



# American Adolescence Survey Topline Questionnaire

Total *N* = (5,459) adults. | Interview dates: August 11–20, 2023.

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

## ASK ALL:

**Q.1** Thinking about your life so far, would you say... [RANDOMIZE]

- 33 Things have gone mostly the way you thought they would
- 44 Things have gone very differently than you had expected
- 22 Have never given much thought about how things would turn out for you [ANCHOR]
- \* Refused

**Q.2** Thinking about your life, would you say your best days are ahead of you or behind you?

- 48 Ahead of you
- 20 Behind you
- 32 Not sure
- \* Refused

**Q.3** How often, if at all, do you use any social media websites or apps, such as Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat or TikTok?

- 40 Multiple times a day
- 19 About once a day
- 10 A couple times a week
- 5 A few times a month
- 10 Seldom
- 15 Never
- 1 Refused

**ASK IF USE SOCIAL MEDIA AT LEAST A FEW TIMES A MONTH (N=4,002):**

**Q.4** When you use social media, how often, if at all, are you interacting with your friends, such as posting on their profile or sending messages?

- 9      Nearly always or always
- 20     Often
- 35     Sometimes
- 28     Rarely
- 8      Never
- \*      Refused

**ASK IF USE SOCIAL MEDIA AT LEAST A FEW TIMES A MONTH (N=4,002):**

**Q.5** After you use social media, do you generally feel more connected to other people, or are you more likely to feel that you're missing out?

- 72     Feel connected
- 25     Feel like you're missing out
- 3      Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.6** When was the last time you did any of the following? **[RANDOMIZE]**

A. Played video games

- 24     Within the past 24 hours
- 10     Within the past 7 days
- 7      Within the past month
- 7      Within the past 6 months
- 4      Within the past 12 months
- 21     More than 12 months ago
- 26     Never
- 1      Refused

B. Talked with a therapist

- 1      Within the past 24 hours
- 4      Within the past 7 days
- 4      Within the past month
- 5      Within the past 6 months
- 3      Within the past 12 months
- 26     More than 12 months ago
- 56     Never
- 1      Refused

C. Spent time with friends in person

33	Within the past 24 hours
31	Within the past 7 days
16	Within the past month
8	Within the past 6 months
3	Within the past 12 months
6	More than 12 months ago
3	Never
1	Refused

D. Had sex

12	Within the past 24 hours
24	Within the past 7 days
14	Within the past month
8	Within the past 6 months
4	Within the past 12 months
24	More than 12 months ago
10	Never
3	Refused

**ASK IF SPENT TIME WITH FRIENDS IN LAST 12 MONTHS (N=4,971):**

**Q.7** Thinking about any time you have spent with your friends in the last 12 months...

In the last 12 months, which of the following activities have you participated in with your friends? Select all that apply.

17	Played recreational sports (basketball, pickleball, golf, etc.)
14	Gym workouts or group fitness classes
19	Attended an art exhibit, museum or theater performance
23	Attended a music concert
41	Went shopping
74	Went out to dinner
39	Played board games, card games or video games
17	Attended a live sporting event
21	Went camping, hunting, fishing, or hiking
22	Some other activity
1	Refused

**ASK IF PLAYED VIDEO GAMES IN LAST 12 MONTHS (N=2,763):**

**Q.8** When you play video games, do you usually play by yourself or do you play with someone, either in person or online?

- 69 Play by myself
- 30 Play with someone
- 1 Refused

**ASK IF NOT CURRENTLY MARRIED (N=2,335):**

**Q.9** Are you currently in a committed romantic relationship, or not?

- 36 Yes
- 63 No
- 1 Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.10** Would you say you are physically attracted to...

- 44 Women only
- 2 Mostly women, but men too
- 3 Men and women equally
- 5 Mostly men, but women too
- 44 Men only
- 1 Other
- \* Prefer not to answer
- \* Refused

**Q.11** Have you always felt this way, or have your feelings regarding the type of person you are attracted to changed at all?

- 9 Has changed
- 91 Has always been the same
- \* Prefer not to answer
- \* Refused

**Q.12** Which of the following do you consider yourself to be?

- 88 Heterosexual or straight
- 3 Gay or lesbian
- 5 Bisexual
- 2 Something else
- \* Prefer not to answer
- \* Refused

**Q.13** In your view, is being gay or lesbian something a person is born with, or due to factors such as upbringing and environment?

