

National Policy Survey — October 2026

Toplines — The Independent Center 2026 Nationwide Voter Survey

Online survey of U.S. adults, $n = 1,200$, of whom 1,000 are registered voters (RV). Results are unweighted (pre-field flex quotas balanced to census and data universe targets on gender, age, race/ethnicity, partisanship, education level and geography). Margin of error ± 3.1 pts (RV) / ± 2.8 pts (adults) at 95% confidence. Totals may not sum to 100 due to rounding; multi-select questions sum to more than 100; "<1" is a non-zero value under 0.5%. Survey fielded 10/01-06/2026.

Political profile

Screener2. Registered to vote	RV %	Adults %
	$n=1000$	$n=1200$
Yes	100	83
No	0	17
Unsure	0	0

Screener3_PartyID. In politics today, and regardless of how you are registered, do you consider yourself to be a...	RV %	Adults %
	$n=1000$	$n=1200$
Strong Democrat	25	23
Not so strong Democrat	7	8
Independent leaning Democrat	9	8
Independent	23	24
Independent leaning Republican	6	6
Not so strong Republican	7	8
Strong Republican	23	22
Other / Unsure	1	2
Total Democrat (strong + not so strong)	32	31
Total Independent (lean Dem + Independent + lean Rep)	37	37
Total Republican (not so strong + strong)	30	30

Party ID	RV %	Adults %
	$n=1000$	$n=1200$
Dem	32	31
Ind	37	37
Rep	30	30
Unsure	1	2

Ideology. Thinking for a moment about your social, economic, and political views... Do you consider yourself to be...	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Very Liberal	15	14
Somewhat Liberal	14	12
Moderate	37	39
Somewhat Conservative	15	15
Very Conservative	17	16
Unsure	2	4
<i>Total liberal (very + somewhat)</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>Total moderate (moderate + somewhat liberal + somewhat conservative)</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>66</i>
<i>Total conservative (somewhat + very)</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>31</i>

Political self-placement, 0 = Progressive Liberal / Strong Democrat ... 10 = Staunch Conservative / Strong Republican	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Mean (0-10)	5.2	5.2
% at 5 (center)	32	35
% 0-4	31	29
% 6-10	37	36

Thinking for a moment about your economic views... Do you consider yourself to be...?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Fiscally liberal	27	25
Fiscally responsible	34	32
Fiscally conservative	27	27
Unsure	12	16

Thinking for a moment about your social views... Do you consider yourself to be...?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Socially liberal	29	26
Socially compassionate	33	32
Socially conservative	30	30
Unsure	8	12

If you could choose, which type of elected official would you prefer to have represent you and your community?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Fiscally liberal and socially liberal	12	11
Fiscally liberal and socially compassionate	10	9
Fiscally liberal and socially conservative	5	5

Fiscally responsible and socially liberal	8	7
Fiscally responsible and socially compassionate	15	14
Fiscally responsible and socially conservative	10	10
Fiscally conservative and socially liberal	5	5
Fiscally conservative and socially compassionate	9	10
Fiscally conservative and socially conservative	14	13
Unsure	12	17

Vote2024. For whom did you vote in the 2024 Presidential election?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Kamala Harris	43	37
Donald Trump	43	38
Someone Else	4	4
Did not vote	9	19
Don't recall	1	1
Refused	1	2

Turnout. How likely are you to vote in the congressional elections this November?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Absolutely certain to vote	58	49
Very likely	21	19
Somewhat likely	12	12
Not very likely	3	5
Will not vote	3	10
Unsure	3	6
<i>NET Certain/Very likely</i>	<i>79</i>	<i>68</i>

General sentiment and approval

At this time next year, do you think that you will personally be better or worse off than you are today?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Much better off	23	23
Somewhat better off	37	37
Somewhat worse off	20	18
Much worse off	10	10
Unsure	11	12
<i>NET Better</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>59</i>
<i>NET Worse</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>29</i>

At this time next year, do you think America will be better or worse off than it is today?	RV %	Adults %
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	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Much better off	17	16
Somewhat better off	27	27
Somewhat worse off	26	26
Much worse off	19	19
Unsure	11	12
<i>NET Better</i>	44	43
<i>NET Worse</i>	45	45

