1724 Connecticut Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20009 (202) 234-5570 Interviews: <u>1,212 adults nationwide</u>

Dates: May 15-20, 2020

FINAL

Study #12915 National Housing COVID Online Survey May 2020

Please note: all results are shown as percentages unless otherwise stated.

| S2. | Does anyone in your household work for a radio station, a television station, a newspaper, an advertising |
|-----|---|
| | agency, or a market research firm? |

| No | 100 | CONTINUE | [116] |
|----------|-----|-----------|-------|
| Yes | - | TERMINATE | |
| Not sure | - | | |

S3. For statistical purposes only, are you...?

| Male | 48 | [117] |
|--------|----|-------|
| Female | 52 | |

S4. Again, for statistical purposes only, please indicate how old you are.

| Under 18 | - | TERMINATE | [118-119] |
|--------------|----|------------------|-----------|
| 18-24 | 11 | | |
| 25-29 | 9 | | |
| 30-34 | 10 | | |
| 35-39 | 9 | | |
| 40-44 | 8 | | |
| 45-49 | 8 | CONTINUE | |
| 50-54 | 7 | | |
| 55-59 | 9 | | |
| 60-64 | 9 | | |
| 65-69 | 8 | | |
| 70-74 | 7 | | |
| 75 and older | 5 | | |

S5ab. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin? (FOLLOW UP:) Please indicate your race or ethnicity.

| White | 65 | [227] |
|--------------------------------|----|-------|
| Black/African American | 13 | |
| Hispanic/Latino/Spanish origin | 16 | |
| Asian | 5 | |
| Biracial or multiracial | 1 | |
| Other | - | |

S6. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

| Grade school Some high school | - 4 34 18 3 8 19 2 | [122-123] |
|--|---|-----------|
| PhD or professional degree (MD, JD, MBA) | 2 | |

S7. In politics, are you a ...?

| Strong Republican | 18 | [124] |
|------------------------|----|-------|
| Leaning Republican | 19 | |
| Completely independent | 20 | |
| Leaning Democratic | 20 | |
| Strong Democrat | 23 | |
| Total Republican | 37 | |
| Total Democratic | 43 | |
| | | |

S8a. Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

| Employed full time | 44 | | [125] |
|--|----|-------------|-------|
| Employed part time (less than 35 hours per week) | 13 | | |
| Unemployed, looking for work | 12 | CONTINUE | |
| Full-time student | 5 | Skip to Q.1 | |
| Stay-at-home parent | 5 | | |
| Retired | 21 | | |

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY "EMPLOYED FULL TIME," "EMPLOYED PART TIME," OR "UNEMPLOYED" IN Q.S8a)

S8b. Have you either lost your job or experienced a cut in your pay or wages because of the situation with the coronavirus?

| Yes, I have lost my job or experienced a cut in pay because of the coronavirus | 36 | [126] |
|---|----|-------|
| No. I have not lost my job or experienced a cut in pay because of the coronavirus | 64 | |

The next questions are going to focus on housing.

1. Do you own or rent your current residence? For the purpose of the survey, you own your home even if you have outstanding debt that you owe on your mortgage loan.

| Own | 65 | [127] |
|------------------------|----|-------|
| Rent | 31 | |
| Some other arrangement | 4 | |

2. When you think about the things that affect <u>people's security and well-being</u> here in the United States, how important is having stable affordable housing? Do you consider this to be...?

| One of the most important things Very important | 52 39 | 49 42 | [128] |
|---|----------|----------|-------|
| Fairly important Just somewhat important | 8 1 | 8 1 | |
| Not that important Total Important | 91 | 91 | |

3. Given our current situation with the coronavirus outbreak, do you think the need for people to have stable affordable housing has become more important, less important, or no different?

| Much more important | 57 | [129] |
|-------------------------|----|-------|
| Somewhat more important | 30 | |
| Somewhat less important | 3 | |
| Much less important | - | |
| No different | 10 | |
| Total Important | 87 | |

4. Do you think housing affordability is a problem or not really a problem in the area where you live? (IF RESPONDENT SAYS "YES, HOUSING AFFORDABILITY IS A PROBLEM," ASK:) Is housing affordability a very serious problem, a fairly serious problem, just somewhat of a problem, or just a minor problem in the area where you live?

