The Economist/YouGov Poll
November 13–16, 2026 - 1628 U.S. Citizens

YouGov

Sample	1628 U.S. Citizens
Conducted	November 13–16, 2026
Margin of Error	±2.9%

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

Generally headed in the right direction	21%
Off on the wrong track	67%
Not sure	12%

2. What do you think is the most important problem facing the U.S. today?

Categorized from open-ended responses

Inflation	25%
The economy	15%
Presidential leadership	10%
Political polarization	9%
Corruption and waste	7%
Immigration	7%
Foreign policy	4%
Democracy and the rule of law	3%
Inequality	3%
Crime	3%
Social values	2%
Civil rights	2%
Healthcare	2%
Taxes and government spending	1%
The environment	1%
Media	0%
Education	1%
Other	4%

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

Under control	16%
Out of control	71%
Not sure	13%

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4. 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
JD Vance	**35%**	**52%**	17%	18%	11%	41%	13%
Gavin Newsom	**33%**	**41%**	13%	20%	10%	31%	27%
Josh Shapiro	**27%**	**25%**	11%	17%	13%	12%	48%
Hakeem Jeffries	**24%**	**41%**	8%	16%	12%	29%	35%
Chuck Schumer	**22%**	**50%**	5%	17%	17%	32%	28%
Jim Jordan	**21%**	**28%**	10%	11%	7%	21%	51%
Stephen Miller	**21%**	**35%**	10%	11%	6%	29%	44%
Tucker Carlson	**21%**	**49%**	6%	15%	17%	32%	31%
Chris Van Hollen	**19%**	**17%**	7%	12%	7%	10%	64%
Scott Bessent	**17%**	**25%**	8%	9%	8%	18%	58%
John Thune	**14%**	**32%**	3%	11%	14%	19%	54%
Jensen Huang	**12%**	**34%**	2%	10%	14%	20%	54%
Howard Lutnick	**10%**	**27%**	4%	7%	8%	19%	63%

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

Total Approve	**35%**
Total Disapprove	**61%**
Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	20%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	50%
Not sure	4%

6. We want to ask you about how Donald Trump is handling some different things.

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
Inflation	11%	14%	15%	55%	6%
Immigration	27%	12%	9%	45%	6%
Civil rights	19%	14%	8%	47%	11%
Health care	12%	16%	12%	49%	11%

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

Total Liberal	**7%**
Total Conservative	**59%**
Very liberal	4%
Liberal	3%
Moderate	13%
Conservative	26%
Very conservative	32%
Not sure	21%

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

Honest and trustworthy	26%
Not honest and trustworthy	59%
Not sure	14%

9. Do you think Donald Trump...

Says what he believes	50%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	36%
Not sure	14%

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

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

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

A lot	17%
Some	16%
Not much	12%
Doesn't care at all	50%
Not sure	5%

12. Is Trump too old to be President?

Yes	52%
No	37%
Not sure	11%

13. Do you think President Trump is using his office for personal gain?

Yes	60%
No	27%
Not sure	13%

14. 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	51%	17%	32%
Dangerous	50%	17%	33%
Out-of-touch	47%	14%	38%
Racist	43%	22%	34%
Bold	43%	14%	42%
Cruel	43%	19%	38%
Divisive	39%	11%	50%
Strong	31%	29%	40%
Intelligent	31%	37%	32%
Effective	29%	34%	38%
Honest	20%	45%	35%
Steady	16%	31%	52%
Inspiring	16%	42%	42%

15. Should President Trump keep or fire this member of his Cabinet?

	Should keep	Should fire	Not sure
Marco Rubio (Secretary of State)	37%	31%	32%
Robert F. Kennedy Jr. (Health and Human Services)	33%	46%	21%
Pete Hegseth (Secretary of Defense)	26%	43%	31%
Scott Bessent (Secretary of the Treasury)	25%	30%	45%
Todd Blanche (Attorney General)	21%	33%	45%
Howard Lutnick (Secretary of Commerce)	17%	33%	51%

16. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "Presidents should govern without too much interference from Congress and the courts."

Total Agree	**28%**
Total Disagree	**57%**
Strongly agree	11%
Somewhat agree	17%
Somewhat disagree	22%
Strongly disagree	36%
Not sure	15%

17. Which one of the three branches of the U.S. federal government do you think is the most powerful?

The Executive Branch - The President and the federal agencies	18%
The Legislative Branch - The U.S. Congress	8%
The Judicial Branch - The Supreme Court of the United States and other federal courts	15%
They are all equally powerful	45%
Not sure	14%

18. How important is it for Congress to conduct oversight of the executive branch?

Very important	55%
Somewhat important	35%
Not very important	7%
Not important at all	3%

19. How much effort should the new Congress put into investigating the Trump administration starting in January?

A lot	40%
Some	18%
A little	10%
None	31%

20. What should they be investigating? Please be as specific as possible.
Asked of those who said Congress should put at least a little effort into investigating the Trump administration

Corruption	34%
Financial self-enrichment	29%
Sexual misconduct and Epstein ties	19%
War crimes	12%
Abuse of executive power	9%
Foreign dealings	8%
Policy harms	7%
Civil rights violations	7%
Election interference	4%
Incompetence	3%
Don't know	19%
Other	12%

21. A White House attorney sent a letter to the incoming chair of the House Oversight Committee, saying that congressional investigations "designed merely to abuse or instill fear in the recipient may cross the line into blatant criminality" and that "issuing unlawful subpoenas" could "warrant further investigation." Do you approve or disapprove of this letter?

