The Economist/YouGov Poll
February 13 - 16, 2026 - 1682 U.S. Adult citizens

YouGov®

Sample   1682 U.S. Adult citizens
Conducted   February 13 - 16, 2026
Margin of Error   ±3.1%

1. Did you watch the Super Bowl this year?

Yes 53%
No 47%

2. How would you rate the game this year?
Among those who watched the Super Bowl

Excellent 19%
Good 38%
Fair 29%
Poor 14%

3. How would you rate the ads that aired during this year's Super Bowl compared to prior years?
Among those who watched the Super Bowl

Better than in prior years 12%
About the same 49%
Worse than in prior years 33%
Don't know 6%

4. Did you watch the Super Bowl halftime show featuring Bad Bunny?

Yes 46%
No 54%

5. How would you rate the Super Bowl halftime show?
Among those who watched the Super Bowl Halftime Show

Excellent 46%
Good 30%
Fair 12%
Poor 13%

6. Did you watch the All-American Halftime Show featuring Kid Rock and Brantley Gilbert?

Yes 24%
No 76%

7. How would you rate the All-American Halftime Show?
Among those who watched the All-American Halftime Show

Excellent 47%
Good 39%
Fair 8%
Poor 5%

8. Where did you watch the All-American Halftime Show?
Among those who watched the All-American Halftime Show

YouTube 49%
Rumble 4%
Fox 11%
ABC 4%
CBS 3%
NBC 11%
X 2%
Other 15%

9. Would you say things in this country today are...

Generally headed in the right direction 29%
Off on the wrong track 59%
Not sure 12%

10. Do you feel that things in this country these days are:

Under control 18%
Out of control 67%
Not sure 15%

11. Has the number of crimes in your community increased or decreased over the past year?

Increased 17%
Not changed 45%
Decreased 14%
Not sure 24%

12. Which of these is the most important issue for you?

Inflation/prices 22%
Jobs and the economy 15%
Health care 10%
Immigration 9%
Civil rights 8%
Taxes and government spending 7%
National Security 7%
Civil liberties 5%
Climate change and the environment 5%
Crime 3%
Abortion 3%
Education 2%
Guns 2%
Criminal justice reform 1%
Foreign policy 1%

13. If the elections for U.S. Congress were being held today, who would you vote for in the district where you live?

The Democratic Party candidate	39%
The Republican Party candidate	33%
Other	1%
Not sure	12%
I would not vote	15%

14. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as President?

Approve	**39%**
Disapprove	**56%**
Strongly approve	22%
Somewhat approve	17%
Somewhat disapprove	9%
Strongly disapprove	46%
Not sure	5%

15. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling these specific issues?

	Approve	Disapprove	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
Crime	**43%**	**47%**	27%	16%	9%	38%	11%
Immigration	**42%**	**53%**	31%	11%	8%	45%	5%
Race relations	**34%**	**54%**	20%	14%	8%	46%	12%
The environment	**35%**	**52%**	17%	18%	9%	44%	13%

16. Would you say Donald Trump is...

Total Liberal	**7%**
Total Conservative	**57%**
Very liberal	4%
Liberal	3%
Moderate	12%
Conservative	26%
Very conservative	31%
Not sure	24%

17. Regardless of whether you agree with him, do you like or dislike Donald Trump as a person?

Like a lot	15%
Like somewhat	14%
Neither like nor dislike	14%
Dislike somewhat	8%
Dislike a lot	44%
Not sure	6%

18. Do you think Donald Trump...

Says what he believes …………………………………………………………………………53%
Says what he thinks people want to hear …………………………………………………………32%
Not sure …………………………………………………………………………………………15%

19. How much do you think Donald Trump cares about the needs and problems of people like you?

A lot …………………………………………………………………………………………20%
Some …………………………………………………………………………………………16%
Not much ……………………………………………………………………………………10%
Doesn't care at all …………………………………………………………………………47%
Not sure ………………………………………………………………………………………6%

