

Polling - United States Presidential Election

November 2020

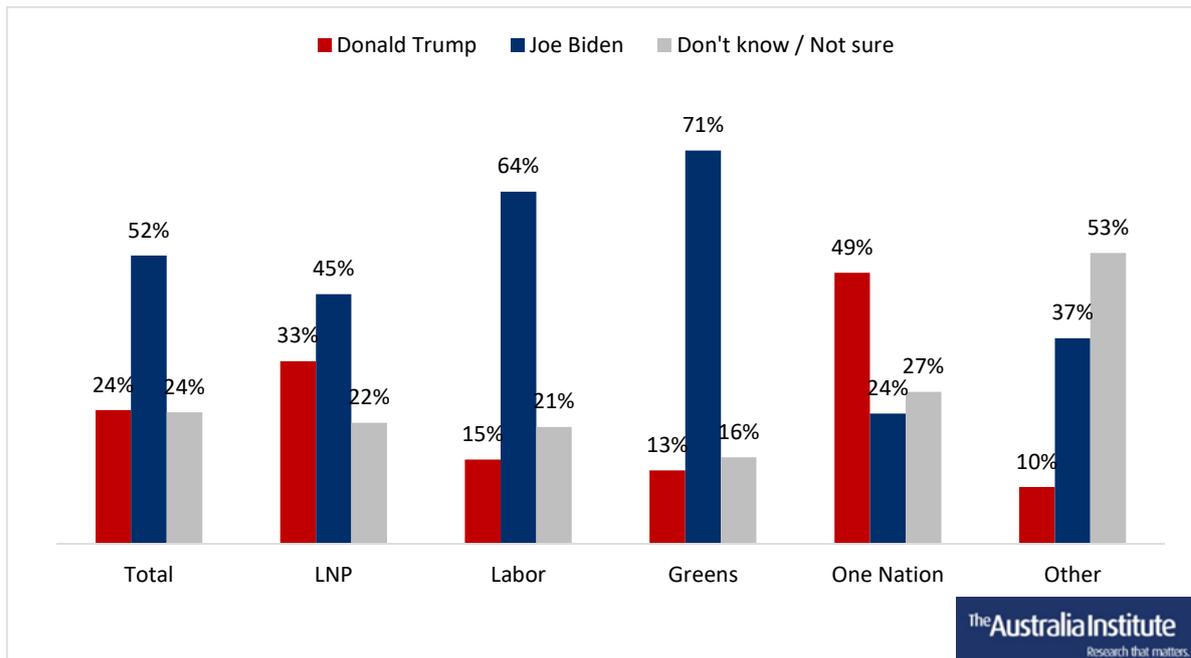
Key results

The Australia Institute surveyed a nationally representative sample of 1,013 people on 24–25 September 2020 and 1,006 people on 21-22 October, about the United States presidential election in November and their opinions about Republican candidate President Donald Trump and Democratic candidate Joe Biden.

In summary,

- More than half of Australians (52%) prefer for Biden to be President, compared to one in four (24%) who prefer Trump.
- More Coalition, Labor, Greens and Other voters would prefer Biden as President than would prefer Trump.
- Half of Australians (47%) say it would be better for Australia if Biden were elected; one in five (20%) who say it would be better if Trump were elected.
- On seven issues, Joe Biden was considered better than Donald Trump. There were no issues that Trump was considered better than Biden on.

