOUSEHOLD:

**L1a:** Does anyone else in your household have a working cell phone?

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Yes, has a home telephone | 63.2% |
| No, no home telephone     | 26.3% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL)  | 10.5% |

## ASK ALL CELL PHONE SAMPLE

**C1:** Now thinking about your telephone use... Is there at least one telephone INSIDE your home that is currently working and is not a cell phone?

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Yes, has a home telephone | 41.0% |
| No, no home telephone     | 57.6% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL)  | 1.4%  |

**ZIP3:** What county do you live in?

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Kent County              | 56.4% |
| New Castle County        | 10.6% |
| Sussex County            | 22.3% |
| Don't know/Refused (VOL) | 10.6% |