

The Economist/YouGov Poll

September 11 - 14, 2026 - 1461 U.S. Registered Voters



Sample 1461 U.S. Registered Voters

Conducted September 11 - 14, 2026

Margin of Error $\pm 3.3\%$

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

Generally headed in the right direction	29%
Off on the wrong track	64%
Not sure	7%

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

Under control	19%
Out of control	67%
Not sure	14%

3. Here are some words that people might use to describe themselves. Which of the following words, if any, would you use to describe yourself? Check all that apply.

Conservative	37%
Independent	31%
Moderate	30%
Liberal	26%
Progressive	20%
Feminist	16%
Socialist	10%
Libertarian	6%
Radical	4%
None of these	6%

4. What do you think are the chances of a terrorist attack against the United States in the next 12 months?

Very likely	14%
Somewhat likely	38%
Not very likely	24%
Very unlikely	10%
Not sure	14%

5. Do you believe that terrorism poses a threat to the U.S.?

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	24%
A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	46%
A minor threat to the U.S.	21%
No threat to the U.S.	3%
Not sure	6%

6. Do you think the U.S. government should be doing more to fight terrorism?

Should be doing more to fight terrorism	40%
Is doing enough to fight terrorism	32%
Is doing too much to fight terrorism	10%
Not sure	18%

7. To what extent, if at all, do you think the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center changed the United States?

Changed the U.S. completely	67%
Changed the U.S. a little	23%
Did not change the U.S. very much	4%
Did not really change the U.S. at all	2%
Don't know	4%

8. Are we safer from terrorist attacks now than we were in 2001?

Much more safe	14%
Somewhat more safe	33%
About the same	24%
Somewhat less safe	10%
Much less safe	11%
Not sure	8%

9. Do you think the United States made a mistake sending troops to fight in the following wars?

	Yes	No	Not sure
World War I	13%	66%	21%
World War II	10%	76%	14%
Korea	27%	41%	31%
Vietnam	56%	22%	21%
Afghanistan	45%	36%	20%
Iraq	49%	33%	17%
Iran	50%	34%	17%

10. Which comes closer to your view?

In the long run, the U.S. will be safer from terrorism if it confronts the countries and groups that promote terrorism	50%
In the long run, the U.S. will be safer from terrorism if it stays out of other countries' affairs	50%

11. Since September 11, 2001, the United States has fought against the threat of terrorism through military operations abroad and increased security and surveillance inside of the United States. Do you think these actions have been worth the cost?

Worth cost	49%
Not worth cost	29%
Not sure	22%

12. Do you think the U.S. has gotten more or less safe from a terrorist attack since Donald Trump became president again in 2025?

More safe 29%
 Stayed about the same 19%
 Less safe 45%
 Not sure 7%

13. Do you think an effective president would be able to control inflation, or is that something beyond any president's control?

From 1980 CBS News/New York Times Poll

Would be able 60%
 Beyond control 25%
 No opinion 14%

14. How much, if at all, do you blame each of the following for inflation?

	A lot	A little	Not at all
Spending by the federal government	64%	28%	9%
Large corporations seeking maximum profits	63%	27%	9%
The price of foreign oil	58%	35%	7%
Tariffs	56%	31%	13%
The war in Iran	56%	34%	10%
Donald Trump	55%	24%	22%
Billionaires	50%	26%	24%
Republicans	48%	33%	19%
Democrats	40%	36%	25%
Immigration policy	35%	30%	35%

15. Do you think it is ever justified for citizens to resort to violence in order to achieve political goals?

Yes, violence can sometimes be justified 16%
 No, violence is never justified 73%
 Not sure 12%

16. Compared to 10 years ago, do you think the U.S. has more or less political violence?

More 75%
 The same amount 15%
 Less 3%
 Not sure 6%

17. How big of a problem do you think political violence is in the U.S. today?

A very big problem	43%
Somewhat of a problem	44%
Not very much of a problem	7%
Not a problem	1%
Not sure	5%