| | <u>5/20</u> | <u>2-3/19</u> | <u>4-5/16</u> | |
|---|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------|
| Total Yes, Housing Affordability Is A Problem | 71 | 73 | 57 | |
| A very serious problem | 32 | 29 | 24 | [225] |
| A fairly serious problem | 31 | 31 | 15 | |
| Just somewhat of a problem | 8 | 11 | 15 | |
| Just a minor problem | - | 2 | 2 | |
| Not sure | NA | NA | 1 | |
| No, housing affordability is not really a problem | 29 | 27 | 40 | |
| Not sure | NA | NA | 3 | |

5. How important do you think it is for communities to have affordable, quality rental housing?

| | <u>5/20</u> | 2-3/19 | |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------|-------|
| Very important | 68 | 65 | [132] |
| Fairly important | 23 | 26 | |
| Just somewhat important | 7 | 7 | |
| Not that important | 2 | 1 | |
| Not important at all | - | 1 | |
| Total Important | 91 | 91 | |

6. Over the next year, do you think rent in the area where you live will become more affordable, less affordable, or stay about the same?

| Much more affordable | 8 | [133] |
|--------------------------|----|-------|
| Somewhat more affordable | 15 | |
| Somewhat less affordable | 26 | |
| Much less affordable | 18 | |
| Stay about the same | 33 | |
| Total More Affordable | 23 | |
| Total Less Affordable | 44 | |

7a. For you personally, is the amount you pay for housing--either your monthly mortgage payment or your rent ...?

| | 5/20 | | 2-3/19 | |
|-----------------------------------|------|-------------|--------|-------|
| A very big concern | 21 | | 20 | [134] |
| A fairly big concern | 23 | | 25 | |
| Just somewhat of a concern | 22 | CONTINUE | 26 | |
| Not that much of a concern | 14 | Skip to Q.8 | 15 | |
| Not a concern at all | 20 | | 14 | |
| Total Big Concern | 44 | | 45 | |
| Total Not That Much/Not A Concern | 34 | | 29 | |

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY "VERY BIG," "FAIRLY BIG", OR "JUST SOMEWHAT OF A CONCERN" IN Q.7a)

7b. Has your concern about the amount you pay for housing increased since the start of the coronavirus outbreak, or has it not?

| Concern has increased a lot | 31 | [135] |
|---|----|-------|
| Concern has increased some | 34 | |
| Concern has increased a little | 14 | |
| Concern has not increased | 21 | |
| Total Increased A Lot/Some | 65 | |
| Total Increase A Little/Has Not Increased | 35 | |

8. How much of a concern is each of the following for you personally?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY A VERY OR FAIRLY BIG CONCERN

| | Total Big <u>Concern</u> | A Very Big <u>Concern</u> | A Fairly Big <u>Concern</u> | Just Somewhat Of A <u>Concern</u> | Not That Much Of A <u>Concern</u> | Not A Concern <u>At All</u> | |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|-------|
| The coronavirus outbreak impacting your ability to cover your housing costs | 40 | 20 | 20 | 18 | 16 | 26 | [136] |
| Losing your housing if you do not get additional assistance to help cover the costs | 37 | 22 | 15 | 17 | 15 | 31 | [137] |

9. Which of the following actions, if any, have happened to you since the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak? You may select as many as apply.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

| You have had your hours cut at your job | 18 | [138-139] |
|--|----|-----------|
| You have had your pay cut or your income reduced | 17 | > |
| You cannot work due to a local or state stay-at-home order | 16 | |
| You have had to provide financial help to someone else | 13 | |
| You have lost your job or been furloughed from your job | 12 | |
| You have had your benefits cut or reduced | 8 | |
| You cannot work due to your own illness or the illness of someone else | 5 | |
| You cannot work because you have to take care of your children | 5 | |
| You cannot get to your job due to public transportation limits/shutdowns | 5 | |
| Your workplace closed permanently | 5 | |
| None of these have happened to me | 50 | |

