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This release is also available online.

## **New Marquette Law School Poll finds Sanders' support rising among Democrats and tight races between Trump and each Democratic candidate for president**

*Please note: Complete poll results and methodology information can be found online at [law.marquette.edu/poll](http://law.marquette.edu/poll)*

MILWAUKEE — A new Marquette University Law School poll of Wisconsin registered voters finds that Sen. Bernie Sanders leads in the Democratic primary with support from 29 percent of those saying they will take part in the April 7 voting. Of the six Marquette polls conducted since August 2019, this is the first in which Sanders has held the top spot.

Mayor Mike Bloomberg is supported by 17 percent, and Vice President Joe Biden is the first choice of 15 percent. Mayor Pete Buttigieg is at 13 percent, Sen. Amy Klobuchar is at 11 percent, and Sen. Elizabeth Warren is at 9 percent.

In January, Sanders was the choice of 19 percent, Bloomberg held 6 percent and Biden held first place with 23 percent.

The complete results for first and second choices in the Democratic primary are shown in Table 1.

Table 2 shows how support for each candidate has changed each month since November 2019. Support for Sanders has increased while support for Biden has declined. After entering the race in the late fall, Bloomberg rose to second place in February. Klobuchar's support has more

*Table 1: First and second choice in Democratic primary (among Democratic primary voters)*

Response	First Choice	Second Choice
Bernie Sanders	29	13
Michael Bloomberg	17	10
Joe Biden	15	16
Pete Buttigieg	13	15
Amy Klobuchar	11	13
Elizabeth Warren	9	23
Tulsi Gabbard	1	2
Tom Steyer	1	2
Someone else (VOL)	0	0
Don't know	4	5
Refused	0	0

than doubled her support from January, while Warren has declined over the past four months.

*Table 2: First choice in the Democratic primary, Nov.-Feb. (among Democratic primary voters)*

Response	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Nov.
Bernie Sanders	29	19	19	17
Michael Bloomberg	17	6	3	N/A
Joe Biden	15	23	23	30
Pete Buttigieg	13	15	15	13
Amy Klobuchar	11	4	3	3
Elizabeth Warren	9	14	16	15
Tulsi Gabbard	1	1	1	0
Tom Steyer	1	1	0	1
Someone else (VOL)	0	1	1	1
Don't know	4	9	11	10

Fifty-six percent of Democratic primary voters say they might change their minds about their primary choice, while 42 percent say their mind is made up. Table 3 shows that Democratic primary voters have become more certain of their primary preferences since November.

*Table 3: Have voters made up their mind for president? (among Democratic primary voters)*

Response	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Nov.
Mind made up	42	38	34	37
Might change your mind	56	60	65	62

The poll was conducted Feb. 19-23, 2020. The sample included 1000 registered voters in Wisconsin interviewed by cell phone or landline, with a margin of error of +/- 3.6 percentage points.

Democratic presidential primary preference items were asked of those who said they will vote in the Democratic primary in April. That sample size is 490, with a margin of error of +/-5.1 percentage points.

Among the Democratic primary sample, the percentage of those saying they have favorable or unfavorable opinions of each candidate is shown in Table 4. Bloomberg, despite his second place standing in vote preference, is the only primary candidate with more unfavorable than favorable ratings among Democratic primary voters. Elizabeth Warren holds the third-highest favorable rating, despite her sixth place standing in vote preference.

Table 4: Favorability ratings of six candidates among Democratic primary sample

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard enough	Don't know
Sanders	62	29	6	3
Biden	61	30	6	3
Warren	56	24	16	5
Buttigieg	52	19	24	5
Klobuchar	47	15	33	5
Bloomberg	35	37	24	4

Democratic primary voters who describe themselves as liberal or very liberal are more likely to support Sanders or Warren than those who describe themselves as moderate or conservative, as seen in Table 5. The reverse pattern holds for Bloomberg and Biden, each of whom does better with moderate or conservative primary voters than with more liberal ones. Buttigieg and Klobuchar draw support more evenly across ideological identities.

In this sample, 56 percent of Democratic primary voters described themselves as moderate or conservative while 41 percent considered themselves liberal or very liberal.

Table 5: Primary choice by voter ideology among Democratic primary voters.

