

# **The Economist/YouGov Poll**

**July 31 - August 3, 2026 - 1609 U.S. Adult citizens**



Sample 1609 U.S. Adult citizens  
Conducted July 31 - August 3, 2026  
Margin of Error  $\pm 3.6\%$

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

|                                         |     |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|
| Generally headed in the right direction | 30% |
| Off on the wrong track                  | 64% |
| Not sure                                | 7%  |

## 2. 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 | 61% |
| Not too significant         | 18% |
| Not sure                    | 21% |

## 3. All things considered, in our society today, do you think there are more advantages in being a man or a woman?

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| More advantages in being a man   | 50% |
| More advantages in being a woman | 13% |
| No difference                    | 36% |

## 4. If either option were available, would you pursue a career outside the home or stay home to care for your family?

|                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Pursue a career outside the home  | 47% |
| Stay home to care for your family | 37% |
| Not sure                          | 17% |

## 5. Which comes closer to your view?

|                                                                          |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Men and women are equally capable of taking on all roles                 | 51% |
| Men are more suited for some roles and women more suited for other roles | 45% |
| Not sure                                                                 | 4%  |

## 6. Which comes closer to your view?

|                                                                              |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Most differences between men and women are the result of biology             | 46% |
| Most differences between men and women are the result of society and culture | 45% |
| Not sure                                                                     | 9%  |

## 7. Has the country gone too far or not far enough in promoting equality between men and women?

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Too far                | 17% |
| About the right amount | 37% |
| Not far enough         | 46% |

8. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of feminism?

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| <b>Favorable</b>     | <b>49%</b> |
| <b>Unfavorable</b>   | <b>31%</b> |
| Very favorable       | 21%        |
| Somewhat favorable   | 28%        |
| Somewhat unfavorable | 19%        |
| Very unfavorable     | 12%        |
| Don't know           | 20%        |

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

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| <b>Approve</b>      | <b>36%</b> |
| <b>Disapprove</b>   | <b>60%</b> |
| Strongly approve    | 22%        |
| Somewhat approve    | 15%        |
| Somewhat disapprove | 10%        |
| Strongly disapprove | 49%        |
| Not sure            | 4%         |

10. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling the following things?

|                     | Approve    | Disapprove | Strongly approve | Somewhat approve | Somewhat disapprove | Strongly disapprove | No opinion |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| The economy         | <b>30%</b> | <b>65%</b> | 14%              | 16%              | 14%                 | 52%                 | 5%         |
| Inflation           | <b>25%</b> | <b>69%</b> | 12%              | 14%              | 17%                 | 52%                 | 6%         |
| Taxes               | <b>31%</b> | <b>60%</b> | 15%              | 16%              | 14%                 | 46%                 | 9%         |
| Government spending | <b>29%</b> | <b>64%</b> | 13%              | 16%              | 13%                 | 52%                 | 7%         |

11. Do Democrats in Congress challenge Donald Trump too much, too little, or about the right amount?

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Too much               | 32% |
| Too little             | 40% |
| About the right amount | 14% |
| Not sure               | 14% |

12. Do Republicans in Congress go along with Donald Trump too much, too little, or about the right amount?

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Too much               | 51% |
| Too little             | 16% |
| About the right amount | 19% |
| Not sure               | 14% |

13. How much do you know about President Trump's "anti-weaponization fund" and settlement with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)?

A lot ..... 11%  
 Some ..... 20%  
 A little ..... 23%  
 Nothing ..... 47%

14. Do you support or oppose creating a \$1.776 billion anti-weaponization fund to compensate people who were convicted of January 6-related crimes and who claim they were unfairly treated by the government?

Support ..... 20%  
 Oppose ..... 56%  
 Not sure ..... 24%

15. Should the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) agree to stop auditing the tax returns of Donald Trump, his family, and his companies?

Yes ..... 19%  
 No ..... 63%  
 Not sure ..... 19%

16. Do you think the U.S. Senate should confirm Todd Blanche's appointment as U.S. Attorney General?

Yes ..... 20%  
 No ..... 32%  
 Not sure ..... 48%

17. Do you think the federal government should increase or decrease what it spends on...?

|                  | Increase a<br>lot | Increase<br>slightly | Keep the<br>same | Decrease<br>slightly | Decrease<br>a lot | Not sure |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------|
| National defense | 21%               | 18%                  | 24%              | 13%                  | 17%               | 6%       |
| Veterans         | 45%               | 30%                  | 16%              | 2%                   | 2%                | 5%       |
| Education        | 46%               | 22%                  | 17%              | 5%                   | 6%                | 4%       |
| The environment  | 36%               | 24%                  | 19%              | 8%                   | 9%                | 5%       |
| Foreign aid      | 11%               | 12%                  | 21%              | 20%                  | 29%               | 7%       |

18. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the following people running for Congress in the district where you live?