18. Overall, do you think most political violence in the U.S. is committed by people on the left or the right?

Mostly by the left	31%
Mostly by the right	29%
By both equally	27%
Not sure	14%

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

Total Approve	40%
Total Disapprove	58%
Strongly approve	19%
Somewhat approve	20%
Somewhat disapprove	8%
Strongly disapprove	49%
Not sure	2%

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

	Total Approve	Total Disapprove	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
Immigration	45%	52%	34%	11%	7%	45%	3%
Crime	43%	49%	26%	17%	13%	36%	8%
Terrorism	42%	49%	25%	17%	10%	39%	9%
Race relations	35%	53%	20%	16%	9%	44%	12%
Ukraine	34%	55%	15%	20%	14%	41%	11%
Tariffs	33%	62%	17%	17%	11%	51%	5%
Iran	33%	60%	19%	14%	12%	48%	7%
Inflation	29%	66%	10%	18%	14%	52%	6%

21. How would you describe Donald Trump's political views?

Total Liberal	8%
Total Conservative	60%
Very liberal	4%
Liberal	4%
Moderate	12%
Conservative	25%
Very conservative	35%
Not sure	20%

22. Do you think Donald Trump is honest and trustworthy, or not?

Honest and trustworthy	31%
Not honest and trustworthy	58%
Not sure	11%

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

A lot	21%
Some	17%
Not much	11%
Doesn't care at all	49%
Not sure	3%

24. Is Trump too old to be President?

Yes	53%
No	38%
Not sure	9%

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

Like a lot	17%
Like somewhat	14%
Neither like nor dislike	11%
Dislike somewhat	9%
Dislike a lot	46%
Not sure	3%

26. Do you think Donald Trump...

Says what he believes	54%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	37%
Not sure	10%

27. 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
Corrupt	53%	23%	23%
Dangerous	51%	23%	26%
Out-of-touch	47%	22%	32%
Cruel	46%	25%	29%
Bold	45%	16%	39%
Racist	45%	29%	26%
Divisive	42%	14%	44%
Strong	37%	30%	33%
Intelligent	35%	37%	28%
Effective	33%	35%	33%
Honest	23%	45%	32%
Inspiring	19%	40%	41%
Steady	18%	33%	49%

28. Has your opinion of Donald Trump changed at all since he was elected in 2024?

Yes, has changed (at least a little)	28%
No, has not changed at all	72%

29. How would you describe the political views of the Democratic Party?

Total Liberal	66%
Total Conservative	6%
Very liberal	41%
Liberal	25%
Moderate	18%
Conservative	4%
Very conservative	2%
Not sure	9%

30. How would you describe the political views of the Republican Party?

Total Liberal	5%
Total Conservative	72%
Very liberal	3%
Liberal	3%
Moderate	11%
Conservative	33%
Very conservative	39%
Not sure	11%

31. Do you think the Democratic Party is too extreme?

Yes47%
No43%
Not sure11%

32. Do you think the Republican Party is too extreme?

Yes49%
No41%
Not sure10%

33. Which party do you think does a better job handling the following issues?

	The Democratic Party	The Republican Party	Both about the same	Not sure
The economy	41%	37%	13%	9%
Immigration	39%	43%	10%	8%
Crime	33%	43%	16%	9%
National defense	34%	43%	14%	8%
The war in Iran	37%	36%	14%	13%

34. How much confidence do you have in the following institution?

	A great deal	Quite a lot	Some	Very little
The military	32%	29%	24%	15%
Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)	18%	16%	17%	49%
The police	16%	28%	35%	21%
The presidency	15%	17%	21%	47%
The U.S. Supreme Court	11%	20%	33%	36%
Public schools	9%	21%	40%	30%
Department of Justice	9%	18%	36%	37%
The criminal justice system	7%	17%	42%	35%
Congress	5%	9%	37%	49%

35. Do you plan to register to vote before the election this November?

Yes6%
No0%
Already registered94%

36. How likely are you to vote in the election in November?

Definitely will vote	73%
Probably will vote	14%
Maybe will vote	6%
Probably will not vote	2%
Definitely will not vote	2%
Don't know	3%

37. Compared to voting in previous Congressional election years, are you more or less enthusiastic about voting in this year's election?

