

YouGov Survey: Romantic Relationship Timing

January 30 - February 1, 2026 - 1,104 U.S. adult citizens

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1. Do you think it is better for a couple to do the following before or after getting married?

	Better before marriage	Better after marriage	Doesn't matter	Not sure
Move in together	38%	29%	28%	5%
Have sex	27%	26%	40%	7%
Buy a home together	7%	67%	19%	8%
Have a child	2%	70%	23%	5%

2. About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Less than a week	1 week - 1 month	2 - 7 months	8 months - 1 year	2 - 3 years	4 years or more	Doesn't matter	Don't know
Kissing	31%	35%	14%	3%	0%	0%	12%	5%
Having sex	6%	22%	31%	11%	4%	1%	13%	12%
Saying I love you	5%	9%	43%	20%	0%	1%	12%	10%
Meeting each other's friends	6%	27%	44%	7%	1%	1%	9%	4%
Meeting each other's parents or close family	3%	10%	50%	22%	1%	1%	6%	7%
Meeting children from past relationships	5%	10%	39%	25%	3%	1%	7%	11%
Going on a vacation together	2%	6%	43%	28%	3%	1%	12%	7%
Getting a pet together	1%	2%	15%	38%	17%	4%	12%	11%
Moving in together	1%	3%	18%	43%	17%	3%	9%	8%
Buying a home together	0%	2%	4%	25%	30%	18%	8%	13%
Getting engaged	1%	2%	10%	44%	23%	4%	9%	6%
Getting married	2%	1%	6%	30%	37%	10%	8%	7%
Having a child	1%	1%	3%	22%	35%	18%	9%	11%

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Interviewing Dates	January 30 - February 1, 2026
Target population	U.S. citizens, aged 18 and over
Sampling method	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in panel to be representative of adult U.S. citizens.
Weighting	The sample was weighted according to gender, age, race, education, U.S. region, 2024 presidential vote, 2020 election turnout and presidential vote, baseline party identification, and current voter registration status. Demographic weighting targets come from the 2019 American Community Survey. 2024 presidential vote, at time of weighting was estimated to be 48% Harris and 50% Trump. Baseline party identification is the respondent's most recent answer given around November 8, 2024, and is weighted to the estimated distribution at that time (31% Democratic, 33% Republican). The weights range from 0.052 to 6.067, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.921.
Number of respondents	1,104
Margin of error	± 4 points (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	89 questions not reported.

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1A. Relationship Timing Relative to Marriage — Move in together

Do you think it is better for a couple to do the following before or after getting married?

	Total	Gender		Age				Race			Education	
		Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Better before marriage	38%	37%	38%	28%	42%	43%	33%	42%	16%	40%	35%	43%
Better after marriage	29%	30%	28%	31%	24%	29%	33%	28%	47%	21%	28%	31%
Doesn't matter	28%	28%	29%	33%	27%	24%	30%	26%	33%	32%	31%	22%
Not sure	5%	6%	5%	9%	6%	3%	4%	4%	4%	7%	6%	4%
Totals	100%	101%	100%	101%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,089)	(523)	(566)	(274)	(305)	(305)	(205)	(701)	(139)	(175)	(698)	(391)

	Total	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region			
		Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Better before marriage	38%	42%	37%	34%	44%	34%	35%	40%	44%	32%	51%	34%	34%
Better after marriage	29%	21%	25%	42%	26%	41%	26%	31%	29%	26%	24%	32%	32%
Doesn't matter	28%	33%	32%	18%	27%	19%	32%	24%	23%	30%	20%	30%	31%
Not sure	5%	4%	6%	6%	3%	6%	6%	4%	4%	12%	5%	4%	4%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	101%
Unweighted N	(1,089)	(350)	(449)	(290)	(442)	(372)	(399)	(316)	(266)	(198)	(232)	(416)	(243)

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1B. Relationship Timing Relative to Marriage — Have sex

Do you think it is better for a couple to do the following before or after getting married?

