

# WOMEN OF COLOR VOTED IN THE 2020 ELECTION LIKE NEVER BEFORE: HERE'S WHY

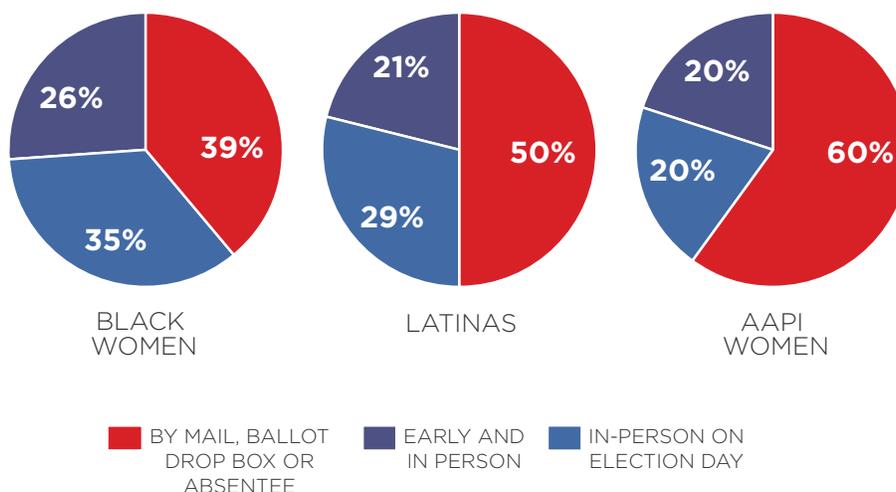
New Public Poll Shows the Power of Women of Color Voters and the Issues They Care about Most

*The collective turnout of Black, Latina/x, and Asian American and Pacific Islander women reached historic levels in the 2020 election. Intersections of Our Lives, a collaborative of Reproductive Justice organizations representing women of color, sponsored a nationwide poll to understand what motivated women of color to vote and the issues they care about most.*

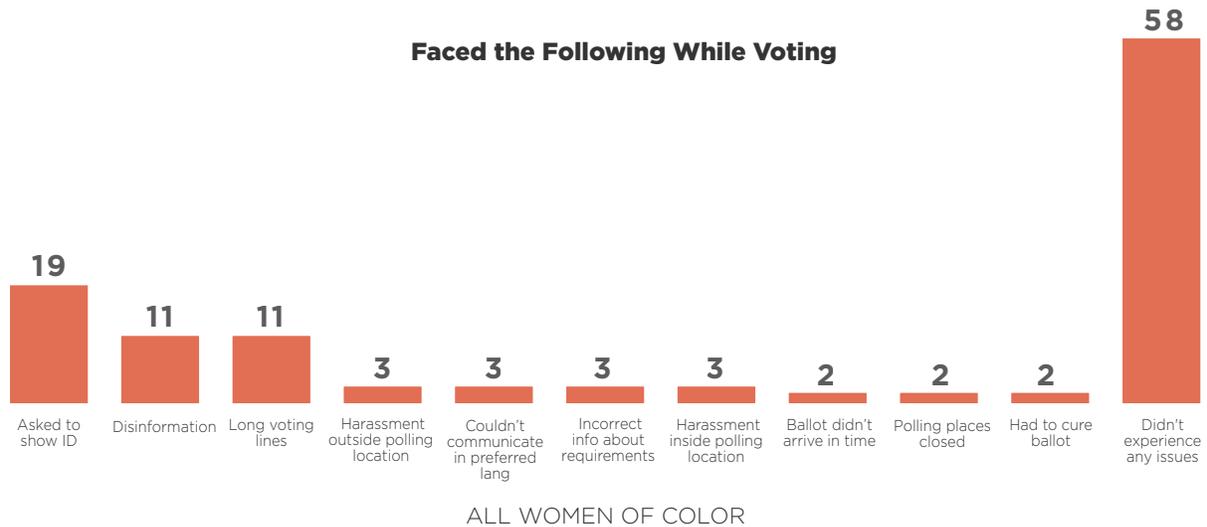
**WOMEN OF COLOR WERE HIGHLY MOTIVATED TO TURN OUT IN THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION.** Over nine in 10 women of color who voted in 2020 reported voting for president.

