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Third Way 2024 Higher Ed Value and Accountability Survey

March 21 - 26, 2024 42668 1500 Registered Voters Nationwide Margin of Error: +/- 2.5%

S1. Are you at least 18 years old and registered to vote in [STATE]?	Yes No Not sure	
<b>s2</b> . As you may know, there will be an election for President, U.S. Congress, and other offices in November 2024. Although it's a long way off, how likely are you to vote in the election for President in 2024? Will you definitely vote, probably vote, are the chances 50-50, probably not vote, or definitely not vote?	Definitely Probably Chance 50-50 Probably not Definitely not	. 11 . 12 . 3
P1. When it comes to politics, do you generally think of yourself as a strong Democrat, not very strong Democrat, strong Republican, not very strong Republican, an independent, or some other political party? [IF INDEPENDENT/OTHER] Do you think of yourself as closer to the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?	Strong Democrat Weak Democrat Independent / Closer to the Democrats. Independent. Independent / Closer to the Republicans Weak Republican Strong Republican	. 13 . 7 . 13 . 6 . 15
	DEMOCRAT (NET)	. 25 . 37 . 45%
P2. How important is politics to your personal identity?	Very important	. 41 . 20
	IMPORTANT (NET)	

**B1.** You will now see a list of groups and people. Please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you haven't heard of them or don't know enough about them to give a rating, please select that option.

	F/	AV	UNF	AV	_			NET	
	<u>Very</u>	<u>Some</u>	Some	<u>Very</u>	(CR)	<u>NH</u>	FAV	<u>UNFAV</u>	<u>FAM</u>
Donald Trump	25%	19	10	43	2	1	44%	53	97
June 2022	29%	16	9	45	2	*	45%	53	98
May 2019	25%	16	9	49	1	*	41%	58	99
									- 1
Democrats in Congress	17%	25	19	33	6	1	42%	51	93
June 2022	19%	27	14	37	3	*	46%	51	96
May 2019	18%	32	14	33	4	*	49%	47	96
• Joe Biden	200/	22	13	42	2	4	440/	EE	07
	20%		-		2	! *	41%	55	97
June 2022	19%	25	12	42	2	Î	44%	54	98
Republicans in Congress	100/	27	20	22	6	4	39%	52	02
	. 12% 17%	27 27	20 19	33	4	! *	39% 44%	53 52	93
June 2022			-	33	4	*			96
May 2019	10%	25	22	38	4	•	35%	61	96

B2A. Below is a list of descriptions. Please indicate how well each describes politicians in Washington, D.C. right now.

	WELL		NOT	NOT WELL		NET	
	<u>Very</u>	<u>Some</u>	Not <u>that</u>	Not at <u>all</u>	WELL	NOT WELL	
• [SPLIT A] Focusing on the mainstream, not the extremes	9%	22	36	33	31%	69	
• [SPLIT A] Focused on the issues I care about the most	9%	21	37	33	30%	70	
• [SPLIT A] Looking out for Americans like me	9%	19	34	37	28%	72	
• [SPLIT A] Seeking compromises	8%	19	39	35	26%	74	
• [SPLIT A] Working together to get things done	9%	16	32	43	24%	76	
• [SPLIT A] Working for bipartisan solutions	7%	17	38	38	24%	76	
• [SPLIT A] Working across party lines	7%	16	36	41	23%	77	

B2B. Below is a list of descriptions. Please indicate how important each one is to you in an ideal politician in Washington, D.C.

	NOT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT			NI	ET	
	<u>Very</u>	<u>Some</u>	Not that	Not at <u>all</u>	<u>IMPORTANT</u>	NOT <u>IMPORTANT</u>
• [SPLIT B] Looking out for Americans like me	78%	19	2	2	96%	4
• [SPLIT B] Working together to get things done	73%	23	3	1	96%	4
• [SPLIT B] Focused on the issues I care about the most	60%	34	4	2	94%	6
• [SPLIT B] Working across party lines	52%	35	9	4	87%	13

B2B. Below is a list of descriptions. Please indicate how important each one is to you in an ideal politician in Washington, D.C.

	IMPORTANT IMPORTANT			NET		
	<u>Very</u>	<u>Some</u>	Not <u>that</u>	Not at <u>all</u>	IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
• [SPLIT B] Seeking compromises	50%	38	9	3	88%	12
• [SPLIT B] Focusing on the mainstream, not the extremes	49%	39	9	2	88%	12
• [SPLIT B] Working for bipartisan solutions	48%	37	11	4	85%	15

B3. Now you will see a list of issues. Please indicate how much of a priority each should be for politicians in Washington, D.C. to address.

