RESULTS FROM A NATIONAL SURVEY OF BLACK ADULTS

THE LIVES AND VOICES OF BLACK WOMEN
ON THE INTERSECTIONS OF POLITICS, RACE, AND PUBLIC POLICY

June 8, 2018
INTRODUCTION.

In 2017 PerryUndem conducted a robust study of Black adults’ views toward the political landscape, racism, the intersection of race and policy, and policies that affect the ability and freedom to raise healthy children and families. The goal of the research is to provide a resource for policymakers, media, and other parties who want to understand the lives of Black adults in America and the effects of policy decisions on their lives.

The content of this report delves into the lives of Black women specifically. The full report from September 2017 can be found here.

The survey was conducted among n = 659 Black women 18 and older from July 18 to August 7, 2017. The margin of sampling error is ± 5.53 percentage points. The survey was administered by the University of Chicago's NORC AmeriSpeaks panel. More detailed methods are in the Appendix.

PerryUndem is a non-partisan public opinion research firm based in Washington, DC. The firm conducts research on public policy issues. Our clients include the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the American Cancer Society.

This study was commissioned by In Our Own Voice: National Black Women’s Reproductive Justice Agenda, with funding from the Ford Foundation.
Black women are bracing for worse times under President Trump. A large majority of Black women (88 percent) feels the country is off on the wrong track. Two-thirds (69 percent) feels “worried” about President Trump and about the same proportion (65 percent) thinks the President’s policies will negatively impact Black people (versus 12 percent who think policies will negatively impact White people).

One in four Black women (25 percent) has tried to get health care because they think the President and Congress might affect their ability to get care. One in six Black women of reproductive age (17 percent) has tried to get birth control because they think the new administration will affect their ability to get care.

Most Black women say it is not a good time to be Black in America. Fifteen percent say it is a good time to be a Black woman in America, compared to 61 percent saying it is a good time to be a White woman. Ten percent say it is a good time to be a Black man versus 67 percent saying the same of a White man.

One in three Black women (35 percent) says it has become more acceptable to treat Black people with less respect. A similar proportion (38 percent) says disrespectful treatment has become less acceptable in the past few years. The rest (26 percent) do not see a recent change.

See pages 12 – 16.
Majorities of Black women think the President’s policies will have a negative effect on each of these things:

The Black community’s ability to have access to...

• Quality, affordable health care
• Affordable mental health care
• Affordable child care
• Affordable housing
• Affordable birth control
• Affordable, legal abortion care
• Quality public schools
• Healthy and affordable food options
• Job opportunities that pay a livable wage
• Higher education

As well as the ability to...

• Keep children safe from mass incarceration
• Keep children safe from over-policing
• Have equal pay in the workplace
• Have equal opportunities to move up in the workplace
• Feel safe in neighborhoods
• Get treatment for drug and alcohol addiction
• Vote in future elections without barriers
• Raise children
• Get help in situations of domestic violence
• Plan whether or when to become a parent

See pages 14 – 15.
Majorities of Black women think racism affects many factors related to opportunities.

Two-thirds or more think racism affects the Black community's ability to...

• Have access to quality, affordable health care
• Have access to affordable mental health care
• Feel safe in neighborhoods
• Have access to affordable child care
• Have access to affordable housing
• Have access to quality public schools
• Have opportunities to move up in the workplace
• Have job opportunities that pay a livable wage
• Have equal pay in the workplace
• Have access to healthy and affordable food options
• Keep children safe from mass incarceration
• Keep children safe from over-policing
• Have enough neighborhood services
• Have access to higher education
• Vote in future elections without barriers
• Get treatment for drug and alcohol addiction
• Get help in situations of domestic violence

Half to two-thirds think racism affects the Black community's ability to...

