

The Economist/YouGov Poll
April 24 - 27, 2026 - 1836 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1836 U.S. Adult citizens
 Conducted April 24 - 27, 2026
 Margin of Error ±3.2%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	28%
Off on the wrong track	63%
Not sure	10%

2. Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy is working in the United States today?

Satisfied	29%
Dissatisfied	62%
Completely satisfied	6%
Somewhat satisfied	23%
Somewhat dissatisfied	27%
Completely dissatisfied	35%
Not sure	9%

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

Total Liberal	26%
Total Conservative	32%
Very liberal	10%
Liberal	15%
Moderate	33%
Conservative	21%
Very conservative	11%
Not sure	10%

4. How would you describe the Democratic Party?

Total Liberal	63%
Total Conservative	4%
Very liberal	36%
Liberal	27%
Moderate	18%
Conservative	4%
Very conservative	1%
Not sure	14%

5. How would you describe the Republican Party?

Total Liberal	4%
Total Conservative	68%
Very liberal	2%
Liberal	2%
Moderate	12%
Conservative	28%
Very conservative	39%
Not sure	17%

6. Which party do you trust more to handle the economy?

The Democratic Party	40%
The Republican Party	34%
Both about the same	12%
Not sure	15%

7. Which party do you trust more to handle immigration?

The Democratic Party	38%
The Republican Party	39%
Both about the same	8%
Not sure	14%

8. Which party do you trust more to handle health care?

The Democratic Party	47%
The Republican Party	26%
Both about the same	13%
Not sure	14%

9. Which party do you trust more to handle taxes?

The Democratic Party	37%
The Republican Party	33%
Both about the same	13%
Not sure	17%

10. Which party do you trust more to handle crime?

The Democratic Party	31%
The Republican Party	39%
Both about the same	15%
Not sure	15%

11. Which party do you trust more to handle national defense?

The Democratic Party	34%
The Republican Party	39%
Both about the same	13%
Not sure	15%

12. Do you think the federal government should increase or decrease what it spends on...?

	Increase a lot	Increase slightly	Keep the same	Decrease slightly	Decrease a lot	Not sure
Education	38%	26%	19%	5%	6%	6%
Social Security	41%	29%	19%	2%	2%	7%
Medicare	39%	28%	21%	4%	3%	5%
Medicaid	32%	26%	23%	7%	6%	6%
SNAP (food stamps)	26%	22%	24%	10%	10%	7%
The environment	31%	24%	22%	9%	8%	6%
Foreign aid	9%	12%	24%	20%	27%	8%
Veterans	41%	32%	19%	2%	1%	6%
National defense	17%	21%	31%	11%	12%	9%
Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)	16%	14%	21%	11%	32%	6%
Transportation Security Administration (TSA)	12%	25%	39%	6%	6%	12%

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

Approve	37%
Disapprove	59%
Strongly approve	18%
Somewhat approve	18%
Somewhat disapprove	8%
Strongly disapprove	51%
Not sure	4%

14. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling the following things?

	Approve	Disapprove	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
The environment	32%	53%	14%	18%	9%	44%	15%
Education	35%	52%	16%	18%	9%	43%	13%
Abortion	33%	52%	17%	16%	8%	43%	15%
Health care	34%	56%	14%	20%	10%	46%	10%

15. Do you support or oppose the war with Iran?

Support	30%
Oppose	59%
Strongly support	16%
Somewhat support	14%
Somewhat oppose	14%
Strongly oppose	45%
Not sure	12%

16. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling the situation in Iran?

