

The Economist/YouGov Poll

December 12 - 15, 2025 - 1632 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1632 U.S. Adult citizens
 Conducted December 12 - 15, 2025
 Margin of Error $\pm 3.2\%$

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

Generally headed in the right direction 35%
 Off on the wrong track 56%
 Not sure 9%

2. How satisfied are you with the way democracy is working in the U.S?

Completely satisfied 7%
 Somewhat satisfied 27%
 Somewhat dissatisfied 27%
 Completely dissatisfied 30%
 Not sure 9%

3. Which comes closest to your view?

Our lives are threatened by terrorists, criminals, and illegal immigrants and our priority should be to protect ourselves. 36%
 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. 49%
 Not sure 15%

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

Strongly approve 20%
 Somewhat approve 22%
Approve **42%**
 Somewhat disapprove 12%
 Strongly disapprove 43%
Disapprove **54%**
 Not sure 4%

5. 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
Crime	27%	19%	46%	13%	34%	47%	7%
Immigration	32%	14%	45%	10%	40%	50%	5%
Race relations	20%	15%	35%	10%	40%	50%	15%
Inflation/prices	13%	20%	33%	15%	46%	61%	6%
National Security	29%	17%	45%	10%	36%	46%	9%

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

Honest and trustworthy	32%
Not honest and trustworthy	52%
Not sure	16%

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

A lot	21%
Some	20%
Not much	12%
Doesn't care at all	43%
Not sure	4%

8. Is Trump too old to be President?

Yes	44%
No	44%
Not sure	11%

9. How would you describe Donald Trump's current overall health?

Excellent	9%
Very good	14%
Good	19%
Fair	18%
Poor	27%
Not sure	12%

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

Very strong	31%
Somewhat strong	17%
Neither strong nor weak	14%
Somewhat weak	9%
Very weak	29%

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

Yes	41%
No	51%
Not sure	9%

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

Confident	39%
Uneasy	50%
Not sure	11%

13. Do you think Donald Trump is too extreme?

Yes	51%
No	37%
Not sure	11%

14. Do you think Donald Trump...

Says what he believes	57%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	30%
Not sure	13%

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

Like a lot	18%
Like somewhat	15%
Neither like nor dislike	14%
Dislike somewhat	10%
Dislike a lot	39%
Not sure	3%

16. Which of these words would you [use / not use] to describe Donald Trump? Select all that apply.

	Describes Donald Trump	Does not describe Donald Trump	Neither
Honest	26%	40%	34%
Intelligent	37%	32%	31%
Inspiring	16%	36%	47%
Bold	48%	13%	39%
Effective	37%	28%	35%
Steady	20%	29%	52%
Racist	42%	26%	32%
Dangerous	45%	23%	32%
Corrupt	45%	22%	32%
Divisive	37%	14%	49%
Cruel	42%	24%	34%
Strong	40%	25%	35%
Out-of-touch	39%	21%	40%

17. Would you say Donald Trump is...

Very liberal	1%
Liberal	2%
Total Liberal	3%
Moderate	12%
Conservative	28%
Very conservative	36%
Total Conservative	63%
Not sure	22%

18. Do you think that Donald Trump will attempt to serve a third term as president?

Yes	41%
No	40%
Not sure	20%

19. Do you think that Donald Trump should attempt to serve a third term as president?

Yes	14%
No	75%
Not sure	10%

20. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the Democratic Party?

Very favorable	12%
Somewhat favorable	17%
Neither favorable nor unfavorable	17%
Somewhat unfavorable	17%
Very unfavorable	32%
Not sure	5%

21. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the Republican Party?

Very favorable	10%
Somewhat favorable	21%
Neither favorable nor unfavorable	14%
Somewhat unfavorable	15%
Very unfavorable	35%
Not sure	5%

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

Very liberal	12%
Liberal	16%
Total Liberal	28%
Moderate	32%
Conservative	20%
Very conservative	12%
Total Conservative	32%
Not sure	8%

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

Liberal	28%
Moderate	32%
Conservative	32%
Not sure	8%

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

Very liberal	39%
Liberal	25%
Total Liberal	64%
Moderate	17%
Conservative	3%
Very conservative	1%
Total Conservative	4%
Not sure	14%

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

Very liberal	1%
Liberal	3%
Total Liberal	4%
Moderate	11%
Conservative	33%
Very conservative	37%
Total Conservative	69%
Not sure	16%

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

Yes	43%
No	42%
Not sure	15%

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

Yes	44%
No	41%
Not sure	15%

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

Half of respondents were shown 'Department of Defense', half were shown 'Department of War', assigned randomly

