

**The Economist/YouGov Poll**  
**January 23 - 26, 2026 - 1684 U.S. Adult citizens**

**YouGov**

Sample 1684 U.S. Adult citizens  
Conducted January 23 - 26, 2026  
Margin of Error ±3.3%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	31%
Off on the wrong track	60%
Not sure	9%

**2. Which comes closest to your view?**

Our lives are threatened by terrorists, criminals, and illegal immigrants and our priority should be to protect ourselves.	34%
It's a big, beautiful world, mostly full of good people, and we must find a way to embrace each other and not allow ourselves to become isolated.	51%
Not sure	14%

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

<b>Approve</b>	39%
<b>Disapprove</b>	57%
Strongly approve	23%
Somewhat approve	16%
Somewhat disapprove	9%
Strongly disapprove	49%
Not sure	4%

**4. 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
The environment	33%	54%	20%	13%	9%	45%	13%
Education	36%	52%	21%	15%	10%	42%	11%
Abortion	37%	51%	22%	15%	9%	42%	13%
Health care	34%	57%	18%	16%	11%	46%	9%

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

Yes	38%
No	55%
Not sure	8%

6. Do you think Donald Trump is suffering cognitive decline?

Trump is suffering significant cognitive decline	.....	34%
Trump is suffering modest cognitive decline	.....	15%
Trump is not suffering any cognitive decline	.....	35%
Not sure	.....	16%

7. Do you think Donald Trump is suffering physical decline?

Trump is suffering significant physical decline	.....	30%
Trump is suffering modest physical decline	.....	24%
Trump is not suffering any physical decline	.....	31%
Not sure	.....	15%

8. When it comes to foreign policy, do you think Donald Trump is...?

Focusing too much on foreign policy	.....	38%
Focusing on foreign policy the right amount	.....	32%
Not focusing enough on foreign policy	.....	14%
Not sure	.....	16%

9. When it comes to domestic policy, do you think Donald Trump is...?

Focusing too much on domestic policy	.....	11%
Focusing on domestic policy the right amount	.....	31%
Not focusing enough on domestic policy	.....	38%
Not sure	.....	20%

10. When it comes to the economy, do you think Donald Trump is...?

Focusing too much on the economy	.....	6%
Focusing on the economy the right amount	.....	30%
Not focusing enough on the economy	.....	52%
Not sure	.....	13%

11. Do you think Donald Trump is guilty of inciting an insurrection in January 2021?

Yes	.....	48%
No	.....	39%
Not sure	.....	13%

12. Do you think Donald Trump is guilty of mishandling classified documents during his first term as president?

Yes	.....	51%
No	.....	33%
Not sure	.....	16%

13. Do you think it was a mistake to prosecute Donald Trump?

Yes .....	7%
No .....	49%
Not sure .....	12%
Not asked - Trump not guilty of insurrection or mishandling classified documents .....	32%

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

<b>Total approve</b> .....	15%
<b>Total disapprove</b> .....	61%
Strongly approve .....	3%
Somewhat approve .....	12%
Neither approve nor disapprove .....	16%
Somewhat disapprove .....	20%
Strongly disapprove .....	41%
Not sure .....	9%

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

<b>Approve</b> .....	25%
<b>Disapprove</b> .....	46%
Strongly approve .....	10%
Somewhat approve .....	16%
Somewhat disapprove .....	11%
Strongly disapprove .....	35%
Not sure .....	28%

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

<b>Approve</b> .....	21%
<b>Disapprove</b> .....	42%
Strongly approve .....	6%
Somewhat approve .....	15%
Somewhat disapprove .....	14%
Strongly disapprove .....	28%
Not sure .....	37%

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

<b>Approve</b> .....	17%
<b>Disapprove</b> .....	57%
Strongly approve .....	5%
Somewhat approve .....	12%
Somewhat disapprove .....	18%
Strongly disapprove .....	39%
Not sure .....	26%

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

<b>Approve</b> .....	21%
<b>Disapprove</b> .....	47%
Strongly approve .....	8%
Somewhat approve .....	14%
Somewhat disapprove .....	14%
Strongly disapprove .....	33%
Not sure .....	32%

19. 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	29%	62%	7%	21%	25%	37%	10%
Republicans in Congress	34%	57%	13%	21%	15%	42%	9%

20. 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
Veterans	44%	28%	18%	2%	2%	6%
Education	41%	21%	19%	7%	7%	4%
Medicare	40%	25%	22%	5%	3%	6%
Social Security	39%	28%	21%	3%	3%	6%
Medicaid	34%	22%	24%	7%	6%	6%
The environment	32%	23%	19%	9%	10%	6%
SNAP (food stamps)	29%	18%	27%	11%	10%	5%
National defense	18%	18%	29%	13%	15%	8%
Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)	18%	10%	16%	12%	39%	6%
Foreign aid	11%	14%	21%	20%	26%	9%

21. Should the president have to get approval from Congress before starting an offensive war?

Yes .....	71%
No .....	16%
Not sure .....	13%

22. Should the president be able to spend government funds without the approval of Congress?

Yes .....	18%
No .....	68%
Not sure .....	14%

23. If Congress approves government spending, should the president be allowed to refuse to spend government funds that Congress appropriated?

