

# State of the Union

## Snap voter panel

March 2024

J.L.  
**PARTNERS.**

**RESEARCH.**  
**INSIGHT.**  
**STRATEGY.**

# Methodology: snap voter panel

---

J.L. Partners collected qualitative responses on the State of the Union from a panel of 60 independent voters.

- Fieldwork dates of the morning of Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March, once news coverage of the State of the Union speech had fed through
- All respondents had heard or seen something about the speech, and are currently Independents, with a mix of 2020 Trump and Biden voters
- 3-minute duration
- Please note this poll is too small a sample size to extrapolate confidently about national attitudes. It is intended to give a qualitative insight into responses and views

# Q1. In a sentence, how do you feel Joe Biden did in the speech overall?

---

## Selected quotes

“It was very inspiring and I hope people were listening” (Female, Retiree, 69, Florida, Independent, Joe Biden 2020)

“I feel he outperformed expectations given what everyone is saying about him.” (Male, operations specialist, 31, New Jersey, Independent, Joe Biden 2020)

“In my opinion, it was the best speech he has made.” (Female, Mom, 49, Georgia, Independent, Joe Biden 2020)

**“It was like a whole new president was giving the speech.” (Male, Wholesale Trader, 28, Pennsylvania, Independent, Joe Biden 2020)**

**“Horrible - He was yelling the whole time, the speech was divisive, and he blamed 'his predecessor' too many times!” (Female, sales coordinator, 58, Ohio, Independent, Donald Trump 2020)**

“I don't think Joe Biden has what it takes to fix all the problems we have today.” (Female, I am disabled, 53, Ohio, Independent, Did not vote)

“I feel he is old and should go to a nursing home” (Female, home health aide, 44, Massachusetts, Independent, Someone else 2020)

“I didn't like it very much. It was too partisan” (Male, retiree, 71, Texas, Donald Trump 2020)

**“I thought he did great. I was shocked at how well he did” (Female, disabled, 54, Louisiana, Independent, Trump 2020)**

“He was able to do the whole speech without falling asleep” (Male, Manufacturing, 58, Missouri, Independent, Biden 2020)

## Q2. What was the main thing you noticed from the speech?

---

### Selected quotes

**“Biden is more fiery than people are giving him credit for.” (Male, operations specialist, 31, New Jersey, Independent, Joe Biden 2020)**

“He was addressing better ways to move forward and how much the state has improved while he's been president” (Female, Disabled, 54, Louisiana, Independent, Donald Trump 2020)

“His energy was on a different level than usual and he seemed like he was more confident in what he said.” (Male, Wholesale Trader, 28, Pennsylvania, Independent, Joe Biden 2020)

**“The man is much slower than he was a year ago. It does worry me.” (Male, social worker, 44, Ohio, Independent, Joe Biden 2020)**

“The main thing that I noticed is that he seemed pretty angry.” (Female, homemaker, 39, Pennsylvania, Independent, Donald Trump 2020)

“Everything is someone else's fault.” (Male, Attorney, 44, Pennsylvania, Independent, Someone else 2020)

