

YWOMENVOTE 2022 Spotlight on Black Women

This spotlight on Black women provides a brief overview of their concerns and priorities heading into the 2022 Congressional session and national election. Drawn from [YWCA USA's fourth national survey of women in the United States](#), this data centers women of color whose voices are critical yet frequently overlooked in policy discussions, and frames clear expectations for legislative action to address their concerns and priorities. While women overall are remarkably consistent in their concerns and priorities, the nuanced experiences of women of color shape their specific expectations for action to meet their most pressing concerns.

In fact, Black women are one of the [largest](#) voting constituencies in the U.S. electorate. Not only do Black women show up, research suggests that – despite voter suppression efforts targeted at voters of color across the nation – they are also the [most determined](#) to cast their vote. Current findings suggest that Black women will continue to be key influencers in the 2022 elections.

POLICY SOLUTIONS: Black Women

Black women express strong support for legislation to address racial justice, childcare, economic, and community service issues. Notably, Black women's **support for racial justice legislation is between 14 percentage points and 18 percentage points higher than women overall.**

Top Policies: Black Women <i>Ranked by One of the Most Important/Very Important Combined</i>
End Racial/Religious Profiling (83%) (+14 compared to women overall)
Pass the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act (79%) (+18)
Funding for Nonprofit Community Services (76%) (+8)
Living Wages and Skills-Based Training for Childcare Sector (76%) (+7)
Pass legislation declaring racism as a public health crisis (75%) (+15)
Expand access to high quality childcare that is affordable, dependable, and accessible (75%) (+8)
Pass Paid Family and Medical Leave, Paid Sick Leave and Paid Safe Leave (75%) (+3)
End Workplace Harassment and Sexual Violence (75%) (+4)

TOP CONCERNS: Black Women

Black women share core concerns with all women across a range of racial justice, economic, and health issues, but at higher levels of intensity. Of these top concerns, **Black women express acute concerns regarding racial justice issues related to police violence (+31), acts of racially motivated hate (+25), and white nationalism (+15) in comparison to women overall.**

Top Concerns: Black Women <i>Ranked by Very/Somewhat Worried Combined</i>
Keeping you and your family safe from police violence (61%) (+31 compared to women overall)
The rise in white nationalism in the U.S. (59%) (+15)
That your total family income will not be enough to meet your family's expenses (59%) (+5)
Being able to afford your rent or mortgage (56%) (+8)
Acts of hate directed toward you or your family because of your race or ethnicity (54%) (+25)
Stress, anxiety or trauma from COVID-19 (53%) (+4)
That reproductive health services for women, including the right to have an abortion, remain legal where I live (48%) (+4)
Earning equal pay – equal to what a man would earn for the same work (48%) (+7)

FULL SURVEY RESULTS AVAILABLE AT YWOMENVOTE.ORG

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

This online survey was designed and conducted by Finn Partners and reached a total of N=1,438 women nationwide between December 22, 2021 and January 5, 2022. The overall sample includes oversamples to ensure at least N=200 were interviewed in the following categories: Black women, Hispanic/Latinx women, Asian American and Pacific Islander women, and Native American women. These oversamples were weighted down to their proper size in the final dataset to ensure that the findings are representative by race and ethnicity. Additionally, slight weighting was applied to the data set by age, region, and education level, to ensure the overall representativeness of the sample as well.

ABOUT YWCA

For over 160 years, YWCA has been on a mission to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. YWCA has been at the forefront of the most pressing social movements – from voting rights to civil rights, from affordable housing to pay equity, from violence prevention to health care reform. Today, we combine programming and advocacy in order to generate institutional change in three key areas: racial justice and civil rights, empowerment and economic advancement of women and girls, and health and safety of women and girls.