10. Which of the following actions, if any, have you had to do since the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak to make sure you can pay your rent or mortgage? You may select as many as apply.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

| Cut back on healthy, nutritious food | 17 | [140-141] |
|--|----|-----------|
| Stop saving for retirement | 16 | > |
| Used a credit card to help cover all or some of your housing costs | 15 | |
| Accumulate credit card debt | 13 | |
| Borrowed money from a friend or family member to cover all or some of your housing costs | 11 | |
| Skip paying other important bills such as electricity, water, or insurance | 10 | |
| Take on an additional job or work more at your current job | 8 | |
| Cut back on activities and learning materials for your child | 8 | |
| Cut back on healthcare for you or a family member | 6 | |
| Taken out a payday loan or car title loan to cover all or some of your housing costs | 5 | |
| I have not had to do any of these | 54 | |

11. Since the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, do any of the following apply to you? *You may select as many as apply.*

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

| You have gone to a food bank or pantry for assistance | 16 | [142] |
|--|----|-------|
| You have fallen behind on your rent or mortgage | 11 | > |
| You have skipped a rent or mortgage payment, or not paid the full amount | 9 | |
| You have been evicted or lost your housing | 2 | |
| I have not done any of these | 75 | |

12a. Have you or your spouse/partner applied for unemployment benefits as a result of the coronavirus outbreak?

| Yes | 18 | CONTINUE | [143] |
|-----|----|---------------|-------|
| No | 82 | Skip to Q.15a | |

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY "YES" IN Q.12a)

12b. Have you received the unemployment benefits yet?

| | | Applied | |
|------------|--------|-----------------|-------|
| | All | For | |
| | Voters | Benefits | |
| Yes | 9 | 52 | [144] |
| No | 9 | 48 | |
| No (Q.12a) | 82 | NA | |

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY "YES" IN Q.12a)

13. Did you find the unemployment benefits application process to be...?

| | | Applied | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-------|
| | All | For | |
| | <u>Voters</u> | <u>Benefits</u> | |
| Very easy | 4 | 24 | [145] |
| Somewhat easy | 6 | 34 | |
| Somewhat hard | 5 | 24 | |
| Very hard | 3 | 18 | |
| No (Q.12a) | 82 | NA | |
| Total Easy | 10 | 58 | |
| Total Hard | 8 | 42 | |

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY "YES" IN Q.12a)

Do you think the unemployment benefits will be enough to cover your basic living expenses, including housing costs, over the next several months?

| | | Applied | |
|--|---------------|-----------------|-------|
| | All | For | |
| | Voters | Benefits | |
| Definitely will cover my basic living expenses | 5 | 27 | [146] |
| Probably will cover my basic living expenses | 8 | 42 | |
| Probably will not cover my basic living expenses | 3 | 18 | |
| Definitely will not cover my basic living expenses | 2 | 13 | |
| No (Q.12a) | 82 | NA | |
| Total Will Cover | 13 | 69 | |
| Total Will Not Cover | 5 | 31 | |

15a. Have you received a stimulus check from the federal government?

| Yes | 68 | CONTINUE | [147] |
|--------------|----|--------------|-------|
| No | 30 | Skip to Q.16 | |
| I'm not sure | 2 | | |

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY "YES" IN Q.15a)

15b. What did you or do you plan to use the money from the stimulus check to pay for? *Please select all that apply.*

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

| Monthly bills, such as electricity, water, and insurance | 48 | [148] |
|--|----|-------|
| Groceries and food to eat at home | 46 | > |
| Savings or retirement | 28 | |
| To pay down debt | 26 | |
| Rent or mortgage payment | 23 | |
| Retail purchases, such as clothing, electronics, and household items | 12 | |
| Healthcare expenses, including medication | 10 | |
| Entertainment and leisure activities, such as restaurants and movies | 5 | |
| Something not mentioned here | 6 | |
| | | |

16. How big of a concern are each of the following things for you?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY A VERY OR FAIRLY BIG CONCERN

| | Total Big <u>Concern</u> | A Very Big <u>Concern</u> | A Fairly Big Concern | Just Somewhat Of A <u>Concern</u> | Not That Much Of A Concern | Not A Concern <u>At All</u> | |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Even after we re-open the economy, people will struggle for a long time to get back on their feet and make up their lost income | 81 | 50 | 31 | 13 | 3 | 3 | [152] |
| People who are experiencing homelessness are not able to shelter in place to protect against the spread of the coronavirus | 78 | 51 | 27 | 14 | 4 | 4 | [149] |
| Evictions and homelessness will increase because people are losing their income as a result of the coronavirus outbreak | 78 | 49 | 29 | 13 | 5 | 4 | [151] |
| People who are experiencing homelessness are at high risk of getting the coronavirus | 77 | 49 | 28 | 15 | 5 | 3 | [150] |
| If there is an increase in homelessness, it will lead to more spreading of the coronavirus and pose a health risk for everyone | 75 | 47 | 28 | 16 | 5 | 4 | [153] |

