



METHODS

Get Ready, Florida! survey of 1,582 Florida voters, August 31-September 2, 2020. Average margin of error +/- 2.5% at the 95% confidence level. Results are representative of Florida voters in terms of age, race, gender, region, and political affiliation.

KEY FINDINGS

Halfway through hurricane season, Floridians remain as concerned as they were just prior to this season

More than half of Floridians (51%) say they are “more” (27%) or “much more” (24%) concerned about the current hurricane season than last due to COVID-19. Notably, this level of concern is unchanged since May 2020, when this question was asked at the height of the coronavirus pandemic and just prior to the start of hurricane season. Heightened concern for this hurricane season is reported by greater portions of:

- Democrats (71%) compared with non-partisan voters (53%) and Republicans (25%)
- Black voters (71%) compared with white voters (43%) and Hispanic voters (55%)

More than 8 in 10 Floridians (84%) have at least one concern regarding the upcoming hurricane season, down slightly from the 91% who indicated at least one concern just prior to hurricane season. These concerns include: more strains on first responders (46%); business closures or more hits to the economy (46%); uncertainty about where would be safe to evacuate to (32%); fewer shelters open due to social distancing (32%); the ability to care for elderly or special needs relatives (29%); and being able to afford supplies (24%). Other than concerns regarding business closures and the economy, where levels are consistent across demographic groups, concern are expressed greater portions of by:

- Democrats (91%) compared with non-partisan voters (83%) and Republicans (75%)
- Non-white voters (90%) compared with white voters (79%)
- Voters ages 18-34 (87%) compared with voters ages 35 and older (83%)

Most Floridians say they would shelter in place if a hurricane were approaching, due mainly to concerns about protecting their home in the aftermath, skepticism about government recommendations in general, and worries about missing their job

If a strong hurricane were approaching, more than two-thirds (68%) say they would shelter in place and almost 1 in 3 (30%) would evacuate to another region, while 2% would utilize a public shelter. The preference to shelter in place is expressed by greater portions of:

- Voters under age 55 (72%) compared with those age 55 and older (62%)
- Hispanic voters (79%) and black voters (71%) compared with white voters (62%)

Multiple reasons at least somewhat appear to limit Floridians’ ability or desire to evacuate ahead of a hurricane. These include: not being nearby to protect their home in the aftermath (64%); skepticism about government recommendations in general (55%); lack of shelter options for pets (45%); having no evacuation plan (43%); the presence of medical issues within the household (38%); concerns about missing work (37%); and a lack of transportation (19%). Note that even the least common response (lack of transportation) reflects a significant concern held by about 1 in 5 Floridians.



Half of all respondents have worked remotely at some point during the COVID-19 pandemic, including 62% of those under the age of 55. Among Floridians who have done so, 62% say this ability to work remotely would influence their willingness to evacuate if a storm were heading their way. This is the case for 77% of Floridians ages 18-34 and 64% of those ages 35-54.

Most Floridians would find it challenging to pay a \$5,000 hurricane deductible if needed, and most are uncertain what benefits their policies cover

The average hurricane deductible in Florida is approximately \$5,000. Fewer than one-third of Florida homeowners (32%) would find a \$5,000 hurricane deductible “very manageable” or “no problem” at all to pay following a storm. In other words, more than two-thirds (68%) would find paying a hurricane deductible to be challenging at this time, including 83% of Floridians ages 18-34, 85% of Black voters, and 79% of Hispanic voters.

Among Floridians with homeowners or renters insurance, more than 6 in 10 (62%) are unsure what their policies would cover following a storm. Further, despite the fact that most hurricane policies do not cover tree and debris removal from yards, 16% of Florida policyholders believe this benefit is included in their policy.

More than 1 in 4 Floridians have experienced challenges with tree and debris removal following a storm; many would be willing to pay extra to have these services covered by their insurance policy; and most would support their local government investing tax dollars in debris removal infrastructure

More than 1 in 4 Floridians (27%) say they have experienced one or more problems relating to yard debris or fallen trees following a storm. This includes 19% who say they have been blocked from their home or driveway, 11% who say they were stuck with large bills for debris removal, and 4% who say they or a member of their household has been injured trying to move debris out of the way.

Most hurricane insurance policies do not cover tree and debris removal or the replacement of spoiled food. About 1 in 3 Floridians (31%) say they would be willing to pay something extra each month in order for their insurance policy to cover these types of services following a storm. Specifically, 18% say they would be willing to pay \$25 per month and 12% say they would be willing to pay between \$50 and \$150. The willingness to pay for this type of coverage is greater among:

- Democrats (35%) compared with Republicans (29%) and non-partisan voters (28%)
- Voters ages 18-34 (43%) compared with those ages 35-54 (32%) and those ages 55 and older (24%)
- Black voters (38%), Hispanic voters (38%), and voters of other races (44%) compared with white voters (25%)

More than two-thirds of respondents (68%) support having their city or county invest tax dollars in contracts for services in advance of a disaster to ensure that resources are available to deploy immediately after a storm, in order to clear massive debris and help a return to normal. Only 8% oppose such a policy. The remaining 24% don't know. Among those who expressed a specific preference (excluding “don't know”), 89% are in support, and 11% opposed. Greater levels of support are expressed among:

- Democrats (76%) compared with non-partisan voters (65%) and Republicans (59%)
- Male voters (72%) compared with female voters (65%)
- Voters under the age of 35 (76%) compared with those older than 35 (65%)
- Black voters (76%) and voters of other races (74%) compared with white voters (67%) and Hispanic voters (62%).



