

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL POLL

ssrs

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2021 September Court Survey – court items only

SECTION S: SCREENER

PN: Insert start time stamp.

SHOW ALL

Welcome Back to the SSRS Opinion Panel! We would like to ask you some questions that you will find quite interesting.

PN: [NEW SCREEN] – Intro screen for all.

PN: Insert incentive language (in parentheses) if Prob Panel.

SHOW ALL

INTRO. Thank you for your help with this important poll. It should take you about 7 minutes to complete the survey. (If you complete the survey, you will be provided \$5.00 as a thank you for your time and opinions.)

All information you provide will be kept confidential and your name will never be associated with your answers.

Please answer each question to the best of your ability. When you answer the questions, please be as detailed as you can, and please try to make your answers complete.

The survey you are about to take is best experienced on a PC, Laptop or Tablet. You will still be able to take the survey on a smaller screen or mobile device, however; you may need to scroll to the left, right, up, or down. If taking this survey on a mobile device, we recommend that you turn your phone to “landscape”.

ASK ALL

S1. We value your opinions and appreciate your participation in this survey!

Please use care when answering the following questions. Should our quality checks determine that you have not provided thoughtful attention to this survey, you may be disqualified and forfeit the associated rewards. Please indicate if you agree or disagree with the following statement.

I will read each question thoroughly and I will respond to all questions thoughtfully and honestly.

- | | | |
|---|------------|-------------|
| 1 | I agree | |
| 2 | I disagree | (TERMINATE) |

ASK ALL

S2. What is your age?

_____ (Enter age 18-98)

99 Prefer not to say

PN: Ask S2a if S2=Prefer not to say.

ASK IF AGE NOT GIVEN

S2a. Are you...

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|--------|
| 1 | 18-24 | |
| 2 | 25-29 | |
| 3 | 30-44 | |
| 4 | 45-49 | |
| 5 | 50-64 | |
| 6 | 65+ | |
| 9 | Prefer not to say | (TERM) |

PN: If under 18 in S2 or S2a, TERMINATE.

PN: Only qualified respondents continue here. All others TERMINATE.

ASK ALL

S3. To ensure the program is working properly, please select the number “3” below.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 |
| 3 | 3 |
| 4 | 4 |
| 5 | 5 |

SECTION B: APPROVAL RATINGS & EVALUATIONS

PN: Randomize order of B1-B3.

PN: Program so half get “Don’t know” response option (“Half Sample A”) and half do not get the “Don’t know” response option (“Half Sample B”).

B2. Overall, how much do you approve or disapprove of the way the US Supreme Court is handling its job?

- | | |
|----|------------------------------------|
| 1 | Strongly approve |
| 2 | Somewhat approve |
| 3 | Somewhat disapprove |
| 4 | Strongly disapprove |
| 8 | [PN: IF Half Sample A:] Don’t Know |
| 99 | [PN: IF WEB:] Web Blank |

PN: Randomize order of B4-B5.

SECTION C: APPROVAL RATINGS & EVALUATIONS

PN: Insert start time stamp.

PN: Randomize Codes 1-3.

ASK ALL

C1. Of the three branches of US government, which one do you trust the most?

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | The US Congress (the legislative branch) |
| 2 | The Presidency (the executive branch) |
| 3 | The US Supreme Court (the judicial branch) |
| 99 | [PN: IF WEB:] Web Blank |

PN: Randomize order of C2-C5; include order variable in data. Show as grid.

ASK ALL

In general, would you describe each of the following as...?

		Very conservative	Somewhat conservative	Moderate	Somewhat liberal	Very liberal
C2	The US Supreme Court	1	2	3	4	5

99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web Blank

SECTION D: KNOWLEDGE AND CONCERN

PN: Insert start time stamp.

ASK ALL

D1. How important is the choice of the next Supreme Court justice to you personally?

- 1 Very important
- 2 Somewhat important
- 3 Not too important
- 4 Not at all important

99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web Blank

PN: Randomize Codes 1 and 2.

ASK ALL

D2. In general, what most often motivates Supreme Court justices' decisions?

- 1 Mainly politics
- 2 Mainly the law

99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web Blank

PN: Rotate response codes 1-4 and 4-1 so half get each order; include order variable in data.

ASK ALL

D3. What is your guess as to whether a majority of the current US Supreme Court justices were appointed by Democratic or Republican presidents?

- 1 Definitely a majority appointed by Democratic presidents
- 2 Probably a majority appointed by Democratic presidents
- 3 Probably a majority appointed by Republican presidents

- 4 Definitely a majority appointed by Republican presidents
99 [PN: IF WEB:] *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

D4. Does the Supreme Court have the power to review laws passed by Congress and to declare them invalid if they conflict with the Constitution?

- 1 Yes, the Supreme Court has this power
2 No, the Supreme Court does not have this power
99 [PN: IF WEB:] *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

D5. How should Supreme Court justices interpret the law? Should they...?

