

**TRPI Pre-election Survey of Latino Registered Voters
5 State Survey: October 2000**

2,003 completes

Hello, my name is _____. I am calling on behalf of The Tomás Rivera Policy Institute. We are conducting a public opinion survey in your area. This is not a sales call.

SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE

S2. Would you prefer that I speak in English or Spanish?

English 1

Spanish2

S3. Are you currently registered to vote?

Yes CONTINUE 1

No TERMINATE 2

DK/RF TERMINATE 9

S4. Do you consider yourself Hispanic or Latino?

Yes CONTINUE 1

No TERMINATE2

DK/RF TERMINATE 9

This survey will take only 16 minutes to complete. And we'd very much like to include your opinions.

MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What is the primary language spoken at home? Is it English, Spanish, or both equally?

- English 1
- Spanish 2
- Both equally 3
- DK/RF 9

2. How likely or unlikely would you say you are to vote in the upcoming November election? Is it very likely, somewhat likely, somewhat unlikely, or very unlikely?

- Very likely 1
- Somewhat likely 2
- Somewhat unlikely 3
- Very unlikely 4
- DK/RF 9

3. How important are commercials and news stories in the English language radio, television, and newspapers to you in helping you decide for whom to vote in the upcoming election? Is it very important, somewhat important, somewhat unimportant, not at all important, or you have not watched or listened to the English language media?

- Very important 1
- Somewhat important 2
- Somewhat unimportant ...3
- Not at all important 4
- Don't watch English 5
- DK/RF 9

4. How important are commercials and news stories in the Spanish language radio, television, and newspapers to you in helping you decide for whom to vote in the upcoming election? Is it very important, somewhat important, somewhat unimportant, not at all important, or you have not watched or listened to the Spanish language media?

- Very important 1
- Somewhat important 2
- Somewhat unimportant ...3
- Not at all important 4
- Don't watch Spanish 5
- DK/RF 9

5. If this year's presidential election were held today, would you be more likely to vote for [ROTATE: George W. Bush, Al Gore], or someone else?

George W. Bush 1
Al Gore 2
Someone else 3
Don't plan to vote 4
UNDECIDED/DK 8
RF 9

6. Would you be more likely to vote for [ROTATE: a Republican candidate or a Democratic candidate] for the U.S. Congress in your district?

Republican candidate1
Democratic candidate2
SOMEONE ELSE 3
Don't plan to vote 4
UNDECIDED/DK 8
RF 9

7. How important is a candidate's ability to speak Spanish to you in making a voting decision? Is it very important, somewhat important, somewhat unimportant, or not at all important?

Very important 1
Somewhat important 2
Somewhat unimportant ...3
Not at all important 4
DK/RF 9

- 8A. [ASK ONLY IF RESPONDENTS ARE IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA] How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way Dianne Feinstein, the U.S. Senator from California, has responded to issues affecting the Latino community? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

Very Satisfied 1
Somewhat satisfied ...2
Somewhat dissatisfied ...3
Very dissatisfied 4
DK/RF 9

8B. [ASK ONLY IF RESPONDENTS ARE IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA] Did the federal government's decision to seize Elian Gonzalez from his Miami relatives make you more likely to vote for [ROTATE: George W. Bush or Al Gore] or it has no effect on your voting preference?

- George W. Bush 1
- Al Gore 2
- Has no effect 3
- DO NOT WANT (PLAN) TO VOTE 4
- DK 8
- RF 9

8C. [ASK ONLY IF RESPONDENTS ARE IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK] If this year's U.S. Senate election were held today, would you be more likely to vote for [ROTATE: Rick Lazio or Hillary Rodham Clinton], or someone else?