	Total	Gender		Age				Race			Education	
		Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Better before marriage	27%	30%	24%	19%	29%	34%	21%	29%	16%	23%	23%	34%
Better after marriage	26%	26%	26%	33%	23%	25%	25%	26%	39%	18%	26%	26%
Doesn't matter	40%	38%	42%	40%	43%	36%	44%	38%	41%	53%	45%	32%
Not sure	7%	6%	8%	8%	5%	5%	10%	6%	4%	7%	6%	7%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	101%	100%	99%
Unweighted N	(1,102)	(529)	(573)	(274)	(304)	(309)	(215)	(714)	(139)	(175)	(704)	(398)

	Total	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region			
		Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Better before marriage	27%	35%	23%	24%	33%	22%	25%	29%	35%	28%	30%	23%	29%
Better after marriage	26%	14%	24%	39%	19%	37%	25%	23%	30%	23%	23%	30%	25%
Doesn't matter	40%	45%	46%	29%	42%	33%	43%	42%	30%	40%	39%	41%	42%
Not sure	7%	6%	7%	8%	6%	7%	7%	6%	5%	9%	8%	6%	4%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,102)	(351)	(452)	(299)	(445)	(380)	(407)	(319)	(267)	(203)	(233)	(421)	(245)

1C. Relationship Timing Relative to Marriage — Buy a home together

Do you think it is better for a couple to do the following before or after getting married?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Better before marriage	7%	9%	6%	13%	7%	5%	6%	8%	4%	9%	8%	7%
Better after marriage	67%	66%	67%	52%	60%	72%	78%	67%	73%	59%	66%	67%
Doesn't matter	19%	16%	20%	22%	23%	16%	13%	19%	16%	23%	18%	19%
Not sure	8%	8%	7%	12%	9%	6%	4%	6%	7%	9%	8%	7%
Totals	101%	99%	100%	99%	99%	99%	101%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,100)	(526)	(574)	(274)	(305)	(309)	(212)	(712)	(139)	(175)	(702)	(398)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Better before marriage	7%	7%	8%	7%	7%	9%	7%	5%	11%	10%	9%	6%	6%
Better after marriage	67%	65%	57%	78%	64%	74%	68%	68%	63%	57%	67%	68%	70%
Doesn't matter	19%	21%	23%	10%	23%	13%	17%	21%	18%	23%	14%	19%	20%
Not sure	8%	6%	11%	4%	7%	5%	8%	6%	7%	10%	10%	7%	4%
Totals	101%	99%	99%	99%	101%	101%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,100)	(351)	(451)	(298)	(444)	(379)	(404)	(319)	(268)	(202)	(234)	(420)	(244)

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1D. Relationship Timing Relative to Marriage — Have a child

Do you think it is better for a couple to do the following before or after getting married?

	Total	Gender		Age				Race			Education	
		Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Better before marriage	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%
Better after marriage	70%	70%	70%	67%	58%	71%	86%	73%	72%	57%	66%	77%
Doesn't matter	23%	21%	25%	24%	32%	23%	12%	22%	19%	35%	26%	18%
Not sure	5%	7%	3%	7%	8%	4%	0%	3%	6%	6%	6%	3%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	101%	100%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,099)	(526)	(573)	(274)	(305)	(310)	(210)	(711)	(139)	(175)	(704)	(395)

	Total	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region			
		Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Better before marriage	2%	2%	1%	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	1%	2%
Better after marriage	70%	69%	63%	80%	65%	82%	69%	69%	77%	60%	70%	73%	74%
Doesn't matter	23%	27%	28%	14%	29%	13%	24%	27%	17%	27%	23%	23%	21%
Not sure	5%	1%	8%	5%	3%	3%	5%	3%	4%	12%	4%	3%	3%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	101%	100%	100%	100%	101%	100%	101%	100%	100%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,099)	(352)	(452)	(295)	(445)	(377)	(403)	(320)	(267)	(202)	(233)	(419)	(245)

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2A. Timing of Relationship Changes combined — Kissing

About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Less than a week	31%	33%	29%	21%	27%	34%	38%	35%	17%	26%	30%	31%
1 week - 1 month	35%	33%	36%	33%	30%	39%	34%	36%	32%	37%	35%	35%
2 - 7 months	14%	12%	16%	22%	17%	8%	12%	12%	22%	15%	14%	13%
8 months - 1 year	3%	4%	2%	5%	5%	2%	1%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%
2 - 3 years	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%
4 years or more	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Doesn't matter	12%	11%	13%	13%	12%	13%	11%	12%	14%	13%	12%	14%
Don't know	5%	6%	3%	6%	8%	2%	3%	2%	9%	6%	5%	4%
Totals	100%	99%	99%	101%	99%	99%	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,102)	(527)	(575)	(273)	(304)	(310)	(215)	(715)	(138)	(175)	(704)	(398)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Less than a week	31%	28%	31%	33%	27%	28%	35%	30%	29%	34%	31%	31%	28%
1 week - 1 month	35%	35%	31%	38%	38%	42%	33%	38%	39%	33%	37%	33%	35%
2 - 7 months	14%	17%	13%	14%	14%	15%	13%	13%	16%	14%	17%	13%	14%
8 months - 1 year	3%	1%	4%	4%	2%	4%	3%	2%	4%	3%	3%	4%	3%
2 - 3 years	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
4 years or more	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Doesn't matter	12%	16%	14%	7%	17%	8%	11%	15%	11%	8%	8%	16%	13%
Don't know	5%	2%	7%	4%	2%	3%	5%	3%	1%	7%	4%	3%	6%
Totals	100%	99%	101%	100%	100%	100%	101%	101%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,102)	(351)	(452)	(299)	(444)	(380)	(407)	(320)	(267)	(203)	(234)	(420)	(245)

