



AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES SURVEY

Topline Questionnaire

Total N=1,004 adult | Interview dates: September 6–8, 2019.

Note: All results shown are percentages. An asterisk (*) replaces percentages greater than zero but less than 0.5 percent. Responses may not total to 100 percent due to rounding.

ASK ALL:

Q. 1 When people hold different views about politics...

38	It generally means that they won't agree about other topics
59	It generally doesn't say a lot about how much they'll agree on other topics
3	Refused

Party Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?

31	Democrat
25	Republican
28	Independent
16	None of these
1	Refused

ASK IF INDEPENDENT, NONE OF THESE, OR REFUSED [N=449]:

PartyLn As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?

52	Democratic Party
39	Republican Party
9	Refused

ASK IF DEMOCRAT, LEAN DEMOCRATIC, REPUBLICAN OR LEAN REPUBLICAN [N=965]:

And now...

Thinking about the Democratic Party...

Q. 2 Even if you mostly [IF DEMOCRAT: agree / IF REPUBLICAN: disagree] with the Democratic Party, on what issue do you most [IF DEMOCRAT: disagree / IF REPUBLICAN: agree] with the party? [RANDOMIZE]

Democrat	Republican	
7	8	Trade
9	6	Foreign policy
10	10	Abortion
4	5	Gay rights
20	9	Federal taxes and spending
3	13	Climate change and the environment
14	8	Gun laws
7	9	Immigration
7	6	Racial inequality
7	6	Health care
12	18	Refused

And now...

Thinking about the Republican Party...

Q. 3 Even if you mostly [IF DEMOCRAT: disagree / IF REPUBLICAN: agree] with the Democratic Party, on what issue do you most [IF DEMOCRAT: agree / IF REPUBLICAN: disagree] with the party? [RANDOMIZE]

Democrat	Republican	
10	11	Trade
9	5	Foreign policy
10	9	Abortion
2	8	Gay rights
11	12	Federal taxes and spending
6	16	Climate change and the environment
9	7	Gun laws
11	7	Immigration
3	4	Racial inequality
8	12	Health care
20	11	Refused

ASK IF DEMOCRAT, REPUBLICAN, OR INDEPENDENT [N=839]:

Q. 4 Do you believe that you are a fairly typical [IF DEMOCRAT: Democrat / IF REPUBLICAN: Republican / IF INDEPENDENT: Independent] or different from the average?

60	Typical
39	Different than average
1	Refused

ASK ALL:

Q. 5 Please say if you agree or disagree with the following statements.

A. Politics is ultimately a struggle between good and evil

14	Completely agree
31	Somewhat agree
25	Somewhat disagree
28	Completely disagree
1	Refused

B. Abortion goes against my personal beliefs

29	Completely agree
20	Somewhat agree
19	Somewhat disagree
30	Completely disagree
1	Refused

C. In politics, willingness to compromise is generally a sign of a weak position

5	Completely agree
17	Somewhat agree
35	Somewhat disagree
42	Completely disagree
1	Refused

D. A person's politics says a lot about the kind of person they are

17	Completely agree
48	Somewhat agree
25	Somewhat disagree
9	Completely disagree
1	Refused

E. Democrats and Republicans both want what's best for the country, even if they disagree on specific policies

12	Completely agree
38	Somewhat agree
27	Somewhat disagree
22	Completely disagree
1	Refused

Q. 6 Thinking about people who identify with the Democratic Party today. What percentage, from 0 to 99 percent, of Democrats do you think are...?

A. Atheist or agnostic

41	0-24 Percent
21	25-49 Percent
20	50-74 Percent
10	75-99 Percent
9	Refused

B. White

13	0-24 Percent
25	25-49 Percent
42	50-74 Percent
11	75-99 Percent
8	Refused

C. Men

13	0-24 Percent
28	25-49 Percent
41	50-74 Percent
9	75-99 Percent
8	Refused

D. Under the age of 30

22	0-24 Percent
28	25-49 Percent
30	50-74 Percent
12	75-99 Percent
8	Refused

E. Gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender

45	0-24 Percent
20	25-49 Percent
13	50-74 Percent
15	75-99 Percent
8	Refused

F. Liberal

21	0-24 Percent
12	25-49 Percent
20	50-74 Percent
40	75-99 Percent
8	Refused

Q.7 Thinking about people who identify with the Republican Party today. What percentage, from 0 to 99 percent, of Republicans do you think are...?

A. Evangelical Christian

19	0-24 Percent
19	25-49 Percent
32	50-74 Percent
22	75-99 Percent
8	Refused

B. White

7	0-24 Percent
7	25-49 Percent
34	50-74 Percent
45	75-99 Percent
8	Refused

C. Men

9	0-24 Percent
7	25-49 Percent
51	50-74 Percent
24	75-99 Percent
9	Refused

D. 65 years or older

15 0-24 Percent
25 25-49 Percent
34 50-74 Percent
17 75-99 Percent
9 Refused

E. Wealthy

19 0-24 Percent
22 25-49 Percent
28 50-74 Percent
24 75-99 Percent
8 Refused

F. Conservative

14 0-24 Percent
11 25-49 Percent
22 50-74 Percent
45 75-99 Percent
8 Refused

RELIG What is your present religion, if any?

30 Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, Jehovah's Witness, etc.)
18 Roman Catholic (Catholic)
2 Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/LDS)
1 Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or some other orthodox church)
1 Jewish (Judaism)
1 Muslim (Islam)
1 Buddhist
0 Hindu
4 Atheist (do not believe in God)
4 Agnostic (not sure if there is a God)
17 Nothing in particular
16 Just Christian
1 Unitarian (Universalist)
4 Something else

ASK IF RELIGION IS PROTESTANT, MORMON, ORTHODOX, JUST CHRISTIAN, OR SOMETHING ELSE:

BORN Would you describe yourself as a 'born-again' or evangelical Christian, or not?

48 Yes
51 No
1 Refused

Survey Methodology

The American Perspectives Survey was designed and conducted by the American Enterprise Institute. Interviews were conducted among a random sample of 1,004 adults (age 18 and up) living in the United States, including all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Interviews were conducted both online using a self-administered design and by telephone using live interviewers. All interviews were conducted among participants in AmeriSpeak, a probability-based panel designed to be representative of the national US adult population run by NORC at the University of Chicago. Panel participants without Internet access, which included 109 respondents, were interviewed via telephone by professional interviewers under the direction of NORC. Interviewing was conducted between September 6 and September 8, 2019.

Weighting was accomplished in two separate stages. First, panel base weights were calculated for every household based on the probability of selection from the NORC National Frame, the sampling frame that is used to sample housing units for AmeriSpeak.ⁱ Household level weights were then assigned to each eligible adult in every recruited household. In the second stage, sample demographics were balanced to match target population parameters for gender, age, education, race and Hispanic ethnicity, and division (US Census definitions), housing type, and telephone usage. The telephone usage parameter came from an analysis of the National Health Interview Survey. All other weighting parameters were derived from an analysis of the US Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample weighting was accomplished using an iterative proportional fitting (IPF) process that simultaneously balances the distributions of all variables. Weights were trimmed to prevent individual interviews from having too much influence on the final results.

The use of survey weights in statistical analyses ensures that the demographic characteristics of the sample closely approximate the demographic characteristics of the target population. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 4.1 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. The design effect for the survey is 1.73.

ⁱ The National Frame is representative of over 97 percent of U.S. households and includes additional coverage of hard-to-survey population segments, such as rural and low-income households, that are underrepresented in other sample frames. AmeriSpeak uses U.S. mail notifications, NORC telephone interviewers, and in-person field interviewers to recruit panel households.