

**Survey of 1,000 Puerto Ricans living on the Mainland (FL, NY, PA, TX, OH, GA)  
for Puerto Rico Statehood Council  
TOPLINE DATA**

Field Dates: March 18 – April 11, 2022  
Margin of Error: 4.0%

You have been selected to participate in a survey on a confidential basis. This is a rare opportunity to voice your opinions. Your responses will be kept confidential, you are not being asked to buy anything or donate money. We simply want to know what you think and how you feel.

**Screener:** Are you, or is anyone in your household, employed in the professional news media, a market research firm, an elected official, or actively involved with political campaigns?

100% No

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**Initial Screeners/Demographics:**

**Heritage:** Would you consider yourself to be of Puerto Rican descent or not?

100% Yes

**Language Preference:** In which language would you prefer that we continue this interview?

12% Spanish  
88% English

**Registration:** Are you currently registered to vote in (STATE), registered to vote somewhere else, or not registered to vote at this time?

93% Registered to vote in (STATE)  
7% Registered to vote somewhere else

**Reg Party:** Are you currently registered as a (ROTATED) Republican, Democrat, Independent, or something else?

48% Republican  
31% Democrat  
17% Independent  
4% Other (Did not read)

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1. Gender: What is your gender?

56% Female

44% Male

2. Age Range: *IF UNSURE OR REFUSED, ASKED: Which of the following categories best describes your age?*

7% 18 to 24

5% 25 to 29

18% 30 to 39

20% 40 to 49

28% 50 to 64

22% 65 or older

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3. In general, do you think things in the United States are headed in the right direction, or have they gotten off on the wrong track? *(Probed) And would you say strongly (Right Direction/Wrong Track), or somewhat?*

**23% Total Right Direction (NET)**

7% Strongly Right Direction

16% Somewhat Right Direction

**70% Total Wrong Track (NET)**

22% Somewhat Wrong Track

48% Strongly Wrong Track

7% Unsure (Did Not Read)

4. Do you (ROTATED) approve or disapprove of the job Joe Biden is doing as President of the United States? *(Probed) And would you say you strongly (approve/disapprove) or somewhat?*

**33% Total Approve (NET)**

12% Strongly Approve

21% Somewhat Approve

**63% Total Disapprove (NET)**

16% Somewhat Disapprove

47% Strongly Disapprove

4% Unsure/Depends (Did Not Read)

5. Do you (ROTATED) approve or disapprove of the job Donald Trump did as President of the United States? (*Probed*) And would you say you strongly (*approve/disapprove*) or somewhat?

**65% Total Approve (NET)**

33% Strongly Approve  
32% Somewhat Approve

**33% Total Disapprove (NET)**

9% Somewhat Disapprove  
24% Strongly Disapprove

2% Unsure/Depends (Did Not Read)

6. Regardless of how you may feel now, thinking back to the general election in November 2020, did you vote for (ROTATED) Donald Trump or Joe Biden for President?

40% Joe Biden  
51% Donald Trump

2% Other/someone else (Did Not Read)  
4% Did not vote (Did Not Read)  
3% Refused (Did Not Read)

7. We know that there are many issues that concern you and your family. Which of the following seven issues would you say is the most important to you? (*RANDOMIZED LIST; ACCEPTED ONLY ONE*)

52% Cost of Living/Inflation  
20% Crime/Public Safety  
9% Border Security  
7% Education  
5% Abortion  
3% Home Ownership

4% Unsure / depends (Did Not Read)

8. Puerto Rico is a U.S. territory. How important is it to you that Puerto Rico becomes a state?

**64% Total Important (NET)**

38% Very important  
26% Somewhat important

**31% Total Unimportant (NET)**

12% Just a little important  
19% Not at all important  
  
4% Depends/unsure/don't know (Did not read)  
1% Refused (Did not read)

**IMAGE AND AWARENESS SERIES**

You will now be read a list of individuals and organizations. For each, please indicate whether you have a (ROTATED) favorable or unfavorable opinion of them. If you have never heard of the person or organization, or have no opinion, just say so and we will move to the next. *(Probed) And would you say strongly (favorable/unfavorable) or somewhat?*

The (first/next) one is... *(RANDOMIZED SERIES)*

9. Your state's governor

**53% Total Favorable (NET)**

22% Strongly Favorable  
31% Somewhat Favorable

**36% Total Unfavorable (NET)**

12% Somewhat Unfavorable  
24% Strongly Unfavorable  
  
7% Heard of/No Opinion (Did Not Read)  
1% Never Heard of (Did Not Read)  
3% Unsure/Refused (Did Not Read)

