

CBS News Poll – September 30 – October 2, 2025

Adults in the U.S.



Sample 2,489 Adults in the U.S.

Margin of Error ± 2.2 points

12. When you think about the overall tone and civility in American politics over recent years, do you feel the level of civility has gotten...

Better	6%
Worse	82%
Same	12%

13. These days, do you feel optimistic that Americans of different political views can still come together and work out their differences, or are you pessimistic that Americans can do that now?

Optimistic	31%
Pessimistic	69%

14. In America today, do you think it can be acceptable for people to use force or violence to try to achieve political goals, if they feel it is necessary, or are force and violence always unacceptable?

Can be acceptable	14%
Always unacceptable	86%

15. Do you think the next few years will see...

An increase in political violence in the U.S.	68%
A decrease in political violence in the U.S.	8%
The same amount as there already is	24%

16. In America today, do you think most people generally...

Get along, but politics drives them apart	62%
Don't get along, and politics just reflects that	38%

17. Do you feel that American culture and society today respects people like you, for who you are?

Yes	33%
No	67%

18. On a day-to-day basis, how often would you say you have a political discussion with someone who has different political views than you?

	A lot	Sometimes	Almost never
Online	12%	28%	60%
In person	9%	43%	48%

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19. In general, do you feel comfortable or uncomfortable publicly expressing your political views these days?

Very comfortable	15%
Somewhat comfortable	30%
Somewhat uncomfortable	34%
Very uncomfortable	21%

20. Do you think people publicly expressing their political views these days can lead to...

	Yes	No
Physical threats	82%	18%
Verbal or written insults	85%	15%
Employment or business problems	75%	25%
More support for those views	56%	44%
Finding other people who share those views	81%	19%
Political change	44%	56%

27. When you think about Republicans, do you tend to think of them as...

Among Democrats

Political opposition - that is, if they win, you just won't get the policies you want	51%
Enemies - that is, if they win, your life or your entire way of life may be threatened	49%

28. When you think about Democrats, do you tend to think of them as...

Among Republicans

Political opposition - that is, if they win, you just won't get the policies you want	62%
Enemies - that is, if they win, your life or your entire way of life may be threatened	38%

* Questions held for future release.

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12. Tone of Civility of U.S. Politics

When you think about the overall tone and civility in American politics over recent years, do you feel the level of civility has gotten...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Better	6%	7%	5%	8%	10%	3%	3%	4%	5%	9%
Worse	82%	80%	83%	74%	75%	86%	90%	90%	83%	80%
Same	12%	13%	11%	17%	15%	10%	7%	6%	12%	11%
Totals	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,483)	(1,208)	(1,275)	(522)	(626)	(809)	(526)	(628)	(765)	(786)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Better	6%	5%	4%	11%	5%	9%	8%	5%	5%
Worse	82%	87%	86%	75%	84%	76%	74%	82%	88%
Same	12%	8%	10%	14%	11%	15%	18%	13%	6%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Weighted N	(2,483)	(706)	(854)	(724)	(1,558)	(310)	(398)	(967)	(591)

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13. Optimistic Americans Can Come Together

These days, do you feel optimistic that Americans of different political views can still come together and work out their differences, or are you pessimistic that Americans can do that now?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Optimistic	31%	32%	31%	36%	36%	29%	25%	20%	31%	37%
Pessimistic	69%	68%	69%	64%	64%	71%	75%	80%	69%	63%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,477)	(1,205)	(1,272)	(519)	(626)	(806)	(526)	(628)	(767)	(779)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Optimistic	31%	26%	26%	40%	28%	44%	37%	32%	21%
Pessimistic	69%	74%	74%	60%	72%	56%	63%	68%	79%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,477)	(703)	(856)	(720)	(1,558)	(307)	(396)	(965)	(592)

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14. Political Violence Acceptable or Unacceptable

In America today, do you think it can be acceptable for people to use force or violence to try to achieve political goals, if they feel it is necessary, or are force and violence always unacceptable?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Can be acceptable	14%	16%	12%	28%	17%	8%	5%	19%	12%	11%
Always unacceptable	86%	84%	88%	72%	83%	92%	95%	81%	88%	89%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,479)	(1,208)	(1,271)	(522)	(624)	(809)	(525)	(627)	(766)	(785)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Can be acceptable	14%	13%	17%	12%	13%	13%	19%	14%	12%
Always unacceptable	86%	87%	83%	88%	87%	87%	81%	86%	88%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,479)	(703)	(856)	(724)	(1,559)	(304)	(399)	(967)	(592)

