## Just Facts 2019 U.S. Nationwide Survey

Conducted: 12/02/2019 through 12/11/2019
Survey Type: Live Interview Telephone
$\mathrm{N}=711 \mathrm{~N}$
Margin of Error at 95\% Confidence Level: +/- 3.6\%
Weighting Applied: Gender \& Age to reflect likely voter U.S. population

QO. To begin, am I speaking to you on a landline or cellphone?

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| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Landline | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |  |  |  |
|  | Cellphone | 212 | 29.8 | 29.8 |  |  |  |
|  | Total | 499 | 70.2 | 100.0 |  |  |  |

Q1. Which of the following best describes how you participate in elections:

|  |  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | I vote every time there is an opportunity | 519 | 73.0 | 73.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| I try to vote in most elections, but I sometimes | 192 | 27.0 | 100.0 |  |
| miss one | 711 | 100.0 |  |  |

Q2. Relative to other nations, how do you believe U.S. fourth-graders rank in terms of their reading and math ability?

|  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| U.S. fourth graders rank in the bottom 50\% | 303 | 42.6 | 42.6 |
| U.S. fourth graders rank in the top 50\% | 334 | 46.9 | 89.5 |
| Unsure | 74 | 10.3 | 99.9 |
| Refused | 1 | . 1 | 100.0 |
| Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q3. On average across the United States, how much do you think public schools spend per year to educate each classroom of students?

|  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Less than \$150,000 per classroom per year | 375 | 52.7 | 52.7 |
| More than \$150,000 per classroom per year | 257 | 36.2 | 88.9 |
| Unsure | 79 | 11.1 | 100.0 |
| Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q4. In your mind, what portion of 17- to 24-year-olds in the U.S. are unqualified for military service because of poor physical fitness, weak educational skills, illegal drug usage, medical conditions, or criminal records?

|  |  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | More than half are unqualified for military service | 308 | 43.3 | 43.3 |
| More than half are qualified for military service | 367 | 51.6 | 94.8 |  |
|  | Unsure | 36 | 5.1 | 99.9 |
| Refused | 1 | .1 | 100.0 |  |

Q5. When conventional public schools are subject to school choice programs that allow students to leave for private or charter schools, do you think the children who remain in the public schools academically decline?

|  |  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Yes, they decline | 314 | 44.1 | 44.1 |
|  | No, they do not decline | 327 | 45.9 | 90.0 |
| Unsure | 71 | 10.0 | 100.0 |  |
|  | Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q6. The average U.S. household spends about $\$ 30,000$ per year on food, housing, and clothing combined. If we broke down all combined federal, state, and local taxes to a per household cost, do you think this would amount to more or less than an average of $\$ 30,000$ per household per year?

| average of $\$ 30,000$ per household per year? |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Taxes are more than $\$ 30,000$ <br> year per household per | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |  |  |  |  |
| Taxes are less than $\$ 30,000 ~ p e r ~ h o u s e h o l d ~ p e r ~$ <br> year | 307 | 43.1 | 43.1 |  |  |  |  |
| 98 | 310 | 43.6 | 86.6 |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 95 | 13.4 | 100.0 |  |  |  |  |

Q7. On average, who would you say pays a greater portion of their income in federal taxes: The middle class or the upper $1 \%$ of income earners?

|  |  |  | Count | Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Middle class | 562 | 78.9 | 78.9 |  |
|  | Upper 1\% | 130 | 18.3 | 97.2 |
|  | 20 | 2.8 | 100.0 |  |
|  | Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q8. Now, changing the subject from taxes to spending, suppose we broke down all government spending to a per household cost - do you think the combined spending of federal, state and local governments amounts to more or less than $\$ 40,000$

|  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Government spending is more than $\$ 40,000$ per household per year | 341 | 47.9 | 47.9 |
| Government spending is less than $\$ 40,000$ per household per year | 302 | 42.4 | 90.3 |
| Unsure | 69 | 9.7 | 100.0 |
| Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q9. Do you think the federal government spends more money on social programs, such as Medicare, education, and food stamps ... or does the federal government spend more money on national defense, such as the Army, Navy, and missile defense?

|  |  | defense? |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | More on social programs | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|  | More on national defense | 258 | 36.2 | 36.2 |
|  | Unsure | 415 | 58.3 | 94.5 |
|  | Total | 39 | 5.5 | 100.0 |

Q10. What about federal government debt? The average U.S. household owes about $\$ 122,000$ in consumer debt, such as mortgages and credit cards. Thinking about all federal government debt broken down to a per household basis, do you think the average federal debt per U.S. household amounts to more or less than the average consumer debt per U.S. household?

|  |  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Federal debt is more than $\$ 122,000$ per household | 550 | 77.3 | 77.3 |
|  | Federal debt is less than $\$ 122,000$ per household | 99 | 13.9 | 91.2 |
|  |  | 62 | 8.8 | 100.0 |
| Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |  |

Q11. From the time that the Great Recession ended in 2009, which do you think has grown at a faster rate, the U.S. economy or the national debt?