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2B. Timing of Relationship Changes combined — Having sex

About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Less than a week	6%	9%	4%	6%	6%	9%	2%	7%	8%	6%	7%	5%
1 week - 1 month	22%	26%	18%	17%	21%	25%	22%	22%	15%	24%	21%	23%
2 - 7 months	31%	28%	34%	29%	31%	31%	35%	33%	29%	31%	30%	34%
8 months - 1 year	11%	10%	11%	9%	10%	12%	12%	12%	13%	4%	11%	10%
2 - 3 years	4%	3%	5%	9%	3%	2%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	5%
4 years or more	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	4%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%
Doesn't matter	13%	11%	14%	14%	17%	13%	7%	12%	9%	18%	13%	12%
Don't know	12%	11%	12%	15%	12%	8%	14%	9%	22%	11%	13%	8%
Totals	100%	99%	99%	99%	100%	101%	100%	100%	101%	99%	99%	99%
Unweighted N	(1,096)	(524)	(572)	(271)	(304)	(307)	(214)	(712)	(137)	(174)	(699)	(397)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Less than a week	6%	7%	5%	7%	4%	6%	8%	6%	5%	5%	8%	6%	7%
1 week - 1 month	22%	27%	21%	18%	26%	19%	22%	25%	23%	25%	17%	21%	25%
2 - 7 months	31%	31%	30%	33%	32%	34%	30%	31%	39%	31%	35%	31%	28%
8 months - 1 year	11%	8%	10%	14%	10%	15%	10%	9%	13%	13%	8%	12%	9%
2 - 3 years	4%	1%	3%	7%	2%	6%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	6%
4 years or more	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%
Doesn't matter	13%	16%	16%	7%	17%	8%	10%	16%	11%	9%	13%	15%	12%
Don't know	12%	8%	14%	12%	6%	11%	15%	9%	5%	13%	15%	10%	11%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	100%	99%	101%	100%	101%	100%	99%	100%	99%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,096)	(348)	(451)	(297)	(442)	(379)	(406)	(316)	(267)	(200)	(234)	(416)	(246)

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2C. Timing of Relationship Changes combined — Saying I love you

About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Less than a week	5%	7%	2%	11%	5%	4%	1%	4%	6%	6%	6%	2%
1 week - 1 month	9%	16%	3%	16%	9%	6%	9%	9%	4%	15%	10%	7%
2 - 7 months	43%	38%	48%	42%	38%	47%	43%	46%	32%	41%	37%	54%
8 months - 1 year	20%	15%	24%	18%	18%	20%	24%	18%	29%	17%	21%	17%
2 - 3 years	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%
4 years or more	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Doesn't matter	12%	12%	13%	5%	17%	13%	13%	13%	11%	11%	12%	13%
Don't know	10%	11%	9%	9%	11%	10%	10%	8%	16%	8%	13%	5%
Totals	100%	101%	99%	101%	99%	101%	101%	99%	99%	100%	101%	99%
Unweighted N	(1,102)	(528)	(574)	(273)	(305)	(309)	(215)	(716)	(138)	(175)	(703)	(399)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Less than a week	5%	3%	6%	5%	2%	5%	5%	6%	3%	7%	3%	5%	3%
1 week - 1 month	9%	11%	8%	9%	9%	8%	10%	6%	10%	11%	6%	9%	11%
2 - 7 months	43%	50%	35%	46%	44%	46%	38%	46%	51%	40%	45%	40%	47%
8 months - 1 year	20%	16%	19%	25%	18%	22%	21%	18%	20%	18%	23%	21%	15%
2 - 3 years	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
4 years or more	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%
Doesn't matter	12%	11%	17%	7%	16%	10%	11%	16%	11%	9%	11%	14%	14%
Don't know	10%	7%	14%	8%	10%	8%	12%	7%	6%	14%	10%	9%	9%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	101%	99%	99%	100%	99%
Unweighted N	(1,102)	(351)	(452)	(299)	(445)	(380)	(407)	(319)	(268)	(203)	(234)	(419)	(246)

