

# **The Economist/YouGov Poll**

**September 12 - 15, 2025 - 1567 U.S. Adult citizens**



Sample 1567 U.S. Adult citizens  
Conducted September 12 - 15, 2025  
Margin of Error  $\pm 3.6\%$

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

Generally headed in the right direction	28%
Off on the wrong track	64%
Not sure	8%

## 2. In the last five years, do you think this country has become more or less politically divided?

Much more divided	67%
Somewhat more divided	16%
About the same	8%
Somewhat less divided	3%
Much less divided	1%
Not sure	4%

## 3. At various times, there have been turning points in American politics, where things could have gone in a very different direction. At other times, things that seemed important turned out not to be significant. What does this moment feel more like to you?

A significant turning point	67%
Not too significant	12%
Not sure	21%

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

More	83%
The same amount	8%
Less	3%
Not sure	5%

## 5. 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	10%
No, violence is never justified	78%
Not sure	11%

## 6. How concerned are you about left-wing extremism in the U.S.?

Very concerned	40%
Somewhat concerned	21%
Not very concerned	14%
Not at all concerned	13%
Not sure	12%

7. How concerned are you about right-wing extremism in the U.S.?

Very concerned	40%
Somewhat concerned	19%
Not very concerned	13%
Not at all concerned	16%
Not sure	11%

8. 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	33%
Mostly by the right	29%
By both equally	24%
Not sure	14%

9. How familiar were you with Charlie Kirk before this week?

Very familiar	24%
Somewhat familiar	32%
Had heard of him, but didn't know anything	15%
Never had heard of him	28%

10. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Charlie Kirk?

Very favorable	26%
Somewhat favorable	9%
Neither favorable nor unfavorable	18%
Somewhat unfavorable	8%
Very unfavorable	28%
Don't know	11%

11. Do you approve or disapprove of how FBI Director Kash Patel is handling the investigation into the shooting of Charlie Kirk?

Strongly approve	20%
Somewhat approve	16%
<b>Approve</b>	<b>36%</b>
Somewhat disapprove	9%
Strongly disapprove	15%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>24%</b>
Not sure	40%

12. Do you think that the person who killed Charlie Kirk was mostly motivated by...?

Left-wing beliefs	37%
Right-wing beliefs	17%
Something other than political beliefs	16%
Not sure	30%

13. In general, do you feel the laws covering the sale of handguns should be made more strict than they are now?

Make gun laws more strict .....	54%
No change .....	28%
Make gun laws less strict .....	9%
Not sure .....	9%

14. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "I think it's worth it to have a cost of, unfortunately, some gun deaths every single year so that we can have the Second Amendment to protect our other God-given rights."

Strongly agree .....	17%
Somewhat agree .....	12%
<b>Agree</b> .....	<b>30%</b>
Somewhat disagree .....	12%
Strongly disagree .....	40%
<b>Disagree</b> .....	<b>52%</b>
Not sure .....	19%

15. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump?

Very favorable .....	24%
Somewhat favorable .....	14%
<b>Favorable</b> .....	<b>39%</b>
Somewhat unfavorable .....	8%
Very unfavorable .....	48%
<b>Unfavorable</b> .....	<b>57%</b>
Don't know .....	5%

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

Strongly approve .....	24%
Somewhat approve .....	15%
<b>Approve</b> .....	<b>39%</b>
Somewhat disapprove .....	9%
Strongly disapprove .....	48%
<b>Disapprove</b> .....	<b>57%</b>
Not sure .....	4%

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

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	Disapprove	No opinion
Jobs and the economy	21%	14%	<b>35%</b>	13%	44%	<b>57%</b>	8%
Inflation/prices	15%	14%	<b>30%</b>	13%	51%	<b>64%</b>	6%
Immigration	33%	10%	<b>44%</b>	8%	43%	<b>51%</b>	5%
Civil rights	22%	12%	<b>34%</b>	7%	45%	<b>51%</b>	15%
Crime	29%	13%	<b>42%</b>	10%	39%	<b>49%</b>	9%
Guns	22%	11%	<b>33%</b>	10%	40%	<b>50%</b>	17%