More enthusiastic	38%
Less enthusiastic	15%
About the same	41%
Not sure	5%

38. In the election for U.S. Senator from [state], who will you vote for?

Asked using the names of candidates running in the respondent's state of residence if there is a senate election in that state

The Democratic candidate	40%
The Republican candidate	43%
Other	4%
Not sure	7%
I will not vote	6%

39. In the election for U.S. Senator from [state], would you consider voting for a different candidate, or is your mind made up?

Asked of those in states with a senate election

My mind is made up	79%
Would consider voting for a different candidate	8%
Undecided	7%
Nonvoter	6%

40. Which party do you think will have a majority in the U.S. Senate after the elections in November?

Democratic Party	36%
Republican Party	36%
Not sure	28%

41. In the elections for U.S. Congress in November, who will you vote for in the district where you live?

Asked using the names of candidates running in the respondent's district of residence

The Democratic candidate	44%
The Republican candidate	39%
Other	3%
Not sure	10%
I will not vote	4%

42. Would you consider voting for a different candidate, or is your mind made up?

My mind is made up	76%
Would consider voting for a different candidate	10%
Undecided	10%
Nonvoter	4%

43. How satisfied are you with the candidates running for U.S. House of Representatives in the district where you live?

Completely satisfied	14%
Somewhat satisfied	37%
Somewhat dissatisfied	15%
Completely dissatisfied	10%
Not sure	23%

44. Which party do you think will have a majority in the U.S. House of Representatives after the elections in November?

Democratic Party	42%
Republican Party	31%
Not sure	27%

45. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following person?

	Total Favorable	Total Unfavorable	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
John Fetterman	32%	35%	10%	22%	11%	25%	32%
Elizabeth Warren	39%	42%	19%	20%	10%	33%	19%
Josh Hawley	23%	27%	10%	12%	8%	19%	50%
Ted Cruz	38%	50%	17%	21%	11%	38%	13%
Cory Booker	31%	38%	12%	20%	13%	25%	31%
Rand Paul	32%	38%	9%	23%	16%	22%	30%
Amy Klobuchar	30%	28%	12%	18%	12%	17%	42%
Bernie Sanders	46%	45%	25%	22%	11%	34%	9%

46. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the following person? [Respondent's Congressperson]

Total Favorable	45%
Total Unfavorable	31%
Very favorable	20%
Somewhat favorable	25%
Somewhat unfavorable	10%
Very unfavorable	21%
No opinion	24%

47. Do you feel like you made the right choice in the 2024 presidential election, or do you regret your vote?

Among people who voted for president in 2024

Made the right choice	92%
Regret my vote	4%
Not sure	5%

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

Favor the death penalty	55%
Opposed to the death penalty	26%
Not sure	19%

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

Yes	56%
No	29%
Not sure	14%

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

More strict	55%
No change	25%
Less strict	14%
Not sure	6%

51. 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	36%
Decreased	23%
Reduced to zero	7%
Not sure	10%

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

Favor	36%
Oppose	35%
Not sure	29%

53. Would you favor or oppose the government in Washington sending \$5,000 to every adult citizen in the U.S.?

Total Favor	48%
Total Oppose	40%
Strongly favor	30%
Somewhat favor	18%
Somewhat oppose	12%
Strongly oppose	27%
Not sure	12%

54. On Wednesday, President Trump said "Here is my promise: if the Republicans win the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, both of them, I will issue a dividend to every adult citizen in the United States of \$5,000." How likely do you think it is that Trump will do this if Republicans keep control of Congress?