- 1 Read the text of the law as written
2 Use the commonly understood meaning at the time the law was written
3 Interpret the law as it applies to current circumstances
99 [PN: IF WEB:] *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

D6. Should justices of the Supreme Court support the positions of one of the political parties when making decisions or should they ignore the positions of any party?

- 1 Should support party positions
2 Should ignore party positions
99 [PN: IF WEB:] *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

D7. Should justices of the Supreme Court consider public opinion about a case when making decisions or should they ignore public opinion?

- 1 Should consider public opinion
2 Should ignore public opinion
99 [PN: IF WEB:] *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

D8. Should justices of the Supreme Court follow previous decisions whenever possible or should the Court overturn previous decisions if a majority of the Court believes the case was wrongly decided?

- 1 Follow previous decisions
2 Overturn if a majority think it was wrongly decided
99 [PN: IF WEB:] *Web Blank*

SECTION E: COURT REFORM

PN: Insert start time stamp.

PN: Randomize order of E1-E3; include order variable in data. Show as grid.

How much do you favor or oppose the following proposals affecting the Supreme Court?

		Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose
E1	Increase the number of justices on the US Supreme Court	1	2	3	4
E2	Have judges serve a fixed term on the court rather than serving life terms	1	2	3	4
E3	Limit the ability of the Supreme Court to review and set aside acts of Congress as unconstitutional	1	2	3	4

SECTION F: PAST SUPREME COURT DECISIONS

PN: Randomize order of F1-F6; include order variable in data. Show as grid.

ASK ALL

Over the past 15 years or so would you say the Supreme Court has generally expanded or reduced the rights protected for each of these groups or has it not changed much either way?

		Expanded rights	Reduced rights	Has not changed much either way
F1	Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people	1	2	3
F2	Religious people and organizations	1	2	3
F3	Gun owners	1	2	3
F4	Those seeking an abortion	1	2	3
F5	Voting rights of racial or ethnic minorities	1	2	3
F6	Contributors to political campaigns	1	2	3

99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

F7. The Supreme Court recently ruled that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) did not have the power to extend a moratorium on evicting renters during the coronavirus pandemic, saying this would require an act of Congress.

Do you favor or oppose the Court's decision, or haven't you heard enough about this to have an opinion?

- 1 Heard nothing at all
- 2 Heard of but not enough for an opinion
- 3 Heard of and favor the decision
- 4 Heard of and oppose the decision

99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

- F8. The Supreme Court recently let stand a lower court order that the Biden administration must reinstate a Trump era policy requiring many asylum seekers to wait outside the United States for their cases to be decided, also known as “Remain in Mexico.”

Do you favor or oppose the Court’s decision, or haven’t you heard enough about this to have an opinion?

- 1 Heard nothing at all
- 2 Heard of but not enough for an opinion
- 3 Heard of and favor the decision
- 4 Heard of and oppose the decision
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

SECTION H: FUTURE SUPREME COURT DECISIONS

PN: Insert start time stamp.

PN: Randomize order of H2-H6 (Keep H1 first and H7 last).

ASK ALL

- H1. Do you favor or oppose the following possible future Supreme Court decisions, or haven’t you heard enough about this to have an opinion?

Overturn Roe versus Wade, thus strike down the 1973 decision that made abortion legal in all 50 states.

- 1 Heard nothing at all
- 2 Heard of but not enough for an opinion
- 3 Heard of and favor the decision
- 4 Heard of and oppose the decision
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

- H2. Do you favor or oppose the following possible future Supreme Court decisions, or haven’t you heard enough about this to have an opinion?

Rule that the 2nd Amendment right to “keep and bear arms” protects the right to carry a gun outside the home.

- 1 Heard nothing at all
- 2 Heard of but not enough for an opinion
- 3 Heard of and favor the decision
- 4 Heard of and oppose the decision
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

- H3. Do you favor or oppose the following possible future Supreme Court decisions, or haven't you heard enough about this to have an opinion?

Rule that a state program that provides financial support for students attending private schools cannot exclude students attending private religious schools from receiving that support.

- 1 Heard nothing at all
- 2 Heard of but not enough for an opinion
- 3 Heard of and favor the decision
- 4 Heard of and oppose the decision
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

- H4. Do you favor or oppose the following possible future Supreme Court decisions, or haven't you heard enough about this to have an opinion?

Rule that colleges cannot use race as one of several factors in deciding which applicants to admit.

- 1 Heard nothing at all
- 2 Heard of but not enough for an opinion
- 3 Heard of and favor the decision
- 4 Heard of and oppose the decision
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

- H5. Do you favor or oppose the following possible future Supreme Court decisions, or haven't you heard enough about this to have an opinion?

Rule in favor of laws that restrict the ability of social media companies such as Facebook, Twitter or YouTube to exclude public officials from their platforms.