| 17. | Changing topics now, do you think government has an important role to play in making sure that people do |
|-----|--|
| | not get evicted from their homes as a result of the coronavirus outbreak? |

| Yes, government has an important role to play | 89 | [154] |
|--|----|-------|
| No, government does not have an important role to play | 11 | |

18. Do you think government has an important role to play in making sure that people who are homeless have a stable, affordable home during the coronavirus outbreak?

| Yes, government has an important role to play | 85 | [155] |
|---|----|-------|
| No government does not have an important role to play | 15 | |

19. Do you think government is doing too much, too little, or the right amount to make sure people can continue to cover their housing costs during the coronavirus outbreak?

| Too much | 8 | [156] |
|------------------|----|-------|
| Too little | 60 | |
| The right amount | 32 | |

20. How important do you think it is for government to provide assistance to help people cover their housing costs during the coronavirus outbreak?

| Very important | 53 | [157] |
|-----------------------------|----|-------|
| Fairly important | 27 | |
| Just somewhat important | 15 | |
| Not that important | 4 | |
| Not important at all | 1 | |
| Total Very/Fairly Important | 80 | |

21a. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY STRONGLY AGREE

| | Total <u>Agree</u> | Strongly Agree | Some- what <u>Agree</u> | Some- what <u>Disagree</u> | Strongly <u>Disagree</u> | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| Our elected leaders in Washington should take major action to make sure everyone has stable, affordable housing during the coronavirus outbreak | | | | | | [159] |
| May 2020 | 87 | 54 | 33 | 9 | 4 | |
| The coronavirus outbreak has demonstrated that the government needs to invest more in affordable housing over the long-term, to help ensure people are prepared when a crisis like the coronavirus hits | | | | | | [162] |
| May 2020 | 86 | 52 | 34 | 10 | 4 | |
| Ensuring that everyone has a safe, decent, affordable place to live should be a top national priority | | | | | | [158] |
| May 2020 | 85 | 52 | 33 | 10 | 5 | |
| February/March 2019 | 85 | 53 | 32 | 9 | 6 | |
| Providing housing assistance to prevent evictions and homelessness during the coronavirus outbreak should be considered as urgent a priority as investments in healthcare | | | | | | [161] |
| May 2020 | 88 | 50 | 38 | 9 | 3 | |
| Our elected leaders are not putting enough attention on people's need for help to pay for their housing during the coronavirus outbreak | | | | | | [160] |
| May 2020 | 78 | 44 | 34 | 16 | 6 | |

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY "STRONGLY AGREE" OR "SOMEWHAT AGREE" IN Q.21a)

21b. Why do you (strongly agree/somewhat agree) that our elected leaders in Washington should take major action to make sure everyone has stable, affordable housing during the coronavirus outbreak?

What are the main reasons you (strongly agree/somewhat agree) with this statement? 1

| The virus will spread if people do not have housing, homelessness will spread the virus, a public health issue | 24% |
|--|-------------------|
| the virus, a public fleatiff issue | Z 4 /0 |
| This is the government's responsibility, duty to help people in this crisis | 13 |
| People have lost their ability to pay through no fault of their own, pandemic has caused loss of jobs and income | 13 |
| Everyone should have stable, affordable housing, basic human right | 10 |
| To keep people from becoming homeless, being evicted, losing their homes | 8 |
| The government needs to do more than they have done | 6 |
| It is necessary, important, agree with the statement | 6 |
| Need to help people, not just corporations, special interests, themselves | 5 |
| It was the government's decision to ask people to stay home, they shut down the | |
| country | 4 |
| All other responses | 13 |
| Don't know; no response | 3% |

¹ Results among 1,051 respondents.

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY "STRONGLY DISAGREE" OR "SOMEWHAT DISAGREE" IN Q.21a)

21c. Why do you (strongly disagree/somewhat disagree) that our elected leaders in Washington should take major action to make sure everyone has stable, affordable housing during the coronavirus outbreak?