• Raise children
• Have access to affordable birth control
• Have access to affordable, legal abortion care
• Have access to clean water
• Plan for whether or when to become a parent

A majority of Black women thinks systems in our country are set up to give White people more opportunities than Black people. More than two-thirds (70 percent) sees unequal opportunities at the core of these systems. About three in ten (27 percent) say they think systems are set up for equal opportunities. Two percent say systems are set up to benefit Black people more than White people.
One in three Black women (32 percent) has had brown water come out of their taps at home. A slightly larger proportion (37 percent) has had to boil water before drinking it. Nearly three in ten (29 percent) have had water coming from their taps that smelled unsafe. Two-thirds (69 percent) of Black women say they have experienced one of these three scenarios.

See page 27.
Over-policing is a parenting and reproductive issue for many Black women. Eight in ten Black mothers of children 18 and older (85 percent) have talked with their children about what to do if stopped by police. Majorities say over-policing damages families (80 percent), makes it harder to raise children (76 percent), and takes away Black people’s choices and freedoms around deciding whether to be a parent (61 percent). About half (54 percent) says they have considered the over-policing of black communities in their decision about whether or not to have a child.

See pages 26, 28 - 29.

So is mass incarceration. Majorities of Black women say mass incarceration damages families (88 percent), makes it harder to raise children (82 percent), has an effect on Black women’s health (67 percent), and takes away Black people’s choices and freedoms around deciding whether to be a parent (64 percent). Slightly more than half (53 percent) says they have considered mass incarceration of Black communities in their decision about whether or not to have a child.

See pages 26, 28.
Many Black women have been unsafe in their bodies: experiencing sexual pressure, assault, and a lack of autonomy.

- 37 percent say someone has pressured them to have sex when they did not want to
- 34 percent have felt pressure to take part in a sexual act before they were ready
- 33 percent have the feeling, at least once in awhile, that other people feel entitled to their body
- 28 percent say someone had sex with them without their permission or consent
- 20 percent say someone made them have sex without a condom
- 16 percent say someone made them have oral or anal sex

Half of Black women (51 percent) has experienced some type of sexual pressure or force.

Black mothers of children under 18 are particularly likely to have been unsafe in their bodies. About six in ten (59 percent) have experienced sexual assault or pressure. Forty-four percent have been pressured to have sex when they did not want to. One in three (32 percent) says someone had sex with them without their consent. One in four (26 percent) has been made to have sex without a condom. More than four in ten (46 percent) could only afford to pay $10 or less for birth control if they needed it today.

Seven in ten (70 percent) say they do not want their children to have a life similar to theirs.

One in three (35 percent) has tried to get health care recently because they thought President Trump and Congress might affect their access to care. Three in four (78 percent) feel “worried” about President Trump.

Large majorities say a woman’s ability to control whether and when she has children is important to her and her family’s financial security. Three in four Black women (75 percent) say controlling when and whether to have children is “very” important to financial security.
Access to abortion, birth control, and comprehensive sex education do not seem controversial among Black women. About eight in ten Black women (78 percent) do not want Roe v. Wade overturned and 85 percent would give support to a loved one who decided to have an abortion. Nine in ten (92 percent) consider birth control a part of basic health care for women and 92 percent agree that a woman should be able to get coverage for it even if her employer disagrees. A majority (79 percent) sides with young people having access to all of the information and education about sex and contraception they need.

See pages 36 – 41.

Many policy priorities are seen as “extremely” important by Black women to make it a better time to be a Black woman in America who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses.

These include...

• Having job opportunities that pay a livable wage
• Making sure neighborhoods are safe
• Having access to quality, affordable health care
• Having access to quality public schools
• Having equal pay in the workplace

And ...

• Making sure everyone has access to clean water
• Having access to higher education
• Having equal opportunities to move up in the workplace
• Having access to affordable child care
• Increasing support for women who face domestic violence
• Decreasing the risk of drug and alcohol abuse in Black communities
• Improving access to healthy and affordable food options
• Protecting the right to vote in future elections without barriers

See page 43 – 44.