	PRIORITY		NOT PRIORITY		NET		
Reducing inflation	<u>Top</u> 60%	<u>Major</u> 27	Minor 9	Not much 3	Not at <u>all</u>	PRIORITY 96%	NOT PRIORITY 4
Protecting Medicare and Social Security	58%	29	9	3	2	95%	5
Making quality, affordable health care more accessible	51%	32	11	4	3	94%	6
Creating jobs and growing the economy	48%	38	10	3	2	95%	5
Securing the border	47%	27	16	6	4	90%	10
Defending the principles of democracy	46%	31	14	5	3	92%	8
Reducing gun violence	45%	29	15	6	5	89%	11
Lowering government spending	42%	36	14	5	3	92%	8
Cutting taxes	36%	37	18	5	4	91%	9
Stopping extreme abortion bans	34%	26	16	9	14	77%	23
Combating climate change	33%	27	18	10	12	78%	22
Making higher education affordable and ensuring it provides a good return on investment	26%	38	25	7	4	88%	12
Making public higher education free	22%	30	23	11	14	75%	25

B4. You will now see another list of groups and people. Please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. If you haven't heard of them or don't know enough about them to give a rating, please select that option.

	F	ΑV	UN	IFAV				NET	
	Very	Some	Some	Very	(CR)	<u>NH</u>	FAV	UNFAV	FAM
Vocational or trade schools in the United States	37%	40	7	3	9	3	77%	10	87
June 2022	38%	43	5	3	10	1	81%	8	89
May 2019	38%	45	6	2	8	1	83%	8	91
Public community colleges in the United States	28%	47	9	4	10	2	75%	13	88
June 2022	33%	47	7	4	9	1	79%	11	90
May 2019	36%	47	8	3	5	1	83%	11	94
Four-year colleges and universities in the United States	22%	43	17	8	9	2	65%	24	90
June 2022	26%	42	15	8	7	1	69%	23	92
May 2019	26%	43	18	8	5	*	69%	26	95
The higher education system in the United States	20%	36	22	12	8	2	56%	34	90
June 2022	20%	40	19	12	8	1	60%	31	91
May 2019	17%	39	26	12	5	1	55%	38	94
The U.S. Department of Education	18%	33	23	12	13	2	50%	34	85
June 2022	15%	39	19	16	11	1	54%	35	88
May 2019	12%	32	30	18	8	1	43%	48	91
Proprietary or for-profit colleges in the United States	11%	27	21	17	16	9	37%	38	75
May 2019	7%	27	26	20	11	9	34%	46	80
Education Secretary Miguel Cardona	10%	17	10	11	22	29	28%	21	49
June 2022	8%	20	9	16	19	28	28%	25	53
Q32. Generally speaking, do you think a four-year colleg	ae dear	ee is	٧	/ery valuabl	e				31%
valuable or not valuable?	jo acg.								
Taidable of flot failable;			N	Not very val	uable				16
			Ν	Not valuable	at all				3
				/ALUABLE					

Somewhat valuable	49 16
VALUABLE (NET)	81% 19
Increasing	

Q33. Do you think the cost of higher education in the United States is increasing, decreasing, or staying the same?

B5. Now you are going to see statements about higher education. For each, indicate whether you agree or disagree.