10. Your representatives in Washington

**38% Total Favorable (NET)**

12% Strongly Favorable  
26% Somewhat Favorable

**43% Total Unfavorable (NET)**

27% Somewhat Unfavorable  
16% Strongly Unfavorable  
  
12% Heard of/No Opinion (Did Not Read)  
3% Never Heard of (Did Not Read)  
4% Unsure/Refused (Did Not Read)

11. Pedro Pierluisi

**38% Total Favorable (NET)**

6% Strongly Favorable  
32% Somewhat Favorable

**13% Total Unfavorable (NET)**

9% Somewhat Unfavorable  
4% Strongly Unfavorable  
  
15% Heard of/No Opinion (Did Not Read)  
33% Never Heard of (Did Not Read)  
1% Unsure/Refused (Did Not Read)

12. Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon

**37% Total Favorable (NET)**

9% Strongly Favorable  
28% Somewhat Favorable

**14% Total Unfavorable (NET)**

9% Somewhat Unfavorable  
5% Strongly Unfavorable  
  
16% Heard of/No Opinion (Did Not Read)  
31% Never Heard of (Did Not Read)  
2% Unsure/Refused (Did Not Read)

*ENDED RANDOMIZATION*

## **Puerto Rico**

13. How long has it been since you or your family came to the mainland United States?

- 51% We have been in the mainland United States my whole life
- 28% More than 20 years
- 11% 10-20 years
- 6% 5-9 years
- 1% 1-4 years
- 1% Less than a year
  
- 2% Unsure (Did not read)

14. Do you currently have family living in Puerto Rico? (*READ AND ROTATED*)

**21%** Yes, I have immediate family in Puerto Rico – a parent, child, or sibling

**49%** Yes, I have extended family in Puerto Rico – aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents or grandchildren

**27%** No, I have no family in Puerto Rico

- 2% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)
- 1% Refused (Did Not Read)

15. How much attention do you pay to news coverage of Puerto Rico? Would you say you pay...(*READ AND ROTATED 1-4 TOP TO BOTTOM AND BOTTOM TO TOP*)

- 23% A great deal of attention
- 34% A fair amount of attention
- 31% Just a little bit of attention
- 12% No attention at all

16. And where do you get most of your news and information about Puerto Rico?  
(*READ AND ROTATED, ACCEPTED ONLY ONE*)

- 26% Internet or websites
- 21% Talking to friends and family in Puerto Rico
- 20% English-speaking TV news
- 11% Spanish-speaking TV news
- 7% Talking to friends and family in the United States
- 2% English newspapers
- 2% Spanish talk radio from Puerto Rico
- 1% Spanish talk radio from the mainland
- 1% English talk radio
- 1% Spanish newspapers
  
- 5% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)
- 2% Other (Recorded verbatim, Did Not Read)
- 1% Refused (Did Not Read)

17. Which of the following do you think is the best option for Puerto Rico?

- 11% Become an independent nation
- 62% Become a state
- 17% Remain a territory of the United States
  
- 10% Depends/unsure/don't know (Did Not Read)

18. What would you say is the greatest benefit to Puerto Rico becoming a state?  
Anything else? (OPEN ENDED, RECORDED VERBATIM)

- 22% Funding/Federal funding/Financial aid
- 15% Benefits/Federal benefits/Full benefits/Benefits of any other state
- 11% Being able to vote for president
- 11% Natural disaster/storm damage funding/help/relief
- 10% Economic benefits/stability/Boosting economy/Job opportunities
- 10% Voting Rights
- 9% Equality with other US citizens/integration/inclusiveness/unity
- 7% Health insurance/health care/medical benefits
- 6% Businesses moving here/new businesses/helping businesses/business loans
- 5% Protection/Security/Safety
- 4% More rights/all the rights of a U.S. citizen/being U.S. citizens
- 4% Infrastructure/Housing improvement/Rebuilding
- 4% Congressional/U.S. government representation
- 3% Education/School improvement
- 3% Helping the people of Puerto Rico
- 2% Taxes/to pay taxes/more revenue
- 2% Reducing corruption/ better leadership
- 2% Reducing Poverty
- 2% Tourism/Increased Tourism
- 1% Lower Crime
- 1% More stability/improved quality of life
  
- 10% None/Nothing/No Benefits
- 10% Don't Know
- 3% Other



19. And what would you say is your main hesitation or concern with Puerto Rico becoming a state? (*OPEN ENDED, RECORDED VERBATIM*)

