

# The Economist/YouGov Poll

March 20 - 23, 2026 - 1665 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1665 U.S. Adult citizens  
 Conducted March 20 - 23, 2026  
 Margin of Error ±3.2%

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

Generally headed in the right direction ..... 33%  
 Off on the wrong track ..... 61%  
 Not sure ..... 7%

## 2. Which comes closest to your view?

Our lives are threatened by terrorists, criminals, and illegal immigrants and our priority should be to protect ourselves. .... 37%  
 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. .... 48%  
 Not sure ..... 15%

## 3. Do you think the United States should take an active part in world affairs or stay out of world affairs?

Active part ..... 46%  
 Stay out ..... 32%  
 Not sure ..... 22%

## 4. In general, do you think the U.S. has a responsibility to actively promote democracy around the world, or is that not the responsibility of the U.S.?

Has responsibility ..... 36%  
 Does not have responsibility ..... 41%  
 Not sure ..... 23%

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

**Satisfied** ..... **35%**  
**Dissatisfied** ..... **54%**  
 Completely satisfied ..... 8%  
 Somewhat satisfied ..... 27%  
 Somewhat dissatisfied ..... 26%  
 Completely dissatisfied ..... 28%  
 Not sure ..... 11%

## 6. Do you consider the following to be an ally or an enemy of the United States?

	Ally	Friendly	Unfriendly	Enemy	Not sure
Israel	40%	20%	9%	11%	20%
Palestine	4%	10%	28%	23%	34%
Cuba	4%	12%	39%	17%	28%
Iran	2%	2%	20%	59%	17%

**7. Do you think the U.S. should use military force abroad...?**

More often	5%
About as often as we do now	28%
Less often	54%
Not sure	13%

**8. Do you think the U.S. should increase or decrease trade with foreign countries?**

Increase	39%
Decrease	16%
Keep it the same	29%
Not sure	16%

**9. Do you think that tariffs on foreign goods imported into the U.S. should be...?**

Increased	13%
Kept the same	25%
Decreased	48%
Not sure	14%

**10. Do you think the interests of Israel and the U.S. are aligned or opposed?**

Mostly aligned	25%
Somewhat aligned	28%
Somewhat opposed	12%
Mostly opposed	12%
Not sure	22%

**11. There are many groups which lobby the U.S. government. Which of these do you think have too much influence? Select all that apply.**

AI companies	42%
Gun organizations	37%
Supporters of Israel	36%
Religious groups	29%
Unions	21%
Environmental groups	20%
Supporters of Palestine	19%
Teachers	12%
Doctors	8%
None of the above	5%
Not sure	22%

**12. Is war with Iran justified or not justified?**

Justified	33%
Not justified	47%
Not sure	19%

13. Before President Trump ordered strikes on Iran, should he first have sought authorization from the U.S. Congress?

Yes .....	58%
No .....	28%
Not sure .....	13%

14. Do you think U.S. military intervention will improve or worsen the situation for the Iranian people?

Improve .....	27%
Worsen .....	45%
Neither improve nor worsen .....	15%
Not sure .....	14%

15. Who should decide who leads Iran?

The U.S. government .....	5%
The Iranian people .....	81%
Other .....	2%
Not sure .....	12%

16. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling the situation in Iran?

<b>Approve</b> .....	<b>36%</b>
<b>Disapprove</b> .....	<b>55%</b>
Strongly approve .....	19%
Somewhat approve .....	17%
Somewhat disapprove .....	9%
Strongly disapprove .....	46%
No opinion .....	9%

17. Is Israel or the U.S. taking the lead in the Iran war?

U.S. ....	23%
Israel .....	18%
Both equally .....	33%
Not sure .....	26%

18. What impact is the Iran war having on the price of gas?

Increasing gas prices a lot .....	69%
Increasing gas prices a little .....	20%
Not changing gas prices .....	2%
Decreasing gas prices a little .....	0%
Decreasing gas prices a lot .....	0%
Not sure .....	8%