	A great deal	Quite a lot	Some	Very little
The military	26%	31%	30%	13%
The police	13%	27%	39%	21%
The presidency	16%	16%	25%	43%
The U.S. Supreme Court	10%	18%	37%	34%
Public schools	8%	20%	40%	32%
The criminal justice system	4%	16%	42%	38%
Congress	4%	9%	38%	49%
Department of Education	7%	16%	34%	43%
Department of Justice	6%	18%	36%	40%
Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)	15%	19%	21%	45%
Department of War	17%	22%	30%	31%
Department of Defense	17%	22%	31%	30%

29. Do you favor the death penalty for murder?

Yes, always	17%
Yes, sometimes, depending on the circumstances	51%
No, the death penalty is wrong	22%
Don't know	10%

30. In general, do you feel the laws covering the gun control laws should be made more strict than they are now?

Make gun laws more strict	55%
No change	22%
Make gun laws less strict	15%
Not sure	8%

31. Do you favor or oppose the following?

	Favor strongly	Favor somewhat	Favor	Oppose somewhat	Oppose strongly	Oppose	Not sure
Banning assault rifles	43%	16%	59%	13%	20%	33%	8%

32. Do you think the number of legal immigrants accepted into the U.S. each year should be...?

Increased	18%
Not changed	25%
Decreased	26%
Reduced to zero	12%
Not sure	19%

33. Which comes closest to your view about illegal immigrants who are living in the U.S.? Should they be...

Allowed to stay in the U.S. and eventually apply for citizenship	43%
Allowed to stay in the U.S., but not become citizens	5%
Required to leave the U.S.	39%
Not sure	14%

34. Would you support or oppose requiring tourists to the U.S. to disclose any social media activity, telephone numbers, or email addresses going back 5 years or more, as well as face, fingerprint, DNA, and iris biometrics?

Strongly support	15%
Somewhat support	17%
Support	32%
Somewhat oppose	15%
Strongly oppose	33%
Oppose	48%
Not sure	20%

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

Strongly support	22%
Somewhat support	27%
Support	49%
Somewhat oppose	13%
Strongly oppose	24%
Oppose	36%
Not sure	15%

36. What message would you send to the government in Washington?

Help me solve my problems	37%
Leave me alone	37%
Not sure	26%

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

Inflation/prices	25%
Health care	13%
Jobs and the economy	11%
Immigration	8%
Civil rights	7%
Taxes and government spending	6%
Climate change and the environment	6%
National Security	6%
Civil liberties	5%
Education	4%
Crime	4%
Abortion	2%
Guns	2%
Criminal justice reform	1%
Foreign policy	1%

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

Excellent	4%
Good	21%
Fair	36%
Poor	36%
Don't know	4%

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

Getting better	20%
About the same	22%
Getting worse	52%
Not sure	5%

40. 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	44%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	33%
Not sure	6%

41. 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	36%
Worse off financially	22%
Not sure	14%

42. Do you identify as a MAGA Republican?

Asked of Republicans

Yes	53%
No	35%
Not sure	12%

43. 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	1%
Not sure	16%
I would not vote	13%

44. Are you registered to vote?

Registered	74%
Not registered	26%

45. 2024 Presidential Vote

Kamala Harris	31%
Donald Trump	32%
Other	1%
Did not vote for President	35%

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

Democrat	29%
Republican	31%
Independent	30%
Other	5%
Not sure	6%

47. Political Party Identification

Calculated based on a series of questions about party identification

Strong Democrat	18%
Not very strong Democrat	10%
Lean Democrat	12%
Independent	18%
Lean Republican	8%
Not very strong Republican	11%
Strong Republican	20%
Not sure	2%
Don't know	0%

48. Are you...?

Male	49%
Female	51%

49. Respondent age by category

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

50. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

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

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

HS or less	35%
Some college	30%
College grad	22%
Postgrad	13%

52. What is your marital status?

Married	40%
Separated	2%
Divorced	9%
Widowed	7%
Never married	36%
Domestic / civil partnership	6%

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

Yes	20%
No	80%

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

Calculated from respondent's state of residence

Northeast	17%
Midwest	21%
South	40%
West	22%

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

Under \$50K	39%
\$50-100K	28%
\$100K or more	24%
Prefer not to say	10%

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

More than once a week	9%
Once a week	17%
Once or twice a month	6%
A few times a year	12%
Seldom	20%
Never	35%
Don't know	2%

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

Yes	30%
No	70%

58. 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	13%
A few times a week	12%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	6%
Seldom	16%
Never	22%
Don't know	3%

59. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	29%
Roman Catholic	21%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	7%
Agnostic	6%
Nothing in particular	22%
Something else	9%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	December 12 - 15, 2025
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	1,885 started the survey after screenouts. 140 were deleted due to breakoffs, 70 were removed for interview completion time under 5 minutes, 9 were removed for attention check failures, and 34 were removed for data quality control. The reporting is based on the remaining 1,632 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 6.61, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.876.
Number of respondents	1632 1453 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	± 3.2% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3.1% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	8 questions not reported.