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

Honest and trustworthy .....	30%
Not honest and trustworthy .....	57%
Not sure .....	13%

19. Would you say Donald Trump is a strong or a weak leader?

Very strong .....	34%
Somewhat strong .....	17%
Somewhat weak .....	13%
Very weak .....	37%

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

Like a lot .....	17%
Like somewhat .....	13%
Neither like nor dislike .....	13%
Dislike somewhat .....	9%
Dislike a lot .....	44%
Not sure .....	4%

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

Yes .....	40%
No .....	52%
Not sure .....	8%

22. Are you confident in Donald Trump's ability to deal wisely with an international crisis, or are you uneasy about his approach?

Confident .....	36%
Uneasy .....	53%
Not sure .....	11%

23. How much of an effect do you think Donald Trump's health and age are having on his ability to fulfill his duties as president?

Severely limit his ability to do the job .....	34%
Have little effect on his ability to do the job .....	27%
Have no effect at all .....	26%
Not sure .....	13%

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

Strongly approve .....	8%
Somewhat approve .....	9%
<b>Approve</b> .....	<b>18%</b>
Somewhat disapprove .....	11%
Strongly disapprove .....	49%
<b>Disapprove</b> .....	<b>60%</b>
Not sure .....	22%

25. Before investigations into Jeffrey Epstein began, how much do you think Donald Trump knew about sex crimes committed by Epstein against underage girls?

A lot .....	45%
Some .....	23%
Nothing .....	9%
Not sure .....	23%

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

Yes .....	44%
No .....	31%
Not sure .....	25%

27. Pictured below is a birthday message to Jeffrey Epstein. Do you think this message is from Donald Trump?

*Respondents were shown the image of the message from this article: <https://www.wsj.com/us-news/law/epstein-birthday-book-congress-9d79ab34>*

Yes .....	44%
No .....	23%
Not sure .....	33%

28. Do you think the birthday message to Jeffrey Epstein pictured below is more playful or disturbing?

*Respondents were shown the image of the message from this article: <https://www.wsj.com/us-news/law/epstein-birthday-book-congress-9d79ab34>*

Playful .....	13%
Disturbing .....	61%
Not sure .....	26%

29. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of JD Vance?

Very favorable	23%
Somewhat favorable	13%
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>36%</b>
Somewhat unfavorable	10%
Very unfavorable	38%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>48%</b>
Don't know	16%

30. Do you approve or disapprove of the way JD Vance is handling his job as Vice-President?

Strongly approve	24%
Somewhat approve	13%
<b>Approve</b>	<b>38%</b>
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	36%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>46%</b>
Not sure	16%

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

Inflation/prices	24%
Jobs and the economy	11%
Immigration	9%
Health care	9%
Civil rights	7%
Climate change and the environment	7%
National Security	5%
Civil liberties	5%
Taxes and government spending	5%
Guns	5%
Abortion	5%
Crime	4%
Education	2%
Criminal justice reform	1%
Foreign policy	1%

32. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the political parties?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Don't know
The Democratic Party	11%	23%	<b>33%</b>	19%	40%	<b>60%</b>	7%
The Republican Party	16%	22%	<b>38%</b>	13%	42%	<b>55%</b>	7%

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

Very liberal .....	12%
Liberal .....	16%
<b>Total Liberal .....</b>	<b>28%</b>
Moderate .....	29%
Conservative .....	21%
Very conservative .....	12%
<b>Total Conservative .....</b>	<b>33%</b>
Not sure .....	10%

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

Liberal .....	28%
Moderate .....	29%
Conservative .....	33%
Not sure .....	10%

35. Would you say the Democratic Party is...?

Very liberal .....	44%
Somewhat liberal .....	23%
<b>Total Liberal .....</b>	<b>67%</b>
Moderate .....	14%
Somewhat conservative .....	4%
Very conservative .....	3%
<b>Total Conservative .....</b>	<b>7%</b>
Not sure .....	12%

