Temperature Check Poll Results

Executive Summary
In November 2021, Black to the Future Action Fund and Socioanalítica Research conducted the third poll in a recurring, bi-monthly series of the Temperature Check Poll, a national survey of over 1,000 Black people about important issues impacting our communities.

Compared to the two previous polls, the November survey results find that:

- Following the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), **52 percent of Black adults expressed satisfaction with the direction of the country** — an increase of ten percentage points from September.

- While Black adults are more satisfied with the direction of the country, **54 percent of Black adults are dissatisfied with the state of the economy** — which is not significantly lower than September.

- Amidst the vigilante trials in Kenosha, Wisconsin and Brunswick, Georgia, **addressing white supremacy remains a top policy priority for Black adults**.

- Black adults continue to be committed to protecting our communities from COVID — **55 percent of Black adults reported being fully vaccinated and a majority of those who are fully vaccinated plan to receive a booster**.

- New questions show that **a majority of Black adults favor investing in clean energy development to address climate change**, while nearly four in ten support investing in sustainable energy and increasing resources directed to communities impacted by natural disasters.

One thing is clear from these findings — Black communities want Congress to deliver change that people can feel.
November 2021 Results

Even with the shifting political landscape, our respondents’ top policy priorities remain unchanged:

- $2,000 monthly relief checks: 43%
- Raising the minimum wage to $15/hour: 35%
- Addressing structural racism and white supremacy: 28%
- Protecting voting rights: 26%

Our communities are continuing to call for significant and bold policies that provide economic relief and protect both individual safety and rights.
**Direction of Country**

Between our July and September polls, there was an 18 percentage point decline in satisfaction with the direction the country is headed. However, our November responses saw that satisfaction rate increase by ten percentage points.

Notably, between the publication of our September poll findings and the collection of November responses, Congress passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) — a law that includes funding to improve broadband internet access and upgrade state and local transit systems, and begins funding some of the Biden-Harris administration’s climate goals.

**Economy**

More than four in ten **Black adults (42%)** reported having difficulty with household expenses since the pandemic began.

In September, **50% of homeowners** mentioned food as something they would use a relief check to pay for; that number grew to 62% in November.

When asked how they would spend $2,000 relief checks, respondents’ top priorities are:

- **65%** Utilities
- **63%** Food
- **59%** Paying rent/mortgage

Notably, this is the first time that rent and mortgage payments entered the top three of spending categories, nearly double the September number (31%).
Solutions

When discussing solutions to the problems facing our communities, Black adults overwhelmingly support policy changes that would increase housing stability, support resources that go directly into their homes, and remove obstacles to the lawmaking process:

- The majority of respondents still support an eviction and foreclosure ban (75%) and rent and mortgage cancellation (78%).
- 71% of respondents continue to favor abolishing the Senate filibuster.
- More than eight in ten respondents (84%) still support monthly Child Tax Credit payments.

Public Health

Nearly four in ten Black adults (38%) name public health as their top environmental concern. As with previous polls, Black adults support policies that will mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and help bring the pandemic to an end:

- A majority of respondents (59%) favor businesses requiring customers show proof of vaccination or a recent negative COVID-19 test.
- More than two-thirds (68%) of respondents also support a vaccination mandate for government employees like teachers and police.
- About two-thirds (66%) of respondents favor businesses and organizations mandating employees get the COVID-19 vaccine.
- More than eight in ten respondents (84%) favor mask mandates for school staff and students.
Concerns about white supremacy are still important to Black adults, who urge the Biden-Harris administration to fight back by:

- Declaring white supremacist acts as domestic terrorism (43%)
- Preventing those who have committed hate crimes from getting firearms (38%)
- Removing white supremacists from federal, state, and local police departments (43%)
- Declaring white supremacy a national security threat (34%)
Methodology

The Black to the Future Action Fund/Socioanalítica Research Temperature Check Poll was conducted online in English among a sample of 1,001 Black adult (18 years and older) respondents living in the United States. The survey was conducted between November 8 and November 9, 2021. The data were weighted by region, age, gender, and education using the 2019 American Community Survey 5-year dataset. The margin of error is +/- 3.1 percent at the 95% confidence level and the design effect is 1.6. The margin of error accounting for the design effect is +/- 4.1.

About Black to the Future Action Fund

The Black to the Future Action Fund works to make Black communities powerful in politics, so that we can be powerful in the entirety of our lives. We work to enact policies that improve the lives of Black communities, and to elect Black and pro-Black legislators with progressive values who move progressive policies. Together we work to ensure that Black people have what all people deserve—dignity, safety, and power.

About Socioanalítica Research

Socioanalítica Research was born out of a belief that research and knowledge are universal tools that should be accessible to everyone and anyone. We strive to design high quality research products that are simple in their execution yet powerful in their content and analysis. Our firm, headquartered in the nation’s capital, brings a critical and analytical eye to issues of religious belief and identity, in addition to supporting ongoing research at major nonprofit and academic organizations around the world.