



Date: September 28, 2020

To: Interested Parties

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The evolved 2020 race structure

Joe Biden has locked in his lead in the battleground states in a way that makes him a formidable opponent in the Rust Belt and blue wall states and in the suburbs. He now brings a fully consolidated and energized base, while competing for the white working class. The contested battle lines have moved to North Carolina, Florida, Ohio, Iowa, and Arizona. Democrats have raised their game in the generic congressional contest and the named Senate battles. This is based on phone and web polls conducted for the AFT and Democracy Corps and the 3rd wave of interviews with the CVI/Democracy Corps ongoing web panel in the battleground. (See the accompanying graphs)

Four things have changed the race: the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg; Biden campaigning for white working class voters; Democrats consolidating every voter; and GOP fractures becoming more visible with 17 percent who say they used to be Republicans until a few years ago.

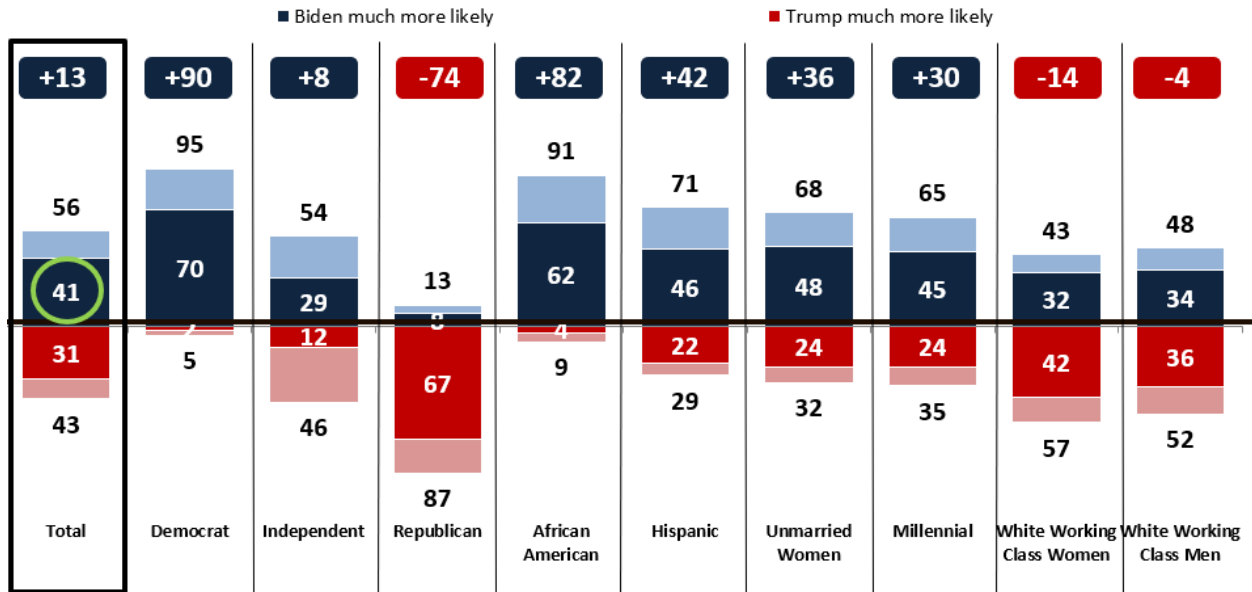
The Supreme Court

The death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Donald Trump's rush to win Senate confirmation has stirred Biden voters, Democrats, women, and anti-Trump citizens like nothing we have ever seen. (In fact, Democratic and liberals were so intent on being polled, we had to be especially cautious making sure the Democratic leads were not overstated.) This is not reciprocal. The Democratic base feels much more strongly about the issues than the Republicans. In fact, 56 percent of the voters say the choice made them more likely to vote for Biden; 43 percent for Trump.

It has produced a 9-point rise in Democrats having the highest level of engagement (%10 on a ten-point ladder). They are most concerned with the loss of *Roe v. Wade* and the Affordable Care Act — and then, the loss of pre-existing conditions and Medicaid.