The Obamas are the most trusted voices on public policy issues. Of a list of individuals and organizations, Black women are most likely to trust Michelle Obama (93 percent) and former President Obama (93 percent) on the issues that matter most to them.
Feelings toward the political environment

Perspectives on racism and public policy issues

Intersections of policy issues and family

Black women and control over their bodies

Views toward reproductive-related policies

Trusted voices on policy

Appendix
Methods + Issue briefs

DETAILED FINDINGS.
Feelings toward the political environment.
Most Black women feel the country is off on the wrong track – and are worried about President Trump.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feeling</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worried</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scared</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angry</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depressed</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optimistic</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopeful</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relieved</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Happy</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None of these things</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do you feel the country is...

88% Off on the wrong track

11% Heading in the right direction
Many Black women think the President’s Policies will negatively affect Black people.

In general, do you think President Trump’s policies...

Will affect Black people...

- Positively: 6%
- Negatively: 65%
- Both positively and negatively: 23%
- Will not affect (5%)

Will affect White people...

- Positively: 33%
- Negatively: 12%
- Will not affect (9%)
Do you think President Trump’s policies will have a positive effect, negative effect, or no effect on the Black community’s ability to…

Here’s how.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77%</td>
<td>Have access to quality, affordable health care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75%</td>
<td>Have access to affordable mental health care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72%</td>
<td>Have access to affordable child care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72%</td>
<td>Have access to affordable housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70%</td>
<td>Have access to affordable birth control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69%</td>
<td>Have access to affordable, legal abortion care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67%</td>
<td>Have job opportunities that pay a livable wage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67%</td>
<td>Keep children safe from mass incarceration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65%</td>
<td>Have access to quality public schools</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% Black women who think the President’s policies will have a “negative effect” on the Black community’s ability to…

(77% unmarried women)

(70% married women)
% Black women who think the President’s policies will have a “negative effect” on the Black community’s ability to…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65%</td>
<td>Have equal pay in the workplace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64%</td>
<td>Keep children safe from over-policing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64%</td>
<td>Feel safe in our neighborhoods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64%</td>
<td>Have access to healthy and affordable food options</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63%</td>
<td>Have access to higher education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62%</td>
<td>Have equal opportunities to move up in the workplace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61%</td>
<td>Vote in future elections without barriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60%</td>
<td>Get treatment for drug and alcohol addiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57%</td>
<td>Raise children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56%</td>
<td>Plan for whether or when to become a parent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Get help in situations of domestic violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Have access to clean water</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some have taken action in anticipation of new policies.

25% of Black women have tried to get health care recently because they think President Trump and Congress might affect their ability to get care.

17% of Black women ages 18 to 44 tried to get birth control recently because they think President Trump and Congress might affect their ability to get care.
Perspectives on racism and public policy issues.
Considering everything, do you think it is a good time or a bad time to be a _____ in America?

Most Black women do not think it is a good time to be Black in America.
Some Black women say treating Black people with less respect has become more acceptable; others say less acceptable.

Compared to a few years ago, do you feel it is more or less acceptable in our society to treat Black people with less respect?

- 35% More acceptable now
- 26% About the same as a few years ago
- 38% Less acceptable now

45 to 59 year olds (45%)
College degree (52%)
30 to 44 year olds (41%)
18 to 29 year olds (48%)
Most Black women see inequities at the core of systems in our society.

“Think about the systems in our society, such as school systems, health care, housing, food, banking and the government.

In general, do you think these systems are set up to: give White people more opportunities than Black people, give Black people more opportunities than White people, or give Black and White people equal opportunities?”

Do you think systems in our society are…

- Set up to give White people more opportunities: 70%
- Set up for equal opportunities: 27%
- Set up to give Black people more opportunities: 2%

College educated (85%)
Do you think RACISM affects the Black community’s ability to...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Yes</th>
<th>Question</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>80%</td>
<td>Have equal opportunities to move up in the workplace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80%</td>
<td>Feel safe in our neighborhoods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79%</td>
<td>Have job opportunities that pay a livable wage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78%</td>
<td>Have equal pay in the workplace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77%</td>
<td>Keep children safe from mass incarceration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77%</td>
<td>Have access to affordable housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76%</td>
<td>Have access to quality public schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76%</td>
<td>Have access to quality, affordable health care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74%</td>
<td>Have access to higher education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base n = 659, Black women
% Yes
Do you think racism affects the Black community's ability to …
Base n = 659, Black women