- 1 Heard nothing at all
- 2 Heard of but not enough for an opinion
- 3 Heard of and favor the decision
- 4 Heard of and oppose the decision
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

- H6. Do you favor or oppose the following possible future Supreme Court decisions, or haven't you heard enough about this to have an opinion?

Rule that states have wide authority to regulate elections and voting requirements.

- 1 Heard nothing at all
- 2 Heard of but not enough for an opinion
- 3 Heard of and favor the decision
- 4 Heard of and oppose the decision
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

- H7. Do you favor or oppose the following possible future Supreme Court decisions, or haven't you heard enough about this to have an opinion?

Rule to uphold a state law that (except in cases of medical emergencies or fetal abnormalities) bans abortions after the 15th week of pregnancy.

- 1 Heard nothing at all
- 2 Heard of but not enough for an opinion
- 3 Heard of and favor the decision
- 4 Heard of and oppose the decision
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

- H8. Do you favor or oppose the following possible future Supreme Court decisions, or haven't you heard enough about this to have an opinion?

Rule to uphold a state law that bans most abortions after about six weeks of pregnancy.

- 1 Heard nothing at all
- 2 Heard of but not enough for an opinion
- 3 Heard of and favor the decision
- 4 Heard of and oppose the decision
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

- H9. There were some 60 cases in state and federal courts challenging various aspects of the 2020 presidential election. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the courts handled these cases or haven't you heard enough about this to have an opinion?

- 1 Heard nothing at all
- 2 Heard of but not enough for an opinion
- 3 Approve
- 4 Disapprove
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

SECTION X: CALIBRATION ITEMS

PN: Insert start time stamp.

ASK ALL

- X1. In any election, some people are not able to vote because they are sick or busy or have some other reason, and others do not want to vote. Did you vote in the election held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

PN: Ask if did not vote in election (X1=2).

ASK IF DID NOT VOTE

X2. Were you registered to vote in the November 3, 2020 election?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

X3. How long have you lived at your current address?

- 1 Less than 1 year
- 2 1-2 years
- 3 3-4 years
- 4 5 years or longer
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

X4. About how often do you use the internet?

- 1 Almost constantly
- 2 Several times a day
- 3 About once a day
- 4 Several times a week
- 5 Less often
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

PN: Randomize order of X5-X6. Save order as data.

ASK ALL

X5. How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right?...Just about always, most of the time, only some of the time, never?

- 1 Just about always
- 2 Most of the time
- 3 Only some of the time
- 4 Never
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

X6. Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted, or most people can't be trusted?

- 1 Most people can be trusted
- 2 Most people can't be trusted
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web Blank

SECTION Z: DEMOGRAPHICS

PN: Insert start time stamp.

ASK ALL

Z1. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democrat
- 3 Independent
- 4 Other/No preference
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web Blank

PN: If 1 or 2 in Z1, ask Z2A. Otherwise, skip to Z2B.

ASK IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT (Z1= 1 OR 2)

Z2A. Would you call yourself a strong [IF Z1=1: Republican] [IF Z1=2: Democrat] or a not very strong [IF Z1=1: Republican] [IF Z1=2: Democrat]?

- 1 Strong
- 2 Not very strong
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web Blank

PN: If 3 or 4 in Z1, ask Z2B.

ASK IF INDEPENDENT OR OTHER (Z1= 3 OR 4)

Z2B. Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or to the Democratic Party?

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democratic
- 3 Neither
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web Blank

ASK ALL

Z3. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services... more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?

- 1 More than once a week
- 2 Once a week
- 3 Once or twice a month
- 4 A few times a year
- 5 Seldom
- 6 Never
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

ASK ALL

Z4. Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

- 1 Yes, would
- 2 No, would not
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

PN: This is pPolview reasked.

ASK ALL

Z5. Generally speaking, how would you describe your political views?

- 1 Very conservative
- 2 Somewhat conservative
- 3 Moderate
- 4 Somewhat liberal
- 5 Very liberal
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** *Web Blank*

PN: Z6-Z7 are calibration questions for weighing. Z6 is CE14 internally and Z7 is CE17 internally. Note that for each Court Survey, these two questions may be adjusted related to context around the COVID-19 pandemic.

ASK ALL

Z6. Thinking back to the months prior to the COVID-19 outbreak in the US, how often did you talk with any of your neighbors?

- 1 Basically, every day
- 2 A few times a week
- 3 A few times a month
- 4 Once a month
- 5 Less than once a month

6 Not at all
99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web Blank

ASK ALL

Z7. We are interested in volunteer activities for which people are not paid, except perhaps expenses. In the last 12 months, have you done any volunteer activities through or for an organization?

1 Yes
2 No
99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web Blank

PN: Insert end time stamp.

CLOSING SCREEN: The survey is now complete. Thank you for your time and cooperation!