20. Do you think that Donald Trump is using the Justice Department to go after his political enemies?

Yes …………………………………………………………………………………………55%
No …………………………………………………………………………………………26%
Not sure ………………………………………………………………………………………19%

21. How often do you think Donald Trump tells lies?

Often …………………………………………………………………………………………50%
Sometimes …………………………………………………………………………………20%
Rarely ………………………………………………………………………………………13%
Never …………………………………………………………………………………………7%
Not sure ………………………………………………………………………………………11%

22. Do you think Donald Trump has the temperament to be the President?

Yes …………………………………………………………………………………………37%
No …………………………………………………………………………………………53%
Not sure ………………………………………………………………………………………10%

23. Which of these words would you [use / NOT use] to describe Donald Trump? Please check all that apply.

	Describes Donald Trump	Does NOT describe Donald Trump	No Opinion
Honest	21%	43%	36%
Intelligent	31%	39%	30%
Inspiring	18%	42%	40%
Bold	43%	16%	41%
Effective	33%	32%	35%
Steady	19%	34%	48%
Racist	47%	24%	29%
Dangerous	50%	20%	29%
Corrupt	49%	23%	29%
Divisive	41%	15%	44%
Cruel	46%	22%	32%
Strong	35%	29%	35%
Out-of-touch	43%	20%	37%

24. Is Trump too old to be President?

Yes 49%
No 39%
Not sure 12%

25. Do you approve or disapprove of the Trump administration's decision to end the immigration enforcement surge in Minnesota?

Approve **54%**
Disapprove **26%**
Strongly approve 35%
Somewhat approve 20%
Somewhat disapprove 10%
Strongly disapprove 16%
Not sure 20%

26. In retrospect, do you think sending 3,000 ICE and Border Patrol agents to Minnesota was a good or bad idea?

Very good 19%
Somewhat good 12%
Neither good nor bad 7%
Somewhat bad 9%
Very bad 45%
Not sure 8%

27. Would you support or oppose abolishing ICE?

Support	**46%**
Oppose	**41%**
Strongly support	35%
Somewhat support	11%
Somewhat oppose	11%
Strongly oppose	30%
Not sure	13%

28. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling investigations into Jeffrey Epstein?

Approve	**24%**
Disapprove	**57%**
Strongly approve	11%
Somewhat approve	13%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	46%
Not sure	19%

29. Do you think Donald Trump is trying to cover up Jeffrey Epstein's crimes?

Yes	53%
No	29%
Not sure	18%

30. Do you think that Donald Trump was involved in crimes allegedly committed by Jeffrey Epstein?

Yes	50%
No	30%
Not sure	20%

31. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Donald Trump	**40%**	**56%**	24%	16%	8%	48%	4%
JD Vance	**37%**	**51%**	23%	14%	8%	43%	12%
Pam Bondi	**23%**	**49%**	11%	12%	11%	38%	28%
Pete Buttigieg	**31%**	**35%**	17%	14%	11%	24%	34%
Gavin Newsom	**32%**	**41%**	14%	18%	10%	30%	27%
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez	**33%**	**40%**	18%	15%	11%	29%	27%
Corey Lewandowski	**8%**	**29%**	2%	5%	9%	21%	63%

32. Are you in favor or opposed to the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?

Favor the death penalty … 47%
Opposed to the death penalty … 29%
Not sure … 24%

33. Do you think the use of marijuana should be legal in the U.S.?

Yes … 57%
No … 28%
Not sure … 15%

34. Do you think gun control laws should be made more or less strict than they are now?

More strict … 56%
No change … 23%
Less strict … 13%
Not sure … 8%

35. Do you think the number of LEGAL immigrants allowed into the U.S. each year should be increased or decreased?

Increased … 23%
Kept the same … 32%
Decreased … 23%
Reduced to zero … 6%
Not sure … 15%