		AC	GREE	DISAG	REE		NET
		Strongly	<u>Somewhat</u>	Somewhat	Strongly	AGREE	DISAGREE
• There are things higher education institutions can							
help make sure more students graduate		36%	52	10	2	87%	13
	May 2019	44%	48	7	1	92%	8
• The skills required to be successful in today's job	market						
are very different than those from a decade ago		50%	38	11	2	87%	13
are very different than those from a decade ago	May 2019	50 % 59%	34	6	1	93%	7
	•						
• A vocational training certificate is worth the investi	tment and						
usually pays off		42%	44	10	3	87%	13
	May 2019	42%	47	8	2	90%	10
• [SPLIT B] Students who graduate from college pro should be able to get jobs that earn more than a h	nigh school						
graduate	May 2019	43% 53%	41 38	11 7	5 3	84% 91%	16 9
	Way 2019	00%	30	/	J	9170	9
• [SPLIT A] Students who attend higher education in	stitutions						
should be able to repay their student loans		44%	39	14	3	83%	17
	May 2019	50%	32	13	5	83%	17
Higher education institutions have a responsibility							
that most students who enroll graduate		35%	43	18	4	78%	22
	May 2019	35%	41	18	5	77%	23
Rising student loan debt has made me worry that education is not worth it		34%	43	16	7	77%	23
Cadeation is not worth it	May 2019	47%	37	12	4	84%	16
The federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more to help make the federal government could do more the federal government could be a federal government could be a federal government could be a federal gov	ake sure						
students succeed in higher education	June 2022	34% 39%	40 <i>40</i>	17 14	8 7	75% 79%	25 21
	May 2019	39 <i>%</i> 44%	34	14	7	78%	22
Most higher education institutions in America prov	·						
high-quality education to their students		19%	53	21	7	72%	28
	May 2019	18%	53	22	6	72%	28
• An associate's degree is worth the investment an	-	2001				-10/	
pays off	May 2019	22% 18%	49 51	23 23	6 8	71% 69%	29 31
	way 2013	10/0	JI	20	U	U3/0	31
A Bachelor's degree is worth the investment and pays off	•	23%	47	23	7	70%	30
L - J -	May 2019	20%	49	23	7	70%	30

B5. Now you are going to see statements about higher education. For each, indicate whether you agree or disagree.

,	AGREE DISAGREE		NET			
	Strongly	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>AGREE</u>	DISAGREE
<ul> <li>Higher education institutions are doing a good job of</li></ul>	16%	46	27	10	62%	38
training students for the careers of today and tomorrow	13%	46	30	10	59%	41
The Biden Administration is working to improve higher education	20%	31	24	24	52%	48
• [SPLIT A] Students have all the information they need about which higher education institution will provide the best return on their investment	15%	35	38	11	50%	50
	13%	30	39	18	44%	56
• [SPLIT B] Students have all the information they need about how their money is spent by higher education institutions  May 2019	14%	24	35	27	38%	62
	6%	17	43	34	23%	77

Q47. In your own words, what is the value of higher education today?



Q48A. [SPLIT A] Which of the following comes closest to your definition of the value of higher education?

	<u>Total</u>	May 2019
The value of higher education is to set students up for success in their careers	24%	24%
The value of higher education is to broaden the perspectives of students and make them better and		
more informed citizens	17	11
education	49	58
Neither of these	10	7

Q48B. [SPLIT B] Which of the following comes closest to your definition of the value of higher education?

The value of higher education is to set students up for	
success in their careers	57%
The value of higher education is to broaden the	
perspectives of students and make them better and	
more informed citizens	43

Q49A. [SPLIT A] Which of the following statements do y	you	The cost of higher education is out of cont	rol. Lowering	<u>Total</u>	<u>May 2019</u>
agree with more?		costs should be the top priority for high institutions	er education	57%	72%
		loans should be the top priority for high institutions	er education		28
Q49B. [SPLIT B] Which of the following statements do you ago	ree with more	The cost of higher education costs should be the top prinstitutions	degrees and n't lead to we dents to get a priority for hi	gher educ programs ell-paying good job gher educ	ation 56% that jobs. after ation
Q50. Which of the following statements do you agree with more?		on institutions need to keep up with the 21st century economy and offer courses	Total <u>Ma</u>	<u>ıy 2019</u>	<u>May 2019</u>
	and degrees the graduation	t keep up with the needs of the 21st my and make informed choices on what attend and what classes to take to be	64%	68%	68%
		r graduation	36	32	32
Q51. Which of the following statements do you agree w more?		The federal government should pr guardrails to ensure that students aren't e take out loans to attend predatory institu	ncouraged to		<u>May 2019</u>
		leave them worse off than when they first of the federal government should not try where students choose to attend college.	enrolled to influence		67%
		their taxpayer-funded grants and loans		38	33
Q52A. [SPLIT A] Which of the following statements do y agree with more?		The federal government should regulate for profit, and public higher education institut sure they are providing a good return on	ions to make		<u>May 2019</u>
		their students  The federal government should only regulation institutions to make s	late for-profit ure they are	66%	70%
		providing a good return on investment to the	neir students.	34	30
Q52B. [SPLIT B] Which of the following statements do you ago	ree with more	funded for-profit, non-p education institutions to ma good return on investment t The federal government sh	rofit, and ke sure they to their studer ould only reg	public hare providentsulate taxpa	igher ing a 61% ayer-
		funded for-profit higher ed sure they are providing a g their students	ood return or	n investme	ent to