What are the main reasons you (strongly disagree/somewhat disagree) with this statement? 1

| People need to take responsibility, not rely on the government | 24% |
|---|-----|
| Local, state government should handle this issue | 13 |
| Economic consequences, massive government debt, taxes will go up | 13 |
| Housing is not government's responsibility | 10 |
| There are higher priorities than housing | 8 |
| Washington has done enough, already doing what it can, sent stimulus checks | 6 |
| Too much government involvement, interference in our lives | 6 |
| Open the country back up so people can work | 4 |
| All other responses | 20 |
| Don't know; no response | 4% |

¹ Results among 161 respondents.

22a. Below are some approaches elected officials could take to address the problems of housing affordability. For each one, please indicate whether you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose it.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY STRONGLY FAVOR

| | Total <u>Favor</u> | Strongly <u>Favor</u> | Some- what <u>Favor</u> | Some- what <u>Oppose</u> | Strongly Oppose | |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Provide emergency crisis assistance for households with the lowest incomes to help cover the rent if they experience an unexpected economic hardship, such as losing a job or a medical emergency that is not covered by insurance | | | | | | [169] |
| May 2020 | 90 | 54 | 36 | 7 | 3 | |
| February/March 2019 | 88 | 48 | 40 | 9 | 3 | |
| Ensure that families with young children who are receiving rental assistance can live in neighborhoods that are safe, have good schools, and have job prospects | | | | | | [164] |
| May 2020 | 90 | 53 | 37 | 7 | 3 | |
| February/March 2019 | 90 | 52 | 38 | 7 | 3 | |
| Expand stability services for households experiencing an unforeseen economic crisis so that they can avoid eviction and homelessness | | | | | | [168] |
| May 2020 | 91 | 52 | 39 | 7 | 2 | |
| February/March 2019 | 89 | 47 | 42 | 8 | 3 | |
| Expand investments in housing development programs that will build more housing units that are affordable for low-income people | | | | | | [166] |
| May 2020 | 88 | 51 | 37 | 9 | 3 | |
| February/March 2019 | 86 | 46 | 40 | 10 | 4 | |
| Expand funding for federal housing policies to ensure that households with the lowest incomes receive rental assistance for their housing costs | | | | | | [163] |
| May 2020 | 88 | 49 | 39 | 9 | 3 | |
| February/March 2019 | 80 | 41 | 39 | 15 | 5 | |
| Expand funding for rental assistance to ensure that the approximately 17 million households who currently qualify for rental assistance but are not receiving it, get it | | | | | | [165] |
| May 2020 | 87 | 49 | 38 | 10 | 3 | |
| February/March 2019 | 82 | 43 | 39 | 12 | 6 | |
| Ensure that many newly constructed housing units are affordable for households with the lowest incomes and are located in neighborhoods that are safe, have good schools, and job prospects | | | | | | [167] |
| May 2020 | 87 | 49 | 38 | 9 | 4 | [167] |
| February/March 2019 ¹ | 85 | 51 | 34 | 11 | 4 | |
| Give renters a tax break, similar to the federal tax break | | • | 0 1 | | · | |
| homeowners currently receive when they deduct the interest they pay on their mortgage | | | | | | [170] |
| May 2020 | 85 | 48 | 37 | 11 | 4 | |
| February/March 2019 | 81 | 43 | 38 | 14 | 5 | |

¹In February/March 2020 the item was phrased, "Ensure that many newly constructed housing units are affordable for households earning less than \$25,000 and are located in neighborhoods that are safe, have good schools, and have job prospects."