74%
Keep children safe from over-policing

72%
Have enough neighborhood services like trash cleanup, streets and sidewalks fixed, and parks taken care of

72%
Have access to affordable mental health

72%
Have access to affordable child care

70%
Have access to healthy and affordable food options

68%
Get treatment for drug and alcohol addiction

67%
Vote in future elections without barriers

67%
Get help in situations of domestic violence

63%
Raise children

63%
Have access to affordable, legal abortion care

61%
Have access to affordable birth control

57%
Have access to clean water

51%
Plan for whether or when to become a parent
Intersections of policy issues and family.
Do you want your child(ren) to have a life similar to yours?

*Base n = 510, mothers*

- Yes: 32%
- No: 67%

A majority of mothers do not want their children to have a life similar to theirs.

- < $30K household income (75%)
- Without college degree (73%)
- 30 to 44 year olds (70%)
- Mothers of children under age 18 (70%)
- College grads (61%)
- $60K+ household income (57%)
Black women have weighed many factors in deciding whether or not to have a child.

At any time in the past, have any of these things been part of your thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Yes</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>72%</td>
<td>Having job opportunities that pay a livable wage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69%</td>
<td>The amount of money in your savings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67%</td>
<td>Having access to higher education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67%</td>
<td>The safety of your neighborhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63%</td>
<td>Being married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63%</td>
<td>Having access to quality, affordable health care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63%</td>
<td>Having access to affordable child care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62%</td>
<td>Having access to quality public schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62%</td>
<td>Having equal opportunities to move up in the workplace</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base n = 659, Black women
% Yes
Part of my thinking / decision-making to have a child
Base n = 659, Black women

61%  Having access to affordable housing
61%  Having equal pay in the workplace
58%  Having access to healthy and affordable food options
54%  Over-policing of Black communities
53%  Mass incarceration of Black people
51%  The state of your physical neighborhood like trash cleanup, etc.
50%  Being safe from domestic violence in relationships
46%  Having access to affordable birth control
45%  Having access to clean water
44%  The right to vote in future elections without barriers
43%  Having access to affordable mental health care
43%  The risk of drug and alcohol use for the child or the parent
33%  Having access to affordable, legal abortion care
1 in 3 Black women has had brown water come out of their taps at home.

- 32% Has had brown water come out of the taps at home
- 29% Has had water that smelled unsafe from the taps at home
- 37% Has had to boil water at home before drinking it
- 69% YES TO ANY

45% Say having access to clean water has been a factor in deciding to become a parent.
Views on over-policing, mass incarceration, and families.

Base n = 659, Black women

Do you think over-policing of Black people...

- 80% Damages families
- 76% Makes it harder to raise children
- 68% Has an effect on Black women’s health
- 61% Takes away Black people’s choices and freedoms around deciding whether to be a parent

Do you think mass incarceration of Black people...

- 88% Damages families
- 82% Makes it harder to raise children
- 67% Has an effect on Black women’s health
- 64% Takes away Black people’s choices and freedoms around deciding whether to be a parent
Have you ever talked to your children about what to do if stopped by police?

85% YES.
Among n = 285 mothers whose children are 18 and older
Black women’s control over their bodies.
Many Black women have experienced sexual assault and a loss of safety and control over their bodies.

37% Have been pressured to have sex when they did not want to
34% Have felt pressure to take part in a sexual act before they were ready
33% Have the feeling, at least once in awhile, that other people feel entitled to their body
28% Say someone had sex with them without their permission or consent
20% Were made to have sex without a condom when they did not want to
16% Were made to have oral or anal sex when they did not want to

56% HAVE FACED AT LEAST ONE OF THE ABOVE SITUATIONS.
51% FACED SEXUAL PRESSURE OR FORCE.
% of Black mothers of children under 18