36. Would you say the Republican Party is...?

Very liberal .....	1%
Somewhat liberal .....	2%
<b>Total Liberal .....</b>	<b>4%</b>
Moderate .....	9%
Somewhat conservative .....	28%
Very conservative .....	46%
<b>Total Conservative .....</b>	<b>74%</b>
Not sure .....	13%

37. Would you say Donald Trump is...

Very liberal .....	3%
Liberal .....	2%
<b>Total Liberal .....</b>	<b>5%</b>
Moderate .....	10%
Conservative .....	29%
Very conservative .....	37%
<b>Total Conservative .....</b>	<b>66%</b>
Not sure .....	19%

38. Would you describe the Democratic Party as being more...?

United .....	25%
Divided .....	51%
Not sure .....	24%

39. Would you describe the Republican Party as being more...?

United .....	47%
Divided .....	30%
Not sure .....	23%

40. Regardless of whether you agree with them, how effective is the leadership of the Democratic Party?

Very effective .....	7%
Somewhat effective .....	19%
Not very effective .....	29%
Not at all effective .....	31%
Not sure .....	14%

41. Regardless of whether you agree with them, how effective is the leadership of the Republican Party?

Very effective .....	18%
Somewhat effective .....	34%
Not very effective .....	17%
Not at all effective .....	18%
Not sure .....	14%



42. Which of these words would you [use / definitely not use] to describe the Democratic Party? Select all that apply.

	Would use to describe the Democratic Party	Would definitely not use to describe the Democratic Party	Neither
Compassionate	29%	25%	46%
Corrupt	39%	18%	43%
Evil	27%	30%	43%
Extreme	33%	22%	45%
Intolerant	27%	19%	54%
Optimistic	21%	20%	60%
Out-of-touch	45%	13%	42%
Pragmatic	12%	13%	75%
Principled	21%	26%	54%
Trustworthy	20%	36%	44%
Weak	41%	12%	47%
Woke	39%	8%	54%

43. Which of these words would you [use / definitely not use] to describe the Republican Party? Select all that apply.

	Would use to describe the Republican Party	Would definitely not use to describe the Republican Party	Neither
Compassionate	19%	38%	43%
Corrupt	47%	13%	40%
Evil	32%	26%	42%
Extreme	40%	15%	46%
Intolerant	37%	14%	48%
Optimistic	25%	21%	54%
Out-of-touch	38%	15%	47%
Pragmatic	15%	13%	72%
Principled	27%	27%	46%
Trustworthy	19%	39%	42%
Weak	22%	20%	57%
Woke	4%	39%	57%

44. Have you ever voted for a Democrat?

Yes .....	63%
No .....	37%

45. Have you ever voted for a Republican?

Yes .....	57%
No .....	43%

46. In the past, how often have you voted for a Democrat?

Usually .....	32%
Occasionally .....	19%
Rarely .....	13%
Never .....	37%

47. In the past, how often have you voted for a Republican?

Usually .....	31%
Occasionally .....	15%
Rarely .....	11%
Never .....	43%

48. In the future, how often do you think you will vote for a Democrat?

Usually .....	34%
Occasionally .....	15%
Rarely .....	17%
Never .....	35%

49. In the future, how often do you think you will vote for a Republican?

Usually .....	33%
Occasionally .....	13%
Rarely .....	17%
Never .....	38%

50. 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 .....	37%
The Republican Party candidate .....	33%
Other .....	2%
Not sure .....	11%
I would not vote .....	16%

**51. Which party do you think is more likely to win majority control of the U.S. House of Representatives in 2026?**

The Democratic Party .....	27%
The Republican Party .....	39%
Not sure .....	34%

**52. In the 2028 presidential election, are you more likely to vote for the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?**

Definitely will vote for the Democratic candidate .....	29%
Probably will vote for the Democratic candidate .....	8%
Equally likely to vote for either candidate .....	4%
Probably will vote for the Republican candidate .....	8%
Definitely will vote for the Republican candidate .....	25%
Will not vote for either candidate .....	13%
Not sure .....	13%