22b. Below is the same list of approaches to address the problem of housing affordability. This time, please rank the three that you think should be the most important priorities for elected officials to enact.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE TOP THREE HIGHEST TOP PRIORITY PERCENTAGE

| | Top <u>Priority</u> | Combined Top Three <u>Priorities</u> | |
|--|------------------------|--|-----------|
| Provide emergency crisis assistance for households with the lowest incomes to help cover the rent if they experience an unexpected economic hardship, such as losing a job or a medical emergency that is not covered by insurance | 20 | 54 | [171-173] |
| Expand stability services for households experiencing an unforeseen economic crisis, so that they can avoid eviction and homelessness | 11 | 42 | > |
| Ensure that families with young children who are receiving rental assistance can live in neighborhoods that are safe, have good schools, and have job prospects | 15 | 40 | |
| Give renters a tax break, similar to the federal tax break homeowners currently receive when they deduct the interest they pay on their mortgage | 13 | 37 | |
| Expand funding for rental assistance to ensure that the approximately 17 million households who currently qualify for rental assistance, but are not receiving it, do receive it | 11 | 37 | |
| Ensure that many newly constructed housing units are affordable for households with the lowest incomes and are located in neighborhoods that are safe, have good schools, and job | 40 | - | |
| Expand funding for federal housing policies to ensure that households with the lowest incomes receive rental assistance for | 12 | 32 | |
| their housing costs Expand investments in housing development programs that will | 10 | 32 | |
| build more housing units that are affordable for the lowest-income people | 8 | 27 | |

Below are some immediate approaches that elected officials could take to address the problems of housing 23. instability and homelessness during the coronavirus outbreak. For each one, please indicate whether you favor or oppose it.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY STRONGLY FAVOR

| | Total <u>Favor</u> | Strongly <u>Favor</u> | Some- what <u>Favor</u> | Some- what <u>Oppose</u> | Strongly Oppose | |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Enact a uniform, nationwide policy that stops all evictions during the coronavirus outbreak | 89 | 59 | 30 | 7 | 4 | [175] |
| Provide emergency rental assistance for people who are struggling to afford the rent and are at serious risk of eviction as a result of the coronavirus outbreak | 93 | 58 | 35 | 5 | 2 | [176] |
| Expand funding for homeless assistance programs that minimize the number of people living in large shelters by providing them with alternative individual spaces for | | | 40 | _ | | |
| isolation and self-quarantine | 90 | 50 | 40 | 1 | 3 | [174] |

24. Below are some statements describing reasons that some people give for why it is important to address the problems of housing instability and homelessness during the coronavirus outbreak. For each statement, please indicate how important a reason it is to take action to address these problems.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY VERY IMPORTANT REASON

| | Total Very/ Fairly <u>Important</u> | Very Important <u>Reason</u> | Fairly Important <u>Reason</u> | Just Somewhat Important <u>Reason</u> | Not An Important <u>Reason</u> | |
|---|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-------|
| With roughly 30 million Americans newly unemployed or furloughed from their jobs, investing in housing and providing protections from evictions is needed now more than ever. Keeping people housed will not only save taxpayers money in the short-term, it will provide the stability necessary for people to stay healthy and help rebuild our economy | 89 | 59 | 30 | 9 | 2 | [212] |
| People need a home to be able to wash their hands, be protected from the weather, and maintain their health and safety. Research has shown that safe and affordable housing helps to curb healthcare costs | 88 | 59 | 29 | 9 | 3 | [211] |
| Temporary halts on evictions help people keep their homes when they lose their jobs, but when they are removed, all the back rent is due and they face losing their homes. Emergency rental assistance lets people keep their homes and shelter in place, which keeps people safe and healthy | 87 | 58 | 29 | 11 | 2 | [178] |
| The nation is experiencing an unprecedented spike in unemployment and job losses are expected to grow dramatically in coming months. Before the coronavirus outbreak, millions of low-income renters were already having trouble affording their rent, and their numbers are likely to grow significantly due to the spike in unemployment | 87 | 57 | 30 | 10 | 3 | [177] |
| During a pandemic, evictions and other types of housing instability worsen public health risks as well as increase hardship for individual households. Our collective health depends on every one of us having safe, affordable housing | 87 | 56 | 31 | 10 | 3 | [179] |
| Even before the coronavirus outbreak, many people faced the impossible decision between paying to put food on the table or paying to keep a roof over their head | 86 | 54 | 32 | 11 | 3 | [209] |
| The government must provide resources to ensure that people are safely and affordably housed because it is morally the right thing to do | 80 | 52 | 28 | 14 | 6 | [208] |
| Emergency rental assistance is necessary so that landlords continue to receive rental income, which, in turn, enables them to maintain their properties and ensures that our communities continue to have affordable housing options | 84 | 51 | 33 | 13 | 3 | [180] |
| People of color, who have experienced job, food, and housing instability at higher rates due to a legacy of discrimination, are being hit hardest by the coronavirus and the associated economic hardship | 74 | 44 | 30 | 16 | 10 | [210] |

25. Which of the following statements do you agree with more, even if it is not exactly how you feel?

STATEMENT A: Because we are in a time of national crisis, our most important priority right now needs to be the health and safety of the American people. We know that making sure people can stay in their homes is critical to stable families and communities, which will be essential to rebuilding our economy. The government should make major investments to ensure that people who cannot cover their housing costs can stay in their homes during the coronavirus outbreak and through the recovery, even if it means increasing the deficit.