Q53. Which of the following statements do you agree with more?	In the next decade, fewer high school graduates will pursue higher education because it does not offer the same value and advantages in the job market as it did in the past	65%
	In the next decade, as many or more high school graduates will continue to pursue higher education as in the past because of the value and advantages it offers in the job market	35
Q54. Which of the following statements do you agree with more?	Pursuing higher education costs money now, but it's ultimately worth it	57% 43
Q55. Which of the following statements do you agree with more?	Students need new types of degrees to adjust to a changing economy and succeed in the job market Because the economy is changing, degrees are no longer necessary to succeed in the job market	68% 32

**B6.** Now you are going to see statements about recent trends in higher education. For each, indicate whether you agree or disagree.

	AG	REE	DISAG	REE	NET		
	Strongly	Somewhat	<u>Somewhat</u>	Strongly	AGREE	DISAGREE	
The Covid pandemic made it more difficult for students to learn, and more likely for students to forget what they previously learned	25%	45	20	9	70%	30	
The Covid pandemic caused a drop in the quality of higher education	25%	44	23	8	69%	31	
The Covid pandemic made higher education institutions less able to help students keep up with the needs of the job market	19%	45	27	9	64%	36	
An increase in online classes and decrease of in-person attendance as a result of the Covid pandemic have reduced the value of higher education	22%	41	28	10	63%	37	
<ul> <li>In the aftermath of the Covid pandemic, higher education institutions don't provide as much value as they did in the past</li> </ul>	20%	42	30	9	62%	38	
The effects of the Covid pandemic are making it less likely for students to pursue higher education	18%	38	32	11	56%	44	

**Q66.** When it comes to addressing the challenges in higher education, which of the following do you agree with more?

can only be fixed by a total overhaul of the way it is funded and the government's involvement in the system.

68%

32

B7. [IF FIRST: Now you will see some policies that lawmakers in the federal government could focus on concerning higher education.] [IF SECOND: Now you will see the same list of policies that lawmakers in the federal government could focus on concerning higher education.] For each, please indicate whether you would support or oppose that policy.

	SUPPORT		OPPO	SE	Not	NET		
	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<b>Somewhat</b>	<u>Strongly</u>	sure	SUPPORT	<u>OPPOSE</u>	
<ul> <li>[STUDENT SUCCESS] Providing federal grants for colleges and universities to implement student success initiatives that have been proven to improve retention and graduation rates.</li> </ul>	32%	43	9	4	12	74%	14	
• [ACCREDITATION] Requiring college accreditors to consider student outcomes, such as graduation rates, loan repayment rates, and post-college employment, as part of their review of institutions  May 2019	30% 45%	44 38	10 5	4 2	12 9	74% 83%	14 8	
[FINANCIAL VALUE] Requiring the Department of Education to publish an annual list that identifies college programs that provide low financial return to students.      [GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT] Requiring career training	36%	38	9	5	13	74%	14	
programs to demonstrate their students earn more than the typical high school graduate and have reasonable student debt levels to receive federal financial aid.	32%	41	9	4	14	73%	13	
• [BORROWER DEFENSE TO REPAYMENT] Allowing borrowers holding federal loans to have their loans discharged if the school they attended engaged in fraud, misrepresentation, or illegal conduct	40%	32	10	7	10	72%	17	
• [TRANSPARENCY] Increasing transparency by lifting the federal ban on collecting student data like graduation rates, loan repayment rates, job placement rates, and post-college earnings, to equip students and parents with the information to determine which school provides the best return on their investment before they enroll.	33%	38	10	4	16	71%	13	
<ul> <li>[DEBT-TO-EARNINGS] Requiring programs to demonstrate their former students are able to earn enough money to pay back their student loans in order to receive federal financial aid such as loans</li> </ul>	46%	33	7	3	12	78%	10	
and grants	30%	40	11	6	13	70%	17	

B7. [IF FIRST: Now you will see some policies that lawmakers in the federal government could focus on concerning higher education.] [IF SECOND: Now you will see the same list of policies that lawmakers in the federal government could focus on concerning higher education.] For each, please indicate whether you would support or oppose that policy.