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2D. Timing of Relationship Changes combined — Meeting each other's friends

About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Less than a week	6%	8%	4%	7%	2%	9%	4%	7%	3%	4%	6%	6%
1 week - 1 month	27%	30%	25%	24%	26%	27%	32%	30%	18%	31%	27%	28%
2 - 7 months	44%	38%	51%	40%	41%	47%	48%	48%	42%	37%	42%	49%
8 months - 1 year	7%	7%	8%	14%	7%	5%	5%	5%	12%	10%	8%	6%
2 - 3 years	1%	0%	1%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	1%	0%
4 years or more	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	2%	2%	1%	0%
Doesn't matter	9%	10%	9%	6%	16%	8%	7%	8%	14%	9%	11%	7%
Don't know	4%	6%	2%	8%	5%	2%	3%	2%	9%	6%	5%	3%
Totals	99%	100%	101%	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	101%	101%	101%	99%
Unweighted N	(1,099)	(525)	(574)	(272)	(305)	(308)	(214)	(713)	(138)	(175)	(702)	(397)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Less than a week	6%	4%	6%	8%	2%	6%	9%	4%	2%	5%	7%	7%	4%
1 week - 1 month	27%	28%	25%	29%	28%	30%	26%	30%	28%	27%	29%	26%	28%
2 - 7 months	44%	49%	39%	46%	49%	47%	41%	45%	56%	41%	50%	42%	47%
8 months - 1 year	7%	8%	7%	8%	7%	6%	9%	6%	4%	10%	5%	9%	6%
2 - 3 years	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%
4 years or more	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	2%	0%	1%
Doesn't matter	9%	7%	15%	5%	9%	7%	9%	10%	7%	9%	5%	11%	11%
Don't know	4%	3%	6%	3%	4%	2%	3%	3%	3%	8%	3%	4%	3%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	100%	101%	101%	100%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,099)	(351)	(450)	(298)	(443)	(379)	(406)	(318)	(267)	(201)	(234)	(418)	(246)

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2E. Timing of Relationship Changes combined — Meeting each other's parents or close family

About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Less than a week	3%	3%	2%	5%	1%	3%	2%	3%	3%	1%	3%	1%
1 week - 1 month	10%	13%	8%	10%	9%	9%	13%	12%	7%	10%	11%	8%
2 - 7 months	50%	46%	55%	39%	46%	56%	56%	55%	42%	47%	47%	57%
8 months - 1 year	22%	20%	24%	28%	23%	21%	18%	20%	21%	25%	21%	25%
2 - 3 years	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%	4%	1%	1%	1%
4 years or more	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%
Doesn't matter	6%	7%	5%	4%	12%	3%	6%	6%	7%	8%	6%	6%
Don't know	7%	8%	5%	12%	7%	5%	3%	4%	15%	7%	9%	2%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,101)	(526)	(575)	(273)	(305)	(308)	(215)	(714)	(138)	(175)	(703)	(398)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Less than a week	3%	1%	2%	4%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	1%	4%	3%	2%
1 week - 1 month	10%	10%	10%	11%	7%	11%	12%	12%	8%	12%	9%	9%	12%
2 - 7 months	50%	52%	44%	57%	56%	57%	45%	54%	57%	51%	57%	49%	46%
8 months - 1 year	22%	27%	21%	19%	22%	20%	24%	20%	23%	18%	21%	23%	26%
2 - 3 years	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%
4 years or more	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%
Doesn't matter	6%	6%	9%	3%	8%	4%	5%	6%	6%	5%	4%	7%	8%
Don't know	7%	3%	12%	4%	3%	4%	9%	3%	2%	11%	3%	7%	5%
Totals	100%	101%	100%	99%	100%	101%	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%	101%
Unweighted N	(1,101)	(351)	(451)	(299)	(443)	(380)	(407)	(319)	(268)	(201)	(234)	(420)	(246)

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YouGov

2F. Timing of Relationship Changes combined — Meeting children from past relationships

