Intersections of Our Lives, a collaborative of Reproductive Justice organizations representing women of color, sponsored a nationwide poll to understand what motivated Black, Latina/x, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) women to vote and the issues they care about most.

**BLACK WOMEN WERE HIGHLY MOTIVATED TO TURN OUT IN THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION.** Over nine in 10 Black women who voted in 2020 reported voting for president.

- Nine in 10 Black women voters agreed that the stakes were too high in this election not to vote.
- 7% of Black women voters were first-time voters, and more than nine in 10 of those new voters are committed to voting in the next election.
- More than seven in 10 Black women voters report voting early, either in person or by mail. 39% of Black women voters voted by mail, ballot drop box or absentee; 35% voted early and in person; and 26% voted on Election Day.

- Nearly nine in 10 Black women voters are confident that their vote was counted accurately — up 19 points from 2018.
- More than two in five Black women voters faced challenges while voting. 23% said they were asked to show an ID at the polls, 16% faced long voting lines and 7% saw disinformation on social media.
Two-thirds of Black women voters were engaged in political activities leading up to the 2020 elections.

93% of Black women voters would like to see more women candidates running for office, and 94% would like to see more candidates of color running for office.

“I’d like to see more women candidates running for office.”

“I’d like to see more candidates of color running for office.”

93%

94%
63% of Black women voters who voted for Democrats voted for a change — a 27 point increase from 2018.

Nine in 10 Black women voters report casting their vote for President Biden, with the majority saying they voted for Biden, instead of against Trump.

In fact, nine in 10 Black women voters supported Democratic candidates in all elections.

Black women voters would like to see a more intersectional approach from candidates and elected officials. 91% of Black women voters want their elected officials to understand how their experience and needs differ from white women.

**THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAD A DEVASTATING IMPACT ON BLACK WOMEN.**

- Three in 10 Black women voters noted their mental health had suffered during the pandemic.
- Nearly seven in 10 Black women voters indicated that their life has been negatively impacted by the pandemic. Below are the top five ways.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My mental health has suffered</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I missed a bill payment/had trouble paying my bills</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A family member died</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I/a member of my household lost job</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I/a member of my household got COVID-19</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Black women voters want to see the government take further steps to help Americans recover from the pandemic, with most favoring financial support for families and small businesses.
NINE IN 10 BLACK WOMEN VOTERS SAY THEIR LIVES HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY RACISM.

- 90% of Black women voters want their elected officials to understand how white supremacy impacts their lives.
- More than nine in 10 Black women want their elected officials to understand how anti-Black racism in particular impacts their lives.

THE TOP ISSUES BLACK WOMEN VOTERS WANT TO SEE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION MAKE PROGRESS ON OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS INCLUDE:

Top 10 Issues Black Women Say Are Extremely Important for the Administration and Congress to Address

1. End discrimination against people because of their race, ethnicity, immigration status or culture
2. Reform our criminal justice system so it operates fairly and equitably
3. Ensure that people with pre-existing conditions can still get health insurance
4. Reform policies to address and prevent police violence against people
5. Stop making it harder for certain groups of people to vote
6. Ensure access to clean water
7. Ensure that women have complete authority to make decisions about their bodies and lives
8. Ensure everyone has access to affordable health care and coverage no matter their race, ethnicity or immigration status
9. Address the race and gender wage gap
10. Reunite children who were separated at the border with their families
BLACK WOMEN VOTERS SUPPORT CANDIDATES WHO RESPECT THEIR AUTONOMY OVER THEIR REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH.

“It’s extremely important to me to vote for candidates who support women making their own decisions about their reproductive health.”

Three-quarters of Black women voters see societal and personal benefits to women having control over reproductive decisions.

FAILURE TO DELIVER ON THE ISSUES THAT BLACK WOMEN VOTERS CARE ABOUT COMES WITH ELECTORAL CONSEQUENCES.

- 62% of Black women voters say they will be watching their elected officials in Congress more closely compared to previous elections.
- 77% of Black women voters want members of Congress to work together across the aisle and get results.


Perspectives of Black Women Voters About the Direction of the Country in 2021

- 46% OPTIMISTIC
- 18% EXCITED
- 12% PROUD
- 9% HAPPY
- 6% SCARED
- 1% SAD
- 2% NERVOUS
- 1% INDIFFERENT
- 1% ANGRY
- 1% DISGUSTED
ABOUT INTERSECTIONS OF OUR LIVES

Intersections of Our Lives is a collaborative effort by In Our Own Voice: National Black Women’s Reproductive Justice Agenda (In Our Own Voice), the National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum (NAPAWF), and the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice (Latina Institute), three women-of-color led national Reproductive Justice organizations with both federal and statewide presence. For more information about Intersections of Our Lives visit: IntersectionsofOurLives.org.

METHODOLOGY

The poll, which was conducted by the Harris Poll, included interviews of 1,617 adult women (18+) who self-identify as Black or African American; of Hispanic, Latina or Spanish-speaking background; or Asian American or Pacific Islander (AAPI) or of any ethnicity/national origin recognized in the Asian race category by the U.S. Census Bureau. As part of this effort, an oversample was conducted of South Asian American women. In addition to these characteristics, all women are registered voters who reported voting in the 2020 general elections. Interviews were conducted online and via telephone using live, professional interviewers from April 7 to May 16, 2021. The survey was made available in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Korean or Vietnamese.