

Criminal Justice Reform Nationwide Survey
N=1,234 Registered Voters//October 11-12, 2018

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

1. How important is it to reduce the number of people who are in prison in America today?

77% **TOTAL IMPORTANT**
23% **TOTAL NOT IMPORTANT**

35% Very important
42% Somewhat important
19% Not very important
4% Not at all important

2. Thinking ahead to the midterms elections this November – how important to you is the issue of criminal justice reform as you decide who you’ll be voting for?

75% **TOTAL IMPORTANT**
25% **TOTAL NOT IMPORTANT**

25% Very important
50% Somewhat important
21% Not very important
4% Not at all important

3. Would you be more or less likely to vote for a political candidate if you knew he or she supported criminal justice reform?

61% **TOTAL MORE LIKELY**
4% **TOTAL LESS LIKELY**

26% Much more likely to support the candidate
35% Somewhat more likely to support the candidate
35% No difference in support
3% Somewhat less likely to support the candidate
1% Much less likely to support the candidate

4. In order to help offenders rehabilitate and promote good behavior in prisons – do you think that non-violent offenders should be able to have a portion of their time reduced for good behavior while in prison?

80%	Yes, non-violent offenders should be able to earn reduced prison time for good behavior
8%	No, non-violent offenders should not be able to earn reduced prison for good behavior
13%	No opinion or unsure

5. Thinking about non-violent offenders who have obeyed all prison rules and are not a threat to public safety – do you support or oppose allowing these offenders to finish their sentences in home confinement in order to ease their integration back into society?

81%	TOTAL SUPPORT
10%	TOTAL OPPOSE
35%	Strongly support
46%	Somewhat support
7%	Somewhat oppose
3%	Strongly oppose
9%	No opinion or unsure

6. Do you agree or disagree specifically with the FIRST STEP Act’s “good behavior” provision that expands the number of days that non-violent offenders can have removed from their sentence for good behavior in prison?

82%	TOTAL AGREE
8%	TOTAL DISAGREE
37%	Strongly agree
45%	Somewhat agree
5%	Somewhat disagree
3%	Strongly disagree
10%	No opinion or unsure

7. Do you agree or disagree specifically with the FIRST STEP Act’s “good behavior” provision that expands the number of days that non-violent drug offenders can have removed from their sentence for good behavior in prison?

76%	TOTAL AGREE
13%	TOTAL DISAGREE
35%	Strongly agree
41%	Somewhat agree
8%	Somewhat disagree
5%	Strongly disagree
11%	No opinion or unsure

8. Recently, the United States House of Representatives passed a criminal justice reform bill, called the FIRST STEP Act. Some of the bill’s details include:

- Expands the number of days non-violent offenders can have removed from their sentence for good behavior in prison, from 47 to 54 days per year.
- Requires that inmates are placed in a prison within 500 miles of their home, to encourage more family visits as a way to reduce recidivism.
- Mandates that female inmates are provided with sanitary napkins and tampons for free and bans the shackling of pregnant women.
- Requires the government to assist prisoners in obtaining an ID before they are released, to aid their reentry into society.
- Lowers the minimum age a prisoner may apply for “compassionate release” from 65 years to 60, as a method of lowering prison costs.

After learning more, do you approve or disapprove of the FIRST STEP Act?

82%	TOTAL APPROVE
8%	TOTAL DISAPPROVE
37%	Strongly approve
45%	Somewhat approve
6%	Somewhat disapprove
2%	Strongly disapprove
9%	No opinion or unsure

9. When do you think the US Senate should pass the FIRST STEP criminal justice reform act?

48%	As soon as possible this year
33%	Sometime in the next 1-2 years
12%	Sometime in the next several years

7% The US Senate should not pass the FIRST STEP Act

10. As you may know, the FIRST STEP criminal justice reform act passed the House of Representatives by an overwhelming vote of 360 to 59. If the US Senate – which is led by a Republican majority – is not able to or chooses not to pass this bill, how will this change your opinion of Senate Republicans?

53% **TOTAL MORE NEGATIVE OPINION OF SENATE REPUBLICANS**

7% **TOTAL MORE POSITIVE OPINION OF SENATE REPUBLICANS**

33% If the Senate doesn't pass this bill, I will have a much more negative opinion of Senate Republicans

20% If the Senate doesn't pass this bill, I will have a somewhat more negative opinion of Senate Republicans

41% If the Senate doesn't pass this bill, my opinion of Senate Republicans will remain unchanged

4 % If the Senate doesn't pass this bill, I will have a somewhat more positive opinion of Senate Republicans

3% If the Senate doesn't pass this bill, I will have a much more positive opinion of Senate Republicans