36. Which comes closest to your view about illegal immigrants who are living in the U.S.?

They should be allowed to stay in the U.S. and eventually apply for citizenship … 41%
Allowed to stay in the U.S., but not become citizens … 7%
Be deported from the U.S. … 38%
Not sure … 13%

37. Which types of illegal immigrants should be deported? Select all that apply.

All illegal immigrants should be deported … 29%
People convicted of serious crimes … 63%
People convicted of minor crimes … 16%
People who have lived in the U.S. for many years without committing any crime … 3%
People who came to the U.S. as children … 2%
People who are married to a U.S. citizen … 2%
Young children … 1%
None of the above … 7%

38. Do you generally favor or oppose affirmative-action programs for racial minorities?

Favor 35%
Oppose 28%
Not sure 38%

39. Is the Democratic Party to the left or the right of you?

Left 45%
About the same 20%
Right 12%
Don't know 23%

40. Is the Republican Party to the left or right of you?

Left 7%
About the same 20%
Right 51%
Don't know 23%

41. Which of the following best describes your experiences with artificial intelligence?

I regularly use it 23%
I've used it before, but don't regularly use it 40%
I've seen it used, but haven't used it myself 19%
I've never used it or seen anyone else use it 12%
Not sure 6%

42. How much do you trust artificial intelligence (AI)?

A great deal 7%
A fair amount 28%
Not much 32%
Not at all 26%
Not sure 7%

43. Do you think that the effects of artificial intelligence (AI) on the U.S. economy will be...?

Entirely positive 4%
More positive than negative 13%
Equally positive and negative 24%
More negative than positive 33%
Entirely negative 12%
Not sure 15%

44. Overall, do you think that advances in artificial intelligence (AI) will lead to an increase or a decrease in the number of jobs available in the U.S.?

Increase 7%
Have no effect 12%
Decrease 63%
Not sure 18%

45. Do you think companies are investing too much or too little into artificial intelligence (AI) ?

Too much 54%
About the right amount 22%
Too little 4%
Not sure 21%

46. On the subject of climate change do you think:

The world's climate is changing as a result of human activity 59%
The world's climate is changing but NOT because of human activity 22%
The world's climate is NOT changing 6%
Not sure 13%

47. Do you think you will see catastrophic impacts of climate change in your lifetime?

Yes 45%
No 31%
Not sure 24%

48. Do you think that the United States should do more to address climate change or do less than it is currently doing?

Should do more 57%
No change 16%
Should do less 16%
Not sure 11%

49. Overall, do you think government regulation of the following should be increased or decreased?

	Increased a lot	Increased a little	Kept the same	Decreased a little	Decreased a lot	Not sure
Greenhouse gas emissions	28%	14%	17%	9%	17%	15%
Oil drilling	30%	15%	17%	11%	14%	14%
Wildlife habitats	37%	21%	22%	3%	4%	12%
Pesticides	27%	14%	18%	11%	16%	14%

50. In the long run, do you think stricter environmental standards would help or hurt the U.S. economy?

Help 40%
Hurt 22%
Make no difference either way 21%
Not sure 18%

51. Do you believe the U.S. should be using more or less of the following forms of energy?

	More	The same amount	Less	Don't know
Coal	17%	24%	46%	13%
Gas	19%	35%	33%	13%
Nuclear	30%	23%	29%	17%
Solar	64%	17%	9%	9%
Wind	57%	16%	17%	10%

52. How much confidence do you have in each of the following institutions in the U.S.?

	A great deal	Quite a lot	Some	Very little
The presidency	14%	17%	21%	48%
The U.S. Supreme Court	8%	19%	33%	40%
The military	28%	27%	29%	17%
The police	13%	28%	35%	24%
Public schools	8%	22%	40%	30%
The criminal justice system	5%	16%	41%	39%
Congress	4%	9%	31%	55%