**Favorable** ..... **35%**  
**Unfavorable** ..... **30%**  
 Very favorable ..... 14%  
 Somewhat favorable ..... 21%  
 Somewhat unfavorable ..... 11%  
 Very unfavorable ..... 19%  
 No opinion ..... 35%

19. If the elections for U.S. Congress were being held today, who would you vote for in the district where you live?

|                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| The Democratic candidate ..... | 41% |
| The Republican candidate ..... | 33% |
| Other .....                    | 1%  |
| Not sure .....                 | 9%  |
| I would not vote .....         | 16% |

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

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Total Excellent/Good</b> ..... | <b>27%</b> |
| <b>Total Fair/Poor</b> .....      | <b>71%</b> |
| Excellent .....                   | 6%         |
| Good .....                        | 21%        |
| Fair .....                        | 27%        |
| Poor .....                        | 43%        |
| Don't know .....                  | 2%         |

21. Have you heard mostly positive or mostly negative news stories about the economy, or have you not heard much news at all about the economy?

|                                                    |     |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Mostly positive .....                              | 4%  |
| Equally positive and negative .....                | 27% |
| Mostly negative .....                              | 56% |
| Not heard much news about the economy at all ..... | 13% |

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

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Getting better ..... | 16% |
| About the same ..... | 20% |
| Getting worse .....  | 57% |
| Not sure .....       | 6%  |

23. Which do you think is a more important problem facing the U.S. today?

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Unemployment ..... | 4%  |
| Inflation .....    | 46% |
| Both equal .....   | 45% |
| Not sure .....     | 5%  |

24. In your experience, have prices of the following goods gone up or down in the last 12 months?

|         | Gone up a lot | Gone up a little | Not changed | Gone down a little | Gone down a lot | Not sure |
|---------|---------------|------------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Gas     | 70%           | 21%              | 2%          | 3%                 | 1%              | 3%       |
| Cars    | 51%           | 22%              | 8%          | 1%                 | 0%              | 17%      |
| Food    | 64%           | 27%              | 4%          | 3%                 | 0%              | 2%       |
| Housing | 61%           | 22%              | 6%          | 3%                 | 0%              | 8%       |

**25. Thinking ahead to 12 months from now, will prices be higher or lower than they are today?**

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Higher .....         | 58% |
| About the same ..... | 17% |
| Lower .....          | 10% |
| Not sure .....       | 15% |

**26. Do you believe the United States is currently in an economic recession?**

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| Yes .....      | 40% |
| No .....       | 33% |
| Not sure ..... | 28% |

**27. How likely do you think it is that there will be an economic recession during the next 12 months?**

|                                          |     |
|------------------------------------------|-----|
| Very likely .....                        | 4%  |
| Somewhat likely .....                    | 17% |
| Not very likely .....                    | 16% |
| Not at all likely .....                  | 6%  |
| Not sure .....                           | 18% |
| Not asked - Already in a recession ..... | 40% |

**28. Is now a good or a bad time to invest in the stock market?**

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Good time ..... | 24% |
| Bad time .....  | 29% |
| Not sure .....  | 48% |

**29. Do you personally (or jointly with a spouse), have any money invested in the stock market right now, either in an individual stock or in a mutual fund?**

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes ..... | 36% |
| No .....  | 64% |

**30. About how much in total do you have invested in stocks and mutual funds?**

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| No money invested .....     | 64% |
| Under \$50,000 .....        | 13% |
| \$50,000 - \$100,000 .....  | 5%  |
| \$100,000 - \$250,000 ..... | 4%  |
| \$250,000 - \$500,000 ..... | 3%  |
| Over \$500,000 .....        | 6%  |
| Not sure .....              | 5%  |

**31. How easy would it be for you to pay an unexpected \$1,000 expense?**

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Very easy .....          | 18% |
| Somewhat easy .....      | 20% |
| Somewhat difficult ..... | 23% |
| Very difficult .....     | 22% |
| Impossible .....         | 17% |

**32. Would you say that you and your family are...**

|                                                         |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Better off financially than you were a year ago .....   | 18% |
| About the same financially as you were a year ago ..... | 40% |
| Worse off financially than you were a year ago .....    | 38% |
| Not sure .....                                          | 4%  |
| Not sure (1) .....                                      | 0%  |

