



USF-Nielsen Sunshine State COVID-19 Survey Governance & Policies

Summary: The University of South Florida and Nielsen partnered on a statewide survey of 600 Floridians to assess public opinion related to the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, public health situation. The survey was fielded from April 1-24, 2020, and the results are reported with a confidence level of 95% and a margin of error ± 4 . Top line results include:

Public concern remains high.



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COVID-19 Concerns

Prompt: Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements related to the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19. I am concerned that I will contract the novel coronavirus in the next three months.

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	61	10.1



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Policy Support for COVID-19 Mitigation Measures

Question: Many states have enacted policies to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19. To what extent do you support or oppose the following decisions that may or may not be taken by the State? Close restaurants and bars.

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Strongly Oppose	6	1.1
	Somewhat Oppose	17	2.9

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Government Performance Related to COVID-19

Prompt: Please rate the extent to which you approve or disapprove of the way each political organization has handled the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19. Federal government in Washington D.C.

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Strongly Disapprove	119	19.8
	Somewhat Disapprove	89	14.9
	Neither	99	16.5
	Somewhat Approve	176	29.4
	Strongly Approve	117	19.5
	Total	600	100.0



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Prompt: Please rate the extent to which you trust each political organization to provide you with accurate information about the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19. Federal government in Washington D.C.

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	A Great Deal	113	18.8
	A Good Amount	217	36.1
	Not Very Much	160	26.7
	Not at All	111	18.5
	Total	600	100.0

Prompt: Please rate the extent to which you trust each political organization to provide you with accurate information about the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19. State government in Tallahassee, FL.

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	A Great Deal	112	18.7
	A Good Amount	267	44.5
	Not Very Much	154	25.6
	Not at All	68	11.3
	Total	600	100.0

Prompt: Please rate the extent to which you trust each political organization to provide you with accurate information about the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19. Your local government.

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	A Great Deal	134	22.3
	A Good Amount	326	54.3
	Not Very Much	113	18.9
	Not at All	27	4.5
	Total	600	100.0



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Question: How much information about the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, public health situation have you received from the following government sources?
Florida Legislature Member (Florida Senate or Florida House).

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	A Lot	66	11.1
	Some	115	19.4
	A Little	146	24.6
	None	265	44.8



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Question: How much information about the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, public health situation have you received from the following government sources? Automated phone messages.

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	A Lot	37	6.2
	Some	56	9.5
	A Little	98	16.6
	None	401	67.7
	Total	592	100.0
Missing	System	8	
Total		600	

Question: How much information about the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, public health situation have you received from the following government sources? Text message alerts.

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	A Lot	37	6.2
	Some	86	14.6
	A Little	109	18.4
	None	360	60.8
	Total	592	100.0
Missing	System	8	
Total		600	



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Survey Information

For this survey, 600 Florida residents were recruited using online panel provider Prodege. The survey was fielded from April 14, 2020 and the results are reported with a confidence level of 95% and a margin of error of +/- 4%.

For sampling purposes, and to overcome drawbacks associated with online panel surveys, participants ZHUH UHFUXLWHG XVLQJ D VWUDWLILHG TXRWD VDPSOLQJ PHWK Hispanic & Latino ethnicity, and age quotas were derived from the 2019 Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) population estimates for the state of Florida. The table below details comparisons between the USF-Nielsen Sunshine State COVID-19 Survey sample and the BEBR 2019 estimates.

Sample Comparison

	USF-Nielsen Sample	BEBR 2019 Estimates
Gender		
Male	49%	49%
Female	51%	51%
Race/Ethnicity		
White	77.2%	77%
Black	16.8%	17%
Other	6%	6%
Hispanic	26%	26%
Age		
18-24	11%	11%
25-54	47%	47%
55-64	17%	17%
65+	25%	25%

The sample of participants was stratified by Florida region during recruitment to ensure the balance of the sample matched location dynamics (Northeast Florida [13%], Tampa Bay Metro [19%], Southwest Florida [10%], Orlando/Daytona [18%], Palm Beach/Treasure Coast [10%], Southeast Florida [23%], and Northwest [7%]). For the purposes of analysis, survey responses were weighted for representativeness based on age, gender, race, ethnicity, and region of the state.