50	Born with
32	Due to upbringing or environment
8	Some other reason
6	Both
2	Don't know
3	Refused

**Q.14** As far as you know, can someone's sexual orientation—who they are physically attracted to—change over time or does it stay the same throughout their life?

52	Can change over time
17	Stays the same
30	Not sure
1	Refused

**Q.15** How much do you favor or oppose the following?

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY (N=2,744):**

A. Allowing colleges to consider a student's race or ethnicity as part of the admissions process

9	Strongly favor
19	Somewhat favor
20	Somewhat oppose
51	Strongly oppose
2	Refused

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY (N=2,715):**

B. Allowing colleges to consider whether a student had past family members attend the school as part of the admissions process

5	Strongly favor
29	Somewhat favor
31	Somewhat oppose
32	Strongly oppose
2	Refused

**ASK ALL:**

C. Allowing gay and lesbian people to marry

46	Strongly favor
20	Somewhat favor
13	Somewhat oppose
18	Strongly oppose
2	Refused

**Q.16** Thinking about policies around the country, which is a greater concern...

63	That some states are making it too difficult for people to be able to get an abortion
34	That some states are making it too easy for people to be able to get an abortion
3	Refused

**Q.17** Overall, when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, do you think our country has made progress compared to 10 years ago, has lost ground compared to 10 years ago, or is about the same as it was 10 years ago?

36	Made progress
33	Lost ground
29	About the same
2	Refused

**Q.18** Thinking about your own experience, have you ever personally experienced discrimination or been treated unfairly because of your...

A. Race or ethnicity

5	Yes, regularly
29	Yes, from time to time
65	No
1	Refused

B. Gender

5	Yes, regularly
27	Yes, from time to time
68	No
1	Refused

C. Sexual orientation

2	Yes, regularly
9	Yes, from time to time
89	No
1	Refused

D. Religion

2	Yes, regularly
15	Yes, from time to time
81	No
1	Refused

**RELIG** What is your present religion, if any?

29	Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, Jehovah's Witness, etc.)
20	Roman Catholic (Catholic)
2	Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/LDS)
*	Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or some other orthodox church)
2	Jewish (Judaism)
1	Muslim (Islam)
1	Buddhist (Buddhism)
1	Hindu (Hinduism)
7	Atheist (do not believe in God)
6	Agnostic (not sure if there is a God)
14	Nothing in particular
13	Just Christian
3	Something else (SPECIFY)
1	Refused

**ASK IF PROTESTANT, JUST CHRISTIAN, OR SOMETHING ELSE (N=2,507):**

**BORN** Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian?

48	Yes
51	No
1	Refused

**ASK IF DO NOT IDENTIFY AS MEMBER OF A RELIGION (N=1,469):**

**Q.21** There are many reasons why people do not identify with a particular religion...

Which of the following is the MOST important reason why you currently do not identify with a particular religion? **[RANDOMIZE]**

- 54 I'm not a religious person
- 9 Was not raised in a religious family
- 5 Churches and congregations have become too focused on politics
- 3 Negative religious teachings about gay and lesbian people
- 2 Too many religions treat women as inferior to men
- 10 Religious leaders have become more concerned with power than the spiritual welfare of their congregations
- 5 Cannot find a religious or spiritual community that is right for me
- 6 I have a negative perception of organized religion
- 5 Some other reason (SPECIFY)
- 1 Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.22** Now, read each statement and please say whether you agree or disagree with each one. **[RANDOMIZE]**

A. Most churches and religious congregations treat men and women equally

- 12 Completely agree
- 30 Somewhat agree
- 33 Somewhat disagree
- 24 Completely disagree
- 2 Refused

B. If a woman earns more money than her husband it is almost certain to cause problems

- 3 Completely agree
- 21 Somewhat agree
- 34 Somewhat disagree
- 41 Completely disagree
- 2 Refused

C. When I was growing up, America's political leaders could generally be trusted

- 6 Completely agree
- 44 Somewhat agree
- 30 Somewhat disagree
- 17 Completely disagree
- 2 Refused