*Base n = 224*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44%</td>
<td>Have been pressured to have sex when they did not want to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Have felt pressure to take part in a sexual act before they were ready</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39%</td>
<td>Have the feeling, at least once in awhile, that other people feel entitled to their body</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32%</td>
<td>Say someone had sex with them without their permission or consent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26%</td>
<td>Were made to have sex without a condom when they did not want to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21%</td>
<td>Were made to have oral or anal sex when they did not want to</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

64% HAVE FACED AT LEAST ONE OF THE ABOVE SITUATIONS.
59% HAVE FACED SEXUAL PRESSURE OR FORCE.
Most Black women say control over whether or when to have children is important for a woman and her family’s financial stability.
If your or a loved one needed prescription birth control today, how much would you be able to pay for it, out of pocket? Even if you or your loved one don’t expect to need prescription birth control, please imagine a situation in which you do and give me your best estimate.

Base n = 268 women ages 18 to 44

Four in ten Black women ages 18 to 44 could not afford more than $10 for birth control today.

39% say they could afford $10 or less

46% of mothers of children under 18 say they could afford $10 or less.
Views toward reproductive-related policies.
Majorities consider a range of reproductive health care as "basic health care services for women."

Do you consider each of the following things part of basic health care services for women, or not?

*Base n = 659, Black women*

- **Care for pregnant women**: 97% yes
- **Screenings and treatment for cervical and breast cancer**: 97% yes
- **Screenings and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS**: 95% yes
- **Contraception, such as birth control pills, diaphragms, IUDs, and Depo-Provera shots**: 92% yes
- **Abortion care**: 66% yes
Coverage for reproductive health care does not seem controversial among Black women.

92% agree (83% strongly)
“"A woman should be able to get birth control through her health insurance, even if her boss disagrees with the idea of birth control.”

88% agree (72% strongly)
“Whether she has private or government funded health coverage, every woman should have coverage for the full range of pregnancy-related care, including prenatal care and abortion.”

ATTENDS RELIGIOUS SERV. WEEKLY+
91%

87%
In 1973, the Supreme Court’s Roe v. Wade decision established a woman’s constitutional right to have an abortion. Would you like to see the Supreme Court overturn its Roe v. Wade decision, or not?

- **78%** Do not overturn Roe v. Wade
- **19%** Overturn Roe v. Wade

The right to abortion also seems uncontroversial among most Black women.

- **89%** agree (76% strongly)
  
  “Each woman should have the right to make her own decision on abortion, even if I may disagree with her decision.”

Attend religious services once a week or more (88% agree; 67% strongly)
Let’s say a woman has decided to have an abortion. Would you want the care to...

*Base n = 659, Black women*

- Pressure her to change her mind: 14% to Be respectful of her decision (83%)
- Be expensive: 14% to Be affordable (82%)
- Not accessible in her community: 16% to Be accessible in her community (81%)
Of Black women say they have had an abortion. (9%)

Would rather not say (85%)

Of Black women would give a close friend or family member support if she had an abortion. (59% a lot; 20% some; 7% a little)

Attend religious services once a week or more (78%; 49% a lot; 21% some; 8% a little)

Attend religious services once a week+ (12%)

Would rather not say (9%)
Teen sexual development is a normal part of growing up and the best approach is to ensure that young people have all of the information and education about sex and contraception they need.

Teen sexual development needs to be closely controlled and giving young people information about things like condoms and birth control will only encourage them to have sex too early.

Most side with wanting young people to have comprehensive sex education.

Which comes closer to your own views?

Base n = 659, Black women
Switching gears, I have a few questions about sex education programs in high schools. Do you think a sex education program should cover...