**53. Regardless of how you'll vote, which party do you think is more likely to win the 2028 presidential election?**

The Democratic Party .....	26%
The Republican Party .....	36%
Not sure .....	37%

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

Getting better .....	19%
About the same .....	21%
Getting worse .....	55%
Not sure .....	5%

**55. 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 .....	41%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago .....	38%
Not sure .....	5%

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

Better off financially .....	28%
Just about the same as now .....	29%
Worse off financially .....	29%
Not sure .....	14%

**57. Do you think Donald Trump's approach to immigration policy is...?**

Too harsh .....	50%
About right .....	35%
Too soft .....	8%
Not sure .....	8%

58. Do you think Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers should be required to wear uniforms when making arrests?

Yes ..... 65%  
 No ..... 19%  
 Not sure ..... 16%

59. Do you think Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers should be allowed to wear masks that hide their identities when making arrests?

Yes ..... 37%  
 No ..... 49%  
 Not sure ..... 15%

60. Should federal immigration agents be allowed to stop people based solely on factors such as their race or ethnicity, language, or field of work?

Should be allowed ..... 19%  
 Should not be allowed ..... 66%  
 Not sure ..... 16%

61. Should Americans be required to carry proof of their citizenship — such as a passport or birth certificate?

Should be required ..... 19%  
 Should not be required ..... 65%  
 Not sure ..... 16%

62. Are you registered to vote?

Registered ..... 74%  
 Not registered ..... 26%

63. 2024 Presidential Vote

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

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

Democrat ..... 29%  
 Republican ..... 31%  
 Independent ..... 27%  
 Other ..... 5%  
 Not sure ..... 8%

**65. Political Party Identification**

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

Strong Democrat .....	20%
Not very strong Democrat .....	10%
Lean Democrat .....	10%
Independent .....	19%
Lean Republican .....	8%
Not very strong Republican .....	11%
Strong Republican .....	19%
Not sure .....	3%
Don't know .....	0%

**66. Do you identify as a MAGA Republican?**

*Asked of Republicans*

Yes .....	55%
No .....	37%
Not sure .....	8%

**67. Are you...?**

Male .....	48%
Female .....	52%

**68. Respondent age by category**

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

**69. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?**

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

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

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

71. What is your marital status?

Married .....	36%
Separated .....	2%
Divorced .....	12%
Widowed .....	5%
Never married .....	40%
Domestic / civil partnership .....	5%

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

Yes .....	16%
No .....	84%

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

*Calculated from respondent's state of residence*

Northeast .....	15%
Midwest .....	22%
South .....	40%
West .....	23%

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

Under \$50K .....	39%
\$50-100K .....	30%
\$100K or more .....	20%
Prefer not to say .....	11%

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

More than once a week .....	6%
Once a week .....	14%
Once or twice a month .....	6%
A few times a year .....	12%
Seldom .....	21%
Never .....	39%
Don't know .....	2%

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

Yes .....	28%
No .....	72%

77. 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 .....	12%
A few times a week .....	10%
Once a week .....	3%
A few times a month .....	9%
Seldom .....	13%
Never .....	24%
Don't know .....	5%

78. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant .....	32%
Roman Catholic .....	18%
Mormon .....	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox .....	1%
Jewish .....	2%
Muslim .....	0%
Buddhist .....	0%
Hindu .....	0%
Atheist .....	7%
Agnostic .....	7%
Nothing in particular .....	24%
Something else .....	8%

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<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	September 12 - 15, 2025
<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>	1,814 started the survey after screenouts. 151 were deleted due to breakoffs, 53 were removed for interview completion time under 5 minutes, 10 were removed for attention check failures, and 33 were removed for data quality control. The reporting is based on the remaining 1,567 respondents.
<b>Weighting</b>	The sample was weighted according to gender, age, race, education, 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 6.574, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.044.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1567 1420 (Registered voters)
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 3.6% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3.3% (Registered voters)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	5 questions not reported.