

Methodology Statement, 2020 American Election Eve Poll

A partnership of Latino Decisions, Asian American Decisions, and the African American Research Collaborative, completed 15,200 interviews with Latino, Black, AAPI, American Indian, and white registered voters who had already voted, or were certain to vote, in the November 3, 2020 general election. Interviews were conducted through a combination of cell phone and landline telephone interviews with live callers as well as self-completed surveys online. Latino and AAPI voters were given an opportunity to complete their interview in their language of choice at the start of the interview. Languages available included English, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and Hmong. Among Latinos, 31.9% of respondents completed interviews were in Spanish, while among Asian Americans, 11.4% of respondents completed interviews in one of the available languages, with Mandarin (3.7%) and Vietnamese (3.4%) the most common. Respondents were randomly selected from statewide or national sample frames, giving all voters an equal opportunity to be selected to participate in the survey. Respondents were contacted by phone on either landlines or cell phones, or invited to participate on-line via text or email, from October 23 to November 2, 2020. Interviews averaged 15 minutes in length by phone and nine minutes on-line.

Voters were identified from the voter file based on their registration date and vote history. In order to participate, respondents were questioned whether they had already voted, or were certain to vote in the election. Any voter was included in the sample frame if one of these conditions applied:

- registered before 2012 and voted in the 2012 and 2016 presidential elections;
- registered since 2014 and voted in the 2016 and 2018 election;
- registered to vote after the 2016 presidential election and voted in the 2018 midterm;
- newly registered after 2018 midterm.

From October 23rd-28th, respondents were selected who affirmed that they had already voted, either by mail or early-in-person. From October 29th through November 2nd, respondents were selected if they had already voted early **or**, if not, they were 100% certain they would vote on or by November 3rd. Just over 2/3 of all respondents voted early, while about 1/3 were intending an Election Day vote. The interview was terminated for any respondent who had not yet voted, and was anything less than "100% certain" to vote. Using a similar methodology in 2016 and 2018, more than 95% of the interviewed sample was subsequently confirmed (validated) as having voted when examining official vote records, with no meaningful deviation from reported totals. Latino Decisions has employed this same methodology since the 2010 midterm election, one that has now been adopted by the Associated Press, among other media outlets who now recognize only interviewing voters who "exit" precincts on election day is outdated and not inclusive of the voting process in the United States. Data from the American Election Eve poll has been published in peer-reviewed political science journals, been thoroughly vetted through double-blind peer review, and is considered the most accurate way to obtain state-level estimates of different racial/ethnic groups of voters.

The entire American Election Eve Poll has an overall margin-of-error of +/- 0.8%. National estimates employ post-stratification weights to account for differences in sample sizes by group and state populations so that national estimates are proportionate to each group population across states. All samples were compared to known US Census estimates for demographic profiles of voters including age, education, and nativity, and weighted to be representative within each state. In addition, state data on party registration from Secretaries of State, or modeled partisanship was relied upon to ensure the correct partisan balance. Individual state samples are typically n=400 per group across each of the 12 states, however in some cases we include a sample of n=300, and in Florida the Latino sample is n=800. National samples were collected in states not represented in the state by state data collection, so that the entire study and each component population are nationally valid. State samples of n=400 carry +/-4.9% margin of error for each group, while samples of 300 in a state have a margin of error of +/- 5.6%.



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	Latino	Black	AAPI	American Indian	White	Total
Group N,	5,300	4,100	1,700	1,300	2,800	15,200
50 State Total						
MARGIN OF ERROR, 50-state SAMPLE	+/- 1.4%	+/- 1.5%	+/- 2.4%	+/- 2.7%	+/- 1.9%	+/- 0.8%
Additional Interviews	500	500	1,700	1,000	1,300	4,900
Collected in All States						
Not Oversampled						
State Samples Total	4,800	3,600		300	1,500	10,300
N						
MARGIN OF ERROR	+/- 4.9%	+/- 4.9%		+/- 5.6%	+/- 5.6%	
on State Samples						
Arizona	400			300		700
California	400				•	400
Colorado	400				•	400
Florida	800	400			300	1,500
	(+/- 3.5%)					
Georgia	400	400			300	1,100
Ohio		400			•	400
Michigan	400	400			•	800
North Carolina	400	400			300	1,100
Nevada	400	400			•	800
Pennsylvania	400	400		•	300	1,100
Texas	400	400		•	300	1,100
Wisconsin	400	400			•	800