

The 2020 Racial Justice Presidential Candidate Scorecard

The 2020 Racial Justice Presidential Candidate Scorecard analyzes the policy platforms of presidential candidates to assess whether their policies show commitment to advancing racial justice. Embedded in the scorecard is a racial justice agenda to challenge systemic racism and meaningfully improve the lives of Black, Brown and Indigenous people. The scorecard summarizes the presidential candidates' policy proposals across key areas including criminal justice reform, education, health care, voting rights, reparations, environmental justice, immigration, indigenous rights, and policies to close the racial wealth gap.

The scorecard is not intended to push a candidate on the public but to provide voters with additional information to make an informed decision for the upcoming 2020 presidential election.

Scorecard Purpose

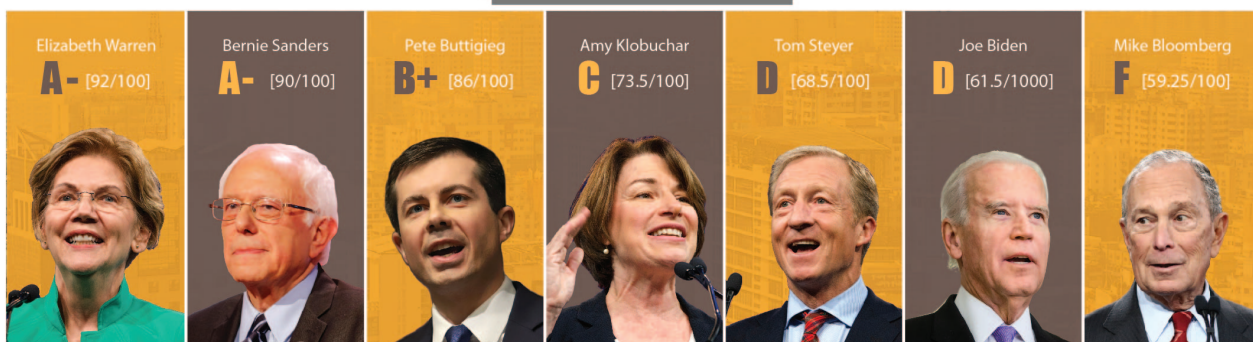
Under Donald Trump's presidency, the nation has experienced a rise in white nationalism, anti-immigrant rhetoric and violence, and assaults on critical policies and programs from housing to health care. The 2020 election is critical because we have the opportunity to change leadership, however we can no longer do that without fully vetting presidential candidates on their plans to address long-standing racial inequities. The scorecard aims to answer a critical question: where do presidential candidates stand on racial justice? The next president must have a plan to address racial inequities and work meaningfully with our communities to push for racial justice. This scorecard is a resource for our communities, for voters, and for people who care deeply about holding politicians accountable for policies that improve our lives.



Reviewers

The scorecard underwent an external review process to ensure that we scored candidates fairly and on the right issues. Our partners provided an extensive review and contributed greatly to the scorecard.

The Scores



Scores as of February 28, 2020. Visit www.racialjustice2020.org for updates and full breakdown of candidate scores and policy positions.

Scoring Methodology

Candidates were scored on the level of detail in their proposals, their on-record support of policies that will most further racial justice, and the rhetoric or language they have used in debates and at public events. Candidates were scored on a 10-point scale in 10 categories, for a total of 100 points. A letter grade was assigned based on the number of points candidates received. The ten categories are:

Criminal Justice

- Marijuana Legalization
- Eliminate Mandatory Minimums
- Federal Pressure For Police Reform
- End Cash Bail
- Reduce Disparity in Crack and Powder Cocaine
- Reentry for Returning Citizens

Health/Reproductive Justice

- Support for Universal Health Care
- Commitment to Reduce Disparities
- Protect Reproductive Rights
- Lower Prescription Drug Prices
- Paid Leave Policies

Indigenous Rights

- Investment in Native Communities
- Commitment to Strengthen Tribal Sovereignty and Honoring Treaties

Record/Rhetoric

- Historical Support for Racial Justice
- Offers Systematic Analysis of Race and Racial Inequity
- Explicitly Places Race at the Forefront of Their Campaign

Environmental Justice

- Support for Green New Deal
- Climate Equity
- Against Pollution in Communities of Color
- Invest in Rebuilding Puerto Rico
- Removal of Lead from Our Communities

Racial Wealth Gap/Housing

- Eliminate Racial Disparities in Wealth
- Affordable Housing Policy
- Labor Policy to Address Disparities in Income

Reparations

- Detailed Plan to Administer Reparations
- Supports Studying Reparations

Voting Rights

- Voting Rights for People with Felony Convictions
- Restoration of Voting Rights Act
- Commitment to End Voter Suppression
- Abolish Voter ID Laws
- Language Justice

Education Equity

- Tuition-Free College/Student Loan Forgiveness
- Funding for K-12 Students of Color
- Universal Pre-K
- Invest in HBCUs and Minority Serving Institutions
- Support Teacher Diversity

Immigration

- Pathway to Citizenship
- Abolish ICE
- Repeal Section 1325
- Reintroduction of DACA
- Asylum/Refugee Acceptance