Definitely would do it	10%
Probably would do it	11%
Equal chance of doing it and not doing it	22%
Probably would not do it	16%
Definitely would not do it	41%

55. Do you think giving each adult U.S. citizen \$5000 is a good or a bad idea?

Good idea	38%
Bad idea	45%
Not sure	17%

56. Generally speaking, would you say ...

Most people can be trusted.	26%
You can't be too careful in dealing with people.	65%
Not sure	9%

57. If you tell the truth, do you think most people will believe you?

Yes	62%
No	14%
Not sure	23%

58. Do you believe there is a life after death?

Yes	59%
No	16%
Not sure	24%

59. If medical treatments made it possible, would you choose to live to 150?

Would choose to live to 150	31%
Would not choose to live to 150	43%
Not sure	26%

60. Do you think it should be legal or illegal for a doctor to help end the life of a terminally ill patient who has given a clear indication of their wish to die?

Legal	61%
Illegal	19%
Not sure	20%

61. Overall, is your life better or worse than your parents' lives were at your current age?

Much better	22%
Slightly better	19%
About the same	19%
Slightly worse	18%
Much worse	14%
Not sure	7%

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

Total Excellent/Good	25%
Total Fair/Poor	74%
Excellent	4%
Good	21%
Fair	29%
Poor	45%
Don't know	1%

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

Getting better	16%
About the same	21%
Getting worse	60%
Not sure	3%

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

Inflation/prices	35%
Jobs and the economy	14%
Health care	9%
Taxes and government spending	8%
Immigration	8%
Climate change and the environment	6%
Civil rights	4%
National Security	4%
Civil liberties	3%
Crime	2%
Education	2%
Abortion	3%
Foreign policy	1%
Guns	1%
Criminal justice reform	1%

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

Total Liberal	30%
Total Conservative	37%
Very liberal	13%
Liberal	16%
Moderate	29%
Conservative	24%
Very conservative	13%
Not sure	4%

66. Are you registered to vote?

Registered	94%
Not registered	6%

67. 2024 Presidential Vote

Kamala Harris	39%
Donald Trump	41%
Other	2%
Did not vote for President	18%

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

Democrat	34%
Republican	36%
Independent	22%
Other	4%
Not sure	4%

69. Political Party Identification

Calculated based on a series of questions about party identification

Strong Democrat	24%
Not very strong Democrat	10%
Lean Democrat	10%
Independent	12%
Lean Republican	8%
Not very strong Republican	11%
Strong Republican	25%
Not sure	1%

70. Are you a MAGA supporter?

Yes	27%
No	64%
Not sure	9%

71. Are you...?

Male	46%
Female	54%

72. Respondent age by category

Under 30	18%
30-44	23%
45-64	33%
65+	25%

73. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	69%
Black	12%
Hispanic	12%
Other	6%

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

HS or less	32%
Some college	30%
College grad	25%
Postgrad	14%

75. What is your marital status?

Married	43%
Separated	2%
Divorced	9%
Widowed	7%
Never married	34%
Domestic / civil partnership	6%

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

Yes	21%
No	79%

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

Under \$50K	38%
\$50-100K	25%
\$100K or more	29%
Prefer not to say	8%

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

More than once a week	8%
Once a week	21%
Once or twice a month	5%
A few times a year	12%
Seldom	19%
Never	32%
Don't know	2%

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

Yes	32%
No	68%

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

Several times a day	29%
Once a day	14%
A few times a week	13%
Once a week	1%
A few times a month	5%
Seldom	13%
Never	21%
Don't know	3%

81. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	30%
Roman Catholic	23%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	0%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	6%
Agnostic	6%
Nothing in particular	19%
Something else	10%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	September 11 - 14, 2026
Target population	Registered voters for November 3, 2026, U.S. election
Sampling method	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in panel to be representative of adult U.S. citizens, and screened for voter registration.
Sample composition	2,253 started the survey after screenouts. 333 were deleted due to breakoffs, 27 were removed for interview completion time under 5 minutes, 26 were removed for attention check failures, and 271 were removed for data quality control. 1,461 of the 1,596 respondents in the cleaned sample reported that they were currently registered to vote or planned to register before the election in November.
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 6.604, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.688.
Number of respondents	1461
Margin of error	± 3.3% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	7 questions not reported.