State of the State Courts in a (Post) Pandemic World

Results from a National Public Opinion Poll
// METHODOLOGY

What: National Multimodal Survey (Online + Phones)

Who: Conducted by GBAO Strategies

When: June 8-11, 2020

Polled: 1,000 Registered Voters

Stats: MOE +/- 3% (19 times out of 20)
Has Support For Law Enforcement Changed?

Q: “How much confidence do you have in your local police department?”

2018*: 89%

2020: 79%

*Highest score in our seven-year tracking poll (2014-2020)
According to NCSC’s 2015 State of the State Courts survey, only 32% of African Americans believe state courts provide equal justice to all.

“As I said before, they stopped me for no reason. You don’t have to be a criminal to be treated like one.”

— African American man (2019 NCSC focus group)
Q: “How much confidence do you have in the (state) court system?”

Percent who reported feeling confident in the state court system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Confidence %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8 Year Average — 70%
Pandemic-Related Obstacles to Reporting for Jury Duty

14% Primary caregiver to an elderly family member

19% Could not secure childcare

47% Someone in their household with an underlying health condition

55% of respondents cited at least one of these obstacles to reporting for jury service, if called.

// FIGURE 5

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### Understanding “Comfort Levels” in a (Post) Pandemic World

**Q:** “On a scale of 1 to 10, how comfortable do you personally feel right now...”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Comfort Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Going to a friend or family member’s home</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Going to the grocery store</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Going to a polling place to vote</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Going to a government office</td>
<td>6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eating out in a restaurant</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting for jury duty at your local courthouse</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serving on a jury if selected</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **52% scored this 0-5**
- **54% scored this 0-5**

// Results from a National Public Opinion Poll
What Protective Measures Improve Comfort Levels?

Q: “Please indicate whether the implementation of this protective measure would make you comfortable reporting to your local courthouse for jury duty.”

- Everyone (employees + public) wears masks: 70%
- Social distancing enforced: 70%
- Temperature checks: 74%
- Coronavirus testing: 76%

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Results from a National Public Opinion Poll
A Mask Requirement is Strongly Supported

Q: “Which of the following best captures the rules you would like to see regarding the wearing of masks?”

For those entering a courthouse, masks should be...

- No Rules: 13%
- Encouraged: 16%
- Required: 67%
- No Opinion: 3%
“This is nice, but my state is different...”

State Court Confidence
- National: 70%
- Texas: 69%

Eating at a Restaurant
- National: 5.5/10
- Texas: 5.6/10

Masks Required
- National: 67%
- Texas: 68%

Results from a National Public Opinion Poll
FIGURE 10

Attitudes Towards Using Remote Court Services

Q: “If you had business with the courts, and this service was available online, how likely would you be to use it?”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Would Use</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wouldn’t Use</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percent saying they would appear via videoconference for their own case.

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Results from a National Public Opinion Poll
Most Americans Have the Technology Tools for Remote Participation

- Subscribe to internet at home: 85%
- Own a cell phone: 95%
- No home internet, no cell phone: 2.4%

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Results from a National Public Opinion Poll
Q: “Are you more comfortable with in person or remote jury service?"

23% In Person
44% Remote
32% No Difference
People are looking for alternatives to reporting to the courthouse

The elderly present the greatest challenge—they are as uncomfortable with going to a courthouse as they are with accessing and using remote technology

Composition of the pool likely to be a challenge