STATEMENT B: The government has already invested \$2.5 trillion in aid and relief for American families, workers, and businesses during the coronavirus outbreak and we have to draw the line somewhere. Businesses have already started to re-open and people will be back to work making money to support their families. We cannot afford to go deeper into debt, increasing the federal deficit, which will ultimately hurt the economy and be a burden for future generations.

| Agree much more with Statement A | 38 | [213] |
|--------------------------------------|----|-------|
| Agree somewhat more with Statement A | 29 | |
| Agree somewhat more with Statement B | 18 | |
| Agree much more with Statement B | 15 | |
| Total Statement A | 67 | |
| Total Statement B | 33 | |

FACTUALS: These last few questions are for statistical purposes only.

F1. Which of the following describes you?

| Unmarried, not living with partner | 33 | [214] |
|------------------------------------|----|-------|
| Unmarried, living with a partner | 9 | |
| Married | 40 | |
| Separated | 2 | |
| Widowed | 6 | |
| Divorced | 10 | |

F2. Do you have any children under age 18 currently living in your household?

| Yes, kids under 18 in household | 28 | [215] |
|-----------------------------------|----|-------|
| No, no kids under 18 in household | 72 | |

F3. How would you describe the area in which you live?

| City | 32 | [216] |
|----------------------------|----|-------|
| Suburb near a city | 32 | |
| Small town not near a city | 14 | |
| Rural or country area | 22 | |

F4. Are you currently registered to vote?

| Yes, registered to vote | 86 | [217] |
|------------------------------------|----|-------|
| No, not registered to vote | 12 | |
| Not sure about registration status | 2 | |

F5. Thinking about your general approach to issues, do you consider yourself to be...?

| 15 | [218] |
|----|----------------------|
| 20 | |
| 35 | |
| 15 | |
| 15 | |
| 35 | |
| 30 | |
| | 20 35 15 15 |

F6a. Approximately what percentage of your total household monthly income would you say you spend on your rent or mortgage payment?

| 20% or less | 25 | | [219] |
|---------------|----|--------------|-------|
| 21% to 30% | 23 | | |
| 31% to 40% | 16 | Skip to Q.F7 | |
| 41% to 50% | 12 | | |
| More than 50% | 11 | | |
| I am not sure | 13 | CONTINUE | |

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY "I AM NOT SURE," IN Q.F6a)

F6b. Do you think you spend more than 30% of your total household monthly income or less than 30% of your total household monthly income on your rent or mortgage?

| More than 30% | 13 | [220] |
|---------------|----|-------|
| Less than 30% | 23 | |
| I am not sure | 64 | |

| QF6AB COMBINED | | | |
|----------------|----|-----------|--|
| Less than 30% | 52 | [219/220] | |
| More than 30% | 40 | • | |
| I am not sure | 8 | | |

F7. For statistical purposes only, if you added together the yearly income of all the members of your family who were living at home last year, what would the total be?

| Less than \$10,000 | 5 | [221-222] |
|---------------------------------|----|-----------|
| Between \$10,000 and \$20,000 | 12 | |
| Between \$20,001 and \$30,000 | 13 | |
| Between \$30,001 and \$40,000 | 12 | |
| Between \$40,001 and \$50,000 | 10 | |
| Between \$50,001 and \$75,000 | 18 | |
| Between \$75,001 and \$100,000 | 11 | |
| Between \$100,001 and \$150,000 | 10 | |
| More than \$150,000 | 6 | |
| I am not sure | 3 | |

| REGION | | |
|-----------|----|-------|
| Northeast | 21 | [109] |
| South | 34 | |
| Midwest | 21 | |
| West | 24 | |