- Rick Lazio 1
- Hillary Rodham Clinton 2
- Someone else 3
- DO NOT WANT (PLAN) TO VOTE 4
- UNDECIDED/DK 8
- RF 9

8D. [ASK ONLY IF RESPONDENTS ARE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS] How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way George W. Bush is handling his job as the Governor of Texas? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

- Very satisfied 1
- Somewhat satisfied 2
- Somewhat dissatisfied 3
- Very dissatisfied 4
- DK/RF 9

9. How interested are you in politics and public affairs? Are you very interested, somewhat interested, not very interested, or not at all interested?

- Very interested 1
- Somewhat interested ...2
- Not very interested ...3
- Not at all interested ...4
- NOT SURE /DK 8
- RF 9

Now we are interested in how much attention you pay to the following types of people, when they talk about voting.

10. "Union leaders." Do you pay a lot, some, a little, or not at all attention to them, when they talk about voting?

- A lot 1
- Some 2
- A little 3
- Not at all 4
- DK/RF 9

11. "Latino church leaders." Do you pay a lot, some, a little, or not at all attention to them, when they talk about voting?

- A lot 1
- Some 2
- A little 3
- Not at all 4
- DK/RF 9

12. "Latino political leaders." Do you pay a lot, some, a little, or not at all attention to them, [READ ONLY IF NECESSARY: when they talk about voting]?

- A lot 1
- Some 2
- A little 3
- Not at all 4
- DK/RF 9

13. Have any candidates, or representatives of political organizations contacted you regarding registering or voting in the upcoming November election?

- Yes ... 1
- No 2
- DK/RF ...9

14. How were you contacted? Was it by mail or door flier, telephone, e-mail, in-person, or some other way? [MULTIPLE RESPONSES]

- Mail or door flier 1
- Telephone 2
- E-mail 3
- In-person 4
- Some other way ... 7
- DK/RF 9

15. Are those who have contacted you Latinos, non-Latinos, or both?

Latinos 1
Non-Latinos ... 2
Both 3
DK/RF 9

16. Who are those Latinos who have contacted you? Are they Latino elected officials or people from their offices, Latino political party members, Latino community organizers, Latino religious leaders, Latino union members, Latinos working with non-profit organizations, or someone else?
[MULTIPLE RESPONSES]

Elected officials 1
Political party members ...2
Community organizers ...3
Religious leaders 4
Union members 5
Non-profit organizations ...6
Someone else ... 7
DK/RF 9

17. Now thinking about the economy in the country as a whole, would you say that over the past year the nation's economy has gotten better, stayed about the same, or gotten worse?

Gotten better 1
Stayed about the same ...2
Gotten worse 3
DK/RF 9

18. What about your personal financial situation? Over the past year, has it gotten better, stayed about the same or gotten worse?

Gotten better 1
Stayed about the same ...2
Gotten worse 3
DK/RF 9

Now we are interested in the feelings you might have toward the presidential candidates.

[ROTATE Q19 AND Q20]

19. Because of the kind of person George W. Bush is, how much do you like or dislike him? Would you say that you very much like, somewhat like, somewhat dislike, or very much dislike him?

- Very much like him 1
- Somewhat like him 2
- Somewhat dislike him 3
- Very much dislike him 4
- No feeling/unsure 8
- RF 9

20. Because of the kind of person Al Gore is, how much do you like or dislike him? Would you say that you very much like, somewhat like, somewhat dislike, or very much dislike him?

- Very much like him 1
- Somewhat like him 2
- Somewhat dislike him 3
- Very much dislike him 4
- No feeling/unsure 8
- RF 9

[ROTATE Q21 and Q22]

21. Thinking more carefully about George W. Bush, how much do you think that George W. Bush is able to provide the kind of leadership you would expect from a president? Is it very much, somewhat, very little, or he cannot provide the kind of leadership at all?

- Very much 1
- Somewhat 2
- Very little 3
- Not at all 4
- DK/RF 9

22. Thinking more carefully about Al Gore, how much do you think that Al Gore is able to provide the kind of leadership you would expect from a president? Is it very much, somewhat, very little, or he cannot provide the kind of leadership at all?