53. How would you describe the current state of the American economy?

Total Excellent/Good **28%**
Total Fair/Poor **68%**
Excellent 5%
Good 23%
Fair 36%
Poor 32%
Don't know 4%

54. Overall, do you think the economy is getting better or worse?

Getting better 22%
About the same 21%
Getting worse 50%
Not sure 7%

55. Would you say that you and your family are...

Better off financially than you were a year ago … 17%
About the same financially as you were a year ago … 43%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago … 34%
Not sure … 6%

56. Looking ahead, do you think that A YEAR FROM NOW you and your household will be...

Better off financially … 26%
Just about the same as now … 37%
Worse off financially … 24%
Not sure … 14%

57. In general, how would you describe your own political viewpoint?

Total Liberal … **30%**
Total Conservative … **31%**
Very liberal … 14%
Liberal … 16%
Moderate … 28%
Conservative … 20%
Very conservative … 11%
Not sure … 11%

58. Are you registered to vote?

Registered … 73%
Not registered … 27%

59. 2024 Presidential Vote

Kamala Harris … 31%
Donald Trump … 32%
Other … 1%
Did not vote for President … 36%

60. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a ...?

Democrat … 30%
Republican … 32%
Independent … 29%
Other … 3%
Not sure … 7%

61. Political Party Identification
Calculated based on a series of questions about party identification

Strong Democrat	21%
Not very strong Democrat	9%
Lean Democrat	9%
Independent	21%
Lean Republican	6%
Not very strong Republican	10%
Strong Republican	22%
Not sure	2%

62. Are you a MAGA supporter?

Yes	25%
No	63%
Not sure	12%

63. Are you. . . ?

Male	48%
Female	52%

64. Respondent age by category

Under 30	21%
30-44	24%
45-64	33%
65+	22%

65. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	67%
Black	13%
Hispanic	13%
Other	7%

66. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

HS or less	36%
Some college	29%
College grad	22%
Postgrad	13%

67. What is your marital status?

Married 40%
Separated 2%
Divorced 11%
Widowed 5%
Never married 37%
Domestic / civil partnership 4%

68. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 18?

Yes 19%
No 81%

69. In what region of the country do you reside?
Calculated from respondent's state of residence

Northeast 16%
Midwest 22%
South 40%
West 22%

70. Thinking back over the last year, what was your family's annual income?

Under $50K 39%
$50-100K 27%
$100K or more 22%
Prefer not to say 11%

71. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?

More than once a week 7%
Once a week 19%
Once or twice a month 7%
A few times a year 11%
Seldom 19%
Never 35%
Don't know 2%

72. Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

Yes 30%
No 70%

73. People practice their religion in different ways. Outside of attending religious services, how often do you pray?

Several times a day	24%
Once a day	14%
A few times a week	10%
Once a week	4%
A few times a month	7%
Seldom	15%
Never	23%
Don't know	3%

74. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	25%
Roman Catholic	21%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	0%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	6%
Agnostic	6%
Nothing in particular	25%
Something else	10%

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Sponsorship	*The Economist*
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	February 13 - 16, 2026
Target population	U.S. Citizens, age 18 and over
Sampling method	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in panel to be representative of adult U.S. citizens.
Sample composition	1,907 started the survey after screenouts. 150 were deleted due to breakoffs, 29 were removed for interview completion time under 5 minutes, 19 were removed for attention check failures, and 27 were removed for data quality control. The reporting is based on the remaining 1,682 respondents.
Weighting	The sample was weighted according to gender, age, race, education, U.S. region of residence, 2024 election turnout and presidential vote, 2020 election turnout and presidential vote, baseline party identification, and current voter registration status. 2024 presidential vote, at time of weighting was estimated to be 48% Harris and 50% Trump. Demographic weighting targets come from the 2019 American Community Survey. 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 0.051 to 5.016, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.83.
Number of respondents	1682 1512 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	$\pm$ 3.1% (adjusted for weighting) $\pm$ 3% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	16 questions not reported.