Total Approve	**36%**
Total Disapprove	**37%**
Strongly approve	18%
Somewhat approve	18%
Somewhat disapprove	8%
Strongly disapprove	29%
Not sure	27%

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

	A great deal	Quite a lot	Some	Very little
The military	29%	26%	30%	14%
Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)	16%	15%	19%	50%
The police	14%	26%	38%	22%
The presidency	14%	15%	24%	48%
The U.S. Supreme Court	11%	21%	37%	31%
Public schools	9%	21%	40%	29%
Department of Justice	8%	19%	38%	35%
Congress	6%	11%	42%	41%
The criminal justice system	5%	17%	43%	35%

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

Favor the death penalty	49%
Opposed to the death penalty	29%
Not sure	22%

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

Yes	57%
No	30%
Not sure	13%

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

More strict	55%
No change	24%
Less strict	15%
Not sure	6%

26. Do you think the number of LEGAL immigrants allowed into the U.S. each year should be increased or decreased?

Increased	20%
Kept the same	31%
Decreased	22%
Reduced to zero	9%
Not sure	18%

27. What comes closest to your view about immigrants who came to the U.S. illegally?

All should be deported immediately	23%
Most should be deported, with exceptions for those married to Americans or have lived here for many years with no criminal record	28%
Only those who have committed serious crimes should be deported, while others should remain	41%
All should be allowed to remain in the United States	7%

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

Favor	34%
Oppose	33%
Not sure	33%

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

Total Excellent/Good	**20%**
Total Fair/Poor	**77%**
Excellent	3%
Good	17%
Fair	26%
Poor	51%
Don't know	3%

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

Getting better	12%
About the same	22%
Getting worse	59%
Not sure	7%

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

Inflation/prices	33%
Jobs and the economy	13%
Health care	11%
Immigration	7%
Taxes and government spending	6%
Climate change and the environment	5%
National Security	5%
Civil rights	4%
Abortion	3%
Crime	3%
Education	3%
Civil liberties	2%
Guns	2%
Foreign policy	1%
Criminal justice reform	1%

32. How serious a threat do you think espionage from the following country poses to the United States?

	An immediate and serious threat	A somewhat serious threat	A minor threat	Not a threat	Not sure
Russia	37%	32%	12%	5%	14%
China	36%	30%	14%	6%	14%
Iran	38%	25%	15%	8%	15%
Israel	18%	19%	17%	27%	18%
North Korea	29%	30%	20%	6%	15%
The United Kingdom	4%	8%	17%	54%	17%

33. Should federal government officials be banned from trading stocks?

Yes	67%
No	11%
Not sure	22%

34. Which country has the lead in artificial intelligence?

China	27%
U.S.	24%
About the same	20%
Not sure	29%

35. Should U.S. companies be allowed to sell advanced computer chips and AI technology to China?

Yes	14%
No	54%
Not sure	32%

36. How much have you heard about Nvidia chief executive Jensen Huang having an affair with a Chinese woman named Alice Huang, who U.S. intelligence agencies say is a spy for China's Ministry of State Security?

A lot	29%
A little	41%
Nothing at all	30%

37. Do you think Jensen Huang's affair with Alice Huang has compromised U.S. national security?

Definitely	16%
Probably	38%
Probably not	14%
Definitely not	3%
Not sure	30%

38. Should the U.S. have banned sales of advanced computer chips to Megaspeed, the Singaporean company where Alice Huang is an executive?

Yes	50%
No	12%
Not sure	38%

39. Overall, do you think that the construction of new data centers — which are large facilities that house computer servers for storing and transmitting data — is good or bad for the country?

Very good	7%
Somewhat good	16%
Neither good nor bad	16%
Somewhat bad	20%
Very bad	28%
Don't know	13%

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

Total Liberal	**27%**
Total Conservative	**32%**
Very liberal	11%
Liberal	16%
Moderate	28%
Conservative	21%
Very conservative	11%
Not sure	12%

41. Are you registered to vote?

Registered	74%
Not registered	26%

42. 2024 Presidential Vote

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

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

Democrat	32%
Republican	31%
Independent	25%
Other	4%
Not sure	8%

44. Political Party Identification

Calculated based on a series of questions about party identification

Strong Democrat	22%
Not very strong Democrat	10%
Lean Democrat	8%
Independent	21%
Lean Republican	6%
Not very strong Republican	10%
Strong Republican	21%
Not sure	2%
Don't know	0%

45. Are you a MAGA supporter?

Yes	22%
No	67%
Not sure	11%

46. Are you. . . ?

Male	49%
Female	51%

47. Respondent age by category

Under 30	20%
30-44	25%
45-64	31%
65+	24%

48. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

White	64%
Black	12%
Hispanic	14%
Other	10%

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

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

50. What is your marital status?

Married	36%
Separated	2%
Divorced	12%
Widowed	7%
Never married	37%
Domestic / civil partnership	5%

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

Yes	21%
No	79%

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

Under $50K	42%
$50-100K	27%
$100K or more	21%
Prefer not to say	10%

53. 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	20%
Never	35%
Don't know	3%

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

Yes	30%
No	70%

55. 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%

56. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	27%
Roman Catholic	20%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	2%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	0%
Atheist	6%
Agnostic	6%
Nothing in particular	23%
Something else	12%

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YouGov

Sponsorship	*The Economist*
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	November 13–16, 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	2,259 started the survey after screenouts. 314 were deleted due to breakoffs, 68 were removed for interview completion time under 5 minutes, 9 were removed for attention check failures, and 240 were removed for data quality control. The reporting is based on the remaining 1,628 respondents.
Weighting	The sample was weighted according to gender, age, race, education, U.S. region of residence, 2024 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 0.091 to 5.52, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.65.
Number of respondents	1628 1386 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	$\pm$ 2.9% (adjusted for weighting) $\pm$ 3% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	0 questions not reported.