- Very much 1
- Somewhat 2
- Very little 3
- Not at all 4
- DK/RF 9

23. When the media and candidates speak about voters, they often speak of them as being members of certain groups in the electorate. As I read you a list of such groups, please tell me the groups you often identify with. If you do not identify with any of the groups, please feel free to tell me so. [MULTIPLE RESPONSES]

- Union members 1
- Soccer Moms 2
- Republicans 3
- Latinos or Hispanics 4
- The elderly 5
- The Christian right 6
- Gays and Lesbians 7
- Minorities 8
- Democrats 9
- Suburban families 10
- Liberals 11
- Conservatives 12
- Working families 13

DO NOT IDENTIFY WITH ANY OF THE GROUPS 98

DK/RF 99

24. [DO NOT ASK IF Q23=98 OR 99; IF RESPONDENT HAS SELECTED ONLY ONE GROUP, INPUT THE GROUP AND SKIP TO Q25] You mentioned you identify with [READ THE GROUPS RESPONDENTS HAVE SELECTED FOR Q23]. Of those, which group do you most often identify with?

- Union members 1
- Soccer Moms 2
- Republicans 3
- Latinos or Hispanics 4
- The elderly 5
- The Christian right 6
- Gays and Lesbians 7
- Minorities 8
- Democrats 9
- Suburban families 10
- Liberals 11
- Conservatives 12
- Working families 13
- DK/RF 99

25. What do you think is the most important problem facing the nation today? [DO NOT READ RESPONSE CATEGORIES]

- The economy 1
- Unemployment/jobs 2
- Education/schools ...3
- Crime 4
- Drugs 5
- Health Care 6
- Race relations 7
- Values/Family values ...8
- Illegal immigration 11
- Something else 18

26. Which political party do you think has a better approach to solving this problem? Is it [ROTATE: the Republicans or the Democrats], or is neither party better than the other?

- Republicans 1
- Democrats 2
- Neither is better 3
- DK/RF 4

27. What do you think is the most important problem facing the Latino community today? [DO NOT READ RESPONSE CATEGORIES]

- The economy 1
- Unemployment/jobs 2
- Education/schools 3
- Crime 4
- Drugs 5
- Health Care 6
- Race relations 7
- Values/Family values ...8
- Illegal immigration 11
- Something else 18

28. Which political party do you think has a better approach to solving the problem you have identified? Is it [ROTATE: the Republicans or the Democrats], or is neither party better than the other?

- Republicans 1
- Democrats 2
- Neither is better..... 3
- DK/RF 4

Now I am going to ask you some questions about issues that are being discussed in this year's election.

29. How strongly do you support the government providing parents with funding to send their children to private or religious schools, even if this takes away money from the public school system? Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose?

- Strongly support 1
- Somewhat support 2
- Somewhat oppose 3
- Strongly oppose 4
- DK/RF 9

30. How important is the issue of government funding to parents to send their children to private or religious schools to you? Is it very important, somewhat important, somewhat unimportant, or not at all important?

- Very important 1
- Somewhat important 2
- Somewhat unimportant ...3
- Not at all important 4
- DK/RF 9

31. Which presidential candidate do you think is closer to your opinion on this issue? Is it [ROTATE: George W. Bush or Al Gore]?

- George W. Bush 1
- Al Gore 2
- No difference 3
- RF 9

32. How strongly do you support more restrictions on gun ownership? Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose?

- Strongly support 1
- Somewhat support 2
- Somewhat oppose 3
- Strongly oppose 4
- DK/RF 9

33. How important is the issue of restrictions on gun ownership to you? Is it very important, somewhat important, somewhat unimportant, or not at all important?

- Very important 1
- Somewhat important ...2
- Somewhat unimportant ...3
- Not at all important 4
- DK/RF 9

34. Which presidential candidate do you think is closer to your opinion on this issue? Is it [ROTATE: George W. Bush or Al Gore]?

