USC Dornsife/Los Angeles Times National Poll

TOPLINE RESULTS (UAS 199) – August/Sept 2019 Monthly Survey
Release Date: September 11 2019. Survey field dates August 12 –Sept 8, 2019

SURVEY METHODS

This USC Dornsife / Los Angeles Times Poll is the result of a collaboration between researchers in the *Center for the Political Future* and the *Center for Economic and Social Research* in the Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern California, in partnership with the Los Angeles Times.

The sample of 5,367 eligible voters (U.S. citizens), including 2,462 Democratic primary voters participated from August 12 to Sept 8, 2019. They are members of the Center for Economic and Social Research's Understanding America Study (UAS) probability-based internet panel. The poll was conducted in respondents' choice of English or Spanish. The overall margin of sampling error† is +/- 2 percentage points for all eligible voters, and for Democratic primary voters. Margins of sampling error for other subgroups may be higher; these are provided in the associated crosstab release.

Survey information: Full question text and context language for included questions are provided in this release. We may have rotated the order of response options, and/or questions to reduce order effects. Respondents participated via computer, mobile device or tablet, at any time of day or night during the field period. The data associated with this release will be available to registered UAS users at https://uasdata.usc.edu/survey/UAS+199.

Survey Weights and Participation Rate: As 7,215 panel members were eligible to participate in this survey, the participation rate was 74%. We calculate weights in two stages: (1) base weights account for the probabilities of selection in our sampling procedures, and (2) post-stratification weights align survey distributions to CPS benchmarks. Weighting benchmarks were derived from the Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement. *Due to the panel's sample design, unweighted subgroup sizes may not be representative of the weighted proportion in our variable estimates. For more information visit our site.*

† **Survey Error**: Factors other than sampling error may affect results of any survey, including question wording, question order, mode or sample type (e.g. opt-in panels vs. probability panels such as UAS), population coverage, and impact of current events. In addition, results of questions asked in an internet panel may obtain different results compared to similar questions asked by an interviewer over the phone. Sampling error calculations are at the 98% confidence level.

> **This document provides an overview of survey-specific methods and information. For weighting details; panel sampling procedures; recruitment protocols, survey and recruitment response rates; panel attrition rates; panel management protocols; and microdata files (including nonresponse and paradata), please visit our website at UASdata.usc.edu.**

Panel Information: The UAS is an ongoing national research panel that started in 2014. We recruit panel members in waves from Marketing Systems Group frames of all household addresses in the United States. To ensure full coverage of the U.S. population, we provide internet-connected tablets to individuals who were not already online. Our panel thus includes U.S. residents who have cell phones, landlines, or no phone at all. Panel members are compensated for their participation.

This document, survey crosstabs, and the archive of results of prior Dornsife/LAT polls are available at bit.ly/USCPolls. For questions about the survey, contact CESR Survey Director Jill E. Darling (jilldarl@usc.edu) or CPF Director Robert M. Shrum (hburke@usc.edu). Additional contact information is on the last page of this report.

The USC Dornsife Center for Economic and Social Research is a proud member of the American Association for Public Opinion Research's Transparency Initiative.

USC Dornsife/Los Angeles Times Polls are funded entirely by the USC Dornsife College of Arts, Letters and Sciences

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Questions reported here comprise one section of a longer survey. Full survey codebook and data will be available at https://uasdata.usc.edu/survey/UAS+199. Brackets indicate randomized text and matching answer values. "-" indicates that the estimate is less than one percent. Unless otherwise indicated, tables are weighted column percentages. All questions asked of U.S. citizens, unless otherwise indicated.

The next set of questions are about the upcoming primaries and caucuses in advance of the 2020 presidential election

cf_3 Regardless of if or how you are registered to vote, at this time, are you more closely aligned with…

	Eligible voters April 2019	Eligible Voters April 2019	Eligible Voters Aug 2019	Eligible Voters Sept 2019
Democrats	39	39	39	39
Republicans	30	30	31	31
Independents (no political party)	12	12	11	11
Libertarians	2	2	3	3
Green party	1	1	1	1
Some other party	-	-	-	-
Not aligned with any political party	16	16	16	16

Asked if q3 = 3 or 7 (N=1275)
cf_3a. Generally speaking, do you lean more toward affiliating with Democrats or with Republicans?