- 94% Preventing unintended pregnancy by using birth control
- 91% Abstinence from sex
- 94% Preventing violence in intimate relationships
- 95% Preventing HIV & other sexually transmitted diseases
- 87% Examples of what healthy romantic relationships look like
- 96% Preventing sexual abuse
- 85% Pregnancy options including giving birth, adoption, and abortion
- 90% Sexual consent
- 70% Gender identity, including what it means to be transgender
- 71% How to help boys be open with their emotions
- 92% How to help boys respect and value girls as equal
- 90% How to help girls grow up to feel equal and confident
- 87% Different sexual orientations
- 78% Pregnancy options including giving birth, adoption, and abortion
- 71% Gender identity, including what it means to be transgender
- 87% How to help boys be open with their emotions
- 90% How to help girls grow up to feel equal and confident
- 87% Different sexual orientations
- 78% Pregnancy options including giving birth, adoption, and abortion
- 71% Gender identity, including what it means to be transgender
- 87% How to help boys be open with their emotions
- 90% How to help girls grow up to feel equal and confident

Topics to cover in high school sex education.
In your opinion, how important is each of these things to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Extremely important</th>
<th>Base n = 659, Black women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77%</td>
<td>Making sure neighborhoods are safe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75%</td>
<td>Increasing job opportunities that pay a livable wage</td>
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<tr>
<td>74%</td>
<td>Making sure everyone has access to clean water</td>
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<tr>
<td>74%</td>
<td>Improving access to quality public schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>74%</td>
<td>Having equal pay in the workplace</td>
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<tr>
<td>73%</td>
<td>Improving access to quality, affordable health care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71%</td>
<td>Improving access to higher education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71%</td>
<td>Increasing support for women who face domestic violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70%</td>
<td>Improving access to affordable child care</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Policy areas seen as “extremely” important for freedom to raise healthy children.
% Extremely important
To making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses
Base n = 659, Black women

70%
Having equal opportunities to move up in the workplace

70%
Decreasing the risk of drug and alcohol abuse in Black communities

68%
Improving access to healthy and affordable food options

64%
Increasing affordable housing

64%
Protecting the right to vote in future elections, without barriers

59%
Improving access to affordable mental health care

58%
Making sure neighborhoods have enough services

55%
Getting rid of mass incarceration of Black people

51%
Getting rid of over-policing in Black communities

50%
Improving access to birth control

49%
Getting more Black women elected to political office

34%
Improving access to affordable, legal abortion care

29%
Moving forward on equality for transgender people
Trusted people + groups on policy.
Most trusted voices.

Do you personally trust any of these people or groups to work on issues important to you? Base n = 659, Black women

- Michelle Obama (93% trust, 71% “a lot”)
- Barack Obama (93% trust, 70% “a lot”)
- NAACP (87% trust, 40% “a lot”)
- Black Lives Matter (84% trust, 32% “a lot”)
- YWCA/YMCA (78% trust, 25% “a lot”)

Others not as well known:

- National Urban League (62% trust, 28% have not heard of)
- American Civil Liberties Union (53% trust, 31% have not heard of)
- BYP 100 (Black Youth Project) (51% trust, 44% have not heard of)
- Maxine Waters (45% trust, 42% have not heard of)
- Southern Coalition for Social Justice (42% trust, 48% have not heard of)
- Color of Change (39% trust, 53% have not heard of)
- Southern Poverty Law Center (35% trust, 54% have not heard of)
- Kamala Harris (29% trust, 59% have not heard of)
Appendix.
More on the AmeriSpeak Panel
ISSUE BRIEFS

Data grouped by issue
Some data are repeated across different issue areas
Access to quality, affordable health care

Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to access 76%

Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to access 77%

Say increasing access is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses 73%

Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child 63%

Considers “basic health care services for women”

Care for pregnant women (97%)

Screenings and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS (95%)

Contraception, such as birth control pills, diaphragms, IUDs, and Depo-Provera shots (92%)

Abortion care (66%)

Screenings and treatment for cervical and breast cancer (97%)
Base n = 659, Black women

(cont.)