Ideology	Biden	Bloomberg	Buttigieg	Klobuchar	Sanders	Warren
Moderate/Conservative	20	20	14	12	22	5
Liberal/Very Liberal	8	11	12	10	37	15

Sanders has consistently received more support from younger voters than from older ones. That pattern continues to hold in the February data, but he has increased support across all age groups since the January poll, as shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Sanders support by age

Age group	Feb.	Jan.
18-29	68	45
30-44	30	23
45-59	22	10
60+	22	12

Table 7 shows that Sanders, Bloomberg, Klobuchar and Warren each do a little better among those who say they are absolutely certain to vote in the Democratic primary than among those who are not so certain they will vote. Biden does substantially less well among those certain to vote than with those less likely to do so. Buttigieg is also slightly weaker among the most likely to vote.

Table 7: Primary choice by likelihood of voting in primary among Democratic primary voters

Likelihood of voting	Biden	Bloomberg	Buttigieg	Klobuchar	Sanders	Warren
Certain to vote	13	17	12	12	30	10
Less likely to vote	22	15	14	7	27	5

Respondents were asked how likely they were "to vote in the April 7 election for state Supreme Court, presidential primaries, and other offices" and were asked in a separate question in which presidential primary they would participate.

The likelihood of voting on April 7 is shown by party identification in Table 8. Democrats are a little more likely than Republicans to say they are certain to vote, with independents least certain of participating.

Table 8: Likelihood of voting April 7 by party identification

Party ID	Certain to vote	Less likely to vote
Republican	67	33
Independent	59	39
Democrat	73	27

Of those who say they are certain to vote, a majority say they will vote in the Democratic primary, while just over a third say they will vote in the Republican primary, as shown in Table 9.

Table 9: Vote in which primary by likelihood of voting April 7

Likelihood of voting	Republican primary	Democratic primary	Don't plan to vote in a primary	Don't know
Certain to vote	35	53	3	5
Less likely to vote	28	32	25	14

While most partisans say they will participate in their own party's primary, about 10 percent of Republicans say they will vote in the Democratic presidential primary, while no Democrats say they will cross over to the Republican primary, as in Table 10 (President Donald J. Trump is the only candidate listed on the Republican primary ballot. Crossover voting is permitted in Wisconsin.). About a third of independents say they will vote in the Democratic primary, though more say either they won't vote or don't know which primary they might vote in.

Table 10: Vote in which primary April 7 by party identification

Party ID	Republican primary	Democratic primary	Don't plan to vote	Don't know
Republican	70	9	11	7
Independent	9	31	20	34
Democrat	0	89	7	3

“Electability” has been a topic of discussion for primary voters. We asked respondents, “Regardless of who you think would win, which of the current Democratic candidates do you think would run the strongest race against Donald Trump in November’s presidential election?” Responses by party identification are shown in Table 11.

Among Democrats, Sanders is seen as the strongest against Trump, with Bloomberg and Biden a distant second and third. Republicans see Bloomberg as the strongest, closely followed by Sanders with Biden a distant third. Independents give similar responses to Republicans, although they rate Biden as a weaker candidate than do Republicans.

*Table 11: Who would be the strongest Democrat against Trump in the general election?*

Party ID	Biden	Bloomberg	Buttigieg	Klobuchar	Sanders	Warren
Republican	11	28	7	6	24	2
Independent	5	29	2	1	23	9
Democrat	16	18	7	7	34	7

### General-election matchups

General-election matchups between Trump and six Democratic candidates all indicate very close races. Sanders holds a two-percentage point edge over Trump while Biden, Buttigieg and Klobuchar tie with Trump. Bloomberg trails Trump by one point and Warren trails by three points. Each of these margins is well within the margin of error for this poll. Table 12 presents the matchups.

*Table 12: General-election matchups*

	Pct.		Pct.		Pct.
Biden	46	Bloomberg	44	Buttigieg	45
Trump	46	Trump	45	Trump	45
Neither	4	Neither	5	Neither	5
Don’t know	3	Don’t know	5	Don’t know	5
	Pct.		Pct.		Pct.
Klobuchar	46	Sanders	48	Warren	44
Trump	46	Trump	46	Trump	47
Neither	4	Neither	3	Neither	4
Don’t know	4	Don’t know	3	Don’t know	4

Trends in the matchups since August are shown in Tables 13-18. The matchup with Buttigieg was not asked in August. Klobuchar was asked only in November (half-sample) and February. The matchup with Bloomberg was first asked in February.