About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Less than a week	5%	7%	3%	6%	3%	6%	4%	5%	6%	6%	6%	2%
1 week - 1 month	10%	13%	7%	8%	7%	12%	10%	11%	4%	9%	12%	6%
2 - 7 months	39%	36%	42%	29%	33%	44%	47%	43%	33%	35%	36%	45%
8 months - 1 year	25%	18%	32%	28%	26%	26%	22%	24%	27%	21%	23%	30%
2 - 3 years	3%	3%	2%	2%	6%	0%	3%	1%	7%	5%	3%	2%
4 years or more	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Doesn't matter	7%	9%	5%	8%	11%	4%	5%	6%	4%	10%	7%	7%
Don't know	11%	14%	9%	19%	13%	7%	8%	9%	17%	14%	13%	8%
Totals	101%	101%	101%	101%	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	100%	101%	101%
Unweighted N	(1,100)	(526)	(574)	(272)	(305)	(310)	(213)	(714)	(138)	(174)	(701)	(399)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Less than a week	5%	2%	6%	6%	3%	4%	5%	5%	5%	5%	6%	4%	4%
1 week - 1 month	10%	8%	9%	12%	7%	14%	11%	10%	6%	9%	11%	8%	13%
2 - 7 months	39%	37%	34%	47%	41%	45%	37%	40%	47%	38%	38%	41%	37%
8 months - 1 year	25%	33%	24%	20%	27%	22%	25%	24%	26%	23%	30%	24%	24%
2 - 3 years	3%	3%	3%	1%	3%	1%	4%	2%	2%	1%	2%	3%	3%
4 years or more	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Doesn't matter	7%	7%	10%	3%	8%	6%	6%	6%	5%	10%	3%	6%	9%
Don't know	11%	9%	14%	11%	11%	8%	10%	13%	8%	15%	9%	12%	9%
Totals	101%	99%	101%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	101%	99%	99%	99%
Unweighted N	(1,100)	(349)	(452)	(299)	(443)	(380)	(404)	(320)	(268)	(202)	(234)	(420)	(244)

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2G. Timing of Relationship Changes combined — Going on a vacation together

About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Less than a week	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	0%	1%	3%	0%	2%	1%
1 week - 1 month	6%	6%	5%	5%	7%	6%	4%	6%	6%	6%	6%	5%
2 - 7 months	43%	44%	42%	33%	43%	47%	45%	46%	32%	41%	38%	51%
8 months - 1 year	28%	26%	29%	32%	25%	27%	28%	28%	26%	28%	29%	26%
2 - 3 years	3%	1%	4%	5%	1%	2%	4%	1%	5%	2%	3%	2%
4 years or more	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	0%	2%	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%
Doesn't matter	12%	11%	13%	10%	15%	12%	11%	11%	14%	13%	12%	12%
Don't know	7%	8%	6%	12%	7%	4%	6%	5%	15%	8%	9%	3%
Totals	102%	99%	101%	101%	100%	100%	100%	99%	101%	100%	100%	101%
Unweighted N	(1,103)	(529)	(574)	(274)	(305)	(309)	(215)	(716)	(138)	(175)	(704)	(399)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Less than a week	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	3%	1%	0%	1%	0%	2%	2%
1 week - 1 month	6%	5%	7%	5%	7%	6%	6%	4%	9%	6%	4%	5%	8%
2 - 7 months	43%	48%	38%	44%	50%	45%	36%	51%	49%	46%	43%	39%	47%
8 months - 1 year	28%	26%	25%	32%	21%	30%	30%	24%	28%	25%	32%	27%	27%
2 - 3 years	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%	4%	2%	1%	2%	5%	3%	1%
4 years or more	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%
Doesn't matter	12%	10%	16%	9%	11%	11%	13%	12%	9%	9%	10%	16%	9%
Don't know	7%	5%	9%	6%	5%	4%	7%	4%	4%	12%	5%	8%	4%
Totals	102%	100%	99%	100%	99%	101%	100%	100%	101%	101%	100%	101%	99%
Unweighted N	(1,103)	(351)	(453)	(299)	(445)	(380)	(407)	(319)	(268)	(202)	(234)	(421)	(246)

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2H. Timing of Relationship Changes combined — Getting a pet together

