

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

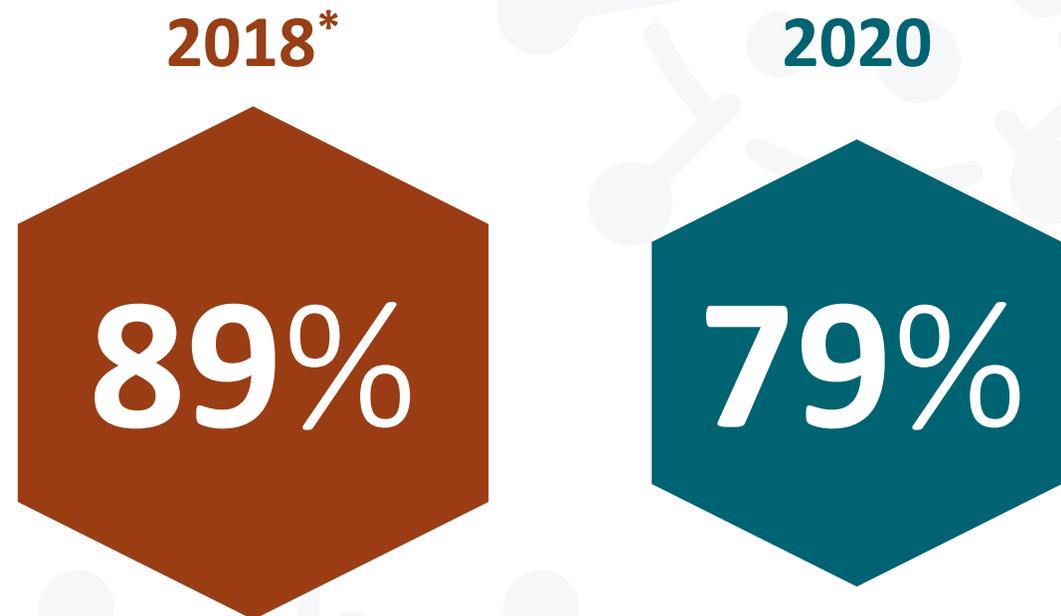
Polled: 1,000 Registered Voters

Stats: MOE +/- 3% (19 times out of 20)

// FIGURE 2

Has Support For
Law Enforcement
Changed?

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



**Highest score in our seven-year tracking poll (2014-2020)*

// FIGURE 3

African American
Opinion About
the Courts/Justice
System

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)

// **FIGURE 4**

Confidence in
State Courts is
Steady

Q: “How much confidence do you have in the (state) court system?”

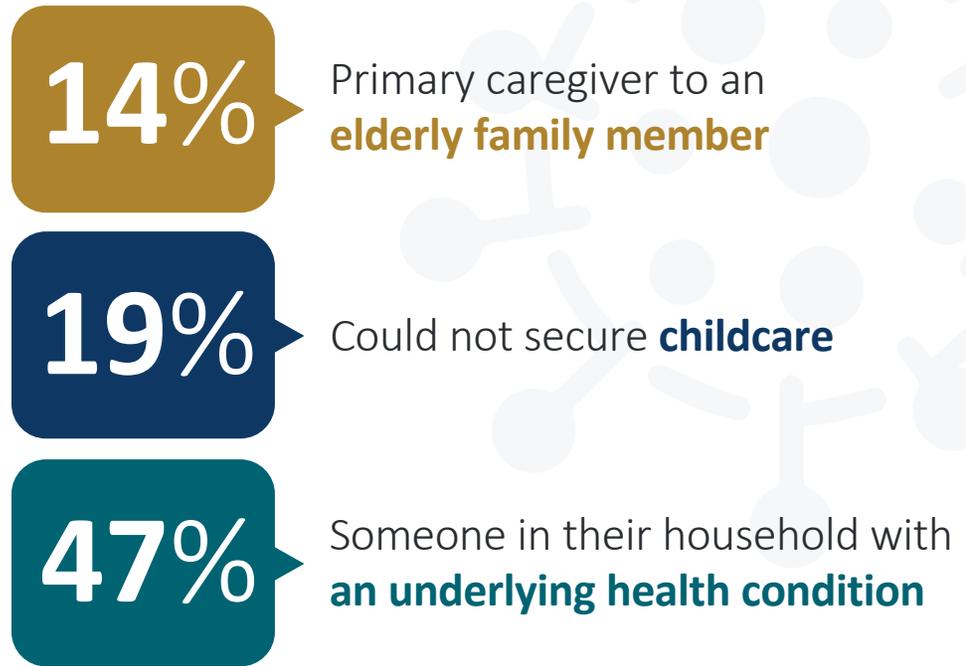
Percent who reported feeling confident in the state court system.