Trump’s SC appointment pushed voters to Biden by 13 points – with 10-point gap in intensity

Does President Trump appointing another member of the Supreme Court make you more likely to vote for Joe Biden or Donald Trump?

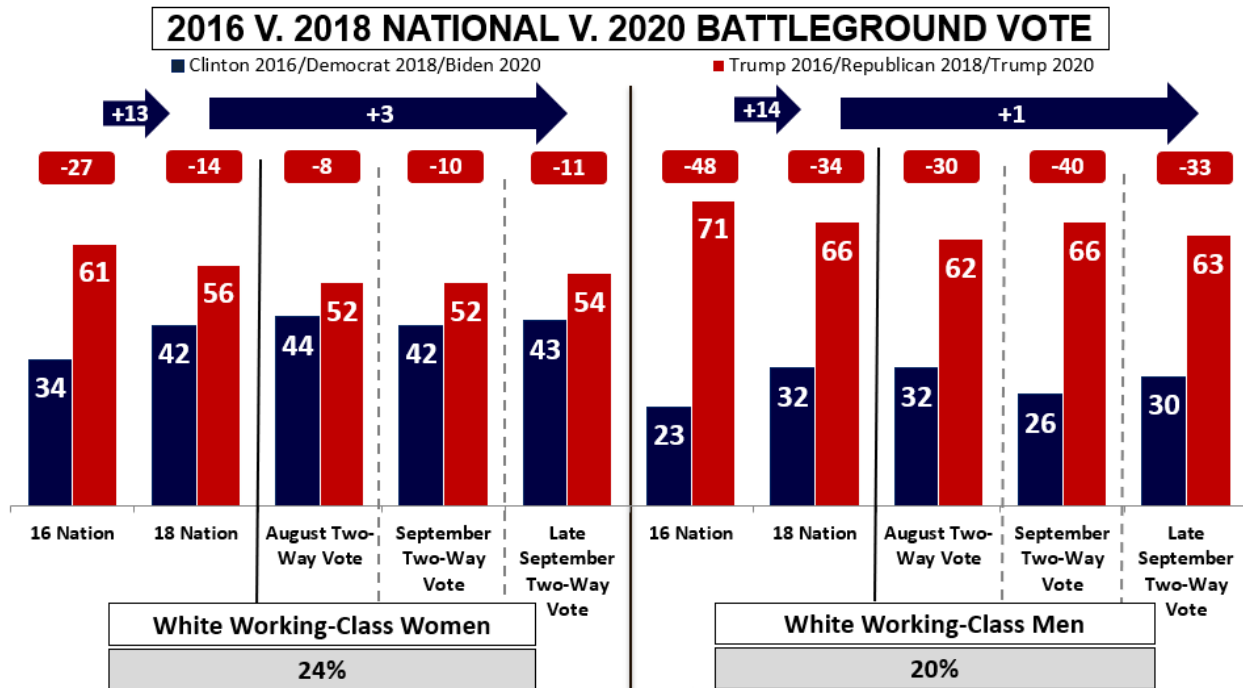


The working class

Since Biden campaigned visibly in Michigan and Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, the white working class has steadied in their vote preference. Trump has escalated his “law and order campaign,” while Biden has campaigned visibly for those voters. Biden said in Manitowoc, WI, “You will be seen, heard and respected by me. This campaign isn’t about just winning votes, it’s about restoring the basic dignity in this country that every worker deserves.”

Trump’s lead with white working-class men did continue to rise as we feared, but fell back to the Democrats’ margin in the mid-terms. Biden has a totally stable 43 percent support with the white working-class women, which makes unlikely any return to 2016 when Democrats lost by 27 points nationally.