Do you approve or disapprove of the job President Donald Trump is doing	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly approve	22	21
Somewhat approve	18	19
Somewhat disapprove	11	12
Strongly disapprove	46	45
Unsure	2	4
<i>NET Approve</i>	41	40
<i>NET Disapprove</i>	57	57

Do you approve or disapprove of the job the U.S. Congress is doing?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly approve	11	10
Somewhat approve	23	22
Somewhat disapprove	25	24
Strongly disapprove	33	32
Unsure	9	11
<i>NET Approve</i>	34	33
<i>NET Disapprove</i>	58	56

When Congress fails to get things done, which of the following comes closest to your view?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Both parties put their own party's interests ahead of the country's	44	43
One party is mainly responsible for the gridlock	31	29
The problems facing the country are genuinely hard, and no one could solve them quickly	17	17
Unsure	9	12

Favorability	RV %	Adults %
Donald Trump		
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Very favorable	25	24

Somewhat favorable	15	16
Somewhat unfavorable	12	12
Very unfavorable	47	46
Never heard of	0	<1
Unsure	1	2
<i>NET Favorable</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>40</i>
<i>NET Unfavorable</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>58</i>
The Republican party		
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Very favorable	21	19
Somewhat favorable	22	22
Somewhat unfavorable	16	16
Very unfavorable	37	36
Never heard of	1	1
Unsure	3	5
<i>NET Favorable</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>41</i>
<i>NET Unfavorable</i>	<i>53</i>	<i>53</i>
The Democratic party		
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Very favorable	21	19
Somewhat favorable	29	28
Somewhat unfavorable	22	22
Very unfavorable	25	26
Never heard of	<1	1
Unsure	3	5
<i>NET Favorable</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>48</i>
<i>NET Unfavorable</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>47</i>
An independent candidate not affiliated with the Republican or Democratic parties		
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Very favorable	12	11
Somewhat favorable	40	38
Somewhat unfavorable	16	16
Very unfavorable	9	9
Never heard of	5	6
Unsure	18	20
<i>NET Favorable</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>49</i>
<i>NET Unfavorable</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>25</i>

Independent candidates and representation

If this November's congressional election were between a viable Republican, a viable Democrat, a viable third-party candidate who was Independent, how would you vote?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>

Strongly Independent	8	9
Lean Independent	10	10
Strongly Republican	24	23
Lean Republican	12	12
Strongly Democrat	26	25
Lean Democrat	13	13
Unsure	6	9
<i>NET Independent</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>NET Republican</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>35</i>
<i>NET Democrat</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>38</i>

Which of the following do you think would be the best candidate to represent you and your neighbors in Congress?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
A candidate who works and votes with the Republicans in Congress.	24	23
A candidate who works and votes with the Democrats in Congress.	29	28
A candidate who works and votes with both Republicans and Democrats in Congress.	38	36
Unsure	9	14

Suppose three to five independent members of Congress held the balance of power, meaning neither party had a majority without them. Which comes closer to your view?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
They would be able to force the two parties to reach agreements and get things done	47	45
They would be shut out by the two parties and have little real influence	30	29
Unsure	23	26

Do you believe that your voice and opinions are being heard in Washington, DC by your elected representatives?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Yes, Strongly	14	12
Yes, Somewhat	25	23
No, Somewhat	23	23
No, Strongly	27	28
Unsure / Depends	11	15
<i>NET Yes</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>35</i>
<i>NET No</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>51</i>

Do you think your voice and opinions would be more clearly heard in Washington, DC if your elected representative was a moderate Independent, not aligned with either Republicans or Democrats?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Yes, Strongly	16	14

Yes, Somewhat	28	28
No, Somewhat	18	17
No, Strongly	17	17
Unsure / Depends	22	25
NET Yes	44	42
NET No	34	34

Elections and the parties: Rules on ballot access, debates, and campaign finance are largely written by the two major parties.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
The two-party system gives voters clearer choices and more stable government, and the current rules reasonably reflect that most voters align with one of the two parties.	31	31
Independent and third-party candidates should have the same ballot access, debate access, and campaign-finance treatment under the law as the two major parties.	44	44
Ballot access should be opened up for everyone, even if that means far more candidates on the ballot and winners elected with only a small share of the vote.	25	25