Figure 1: Preferred President of the United States of America



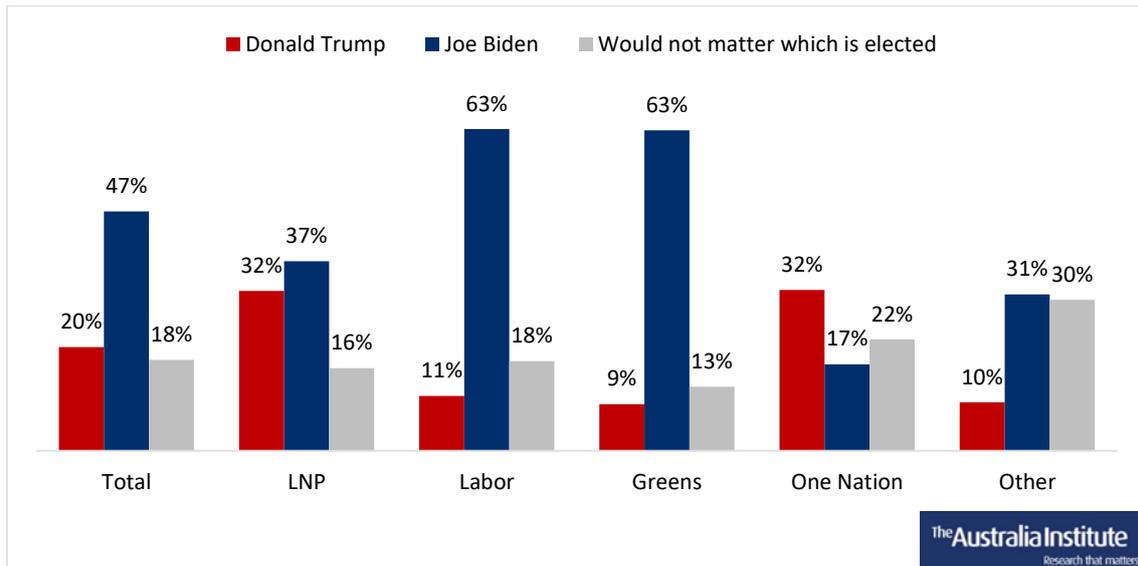
Respondents were asked who they would prefer to be elected President of the United States of America

- More than half of Australians (52%) prefer for Biden to be President, compared to one in four (24%) who prefer Trump.
- One in four (24%) are not sure or don't know which of the major party candidates they would prefer to be elected as President.
- Among Coalition, Labor, Greens and Other voters, more prefer for Biden to be President than prefer Trump.
 - 45% of Coalition voters would prefer Biden as President (33% prefer Trump)
 - 64% of Labor voters and 71% of Greens voters would prefer Biden (15% and 13% prefer Trump, respectively)
- Twice as many One Nation voters prefer Trump for President (49%) than prefer Biden (24%)

Respondents were asked whether they thought it would be better for Australia if Donald Trump or Joe Biden were elected President of the United States.

- Half of Australians (47%) say it would be better for Australia if Biden were elected.
- One in five (20%) say it would be better if Trump were elected, about as many as say it would not matter who is elected (18%).

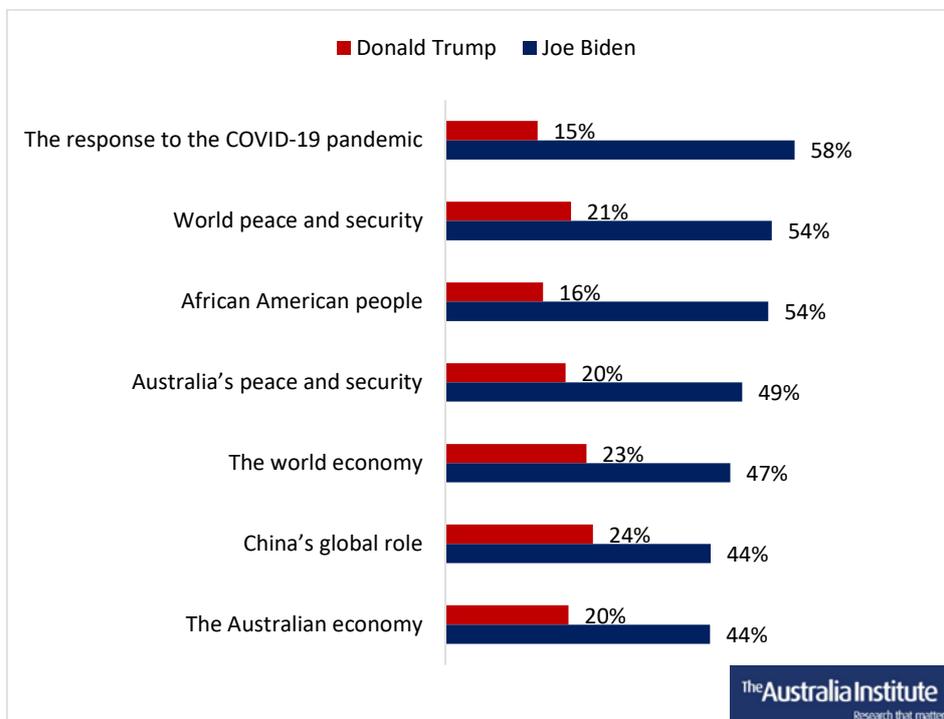
Figure 2: Better for Australia if Trump or Biden elected President of the United States