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15. Future Political Violence

Do you think the next few years will see...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
An increase in political violence in the U.S.	68%	67%	68%	64%	67%	70%	68%	82%	68%	63%
A decrease in political violence in the U.S.	8%	8%	8%	12%	7%	7%	8%	3%	7%	12%
The same amount as there already is	24%	25%	23%	24%	26%	23%	24%	15%	25%	25%
Totals	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,482)	(1,210)	(1,272)	(520)	(628)	(808)	(527)	(627)	(766)	(785)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
An increase in political violence in the U.S.	68%	78%	70%	59%	70%	60%	64%	66%	78%
A decrease in political violence in the U.S.	8%	4%	6%	14%	7%	12%	10%	8%	5%
The same amount as there already is	24%	18%	24%	27%	23%	28%	26%	26%	17%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,482)	(705)	(858)	(722)	(1,560)	(309)	(398)	(968)	(592)

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16. People Get Along

In America today, do you think most people generally...

	Total	Gender		Under 30	Age			Ideology		
		Male	Female		30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Get along, but politics drives them apart	62%	63%	61%	52%	58%	64%	73%	65%	62%	67%
Don't get along, and politics just reflects that	38%	37%	39%	48%	42%	36%	27%	35%	38%	33%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,483)	(1,208)	(1,275)	(521)	(626)	(811)	(526)	(629)	(767)	(784)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Get along, but politics drives them apart	62%	63%	63%	65%	67%	46%	53%	65%	71%
Don't get along, and politics just reflects that	38%	37%	37%	35%	33%	54%	47%	35%	29%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,483)	(706)	(857)	(723)	(1,561)	(309)	(396)	(968)	(593)

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17. Culture and Society Respects People Like You

Do you feel that American culture and society today respects people like you, for who you are?

	Gender			Age				Ideology		
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Yes	33%	35%	31%	39%	35%	28%	32%	25%	37%	36%
No	67%	65%	69%	61%	65%	72%	68%	75%	63%	64%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,477)	(1,205)	(1,271)	(522)	(625)	(807)	(523)	(627)	(763)	(783)

	Party ID				Race			White by Education	
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Yes	33%	29%	30%	41%	34%	29%	32%	31%	40%
No	67%	71%	70%	59%	66%	71%	68%	69%	60%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,477)	(704)	(854)	(721)	(1,555)	(307)	(399)	(964)	(591)

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18A. Contact with Different Political Views — Online

On a day-to-day basis, how often would you say you have a political discussion with someone who has different political views than you?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
A lot	12%	15%	10%	17%	12%	10%	10%	16%	9%	14%
Sometimes	28%	28%	28%	33%	29%	25%	27%	33%	26%	29%
Almost never	60%	57%	62%	50%	59%	65%	63%	51%	65%	57%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,464)	(1,199)	(1,264)	(518)	(625)	(803)	(518)	(626)	(758)	(781)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
A lot	12%	13%	13%	12%	11%	20%	12%	10%	12%
Sometimes	28%	31%	26%	29%	28%	28%	28%	29%	26%
Almost never	60%	56%	61%	59%	61%	51%	60%	61%	62%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,464)	(706)	(847)	(717)	(1,545)	(309)	(396)	(955)	(589)

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18B. Contact with Different Political Views — In person

On a day-to-day basis, how often would you say you have a political discussion with someone who has different political views than you?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
A lot	9%	10%	8%	11%	11%	8%	6%	8%	9%	10%
Sometimes	43%	46%	40%	44%	47%	42%	39%	50%	41%	47%
Almost never	48%	43%	52%	45%	42%	50%	55%	42%	50%	43%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,477)	(1,210)	(1,266)	(518)	(626)	(807)	(525)	(627)	(763)	(785)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
A lot	9%	9%	8%	11%	8%	13%	12%	7%	9%
Sometimes	43%	46%	45%	43%	45%	40%	37%	42%	51%
Almost never	48%	45%	47%	46%	47%	47%	50%	51%	40%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,477)	(704)	(853)	(721)	(1,554)	(308)	(397)	(963)	(591)

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19. Comfortable Publicly Expressing Political Opinion