	SUPPORT OPPOSE		SUPPORT OPPOSE No.		OPPOSE Not NE		
	<b>Strongly</b>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	sure	SUPPORT	<u>OPPOSE</u>
• [INSTRUCTIONAL SPENDING] Withholding some federal funding from higher education institutions that do not spend at least a third of a student's tuition on teaching.  May 2019	33% 36%	37 39	11 8	4 3	15 13	70% 75%	15 11
[CLOSED-SCHOOL DISCHARGE] Allowing borrowers holding federal loans to have their loans discharged if the school they enrolled in closes unexpectedly	38%	31	10	8	13	69%	18
[FREE COMMUNITY COLLEGE] Eliminating tuition at community colleges to help more students access higher education.      May 2019	38% 38%	29 28	14 14	12 14	8 6	66% 66%	26 28
• [SPLIT C] [COMPLETION RATES - 15%] Prohibiting institutions from accessing federal financial aid such as grants and loans if their graduation rate is less than 15%.  May 2019	31% 43%	34 34	15 8	5 4	14 10	66% 77%	20 12
• [INCOME-DRIVEN REPAYMENT] Allowing the Department of Education to automatically enroll federal student loan borrowers in income-driven repayment plans, like President Biden's SAVE Plan, where their payments may drop to a more affordable amount and help prevent default	28%	37	11	11	13	65%	22
• [SPLIT D] [COMPLETION RATES - 25%] Prohibiting institutions from accessing federal financial aid such as grants and loans if their graduation rate is less than 25%.	30%	33	15	7	15	64%	22
[FREE FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE] Eliminating tuition at all public colleges and universities to help more students gain access to a college degree	32% 32%	28 26	14 17	17 19	10 7	60% 57%	30 36
• [SPLIT D] [REPAYMENT RATES - GENERAL] Prohibiting institutions from accessing federal financial aid such as grants and loans if a significant portion of their students cannot pay back their student loans.	23%	37	17	9	15	59%	26

B7. [IF FIRST: Now you will see some policies that lawmakers in the federal government could focus on concerning higher education.] [IF SECOND: Now you will see the same list of policies that lawmakers in the federal government could focus on concerning higher education.] For each, please indicate whether you would support or oppose that policy.

	SUPPORT		SUPPORT		SUPPORT		OPPOSE		Not -	NE	T	
	<b>Strongly</b>	<b>Somewhat</b>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	sure	SUPPORT	<u>OPPOSE</u>					
• [SPLIT C] [REPAYMENT RATES - SPECIFIC] Prohibiting institutions from accessing federal financial aid such as grants and loans if most of their students cannot pay back at least 1 dollar of principal on their loans within 3 years of leaving school	25% 30%	34 33	14 10	9 7	18 19	59% 63%	23 18					
• [SPLIT C] [EARNINGS THRESHOLDS] Prohibiting institutions from accessing federal financial aid such as grants and loans if most of their graduates do not earn more than the typical person with only a high school degree.  May 2019	24% 29%	35 32	16 14	7 10	18 15	59% 61%	23 24					
[SPLIT D] [EARNINGS THRESHOLDS - PROGRAM]     Prohibiting individual college programs from accessing federal financial aid such as grants and loans if most of their graduates do not earn more than the typical person with only a high school degree.	23%	35	16	10	16	58%	26					
• [RISK-SHARING] Requiring colleges whose students regularly cannot repay their loans to pay back a portion of the federal funds the school receives and give that money to other institutions that are better serving students.  May 2019	22% 22%	34 36	16 15	9 9	19 18	56% 58%	25 24					
[DEBT CANCELLATION] Cancelling all federal student loan debt	32%	20	13	26	8	53%	39					

**B8.** [IF FIRST: Now you will see some policies that lawmakers in the federal government could focus on concerning higher education.] [IF SECOND: Now you will see the same list of policies that lawmakers in the federal government could focus on concerning higher education.] For each, please indicate whether, if that policy was implemented, it would make you more or less likely to encourage people to pursue higher education.