D. There are more than two genders

13	Completely agree
17	Somewhat agree
15	Somewhat disagree
53	Completely disagree
2	Refused

E. It is necessary to believe in God in order to be moral and have good values

16	Completely agree
18	Somewhat agree
22	Somewhat disagree
42	Completely disagree
2	Refused

F. There are important biological differences between men and women

64	Completely agree
26	Somewhat agree
6	Somewhat disagree
4	Completely disagree
1	Refused

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY (2,744):**

G. Feminism has made America a better place

21	Completely agree
38	Somewhat agree
25	Somewhat disagree
14	Completely disagree
3	Refused

H. Women who get married and have children generally live fuller and happier lives than those who don't

10	Completely agree
30	Somewhat agree
30	Somewhat disagree
27	Completely disagree
3	Refused

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY (N=2,715):**

I. I generally think of myself as a feminist

15	Completely agree
33	Somewhat agree
25	Somewhat disagree
24	Completely disagree
3	Refused

J. Men who get married and have children generally live fuller and happier lives than those who don't

15	Completely agree
41	Somewhat agree
26	Somewhat disagree
16	Completely disagree
2	Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.23** How often, if ever, do you worry about the following...

A. Not having enough friends

1	Every day
2	Almost every day
26	Sometimes
28	Rarely
38	Never
1	Refused

B. Being able to save up for retirement

11	Every day
13	Almost every day
38	Sometimes
18	Rarely
18	Never
1	Refused

C. Finding a job or career that is meaningful

7	Every day
8	Almost every day
27	Sometimes
20	Rarely
37	Never
1	Refused

D. Not having enough money to pay your bills

10	Every day
10	Almost every day
29	Sometimes
27	Rarely
23	Never
1	Refused

ASK IF SINGLE [ALL OTHERS EXCEPT MARRIED OR LIVING WITH PARTNER] (N=2,335):

E. Not being able to find the right partner or spouse

8	Every day
9	Almost every day
28	Sometimes
19	Rarely
34	Never
2	Refused

ASK ALL:

**Q.24** In the last 12 months how often, if ever, have you felt...

A. That your life is meaningful

20	Always
29	Often
28	Sometimes
13	Rarely
9	Never
1	Refused

B. Lonely or isolated

4	Always
10	Often
27	Sometimes
28	Rarely
30	Never
1	Refused

C. Uncertain about who you are supposed to be

4	Always
8	Often
20	Sometimes
22	Rarely
45	Never
1	Refused

D. Excited about the future

12	Always
27	Often
38	Sometimes
16	Rarely
6	Never
1	Refused

E. That you are invisible to other people

3	Always
8	Often
26	Sometimes
25	Rarely
37	Never
1	Refused

**ASK MEN ONLY (N=2,734):**

F. That women don't respect you

2	Always
3	Often
12	Sometimes
27	Rarely
54	Never
1	Refused

**ASK WOMEN ONLY (N=2,725):**

G. That men don't respect you

3	Always
6	Often
25	Sometimes
30	Rarely
34	Never
1	Refused

**ASK IF SINGLE [ALL EXCEPT MARRIED OR LIVING WITH PARTNER] (N=2,335):**

H. That you don't have much to offer a romantic partner

6	Always
10	Often
24	Sometimes
22	Rarely
35	Never
2	Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.25** During your teen years, did you have any of the following experiences? [RANDOMIZE]

A. Played a competitive sport

23	Yes, during most or all of my teen years
27	Yes, during at least some of my teen years
48	No, not during my teen years
1	Refused

B. Regularly attended religious services

32	Yes, during most or all of my teen years
31	Yes, during at least some of my teen years
35	No, not during my teen years
1	Refused

C. Had a part-time job

32	Yes, during most or all of my teen years
42	Yes, during at least some of my teen years
24	No, not during my teen years
1	Refused

D. Regularly attended religious services

8	Yes, during most or all of my teen years
17	Yes, during at least some of my teen years
74	No, not during my teen years
1	Refused

E. Had a boyfriend or girlfriend

26	Yes, during most or all of my teen years
46	Yes, during at least some of my teen years
26	No, not during my teen years
1	Refused

F. Went to a therapist

3	Yes, during most or all of my teen years
10	Yes, during at least some of my teen years
85	No, not during my teen years
1	Refused