Congress and personal finances: Members of Congress can currently trade individual stocks while in office.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Members should be able to trade stocks with public disclosure, as today.	25	24
Members should be banned from trading individual stocks while in office, with holdings placed in blind trusts.	51	49
Members should be banned from owning any investments at all while in office.	24	26

Issues and cost of living

Most pressing issue — ranked FIRST	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Jobs and the economy	27	26
Government leadership	7	7
Immigration	9	9
Taxes and government spending	9	9
Health care	16	16
National security	7	7
Abortion	3	3
Energy and the environment	6	5
Police reform and criminal justice	3	3
Education	4	4
Free speech and censorship	3	4
Social reforms	2	2

Most pressing issue — in TOP THREE	RV %	Adults %
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	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Jobs and the economy	55	53
Government leadership	23	22
Immigration	26	25
Taxes and government spending	37	37
Health care	44	42
National security	23	22
Abortion	9	9
Energy and the environment	19	18
Police reform and criminal justice	13	12
Education	12	12
Free speech and censorship	12	12
Social reforms	9	8

And thinking specifically about the cost of living, which of these has put the most pressure on your household budget over the past year?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Housing — rent or mortgage	24	24
Groceries and food	61	60
Health care and insurance	21	19
Electricity and home energy	19	19
Gasoline and transportation	35	35
Child care	4	4
Insurance other than health — auto, home, renters	7	8
None of these	7	8

Which of the following do you believe would make the government more effective?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Growing and investing more in government-run programs and regulations	27	26
Reforming government programs to offer more choice with competition from the private sector	40	39
Reducing and eliminating government-run programs and regulations	20	19
Unsure	13	16

Which of the following do you believe would help address housing affordability?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
More government involvement in offering more subsidies and programs targeted at disadvantaged individuals	39	40
Reducing regulatory barriers that delay construction and impose higher costs on building housing.	42	41
Eliminating all government programs and regulation in the housing market to allow private providers to build what they want and where.	19	19

Values

Immigration: Borders are used to control immigration.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
We must strongly limit the entry of new immigrants and/or expel those who do not integrate.	27	28
The Government shall regulate immigration to allow necessary immigrants to come in a legal way.	46	46
There should be no differences of rights based on the place of birth or one's nationality.	27	26
Environment: Which of the following best addresses environmental challenges?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Laws should provide clarity to address a cleaner environment by imposing strict limitations of pollutants.	36	37
Regulations and laws for clean energies should be promoted through more subsidies to those who pollute less and more taxes to those who pollute the most.	40	39
Well-defined property rights make it the responsibility of property owners to address pollution and polluting activity.	25	24
Equality: The status of being equal, especially in status, rights, and opportunities.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
The government should actively promote fairness with programs and regulations to intervene directly in community, social and economic relationships.	38	38
The government's role is to ensure the laws and protections are in place to protect against discrimination but not intervene directly.	43	42
The government should not be involved at all in private interactions.	20	21
Globalization: Imports may be limited by the Government through various instruments such as tariffs, prohibitions, or certain regulations.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
The Government should limit imports from other countries to favor domestic producers.	33	32
The Government should limit imports from some third world countries, as they use cheap labor.	22	22
The Government should not restrict international trade. It must be free and tariffs should be reduced or eliminated.	45	45
Retirement: Retirement funds guarantee a level of welfare for the elderly.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Retirement plans must be managed by the Government with a public system of mandatory contributions.	18	18
Retirement plans should be guaranteed by the Government, with some kind of mixed model that can combine public and private plans.	46	45
Retirement plans are a matter of individual planning and savings. The Government should not require mandatory contributions to a public system.	36	37

Solidarity: The poor and needy depend on the solidarity of the rest of society.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
The Government should be responsible for removing or reducing poverty and inequality in society.	33	35
The Government shall manage aid and an adequate assistance to the needy, including engaging private charitable institutions to supplement.	46	45
Private charity should be the main channel for the solidarity of society.	21	20

Health care: Medical coverage is a necessity for everyone eventually.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
The Government should manage public medical centers paid by contributions to a mandatory public health insurance.	21	22
The Government should guarantee universal access to health care centers using some sort of public funding.	46	47
The government should not manage medical centers. Medical facilities should be private, and citizens be free to buy the health insurance they wish.	32	32

Which level of government do you think is the most trustworthy, accountable, and transparent?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
My local county and city government	35	32
State government	20	19
The federal government	13	13
Unsure	32	36

