YouGov Survey: Affirmative Action

YouGov

Conducted   April 12 - 18, 2022
Margin of Error   ±3.3%

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1. How much do you know about affirmative action?

A lot 30%
A little 48%
Nothing at all 22%

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2. Do you generally support or oppose affirmative action in college admission?

Strongly support 14%
Somewhat support 21%
Somewhat oppose 15%
Strongly oppose 22%
Not sure 29%

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3. Should a student's race ever be considered when evaluating their admission to college?

Yes 19%
No 68%
Not sure 13%

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4. Would you support or oppose an affirmative action program for higher education that increases the share of Black and Hispanic students at selective institutions in the United States?

Support 37%
Oppose 34%
Not sure 29%

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5. Would you support or oppose an affirmative action program for higher education that decreases the share of Asian and white students at selective institutions in the United States?

Support 19%
Oppose 51%
Not sure 30%

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6. In your opinion, how important are each of the following when it comes to colleges?

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	Not sure
Racial diversity	35%	24%	12%	18%	10%
Socioeconomic diversity	33%	26%	12%	16%	13%
Gender diversity	32%	23%	13%	22%	10%
Ideological diversity	29%	29%	11%	16%	15%
Political diversity	27%	26%	16%	19%	13%

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7. How much should colleges consider the following factors when deciding which students to admit?

	A lot	A little	None at all
Race or ethnicity	15%	23%	63%
Citizenship status	43%	29%	29%
Socioeconomic background	16%	30%	54%
Ideology	13%	31%	56%
Gender	13%	22%	65%
Test scores	46%	37%	17%
Grade Point Average	62%	28%	10%
Extracurricular activities	21%	50%	29%
Athletic activities	15%	39%	46%
Whether their parents or siblings attended the college	9%	24%	67%
Whether their parents are faculty at the college	12%	23%	65%

8. Do you think each of the following groups are overrepresented or underrepresented on college campuses relative to their share of the overall population?

	Overrepresented	Underrepresented	Equally represented	Not sure
Black men	12%	41%	20%	28%
Black women	12%	39%	21%	28%
Hispanic men	8%	41%	20%	32%
Hispanic women	8%	42%	18%	31%
Asian men	18%	22%	27%	33%
Asian women	16%	27%	23%	33%
White men	36%	12%	27%	26%
White women	28%	12%	34%	26%

9. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements with regard to education:

	Agree	Disagree	Not sure
For most of American history, Black Americans were denied access to elite universities	57%	19%	24%
Affirmative action is itself a form of racial discrimination	45%	28%	26%
Prioritizing diversity benefits students of all races	42%	34%	25%
Affirmative action will result in lower academic standards	35%	38%	27%
Affirmative action helps level the playing field for students from disadvantaged backgrounds	41%	33%	26%
Affirmative action does more harm than good to racial minorities	37%	33%	30%
Affirmative action helps counter existing inequalities	37%	37%	27%
Affirmative action helps right past injustices against racial minorities	34%	39%	28%

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Qualified minorities should be given special preferences in higher education	28%	46%	26%
White Americans have been disproportionately advantaged for a long time in higher education	46%	34%	20%