*Table 13: Biden vs. Trump trend*

Poll dates	Biden	Trump	Neither	Don't know
8/25-29/19	51	42	4	2
10/13-17/19	50	44	3	3
11/13-17/19	44	47	5	2
12/3-8/19	47	46	3	3
1/8-12/20	49	45	4	3
2/19-23/20	46	46	4	3

*Table 14: Bloomberg vs. Trump*

Poll dates	Bloomberg	Trump	Neither	Don't know
2/19-23/20	44	45	5	5

*Table 15: Buttigieg vs. Trump trend*

Poll dates	Buttigieg	Trump	Neither	Don't know
10/13-17/19	43	45	5	7
11/13-17/19	39	47	6	7
12/3-8/19	43	44	4	7
1/8-12/20	44	46	4	5
2/19-23/20	45	45	5	5

*Table 16: Klobuchar vs. Trump trend*

Poll dates	Klobuchar	Trump	Neither	Don't know
11/13-17/19	36	50	7	5
2/19-23/20	46	46	4	4

Table 17: Sanders vs. Trump trend

Poll dates	Sanders	Trump	Neither	Don't know
8/25-29/19	48	44	5	2
10/13-17/19	48	46	4	2
11/13-17/19	45	48	5	2
12/3-8/19	45	47	4	3
1/8-12/20	47	46	4	3
2/19-23/20	48	46	3	3

Table 18: Warren vs Trump trend

Poll dates	Warren	Trump	Neither	Don't know
8/25-29/19	45	45	5	5
10/13-17/19	47	46	4	2
11/13-17/19	43	48	4	4
12/3-8/19	44	45	5	4
1/8-12/20	45	48	4	3
2/19-23/20	44	47	4	4

Favorability of Trump and six Democrats among all registered voters is shown in Table 19. The Democratic candidates are all less favorably perceived than is Trump. With the exception of Klobuchar, all candidates have more unfavorable than favorable evaluations among all registered voters.

Table 19: Favorability ratings of Trump and six Democratic candidates among all registered voters

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard enough	Don't know
Donald Trump	45	50	3	2
Bernie Sanders	36	54	6	2
Joe Biden	34	53	8	4
Elizabeth Warren	30	46	18	5
Pete Buttigieg	30	33	30	7
Amy Klobuchar	27	26	39	7
Mike Bloomberg	22	51	22	4

Favorability varies strongly by party identification, with partisans holding sharply negative views of candidates of the other party. Democrats are more divided over some of their potential nominees and some Democrat candidates remain less well known even among Democratic partisans. Tables 20-26 show

favorability by party identification for each candidate. (Democrats in these tables includes all those who identify as Democrats or independents who lean Democratic, while favorability among Democratic primary voters above includes independents and Republicans planning to vote in the Democratic primary and excludes those who do not intend to vote in the primary.)

*Table 20: Trump favorable or unfavorable views by party ID*

Party ID	Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard enough	Don't know
Republican	87	10	1	1
Independent	35	44	12	8
Democrat	4	93	2	1

*Table 21: Sanders favorable or unfavorable views by party ID*

Party ID	Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard enough	Don't know
Republican	8	88	3	1
Independent	32	42	18	4
Democrat	67	22	7	4

*Table 22: Biden favorable or unfavorable views by party ID*

Party ID	Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard enough	Don't know
Republican	9	83	5	3
Independent	25	42	23	9
Democrat	63	25	6	4

*Table 23: Warren favorable or unfavorable views by party ID*

Party ID	Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard enough	Don't know
Republican	6	76	14	3
Independent	20	36	31	12
Democrat	58	18	19	5



Table 24: Buttigieg favorable or unfavorable views by party ID

Party ID	Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard enough	Don't know
Republican	12	54	29	4
Independent	23	15	44	17
Democrat	50	17	27	7

Table 25: Klobuchar favorable or unfavorable views by party ID

Party ID	Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard enough	Don't know
Republican	11	43	39	6
Independent	17	13	51	19
Democrat	46	13	36	6

Table 26: Bloomberg favorable or unfavorable views by party ID

Party ID	Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard enough	Don't know
Republican	10	72	15	2
Independent	21	33	37	9
Democrat	34	36	26	5

### Trump job approval

Forty-eight percent approve of the job Trump is doing as president, with 48 percent also disapproving. This is the first Marquette Law School Poll since Trump took office in which Trump's disapproval is not higher than his approval. In January, 48 percent approved and 49 percent disapproved.