About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Less than a week	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%	0%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%
1 week - 1 month	2%	3%	1%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	5%	2%	1%
2 - 7 months	15%	19%	10%	18%	14%	10%	19%	16%	11%	12%	15%	13%
8 months - 1 year	38%	34%	42%	33%	38%	40%	41%	42%	28%	39%	37%	41%
2 - 3 years	17%	16%	19%	17%	13%	20%	18%	18%	12%	16%	17%	17%
4 years or more	4%	3%	5%	4%	3%	6%	2%	4%	7%	2%	4%	4%
Doesn't matter	12%	12%	11%	9%	17%	12%	6%	10%	16%	11%	10%	14%
Don't know	11%	12%	10%	13%	11%	10%	12%	8%	22%	14%	13%	9%
Totals	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	100%	99%	99%	99%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,101)	(526)	(575)	(274)	(304)	(310)	(213)	(716)	(138)	(175)	(703)	(398)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Less than a week	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	2%	1%
1 week - 1 month	2%	0%	2%	3%	1%	3%	2%	2%	2%	3%	1%	2%	1%
2 - 7 months	15%	14%	12%	18%	13%	14%	15%	13%	17%	12%	16%	17%	12%
8 months - 1 year	38%	38%	36%	41%	43%	39%	38%	35%	44%	43%	37%	33%	45%
2 - 3 years	17%	21%	16%	16%	19%	16%	15%	21%	20%	10%	28%	14%	18%
4 years or more	4%	5%	4%	3%	3%	4%	5%	5%	1%	3%	1%	6%	4%
Doesn't matter	12%	11%	15%	9%	12%	12%	11%	13%	11%	12%	8%	15%	9%
Don't know	11%	10%	14%	10%	9%	11%	13%	11%	5%	18%	9%	11%	9%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	101%	101%	100%	100%	101%	101%	101%	100%	100%	99%
Unweighted N	(1,101)	(352)	(450)	(299)	(444)	(379)	(405)	(320)	(267)	(203)	(232)	(420)	(246)

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21. Timing of Relationship Changes combined — Moving in together

About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Less than a week	1%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	1%	0%
1 week - 1 month	3%	4%	1%	3%	3%	3%	0%	3%	3%	2%	3%	1%
2 - 7 months	18%	23%	14%	10%	18%	20%	24%	22%	10%	11%	18%	19%
8 months - 1 year	43%	39%	46%	40%	40%	45%	45%	45%	38%	44%	41%	45%
2 - 3 years	17%	13%	20%	20%	16%	16%	14%	15%	18%	18%	15%	20%
4 years or more	3%	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%	4%	2%	4%	3%	3%	3%
Doesn't matter	9%	9%	8%	10%	13%	6%	6%	8%	9%	11%	9%	8%
Don't know	8%	8%	8%	12%	8%	6%	7%	5%	16%	10%	10%	3%
Totals	102%	98%	101%	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	99%
Unweighted N	(1,104)	(529)	(575)	(274)	(305)	(310)	(215)	(716)	(139)	(175)	(705)	(399)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Less than a week	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%
1 week - 1 month	3%	4%	2%	3%	1%	2%	4%	2%	2%	4%	1%	2%	4%
2 - 7 months	18%	17%	18%	20%	20%	18%	20%	20%	19%	15%	18%	20%	17%
8 months - 1 year	43%	50%	36%	44%	47%	46%	40%	42%	53%	46%	51%	38%	41%
2 - 3 years	17%	16%	16%	18%	14%	17%	14%	18%	17%	14%	13%	16%	22%
4 years or more	3%	1%	3%	3%	2%	4%	3%	3%	1%	2%	2%	4%	1%
Doesn't matter	9%	6%	14%	4%	9%	6%	8%	10%	5%	8%	7%	10%	8%
Don't know	8%	6%	10%	7%	5%	7%	10%	5%	4%	11%	8%	9%	5%
Totals	102%	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	101%	101%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Unweighted N	(1,104)	(352)	(453)	(299)	(446)	(380)	(407)	(320)	(268)	(203)	(234)	(421)	(246)

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2J. Timing of Relationship Changes combined — Buying a home together