DATA TABLES

Do your experiences over the past few months with the COVID-19 pandemic make you feel more concerned, less concerned, or no different about hurricane season this year compared with last?													
	ALL	DEM	NPA	REP	F	M	18-34	35-54	55+	W	B	H	O
More' or 'Much more' concerned (NET)	51%	71%	53%	25%	52%	50%	55%	52%	49%	43%	71%	55%	57%
<i>Much more concerned</i>	24%	35%	24%	10%	27%	21%	23%	28%	22%	18%	43%	25%	29%
<i>More concerned</i>	27%	35%	29%	16%	26%	29%	33%	24%	27%	25%	28%	30%	29%
No difference	44%	25%	45%	67%	44%	45%	40%	43%	47%	53%	26%	38%	37%
Less concerned	3%	2%	2%	3%	2%	3%	3%	2%	3%	2%	3%	4%	1%
Much less concerned	2%	1%	1%	4%	2%	3%	1%	4%	2%	2%	0%	3%	5%

Which of the following, if any, concern you about the upcoming hurricane season? Select all that apply.													
	ALL	DEM	NPA	REP	F	M	18-34	35-54	55+	W	B	H	O
More strains on first responders	46%	55%	45%	35%	49%	43%	54%	46%	43%	45%	52%	46%	49%
Business closures or more hits to the economy	46%	45%	46%	46%	48%	44%	49%	49%	42%	44%	45%	49%	53%
Not sure where would be safe to evacuate to	32%	46%	31%	16%	37%	29%	43%	32%	28%	28%	44%	33%	39%
Fewer shelters open due to social distancing	32%	43%	32%	16%	32%	31%	42%	32%	26%	26%	44%	36%	35%
Caring for elderly or special needs relatives	29%	36%	27%	21%	30%	28%	31%	28%	29%	26%	38%	30%	32%
Being able to afford supplies	24%	33%	24%	13%	29%	20%	39%	29%	14%	16%	38%	33%	28%
None of these concern me	16%	9%	17%	25%	15%	17%	13%	17%	17%	21%	10%	11%	10%



Due to COVID-19 concerns or otherwise, if a strong hurricane were approaching, which of the following would you be most likely to do?													
	ALL	DEM	NPA	REP	F	M	18-34	35-54	55+	W	B	H	O
Shelter in place	68%	69%	70%	64%	68%	67%	73%	71%	62%	62%	71%	79%	64%
Evacuate to another region	30%	29%	26%	35%	29%	31%	24%	26%	36%	36%	28%	16%	32%
Utilize a public shelter	2%	2%	4%	1%	3%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	5%	4%

If asked to evacuate RIGHT NOW, how strongly would each of these factors limit you?	Strongly limit	Somewhat limit	Not limit at all	Would limit at least somewhat
Not being nearby to protect my home in the aftermath	28%	36%	36%	64%
Skepticism about government recommendations in general	18%	37%	45%	55%
No shelter for pets	28%	17%	55%	45%
No evacuation plan in place	13%	30%	57%	43%
Medical issues for myself or a family member	15%	23%	62%	38%
A job that won't pay if I'm gone	21%	15%	63%	37%
Lack of access to transportation	7%	11%	81%	19%

Have you worked remotely at any point during the COVID-19 pandemic?													
	ALL	DEM	NPA	REP	F	M	18-34	35-54	55+	W	B	H	O
Yes	50%	52%	54%	43%	51%	48%	60%	63%	34%	45%	53%	60%	45%
No	50%	48%	46%	57%	49%	52%	40%	37%	66%	55%	47%	40%	55%



Would the ability to work remotely influence your willingness to evacuate if a storm were heading your way?													
	ALL	DEM	NPA	REP	F	M	18-34	35-54	55+	W	B	H	O
Yes - strongly or somewhat influence (NET)	62%	71%	55%	54%	63%	62%	77%	64%	47%	56%	76%	63%	65%
Yes - would strongly influence	39%	48%	31%	30%	33%	45%	55%	38%	25%	30%	63%	37%	40%
Yes - would somewhat influence	24%	23%	24%	24%	30%	17%	22%	26%	22%	26%	13%	26%	25%
No - would not influence	38%	29%	45%	46%	37%	38%	23%	36%	53%	44%	24%	37%	35%