Trump's job approval trend is shown in Table 27.

Table 27: Trump job approval trend

	Approve	Disapprove
3/13-16/17	41	47
6/22-25/17	41	51
2/25-3/1/18	43	50
6/13-17/18	44	50
7/11-15/18	42	50
8/15-19/18	45	51
9/12-16/18	42	54

*Table 27: Trump job approval trend  
(continued)*

	Approve	Disapprove
10/3-7/18	46	51
10/24-28/18	47	50
1/16-20/19	44	52
4/3-7/19	46	52
8/25-29/19	45	53
10/13-17/19	46	51
11/13-17/19	47	51
12/3-8/19	47	50
1/8-12/20	48	49
2/19-23/20	48	48

Trump’s job approval is extremely high among Republicans, extremely low among Democrats and split among independents and those who lean to a party, as shown in Table 28.

*Table 28: Trump job approval by party identification*

	Approve	Disapprove	Don’t know
Republican	95	4	1
Lean Republican	83	15	2
Independent	38	46	14
Lean Democrat	8	89	2
Democrat	6	93	1

Fifty-six percent of those polled approve of Trump’s handling of the economy, while 41 percent disapprove. In December, 55 percent approved and 42 percent disapproved.

The trend in approval of Trump’s handling of the economy is shown in table 29.

*Table 29: Approval of Trump’s handling of the economy trend*

	Approve	Disapprove
8/25-29/19	49	50
10/13-17/19	51	45
11/13-17/19	55	43
12/3-8/19	53	45
1/8-12/20	55	42
2/19-23/20	56	41

The trend in foreign policy approval is shown in Table 30.

Table 30: Approval of Trump's handling of foreign policy

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know
11/13-17/19	44	52	4
12/3-8/19	43	54	2
1/8-12/20	44	53	2
2/19-23/20	43	51	5

### Opinions about impeachment

Views about Trump's actions regarding Ukraine changed very little following the U.S. Senate vote not to convict Trump based on impeachment counts approved by the U.S. House of Representatives. In the new results, forty-one percent say that Trump did something seriously wrong in his dealings with Ukraine, 13 percent say he did something wrong but not seriously so and 36 percent say Trump did nothing wrong. Nine percent say they don't know. In January, 40 percent said he did something seriously wrong, 14 percent said it was wrong but not serious and 37 percent said he did nothing wrong.

The trend in views of Trump's dealing with Ukraine is shown in Table 31.

Table 31: Did Trump do something wrong in his dealing with Ukraine

	Seriously wrong	Wrong but not seriously	Did nothing wrong	Don't know
11/13-17/19	42	9	38	11
12/3-8/19	42	9	37	11
1/8-12/20	40	14	37	9
2/19-23/20	41	13	36	9

Following the Senate vote to acquit Trump, 42 percent say the Senate should have convicted Trump and removed him from office, while 52 percent say the Senate should have acquitted him of the charges. Five percent say they don't know. These views are little changed from the January poll which asked, before the Senate proceedings, what the Senate should do. Tables 32 and 33 show the results for January and February respectively.

Table 32: Should Senate vote to remove

	Remove from office	Acquit him	Don't know
1/8-12/20	44	49	6

Table 33: Should Senate have voted to remove

	Remove from office	Acquit him	Don't know
2/19-23/20	42	52	5

## National policy issues

With the presidential election on the horizon, we asked about two social issues that divide the parties and are often subject of campaign debate.

Opinions about abortion have been a longstanding issue in elections and legislation. In the current February poll, 18 percent say abortions should be legal in all circumstances, with 37 percent saying it should be legal in most circumstances. Twenty-two percent say it should be illegal in most circumstances, while 15 percent say it should be illegal in all circumstances. The full trend for this question is shown in Table 34.