Approve	32%
Disapprove	59%
Strongly approve	17%
Somewhat approve	15%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	49%
No opinion	9%

17. At what age, if any, should members of Congress be forced to retire?

65	29%
70	27%
75	16%
80	10%
85	2%
90	1%
There should be no required retirement age	15%

18. Should members of Congress accused of the following resign immediately, or get a chance to defend themselves?

	Resign immediately	Get a chance to defend themselves	Not sure
Sexual misconduct	57%	35%	8%
Financial misconduct	52%	39%	9%
Breaking a campaign promise	22%	66%	13%

19. How many members of Congress do you think are corrupt?

Most (more than half)	40%
Many (but less than half)	36%
A few (5-20%)	21%
Almost none (less than 5%)	3%

20. How many members of the [state of residence] state legislature do you think are corrupt?

Most (more than half)	30%
Many (but less than half)	31%
A few (5-20%)	31%
Almost none (less than 5%)	8%

21. Do you think there is more corruption in Congress or the executive branch?

More in Congress	21%
About the same	40%
More in the executive branch	19%
Not sure	19%

22. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the United States Congress is handling its job?

Total approve	12%
Total disapprove	64%
Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	10%
Neither approve nor disapprove	16%
Somewhat disapprove	24%
Strongly disapprove	41%
Not sure	8%

23. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Mike Johnson is handling his job as the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Approve	26%
Disapprove	48%
Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	19%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	34%
Not sure	26%

24. Do you approve or disapprove of the way John Thune is handling his job as Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate?

Approve	17%
Disapprove	48%
Strongly approve	3%
Somewhat approve	13%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	30%
Not sure	36%

25. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chuck Schumer is handling his job as Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate?

Approve	20%
Disapprove	56%
Strongly approve	4%
Somewhat approve	16%
Somewhat disapprove	17%
Strongly disapprove	39%
Not sure	24%

26. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Hakeem Jeffries is handling his job as Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Approve	26%
Disapprove	45%
Strongly approve	8%
Somewhat approve	18%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	32%
Not sure	29%

27. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following groups in Congress?

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Democrats in Congress	34%	55%	10%	24%	20%	35%	11%
Republicans in Congress	31%	59%	10%	21%	17%	42%	10%

28. Should states be allowed to draw congressional districts in a way that intentionally favors one party over the other?

Yes	7%
No	71%
Not sure	22%

29. In [state of residence], do you think congressional districts have been drawn fairly or unfairly?

Fairly	24%
Unfairly	32%
Not sure	44%

30. In [state of residence], which party has gained an unfair advantage from how Congressional districts were drawn?

Democrats	13%
Republicans	14%
Not sure	5%
Not asked - districts drawn fairly or not sure	68%

31. Do you think the 2026 midterm elections in the U.S. will be conducted fairly and the votes counted accurately?

Yes	38%
No	27%
Not sure	35%

32. How do you usually vote?

In person on Election Day	41%
In person early voting (before Election Day)	19%
By mail	22%
Don't vote	18%

33. Should voting by mail be made easier or harder than it is now?

Easier	27%
Kept the same	31%
Harder	15%
Vote by mail should not be allowed	18%
Not sure	10%

34. 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	34%
Other	2%
Not sure	13%
I would not vote	12%

35. How much confidence do you have in each of the following institutions in American society?

	A great deal	Quite a lot	Some	Very little
The military	27%	29%	28%	16%
Small business	16%	38%	37%	9%
The church or organized religion	11%	20%	33%	36%
The medical system	10%	22%	44%	24%
Banks	7%	21%	46%	26%
Organized labor	8%	19%	44%	29%
Newspapers	6%	14%	43%	38%
Television news	5%	16%	35%	44%
Big business	4%	11%	39%	45%

36. 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	21%
The world's climate is NOT changing	6%
Not sure	13%

37. In order to make up for past discrimination, do you support or oppose special programs which make special efforts to help minorities get ahead?