- 9% Inflation/higher cost of living
  - 8% Taxes/higher taxes/tax structures
  - 6% Loss of cultural identity/weakening the culture
  - 6% Overpopulation/Overcrowding
  - 5% Being dependent on the U.S./Loss of independence
  - 4% Getting caught up in D.C. politics/red tape/ bureaucracy
  - 3% Crime
  - 3% Corruption in politics
  - 3% Difficulty of Puerto Rico to adjust to change/ dealing with new laws
  - 2% Puerto Ricans being seen as less than citizens/Treated differently
  - 2% Housing issues
  - 2% Economic cost/lack of economic benefits to Puerto Ricans/jobs
  - 2% No reason/benefit to Puerto Rico becoming a state/like it the way it is
  - 1% It's up to the people who live there/both sides need to be in agreement
  - 1% Poverty/welfare
- 36% None/nothing/no hesitation/no concerns**  
**15% Don't know/no opinion**

I am now going to read you a list of benefits that Puerto Ricans would have if Puerto Rico becomes a state. For each, please tell me if this benefit is very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important to you, or if it makes no difference. (*RANDOMIZED SERIES*)

20. Puerto Rico would receive an additional \$10 billion per year in federal funds.

**87% Total Important (NET)**

- 71% Very important
- 16% Somewhat important

**9% Total Unimportant (NET)**

- 5% Not Very Important
- 4% Not important at all
  
- 2% No Difference
- 1% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)
- 1% Refused (Did Not Read)

21. Would be able to vote in presidential elections.

**88% Total Important (NET)**

74% Very important  
14% Somewhat important

**7% Total Unimportant (NET)**

4% Not Very Important  
3% Not important at all  
  
3% No Difference  
1% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)  
1% Refused (Did Not Read)

22. Having full access to federal benefits to help with financial difficulties, natural disasters, and events like the COVID-19 pandemic

**90% Total Important (NET)**

73% Very important  
17% Somewhat important

**5% Total Unimportant (NET)**

3% Not Very Important  
2% Not important at all  
  
3% No Difference  
2% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)

23. Having Congressional representation with full voting power

**88% Total Important (NET)**

69% Very important  
19% Somewhat important

**6% Total Unimportant (NET)**

3% Not Very Important  
3% Not important at all  
  
3% No Difference  
2% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)  
1% Refused (Did Not Read)

24. Attracting businesses to start or expand in Puerto Rico.

**88% Total Important (NET)**

63% Very important  
25% Somewhat important

**6% Total Unimportant (NET)**

3% Not Very Important  
3% Not important at all  
  
3% No Difference  
2% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)  
1% Refused (Did Not Read)

*ENDED RANDOMIZATION*

I am now going to read you a series of statements. For each, please tell me if knowing this would make you (ROTATED) more or less likely to support statehood for Puerto Rico, or would it make no difference? *Probed: And would that be much or somewhat more/less likely?*

*(RANDOMIZED LIST)*

25. Statehood would offer more protections and benefits to U.S. territories such as Puerto Rico.

**87% Total More Likely (NET)**

60% Much more likely  
27% Somewhat more likely

**5% Total Less Likely (NET)**

2% Somewhat less likely  
3% Much less likely  
  
6% No difference  
2% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)

26. The Federal Government has not been able to fully provide for the needs of Puerto Rico as a territory.

**68% Total More Likely (NET)**

41% Much more likely  
27% Somewhat more likely

**14% Total Less Likely (NET)**

8% Somewhat less likely  
6% Much less likely  
  
10% No difference  
8% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)

27. Citizens of Puerto Rico have the same responsibilities as citizens of the United States, but they do not have the same rights.

**68% Total More Likely (NET)**

43% Much more likely  
25% Somewhat more likely

**16% Total Less Likely (NET)**

9% Somewhat less likely  
7% Much less likely  
  
9% No difference  
6% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)  
1% Refused (Did Not Read)

28. Puerto Rico is the oldest territory of the United States, having come under the rule of the United States in 1898.

**70% Total More Likely (NET)**

38% Much more likely  
32% Somewhat more likely

**5% Total Less Likely (NET)**

2% Somewhat less likely  
3% Much less likely  
  
22% No difference  
3% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)

29. The U.S Congress approved Puerto Ricans being granted US citizenship in 1917, which historically is a first step for becoming a state.

**77% Total More Likely (NET)**

45% Much more likely  
32% Somewhat more likely

**4% Total Less Likely (NET)**

2% Somewhat less likely  
2% Much less likely

15% No difference  
4% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)

30. Not including the original 13 colonies, nearly every state was first a territory, and then granted statehood. Puerto Rico is the only territory that has requested statehood and has been denied.