8 Year Average — **70%**

// FIGURE 5

Pandemic-Related
Obstacles to
Reporting for
Jury Duty



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

// FIGURE 6

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

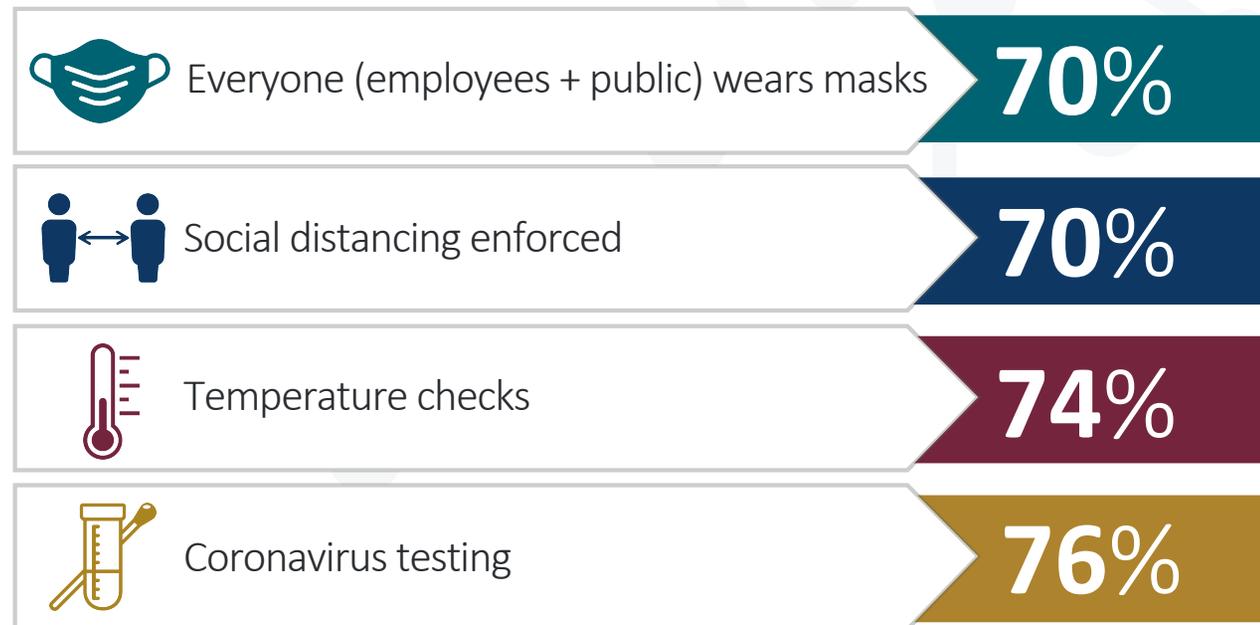
Q: “On a scale of 1 to 10, how comfortable do you personally feel right now...”

	Going to a friend or family member’s home	7.5	
	Going to the grocery store	7.3	
	Going to a polling place to vote	6.7	
	Going to a government office	6.1	
	Eating out in a restaurant	5.5	
	Reporting for jury duty at your local courthouse	5.4	52% scored this 0-5
	Serving on a jury if selected	5.1	54% scored this 0-5

// FIGURE 7

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.”