*Table 34: Abortion position*

	Legal in all cases	Legal in most cases	Illegal in most cases	Illegal in all cases	Don't know
9/13-16/12	26	34	23	13	3
9/27-30/12	25	35	23	12	3
10/11-14/12	25	34	25	12	3
10/25-28/12	28	32	23	12	4
10/21-24/13	26	36	25	10	2
10/23-26/14	24	34	24	15	3
7/11-15/18	27	36	18	11	6
9/12-16/18	26	36	21	9	6
10/24-28/18	26	29	24	14	4
2/19-23/20	18	37	22	15	6

Views of same-sex marriage have changed considerably over time. The recent trend in Wisconsin, shown in Table 35, shows over two-thirds support for the legal status of same-sex marriage, with about a quarter continuing to oppose it.

*Table 35: View of same-sex marriage*

	Favor	Oppose	Don't know
5/15-18/14	55	37	6
10/9-12/14	64	30	5
10/23-26/14	56	34	7
6/9-12/16	64	28	4
2/19-23/20	68	25	6

What United States policy should be regarding undocumented immigrants already in the country is another long-running issue. Table 36 shows the trend in opinion on this issue. Over time, there has been majority support for a policy allowing a path to citizenship and this majority has grown in recent years.

The number of those who believe that undocumented immigrants should be required to leave the United States has modestly declined over time.

Table 36: *What to do with undocumented*

	Stay and apply for citizenship	Stay as temporary guest workers	Require them to leave jobs and U.S.	Don't know
9/13-16/12	51	23	20	4
9/27-30/12	52	19	22	6
10/11-14/12	52	21	21	4
10/25-28/12	53	19	22	5
3/11-13/13	57	17	21	4
5/6-9/13	58	19	20	2
10/21-24/13	61	20	16	2
10/23-26/14	52	20	24	3
8/13-16/15	49	25	23	3
1/21-24/16	57	17	21	4
3/24-28/16	60	22	16	2
6/9-12/16	60	18	17	4
8/4-7/16	60	19	17	3
8/25-28/16	62	19	15	3
9/15-18/16	62	19	16	2
3/13-16/17	66	17	14	2
2/25-3/1/18	71	14	9	4
9/12-16/18	68	15	14	3
10/24-28/18	65	15	15	3
2/19-23/20	67	15	13	3

Free-trade agreements have been a focus of recent policy, with the recent adoption of the United States, Mexico, Canada Agreement to replace NAFTA. The percentage who see free-trade agreements as good for the United States has grown in recent years, as shown in Table 37.

Table 37: Free trade agreements

	Good thing	Bad thing	Don't know
3/24-28/16	41	40	18
6/9-12/16	41	44	14
8/4-7/16	42	43	14
3/13-16/17	46	38	14
6/13-17/18	51	28	20
8/15-19/18	55	29	14
9/12-16/18	58	25	16
10/24-28/18	56	26	16
2/19-23/20	64	21	14

Views of the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare, have remained about evenly divided since 2017, as shown in Table 38.

Table 38: Opinion of ACA/Obamacare

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Don't know
3/13-16/17	45	46	8
6/22-25/17	41	51	7
9/12-16/18	47	45	7
4/3-7/19	45	49	6
2/19-23/20	48	48	4

A proposed “Medicare for all” program in which all Americans would receive health coverage through a single government-run Medicare program divides the public, with 46 percent strongly or somewhat in favor of such a program and 51 percent strongly or somewhat opposed. Opposition has risen from 41 percent in October 2018, as shown in Table 39.

Table 39: Medicare for all by poll dates

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
10/3-7/18	34	15	8	33	9
2/19-23/20	26	20	14	37	3

An alternative to Medicare for all is the so-called “public option” in which government medical coverage would compete with private insurance and be available for any who chose to sign up for the government

alternative. Sixty-one percent support a public option, with 32 percent opposed. The trend is shown in Table 40.

*Table 40: Public option*

	Support/Favor	Oppose	Don't know
10/13-17/19	60	32	6
2/19-23/20	61	32	6

### State issues

Voters see the state budget as stable, with 48 percent saying the budget is in about the same shape as in recent years, as shown in Table 41. Eighteen percent say it is in better shape, and 20 percent say it is in worse shape, than in recent years.