Among homeowners: The average hurricane deductible is around \$5,000. If your home were to suffer major damage from a hurricane, how difficult would it be for your family to pay this deductible?													
	ALL	DEM	NPA	REP	F	M	18-34	35-54	55+	W	B	H	O
No problem at all or Very manageable (NET)	32%	27%	31%	39%	29%	35%	17%	26%	39%	39%	15%	21%	30%
No problem at all	15%	9%	16%	21%	12%	19%	7%	14%	18%	18%	7%	11%	11%
Very manageable	17%	18%	14%	18%	18%	16%	10%	12%	21%	21%	7%	10%	20%
Somewhat manageable	23%	19%	23%	25%	23%	22%	22%	22%	23%	26%	13%	18%	22%
Somewhat difficult	21%	26%	19%	18%	22%	21%	27%	23%	19%	18%	33%	26%	17%
Very difficult	17%	20%	18%	12%	16%	16%	23%	22%	12%	11%	33%	23%	22%
Impossible	6%	7%	7%	4%	8%	4%	11%	5%	5%	5%	5%	9%	9%
N/A – I do not have homeowners insurance	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	0%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	0%



In the event of a hurricane, which of the following items does your homeowners or renters insurance cover? Select all that apply													
	ALL	DEM	NPA	REP	F	M	18-34	35-54	55+	W	B	H	O
I'm not sure	62%	64%	61%	59%	68%	55%	73%	63%	55%	60%	67%	61%	68%
None of these	19%	19%	19%	20%	19%	20%	20%	21%	18%	17%	18%	25%	21%
Replacing spoiled food	16%	14%	16%	17%	12%	20%	6%	15%	20%	18%	16%	11%	11%
Tree and debris removal from yard	16%	15%	13%	18%	12%	20%	5%	13%	21%	18%	13%	11%	13%
Hotel or evacuation expenses	14%	13%	16%	15%	11%	17%	5%	14%	18%	17%	13%	8%	11%
The purchase of a generator or power supply	4%	3%	5%	4%	2%	6%	2%	6%	4%	3%	5%	5%	7%
Lost wages from missed days of work	4%	3%	7%	4%	2%	6%	1%	7%	3%	3%	5%	4%	7%
Bottled water	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	4%	1%	4%	4%	3%	4%	3%	7%

How much would you be willing to spend each month for an insurance policy that would cover some of the following: tree and debris removal, replacing spoiled food, and temporary housing?													
	ALL	DEM	NPA	REP	F	M	18-34	35-54	55+	W	B	H	O
\$0	26%	19%	28%	35%	25%	27%	17%	26%	31%	32%	14%	23%	15%
more than \$0 (NET)	31%	35%	28%	29%	29%	33%	43%	32%	24%	25%	38%	38%	44%
\$25	18%	21%	18%	15%	18%	19%	26%	20%	13%	14%	24%	22%	28%
\$50	8%	10%	7%	7%	7%	10%	13%	8%	7%	7%	8%	10%	11%
\$100	3%	3%	3%	5%	3%	4%	3%	4%	3%	3%	4%	4%	6%
\$150	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%
Not sure	42%	46%	43%	37%	46%	40%	39%	41%	45%	42%	48%	39%	41%



What part of YOUR home do you believe is the MOST vulnerable in a storm?													
	ALL	DEM	NPA	REP	F	M	18-34	35-54	55+	W	B	H	O
Roof	52%	52%	51%	52%	50%	52%	48%	50%	54%	51%	53%	55%	45%
Windows	39%	38%	41%	38%	39%	39%	45%	40%	33%	38%	41%	37%	45%
Doors	4%	6%	3%	2%	5%	3%	3%	4%	4%	3%	3%	6%	6%
Garage	6%	5%	5%	8%	6%	6%	3%	5%	8%	8%	4%	2%	4%

Have you ever experienced any of the following due to yard debris or fallen trees following a storm? Select all that apply													
	ALL	DEM	NPA	REP	F	M	18-34	35-54	55+	W	B	H	O
Being blocked from your home or driveway	19%	20%	16%	21%	20%	19%	18%	19%	20%	23%	15%	12%	22%
Stuck with large bills for debris removal	11%	11%	13%	10%	11%	12%	8%	9%	15%	12%	9%	11%	16%
Myself or household member injured trying to move debris out of the way	4%	4%	5%	5%	4%	5%	6%	4%	4%	4%	2%	7%	5%
None of these	73%	72%	75%	73%	71%	74%	76%	76%	69%	69%	78%	80%	70%

Would you support or oppose your city or county investing tax dollars in contracts for emergency services in advance of a disaster to ensure resources are available to deploy immediately after a storm to clear massive debris and help a return to normal?													
	ALL	DEM	NPA	REP	F	M	18-34	35-54	55+	W	B	H	O
Support	68%	76%	65%	59%	65%	72%	76%	64%	67%	67%	76%	62%	74%
Oppose	8%	4%	10%	14%	7%	9%	6%	11%	7%	9%	1%	14%	2%
Don't know	24%	21%	25%	27%	28%	19%	18%	25%	26%	24%	23%	23%	23%