Yes .....	27%
No .....	48%
Not sure .....	25%

24. Do you think Congress should provide oversight of the president and the executive branch?

Yes .....	59%
No .....	21%
Not sure .....	20%

25. How would you rate the job Congress is doing in overseeing the executive branch?

Excellent .....	3%
Good .....	8%
Fair .....	13%
Poor .....	41%
Not sure .....	14%
Not asked - Congress should not provide oversight .....	21%

26. In your opinion, which of the three branches of government is MOST powerful today?

Executive branch (the president) .....	62%
Legislative branch (Congress) .....	13%
Judicial branch (the Supreme Court) .....	24%

27. In your opinion, which of the three branches of government is LEAST powerful today?

Executive branch (the president) .....	13%
Legislative branch (Congress) .....	61%
Judicial branch (the Supreme Court) .....	26%

28. 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
Volodymyr Zelensky	<b>44%</b>	<b>31%</b>	22%	22%	14%	17%	24%
Emmanuel Macron	<b>29%</b>	<b>30%</b>	9%	19%	14%	16%	42%
Jack Smith	<b>28%</b>	<b>24%</b>	17%	11%	6%	19%	47%
Mark Carney	<b>24%</b>	<b>20%</b>	13%	11%	8%	11%	56%

29. Do you support or oppose the U.S. using military force to take control of Greenland?

Support	.....	13%
Oppose	.....	72%
Not sure	.....	15%

30. Do you support or oppose the U.S. purchasing Greenland?

Support	.....	32%
Oppose	.....	51%
Not sure	.....	17%

31. How likely do you think it is that the U.S. will take control of Greenland?

Likely	.....	36%
Not likely	.....	44%
Very likely	.....	11%
Somewhat likely	.....	24%
Not very likely	.....	26%
Not likely at all	.....	18%
Not sure	.....	20%

32. Should the U.S. impose tariffs on European countries if they do not support the U.S. taking control of Greenland?

Yes	.....	16%
No	.....	64%
Not sure	.....	20%

33. Has Trump's attempt to take control of Greenland been a good thing or a bad thing?

Good thing	.....	23%
Bad thing	.....	55%
Not sure	.....	21%

34. In the relationship between the U.S. and Europe, who do you think has the upper hand?

The U.S. ....	47%
Europe ....	27%
Not sure ....	26%

35. An attack on one NATO member is considered to be an attack on all NATO members. If a NATO member is attacked, do you think the U.S. should defend that member?

Should defend it ....	67%
Should not defend it ....	8%
Not sure ....	25%

36. Did Donald Trump deserve to win the Nobel Peace Prize?

Yes ....	27%
No ....	59%
Not sure ....	13%

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

	A great deal	Quite a lot	Some	Very little
Small business	14%	33%	41%	11%
Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)	14%	16%	16%	55%
The church or organized religion	12%	17%	33%	38%
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)	11%	21%	41%	27%
Organized labor	9%	20%	44%	27%
United Nations (UN)	8%	17%	39%	36%
The medical system	7%	20%	43%	31%
Banks	6%	19%	45%	30%
Television news	5%	10%	33%	52%
Newspapers	4%	12%	39%	44%
Big business	3%	10%	37%	49%

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

The world's climate is changing as a result of human activity ....	60%
The world's climate is changing but NOT because of human activity ....	23%
The world's climate is NOT changing ....	6%
Not sure ....	11%

39. 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	.....	50%
Oppose	.....	37%
Strongly support	.....	24%
Somewhat support	.....	26%
Somewhat oppose	.....	13%
Strongly oppose	.....	24%
Not sure	.....	13%

40. When do you think abortion should be legal?

Abortion should always be legal. There should be no restrictions on abortion.	.....	28%
Abortion should be legal, but with some restrictions (such as for minors or late-term abortions).	.....	30%
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.	.....	12%

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

Should be legal	.....	55%
Should not be legal	.....	32%
Not sure	.....	13%

42. How safe do you think vaccines generally are?

Very safe	.....	44%
Somewhat safe	.....	31%
Not very safe	.....	10%
Not at all safe	.....	8%
Not sure	.....	6%

