

RHODE ISLAND

A Survey of 2020 Voters

April 30, 2021

Sample Size Total: 500

Gender	Total
Men	46%
Women	54%

1. Were you able to vote in the general election last year or for some reason were you unable to vote in the 2020 November general election?

	Total
Yes, I voted	100%

2. Although it is a long way away, on a scale of zero to 100 percent, what are the chances that you will vote in the November general election for Governor, Congress, and other local offices next year? You can use any number between 0 and 100.

Mean		Total
	Almost certain (100%)	77%
	Probably (60-99%)	23%

Methodology: 500 interviews among 2020 voters were conducted from April 27-29, 2021 via phone survey (both landline and cell phones). The results were weighted to ensure proportional responses. The margin of error is ± 4.4 percent at the 95% confidence level.

8. And how did you vote last year?

	Total
Voted in person on Election Day	38%
Voted in person early before Election Day	29%
Mailed in your ballot	20%
Dropped your absentee or mail ballot in a drop box	13%
(Don't know/ refused)	0%

9. [IF BY MAIL] And have you voted by mail in previous elections or was this your first time voting by mail?

	Total
Have voted by mail before	35%
First time voting by mail	65%
(Don't know/refused)	1%

10. In general, which of the following best describes your experience voting in the 2020 general election?

	Total
It was easier than it had been in the past	41%
It was about the same experience for me personally	54%
It was harder for me to cast my ballot	3%
(Don't know/refused)	1%

I am now going to read a few policies that are being considered in the Rhode Island state legislature. Please tell me whether you support or oppose each one. [IF CHOICE] And would you say you strongly or somewhat support/oppose?

Ranked by strongly support	<u>Strongly support</u>	<u>Somewhat support</u>	<u>Somewhat oppose</u>	<u>Strongly oppose</u>	<u>DK</u>
11. Creating an in-person early voting period beginning 20 days before election day	51%	20%	8%	18%	3%
12. Allowing Rhode Islanders to register to vote at polling locations the same day they cast a ballot, or “same day voter registration”	39%	22%	10%	25%	4%
13. Allowing voters to vote absentee without having to provide a reason for why they can’t or don’t want to vote in person	37%	20%	10%	31%	2%
14. Allowing voters to request absentee ballots online instead of mailing in an absentee ballot request form	35%	25%	7%	28%	4%
15. Establishing a permanent absentee voter list where voters can opt-in to automatically receive absentee ballots for every future election	33%	23%	9%	31%	4%

16. As you may know, if you want to vote by absentee ballot in Rhode Island you are required to either have your signature notarized or witnessed by two people. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, Rhode Islanders were allowed to vote absentee without doing either of those things. Instead, the state matched the voter signature on file to the application to confirm a voter’s identity.

Based on what you know about this issue, would you support or oppose Rhode Island permanently confirming voters’ identities by their signatures for absentee ballots? [IF CHOICE] And would you say you strongly or somewhat support/oppose?

	Total
Strongly support	39%
Somewhat support	21%
Somewhat oppose	8%
Strongly oppose	27%
(Don’t know/refused)	5%

17. In general, how important do you feel it is to make voting as easy as possible for Rhode Islanders?

	Total
Very important	65%
Somewhat important	21%
Not very important	6%
Not at all important	6%
(Don't know/ refused)	2%

The last few questions are for statistical purposes only.

18. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an independent?

[IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT:] Do you consider yourself a strong (Republican/Democrat) or a not-so-strong (Republican/Democrat)?

[IF INDEPENDENT:] Would you say that you lean more toward the Republicans or more toward the Democrats?

	Total
Strong Republican	9%
Not-so-strong Republican	3%
Independent - lean Republican	7%
Independent	29%
Independent - lean Democratic	10%
Not-so-strong Democrat	7%
Strong Democrat	30%
(Don't know/refused)	4%

19. Politically speaking, do you think of yourself as [READ]?

	Total
Liberal	32%
Moderate	38%
Conservative	23%
(Don't know/refused)	7%

20. What is the last year of schooling that you have completed?

	Total
1 – 11 th grade	2%
High school graduate	19%
Non-college post H.S.	2%
Some college	24%
College graduate	28%
Post-graduate school	22%
(Don't know/ refused)	2%