

The Economist/YouGov Poll

August 22 - 25, 2025 - 1523 U.S. Adult citizens



Sample 1523 U.S. Adult citizens
Conducted August 22 - 25, 2025
Margin of Error $\pm 3.6\%$

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

Generally headed in the right direction	35%
Off on the wrong track	57%
Not sure	8%

2. How often do you visit museums?

Very often	3%
Somewhat often	14%
Not very often	59%
Never	24%
Not sure	1%

3. Have you ever been to a Smithsonian museum?

Yes	37%
No	60%
Not sure	3%

4. Do you think federal funding for museums should be increased or decreased?

Increased	32%
Stay the same	45%
Decreased	7%
Not sure	16%

5. Do you think the government should or should not control the content of exhibits in museums that receive government funding?

Should control	18%
Should not control	60%
Not sure	22%

6. How important do you think it is for history and cultural museums in the United States to do each of the following?

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	Not sure
Highlight American achievements	61%	29%	5%	2%	4%
Emphasize a positive vision for America's future	46%	30%	11%	7%	6%
Accurately represent American history	84%	11%	2%	1%	2%
Highlight historical struggles and injustices	61%	26%	6%	3%	4%
Address sensitive topics such as slavery, racism, and inequality	60%	25%	6%	4%	5%

7. Do you think American history museums put too much or too little emphasis on the topic of slavery?

Too much emphasis	15%
About the right amount of emphasis	36%
Too little emphasis	26%
Not sure	23%

8. Do you think the actions of historical figures should be judged more by the standards of their time, or by the standards of today?

Standards of their time	59%
Standards of today	19%
Not sure	21%

9. Do you agree or disagree with the following social media post by President Donald Trump? "The Smithsonian is OUT OF CONTROL, where everything discussed is how horrible our Country is, how bad Slavery was, and how unaccomplished the downtrodden have been — Nothing about Success, nothing about Brightness, nothing about the Future."

Strongly agree	16%
Somewhat agree	18%
Agree	33%
Somewhat disagree	11%
Strongly disagree	40%
Disagree	50%
Not sure	16%

10. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Don't know
Donald Trump	25%	16%	41%	7%	49%	56%	3%
Mike Johnson	9%	15%	24%	9%	30%	39%	37%
John Thune	5%	10%	14%	10%	17%	27%	59%
Chuck Schumer	6%	15%	21%	15%	35%	49%	30%
Hakeem Jeffries	11%	12%	23%	13%	25%	38%	39%

11. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Don't know
Gavin Newsom	16%	15%	31%	9%	34%	43%	26%
Eric Adams	2%	9%	11%	18%	23%	40%	48%
Jerome Powell	10%	15%	25%	15%	12%	27%	48%

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

Inflation/prices	22%
Jobs and the economy	13%
Civil rights	10%
Health care	9%
Immigration	8%
Climate change and the environment	7%
Taxes and government spending	6%
Civil liberties	6%
National Security	6%
Crime	3%
Education	3%
Abortion	2%
Guns	2%
Foreign policy	1%
Criminal justice reform	1%

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

Strongly approve	24%
Somewhat approve	17%
Approve	41%
Somewhat disapprove	9%
Strongly disapprove	47%
Disapprove	56%
Not sure	3%

14. 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	24%	16%	39%	13%	41%	54%	7%
Inflation/prices	17%	17%	34%	14%	47%	61%	5%
Immigration	34%	12%	46%	8%	42%	50%	4%
Climate change and the environment	20%	13%	32%	9%	43%	52%	16%
Education	20%	18%	38%	7%	44%	51%	11%
Abortion	19%	15%	34%	9%	43%	52%	14%

15. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the United States Congress is handling its job?

Strongly approve	4%
Somewhat approve	13%
Neither approve nor disapprove	18%
Somewhat disapprove	21%
Strongly disapprove	36%
Not sure	8%

16. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Supreme Court of the United States is handling its job?