	MORE LIKELY		MORE LIKELY		LESS LIKELY		NET	
	Much	Some	No <u>impact</u>	Some	Much	MORE LIKELY	LESS <u>LIKELY</u>	
• [FREE FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE] Eliminating tuition at all public colleges and universities to help more students gain access to a college degree	45%	28	18	5	4	73%	9	
• [FREE COMMUNITY COLLEGE] Eliminating tuition at community colleges to help more students access higher education.	46%	27	18	5	4	73%	9	
• [STUDENT SUCCESS] Providing federal grants for colleges and universities to implement student success initiatives that have been proven to improve retention and graduation rates.	28%	42	23	4	2	70%	6	
• [GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT] Requiring career training programs to demonstrate their students earn more than the typical high school graduate and have reasonable student debt levels to receive federal								
financial aid.	29%	39	22	7	3	68%	9	
• [DEBT CANCELLATION] Cancelling all federal student loan debt	45%	23	19	6	7	68%	13	
• [INCOME-DRIVEN REPAYMENT] Allowing the Department of Education to automatically enroll federal student loan borrowers in income-driven repayment plans, like President Biden's SAVE Plan, where their payments may drop to a more affordable amount and help prevent default	29%	36	24	6	5	65%	11	
• [TRANSPARENCY] Increasing transparency by lifting the federal ban on collecting student data like graduation rates, loan repayment rates, job placement rates, and post-college earnings, to equip students and parents with the information to determine which school provides the best return on their investment before they enroll.	26%	39	26	7	2	65%	9	
• [BORROWER DEFENSE TO REPAYMENT] Allowing borrowers holding federal loans to have their loans discharged if the school they attended engaged in fraud, misrepresentation, or illegal conduct	32%	33	25	7	3	65%	10	
[CLOSED-SCHOOL DISCHARGE] Allowing borrowers holding federal loans to have their loans discharged if the school they enrolled in closes unexpectedly	31%	33	26	6	3	64%	9	
[FINANCIAL VALUE] Requiring the Department of Education to publish an annual list that identifies college programs that provide low financial return to students.	27%	37	25	8	3	64%	11	

**B8.** [IF FIRST: Now you will see some policies that lawmakers in the federal government could focus on concerning higher education.] [IF SECOND: Now you will see the same list of policies that lawmakers in the federal government could focus on concerning higher education.] For each, please indicate whether, if that policy was implemented, it would make you more or less likely to encourage people to pursue higher education.

	MORE LIKELY		MORE LIKELY LESS LIKEL		IKELY	N	ĒΤ
	Much	Some	No impact	Some	Much	MORE LIKELY	LESS <u>LIKELY</u>
• [DEBT-TO-EARNINGS] Requiring programs to demonstrate their former students are able to earn enough money to pay back their student loans in order to receive federal financial aid such as loans and grants	27%	37	25	8	3	64%	11
• [ACCREDITATION] Requiring college accreditors to consider student outcomes, such as graduation rates, loan repayment rates, and post-college employment, as part of their review of institutions	23%	38	29	8	2	61%	10
[INSTRUCTIONAL SPENDING] Withholding some federal funding from higher education institutions that do not spend at least a third of a student's tuition on teaching.	22%	32	33	9	3	55%	12
• [SPLIT C] [EARNINGS THRESHOLDS] Prohibiting institutions from accessing federal financial aid such as grants and loans if most of their graduates do not earn more than the typical person with only a high school degree.	22%	30	31	13	5	51%	18
• [SPLIT D] [COMPLETION RATES - 25%] Prohibiting institutions from accessing federal financial aid such as grants and loans if their graduation rate is less than 25%	21%	30	31	13	5	51%	18
• [SPLIT D] [EARNINGS THRESHOLDS - PROGRAM] Prohibiting individual college programs from accessing federal financial aid such as grants and loans if most of their graduates do not earn more than the typical person with only a high school degree	21%	30	32	10	7	51%	17
• [SPLIT C] [COMPLETION RATES - 15%] Prohibiting institutions from accessing federal financial aid such as grants and loans if their graduation rate is less than 15%	21%	30	32	12	5	51%	17
• [RISK-SHARING] Requiring colleges whose students regularly cannot repay their loans to pay back a portion of the federal funds the school receives and give that money to other institutions that are better serving students.	20%	29	35	12	5	49%	16
• [SPLIT C] [REPAYMENT RATES - SPECIFIC] Prohibiting institutions from accessing federal financial aid such as grants and loans if most of their	2070	23	55	12	J	1370	10
students cannot pay back at least 1 dollar of principal on their loans within 3 years of leaving school	18%	30	33	13	5	49%	19
• [SPLIT D] [REPAYMENT RATES - GENERAL] Prohibiting institutions from accessing federal financial aid such as grants and loans if a significant portion of their students cannot pay back their student loans	470/	20	20	10	,	400/	22
portion of their students cannot pay back their student loans	17%	29	32	16	1	46%	23

