

Welcome to the 2020 Survey of Political Elites and Public Servants.

KEY INFORMATION ABOUT THE RESEARCHERS AND THIS STUDY

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Study Sponsor: Tides Advocacy

You are invited to take part in a confidential research study. This page contains information that will help you decide whether to join the study.

Things you should know:

- The purpose of the study is to provide important insight into how civil servants, journalists, lobbyists, advocates and other political elites and public servants understand the key problems facing the United States. If you choose to participate, you will be asked to complete the following survey. This will take approximately 15-20 minutes of your time.
- There is no more than minimal risk associated with participation in the study.
- There are no direct benefits of participating in this study.

Taking part in this research project is entirely voluntary. You do not have to participate, and you can stop at any time. Please take time to read this entire page before deciding whether to take part in this research project.

DETAILED STUDY AND CONTACT INFORMATION: (Scroll for more)

Purpose of this study: Our nation faces many challenges and elites and public servants in political and policy-making networks play a critical role in addressing those challenges. Your participation in this survey will provide important insight into how civil servants, journalists, lobbyists, advocates and other political elites and public servants understand the key problems facing the United States. People like yourself play central roles in shaping policy discussions, evaluating and advocating for policy alternatives, setting agendas, and implementing policy.

You have been specifically chosen to take this confidential survey and will represent thousands of your colleagues and peers. Your background, experiences, and policy views are essential to help us understand how the role of political elites and public servants in representation and policymaking in the United States.

This survey has been sent to several thousand political elites and public servants like yourself. You must be over the age of 18 to participate in this study.

If you choose to participate in this study, you will complete this one 15-20 minute survey which includes questions about your political attitudes and beliefs, information use, and professional experience and goals. Your participation is strictly confidential.

To make the best use of your time, we there are basic questions about your current job and employer which we will not ask, but rather will get by linking your responses to public data collected by Leadership Connect.

Risks: Because this study collects information about you, the primary risk of this research is a loss of confidentiality. The researchers will try to minimize these risks by storing identifying information separately from your survey responses, data will be stored on password protected and encrypted servers, and identifying information will be available only to the research team. You do not have to answer any questions you do not want to answer.

Benefits: You may not receive any personal benefits from being in this study. However, others may benefit from the knowledge gained from this study. You will not be compensated for your participation in this study, nor will you have to pay anything to participate in this study.

Ending the Study: You are free to leave the study at any time. If you leave the study before it is finished, there will be no penalty to you. The researchers will keep the information collected about you for the research unless you ask us to delete it from our records. If the researchers have already used your information in a research analysis it will not be possible to remove your information.

How Your Information Will Be Used: We will keep the information we collect about you during the research for future research projects and for study record-keeping or other purposes. This data will be held at the academic institutions of the study team members. Your name and other information that can directly identify you will be stored securely and separately from the research information we collect from you. These identifying records will only be available to members of the research team. All research records will be stored on encrypted and password protected servers.

The results of this study could be published in an article or presentation but will not include any information that would let others know who you are.

We may use or share your research information for future research studies. If we share your information with other researchers it will be de-identified, which means that it will not contain your name or other information that can directly identify you. This research may be similar to this study or completely different. We will not ask for your additional informed consent for these studies.

We will not share identifiable research information with any researchers outside of the research team for this study.

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If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, or wish to obtain information, ask questions or discuss any concerns about this study with someone other than the researcher(s), please contact the following:

University of Michigan

Health Sciences and Behavioral Sciences Institutional Review Board (IRB-HSBS)
2800 Plymouth Road
Building 520, Room 1169Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2800
Telephone: 734-936-0933 or toll free (866) 936-0933.
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You can also contact the University of Michigan Compliance Hotline at 1-866-990-0111.