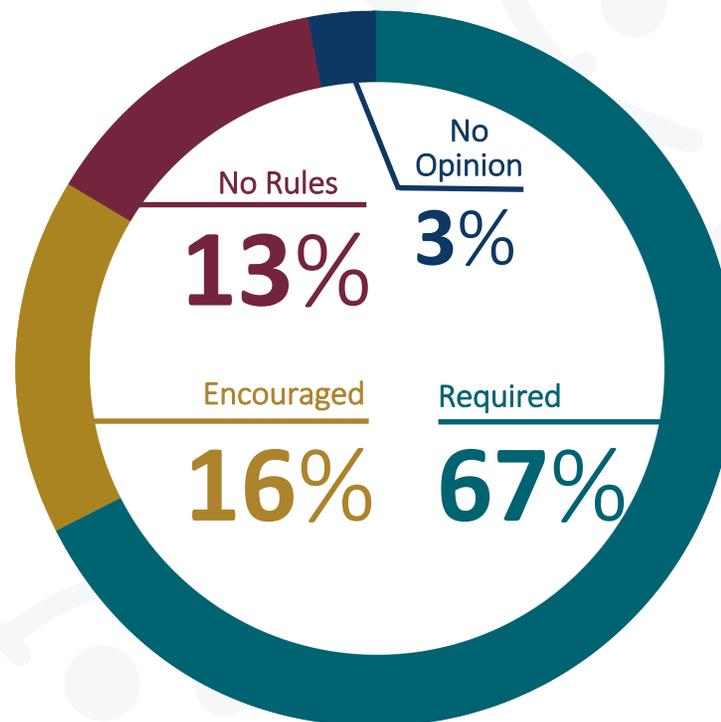


// FIGURE 8

A Mask Requirement is Strongly Supported

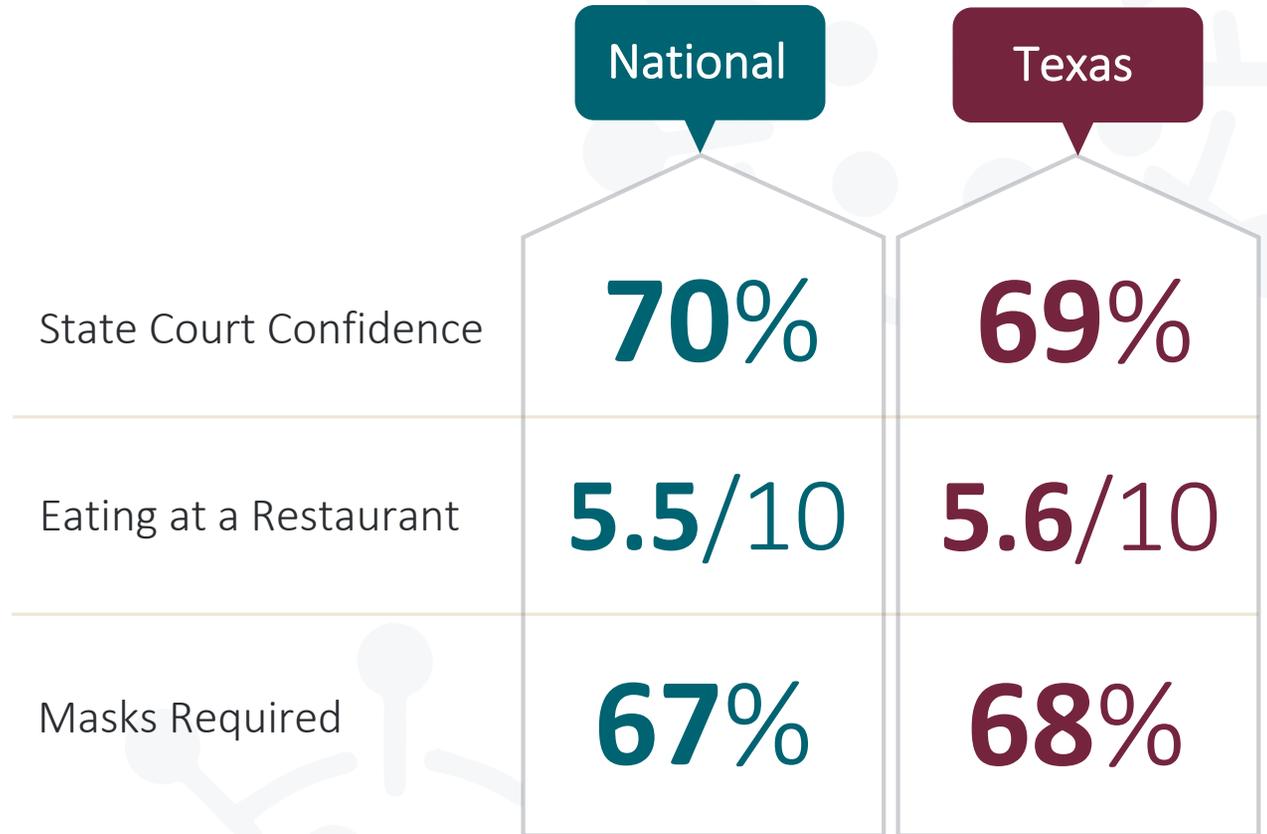
Q: “Which of the following best captures the rules you would like to see regarding the wearing of masks?”

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



// FIGURE 9

“This is nice, but *my* state is different...”



// **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?”