**63% Total More Likely (NET)**

37% Much more likely  
26% Somewhat more likely

**11% Total Less Likely (NET)**

6% Somewhat less likely  
5% Much less likely

20% No difference  
4% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)  
1% Refused (Did Not Read)

31. Statehood is supported by Republicans and Democrats.

**64% Total More Likely (NET)**

39% Much more likely  
25% Somewhat more likely

**6% Total Less Likely (NET)**

2% Somewhat less likely  
4% Much less likely

26% No difference  
4% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)

*ENDED RANDOMIZATION*

32. U.S. Senators Marco Rubio and Rick Scott from Florida have both supported Puerto Rican statehood on the campaign trail, however neither have signed onto the Senate Puerto Rico Statehood bill in Congress. Given their actions, do you believe Senators Rubio and Scott support Puerto Rican statehood?

- 32% Yes
- 45% No
- 23% Don't know/unsure/depends (Did Not Read)

33. You may or may not be aware that the District of Columbia is also a territory like Puerto Rico. However, Washington, DC residents are allowed to vote in Presidential elections and have many other benefits of states such as easier access to Federal funds and receive larger amounts of Social Security income. Puerto Rican residents do not have those rights. Do you believe it is (ROTATED) fair or unfair that Washington DC have these rights and Puerto Rican residents do not? And would that be very or somewhat fair/unfair?

**14% Total Fair (NET)**

- 5% Very fair
- 9% Somewhat fair

**78% Total Unfair (NET)**

- 19% Somewhat unfair
- 59% Very unfair

8% Depends/unsure/don't know (Did Not Read)

34. Which of the following people (ROTATED) do you agree with more? And would that be strongly or somewhat agree Person 1/2)?

**Person 1:** Would prefer that Puerto Rico become a state, so that it can enjoy the rights and privileges other states have.

**Person 2:** Would prefer that that Puerto Rico become an independent nation, so that it can be totally separate and not reliant on the United States.

**75% Total Person 1 (NET)**

62% Strongly agree Person 1

13% Somewhat agree Person 1

**15% Total Person 2 (NET)**

7% Somewhat agree Person 2

8% Strongly agree Person 2

8% Depends/unsure (Did Not Read)

2% Refused (Did Not Read)

35. Are you (ROTATED) more or less likely to vote for a candidate that supports Puerto Rico becoming a state? And would that be much or somewhat more/less likely?

**68% Total More Likely (NET)**

46% Much more likely

22% Somewhat more likely

**13% Total Less Likely (NET)**

6% Somewhat less likely

7% Much less likely

15% No difference (Did Not Read)

3% Depends/unsure/don't know (Did Not Read)

## ADDITIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

Finally, I have just a few quick questions to finish up...

36. Thinking for a moment about your social, economic, and political views...Do you consider yourself to be... (*Rotated values 1-5 top-to-bottom / bottom-to-top*)?

**23% Total Liberal (NET)**

- 9% Very Liberal
- 14% Somewhat Liberal

**25% Moderate**

**46% Total Conservative (NET)**

- 27% Somewhat Conservative
- 19% Very Conservative

- 1% Libertarian
- 5% Unsure (Did Not Read)

37. What is the highest level of formal education that you have completed?

- 3% Less than high school
- 21% High school graduate
- 24% Some college
- 18% College graduate with Associates or 2-year degree
- 22% College graduate with a Bachelors or 4-year degree
- 6% Post-graduate degree
- 3% Technical or vocational school graduate
- 3% Unsure (Did Not Read)

38. Do you consider your religious background to be... (ROTATE)

- 54% Catholic
- 15% Other, Christian
- 11% Protestant
- 10% Other, Specified (Record Verbatim)
- 2% Agnostic/Atheist
- 7% None/Unaffiliated
- 1% Refused (Did Not Read)



39. How often do you attend religious services?

- 4% A few times a week
- 33% Once a week
- 16% A few times per month
- 18% A few times per year
- 19% Seldom/never
- 10% Refused (Did Not Read)

40. Which of the following statements best describes your own position on the issue of abortion? (*ROTATED RESPONSE CATEGORIES 1-6 TOP-TO-BOTTOM AND BOTTOM-TO-TOP*)

- 12% Abortion should be prohibited in all circumstances
- 10% Abortion should be legal only to save the life of the mother
- 43% Abortion should only be legal in cases of rape, incest or to save the life of the mother
- 15% Abortion should be legal for any reason, but not after the first three months of pregnancy
- 5% Abortion should be legal for any reason, but not after five months of pregnancy when the fetus is viable and can feel pain
- 7% Abortion should be allowed at any time during a woman's pregnancy and for any reason
- 6% Unsure/depends
- 2% Refused

41. What would best describe your marital status?

- 27% Single or never married
- 55% Married
- 4% Separated
- 6% Divorced
- 5% Widowed
- 4% Other (Did Not Read)

42. Would you best describe the neighborhood or area you live in as...

- 28% Urban
- 60% Suburban
- 8% Rural
  
- 4% Unsure (Do not read)