Ownership and the economy

Do you think owning property is important to your future?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Yes — I believe owning property is important, and I want to buy one	26	25
Yes — I already own property, and ownership is important to my future	44	39
I own property, but I don't think property ownership is important to my future	10	10
I don't think it is important, and I don't intend to buy property	12	13
No opinion	9	13

Which best describes your current housing situation?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
I own my home	62	56
I rent	30	32
I live with family or others and do not pay rent	5	7
Other arrangement	2	3
Prefer not to say	1	2

Thinking about buying a home: do you believe owning a home is realistically achievable for someone like you?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Yes — I already own, and it was achievable	53	47
Yes — I expect to be able to buy within the next five years	15	15
Maybe someday, but not in the foreseeable future	14	16
No — I don't believe it will ever be achievable for me	15	17
Unsure	4	6

Which of the following best describes you when it comes to owning a business?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
I already own a business — it is my only job	10	9
I own a business and have another job (or more) as well	7	7
I do not own a business but want to	27	26
I have no desire to own my own business now or in the future	47	46
No opinion	9	12

Which of the following comes closest to your view of American capitalism?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
American capitalism is the reason we are an exceptionally successful nation The American free enterprise system is the reason we are an exceptionally successful nation	24	23
American capitalism is core to our success, but the free market needs some guardrails and reform for our future The American free enterprise system is core to our success, but the free market needs some guardrails and reform for our future	28	27
American capitalism is no longer fit for purpose, and we need more government intervention to balance the free market The American free enterprise system is no longer fit for purpose, and we need more government intervention to balance the free market	12	12
We should reject American capitalism in favor of a more social-democratic model like Europe's We should reject the American free enterprise system in favor of a more social-democratic model like Europe's	11	11
We should adopt a socialist system, with government replacing the free market	5	5
None of the above	6	7
No opinion	14	16

And thinking about how the American economy actually works today, which comes closer to your view?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
The American economy today mostly works the way a free market should — businesses and individuals succeed or fail based on what they offer	34	32
The American economy today is rigged in favor of large companies and people with political connections, and doesn't work like a real free market	54	54
Unsure	11	15

What is the single biggest obstacle to starting or growing a small business in America today?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Getting access to capital or a loan	20	20
Government regulation, licensing, and paperwork	23	22
The cost of providing health care to employees	17	16
Taxes	24	22
Large companies using political influence and government rules to shut out competition	29	28
Tariffs and the cost of imported goods and materials	23	22
Finding and keeping good workers	14	13
Unsure	12	15

When people say the economic system is rigged, who do you think is most responsible?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Large corporations	11	11
Banks and financial institutions	4	5
The Republican party	22	20
The Democratic party	13	13
Both parties working together with large corporations	20	20
Government generally, regardless of party	16	16
No one — the system isn't rigged	6	5
Unsure	9	11

Which of the following do you or your household currently own?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
A home	60	55
A business or a share of one	10	9
A retirement account such as an IRA or 401(k)	51	44
Stocks, bonds or mutual funds outside a retirement account	34	29
Cryptocurrency	17	15
Rental or investment property	10	9
None of these	19	24

Policy modules

Immigration reform: The border and legal status are debated together.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
The border must be fully secured before any legal status is considered for anyone here without authorization.	36	37
Border security and earned legal status — a fee, a background check, and a work permit — should be passed together as one package.	35	35
A path to legal status should be provided now; increased enforcement is not needed.	29	28