Q102C. [SPLIT C] Which of the following do you agree with more?	(REFORM LOANS) We need to have more stringent rules so students aren't encouraged to take out loans to attend college programs that don't pay off, while providing debt cancellation for borrowers who meet certain criteria, like those who work in public service or were defrauded by predatory schools	71%
Q102D. [SPLIT D] Which of the following do you agree with more?	(VALUE/ROI) We need to implement changes that require higher education institutions to provide value to students and ensure those who enroll get a return on their investment	71%
Q103. Which of the following do you agree with more?	New investment in higher education must include requirements to ensure taxpayer dollars are used effectively, even if that means some programs don't qualify for federal aid	63%
Q104C. [SPLIT C] Which of the following do you agree with more?	Schools should be held accountable for ensuring that their students complete their degrees and are not left with debt levels they can't repay  It isn't fair to hold schools accountable when it's a student's responsibility to complete their degree	59% 41
Q104D. [SPLIT D] Which of the following do you agree with more?	Schools with poor graduation rates should be held accountable to improve, since they are failing to make students who enroll better off	68% 32
Q105. Which of the following do you agree with more?	We need to implement policies that address the problems in higher education to ensure that Americans can gain the skills needed to compete for good, high-paying jobs in the 21st century economy Implementing policies that address the problems in higher education isn't important and won't have a major impact on the broader economic challenges facing our country	80%

Now you will read a statement from politicians in Washington, D.C. who support policies to address the problems in higher education.

We need to take measured steps to address the problems with the higher education system in the United States - but we can solve the challenges without tearing down the whole system. Changes like requiring schools to be more transparent about their outcomes, implementing rules that discourage students from taking on debt they won't be able to pay back, and making sure higher education institutions only receive taxpayer dollars if they provide good value to students are common sense ways to improve higher education.

**B9.** Now you are going to see the same list of descriptions you saw earlier again. After reading this information, please indicate how well each describes a politician in Washington, D.C. who supports policies to address the problems in higher education.

		WELL		WELL NOT WELL		NET	
		Very	Some	Not that	Not at all	WELL	NOT WELL
Focusing on the mainstream, not the extremes			40	23	13	64%	36
Working together to get things done		27%	35	24	14	62%	38
Seeking compromises		22%	39	26	12	61%	39
Focused on the issues I care about the most		21%	40	25	14	61%	39
Looking out for Americans like me		26%	34	24	16	60%	40
Working for bipartisan solutions		20%	38	29	13	58%	42
Working across party lines		20%	37	29	14	56%	44
Q113. Have you ever or do you currently have student loan debt?	N 10	es, I've had No, I've neve oan debt Prefer not to	er had an	d don't c	urrently ha	ave studer	nt 63
Q114. [IF HAS/HAD STUDENT LOANS] How much student loan debt do you currently have?		Less than \$6, 66,000 - \$14, 615,000 - \$25, 625,000 - \$4, 650,000 - \$9, 6100,000 or r	999 1,999 0,999 0,999 nore				16 12 12 9
Q115. [IF HAS/HAD STUDENT LOANS] Have you ever had all or a portion of a federal student loan forgiven?	f N Id	es, I've had orgiven	r had all o	r a portio	n of a fede	eral studer	28% nt 69
D100. What is your gender?	A	A man A woman Something e					53

D102. What is the last grade of school or level of education you completed?	Did not complete high school
D105. When it comes to politics, do you generally think of yourself as:	Liberal       29%         Moderate       37         Conservative       34
D110F. Are you the parent or guardian of a child?	Yes, of someone under the age of 18
<b>VH20. [IF ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN 2020]</b> Thinking back, in the November 2020 general election for President, who did you vote for? Or did you not vote in that election?	Voted for Democrat Joe Biden
DAGE. What is your age?	18-29       16%         30-44       26         45-54       15         55-64       16         65+       27
REGION. What state do you live in?	Northeast       18%         Midwest       22         South       39         West       22
DRACE. To ensure a representative sample, please indicate your race. [IF NOT HISPANIC/LATINO] For statistical purposes, are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?	Black/African-American       13%         White/Caucasian       71         Hispanic/Latino       11         Asian/Asian American       4         Pacific Islander       *         Native American/American Indian/Indigenous       1         Middle Eastern/North African       *         Other       1