19. Do you think each of the following will benefit or suffer from the war in Iran?

	Benefit	Suffer	Won't be affected
Israel	55%	33%	13%
Donald Trump	48%	29%	24%
Russia	34%	25%	41%
U.S.	30%	59%	11%
The Iranian people	30%	66%	5%
China	25%	32%	43%
Iran	15%	80%	5%
India	13%	31%	56%

20. Does the U.S. need help from allies?

Yes	56%
No	20%
Not sure	24%

21. If the U.S. asked for help from its allies, should they agree to help?

Yes	47%
No	26%
Not sure	26%

22. If U.S. allies asked for help from the U.S., should it agree to help?

Yes	61%
No	9%
Not sure	30%

23. Which of the following comes closest to your view?

Countries should always aid an ally, even if it means engaging in foreign policy that contradicts their values	29%
Countries should stick to their values when deciding foreign policy, even if it means they have to refuse an ally's request for aid	71%

24. Which of the following comes closest to your view?

Other countries have a responsibility to help the U.S. military stop Iran from closing the Strait of Hormuz to oil-tanker traffic	40%
Only the U.S. has a responsibility to stop Iran from closing the Strait of Hormuz to oil-tanker traffic	15%
Neither the U.S. nor other countries have a responsibility to stop Iran from closing the Strait of Hormuz to oil-tanker traffic	19%
Not sure	25%

25. Do you think Donald Trump will back out of the war in Iran before the U.S. can accomplish its objectives?

Yes .....	21%
No .....	49%
Not sure .....	30%

26. Do you support or oppose the oil blockade on Cuba?

<b>Support</b> .....	<b>24%</b>
<b>Oppose</b> .....	<b>38%</b>
Strongly support .....	13%
Somewhat support .....	11%
Somewhat oppose .....	14%
Strongly oppose .....	24%
Not sure .....	38%

27. Would you support or oppose the U.S. using military force to overthrow the government of Cuba?

<b>Support</b> .....	<b>22%</b>
<b>Oppose</b> .....	<b>55%</b>
Strongly support .....	8%
Somewhat support .....	14%
Somewhat oppose .....	16%
Strongly oppose .....	39%
Not sure .....	23%

28. Do you think the U.S. should be the dominant power in the western hemisphere?

Yes .....	45%
No .....	30%
Not sure .....	25%

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

<b>Approve</b> .....	<b>38%</b>
<b>Disapprove</b> .....	<b>56%</b>
Strongly approve .....	22%
Somewhat approve .....	16%
Somewhat disapprove .....	8%
Strongly disapprove .....	48%
Not sure .....	6%

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

	Approve	Disapprove	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
Foreign policy	37%	54%	21%	16%	8%	46%	9%
Tariffs	34%	59%	18%	17%	11%	48%	6%
National security	42%	50%	28%	14%	7%	44%	8%
The economy	35%	60%	18%	17%	11%	49%	5%
Inflation	30%	64%	14%	16%	12%	52%	6%

31. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling relations with foreign allies?

<b>Approve</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>53%</b>
Strongly approve	19%
Somewhat approve	16%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	43%
Not sure	11%

32. Do you think America's standing in the world has improved or worsened since Donald Trump became president again in 2025?

Improved	28%
Stayed about the same	12%
Worsened	52%
Not sure	8%

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

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	30%
A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	37%
A minor threat to the U.S.	20%
No threat to the U.S.	5%
Not sure	7%

34. Do you think the policies of the Trump Administration will make the United States more or less safe from terrorism?

More safe	32%
No difference	12%
Less safe	44%
Not sure	12%

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

<b>Total Excellent/Good</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Total Fair/Poor</b>	<b>72%</b>
Excellent	4%
Good	21%
Fair	32%
Poor	40%
Don't know	3%

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

Getting better	18%
About the same	18%
Getting worse	58%
Not sure	5%

37. Would you say that you and your family are...

Better off financially than you were a year ago	15%
About the same financially as you were a year ago	41%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	39%
Not sure	5%