**33. 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 ..... | 34% |
| Worse off financially .....      | 24% |
| Not sure .....                   | 14% |

**34. Which of the following best describes your current employment status?**

|                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Full-time .....            | 37% |
| Part-time .....            | 12% |
| Temporarily laid off ..... | 1%  |
| Unemployed .....           | 11% |
| Retired .....              | 21% |
| Permanently disabled ..... | 7%  |
| Homemaker .....            | 4%  |
| Student .....              | 5%  |
| Other .....                | 1%  |

**35. How happy are you with your current job?**

*Asked of those currently employed*

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Very happy .....                | 16% |
| Happy .....                     | 44% |
| Neither happy nor unhappy ..... | 24% |
| Unhappy .....                   | 9%  |
| Very unhappy .....              | 7%  |

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

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Less than \$10,000 .....  | 8% |
| \$10,000 - \$19,999 ..... | 8% |

*continued on the next page ...*

*continued from previous page*

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| \$20,000 - \$29,999 .....   | 11% |
| \$30,000 - \$39,999 .....   | 9%  |
| \$40,000 - \$49,999 .....   | 6%  |
| \$50,000 - \$59,999 .....   | 7%  |
| \$60,000 - \$69,999 .....   | 5%  |
| \$70,000 - \$79,999 .....   | 7%  |
| \$80,000 - \$99,999 .....   | 8%  |
| \$100,000 - \$119,999 ..... | 6%  |
| \$120,000 - \$149,999 ..... | 5%  |
| \$150,000 - \$199,999 ..... | 6%  |
| \$200,000 - \$249,999 ..... | 3%  |
| \$250,000 - \$349,999 ..... | 1%  |
| \$350,000 - \$499,999 ..... | 0%  |
| \$500,000 or more .....     | 0%  |
| Prefer not to say .....     | 9%  |

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

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Under \$50K .....       | 42% |
| \$50-100K .....         | 27% |
| \$100K or more .....    | 22% |
| Prefer not to say ..... | 9%  |

**38. Thinking about the total amount you earn from your job, including bonuses, commissions, and tips, do you expect to earn more or less in the next 12 months than you did in the previous 12 months?**

*Asked of those currently employed*

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Much more .....      | 6%  |
| Slightly more .....  | 32% |
| About the same ..... | 43% |
| Slightly less .....  | 5%  |
| Much less .....      | 5%  |
| Not sure .....       | 8%  |

**39. How worried are you about losing your job?**

*Asked of those currently employed*

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Very worried .....     | 8%  |
| Somewhat worried ..... | 27% |
| Not very worried ..... | 65% |

40. If you lost your job, how hard would it be for you to find a new job that paid as much as you are making now?

*Asked of those currently employed*

|                                                                                    |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Very hard – I would probably have to take a pay cut. ....                          | 26% |
| Somewhat hard – It might take a while before I found a job that paid as much. .... | 39% |
| Not very hard .....                                                                | 23% |
| Not sure .....                                                                     | 12% |

41. Do you think the federal government should or should not pursue policies that try to reduce the gap in wealth between the richest and poorest Americans?

|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| Should .....     | 58% |
| Should not ..... | 22% |
| Not sure .....   | 21% |

42. How would you describe your social class?

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Working class .....      | 50% |
| Middle class .....       | 39% |
| Upper middle class ..... | 11% |
| Wealthy .....            | 1%  |

43. When children today in the U.S. grow up, do you think they will be better off or worse off financially than their parents?

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Better off .....     | 15% |
| About the same ..... | 18% |
| Worse off .....      | 51% |
| Not sure .....       | 16% |

44. What do you think is the more important factor in determining why some people are richer than others?

|                                                      |     |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| How hard they work .....                             | 19% |
| Whether they come from a privileged background ..... | 40% |
| Equally important .....                              | 33% |
| Not sure .....                                       | 8%  |

45. Do you think the Federal Reserve should raise or lower interest rates?

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Lower interest rates .....      | 46% |
| Raise interest rates .....      | 8%  |
| Not change interest rates ..... | 14% |
| Not sure .....                  | 32% |



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

|                                          |     |
|------------------------------------------|-----|
| Inflation/prices .....                   | 34% |
| Jobs and the economy .....               | 13% |
| Health care .....                        | 12% |
| Immigration .....                        | 7%  |
| Climate change and the environment ..... | 6%  |
| Taxes and government spending .....      | 6%  |
| Civil rights .....                       | 5%  |
| Crime .....                              | 3%  |
| Civil liberties .....                    | 3%  |
| National Security .....                  | 3%  |
| Education .....                          | 2%  |
| Abortion .....                           | 2%  |
| Foreign policy .....                     | 2%  |
| Guns .....                               | 1%  |
| Criminal justice reform .....            | 1%  |