G. Regularly attended religious services

28	Yes, during most or all of my teen years
34	Yes, during at least some of my teen years
37	No, not during my teen years
1	Refused

H. Regularly attended religious services

16	Yes, during most or all of my teen years
29	Yes, during at least some of my teen years
54	No, not during my teen years
1	Refused

I. Regularly attended religious services

11	Yes, during most or all of my teen years
15	Yes, during at least some of my teen years
72	No, not during my teen years
1	Refused

J. Drank alcohol, smoked pot or cigarettes at least occasionally

12	Yes, during most or all of my teen years
34	Yes, during at least some of my teen years
52	No, not during my teen years
1	Refused

K. Felt lonely or socially isolated

12 Yes, during most or all of my teen years  
35 Yes, during at least some of my teen years  
52 No, not during my teen years  
1 Refused

L. Was bullied

8 Yes, during most or all of my teen years  
30 Yes, during at least some of my teen years  
61 No, not during my teen years  
1 Refused

M. Spent a lot of time hanging out with friends in person

53 Yes, during most or all of my teen years  
33 Yes, during at least some of my teen years  
13 No, not during my teen years  
1 Refused

**Q.26** Thinking about when you were a child, in what religion were you raised, if any?

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

**ASK IF PROTESTANT, JUST CHRISTIAN, OR SOMETHING ELSE (N=2,782):**

**Q.27** Would you describe the religion you were raised in as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian religion, or not?

- 45 Yes
- 55 No
- 1 Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.28** Thinking about when you were growing up...

As best you remember, growing up did your parents or the people who raised you...

- 17 Always or nearly always voted for Democrats
- 10 Mostly voted for Democratic candidates
- 8 Voted from Republicans and Democrats about equally
- 9 Mostly voted for Republican candidates
- 13 Always or nearly always voted for Republicans
- 10 Parents did not vote regularly
- 31 Not sure how parents voted
- 1 Refused

**Q.29** For most of your time growing up, would you say you were...

- 71 Raised by two married parents
- 19 Raised mostly or entirely by one parent
- 8 Had multiple parents or caregivers
- 1 Other
- 1 Refused

**ASK IF RAISED BY TWO PARENTS, MULTIPLE PARENTS, OR OTHER (N=4,497):**

**Q.30** Which of the following applies to the education level of your parents?

- 17 Both or all parents have at least a four-year college degree
- 19 Only one has a four-year college degree
- 60 Neither or no parent has a four-year college degree
- 2 Other
- 1 Refused

**ASK IF RAISED BY ONE PARENT (N=920):**

**Q.31** Which of the following applies to the education level of the parent who primarily raised you?

- 20 Parent has a four-year college degree
- 72 Parent does not have a four-year college degree
- 7 Other
- 1 Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.32** Thinking about your life today, how much, if at all, did the COVID-19 pandemic impact have on the course of your life?

- 15 A great deal
- 35 A fair amount
- 37 Very Little
- 12 None at all
- \* Refused

# Survey Methodology

The survey was designed and conducted by the Survey Center on American Life. Interviews were conducted among a random sample of 5,055 adults (age 18 and up) living in the United States, including all 50 states and the District of Columbia. All interviews were conducted among participants of the Ipsos KnowledgePanel, a probability-based panel designed to be representative of the US general population, not just the online population. Interviews were conducted in Spanish and English between August 11 and August 20, 2023.

Initially, participants were chosen scientifically by a random selection of telephone numbers and residential addresses. Persons in selected households were then invited by telephone or mail to participate in the Ipsos KnowledgePanel. For those who agreed to participate but did not already have internet access, Ipsos provided a laptop and internet service provider connection for free. People who already had computers and internet service were permitted to participate using their own equipment. Panelists then received unique log-in information for accessing surveys online and were sent emails throughout each month inviting them to participate in research.

The data were weighted to adjust for gender, race and ethnicity, education, census region, household income, race by gender, race by age, and race by education. The sample weighting was accomplished using an iterative proportional fitting (IPF) process that simultaneously balances the distributions of all variables.

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 sampling error for the qualified survey sample is  $+/- 1.4$  percentage points at the 95 percent level of confidence. The design effect for the survey is 1.08.