Support	52%
Oppose	34%
Strongly support	23%
Somewhat support	28%
Somewhat oppose	12%
Strongly oppose	22%
Not sure	15%

38. When do you think abortion should be legal?

Abortion should always be legal. There should be no restrictions on abortion.	27%
Abortion should be legal, but with some restrictions (such as for minors or late-term abortions).	32%
Abortion should only be legal in special circumstances, such as when the life of the mother is in danger.	30%
Abortion should be illegal. It should never be allowed.	10%

39. Do you think that same-sex marriage should or should not be legal?

Should be legal	54%
Should not be legal	32%
Not sure	14%

40. How safe do you think vaccines generally are?

Very safe	42%
Somewhat safe	32%
Not very safe	13%
Not at all safe	7%
Not sure	7%

41. Do you think the Affordable Care Act/Obamacare should be expanded, kept the same, or repealed?

Expanded	44%
Kept the same	16%
Repealed	27%
Not sure	13%

42. Which of the following statements comes closer to your feelings?

Our society has gone too far in accepting people who are transgender	42%
Our society has been about right when it comes to accepting people who are transgender	15%
Our society has not gone far enough in accepting people who are transgender	28%
Not sure	15%

43. Do you support or oppose allowing transgender student athletes to play on sports teams that match their gender identity, rather than the sex they were assigned at birth?

Support	20%
Oppose	63%
Strongly support	10%
Somewhat support	10%
Somewhat oppose	11%
Strongly oppose	52%
Not sure	17%

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

Inflation/prices	27%
Jobs and the economy	14%
Health care	10%
Immigration	7%
Taxes and government spending	6%
National Security	6%
Climate change and the environment	5%
Civil rights	5%
Crime	4%
Civil liberties	4%
Abortion	4%
Education	3%
Guns	3%
Foreign policy	1%
Criminal justice reform	1%

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

Total Excellent/Good	24%
Total Fair/Poor	73%
Excellent	3%
Good	21%
Fair	34%
Poor	39%
Don't know	3%

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

Getting better	14%
About the same	23%
Getting worse	58%
Not sure	5%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago	12%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	44%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	39%
Not sure	4%

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

Better off financially	23%
Just about the same as now	35%
Worse off financially	29%
Not sure	13%

49. Are gas prices where you live...?

Going up a lot	48%
Going up a little	29%
Not changing	7%
Going down a little	9%
Going down a lot	1%
Not sure	6%

50. Are you registered to vote?

Registered	74%
Not registered	26%

51. 2024 Presidential Vote

Kamala Harris	31%
Donald Trump	33%
Other	1%
Did not vote for President	35%

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

Democrat	29%
Republican	32%
Independent	30%
Other	4%
Not sure	6%

53. Political Party Identification

Calculated based on a series of questions about party identification

Strong Democrat	20%
Not very strong Democrat	9%
Lean Democrat	11%
Independent	19%
Lean Republican	7%
Not very strong Republican	11%
Strong Republican	21%
Not sure	3%

54. Are you a MAGA supporter?

Yes	22%
No	65%
Not sure	13%

55. Are you... ?

Male	48%
Female	52%

56. Respondent age by category

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

57. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

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

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

HS or less	36%
Some college	30%
College grad	22%
Postgrad	12%

59. What is your marital status?

Married	39%
Separated	2%
Divorced	11%
Widowed	6%
Never married	38%
Domestic / civil partnership	4%

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

Yes	17%
No	83%

61. In what region of the country do you reside?

Calculated from respondent's state of residence

Northeast	18%
Midwest	23%
South	37%
West	22%

62. 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	12%

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

More than once a week	8%
Once a week	17%
Once or twice a month	5%
A few times a year	11%
Seldom	22%
Never	33%
Don't know	3%

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

Yes	27%
No	73%

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

Several times a day	27%
Once a day	13%
A few times a week	11%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	5%
Seldom	15%
Never	22%
Don't know	4%

66. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	26%
Roman Catholic	21%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	6%
Agnostic	6%
Nothing in particular	22%
Something else	12%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	April 24 - 27, 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	2,183 started the survey after screenouts. 280 were deleted due to breakoffs, 17 were removed for interview completion time under 5 minutes, 7 were removed for attention check failures, and 43 were removed for data quality control. The reporting is based on the remaining 1,836 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 0.052 to 6.625, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.966.
Number of respondents	1836 1647 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	± 3.2% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	6 questions not reported.