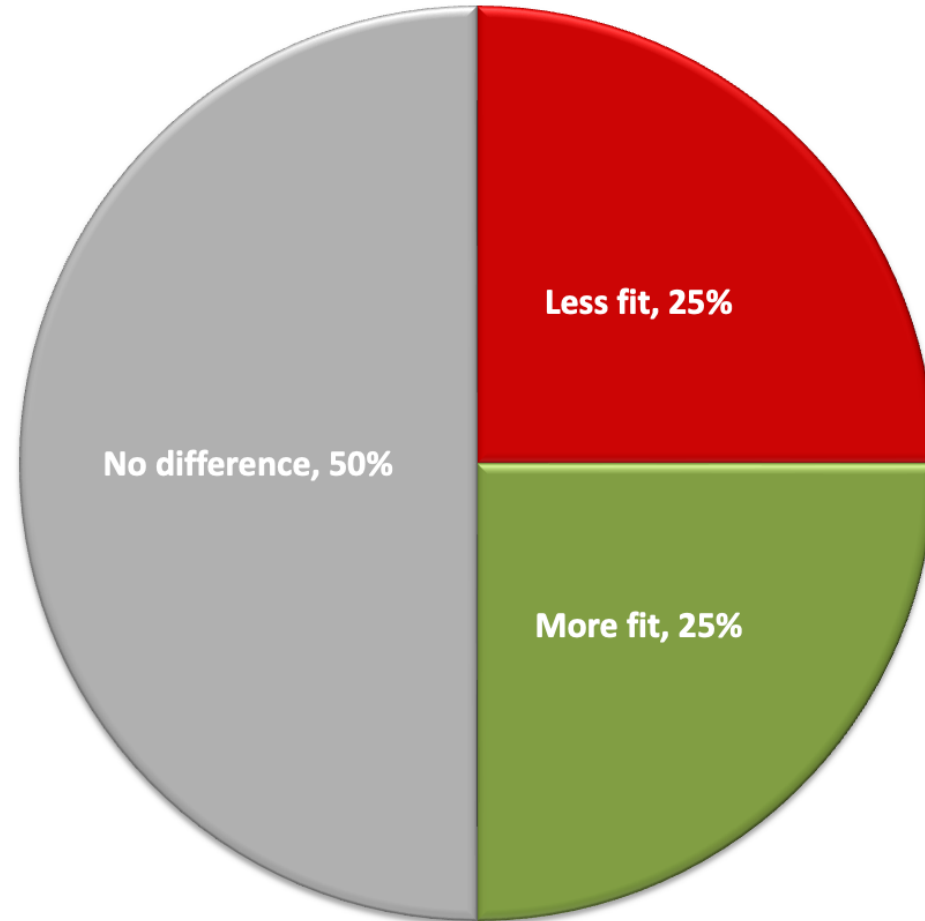
“How many times he had to look down at his speech it was mind boggling” (Male, Maintenance facilities manager, 34, California, Independent, Joe Biden 2020)

“I noticed he's senile.” (Female, Home health aide, 44, Massachusetts, Independent, Someone else 2020)

“There was a lot of feistiness. Mostly just the usual platitudes. Nothing of substance.” (Male, I do not have a profession I am retired, 71, Texas, Independent, Donald Trump 2020)

Q3. Did it make you more or less sure that he is fit to be president for a second term? Why?

---



# Q3. Did it make you more or less sure that he is fit to be president for a second term? Why?

---

## Selected quotes

“I don't think it proved he is fit” (Female, Property manager, 65, Illinois, Independent, Did not vote 2020)

“Less. He continues to have basic memory problems and aged mannerisms.” (Male, Attorney, 44, Pennsylvania, Independent, Someone else 2020)

**“My opinion did not change. He had some good moments and some bad moments. But he did seem a little bit more engaged and had some energy. He must have had a nap in the afternoon.”** (Male, I do not have a profession I am retired, 71, Texas, Independent, Donald Trump 2020)

“Less sure, if that's possible. I already knew he wasn't fit to be president the first term.” (Female, sales coordinator, 58, Ohio, Independent, Donald Trump 2020)

“No change. He is still unfit.” (Male, Manager, 34, Texas, Independent, Donald Trump, 2020)

“i feel less sure because he has done nothing for the black community while he has been in office” (Female, unemployed, 20, Maryland, Independent, Did not vote 2020)

“His age is a concern but anyone is better than Trump” (Female, Business owner, 37, New Jersey, Independent, Joe Biden 2020)

“More sure, he has the ideas and just needs a congress and house to help pass it.” (Female, electric broker, 61, Massachusetts, Independent, Joe Biden 2020)

“It didn't change my opinion. He was never fit for the presidency.” (Male, Math teacher, 43, Washington, Independent, Someone else 2020)