- Almost nine in 10 women of color voters agreed that the stakes were too high in this election not to vote.
- 10% of women of color voters were first-time voters, and nine in 10 of those new voters are committed to voting in the next election.
- Nearly eight in 10 women of color voters report voting early, either in person or by mail. 52% of women of color voted by mail, ballot drop box or absentee; 27% voted early and in person; and only 21% voted on Election Day.
- The number of Latina and AAPI first-time voters increased at least 7 points since 2018. Notably, South Asian voters and women ages 25-34 were especially mobilized to vote for the first time.

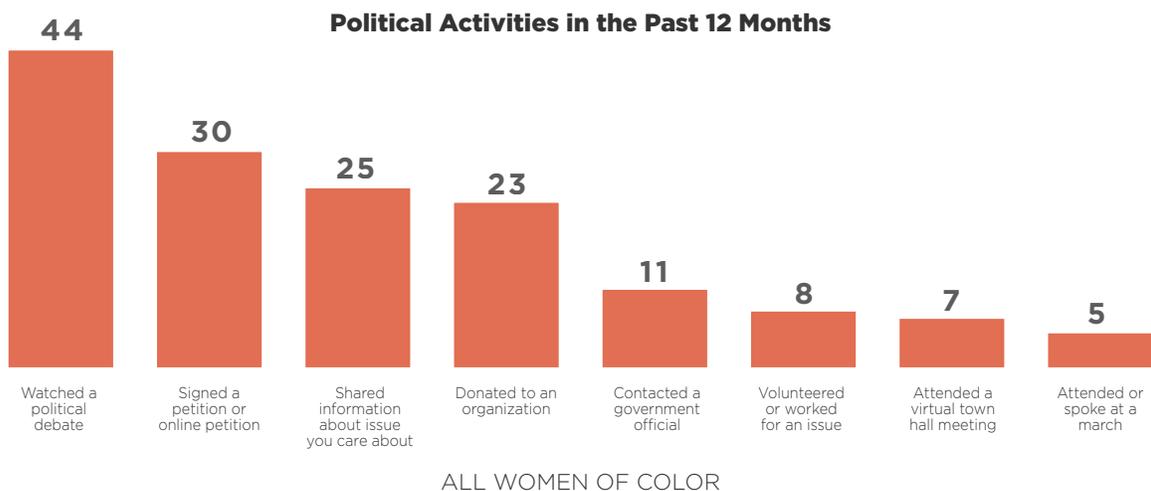
## Voting Method for Women of Color during the 2020 Election



- More than eight in 10 women of color voters are confident that their vote was counted accurately — up nine points overall since 2018 and 19 points for Black women, specifically.
- Two in five women of color voters faced challenges while voting — up eight points since 2018. 19% said they were asked to show an ID at the polls, 11% saw disinformation on social media and 11% faced long voting lines.

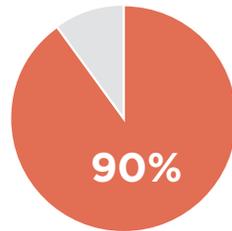


- Two-thirds of women of color voters were engaged in political activities leading up to the 2020 elections.



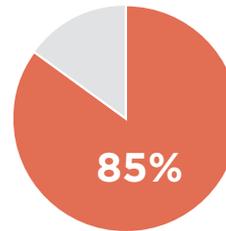
## 90% OF WOMEN OF COLOR WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE WOMEN CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR OFFICE, AND 85% WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE CANDIDATES OF COLOR RUNNING FOR OFFICE.

"I'd like to see more women candidates running for office."



ALL WOMEN OF COLOR

"I'd like to see more candidates of color running for office."



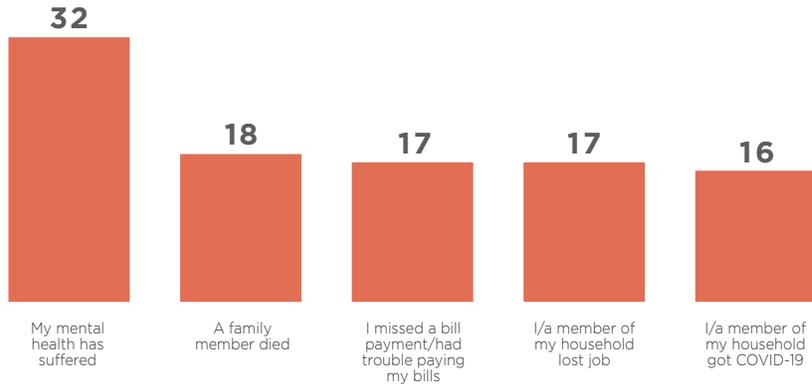
ALL WOMEN OF COLOR

- A majority of Democratic women of color voters voted for change — a 24-point increase from 2018.
- Eight in 10 women of color voters report casting their vote for President Biden, with the majority saying they voted for Biden, instead of against Trump.
- Eight in 10 supported Democratic candidates in all elections, with Black women most consistently going blue.
- Women of color voters would like to see a more intersectional approach from candidates and elected officials. 81% of women of color want their elected officials to understand how their experience and needs differ from white women and men of color.

## THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAD A DEVASTATING IMPACT ON WOMEN OF COLOR.

- Almost eight in 10 Latina/xs have been personally impacted by the pandemic — one in four had a family member die. They were also more likely to personally become sick with COVID-19 or have a member of their household get sick.
- One in three Black women and AAPI women noted their mental health had suffered during the pandemic.
- COVID-19 has increased instances of racism and violence against AAPI women — two in five AAPI women say they have been personally impacted.
- Seven in 10 of women of color indicated that their life has been negatively impacted by the pandemic. Below are the top five ways.

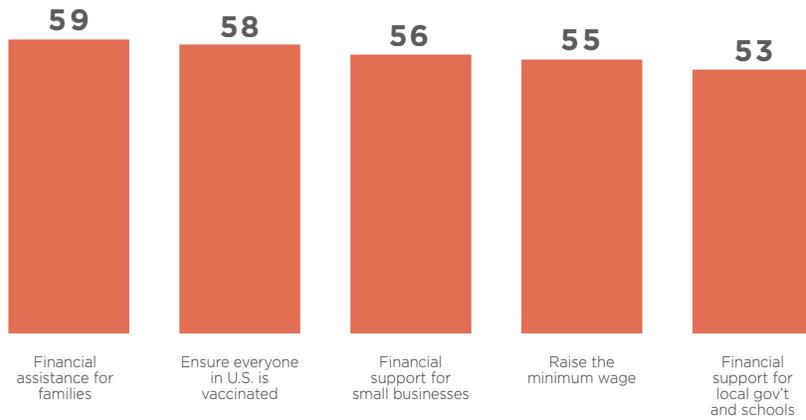
**The Top Five Ways Women of Color Report Being Impacted by the Pandemic**



ALL WOMEN OF COLOR

- Women of color 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.

**The Top Five Things Women of Color Want the Government to Prioritize for the Recovery**

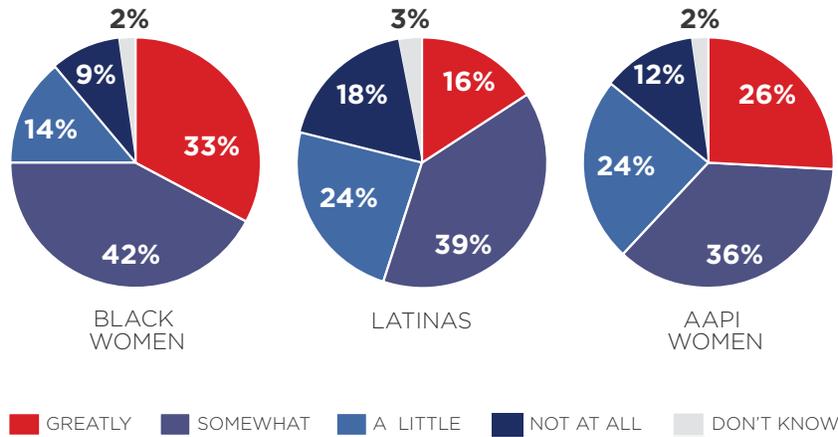


ALL WOMEN OF COLOR

**EIGHT IN 10 WOMEN OF COLOR SAY THEIR LIVES HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY RACISM.**

- 79% of women of color 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.

### Racism Has Impacted My Life

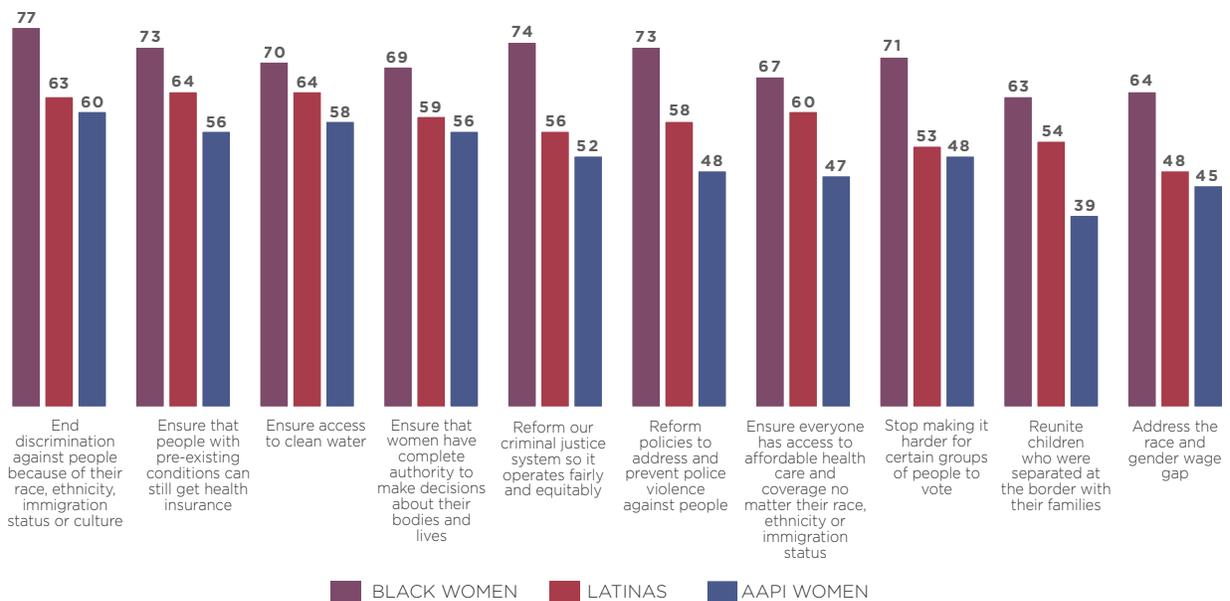


### WHILE THE PRIORITIES OF WOMEN OF COLOR ARE NOT MONOLITHIC, COMMON GROUND EXISTS.

The top issues women of color want to see members of Congress and the Administration make progress on over the next two years include:

- Ending discrimination because of race, ethnicity, immigration or culture (65%)
- Ensuring people with pre-existing conditions can still access health insurance (63%)
- Ensuring access to clean water (63%)