Legal immigration: The economy depends in part on who is admitted legally.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Overall legal immigration should be reduced.	21	23
Legal immigration should be restructured to target the skills and sector needs of the economy, with clear, consistent, enforceable rules.	47	46
Legal immigration should be broadly expanded across all categories.	32	32
Interior enforcement: Immigration laws are also enforced away from the border.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Enforcement should focus only on people convicted of serious crimes; others who are working and have no criminal record should be left alone.	42	42
Enforcement should prioritize people convicted of crimes, but anyone here illegally should remain subject to removal.	28	28
Immigration laws should be enforced against everyone here illegally, regardless of criminal record or how long they have been here.	30	30
Skills and degrees: Government aid supports education after high school.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Aid should remain focused on traditional two- and four-year college degrees.	25	25
Aid should apply equally to short-term skills training, apprenticeships, and industry credentials that individuals choose.	56	56
Government should not subsidize education or training after high school at all.	19	20
Health coverage: Most working-age Americans get insurance through an employer.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
The employer-based system should be kept as it is.	31	32
Coverage should become portable and individually owned — contributions go into an account that travels with the person from job to job.	40	40
Employer coverage should be replaced by a single government-run health program.	29	29
Health care prices: Patients often do not learn what care will cost until after they receive it.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Government should require hospitals and insurers to publish the actual prices they charge and pay, and enforce it with penalties.	45	43
Government should require clear price estimates before treatment, but leave the details to hospitals and insurers to work out.	30	30
Prices are too complicated to publish usefully; the focus should be on lowering costs by other means..	26	28
Health plan rules: Government sets requirements for what health insurance plans must include.	RV %	Adults %

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Insurance plans should be required to cover a standard set of benefits, so that no one is sold coverage that leaves them exposed when they actually get sick.	31	31
Government should require a core set of protections — such as coverage for pre-existing conditions — while letting plans vary beyond that, including plans purchased across state lines.	28	28
People should be free to choose the level of coverage they want, including cheaper plans with fewer benefits, rather than paying for coverage requirements they don't need.	40	41

Energy: America needs more energy for growth and affordability.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Government should actively support cleaner energy through tax credits and standards, to cut emissions and build the industries that will define the next economy.	39	39
Government should treat all energy sources equally and approve projects of every kind quickly, letting markets and communities decide what gets built.	31	31
Government should maintain strong environmental review for new energy projects, even when that slows development, to protect communities and the land.	30	30

Thinking about energy policy, which of these should be the top priority?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Lowering the price of energy and electricity for households	26	25
Increasing the total supply of energy produced in America	14	13
Reducing pollution and emissions	10	9
Making the electric grid more reliable	12	11
All of the above	33	33
Unsure	6	8

Artificial intelligence: Governments are deciding how to regulate AI.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
States should be free to set their own AI protections for their residents, and the federal government should not block them from acting.	31	31
There should be a single national AI framework that sets consistent rules across the country and prevents a patchwork of conflicting state laws.	50	48
Government should hold off on new AI rules for now, so American companies can move quickly and stay ahead of China.	19	21

Which concerns you more?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
That the United States falls behind China and other countries in developing AI	26	24
That AI is developed too quickly, without enough attention to safety and accountability	63	61
Unsure	12	15

Social media and children: favor or oppose	RV %	Adults %
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Requiring social media companies to verify a user's age before allowing them to open an account

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	57	56
Somewhat favor	27	26
Somewhat oppose	6	6
Strongly oppose	4	4
Unsure	6	9
<i>NET Favor</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>81</i>
<i>NET Oppose</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>

Barring social media companies from using features designed to keep children scrolling — autoplay, endless feeds, streak rewards — on accounts belonging to minors

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	47	45
Somewhat favor	29	28
Somewhat oppose	9	8
Strongly oppose	5	5
Unsure	11	13
<i>NET Favor</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>73</i>
<i>NET Oppose</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>

Giving parents the legal right to see and control what their minor children do on social media

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	58	57
Somewhat favor	27	26
Somewhat oppose	6	6
Strongly oppose	3	4
Unsure	6	8
<i>NET Favor</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>83</i>
<i>NET Oppose</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>9</i>

Government access to personal data: Law enforcement and intelligence agencies can obtain data held by technology companies.

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Agencies should be able to access Americans' personal data held by companies when they judge it necessary for public safety.	21	20
Agencies should be required to obtain a warrant from a judge before accessing an American's personal data, with narrow emergency exceptions.	49	47
Agencies should not be able to access Americans' personal data held by companies under any circumstances.	31	33

AI and work: Which comes closest to your view of what AI will mean for jobs like yours?