About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Less than a week	0%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	1%	0%
1 week - 1 month	2%	3%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	3%	1%	2%	1%
2 - 7 months	4%	7%	1%	7%	5%	4%	2%	4%	6%	1%	5%	4%
8 months - 1 year	25%	27%	23%	22%	24%	22%	32%	28%	16%	23%	24%	27%
2 - 3 years	30%	27%	33%	25%	31%	31%	33%	34%	22%	31%	28%	34%
4 years or more	18%	16%	19%	17%	12%	23%	16%	17%	17%	19%	18%	17%
Doesn't matter	8%	8%	8%	9%	15%	5%	3%	6%	11%	12%	8%	9%
Don't know	13%	12%	13%	16%	12%	11%	12%	9%	22%	12%	15%	9%
Totals	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	98%	99%	100%	99%	99%	101%	101%
Unweighted N	(1,102)	(527)	(575)	(274)	(305)	(310)	(213)	(716)	(138)	(175)	(704)	(398)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Less than a week	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%
1 week - 1 month	2%	3%	2%	1%	1%	2%	3%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	3%
2 - 7 months	4%	3%	4%	6%	3%	4%	6%	3%	4%	5%	5%	4%	3%
8 months - 1 year	25%	24%	23%	28%	26%	28%	24%	22%	33%	28%	26%	23%	24%
2 - 3 years	30%	35%	25%	33%	36%	33%	29%	34%	29%	28%	32%	28%	34%
4 years or more	18%	16%	18%	18%	16%	16%	17%	18%	17%	17%	18%	20%	13%
Doesn't matter	8%	5%	13%	4%	7%	8%	6%	9%	9%	8%	3%	10%	9%
Don't know	13%	13%	15%	10%	11%	9%	15%	12%	6%	13%	14%	12%	13%
Totals	100%	100%	101%	100%	101%	100%	101%	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,102)	(352)	(451)	(299)	(445)	(379)	(406)	(320)	(267)	(203)	(232)	(421)	(246)

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2K. Timing of Relationship Changes combined — Getting engaged

About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Less than a week	1%	2%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%
1 week - 1 month	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%	4%	0%	3%	2%	1%	3%	1%
2 - 7 months	10%	13%	8%	6%	14%	8%	12%	11%	13%	6%	9%	11%
8 months - 1 year	44%	40%	47%	31%	38%	43%	63%	48%	34%	39%	41%	48%
2 - 3 years	23%	22%	25%	30%	21%	28%	13%	21%	24%	30%	23%	24%
4 years or more	4%	4%	4%	10%	6%	1%	1%	3%	8%	6%	5%	2%
Doesn't matter	9%	9%	9%	8%	12%	8%	7%	9%	8%	11%	9%	9%
Don't know	6%	8%	5%	12%	7%	6%	2%	4%	8%	7%	9%	2%
Totals	99%	101%	101%	101%	100%	99%	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%	98%
Unweighted N	(1,100)	(528)	(572)	(272)	(305)	(308)	(215)	(714)	(137)	(175)	(701)	(399)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Less than a week	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
1 week - 1 month	2%	3%	1%	4%	1%	2%	4%	1%	1%	3%	3%	1%	4%
2 - 7 months	10%	8%	10%	12%	9%	12%	9%	10%	13%	9%	5%	14%	10%
8 months - 1 year	44%	46%	38%	48%	44%	52%	46%	42%	44%	40%	39%	48%	44%
2 - 3 years	23%	27%	23%	21%	27%	19%	20%	25%	26%	23%	34%	16%	26%
4 years or more	4%	3%	6%	3%	4%	2%	3%	4%	5%	5%	6%	4%	3%
Doesn't matter	9%	8%	12%	6%	12%	7%	7%	13%	7%	7%	8%	9%	10%
Don't know	6%	3%	10%	6%	3%	5%	7%	4%	4%	12%	4%	7%	3%
Totals	99%	99%	101%	101%	100%	100%	98%	99%	101%	100%	100%	100%	101%
Unweighted N	(1,100)	(350)	(452)	(298)	(445)	(379)	(406)	(318)	(267)	(202)	(232)	(420)	(246)

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2L. Timing of Relationship Changes combined — Getting married