- George W. Bush 1
- Al Gore 2
- No difference 3
- RF 9

35. Some people argue that it is up to a woman to decide whether or not she would have an abortion. How strongly do you support such an argument? Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, strongly oppose?

- Strongly support 1
- Somewhat support 2
- Somewhat oppose 3
- Strongly oppose 4
- DK/RF 9

36. How important is the issue of abortion to you? Is it very important, somewhat important, somewhat unimportant, or not at all important?

- Very important 1
- Somewhat important 2
- Somewhat unimportant ...3
- Not at all important 4
- DK/RF 9

37. Which presidential candidate do you think is closer to your opinion on this issue? Is it [ROTATE: George W. Bush or Al Gore]?

- George W. Bush ...1
- Al Gore 2
- No difference 3
- RF 9

38. Did the nomination of Senator Joseph Lieberman, who is Jewish, as the Democratic vice presidential nominee increase or decrease the likelihood of your supporting the Democratic ticket? Did it very much increase, somewhat increase, somewhat decrease, very much decrease, or did it have no effect on your decision to support the Democratic ticket?

- Very much increase ...1
- Somewhat increase ...2
- Somewhat decrease ...3
- Very much decrease ...4
- Have no effect 5
- DK 8
- RF 9

39. Do you generally consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, or an independent?

- Democrat ... 1
- Republican ... 2
- Independent ...3
- Something else ...4
- DK/RF ...9

40A. Is your identification with the party very strong or not very strong?

- Very strong ...1
- Not very strong ...2
- DK/RF ...9

40B. Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republicans or the Democrats?

- Republicans 1
- Democrats 2
- Neither 3
- DK/RF 9

41. Which of the following statements best describes how your feelings about the parties have changed in recent years [READ RESPONSE CATEGORIES]

- Much closer to the Republicans.....1
- Somewhat closer to the Republicans.....2
- Much closer to the Democrats.....3
- Somewhat closer to the Democrats.....4
- My feelings have not changed.....5
- DK/RF.....9

42. Did the presidential debates on television make you more likely to vote for [ROTATE: George W. Bush or Al Gore], did they have no effect on your view of the candidates, or you did not watch the debates?

- More likely to vote for Bush....1
- More likely to vote for Gore....2
- Have no effect on view....3
- Did not watch the debates....4
- DK/RF9

43. Hispanics, or Latinos, include people from different countries. To what country do you trace your ancestry? [DO NOT READ RESPONSE CATEGORIES]

- Mexico 1
- Puerto Rico 2
- Cuba 3
- Colombia 4
- El Salvador 6
- Guatemala 7
- Other Latin America 8
- Other part of the world ...9
- More than one ancestry ...10

48. What is the last grade of school you completed? [IF NECESSARY, READ RESPONSE CATEGORIES]

- Grade school or less 1
- Some high school 2
- High school graduate 3
- Some college/technical school ...4
- College graduate (BA, BS) 5
- Graduate (MA, MS, MBA, MPA, MD
M.Ed., JD, Ed.D., Ph.D.
- DK/RF 9

49. Are you married, do you have a domestic partner, are you single, separated, divorced, or widowed?

- Married 1
- Have a domestic partner 2
- Single 3
- Separated 4
- Divorced 5
- Widowed 6
- DK/RF 9

50. Apart from occasional weddings, baptisms, or funerals, how often do you attend church or religious services? Is it once a week or more, almost every week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, once a year or less, or never?

- Once a week or more 1
- Almost every week 2
- Once or twice a month 3
- A few times a year 4
- Once a year or less 5
- Never 6
- DK/RF 9

51. What was your total household income last year before taxes? Just stop me when I read the correct category.

- Up to \$15,000 1
- \$15,000 to \$24,999 2
- \$25,000 to \$34,999 3
- \$35,000 to \$49,999 4
- \$50,000 to \$64,999 5
- \$65,000 to \$79,999 6
- \$80,000 to \$99,999 7
- \$100,000 and above 8
- DK/RF 9