Critically, Biden’s white blue-collar vote more than stabilized; men back to mid-terms and women holding with 43 percent of the vote

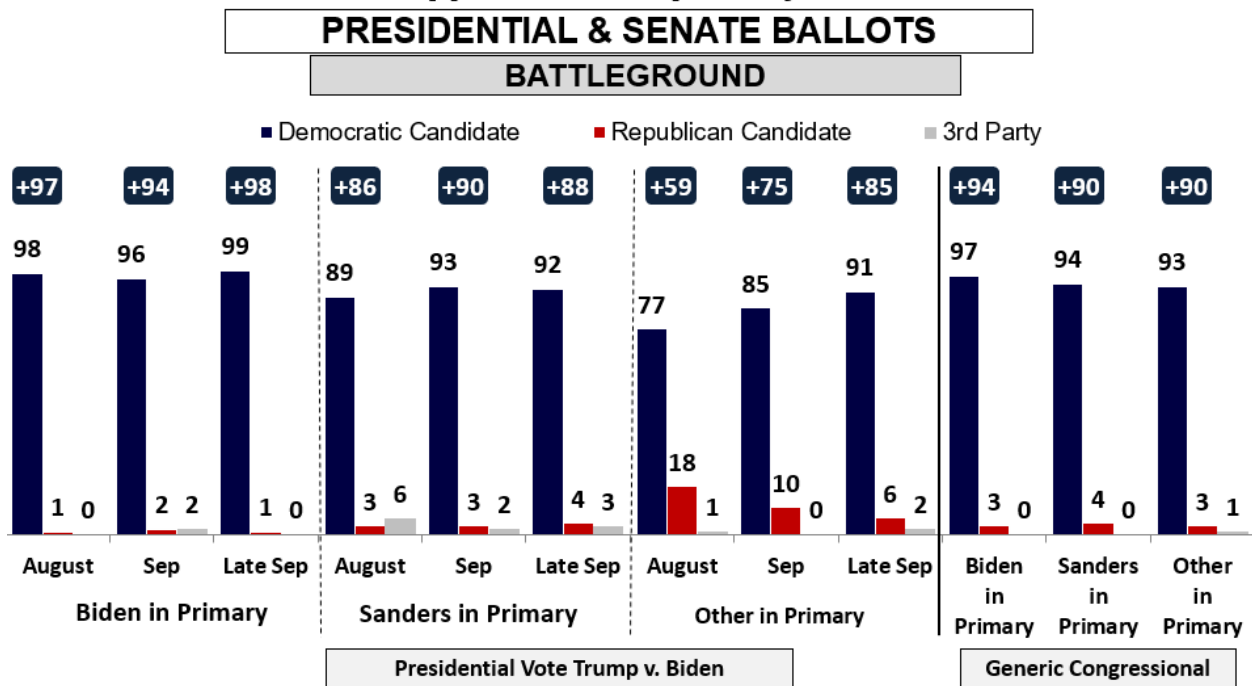


Totally consolidated base: party, millennials, women, and suburbs

The conventions consolidated Sanders voters and millennials, but combined with the Supreme Court, every part of the Democratic base became consolidated.

- Biden has now totally consolidated the Sanders primary voters who now give Biden the same level of support as Biden’s primary supporters. But now, supporters of other candidates, including Warren, Bloomberg, and Buttigieg, have moved up dramatically behind Biden. And now has produced further rises in support for Biden with white millennials/Gen Z, particularly the women.
- Biden has made further gains with the Rising American Electorate, particularly Black voters and white unmarried women. The results are quite good with Hispanics, but I will defer to the state by state polls on where they stand.
- The data base of 5000 phone interviews shows a women’s tsunami that plays itself out across the RAE – with stunning Biden support with Black women, Hispanic women, white unmarried women, and white millennial women, as well white women college graduates.
- Trump divisiveness and handling of COVID and Biden’s high marks on handling it and uniting the country has allowed Biden to push ahead with all white four-year college graduates, men and women, that is translating into stronger suburban gains.

Biden gained from total Democratic consolidation – both Sanders voters and those who supported other primary candidates



GOP fractures

Democrats are more consolidated – 6 percent of Republicans for Biden (compared to 3 percent of Democrats for Trump – including 14 percent of Moderates; 4 percent are also supporting a third party.

But the Republican Party is a diminished party that has been shedding voters: 17 percent of registered voters are GOP defectors. Right now, Biden is winning 65 percent of their votes, as are 60 percent of the named Senate candidates —where there is a lot of room for growth.

Dual haters who don't like Biden or Trump are 7 percent of the electorate, and they break for Biden 62 to 8 percent, with a lot of undecided and 3rd party. They are a critical target in weeks ahead.