Agree “a woman should be able to get birth control through her health insurance, even if her boss disagrees”

92%

92%

Agree “whether she has private or government funded health coverage, every woman should have coverage for the full range of pregnancy-related care, including prenatal care and abortion”

88%

88%

Want abortion care to be affordable

39%

39%

82%

Think over-policing of Black people has an effect on Black women’s health

25%

25%

68%

Think mass incarceration of Black people has an effect on Black women’s health

17%

17%

67%

Of Black women have tried to get birth control recently because they think President Trump and Congress might affect their ability to get care (including 35% of mothers of children under 18)

Of Black women ages 18 to 44 could afford $10 or less if they needed birth control today

Of Black women ages 18 to 44 could afford $10 or less if they needed birth control today

Of Black women ages 18 to 44 tried to get birth control recently because they think President Trump and Congress might affect their ability to get care (including 35% of mothers of children under 18)
Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to access
Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to access
Say increasing access is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses
Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child

Access to quality, affordable birth control

61%

70%

50%

46%

92%

92%

39%

46%

17%

94%

Considers birth control part of “basic health care services for women”
Agree “a woman should be able to get birth control through her health insurance, even if her boss disagrees”
Of Black women ages 18 to 44 could afford $10 or less if they needed birth control today
Of Black women of young children (under 18) could afford $10 or less if they needed birth control today
Of Black women ages 18 to 44 tried to get birth control recently because they think President Trump and Congress might affect their ability to get care
Think sex education programs in high school should cover preventing pregnancy by using birth control

Base n = 659, Black women
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Access to affordable, legal abortion care</th>
<th>88%</th>
<th>Agree “whether she has private or government funded health coverage, every woman should have coverage for the full range of pregnancy-related care, including prenatal care and abortion”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to access</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to access</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Say increasing access is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Were made to have sex without a condom when they did not want to
Were made to have oral or anal sex when they did not want to
Have been pressured to have sex when they did not want to
Have felt pressured to take part in a sexual act before they were ready
Have the feeling other people feel entitled to their body at least once in a while
Say someone had sex with them without their permission or consent
Were made to have sex without a condom when they did not want to
Were made to have oral or anal sex when they did not want to

51%
Have experienced sexual pressure or force in at least one of the above scenarios (excluding feeling other people feel entitled to their bodies)

37%
34%
33%
28%
20%
16%

Base n = 659, Black women
BLACK MOTHERS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Base n = 224, mothers of children under 18

Do not want their child(ren) to have a life similar to theirs 70%

Have been pressured to have sex when they did not want to 44%

Have the feeling, at least once in awhile, that other people feel entitled to their body 39%

Have tried to get health care recently because they thought President Trump and Congress might affect their access to care 35%

Say someone had sex with them without their permission or consent 32%

Were made to have sex without a condom when they did not want to 26%

Could afford to pay $10 or less for birth control if they needed it today 46%

Say a woman’s ability to control whether and when she has children is important for her and her family’s financial security (79% very important) 92%

Feel worried about President Trump and 65% say his policies will negatively affect Black people 78%

Feel the President’s policies will have a negative effect on the Black community’s ability to access mental health care 77%

Feel the President’s policies will have a negative effect on the Black community’s ability to access birth control 73%

Feel the President’s policies will have a negative effect on the Black community’s ability to access abortion care 72%

Feel it is “extremely” important to improve access to affordable health care in order to make it a better time to be a Black woman free to raise healthy children if she chooses 70%
Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to plan
51%

Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to plan
56%

Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to raise children
63%

Believe Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to raise children
57%

Half or more say the following has been part of their decision-making around parenting:

- Having job opportunities that pay a livable wage: 72%
- The amount of money in their savings: 69%
- Having access to higher education: 67%
- The safety of their neighborhood: 67%
- Being married: 63%
- Having access to quality, affordable health care: 63%
- Having access to affordable child care: 63%
- Having access to quality public schools: 62%
- Having equal opportunities to move up in the workplace: 62%
- Having equal pay in the workplace: 61%
- Having access to affordable housing: 61%
- Having access to healthy and affordable food options: 58%
- Over-policing of Black communities: 54%
- Mass incarceration of Black people: 53%
- The state of their physical neighborhood, trash clean up, etc.: 51%
- Being safe from situations of domestic violence: 50%
- Having access to clean water: 45%
Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to access clean water: 57%.

Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to access clean water: 50%.

Say increasing access is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses: 74%.

Say access to clean water has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child: 45%.

Have had to boil water at home before drinking it: 37%.

Had brown water come out of the taps in their home: 32%.

Had water that smelled unsafe come from the taps in their home: 29%.