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

Expanded	.....	43%
Kept the same	.....	17%
Repealed	.....	26%
Not sure	.....	14%

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

Our society has gone too far in accepting people who are transgender	.....	44%
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	.....	30%
Not sure	.....	11%

45. 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	.....	22%
Oppose	.....	67%
Strongly support	.....	11%
Somewhat support	.....	11%
Somewhat oppose	.....	14%
Strongly oppose	.....	53%
Not sure	.....	11%

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

Inflation/prices	.....	23%
Jobs and the economy	.....	13%
Health care	.....	10%
Immigration	.....	9%
Civil rights	.....	8%
Taxes and government spending	.....	7%
Civil liberties	.....	6%
National Security	.....	5%
Climate change and the environment	.....	5%
Crime	.....	3%
Education	.....	3%
Abortion	.....	3%
Guns	.....	2%
Foreign policy	.....	2%
Criminal justice reform	.....	1%

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

<b>Total Excellent/Good</b>	.....	28%
<b>Total Fair/Poor</b>	.....	68%
Excellent	.....	5%
Good	.....	23%
Fair	.....	34%
Poor	.....	35%
Don't know	.....	4%

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

Getting better	.....	21%
About the same	.....	22%
Getting worse	.....	52%
Not sure	.....	5%

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

Better off financially than you were a year ago .....	16%
About the same financially as you were a year ago .....	42%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago .....	39%
Not sure .....	4%

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

Better off financially .....	27%
Just about the same as now .....	35%
Worse off financially .....	26%
Not sure .....	12%

51. Are you a MAGA supporter?

Yes .....	24%
No .....	64%
Not sure .....	12%

52. 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 .....	38%
The Republican Party candidate .....	35%
Other .....	2%
Not sure .....	14%
I would not vote .....	11%

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

<b>Total Liberal</b> .....	29%
<b>Total Conservative</b> .....	33%
Very liberal .....	13%
Liberal .....	16%
Moderate .....	31%
Conservative .....	20%
Very conservative .....	13%
Not sure .....	8%

54. Are you registered to vote?

Registered .....	73%
Not registered .....	27%

55. 2024 Presidential Vote

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

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

Democrat	.....	29%
Republican	.....	31%
Independent	.....	29%
Other	.....	5%
Not sure	.....	6%

57. Political Party Identification

*Calculated based on a series of questions about party identification*

Strong Democrat	.....	19%
Not very strong Democrat	.....	9%
Lean Democrat	.....	13%
Independent	.....	17%
Lean Republican	.....	8%
Not very strong Republican	.....	11%
Strong Republican	.....	20%
Not sure	.....	2%

58. Are you...?

Male	.....	49%
Female	.....	51%

59. Respondent age by category

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

60. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

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

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

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

62. What is your marital status?

Married	.....	35%
Separated	.....	2%
Divorced	.....	13%
Widowed	.....	6%
Never married	.....	39%
Domestic / civil partnership	.....	5%

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

Yes	.....	21%
No	.....	79%

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

*Calculated from respondent's state of residence*

Northeast	.....	17%
Midwest	.....	23%
South	.....	39%
West	.....	21%

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

Under \$50K	.....	41%
\$50-100K	.....	26%
\$100K or more	.....	22%
Prefer not to say	.....	11%

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

More than once a week	.....	8%
Once a week	.....	15%
Once or twice a month	.....	6%
A few times a year	.....	13%
Seldom	.....	21%
Never	.....	36%
Don't know	.....	1%

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

Yes	.....	31%
No	.....	69%

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

Several times a day	.....	25%
Once a day	.....	12%
A few times a week	.....	11%
Once a week	.....	3%
A few times a month	.....	7%
Seldom	.....	17%
Never	.....	23%
Don't know	.....	3%

69. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	.....	27%
Roman Catholic	.....	21%
Mormon	.....	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	.....	0%
Jewish	.....	2%
Muslim	.....	1%
Buddhist	.....	0%
Hindu	.....	0%
Atheist	.....	7%
Agnostic	.....	6%
Nothing in particular	.....	24%
Something else	.....	10%

<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	January 23 - 26, 2026
<b>Target population</b>	U.S. Citizens, age 18 and over
<b>Sampling method</b>	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in panel to be representative of adult U.S. citizens.
<b>Sample composition</b>	1,946 started the survey after screenouts. 184 were deleted due to breakoffs, 44 were removed for interview completion time under 5 minutes, 3 were removed for attention check failures, and 31 were removed for data quality control. The reporting is based on the remaining 1,684 respondents.
<b>Weighting</b>	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 6.552, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.942.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1684 1520 (Registered voters)
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 3.3% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3.1% (Registered voters)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	2 questions not reported.