*Table 41: State budget better, same, or worse*

	Better shape now	About the same	Worse shape now	Don't know
3/13-16/17	29	28	33	9
6/22-25/17	31	30	31	8
2/25-3/1/18	31	35	28	6
9/12-16/18	31	28	29	12
10/24-28/18	37	29	25	9
2/19-23/20	18	48	20	13

More than half, 56 percent, say it is more important to increase spending on public schools than it is to reduce property taxes, while 38 percent say reducing property taxes is more important. Support for increased school spending peaked in early 2018, while support for cutting property taxes was at its highest in 2013, as shown in Table 42.

Table 42: Cut property taxes or provide more funding for public schools

	Reducing property taxes	Increasing spending on public schools	Don't know
3/11-13/13	49	46	4
5/6-9/13	49	46	4
4/7-10/15	40	54	5
2/25-3/1/18	33	63	3
6/13-17/18	35	59	5
8/15-19/18	32	61	5
9/12-16/18	38	57	5
10/3-7/18	37	57	6
10/24-28/18	40	55	4
1/16-20/19	39	55	6
1/8-12/20	41	55	4
2/19-23/20	38	56	5

A majority of respondents, 57 percent, say that they would be inclined to vote for a local referendum that raised taxes to support public schools, while 34 percent would be inclined to vote against it. This is little changed since the question was last asked in 2016, as shown in Table 43. These results are statewide and are not connected to any specific referendum.

Table 43: Support or oppose referendum to raise taxes for public schools

	Vote for	Vote against	It depends	Don't know
1/21-24/16	55	35	4	5
2/19-23/20	57	34	0	8

Voters favor a non-partisan approach to redistricting over the current process in which the legislature and governor are responsible for drawing legislative and congressional districts. This item was also asked in January 2019, as shown in Table 44.

Table 44: Redistricting by governor and legislature or by non-partisan commission

	Legislature and governor	Non-partisan commission	Don't know
1/16-20/19	18	72	10
2/19-23/20	20	70	9



## Economic outlook and issues

Wisconsin registered voters hold a positive view of the performance of the economy over the past 12 months, with 47 percent saying the economy has improved over the past year, 15 percent saying it has worsened and 36 percent saying it has stayed the same. The trend in economic evaluations is shown in Table 45.

*Table 45: Economic evaluation of past year*

	Gotten better	Gotten worse	Stayed the same	Net
3/13-16/17	40	15	43	25
6/22-25/17	35	18	45	17
2/25-3/1/18	44	17	37	27
6/13-17/18	47	15	36	31
8/15-19/18	46	16	36	30
9/12-16/18	46	17	36	29
10/3-7/18	51	16	31	35
10/24-28/18	49	17	33	32
1/16-20/19	42	20	34	22
4/3-7/19	42	19	37	23
8/25-29/19	37	25	34	12
10/13-17/19	41	20	36	21
11/13-17/19	42	18	37	24
12/3-8/19	44	21	34	23
1/8-12/20	48	17	33	31
2/19-23/20	47	15	36	32

Looking ahead to the next year, 36 percent say the economy will improve, while 21 percent think it will get worse and 37 percent say the economy will remain the same. The trend in economic outlook is shown in Table 46.

*Table 46: Economic outlook for next year*

	Get better	Get worse	Stay the same	Net
3/13-16/17	42	26	26	16
6/22-25/17	37	29	28	8
2/25-3/1/18	37	20	38	17
6/13-17/18	35	25	37	11
8/15-19/18	38	25	31	13

Table 46: Economic outlook for next year (continued)

	Get better	Get worse	Stay the same	Net
9/12-16/18	37	24	34	13
10/3-7/18	42	20	32	22
10/24-28/18	38	25	29	13
1/16-20/19	29	34	30	-6
4/3-7/19	34	27	34	7
8/25-29/19	26	37	33	-10
10/13-17/19	25	30	39	-5
11/13-17/19	35	24	37	11
12/3-8/19	32	25	37	7
1/8-12/20	33	23	37	10
2/19-23/20	36	21	37	15

Respondents are asked each survey about their family’s financial situation. In February, 62 percent said they are “living comfortably,” while 29 percent said they are “just getting by,” and 8 percent said they are “struggling.” This trend is shown in Table 47.