In general, do you feel comfortable or uncomfortable publicly expressing your political views these days?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Very comfortable	15%	18%	11%	14%	14%	16%	15%	18%	9%	20%
Somewhat comfortable	30%	32%	28%	28%	32%	29%	28%	30%	30%	32%
Somewhat uncomfortable	34%	33%	36%	37%	32%	33%	37%	35%	38%	31%
Very uncomfortable	21%	17%	25%	21%	22%	22%	20%	16%	23%	17%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,482)	(1,210)	(1,272)	(522)	(628)	(807)	(525)	(628)	(765)	(787)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Very comfortable	15%	15%	13%	19%	14%	22%	14%	14%	13%
Somewhat comfortable	30%	32%	27%	33%	31%	32%	27%	29%	34%
Somewhat uncomfortable	34%	35%	37%	32%	35%	28%	34%	34%	35%
Very uncomfortable	21%	18%	23%	16%	20%	18%	24%	22%	18%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%
Weighted N	(2,482)	(707)	(854)	(723)	(1,557)	(310)	(398)	(965)	(592)

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20A. Expressing Political Opinion Can Lead to — Physical threats

Do you think people publicly expressing their political views these days can lead to...

	Total	Gender			Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female		Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Yes	82%	81%	83%	78%	80%	85%	86%	88%	82%	84%	
No	18%	19%	17%	22%	20%	15%	14%	12%	18%	16%	
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Weighted N	(2,474)	(1,205)	(1,269)	(517)	(627)	(808)	(523)	(628)	(764)	(784)	
	Total	Party ID				Race			White by Education		
		Dem	Ind	Rep		White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+	
Yes	82%	87%	82%	81%	85%	78%	77%	83%	88%		
No	18%	13%	18%	19%	15%	22%	23%	17%	12%		
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%		
Weighted N	(2,474)	(704)	(855)	(720)	(1,553)	(310)	(394)	(963)	(589)		

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20B. Expressing Political Opinion Can Lead to — Verbal or written insults

Do you think people publicly expressing their political views these days can lead to...

	Total	Gender		Under 30	Age			Ideology		
		Male	Female		30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Yes	85%	84%	86%	83%	83%	87%	88%	92%	86%	87%
No	15%	16%	14%	17%	17%	13%	12%	8%	14%	13%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,474)	(1,204)	(1,270)	(519)	(627)	(805)	(524)	(627)	(765)	(783)

	Total	Party ID			White	Race		White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep		Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Yes	85%	89%	85%	86%	88%	79%	80%	85%	93%
No	15%	11%	15%	14%	12%	21%	20%	15%	7%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,474)	(705)	(857)	(718)	(1,551)	(310)	(396)	(962)	(589)

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20C. Expressing Political Opinion Can Lead to — Employment or business problems

Do you think people publicly expressing their political views these days can lead to...

	Total	Gender		Under 30	Age			Ideology		
		Male	Female		30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Yes	75%	74%	76%	74%	76%	75%	75%	85%	76%	73%
No	25%	26%	24%	26%	24%	25%	25%	15%	24%	27%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,471)	(1,206)	(1,265)	(517)	(627)	(803)	(524)	(628)	(762)	(784)

	Total	Party ID			White	Race		White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep		Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Yes	75%	79%	78%	72%	78%	69%	67%	74%	85%
No	25%	21%	22%	28%	22%	31%	33%	26%	15%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,471)	(705)	(854)	(717)	(1,552)	(306)	(396)	(962)	(590)

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20D. Expressing Political Opinion Can Lead to — More support for those views

Do you think people publicly expressing their political views these days can lead to...

	Total	Gender		Under 30	Age			Ideology		
		Male	Female		30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Yes	56%	59%	54%	69%	60%	48%	50%	65%	51%	57%
No	44%	41%	46%	31%	40%	52%	50%	35%	49%	43%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,470)	(1,202)	(1,268)	(517)	(627)	(804)	(521)	(626)	(761)	(782)

	Total	Party ID			White	Race		White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep		Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Yes	56%	60%	57%	55%	55%	60%	57%	55%	57%
No	44%	40%	43%	45%	45%	40%	43%	45%	43%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,470)	(706)	(854)	(715)	(1,546)	(310)	(397)	(960)	(586)

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20E. Expressing Political Opinion Can Lead to — Finding other people who share those views