Strongly approve	9%
Somewhat approve	25%
Approve	34%
Somewhat disapprove	20%
Strongly disapprove	31%
Disapprove	51%
Not sure	16%

17. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following groups in Congress?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Unfavorable	Don't know
Democrats in Congress	9%	22%	31%	25%	35%	60%	10%
Republicans in Congress	13%	23%	36%	15%	39%	54%	10%

18. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Mike Johnson is handling his job as the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Strongly approve	11%
Somewhat approve	16%
Approve	27%
Somewhat disapprove	12%
Strongly disapprove	30%
Disapprove	42%
Not sure	31%

19. Do you approve or disapprove of the way John Thune is handling his job as Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate?

Strongly approve	5%
Somewhat approve	14%
Approve	19%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	24%
Disapprove	37%
Not sure	43%

20. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chuck Schumer is handling his job as Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate?

Strongly approve	5%
Somewhat approve	15%
Approve	19%
Somewhat disapprove	19%
Strongly disapprove	33%
Disapprove	51%
Not sure	29%

21. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Hakeem Jeffries is handling his job as Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Strongly approve	9%
Somewhat approve	16%
Approve	24%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	27%
Disapprove	42%
Not sure	34%

22. 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	10%	23%	33%	22%	37%	59%	9%
The Republican Party	14%	22%	37%	14%	41%	56%	8%

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

Getting better	23%
About the same	19%
Getting worse	54%
Not sure	4%

24. 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	43%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago	36%
Not sure	3%

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

Better off financially	31%
Just about the same as now	29%
Worse off financially	30%
Not sure	11%

26. Six months from now do you think there will be...

Higher interest rates	30%
The same interest rates	18%
Lower interest rates	27%
Not sure	25%

27. Six months from now do you think there will be...

Higher gas prices	44%
The same gas prices	19%
Lower gas prices	21%
Not sure	16%

28. Six months from now do you think there will be...

A higher rate of inflation	50%
The same rate of inflation	17%
A lower rate of inflation	19%
Not sure	14%

29. In the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, are your sympathies more with...?

The Israelis	28%
About equal	23%
The Palestinians	25%
Not sure	23%

30. Do you think that the Trump administration's efforts to do the following have...?

	Gone too far	Been about right	Not gone far enough	Not sure
Reduce the budgets and staff of federal agencies	44%	22%	19%	14%
Remove diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programs	42%	25%	20%	13%
Reduce U.S. aid to foreign countries	37%	27%	23%	14%
Reduce funding for scientific research	48%	26%	8%	18%
Arrest and deport immigrants	49%	24%	21%	6%
Impose tariffs on foreign imports	52%	31%	9%	8%
Launch investigations into critics of him and his administration	48%	18%	18%	15%

31. In the last year would you say crime in the country has increased, decreased, or stayed about the same?

Increased a lot	17%
Increased a little	18%
Stayed about the same	27%
Decreased a little	21%
Decreased a lot	5%
Not sure	11%

32. What about your local community — in the last year would you say crime has increased, decreased, or stayed about the same?

Increased a lot	11%
Increased a little	16%
Stayed about the same	45%
Decreased a little	14%
Decreased a lot	3%
Not sure	11%

33. How worried are you that you or someone in your family will be a victim of a violent crime?

Very worried	11%
Somewhat worried	32%
Not too worried	43%
Not at all worried	14%

34. Have you or someone in your family ever been the victim of a violent crime?

Yes	24%
No	69%
Not sure	7%

35. How much confidence, if any, do you have in the police to deal with crime in the U.S.?

A lot of confidence	14%
A fair amount of confidence	45%
Not very much confidence	25%
No confidence at all	9%
Don't know	6%

36. Thinking about society generally, do you believe police get too little respect, too much respect, or just the right amount of respect?

Too little respect	47%
Just the right amount of respect	33%
Too much respect	20%

37. Do you approve or disapprove of President Donald Trump putting Washington, D.C. police under federal control and deploying National Guard troops in the city?

