

YWWomenVote 2022 – Midterm Elections

Spotlight on North Carolina

This spotlight on North Carolina women provides a brief overview of their concerns and priorities heading into the 2022 midterm elections. Drawn from YWCA USA’s [fifth national survey of women in the United States](#), this data centers the women of North Carolina whose voice are critical yet frequently overlooked in policy discussions, and frames clear expectations for legislative actions to address their concerns and priorities.

Election Enthusiasm and Impact

Women in North Carolina prioritize federal elections and state and local elections equally; **46 percent** of respondents reported high enthusiasm (ranked as an eight, nine, or 10 on a scale of one to 10, with 10 being the highest intensity of enthusiasm) for both the top-of-the-ballot and down-ticket.

North Carolina women also rated the impact of federal and state elections equally, with **69 percent** reporting that they believe the upcoming federal elections will have “a big impact” or “somewhat of an impact” on their and their families’ lives in each category.

Policy Solutions: Women in North Carolina

The solutions women in North Carolina believe Congress should prioritize include policies aimed at ending workplace harassment, discrimination, and sexual violence (**80 percent**), preventing mass shootings and gun violence (**79 percent**), and comprehensive healthcare coverage that includes pre-existing conditions). Top priorities ranked and compared to national findings are below.

Top Policies: North Carolina Women				
% One of the most important/very important; Sorted by net				
Policy Category	Policy Issue	Overall	NC	Net
Economic Security	End Workplace Harassment, Discrimination, Sexual Violence	79%	80%	+1
Health & Well-Being	Comprehensive Health Coverage	78%	78%	+0
Economic Security	Paid Family & Medical Leave	73%	72%	-1
Health & Well-Being	Improve Maternal Health Care	73%	72%	-1
Economic Security	Equal Pay	76%	74%	-2
Health & Well-Being	Prevent Gun Violence & Mass Shootings	82%	79%	-3
Gender-Based Violence	Domestic Violence Prevention & Services	76%	73%	-3
Health & Well-Being	Access to Contraception	74%	71%	-3
Health & Well-Being	Expand Mental Health Services for Survivors of Trauma	77%	73%	-4
Health & Well-Being	Federal Funding for Nonprofit Community Services	75%	71%	-4

Top Concerns: Women in North Carolina

The top concern among women in North Carolina is the high cost of living (**87 percent**). This is 17 percentage points higher than the concerns that follow; mass shootings and gun violence (**70 percent**) and concerns that family income is not enough to pay the bills (**70 percent**). Other top concerns – ranked by how they compare to national results – can be found below.

Top Concerns: North Carolina Women				
% Very/somewhat worried; Sorted by net from overall women				
Policy Category	Policy Issue	Overall	NC	Net
Racial justice	Safety from police violence	40%	44%	+4
Economic security	Family income not enough to pay bills	68%	70%	+2
Racial justice/Democracy	Ability to cast vote without interference	44%	46%	+2
Health & Well-Being	Access to contraception	31%	33%	+2
Economic security	High cost of living / inflation	86%	87%	+1
Economic security	Quality, affordable, accessible, dependable child care	36%	37%	+1
Economic security	Access to paid family and medical leave	41%	41%	+0
Gender-based violence	Discrimination or harassment at work	31%	30%	-1
Health & Well-being	Affordable mental health services	51%	49%	-2
Health & Well-being	Stress, anxiety, trauma from COVID 19	47%	45%	-2

FULL SURVEY RESULTS AVAILABLE AT YWOMENVOTE.ORG

Survey Methodology

This online survey was designed and conducted by Finn Partners. It reached a total of N=3,354 women nationwide between June 21, 2022 and August 2, 2022. This sample is inclusive of oversamples of women in six states (N=400 in each of Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Texas), which were weighted down to the appropriate size nationwide.

About YWCA USA

For over 160 years, YWCA has been on a mission to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. YWCA has been at the forefront of the most pressing social movements – from voting rights to civil rights, from affordable housing to pay equity, from violence prevention to health care reform. Today, we combine programming and advocacy in order to generate institutional change in three key areas: racial justice and civil rights, empowerment and economic advancement of women and girls, and health and safety of women and girls. Learn more at www.ywca.org.