Table 47: Family financial situation by poll date

	Living comfortably	Just getting by	Struggling
3/13-16/17	54	35	11
6/22-25/17	53	32	14
2/25-3/1/18	54	34	10
6/13-17/18	58	30	11
8/15-19/18	63	28	9
9/12-16/18	56	32	12
10/3-7/18	63	29	7
10/24-28/18	60	30	9
1/16-20/19	60	30	9
4/3-7/19	59	31	9
8/25-29/19	59	30	9
11/13-17/19	66	25	8
12/3-8/19	62	27	11
1/8-12/20	63	28	8
2/19-23/20	62	29	8

## State of the state

In February, 52 percent say the state is headed in the right direction, while 39 percent say it has gotten off on the wrong track. The trend in opinion is shown in Table 48.

Table 48: Right direction or on wrong track trend

	Right direction	Wrong track
3/13-16/17	49	47
6/22-25/17	53	42
2/25-3/1/18	53	44
6/13-17/18	52	42
7/11-15/18	52	42
8/15-19/18	53	41
9/12-16/18	50	47
10/3-7/18	54	40
10/24-28/18	55	40
1/16-20/19	57	33
4/3-7/19	52	40
8/25-29/19	55	37
10/13-17/19	53	39
1/8-12/20	46	47
2/19-23/20	52	39

Gov. Tony Evers' job approval stands at 51 percent, with disapproval at 38 percent. Ten percent say they don't have an opinion. The trend in job approval of Evers is shown in Table 49.

Table 49: Evers' job approval trend

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know
1/16-20/19	39	22	38
4/3-7/19	47	37	15
8/25-29/19	54	34	10
10/13-17/19	52	34	13
11/13-17/19	47	42	10
12/3-8/19	50	38	11
1/8-12/20	51	40	9
2/19-23/20	51	38	10

Approval of the state legislature’s handling of its job stands at 46 percent with disapproval at 40 percent. Thirteen percent say they don’t have an opinion.

*Table 50: Approval of legislature trend*

	Approve	Disapprove
1/16-20/19	52	31
4/3-7/19	50	38
8/25-29/19	52	38
11/13-17/19	48	39
2/19-23/20	46	40

Table 51 presents the favorability ratings of elected officials in Wisconsin and the percentage of respondents who haven’t heard enough or say they don’t know.

*Table 51: Favorability ratings of governor and senators*

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven’t heard enough	Don’t know
Gov. Tony Evers	43	40	12	4
Sen. Tammy Baldwin	43	40	13	3
Sen. Ron Johnson	37	34	24	5

### **About the Marquette Law School Poll**

The Marquette Law School Poll is the most extensive statewide polling project in Wisconsin history. This poll interviewed 1,000 registered Wisconsin voters by landline or cell phone from Feb. 19-23, 2020. The margin of error is +/-3.6 percentage points for the full sample.

The Democratic presidential candidate preference items were asked of those who said they would vote in the Democratic primary. That sample size is 464, with a margin of error of +/-5.1 percentage points.

Three questions were asked of half the sample (Form A), and three were asked of the other half-sample (Form B). Questions on Form A have a sample size of 500 and a margin of error of +/- 5.2 percentage points. Questions on Form B have a sample size of 500 and a margin of error of +/- 5.1 percentage points.

Form A questions were approval of the state legislature, condition of the state budget and how to conduct redistricting. Form B questions concerned abortion, undocumented immigrants, and same-sex marriage.

The partisan makeup of the sample, including those who lean to a party, is 45 percent Republican, 44 percent Democratic and 9 percent independent. The partisan makeup of the sample, excluding those who lean to a party, is 31 percent Republican, 29 percent Democratic and 39 percent independent.

Since January 2017, the long-term partisan balance, including those who lean to a party, in the Marquette Law School Poll has been 45 percent Republican and 44 percent Democratic, with 9 percent independent. Partisanship, excluding those who lean, has been 30 percent Republican and 28 percent Democratic, with 40 percent independent.

The entire questionnaire, methodology statement, full results and breakdowns by demographic groups are available at [law.marquette.edu/poll/results-and-data](http://law.marquette.edu/poll/results-and-data).

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