### Top 10 Issues Women of Color Say Are Extremely Important for the Administration and Congress to Address

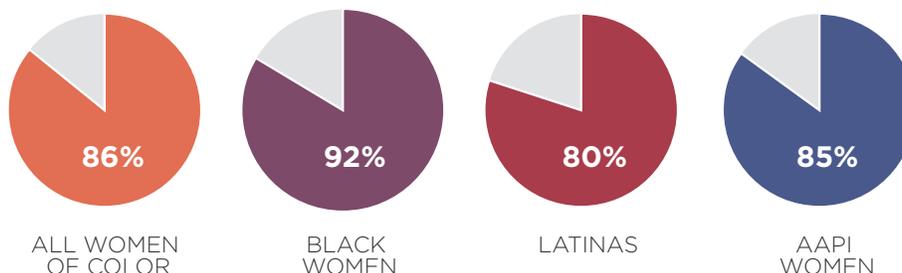


## ACROSS RACIAL AND ETHNIC GROUPS, WOMEN OF COLOR VOTERS SUPPORT CANDIDATES WHO RESPECT THEIR AUTONOMY OVER THEIR REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH.

- Eight in 10 women of color voters see societal and personal benefits to women having control over reproductive decisions.

### Want Candidates to 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.”

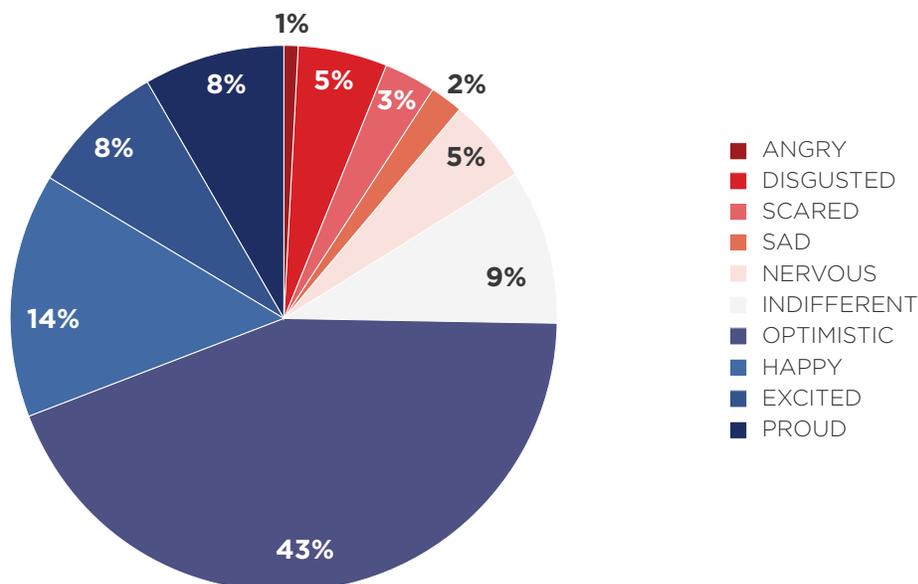


## FAILURE TO DELIVER ON THE ISSUES THAT WOMEN OF COLOR VOTERS CARE ABOUT COMES WITH ELECTORAL CONSEQUENCES.

- 57% of women of color voters say they will be watching their elected officials in Congress more closely compared to previous elections.
- Three-fourths of women of color voters want members of Congress to work together across the aisle and get results.

## FOLLOWING THE 2020 ELECTION, THE POLL FOUND THAT A MAJORITY OF WOMEN OF COLOR FEEL POSITIVELY ABOUT THE DIRECTION OF THE COUNTRY, UP MORE THAN 50 POINTS FROM JUST AFTER THE 2018 ELECTION.

### Perspectives of Women of Color about the Direction of the Country in 2021



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## 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](https://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.