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

Better off financially	26%
Just about the same as now	32%
Worse off financially	29%
Not sure	12%

39. Are gas prices where you live...?

Going up a lot	59%
Going up a little	30%
Not changing	3%
Going down a little	2%
Going down a lot	0%
Not sure	6%

40. Which of the following best describes how high gas prices are where you live?

The highest they've been this week	14%
The highest they've been this month	18%
The highest they've been this year	47%
The highest they've ever been	10%
Not asked - gas prices not changing, decreasing, or not sure	11%

41. 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 .....	39%
The Republican Party candidate .....	36%
Other .....	2%
Not sure .....	11%
I would not vote .....	13%

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

Inflation/prices .....	27%
Jobs and the economy .....	16%
Health care .....	10%
Immigration .....	9%
Taxes and government spending .....	6%
National Security .....	7%
Climate change and the environment .....	5%
Civil liberties .....	5%
Civil rights .....	4%
Abortion .....	2%
Crime .....	2%
Guns .....	2%
Foreign policy .....	2%
Education .....	2%
Criminal justice reform .....	1%

43. Are you a MAGA supporter?

Yes .....	27%
No .....	64%
Not sure .....	9%

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

<b>Total Liberal</b> .....	<b>28%</b>
<b>Total Conservative</b> .....	<b>33%</b>
Very liberal .....	12%
Liberal .....	16%
Moderate .....	29%
Conservative .....	21%
Very conservative .....	12%
Not sure .....	9%

45. Are you registered to vote?

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

**46. 2024 Presidential Vote**

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

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

Democrat .....	30%
Republican .....	32%
Independent .....	27%
Other .....	6%
Not sure .....	5%

**48. Political Party Identification**

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

Strong Democrat .....	20%
Not very strong Democrat .....	10%
Lean Democrat .....	9%
Independent .....	20%
Lean Republican .....	8%
Not very strong Republican .....	10%
Strong Republican .....	22%
Not sure .....	2%

**49. Are you... ?**

Male .....	49%
Female .....	51%

**50. Respondent age by category**

Under 30 .....	20%
30-44 .....	24%
45-64 .....	33%
65+ .....	23%

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

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

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

HS or less	36%
Some college	29%
College grad	22%
Postgrad	12%

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

Married	39%
Separated	2%
Divorced	12%
Widowed	6%
Never married	36%
Domestic / civil partnership	5%

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

Yes	20%
No	80%

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

*Calculated from respondent's state of residence*

Northeast	15%
Midwest	23%
South	38%
West	24%

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

Under \$50K	41%
\$50-100K	28%
\$100K or more	22%
Prefer not to say	9%

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

More than once a week	9%
Once a week	16%
Once or twice a month	5%
A few times a year	12%
Seldom	21%
Never	35%
Don't know	2%

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

Yes	33%
No	67%

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

Several times a day .....	26%
Once a day .....	11%
A few times a week .....	10%
Once a week .....	2%
A few times a month .....	8%
Seldom .....	17%
Never .....	23%
Don't know .....	3%

60. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant .....	30%
Roman Catholic .....	20%
Mormon .....	0%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox .....	1%
Jewish .....	3%
Muslim .....	1%
Buddhist .....	0%
Hindu .....	0%
Atheist .....	7%
Agnostic .....	7%
Nothing in particular .....	22%
Something else .....	9%

# ***The Economist/YouGov Poll***

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<b>Sponsorship</b>	<i>The Economist</i>
<b>Fieldwork</b>	YouGov
<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	March 20 - 23, 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>	2,074 started the survey after screenouts. 175 were deleted due to breakoffs, 122 were removed for interview completion time under 5 minutes, 15 were removed for attention check failures, and 97 were removed for data quality control. The reporting is based on the remaining 1,665 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 6.109, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.898.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1665 1502 (Registered voters)
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 3.2% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3% (Registered voters)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	3 questions not reported.