

Ipsos/Reuters Poll: The Big Lie

Over half of Republicans believe Donald Trump is the actual President of the United States.

Topline Findings

Washington, DC, May 21, 2021 - Former President Donald Trump's stronghold over the Republican party remains. His refusal to concede the 2020 election and calls of widespread fraud have raised doubts about the integrity of its results among his Republican base. Consequently, 56% of Republicans believe the election was rigged or the result of illegal voting, and 53% think Donald Trump is the actual President, not Joe Biden. Only 30% of Republicans feel confident that absentee or mail-in ballots were accurately counted, compared to 86% of Democrats and 55% of independents. As a result, 87% of Republicans believe it is important that the government place new limits on voting to protect elections from fraud. Finally, 63% percent of Republicans think Donald Trump should run for President again in 2024, compared to only 8% of Democrats and 23% of independents.

For complete results, please refer to the following annotated questionnaire:

Full Annotated Questionnaire

		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
	Strong Democrat	16%	39%	0%	0%
	Moderate Democrat	17%	41%	0%	0%
	Lean Democrat	8%	20%	0%	0%
	Lean Republican	7%	0%	20%	0%
With which political party do you most	Moderate Republican	15%	0%	42%	0%
identify? Detailed	Strong Republican	13%	0%	38%	0%
	Independent	16%	0%	0%	100%
	None of these	5%	0%	0%	0%
	DK	3%	0%	0%	0%
	Total	2007	909	754	196
	Democrat	41%	100%	0%	0%
2.With which political party do you most identify? Summary	Republican	35%	0%	100%	0%
	Independent	16%	0%	0%	100%
	None/DK	8%	0%	0%	0%
	Total	2007	909	754	196



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		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Are you currently registered to vote at your current address,	Yes, registered to vote at my current address	81%	86%	89%	76%
	No, not registered to vote at my current address	15%	11%	10%	19%
or not?	Not sure	4%	3%	1%	5%
	Total	2007	909	754	196
	Donald Trump	35%	5%	81%	20%
4. In the 2020	Joe Biden	46%	86%	10%	40%
presidential election,	Some other candidate	6%	3%	4%	14%
did you vote for?	Not sure	14%	6%	6%	27%
	Total	2007	909	754	196
5. What comes close to	Legitimate and accurate	55%	86%	25%	53%
your view of the 2020 election? It was TM1082Y16_2. What	The result of illegal voting or election rigging	25%	5%	56%	16%
comes close to your view of the 2020	Don't Know	20%	8%	19%	31%
election? It was	Total	2007	909	754	196
	Strongly agree	18%	4%	39%	10%
6_1. [The 2020 election	Somewhat agree	12%	6%	22%	9%
was stolen from Donald Trump] To what extent	Somewhat disagree	9%	6%	12%	9%
do you agree or disagree with the	Strongly disagree	48%	79%	16%	48%
following statements?	Don't know	13%	5%	12%	24%
	Total	2007	909	754	196
	Strongly agree	49%	81%	16%	48%
6_2. [Former President Donald Trump should	Somewhat agree	10%	8%	12%	10%
NOT run for President	Somewhat disagree	9%	4%	14%	10%
again in 2024] To what extent do you agree or	Strongly disagree	22%	4%	49%	13%
disagree with the following statements?	Don't know	10%	3%	10%	20%
	Total	2007	909	754	196



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		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
6_3. [Trump is at least	Strongly agree	43%	73%	12%	43%
partly to blame for	Somewhat agree	15%	13%	17%	18%
starting the deadly Jan. 6 riot at the U.S.	Somewhat disagree	12%	5%	19%	10%
Capitol] To what extent do you agree or	Strongly disagree	21%	5%	46%	10%
disagree with the following statements?	Don't know	10%	4%	6%	19%
Tollowing Statements?	Total	2007	909	754	196
6_4. [The people who	Strongly agree	12%	4%	23%	8%
gathered at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 were	Somewhat agree	16%	9%	25%	14%
mostly peaceful, law- abiding Americans] To	Somewhat disagree	17%	16%	19%	17%
what extent do you	Strongly disagree	42%	66%	21%	39%
agree or disagree with the following	Don't know	13%	5%	12%	22%
statements?	Total	2007	909	754	196
6_5. [The Jan. 6 riot at	Strongly agree	17%	9%	31%	10%
the Capitol was led by violent left-wing	Somewhat agree	15%	7%	23%	14%
protestors trying to make Trump look bad]	Somewhat disagree	12%	10%	13%	13%
To what extent do you	Strongly disagree	40%	65%	17%	39%
agree or disagree with the following	Don't know	17%	9%	16%	24%
statements?	Total	2007	909	754	196
	Very important	48%	68%	29%	46%
7_1. [the government	Somewhat important	33%	26%	39%	37%
make it easier for people to vote] In your	Not very important	11%	4%	18%	9%
opinion, it is that	Not at all important	8%	1%	14%	8%
	Total	2007	909	754	196
7 2 [the government	Very important	42%	31%	60%	34%
7_2. [the government place new limits on	Somewhat important	32%	32%	27%	38%
voting to protect elections from fraud] In	Not very important	14%	18%	10%	15%
your opinion, it is that	Not at all important	11%	19%	3%	12%
tildt	Total	2007	909	754	196