|  |  |  | Count | Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The U.S. economy has grown faster | 131 | 18.4 | 18.4 |  |
|  | The national debt has grown faster | 547 | 76.8 | 95.2 |
|  | Unsure | 31 | 4.4 | 99.6 |
|  | Refused | 3 | .4 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q12. Would you say the earth has become measurably warmer since the 1980 s?

|  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Yes | 444 | 62.4 | 62.4 |
| No | 244 | 34.3 | 96.7 |
| Unsure | 21 | 3.0 | 99.7 |
| Refused | 2 | . 3 | 100.0 |
| Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q13. Again, thinking about the whole planet, do you think the number and intensity of hurricanes and tropical storms have generally increased since the 1980s?

|  |  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | Yes | 452 | 63.5 | 63.5 |
|  | No | 226 | 31.8 | 95.3 |
|  | Unsure | 30 | 4.2 | 99.5 |
|  | Refused | 4 | .5 | 100.0 |
| Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |  |

Q14. Now, just thinking about the United States, in your opinion, is the air generally more polluted than it was in the 1980s?

|  |  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Yes | 281 | 39.5 | 39.5 |
|  | No | 399 | 56.0 | 95.5 |
|  | Unsure | 32 | 4.5 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q15. If the U.S. stopped recycling and buried all of its municipal trash for the next 100 years in a single landfill that was 30 feet high, how much of the nation's land area would you think this landfill would cover?

|  |  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Less than $1 \%$ | 52 | 7.3 | 7.3 |
|  | 1\% to less than 5\% | 142 | 20.0 | 27.3 |
|  | More than $5 \%$ | 470 | 66.1 | 93.4 |
|  | Unsure | 46 | 6.5 | 99.9 |
|  | Refused | 1 | .1 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q16. Without government subsidies, which of these technologies do you think is the least expensive method for generating electricity?

|  |  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Wind turbines | 156 | 21.9 | 21.9 |
|  | Solar panels | 226 | 31.8 | 53.7 |
|  | Natural gas power plants | 287 | 40.3 | 94.0 |
|  | Unsure | 40 | 5.7 | 99.6 |
|  | Refused | 3 | .4 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q17. Without government subsidies, which of these fuels do you believe is least expensive for powering automobiles?

|  |  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Gasoline | 329 | 46.3 | 46.3 |
|  | Ethanol | 101 | 14.1 | 60.4 |
|  | 183 | 25.7 | 86.2 |  |
|  | 95 | 13.4 | 99.6 |  |

Q18. Worldwide, which of these technologies do you think generates the most electricity?

|  |  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Solar panels | 56 | 7.8 | 7.8 |
|  | Natural gas power plants | 106 | 14.9 | 22.7 |
|  | Coal power plants | 282 | 39.6 | 62.3 |
|  | Nuclear power plants | 231 | 32.5 | 94.8 |
|  | Unsure | 35 | 4.9 | 99.8 |
|  | Refused | 2 | .2 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q19. On an average day, what portion of U.S. households with children do you believe will have at least one child who experiences hunger?

|  |  |  | Count | Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Less than 1\% | Cumulative Percent |  |  |  |
|  | $1 \%$ to $10 \%$ | 83 | 11.6 | 11.6 |
|  | More than 10\% | 289 | 40.6 | 52.2 |
|  | Unsure | 331 | 46.5 | 98.6 |
|  | Refused | 9 | 1.2 | 99.9 |
|  | Total | 1 | .1 | 100.0 |

Q20. Do you think Social Security's financial problems stem from politicians looting the program and spending the money on

|  | other programs? |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Yes | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |  |  |  |
|  | No | 543 | 76.3 | 76.3 |  |  |  |
|  | Unsure | 140 | 19.7 | 96.0 |  |  |  |
|  | Refused | 26 | 3.6 | 99.6 |  |  |  |
|  | Total | 3 | .4 | 100.0 |  |  |  |

Q21. Some policymakers are proposing that individuals be allowed to save and invest some of their Social Security taxes in personal accounts instead of paying these taxes to the Social Security program. In your view, do you think such proposals generally improve or harm the finances of the Social Security program?

|  |  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Improve | 157 | 22.0 | 22.0 |
|  | Harm | 498 | 70.0 | 92.1 |
|  | Unsure | 55 | 7.8 | 99.8 |
|  | Refused | 1 | .2 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q22. In 1960, governments paid for $24 \%$ of all healthcare costs in the U.S. Do you think governments now pay a greater portion or a lesser portion of all healthcare costs in the U.S.?

|  |  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Greater | 402 | 56.6 | 56.6 |
|  | Lesser | 270 | 38.0 | 94.5 |
|  | Unsure | 36 | 5.1 | 99.6 |
|  | Refused | 3 | .4 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q23. When health insurance copayments are high, people tend to spend less on healthcare. Do you think that this reduced spending typically has a negative impact on their health?