Do you think people publicly expressing their political views these days can lead to...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Yes	81%	82%	80%	84%	78%	78%	85%	88%	79%	84%
No	19%	18%	20%	16%	22%	22%	15%	12%	21%	16%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,472)	(1,203)	(1,269)	(519)	(627)	(805)	(522)	(627)	(762)	(782)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Yes	81%	85%	82%	81%	83%	78%	77%	81%	87%
No	19%	15%	18%	19%	17%	22%	23%	19%	13%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,472)	(705)	(854)	(719)	(1,550)	(310)	(395)	(964)	(586)

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20F. Expressing Political Opinion Can Lead to — Political change

Do you think people publicly expressing their political views these days can lead to...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Yes	44%	45%	44%	54%	45%	40%	42%	53%	39%	46%
No	56%	55%	56%	46%	55%	60%	58%	47%	61%	54%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,469)	(1,202)	(1,266)	(519)	(627)	(802)	(520)	(623)	(762)	(783)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Yes	44%	49%	44%	44%	42%	48%	47%	41%	45%
No	56%	51%	56%	56%	58%	52%	53%	59%	55%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,469)	(701)	(852)	(719)	(1,549)	(307)	(398)	(962)	(586)

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27. Democrats Think about Republicans

When you think about Republicans, do you tend to think of them as...

Among Democrats

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Political opposition - that is, if they win, you just won't get the policies you want	51%	52%	50%	48%	58%	49%	46%	44%	63%	*
Enemies - that is, if they win, your life or your entire way of life may be threatened	49%	48%	50%	52%	42%	51%	54%	56%	37%	*
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	*
Weighted N	(705)	(276)	(429)	(147)	(187)	(205)	(166)	(437)	(190)	(48)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Political opposition - that is, if they win, you just won't get the policies you want	51%	51%	*	*	50%	48%	55%	48%	52%
Enemies - that is, if they win, your life or your entire way of life may be threatened	49%	49%	*	*	50%	52%	45%	52%	48%
Totals	100%	100%	*	*	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(705)	(705)	(0)	(0)	(382)	(143)	(118)	(179)	(203)

CBS News Poll – September 30 – October 2, 2025

Adults in the U.S.



28. Republicans Think about Democrats

When you think about Democrats, do you tend to think of them as...

Among Republicans

	Total	Gender		Under 30	Age			Liberal	Ideology	
		Male	Female		30-44	45-64	65+		Moderate	Conservative
Political opposition - that is, if they win, you just won't get the policies you want	62%	63%	62%	*	68%	62%	53%	*	74%	60%
Enemies - that is, if they win, your life or your entire way of life may be threatened	38%	37%	38%	*	32%	38%	47%	*	26%	40%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	*	100%	100%	100%	*	100%	100%
Weighted N	(721)	(370)	(351)	(97)	(157)	(269)	(198)	(11)	(131)	(558)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Political opposition - that is, if they win, you just won't get the policies you want	62%	*	*	62%	59%	*	*	57%	64%
Enemies - that is, if they win, your life or your entire way of life may be threatened	38%	*	*	38%	41%	*	*	43%	36%
Totals	100%	*	*	100%	100%	*	*	100%	100%
Weighted N	(721)	(0)	(0)	(721)	(578)	(28)	(77)	(382)	(197)

HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED AND THE MARGIN OF ERROR CALCULATED

The CBS News/YouGov survey of 2,489 adults in the U.S. was conducted between September 30-October 2, 2025.

This sample was weighted according to gender, age, race, and education based on the U.S. Census American Community Survey, and the U.S. Census Current Population Survey, and 2024 Presidential vote. Respondents were selected to be representative of adults nationwide. The weights range from 0.1 to 3.8, with a mean of 1 and a standard deviation of 0.5.

The *margin of error* (a 95% confidence interval) for a sample percentage p based upon the entire sample is approximately ± 2.2 points. It is calculated using the formula

$$\hat{p} \pm 100 \times \sqrt{\frac{1 + CV^2}{n}}$$

where CV is the coefficient of variation of the sample weights and n is the sample size used to compute the proportion. This is a measure of sampling error (the average of all estimates obtained using the same sample selection and weighting procedures repeatedly). The sample estimate should differ from its expected value by less than margin of error in 95 percent of all samples. It does not reflect non-sampling errors, including potential selection bias in panel participation or in response to a particular survey.