

SHELBY COUNTY POLL

Interview Schedule



July 26-28, 2020
Project: 200445
N=450 Registered Voters
Margin of Error: +4.6%

First, just to be sure we have a representative sample...

D1. In what year were you born?

21%	18 - 34
21%	35 - 44
19%	45 - 54
19%	55 - 64
20%	65 AND ABOVE
*	REFUSED

D2. Next, other than being an American, what is your main ethnic or racial heritage?

48%	WHITE
46%	AFRICAN AMERICAN OR BLACK
2%	ASIAN AMERICAN
1%	HISPANIC OR LATINO AMERICAN
1%	AMERICAN INDIAN
1%	OTHER
1%	REFUSED

Now, thinking about things in your local area...

1. First, generally speaking, do you think things in Shelby County are moving in the right direction or are they pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

48% RIGHT DIRECTION
35% WRONG TRACK

15% DON'T KNOW
2% REFUSED

2. Next, which ONE of the following issues do you believe should be the top priority for government leaders? Is it....

38% The coronavirus pandemic
19% Crime and public safety
17% Education
16% Jobs and the economy
3% Taxes and spending
3% Police reform

3% DON'T KNOW
1% REFUSED

Q3-6 ASKED IN MEMPHIS ONLY

Now thinking ahead to the November election. The following language is a summary of a hypothetical question that could appear on the ballot. Some of this language is very technical so I would like to ask you to listen carefully.

3. Shall the Charter of the City of Memphis, Tennessee be amended to create a new employee classification to include commissioned officers and employees in training to be commissioned officers within the Division of Police Services and state certified specified personnel and employees in training to be state certified specified personal within the Division of Fire Services to exempt from the residency provisions of the Memphis City Charter and allowed to reside in any neighboring county or within 50 miles from the City of Memphis limits?

If this election were held today, would you vote YES in favor or NO against it?

30% DEFINITELY YES
18% PROBABLY YES
9% PROBABLY NO
26% DEFINITELY NO

16% DON'T KNOW
1% REFUSED

48% TOTAL YES
35% TOTAL NO

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4. In other words, would you vote YES, in favor or NO, against a measure to allow Memphis police officers and firefighters to live outside the city within 50 miles of the city limits?

52% YES
42% NO

5% DON'T KNOW
1% REFUSED

ASKED IF Q4:2-3

5. And, would you vote YES, in favor or NO, against a measure if you knew:

The city of Memphis police department is having difficulty finding enough officers in Memphis to keep people safe. There are good candidates within 50 miles who live in Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee outside of Shelby County who could be recruited.

27% YES

65% NO

8% DON'T KNOW

– REFUSED

Thinking some more about this issue...

6. As you may know, some members of City Council are attempting to remove this measure from the ballot and deny voters the opportunity to decide this question. Regardless of how you may feel about the measure, do you support or oppose letting voters decide whether Memphis police officers can live outside city limits?

59% STRONGLY SUPPORT

18% SOMEWHAT SUPPORT

6% SOMEWHAT OPPOSE

12% STRONGLY OPPOSE

4% DON'T KNOW

1% REFUSED

77% TOTAL SUPPORT

18% TOTAL OPPOSE

ASKED OF EVERYONE:

Turning to some issues...

7. First, thinking about Shelby County overall, which one of the following best describes your feelings about your safety from crime? Would you say...

14% I always feel safe
48% I mostly feel safe
24% I feel safe about half the time
6% I mostly feel unsafe
7% I always feel unsafe

1% DON'T KNOW
* REFUSED

63% TOTAL FEEL SAFE
13% TOTAL FEEL UNSAFE

8. And, how about your neighborhood? Which one of the following best describes your feelings about your safety from crime in your neighborhood? Would you say...

29% I always feel safe
47% I mostly feel safe
15% I feel safe about half the time
5% I mostly feel unsafe
2% I always feel unsafe

1% DON'T KNOW
* REFUSED

76% TOTAL FEEL SAFE
7% TOTAL FEEL UNSAFE

9. Now, how would you rate the job your local police are doing in your neighborhood? Are the local police doing ... an excellent, good, only fair or poor...job?

24% EXCELLENT
47% GOOD
21% ONLY FAIR
6% POOR

2% DON'T KNOW
1% REFUSED

71% TOTAL EXCELLENT/GOOD
27% TOTAL FAIR/POOR

10. And, would you support or oppose hiring more police officers?

57% STRONGLY SUPPORT
21% SOMEWHAT SUPPORT
9% SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
6% STRONGLY OPPOSE

7% DON'T KNOW
1% REFUSED

78% TOTAL SUPPORT
15% TOTAL OPPOSE

Next, please rate the job your local police are doing on each of the following issues. The (FIRST/NEXT) one is...

	EXCEL/ GOOD	FAIR/ POOR	EXCEL	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DK	REF
11. Protecting people from violent crime	56%	39%	16%	39%	30%	9%	5%	–
12. Enforcing the law	66%	29%	19%	47%	22%	7%	4%	1%
13. Not using excessive force on suspects	51%	41%	18%	33%	29%	12%	8%	1%
14. Being honest and trustworthy	57%	36%	16%	42%	28%	8%	6%	1%
15. Solving crime	52%	41%	14%	38%	31%	11%	7%	–

Now, I'm going to read you several statements. After I reach one, please tell if you AGREE or DISAGREE with that statement.

	TOTAL AGREE	TOTAL DISAG	STG AGREE	SMT AGREE	SMT DISAG	STG DISAG	DK	REF
16. I respect my local law enforcement.	95%	4%	67%	28%	2%	2%	1%	–
17. My friends and neighbors generally respect local law enforcement.	92%	3%	56%	36%	3%	1%	4%	1%
18. Local law enforcement does not have all the tools it needs to effectively fight crime.	63%	29%	33%	30%	13%	16%	7%	*
19. I would like an increased local law enforcement presence in my neighborhood.	69%	28%	36%	32%	16%	11%	3%	*
20. Local law enforcement officers use excessive force too often.	46%	46%	19%	27%	19%	27%	8%	*

Now, I have just a few questions for statistical purposes only...

D3. First, what was the last level of education you completed?

1%	Some high school (9-11)
10%	Graduated high school (12)
2%	Technical or vocational school (12)
23%	Some college (13-15)
35%	Graduated college (16)
22%	Graduate/Professional school (16+)
6%	REFUSED

37% LESS THAN COLLEGE

57% COLLEGE+

D4A. Next, in politics today, do you consider yourself to be ...

a Republican,
a Democrat,
or something else?

14%	STRONG REPUBLICAN
3%	NOT-SO-STRONG REPUBLICAN
3%	LEAN REPUBLICAN
22%	SOMETHING ELSE/INDEPENDENT/UNDECLARED
6%	LEAN DEMOCRAT
6%	NOT-SO-STRONG DEMOCRAT
40%	STRONG DEMOCRAT
5%	REFUSED

17% TOTAL REPUBLICAN

46% TOTAL DEMOCRAT

31% TOTAL LEAN/INDEPENDENT

D2B. Gender. Are you married, widowed, separated, divorced or have you never been married?

24% MALE/MARRIED
3% MALE/WIDOWED
2% MALE/SEPARATED
4% MALE/DIVORCED
7% MALE/NEVER BEEN MARRIED
1% MALE REFUSED

27% FEMALE/MARRIED
5% FEMALE/WIDOWED
1% FEMALE/SEPARATED
5% FEMALE/DIVORCED
14% FEMALE/NEVER BEEN MARRIED
7% FEMALE REFUSED

40% TOTAL MALE
60% TOTAL FEMALE