	U.S. Residents April 2019	Eligible Voters April 2019	Eligible Voters Aug 2019	Eligible Voters Sept 2019
Lean toward affiliating with Democrats	19	19	18	17
Lean toward affiliating with Republicans	20	20	21	18
Do not lean toward either party	61	61	61	65

Asked of all eligible voters
cf_4. The presidential election state party primaries and caucuses will be held next year, in 2020. If you decide to vote in your state's presidential primary or caucus, which party's primary or caucus are you most likely to vote in, if any?

	Eligible Voters Jan 2018	Eligible Voters April 2019	Eligible Voters June 2019	Eligible Voters Aug 2019	Eligible Voters Sept 2019
Democratic party	44	43	44	43	44
Republican party	34	36	34	34	33
Green party	1	1	1	1	1
Libertarian party	3	2	2	2	2
Some other party	4	4	4	3	3
I am certain I will not vote in any of my state's presidential primaries or caucuses	14	14	15	17	17

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Asked of Democratic Primary voters (N=2462)

cf_5. Here is a list of candidates who are running for the Democratic nomination in 2020. If your state's Democratic presidential primary or caucus were held today, for which of these candidates would you vote?

	Dem Prim Voters April 2019	Dem Prim Voters July 2019	Dem Prim Voters Sept 2019
Michael Bennet (U.S. Senator, Colorado)	*	-	-
Joe Biden (Former U.S. Vice President)	27	29	28
Cory Booker (U.S. Senator, New Jersey)	2	1	2
Steve Bullock (Governor of Montana)	*	-	-
Pete Buttigieg (Mayor of South Bend, Indiana)	2	5	4
Julian Castro (Former U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban	1	1	-
Bill de Blasio (Mayor of New York City, New York)	*	1	-
John Delaney, (Former U.S. Representative, Maryland)	-	-	-
Tulsi Gabbard, (U.S. Representative, Hawaii)	1	-	1
Kirsten Gillibrand (U.S. Senator, New York) [5]	1	-	-
Kamala Harris (U.S. Senator, California)	7	10	8
John Hickenlooper (Former Governor, Colorado)[2]	2	-	-
Jay Inslee (Governor, Washington state)[3]	1	-	-
Amy Klobuchar (U.S. Senator, Minnesota)	1	1	1
Wayne Messam (Mayor of Miramar, Florida)	*	-	-
Seth Moulton (U.S. Representative, Massachusetts)[4]	*	-	-
Beto O'Rourke (Former U.S. Representative, Texas)	7	3	3
Tim Ryan (U.S. Representative, Ohio)	*	1	-
Joe Sestak (former U.S. Representative, Pennsylvania)	*	-	-
Tom Steyer (businessman and activist)	*	-	-
Bernie Sanders (U.S. Senator, Vermont	16	11	13
Elizabeth Warren (U.S. Senator, Massachusetts)	4	10	11
Marianne Williamson (Spiritual teacher, author, lecturer,	-	-	-
Andrew Yang (Entrepreneur and founder of Venture for America)	1	1	2
Other candidate (please write in)	1	-	-
Undecided	27	25	24

*= not asked in April 2019
[2] Dropped out of the race August 15th
[3] Dropped out of the race August 21st
[4] Dropped out of the race August 23rd
[5] Dropped out of the race August 28th

USC Dornsife / Los Angeles Times National Poll

Center for Economic and Social Research Understanding America Study
September 11 Release. Field dates: August 12 – September 8, 2019 (UAS 199)   4

Asked of all eligible voters

cf_9b Did you watch, read, or hear about any of the second set of debates between the Democratic candidates that took place on July 30th and 31st?