|  |  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Yes | 601 | 84.5 | 84.5 |
|  | No | 93 | 13.1 | 97.6 |
|  | Unsure | 15 | 2.1 | 99.8 |
|  | Refused | 2 | .2 | 100.0 |
|  | Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q24. In 2010, Congress passed and President Obama signed the Affordable Care Act, also known as "Obamacare." This law uses price controls to save money in the Medicare program. Do you think these price controls will worsen Medicare patients'

| access to care? |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Yes | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |  |  |
|  | No | 353 | 49.6 | 49.6 |  |  |
|  | Unsure | 320 | 45.0 | 94.5 |  |  |
|  | Refused | 35 | 4.9 | 99.5 |  |  |
|  | Total | 4 | .5 | 100.0 |  |  |

Q25. Including government benefits and private charity, how much worth of goods and services do the poorest 20\% of U.S.

| households consume on average each year? |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Less than $\$ 20,000$ per year | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |  |  |
|  | $\$ 20,000$ to $\$ 40,000$ per year | 286 | 40.3 | 40.3 |  |  |
|  | More than $\$ 40,000$ per year | 288 | 40.4 | 80.7 |  |  |
|  | Unsure | 95 | 13.4 | 94.0 |  |  |
|  | Refused | 41 | 5.7 | 99.8 |  |  |
|  | Total | 2 | .2 | 100.0 |  |  |

Q26. If the election for president of the United States were held today, do you think you would vote for Donald Trump, the eventual Democrat nominee, or a third-party candidate?

|  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Donald Trump | 318 | 44.7 | 44.7 |
| The Democrat nominee | 291 | 40.9 | 85.6 |
| A third-party candidate | 40 | 5.7 | 91.3 |
| Unsure | 52 | 7.4 | 98.7 |
| Refused | 10 | 1.3 | 100.0 |
| Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

Q27. Is your age:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $18-34$ | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|  | $35-64$ | 66 | 9.3 | 9.3 |
|  | 65 or older | 377 | 52.9 | 62.2 |
|  | Unsure | 262 | 36.8 | 99.1 |
|  | Refused | 1 | .1 | 99.1 |


| Q28. Gender |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |  |  |  |
|  | Female | 337 | 47.4 | 47.4 |  |  |
|  | Total | 374 | 52.6 | 100.0 |  |  |

Time Zone

|  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Eastern | 359 | 50.4 | 50.4 |
| Central | 183 | 25.8 | 76.2 |
| Mountain | 37 | 5.1 | 81.3 |
| Pacific | 123 | 17.3 | 98.7 |
| Alaska | 5 | . 7 | 99.4 |
| Hawaii | 4 | . 6 | 100.0 |
| Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |


|  | Count | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AK | 5 | . 7 | . 7 |
| AL | 17 | 2.5 | 3.2 |
| AR | 9 | 1.3 | 4.5 |
| AZ | 12 | 1.6 | 6.1 |
| CA | 88 | 12.4 | 18.6 |
| CO | 2 | . 3 | 18.8 |
| CT | 13 | 1.8 | 20.6 |
| DC | 1 | . 2 | 20.8 |
| FL | 39 | 5.5 | 26.3 |
| GA | 15 | 2.2 | 28.5 |
| HI | 6 | . 8 | 29.3 |
| IA | 13 | 1.8 | 31.0 |
| ID | 3 | . 4 | 31.4 |
| IL | 22 | 3.1 | 34.5 |
| IN | 15 | 2.1 | 36.6 |
| KS | 7 | . 9 | 37.6 |
| KY | 12 | 1.7 | 39.3 |
| LA | 15 | 2.1 | 41.4 |
| MA | 12 | 1.7 | 43.1 |
| MD | 13 | 1.8 | 44.9 |
| ME | 3 | . 4 | 45.3 |
| MI | 28 | 3.9 | 49.2 |
| MN | 17 | 2.4 | 51.6 |
| MO | 18 | 2.6 | 54.2 |
| MS | 5 | . 8 | 54.9 |
| MT | 8 | 1.2 | 56.1 |
| NC | 23 | 3.2 | 59.3 |
| ND | 2 | . 3 | 59.6 |
| NE | 5 | . 7 | 60.3 |
| NH | 3 | . 4 | 60.7 |
| NJ | 18 | 2.5 | 63.3 |
| NM | 4 | . 6 | 63.9 |
| NV | 8 | 1.1 | 65.0 |
| NY | 47 | 6.6 | 71.5 |
| OH | 24 | 3.3 | 74.8 |
| OK | 7 | 1.0 | 75.9 |
| OR | 11 | 1.5 | 77.4 |
| PA | 31 | 4.4 | 81.7 |
| RI | 3 | . 5 | 82.2 |
| SC | 13 | 1.8 | 84.0 |
| SD | 3 | . 5 | 84.4 |
| TN | 9 | 1.3 | 85.8 |
| TX | 36 | 5.0 | 90.8 |
| UT | 8 | 1.1 | 91.9 |
| VA | 21 | 3.0 | 94.9 |
| VT | 1 | . 1 | 95.0 |
| WA | 17 | 2.3 | 97.3 |
| WI | 16 | 2.2 | 99.5 |
| WV | 3 | . 4 | 99.9 |
| WY | 1 | . 1 | 100.0 |
| Total | 711 | 100.0 |  |