About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Less than a week	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	0%	2%	1%
1 week - 1 month	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%
2 - 7 months	6%	8%	4%	7%	6%	5%	8%	7%	7%	1%	6%	6%
8 months - 1 year	30%	29%	31%	18%	28%	29%	45%	32%	28%	24%	27%	36%
2 - 3 years	37%	36%	38%	35%	36%	41%	36%	40%	27%	39%	36%	40%
4 years or more	10%	8%	11%	16%	12%	9%	2%	7%	13%	19%	11%	6%
Doesn't matter	8%	7%	8%	7%	11%	6%	7%	8%	7%	8%	7%	8%
Don't know	7%	8%	5%	14%	6%	6%	1%	4%	14%	7%	9%	3%
Totals	101%	99%	99%	100%	101%	100%	100%	101%	99%	99%	100%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,102)	(528)	(574)	(273)	(304)	(310)	(215)	(715)	(139)	(174)	(703)	(399)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Less than a week	2%	1%	1%	2%	0%	1%	3%	0%	0%	0%	4%	1%	1%
1 week - 1 month	1%	2%	1%	0%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%
2 - 7 months	6%	3%	7%	8%	4%	7%	7%	4%	7%	4%	4%	9%	4%
8 months - 1 year	30%	36%	26%	30%	37%	36%	31%	27%	36%	30%	23%	32%	33%
2 - 3 years	37%	38%	33%	42%	37%	41%	33%	43%	39%	36%	51%	30%	37%
4 years or more	10%	9%	13%	6%	10%	5%	8%	11%	10%	9%	9%	10%	11%
Doesn't matter	8%	7%	10%	5%	8%	6%	7%	11%	5%	7%	6%	9%	8%
Don't know	7%	3%	9%	7%	4%	5%	9%	4%	3%	13%	4%	8%	3%
Totals	101%	99%	100%	100%	100%	102%	100%	100%	100%	99%	101%	100%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,102)	(352)	(451)	(299)	(446)	(380)	(407)	(319)	(268)	(202)	(234)	(421)	(245)

YouGov Survey: Romantic Relationship Timing

January 30 - February 1, 2026 - 1,104 U.S. adult citizens

YouGov

2M. Timing of Relationship Changes combined — Having a child

About long do you think is the minimum amount of time a person should ideally have been seeing someone before doing the following when dating or starting a new relationship?

	Gender		Age				Race			Education		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Black	Hispanic	No degree	College degree
Less than a week	1%	1%	1%	3%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%	0%	1%	0%
1 week - 1 month	1%	2%	0%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%
2 - 7 months	3%	4%	2%	4%	5%	2%	1%	2%	7%	2%	3%	2%
8 months - 1 year	22%	27%	18%	20%	19%	21%	31%	26%	18%	18%	23%	20%
2 - 3 years	35%	29%	41%	28%	35%	37%	40%	38%	27%	32%	33%	40%
4 years or more	18%	15%	20%	23%	15%	20%	12%	16%	18%	22%	16%	20%
Doesn't matter	9%	10%	8%	6%	15%	9%	4%	9%	6%	11%	9%	8%
Don't know	11%	12%	10%	15%	11%	10%	10%	7%	20%	14%	13%	7%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	101%	101%	100%	99%	100%	99%	100%	99%	99%
Unweighted N	(1,101)	(529)	(572)	(273)	(304)	(310)	(214)	(714)	(139)	(174)	(702)	(399)

	Party ID			2024 Vote		Family income			Region				
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Harris	Trump	< \$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Less than a week	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%
1 week - 1 month	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	0%	1%
2 - 7 months	3%	2%	4%	3%	2%	3%	4%	2%	3%	2%	3%	4%	2%
8 months - 1 year	22%	26%	19%	24%	23%	22%	26%	19%	25%	18%	19%	24%	25%
2 - 3 years	35%	33%	31%	42%	39%	40%	32%	40%	38%	35%	37%	33%	36%
4 years or more	18%	20%	18%	15%	17%	16%	16%	17%	21%	14%	22%	17%	17%
Doesn't matter	9%	7%	12%	7%	9%	7%	7%	14%	4%	10%	7%	10%	7%
Don't know	11%	11%	15%	7%	10%	9%	13%	8%	7%	18%	10%	10%	11%
Totals	100%	101%	101%	100%	102%	100%	101%	101%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%
Unweighted N	(1,101)	(352)	(451)	(298)	(446)	(379)	(404)	(320)	(268)	(203)	(233)	(420)	(245)

YouGov Survey: Romantic Relationship Timing

January 30 - February 1, 2026 - 1,104 U.S. adult citizens



Interviewing Dates	January 30 - February 1, 2026
Target population	U.S. citizens, aged 18 and over
Sampling method	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in panel to be representative of adult U.S. citizens.
Weighting	The sample was weighted according to gender, age, race, education, U.S. region, 2024 presidential vote, 2020 election turnout and presidential vote, baseline party identification, and current voter registration status. Demographic weighting targets come from the 2019 American Community Survey. 2024 presidential vote, at time of weighting was estimated to be 48% Harris and 50% Trump. Baseline party identification is the respondent's most recent answer given around November 8, 2024, and is weighted to the estimated distribution at that time (31% Democratic, 33% Republican). The weights range from 0.052 to 6.067, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.921.
Number of respondents	1,104
Margin of error	± 4 points (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	89 questions not reported.