Strongly approve	24%
Somewhat approve	14%
Approve	38%
Somewhat disapprove	8%
Strongly disapprove	40%
Disapprove	48%
Not sure	14%

38. Have you read any paper books in the past 12 months?

Yes	55%
No	45%

39. Have you read any digital books, or e-books, in the past 12 months?

Yes	35%
No	65%

40. Have you listened to any audiobooks in the past 12 months?

Yes	26%
No	74%

41. Have you read any books or listened to any audiobooks in the past 12 months?

Yes	68%
No	32%

42. About how many books have you read or listened to so far in the past 12 months?

0	32%
1	8%
2-3	20%
4-6	16%
7-10	9%
11-20	6%
More than 20	10%

43. Which of the following types of books have you read or listened to in the past 12 months? Select all that apply.

Short stories	11%
Historical fiction	15%
Literary fiction	14%
History	21%
Thrillers	15%
Fantasy	16%
Romance	14%
Mystery and crime	23%
Science fiction	17%
Religion and spirituality	13%
Crafts, hobbies, and home	6%
Graphic novels	6%
Poetry	5%
Young Adult	8%
Academic	7%
Drama	11%
Biographies and memoirs	18%
Politics	10%
Children's	6%
Other non-fiction	15%
Other fiction	9%
None of the above	2%
I haven't read a book in the past year	32%

44. Compared to how much you read for your personal interest 10 years ago, do you now read ...?

More often	20%
About as often	29%
Less often	46%
Don't know	5%

45. How often in the past 12 months have you read books out loud to children?

Very often	8%
Somewhat often	5%
Occasionally	18%
Never	67%
Don't know	2%

46. 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	41%
The Republican Party candidate	36%
Other	1%
Not sure	11%
I would not vote	11%

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

Very liberal	13%
Liberal	16%
Total Liberal	29%
Moderate	31%
Conservative	21%
Very conservative	11%
Total Conservative	33%
Not sure	7%

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	30%
Republican	32%
Independent	28%
Other	5%
Not sure	5%

51. 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	18%
Lean Republican	7%
Not very strong Republican	13%
Strong Republican	20%
Not sure	2%
Don't know	0%

52. Do you identify as a MAGA Republican?

Asked of Republicans

Yes	48%
No	38%
Not sure	14%

53. Are you...?

Male	48%
Female	52%

54. Respondent age by category

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

55. What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

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

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

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

57. What is your marital status?

Married	38%
Separated	2%
Divorced	12%
Widowed	4%
Never married	38%
Domestic / civil partnership	5%

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

Yes	18%
No	82%

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

Calculated from respondent's state of residence

Northeast	16%
Midwest	20%
South	39%
West	24%

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

Under \$50K	39%
\$50-100K	27%
\$100K or more	23%
Prefer not to say	11%

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

More than once a week	5%
Once a week	15%
Once or twice a month	7%
A few times a year	12%
Seldom	20%
Never	39%
Don't know	3%

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

Yes	28%
No	72%

63. 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	13%
A few times a week	11%
Once a week	3%
A few times a month	7%
Seldom	14%
Never	24%
Don't know	3%

64. What is your present religion, if any?

Protestant	30%
Roman Catholic	20%
Mormon	1%
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	1%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	1%
Buddhist	1%
Hindu	1%
Atheist	6%
Agnostic	8%
Nothing in particular	20%
Something else	9%

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Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	August 22 - 25, 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	1,771 started the survey after screenouts. 160 were deleted due to breakoffs, 53 were removed for interview completion time under 5 minutes, 14 were removed for attention check failures, and 21 were removed for data quality control. The reporting is based on the remaining 1,523 respondents.
Weighting	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 0.053 to 6.58, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.014.
Number of respondents	1523 1377 (Registered voters)
Margin of error	± 3.6% (adjusted for weighting) ± 3.1% (Registered voters)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	2 questions not reported.