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

Would Use

Wouldn't Use

2014

2020

43%

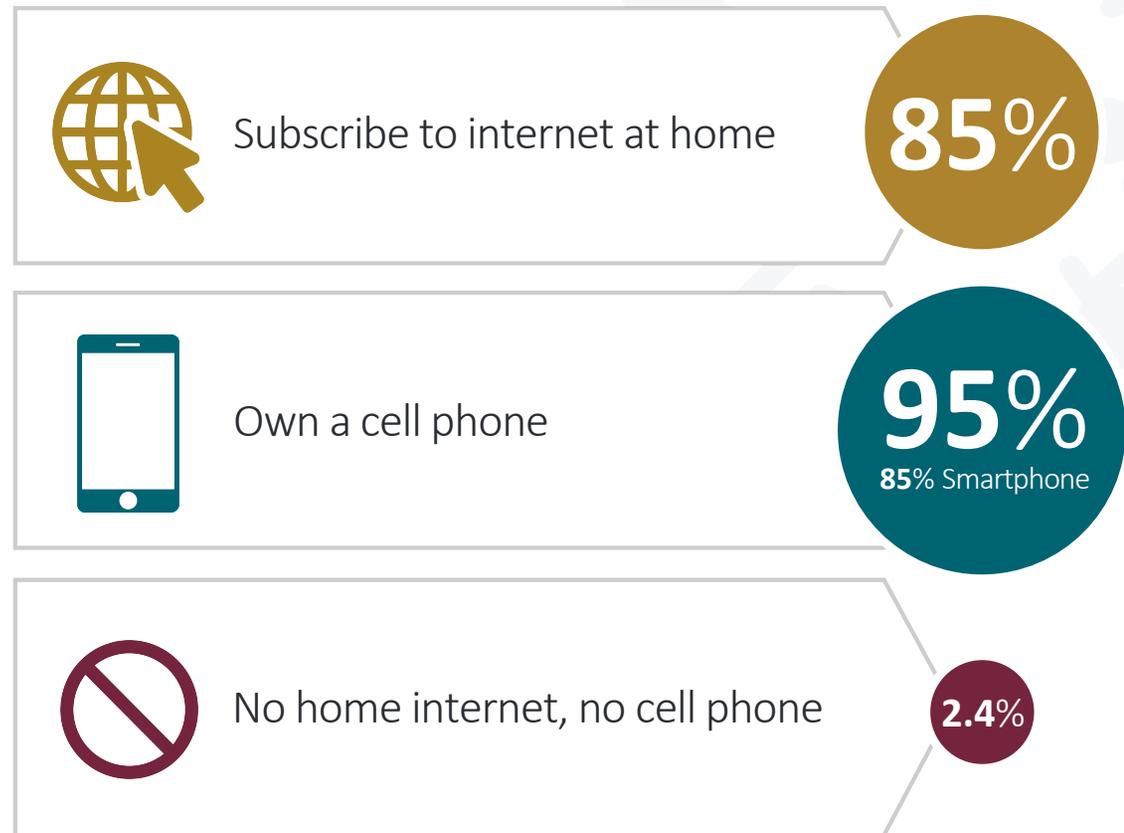
64%

55%

33%

// FIGURE 11

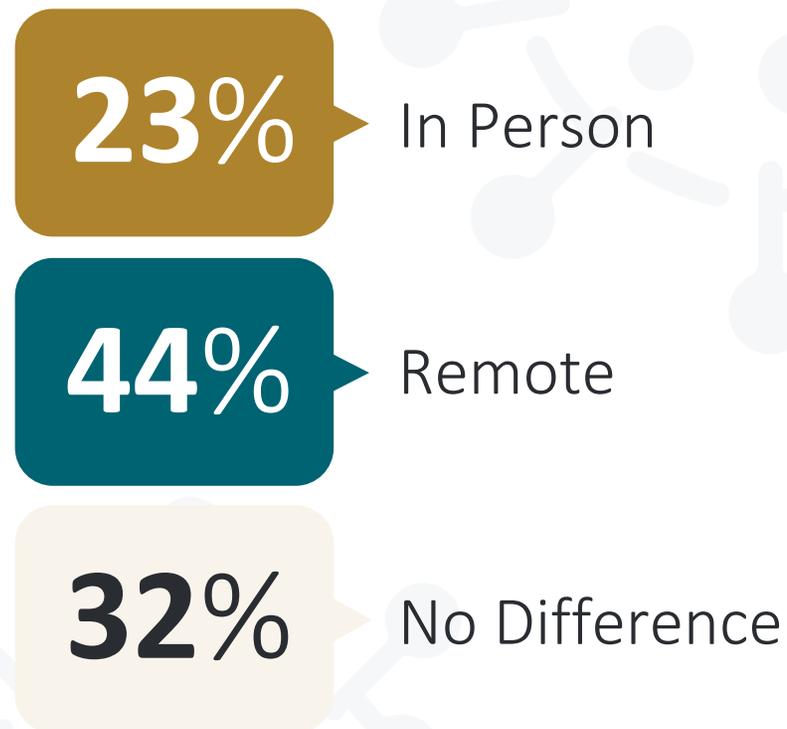
Most Americans
Have the Technology
Tools for Remote
Participation



// **FIGURE 12**

Strong Public
Support for Remote
Jury Service

Q: “Are you more comfortable with in person or remote jury service?”



// FINAL TAKE-AWAYS & CONUNDRUMS



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