Topline questionnaire

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
2021 SURVEY OF BLACK AMERICANS
Oct. 4-17, 2021
BLACK AMERICANS TOTAL N=3,912
GENERAL PUBLIC TOTAL N=6,513

NOTE: "BLACK AMERICANS" REFERS TO BLACK U.S. ADULTS AND "GENERAL PUBLIC" REFERS TO ALL U.S. ADULTS REGARDLESS OF RACE. ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES. THE PERCENTAGES GREATER THAN ZERO BUT LESS THAN 0.5 ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (*). COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING. THIS TOPLINE SHOWS AGGREGATED DATA FOR RESPONDENTS FROM DIFFERENT SAMPLES. RESPONSES TO SOME QUESTIONS WERE COLLECTED IN PREVIOUS SURVEYS. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE DIFFERENT SAMPLES, SEE THE METHODOLOGY.

OTHER QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

DISPLAY IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

To provide more background, we conduct research about many different topics among many groups in American society. This particular survey explores the views of Black Americans on issues in Black communities, Black politics, and racial identity. We want to hear the voices of ALL Black Americans on these topics, no matter where they stand.

ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

BLK_LEADER	Who do you think is	the most important Black	leader in the U.S. today, if

anyone? [OPEN END TEXT BOX FOR ONE LINE]

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
30	Barack Obama
12	No one/don't have one
8	Kamala Harris
8	Unsure/don't know
6	Other
1	Stacey Abrams
1	Al Sharpton
1	Martin Luther King Jr.
1	Jesse Jackson
1	Maxine Waters
1	Tommy Quick
1	Louis Farrakhan
1	Michelle Obama
1	No single leader
1	Generic unspecified
*	Self
26	Blank/Refused
**"Other" includes	individuals that were

named but whose totals are less than 1%.

OTHER QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

BLK_NATPROBS How much of a problem do you think each of the following are for Black people living in the country today? [RANDOMIZE]

a. Racism

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
82	NET Extremely/Very big problem
63	Extremely big problem
19	Very big problem
10	Somewhat big problem
7	NET Few things/Nothing
7 3	- .
-	NET Few things/Nothing
3	NET Few things/Nothing A little problem

b. Efforts to limit voting

Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
67	NET Extremely/Very big problem
46	Extremely big problem
20	Very big problem
17	Somewhat big problem
15	NET Few things/Nothing
7	A little problem
7	Not a problem at all
2	No answer

c. Economic inequality

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
79	NET Extremely/Very big problem
54	Extremely big problem
25	Very big problem
13	Somewhat big problem
7	NET Few things/Nothing
3	A little problem
3	Not a problem at all
1	No answer

d. Quality of K-12 schools

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
67	NET Extremely/Very big problem
40	Extremely big problem
28	Very big problem
21	Somewhat big problem
11	NET Few things/Nothing
6	A little problem
5	Not a problem at all
1	No answer

BLK_NATPROBS CONTINUED

e. Police brutality

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
80	NET Extremely/Very big problem
60	Extremely big problem
19	Very big problem
12	Somewhat big problem
7	NET Few things/Nothing
3	A little problem
4	Not a problem at all
1	No answer

f. Affordability of health care

NET Extremely/Very big problem
Extremely big problem
Very big problem
Somewhat big problem
NET Few things/Nothing
A little problem
Not a problem at all
No answer

ASK ALL:

RACTYPE When it comes to racism against Black people in our country today, which do you think is the bigger problem? [RANDOMIZE 1 AND 2, 3 ALWAYS LAST]

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
52	Racism in our laws	23
43	Racism by individual people	65
3	There is no discrimination against Black people in our	10
	country today [anchor]	
2	No answer	1

ASK ALL:

IMPLIVES_MOD In the past year, do you think the increased focus on issues of race and racial inequality in our country ... **[RANDOMIZE]**

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
31	Has led to changes that are improving the lives of Black people	40
64	Has NOT led to changes that are improving the lives of Black	57
	people	
5	No answer	3

ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

BLKORG21 Which do you think has done the most to help Black people in the U.S. in recent years? [RANDOMIZE 1-5, 6 ALWAYS DISPLAYED LAST]

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
17	The NAACP
3	The National Urban League
6	The Congressional Black Caucus
39	Black Lives Matter
13	Black churches or other religious organizations
14	Someone else [OPEN END] [ANCHOR]
9	No answer

ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

POLTACTICS1 How effective are the following for helping Black people move toward equality in the

U.S.? [RANDOMIZE]

a. Voting

Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
63	NET Extremely/Very effective
43	Extremely effective
20	Very effective
21	Somewhat effective
14	NET A little/Not at all effective
8	A little effective
6	Not at all effective
2	No answer

b. Protesting

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
42	NET Extremely/Very effective
21	Extremely effective
21	Very effective
35	Somewhat effective
21	NET A little/Not at all effective
21 12	
==	NET A little/Not at all effective

c. Contacting elected officials

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
40	NET Extremely/Very effective
20	Extremely effective
20	Very effective
32	Somewhat effective
26	NET A little/Not at all effective
15	A little effective
10	Not at all effective
2	No answer
POLTACTICS1 CONTINUED	

d. Volunteering with organizations dedicated to Black equality

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
48	NET Extremely/Very effective
23	Extremely effective
24	Very effective
33	Somewhat effective
17	NET A little/Not at all effective
10	A little effective
7	Not at all effective
2	No answer

e. Supporting Black businesses ("buying Black")

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
58	NET Extremely/Very effective
31	Extremely effective
27	Very effective
26	Somewhat effective
14	NET A little/Not at all effective
9	A little effective
•	
6	Not at all effective
-	

ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

IDIMPORTMOD Previously you said you consider yourself Black or African American. How important is

being Black to how you think about yourself?

Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
76	NET Extremely/Very important
54	Extremely important
22	Very important
14	Somewhat important
9	NET A little/not at all important
3	A little important
5	Not at all important
2	No answer

OTHER QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

Please choose the statement that comes closer to your own views – even if neither is exactly right. **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF PAIRS AND RANDOMIZE STATEMENTS WITHIN PAIRS]**

[Please select one item from each pair]

DISCRIM Black Americans	Racial discrimination is the main reason why many Black people can't get ahead these days	Black people who can't get ahead in this country are mostly responsible for their own condition	No <u>answer</u>
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	68	25	7
Nov. 19, 2019 - June 3, 2020	70	26	4
BLK_AHEAD Black Americans	Most Black people who want to get ahead can make it if they're willing to work hard	Hard work and determination are no guarantee of success for most Black people	No <u>answer</u>
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	39	57	4

ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

BLK_POSITION

Would you say that equality for Black people in the U.S. is ...

[DISPLAY OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER FOR RANDOM HALF OF SAMPLE]

Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
13	NET Extremely/Very likely
4	Extremely likely
9	Very likely
38	Somewhat likely
44	NET A little/Not at all likely
23	A little likely
21	Not at all likely
	[space]
3	Black people are already equal
2	No answer

RACESURV17

How much, if at all, do you think the legacy of slavery affects the position of Black people in American society today?

	NET A great deal/ <u>A fair amount</u>	A great <u>deal</u>	A fair <u>amount</u>	NET Not much/ Not at all	Not <u>much</u>	Not at all	No <u>answer</u>
Black Americans							
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	85	55	30	13	9	4	2
Black Americans*							
Jan. 22 - Feb. 5, 2019	84	59	25	15	6	9	1
,							
General public							
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	58	28	30	40	23	18	2
General public							
Jan. 22 - Feb. 5, 2019	63	31	32	36	19	16	1
*							

^{*} This was asked of non-Hispanic Black Americans

ASK ALL:

REPARATIONS

Do you think descendants of people enslaved in the U.S. should be repaid in some way, such as given land or money?