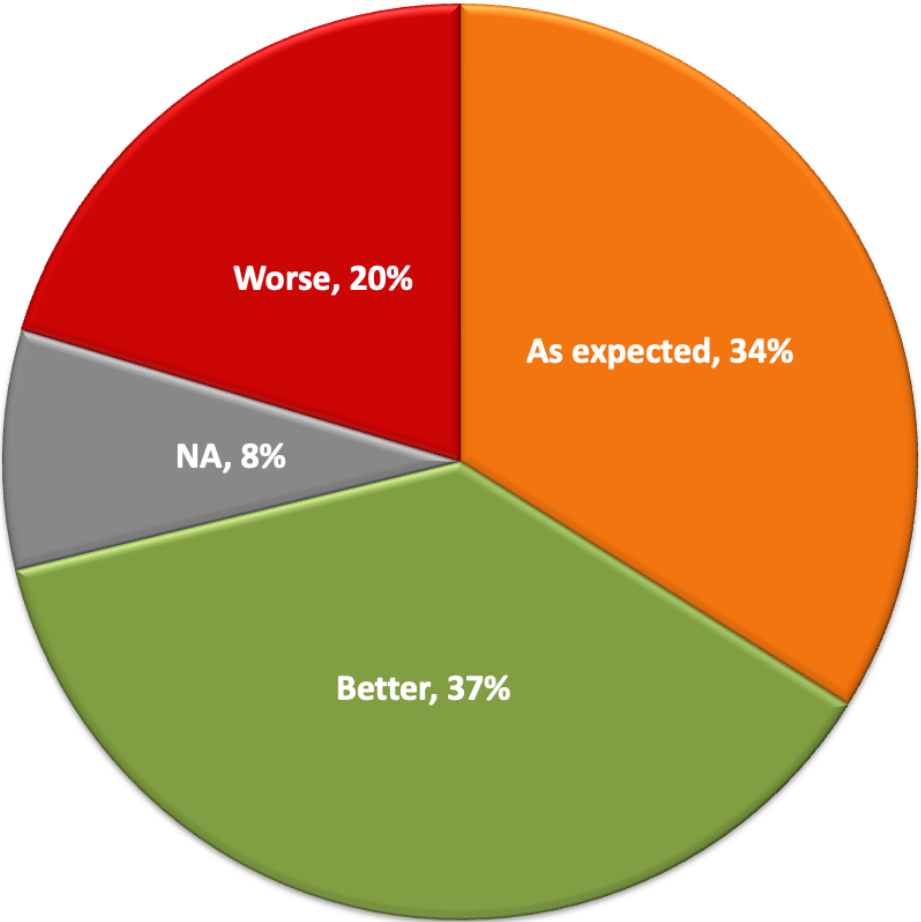
Q4. In one word, how would you sum up the address?

---



# Q5. In your view, did Biden do better or worse than you expected? Why?

---





# Q5. In your view, did Biden do better or worse than you expected? Why?

---

## Selected quotes

“He did a little better than expected because he didn't make too many mistakes and he wasn't blithering.” (Male, I do not have a profession I am retired, 71, Texas, Independent, Donald Trump 2020)

**“Did much better than expected” (Female, Disabled, 54, Louisiana, Independent, Donald Trump 2020)**

“Worse, he is in decline” (Male, Procurement, 45, Ohio, Independent, Donald Trump 2020)

“I don't expect him to ever do anything better as he is an utter and complete failure” (Male, Unemployment, 31, California, Independent, Did not vote 2020)

“He did pretty alright despite supporting the mass genocide of palestinians” (Female, Marine Biologist, 35, Indiana, Independent, Joe Biden 2020)

“Joe Biden did better than I expected because, I'm not really a political person but I have heard some bad things about him so to hear him talk good in his speech has made me believe he's doing better” (Female, Computer programmer, 27, North Carolina, Independent,, Joe Biden 2020)

“Better because he spoke well and said what needed to be said” (Male, operations specialist, 31, New Jersey, Independent, Joe Biden 2020)

“He did how I expected. He is incompetent and displayed it.” (Male, Math teacher, 43, Washington, Independent, Someone else 2020)

“About the same because I'm not sure I can trust his promises” (Female, Homemaker, 40, North Carolina, Independent, Unsure 2020)

**“I suppose he did better, since there were fewer moments that were criticized or made fun of.” (Male, business owner, 44, Texas, Independent, Did not vote 2020)**

# State of the Union

## Snap voter panel

March 2024

J.L.  
**PARTNERS.**

**RESEARCH.**  
**INSIGHT.**  
**STRATEGY.**