April 14, 2022
Florida Policy Survey

Summary: Researchers at the University of South Florida conducted a statewide survey of 600 Floridians to measure public opinion on several current policy issues. The results presented in this report address COVID-19, the U.S response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and presidential/gubernatorial job approval. The survey included a representative sample of Floridians, fielded between March 31st and April 12th, 2022. Topline results are reported below with a confidence level of 95% and a margin of error +/- 4.

Summary of Responses

Do you approve or disapprove of the job that President Joe Biden is doing in each of the following areas? (As a percentage of total respondents by row)

In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing the state of Florida today?

	Frequency	Percentage
Economy	160	26.7
Immigration	59	9.8
COVID-19 Pandemic	54	9.0
Government Corruption	50	8.3
Unemployment/Jobs	43	7.2
Climate Change	36	6.0
Healthcare	35	5.8
Crime	34	5.7
Education	31	5.2
Environment and Conservation	24	4.0
Race Relations	16	2.7
Infrastructure (i.e. roads and bridges)	18	3.0
Other	40	6.7

N=600 (Statistically significant differences in perception of the most important issue exist by political partisanship. Detailed partisanship data available upon request.)

How concerned are you about a Spring/Summer surge in COVID-19 cases?

	Frequency	Percentage
Very Concerned	123	20.5
Somewhat Concerned	232	38.7
Not Very Concerned	144	24.0
Not at All Concerned	101	16.8

N=600 (Very/Somewhat Concerned: Democrats = 74.8%; Independents = 62.5%; Republicans = 42.0%)

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: ***When it comes to COVID-19, the worst is behind us.***

How satisfied are you with Florida's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic?

	Frequency	Percentage
Very Satisfied	172	28.7
Somewhat Satisfied	188	31.3
Somewhat Dissatisfied	102	17.0
Very Dissatisfied	138	23.0

N=600 (Very/Somewhat Satisfied: Democrats = 34.0%; Independents = 56.6%; Republicans = 87.2%)

Do you believe that Florida should have adopted a statewide vaccine mandate?

	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	246	

How confident are you that the COVID-19 vaccines are safe?

	Frequency	Percentage
Very Confident	241	40.2
Somewhat Confident	194	32.5
Not Very Confident	77	12.8
Not at All Confident	87	14.5

N=600 (Very/Somewhat Confident: Democrats = 86.4%; Independents = 71.7%; Republicans = 62.3%)

How confident are you in the COVID-19 guidance being provided by the CDC and public health officials?

How do you feel Florida has done compared to other states in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic?

	Frequency	Percentage
Florida has done better than other states	215	35.8
Florida has done about the same as other states	192	32.0
Florida has done worse than other states	193	32.2

N=600 (BETTER: Democrats = 14.1%; Independents = 30.9%; Republicans = 64.9%; WORSE: Democrats = 58.1%; Independents = 32.2%; Republicans = 9.0%)

Have you spoken to your primary care physician about whether or not a COVID-19 vaccine is right for you?

	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	289	48.2
No	311	51.8

Do you believe that COVID-19 vaccines reduce the risk of hospitalization from COVID-19?

	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	458	76.3
No	142	23.7

N=600 (YES: Democrats = 88.0%; Independents =77.0%; Republicans = 68.6%)

Do you believe that COVID-

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How closely are you following news about the current war in Ukraine?

	Frequency	Percentage
Very Closely	149	24.8
Somewhat Closely	326	54.3
Not Very Closely	100	16.7
Not at All	25	4.2

N=600 (Very/Somewhat Closely: Democrats = 82.8%; Independents = 82.3%; Republicans = 80.4%)

How satisfied are you with the Biden Administration's handling of the Russia-Ukraine conflict so far?

Thinking about the economic sanctions that the United States has imposed on Russia, which of the following statements best describes your opinion?

How concerned are you about the United States being drawn into a military conflict with Russia?

	Frequency	Percentage
Very Concerned	149	24.8
Somewhat Concerned	295	49.2
Not Very Concerned	121	20.2
Not at All Concerned	35	5.8

N=600 (Very/Somewhat Concerned: Democrats =77.0%; Independents = 77.0%; Republicans = 69.2%)

In your opinion, how important is the NATO alliance to America's security?

	Frequency	Percentage
Very Important	301	50.2
Somewhat Important	161	26.8
Not Very Important	44	7.3
Not at All Important N		

The State of Florida currently holds as much as $300 million in investments that are linked to Russia and Russian based companies. ***In your opinion, how important is it for the State of Florida to divest of these assets in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine?***

Survey Information

600 adult Floridians were surveyed via an online web-panel using an industry leading market research provider. The survey was fielded from March 31st throu0 9 211.32 663.96 Tm(er)17.1 4(002 Tc -0.00 0 T82.053 0 Tdd6nT6 0 0 6 206.64 666.96 Tri)84

About our Research Team

Stephen Neely (PhD, North Carolina State University, 2013) is an Associate Professor in the School of Public Affairs at the University of South Florida. He is coordinator of the School's undergraduate program in *Leadership and Public Service*. His areas of specialization include survey research, quantitative data analysis, and public policy. He is a faculty researcher on the Sunshine State Survey project and has conducted survey research on behalf of local governments in the Tampa Bay region. For additional information please visit his **USF faculty page**. Dr. Neely can be contacted by email at srneely@usf.edu

Christina W. Stevens (MPA Candidate, University of South Florida). Christina Stevens is currently pursuing her Master of Public Administration at the University of South Florida. Her research interests include quantitative data analysis, survey research, and nonprofit management. Christina works as the Associate Director of Development for the USF Foundation, where she is responsible for all fundraising efforts and priorities for the USF Libraries. She holds a Bachelor of Science in public relations with a minor in political science from the University of North Florida. Christina can be reached at cwisz@usf.edu

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