

54% Approve of Harris Selection, Including One in Four Republicans

More Americans approve than disapprove of Joe Biden's choice of Kamala Harris for the 2020 Democratic ticket by a 25-point margin, 54-29 percent, in a new ABC News/Washington Post poll.

Approval of the pick ranges from 86-8 percent among Democrats to 25-55 percent among Republicans – notable that one in four Republicans approves. It's 52-29 percent among independents, potential swing voters in presidential elections.

While reaction to Harris is broadly positive, the margin narrows among those who have strong opinions. Thirty-four percent of Americans strongly approve of her selection, while 22 percent strongly disapprove, a 12-point margin. One reason is that her strong support slides from 78 percent among liberals to 34 percent among moderates (and 17 percent among conservatives). It's also 30 points lower among younger vs. older racial and ethnic minorities.

Seventeen percent overall have no opinion in this poll, produced for ABC by [Langer Research Associates](#) – and initial impressions can change. Views were similarly positive, 60-34 percent, when John McCain selected Sarah Palin for the 2008 GOP ticket. Opinions of Palin turned more negative as the campaign progressed.

Seventy-eight percent of Black people and 65 percent of Hispanics approve of Biden's choice of Harris, compared with 46 percent of whites; these largely reflect partisan predispositions. Views are similar among women (56-29 percent) and men (52-30 percent). It's 55-28 percent in the suburbs. And results are similar among all adults, registered voters and likely voters alike.

Apart from Republicans, disapproval of Harris' selection is highest among conservatives (especially "very" conservatives), white evangelicals, rural residents and non college-educated white men, all core Trump support groups. Beyond Democrats and Black people, approval peaks among liberals, Northeasterners, those with postgraduate degrees and urban residents.

This is an initial release from the new ABC/Post poll; see full results, on Good Morning America and here on ABCNews.com, at 6 a.m. Monday.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by telephone Aug. 12-15, 2020, among a random national sample of 1,001 adults, with 75 percent reached on cell phones and 25 percent on landlines. Results have a 3.5 percentage-point [error margin](#) for the full sample, including design effects due to weighting. Sampling, field work and data processing by Abt Associates of Rockville, MD. See details on the survey's methodology [here](#).

Analysis by Gary Langer.

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The full result follows.

1-7, 9-20 held for release.

8. Do you approve or disapprove of Biden's choice of Kamala Harris as his vice-presidential running mate? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
8/15/20	54	34	20	29	7	22	17

Compare to:

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
Ryan 8/25/12	51	26	26	30	9	21	19
Palin 9/4/08	60	37	23	34	9	25	6
Lieberman 8/7/00	60	NA	NA	19	NA	NA	21
Cheney 7/29/00	61	"	"	15	"	"	24
Kemp 8/15/96 RV	67			14			19
Choate 9/10/96 RV	31			19			49