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		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
7_3. [states have the	Very important	28%	23%	35%	29%
	Somewhat important	40%	41%	37%	45%
right to set their own election laws] In your	Not very important	19%	22%	16%	14%
opinion, it is that	Not at all important	13%	14%	11%	13%
	Total	2007	909	754	196
	Foreign terrorism (committed by non- Americans on American soil)	17%	8%	27%	15%
8. In your view, which of the following pose the biggest threat to the safety of average	Politically or religiously- motivated domestic terrorism (committed by Americans on American soil)	42%	49%	34%	41%
Americans?	Random acts of violence (committed by Americans on American soil)	42%	43%	38%	45%
	Total	2007	909	754	196
9_1. [I am confident	Strongly agree	34%	58%	11%	32%
ballots sent by mail/absentee are	Somewhat agree	24%	28%	19%	22%
being counted accurately] Please	Somewhat disagree	13%	6%	19%	14%
indicate how much you	Strongly disagree	20%	3%	42%	12%
agree or disagree with the following	Not sure	11%	5%	8%	19%
statements.	Total	2007	909	754	196
TM1996V20 2 [Lom	Strongly agree	22%	24%	25%	16%
TM1886Y20_2. [I am concerned that ballots	Somewhat agree	33%	33%	35%	28%
are rejected for silly procedural reasons]	Somewhat disagree	16%	17%	15%	19%
Please indicate how	Strongly disagree	13%	13%	14%	13%
much you agree or disagree with the	Not sure	16%	13%	11%	23%
following statements.	Total	2007	909	754	196
TM1886Y20_3. [It is extremely important to me that all ballots are counted, no matter who was declared winner] Please indicate how	Strongly agree	70%	76%	71%	62%
	Somewhat agree	19%	17%	19%	20%
	Somewhat disagree	3%	3%	4%	3%
	Strongly disagree	3%	2%	4%	2%
much you agree or disagree with the	Not sure	6%	2%	3%	13%
following statements.	Total	2007	909	754	196

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		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
	Strongly agree	45%	66%	26%	40%
9_4. [The loser in an	Somewhat agree	24%	20%	30%	23%
election must concede defeat] Please indicate	Somewhat disagree	12%	5%	19%	11%
how much you agree or disagree with the	Strongly disagree	7%	3%	12%	5%
following statements.	Not sure	13%	5%	13%	20%
	Total	2007	909	754	196
9_5. [I trust election	Strongly agree	35%	52%	23%	29%
officials in my county or	Somewhat agree	32%	31%	35%	28%
town to do their job honestly] Please	Somewhat disagree	14%	9%	18%	17%
indicate how much you agree or disagree with	Strongly disagree	9%	3%	16%	12%
the following statements.	Not sure	9%	4%	7%	15%
Statements.	Total	2007	909	754	196
	Strongly support	17%	11%	28%	11%
10_1. [Individual	Somewhat support	28%	26%	28%	29%
political parties doing post-election audits of	Somewhat oppose	17%	20%	14%	18%
ballots and recounts] Do you support or	Strongly oppose	18%	24%	14%	14%
oppose the following	Don't Know	21%	19%	16%	29%
	Total	2007	909	754	196
	Strongly support	19%	10%	35%	12%
10_2. [Shortening the	Somewhat support	21%	15%	30%	17%
time window for early or absentee voting] Do	Somewhat oppose	18%	21%	14%	21%
you support or oppose	Strongly oppose	25%	42%	9%	25%
the following	Don't Know	17%	13%	11%	26%
	Total	2007	909	754	196
	Strongly support	16%	13%	25%	13%
10_3. [Giving state	Somewhat support	30%	26%	34%	31%
legislatures more direct control over state	Somewhat oppose	18%	21%	18%	17%
election boards] Do you support or oppose the	Strongly oppose	12%	19%	7%	11%
following	Don't Know	23%	21%	17%	29%
	Total	2007	909	754	196

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		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
	Strongly support	16%	8%	31%	10%
10_4. [Reducing the	Somewhat support	18%	14%	25%	16%
number and hours of absentee ballot drop	Somewhat oppose	17%	18%	16%	20%
boxes] Do you support or oppose the	Strongly oppose	29%	47%	14%	23%
following	Don't Know	19%	13%	15%	31%
	Total	2007	909	754	196
	Strongly support	21%	15%	34%	14%
10_5. [Allowing partisan election	Somewhat support	27%	29%	27%	24%
observers increased access to vote	Somewhat oppose	16%	18%	13%	18%
counting] Do you	Strongly oppose	11%	16%	8%	10%
support or oppose the following	Don't Know	25%	22%	18%	34%
	Total	2007	909	754	196
TM2052Y21. Who do	Donald Trump	25%	3%	53%	22%
you think the true President is right now? Choose one.	Joe Biden	75%	97%	47%	78%
	Total	2007	909	754	196



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About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between May 17-19, 2021 on behalf of Thomson Reuters. For this survey, a sample of 2,007 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The sample includes 909 Democrats, 754 Republicans, and 196 Independents.

The sample was randomly drawn from Ipsos' online panel, partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing a sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2019 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Posthoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, and education.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online non-probability polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 2.5 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following (n=2,007, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=+/-4.0 percentage points).

The poll also has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.7 percentage points for Democrats, plus or minus 4.1 percentage points for Republicans, and plus or minus 8.0 percentage points for independents.

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About Ipsos

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Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos is listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1st, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and the Mid-60 index and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

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