	<i>RV %</i>	<i>Adults %</i>
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	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
AI will eliminate jobs like mine, and government should act now to protect workers	22	22
AI will change jobs like mine, and government should focus on helping workers adapt and retrain	32	31
AI will create more opportunity than it destroys, and government should stay out of the way	15	14
AI will not meaningfully affect jobs like mine	14	14
Unsure	18	20

AI infrastructure: Data centers require significant land, power, and water.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
The federal government should be able to override local objections to approve data centers.	19	21
Local communities should decide what is built in their area, with the federal government as a partner on grid capacity and permitting speed.	63	61
These decisions should be left entirely to developers and property owners, with minimal review.	18	18

When a new data center increases demand on the electric grid, who should pay for the upgrades needed to serve it?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
The data center company should pay the full cost of the grid upgrades its facility requires	63	61
The cost should be shared between the company and electricity customers in the area	11	11
The cost should be treated as a normal utility investment and spread across all customers, since the grid benefits everyone	17	16
Unsure	9	12

Social Security: favor or oppose each change	RV %	Adults %
Apply the Social Security payroll tax to earnings above \$176,100, which are currently exempt		
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	40	38
Somewhat favor	29	28
Somewhat oppose	9	10
Strongly oppose	5	5
Unsure	17	20
<i>NET Favor</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>66</i>
<i>NET Oppose</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>

Gradually raise the full retirement age to 69 for people now under 50		
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	21	20
Somewhat favor	27	26
Somewhat oppose	17	18

Strongly oppose	22	22
Unsure	12	14
<i>NET Favor</i>	48	46
<i>NET Oppose</i>	39	40
Reduce benefits for retirees who have high income from other sources		
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	23	22
Somewhat favor	32	31
Somewhat oppose	16	17
Strongly oppose	17	16
Unsure	12	15
<i>NET Favor</i>	55	52
<i>NET Oppose</i>	33	33
Slow the annual cost-of-living increase for all beneficiaries		
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	27	27
Somewhat favor	25	25
Somewhat oppose	14	14
Strongly oppose	21	20
Unsure	13	15
<i>NET Favor</i>	52	52
<i>NET Oppose</i>	35	33
Raise the Social Security payroll tax rate on all workers and employers		
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	22	21
Somewhat favor	28	27
Somewhat oppose	21	20
Strongly oppose	15	15
Unsure	15	17
<i>NET Favor</i>	50	48
<i>NET Oppose</i>	35	36
Let workers under 40 direct part of their payroll contribution into a personal retirement account they own		
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	33	33
Somewhat favor	38	37
Somewhat oppose	9	9
Strongly oppose	6	6
Unsure	14	16
<i>NET Favor</i>	71	69
<i>NET Oppose</i>	15	15
Guarantee everyone 55 and older their full promised benefit with no changes		
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>

Strongly favor	54	53
Somewhat favor	27	26
Somewhat oppose	7	7
Strongly oppose	3	3
Unsure	10	12
<i>NET Favor</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>79</i>
<i>NET Oppose</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>

If Congress could do only one of these to close the Social Security shortfall, which should it be?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Apply the Social Security payroll tax to earnings above \$176,100, which are currently exempt	26	24
Gradually raise the full retirement age to 69 for people now under 50	10	9
Reduce benefits for retirees who have high income from other sources	8	9
Slow the annual cost-of-living increase for all beneficiaries	9	10
Raise the Social Security payroll tax rate on all workers and employers	7	8
Let workers under 40 direct part of their payroll contribution into a personal retirement account they own	13	14
Guarantee everyone 55 and older their full promised benefit with no changes	27	27

And overall, which comes closest to your view of Social Security's future?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Social Security should be preserved as a guaranteed government benefit, funded by asking higher earners to pay more.	48	46
Social Security should be preserved for those near retirement, combining guaranteed benefits with personal accounts for younger workers.	36	37
Social Security should gradually be replaced by personal retirement accounts that workers own and control.	17	17

Federal programs: Thousands of programs operate across departments and agencies.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Federal programs generally serve people who depend on them, and Congress should focus on funding them properly rather than on relitigating whether they should exist.	46	45
Every federal program should automatically expire after a set number of years unless Congress votes to renew it, forcing a regular review of whether it still works.	29	31
The federal government does far too much, and a large share of its programs should be eliminated to reduce its size and cost.	25	25

Congressional spending and tax rules: favor or oppose	RV %	Adults %
Requiring that any new government program be paid for, either by raising the money or cutting elsewhere		
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	31	30

Somewhat favor	34	32
Somewhat oppose	11	12
Strongly oppose	5	5
Unsure	18	21
<i>NET Favor</i>	66	62
<i>NET Oppose</i>	16	18