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

|                                 |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Total Liberal</b> .....      | <b>31%</b> |
| <b>Total Conservative</b> ..... | <b>32%</b> |
| Very liberal .....              | 15%        |
| Liberal .....                   | 16%        |
| Moderate .....                  | 28%        |
| Conservative .....              | 21%        |
| Very conservative .....         | 11%        |
| Not sure .....                  | 9%         |

**48. Are you registered to vote?**

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Registered .....     | 74% |
| Not registered ..... | 26% |

**49. 2024 Presidential Vote**

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

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

|                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| Democrat .....    | 31% |
| Republican .....  | 32% |
| Independent ..... | 22% |
| Other .....       | 5%  |
| Not sure .....    | 9%  |

**51. Political Party Identification**

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

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Strong Democrat .....            | 22% |
| Not very strong Democrat .....   | 9%  |
| Lean Democrat .....              | 8%  |
| Independent .....                | 19% |
| Lean Republican .....            | 6%  |
| Not very strong Republican ..... | 11% |
| Strong Republican .....          | 22% |
| Not sure .....                   | 3%  |

**52. Are you a MAGA supporter?**

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| Yes .....      | 23% |
| No .....       | 67% |
| Not sure ..... | 10% |

**53. Are you... ?**

|              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| Male .....   | 48% |
| Female ..... | 52% |

**54. Respondent age by category**

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| Under 30 ..... | 21% |
| 30-44 .....    | 24% |
| 45-64 .....    | 32% |
| 65+ .....      | 22% |

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

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| White .....    | 67% |
| Black .....    | 13% |
| Hispanic ..... | 13% |
| Other .....    | 6%  |

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

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| HS or less .....   | 37% |
| Some college ..... | 30% |
| College grad ..... | 21% |
| Postgrad .....     | 12% |

**57. What is your marital status?**

|                                    |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Married .....                      | 38% |
| Separated .....                    | 2%  |
| Divorced .....                     | 13% |
| Widowed .....                      | 6%  |
| Never married .....                | 37% |
| Domestic / civil partnership ..... | 4%  |

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

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes ..... | 24% |
| No .....  | 76% |

**59. In what region of the country do you reside?**

*Calculated from respondent's state of residence*

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Northeast ..... | 18% |
| Midwest .....   | 22% |
| South .....     | 38% |
| West .....      | 23% |

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

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| More than once a week ..... | 8%  |
| Once a week .....           | 18% |
| Once or twice a month ..... | 5%  |
| A few times a year .....    | 10% |
| Seldom .....                | 19% |
| Never .....                 | 38% |
| Don't know .....            | 2%  |

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

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes ..... | 31% |
| No .....  | 69% |

**62. 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 .....  | 10% |
| Once a week .....         | 2%  |
| A few times a month ..... | 5%  |
| Seldom .....              | 15% |
| Never .....               | 24% |
| Don't know .....          | 4%  |

63. What is your present religion, if any?

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Protestant .....                | 27% |
| Roman Catholic .....            | 21% |
| Mormon .....                    | 1%  |
| Eastern or Greek Orthodox ..... | 1%  |
| Jewish .....                    | 2%  |
| Muslim .....                    | 0%  |
| Buddhist .....                  | 1%  |
| Hindu .....                     | 0%  |
| Atheist .....                   | 7%  |
| Agnostic .....                  | 7%  |
| Nothing in particular .....     | 22% |
| Something else .....            | 11% |

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**July 31 - August 3, 2026 - 1609 U.S. Adult citizens**



|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sponsorship</b>            | <i>The Economist</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Fieldwork</b>              | YouGov                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Interviewing Dates</b>     | July 31 - August 3, 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>     | 2,098 started the survey after screenouts. 226 were deleted due to breakoffs, 47 were removed for interview completion time under 5 minutes, 10 were removed for attention check failures, and 127 were removed for data quality control. The reporting is based on the remaining 1,688 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 0.052 to 6.577, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.061. |
| <b>Number of respondents</b>  | 1609<br>1473 (Registered voters)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Margin of error</b>        | ± 3.6% (adjusted for weighting)<br>± 3.3% (Registered voters)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Survey mode</b>            | Web-based interviews                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Questions not reported</b> | 9 questions not reported.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |