

Summary of Polling on Social Security

- **Social Security is important to Americans:**
 - [An AARP survey released August 13, 2020](#), found that:
 - Social Security is deemed an important program by 96 percent of Americans.
 - Over half (56%) indicated that Social Security is more important during the pandemic, relative to before it started.
 - Most (82%) disagree that the program is driving up the deficit.
 - **The vast majority (80%) oppose reducing benefits to achieve solvency.**
 - 82% say it is important for non-retirees to continue to contribute to Social Security for the common good.
 - Around 4 in 5 say they will or do rely on Social Security at least somewhat for their retirement income, while 2 in 5 will or do rely on Social Security the most out of all income sources for retirement.
 - [From a 2019 Gallup poll](#), “Social Security ranked fourth in importance to Americans out of a list of 12 possible priorities for the president and Congress to deal with, behind only education, healthcare and the economy. This put it ahead of other issues dominating the political discourse today, including immigration, climate change and income inequality.”

- According to [the National Academy of Social Insurance](#): 77% (84% D, 69% R) say it's critical to preserve Social Security benefits for future generations even if that means increasing Social Security taxes paid by working Americans; 83% agree if it means raising taxes paid by top earners.

Majority of Americans favor increase in Social Security benefits and opposes cuts:

- 74% say Social Security benefits should not be reduced in any way according to [data from Pew Research Center](#).
- The majority Americans (84% of Ds, 77% of Is, 82% of Rs) agree that Social Security is a promise with the government that the government can't break according to the [AARP survey](#).
- 91% (including 86% of Rs and 95% of Ds) said they want to maintain or increase spending on Social Security; only 6% want to cut it according to [Pew Research Center](#).
- The majority of Americans (76% of Ds, 59% of Is, and 56% of Rs) also agreed they'd be willing to pay in more now to ensure Social Security is around for future generations according to the [AARP survey](#).