Respondents were then presented with a list of seven issues and asked whether, for each issue, they thought it would be better for Donald Trump or Joe Biden to be President of the United States.

- Joe Biden was considered better than Donald Trump for all seven issues.
- Biden was chosen ahead of Trump by four to one on the issue of the response to COVID-19 (58% vs 15%).
- Biden was twice as likely as Trump to be identified as better for world peace and security, African American people, Australia’s peace and security, the world economy, China’s global role and the Australian economy.

Figure 3: Better for Trump or Biden to be President of the United States on ...



Method

The Australia Institute surveyed 1,013 people on 24–25 September 2020, and 1,006 people on 21 October- 22 October, online through Dynata’s Rapid Results polling, with nationally representative samples by gender, age and region.

The margin of error (95% confidence level) for the national results is 3%.

Results are shown only for larger states.

Voting crosstabs show voting intentions for the House of Representatives. Those who were undecided were asked which way they were leaning; these leanings are included in voting intention crosstabs. “Coalition” includes separate responses for Liberal and National. “Other” refers to Independent/Other.

Detailed results - October

*The United States presidential election occurs next month, on the 3rd of November.
Who would you prefer to be elected President of the United States of America?*

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>
Donald Trump	24%	31%	18%	29%	20%	24%	19%
Joe Biden	52%	50%	54%	49%	59%	49%	50%
Don't know / Not sure	24%	19%	28%	22%	21%	27%	31%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>LNP</i>	<i>Labor</i>	<i>Greens</i>	<i>One Nation</i>	<i>Other</i>
Donald Trump	24%	31%	33%	15%	13%	49%	10%
Joe Biden	52%	50%	45%	64%	71%	24%	37%
Don't know / Not sure	24%	19%	22%	21%	16%	27%	53%

Detailed results - September

Do you think it would be better for Australia if Donald Trump or Joe Biden were elected President of the United States?

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
Donald Trump	20%	30%	12%	19%	22%	20%	19%
Joe Biden	47%	45%	49%	48%	48%	47%	42%
Would not matter which is elected	18%	17%	19%	19%	16%	17%	26%
Don't know / Not sure	14%	8%	20%	14%	13%	16%	13%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>LNP</i>	<i>Labor</i>	<i>Greens</i>	<i>One Nation</i>	<i>Other</i>
Donald Trump	20%	32%	11%	9%	32%	10%
Joe Biden	47%	37%	63%	63%	17%	31%
Would not matter which is elected	18%	16%	18%	13%	22%	30%
Don't know / Not sure	14%	15%	8%	15%	29%	30%

What follows is a list of issues. For each issue, identify whether you think it would be better for Donald Trump or Joe Biden to be President of the United States?

	Donald Trump	Joe Biden	Don't know / Not sure
The response to the COVID-19 pandemic	15%	58%	27%
World peace and security	21%	54%	25%
African American people	16%	54%	30%
Australia's peace and security	20%	49%	31%
The world economy	23%	47%	29%
China's global role	24%	44%	31%
The Australian economy	20%	44%	36%