Requiring that any new tax cut be paid for, either by cutting spending or raising other revenue

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	33	31
Somewhat favor	33	31
Somewhat oppose	10	11
Strongly oppose	5	6
Unsure	19	22
<i>NET Favor</i>	66	62
<i>NET Oppose</i>	15	16

Barring Congress from using accounting techniques that hide the long-term cost of a bill

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	47	45
Somewhat favor	30	29
Somewhat oppose	7	7
Strongly oppose	4	4
Unsure	12	15
<i>NET Favor</i>	77	73
<i>NET Oppose</i>	11	12

Requiring a public vote on any spending bill introduced less than 72 hours before it is considered

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	36	34
Somewhat favor	32	31
Somewhat oppose	9	9
Strongly oppose	5	5
Unsure	19	21
<i>NET Favor</i>	68	65
<i>NET Oppose</i>	13	14

Congress and elections reforms: favor or oppose

RV %

Adults %

Term limits for members of Congress

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	52	50
Somewhat favor	29	28
Somewhat oppose	7	8

Strongly oppose	3	3
Unsure	9	12
<i>NET Favor</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>78</i>
<i>NET Oppose</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>

A maximum age for serving in federal office

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	48	47
Somewhat favor	29	28
Somewhat oppose	9	9
Strongly oppose	4	4
Unsure	10	12
<i>NET Favor</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>75</i>
<i>NET Oppose</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>13</i>

Open primaries, in which any registered voter can vote in any party's primary

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	39	37
Somewhat favor	32	31
Somewhat oppose	9	9
Strongly oppose	7	6
Unsure	13	17
<i>NET Favor</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>68</i>
<i>NET Oppose</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>16</i>

Drawing congressional district lines through independent commissions rather than state legislatures

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	30	27
Somewhat favor	31	30
Somewhat oppose	10	11
Strongly oppose	6	6
Unsure	23	26
<i>NET Favor</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>57</i>
<i>NET Oppose</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>

Barring states from redrawing district lines mid-decade for partisan advantage

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	43	41
Somewhat favor	28	26
Somewhat oppose	8	9
Strongly oppose	4	4
Unsure	17	20
<i>NET Favor</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>67</i>
<i>NET Oppose</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>

Barring former members of Congress and senior staff from becoming lobbyists for at least five years

	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Strongly favor	44	42
Somewhat favor	30	29
Somewhat oppose	9	9
Strongly oppose	3	3
Unsure	14	17
<i>NET Favor</i>	74	71
<i>NET Oppose</i>	12	12

Demographics

Gender. Your gender identification?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Female	52	52
Male	47	47
Other	<1	<1

HID_FINALAGE. Final calculated age	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
18 to 24	8	9
25 to 29	7	7
30 to 39	16	16
40 to 49	17	17
50 to 64	30	29
65 or older	23	22

Ethnicity. Do you consider yourself to be of Hispanic or Latino descent, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Central or South American background?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Yes	14	13
No	86	87
Unsure	0	0

HID_RACE.	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Non-hispanic White	68	67
Non-hispanic Black	12	13
Hisp/Latino	14	13
Non-hispanic Asian	4	4
Other / Multi racial	2	3

Education. What is the highest level of formal education that you have completed?	RV %	Adults %
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	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Less than high school	2	4
High school graduate	28	32
Some college	13	14
College graduate with associate or 2-year degree	11	10
College graduate with bachelor's or 4-year degree	23	21
Post-graduate degree	20	17
Technical or vocational school graduate	2	2
Unsure	<1	<1

Income. We want to classify people into broad income groups only. Would you estimate your total household income to be...?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Below \$40,000	18	23
Between \$40,000 and \$79,999	24	24
Between \$80,000 and \$124,999	26	23
Above \$125,000	30	27
Unsure	<1	<1
Prefer not to answer	2	3

Marital Status. What would best describe your marital status?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Single or never married	33	35
Married	49	45
Separated	2	3
Divorced	10	11
Widowed	5	5
Other	1	2

Children. Do you have children currently living in your household?	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Yes	40	38
No	60	62
Refused	<1	1

Neighborhood. Would you best describe the neighborhood or area you live in as...	RV %	Adults %
	<i>n=1000</i>	<i>n=1200</i>
Urban	34	34
Suburban	48	46
Rural	18	18
Unsure	1	1