Have experienced as least one of these: had to boil water at home before drinking, had brown water come out of taps, or had water that smelled unsafe come out of taps: 69%.

Access to clean water

Base n = 659, Black women
Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to access
Access to healthy, affordable food options 70%
Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to access 64%
Say increasing access is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses 68%
Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child 58%

Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to access
Access to affordable housing 77%
Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to access 72%
Say increasing access is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses 64%
Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child 61%
Access to quality public schools

Believe racism affects the Black community's ability to access 76%

Believe President Trump's policies will have a negative impact on the Black community's ability to access 65%

Say increasing access is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses 74%

Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child 62%

Access to higher education

Believe racism affects the Black community's ability to access 74%

Believe President Trump's policies will have a negative impact on the Black community's ability to access 63%

Say increasing access is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses 71%

Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child 67%
Access to affordable child care

72% Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to access

72% Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to access

70% Say increasing access is “extremely” to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses

63% Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child

AMONG MOTHERS OF CHILDREN UNDER 18

Base n = 224

75% Think the President’s policies will have a negative effect on the Black community’s ability to access affordable child care

66% Think improving access to affordable child care is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses
Keep children safe from mass incarceration

Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to do this 77%
Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to do this 67%
Say this is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses 55%
Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child 53%
Say mass incarceration of Black people has an effect on Black women’s health 67%
Say mass incarceration of Black people makes it harder to raise children 82%
Say mass incarceration of Black people takes away Black people’s choices and freedoms around deciding whether to be a parent 64%
Say mass incarceration of Black people damages families 88%
Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to do this 74%
Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to do this 64%
Say this is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses 51%
Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child 54%
Of mothers of children 18 and older say they have talked to their children about what to do if stopped by the police 85%
Say over-policing of Black people has an effect on Black women’s health 68%
Say over-policing of Black people makes it harder to raise children 76%
Say over-policing of Black people takes away Black people’s choices and freedoms around deciding whether to be a parent 61%
Say over-policing of Black people damages families 80%
### Right to Vote

*Base n = 659, Black women*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Right to vote in future elections without barriers</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to have this</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to have this</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Say this is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Equal Pay

*Base n = 659, Black women*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have equal pay in the workplace</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to have this</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to have this</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Say increasing this is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to have:

- 79% have equal opportunities to move up in the workplace
- 80% have job opportunities that pay a livable wage
- 67% have job opportunities that pay a livable wage
- 62% have equal opportunities to move up in the workplace

Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to have:

- 75% have job opportunities that pay a livable wage
- 70% have equal opportunities to move up in the workplace
- 72% have job opportunities that pay a livable wage
- 62% have equal opportunities to move up in the workplace

Say increasing is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses:

- 62% have job opportunities that pay a livable wage
- 70% have equal opportunities to move up in the workplace
- 72% have job opportunities that pay a livable wage
- 62% have equal opportunities to move up in the workplace

Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child:

- 75% have job opportunities that pay a livable wage
- 70% have equal opportunities to move up in the workplace
- 72% have job opportunities that pay a livable wage
- 62% have equal opportunities to move up in the workplace

Base n = 659, Black women
Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to access help 68%

Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to access this 60%

Say increasing access is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses 70%

Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child 43%

Help/being safe in situations of domestic violence 67%

Believe President Trump’s policies will have a negative impact on the Black community’s ability to access help 50%

Say increasing access is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses 71%

Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child 50%
Believe racism affects the Black community’s ability to feel this
Say increasing this is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses
Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child

CITY SERVICES

Base n = 659, Black women

Enough neighborhood services like trash cleanup, streets and sidewalks fixed, and parks taken care of

Feel safe in their neighborhoods

Base n = 659, Black women

Feel safe in their neighborhoods

Say increasing this is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses
Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child

SAFETY

Base n = 659, Black women

Feel safe in their neighborhoods

Say increasing this is “extremely” important to making it a better time to be a Black woman in America, who is free to raise healthy children if she chooses
Say this has been part of their thinking or decision-making about whether or not to have a child
For more information:
Tresa Undem
tresa@perryundem.com