	Watched 1st debates in June Eligible voters July 2019	Eligible Voters Sept 2019
Did not watch, read nor hear about the debates	27	33
Watched the first night but not the second night debate	5	5
Watched the second night but not the first night debate	7	3
Watched both nights of debates	17	9
Did not watch the debates but heard or read about them	45	50

Asked of all eligible voters

cf31. To what extent do you [support] or [oppose] allowing any American younger than 65 to either buy into a publicly run healthcare program similar to Medicare, or keep the plan they have?

	Eligible Voters Sept 2019
Strongly support	19
Somewhat support	29
Somewhat oppose	8
Strongly oppose	7
Haven't heard enough to say	38
Combined support	48
Combined oppose	14

Asked of all eligible voters

cf_32 To what extent do you [support] or [oppose] eliminating private health insurance and, in its place, providing a publicly run healthcare program similar to Medicare that all Americans would be eligible for?

	Eligible Voters Sept 2019
Strongly support	17
Somewhat support	22
Somewhat oppose	13
Strongly oppose	21
Haven't heard enough to say	26
Combined support	39
Combined oppose	34

USC Dornsife / Los Angeles Times National Poll

Asked of a randomized half sample (N=2711)* - this question includes the preamble about different countries before asking the question

cf37a In recent years, several countries have adopted laws that ban the sale of certain types of guns and provide money to buy up such weapons that individuals already own. Would you support or oppose the U.S. adopting such a ban and buyback plan for certain semi-automatic rifles such as the AR-15 and the AK-47?

	Eligible Voters Sept 2019
Strongly support	39
Somewhat support	17
Somewhat oppose	11
Strongly oppose	18
Haven't heard enough to say	16
Combined support	55
Combined oppose	29

Asked of the other random half sample (N=2649)*

cf37b Would you [support] or [oppose] passing laws that ban the sale of certain semi-automatic rifles such as the AR-15 and the AK-47, and provide money to buy up such weapons that individuals already own?

	Eligible Voters Sept 2019
Strongly support	41
Somewhat support	15
Somewhat oppose	11
Strongly oppose	21
Haven't heard enough to say	11
Combined support	56
Combined oppose	32

*Combined responses from the two half-samples – differences in support and opposition were not statistically significant, but the proportion who said they haven't heard enough was significantly higher in cf37a (r=.04, p=.003)

Combined responses – support/oppose ban/buyback of certain semi-automatic rifles	Eligible Voters Sept 2019
Strongly support	40
Somewhat support	16
Somewhat oppose	11
Strongly oppose	19
Haven't heard enough to say	13
Combined support	56
Combined oppose	31

USC Dornsife / Los Angeles Times National Poll

Asked of all eligible voters

cf35. Generally speaking, do you feel it is [fair] or [unfair] to say that the way President Trump talks about immigrants and/or about racial issues may encourage some extremists to conduct violent acts?

	Eligible Voters Sept 2019
Fair	42
Unfair	37
Don't Know	21

Asked if cf35a1 = 1 or 2 (fair/unfair) (N=4393)

cf35a. You said it is [fair/unfair] when some people say that the way President Trump talks about immigrants and/or about racial issues may encourage some extremists to conduct violent acts – Do you feel strongly about that or not so strongly?

	Eligible Voters Sept 2019
Strongly	80
Not so strongly	20

Combined cf35 and cf35a

	Eligible Voters Sept 2019
Fair - Strongly	35
Fair – Somewhat	7
Unfair – Somewhat	9
Unfair – Strongly	28
Don't Know	21

Asked of All eligible voters

cf36 On a scale from 0 to 100 where 0 is the most liberal and 100 is the most conservative, what number would you give to:

	All Eligible voters Sept 2019	Democratic Primary Voters Sept 2019	Affiliated Republicans Sept 2019
Yourself	54	40	75
President Donald Trump	66	66	74
Former Vice President Joe Biden	40	46	31
Senator Elizabeth Warren	30	34	22
Senator Kamala Harris	31	37	21
Senator Bernie Sanders	25	28	17

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Survey toplines and crosstabs available from
USC Dornsife / LA Times Poll archives
bit.ly/USCPolls

Survey microdata will be available for download
by registered users of the Understanding America Study, after a brief embargo.
Register and access data files: https://uasdata.usc.edu