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
77	Yes	30
17	No	68
6	No answer	2

ASK IF WANTS REPARATIONS (REPARATIONS=1):

REP_INST

How much responsibility, if any, do the following have for repaying descendants of people enslaved in the U.S.? [RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

a. The United States federal government

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
81	NET All/Most	75
57	All	40
24	Most	35
15	Some	19
4	NET A little/none	6
2	A little	4
1	None	2
1	No answer	*
n=3,071		n=3,677

REP_INST CONTINUED

b. Businesses and banks that profited from slavery

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
76	NET All/Most	65
53	All	38
23	Most	27
18	Some	26
6	NET A little/none	9
4	A little	5
2	None	4
1	No answer	*
n=3,071		n=3,677

c. Colleges and university that benefited from slavery

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
63	NET All/Most	53
45	All	31
18	Most	22
27	Some	35
9	NET A little/none	12
6	A little	7
3	None	5
1	No answer	*
n=3,071		n=3,677

d. Descendants of families who engaged in the slave trade

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
60	NET All/Most	44
42	All	25
18	Most	19
23	Some	27
16	NET A little/none	29
8	A little	12
8	None	17
1	No answer	*
n=3,071		n=3,677

ASK IF WANTS REPARATIONS (REPARATIONS=1):

REP_REAL How likely is it that descendants of people enslaved in the U.S. will be repaid in your lifetime?

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
7	NET Extremely/Very likely	10
4	Extremely likely	3
4	Very likely	6
11	Somewhat likely	15
82	NET A little/Not at all likely	75
19	A little likely	29
63	Not at all likely	46
*	No answer	1
n=3,071		n=3677

ASK IF WANTS REPARATIONS (REPARATIONS=1):

How helpful do you think each of the following types of repayment would be for descendants of people enslaved in the U.S.? [RANDOMIZE ITEMS] REP_FORM

a. Cash payments

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
69	NET Extremely/Very helpful	57
50	Extremely helpful	36
20	Very helpful	21
19	Somewhat helpful	24
11	NET A little/Not at all helpful	18
8	A little helpful	13
3	Not at all helpful	5
*	No answer	1
n=3,071		n=3,677

b. Financial assistance for buying or remodeling a home

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
76	NET Extremely/Very helpful	73
50	Extremely helpful	42
26	Very helpful	31
16	Somewhat helpful	19
8	NET A little/Not at all helpful	7
4	A little helpful	5
3	Not at all helpful	2
1	No answer	1
n=3,071		n=3,677

REP_FORM CONTINUED

c. Financial assistance for starting or improving a business

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
77	NET Extremely/Very helpful	75
52	Extremely helpful	41
26	Very helpful	34
15	Somewhat helpful	19
7	NET A little/Not at all helpful	6
4	A little helpful	4
3	Not at all helpful	2
*	No answer	*
n=3,071		n=3,677

d. Educational scholarships

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
80	NET Extremely/Very helpful	82
56	Extremely helpful	52
23	Very helpful	29
14	Somewhat helpful	13
6	NET A little/Not at all helpful	5
3	A little helpful	4
3	Not at all helpful	1
*	No answer	*
n=3,071		n=3,677

ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

EQUALEFFECT2

How effective would the following be for helping Black people move toward equality in the U.S.? [DISPLAY ITEMS IN ORDER]

a. Establishing a national Black political party

Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021 31 **NET Extremely/Very effective** 18 Extremely effective 13 Very effective Somewhat effective 27 **NET A little/Not at all effective** 38 A little effective 17 Not at all effective 21 No answer

EQUALEFFECT2 CONTINUED

b. All elected officials governing Black neighborhoods are Black

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
27	NET Extremely/Very effective
13	Extremely effective
14	Very effective
33	Somewhat effective
36	NET A little/Not at all effective
17	A little effective
19	Not at all effective
3	No answer

c. Black people owning all businesses in Black neighborhoods

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
39	NET Extremely/Very effective
21	Extremely effective
18	Very effective
29	Somewhat effective
28	NET A little/Not at all effective
14	A little effective
14	Not at all effective
3	No answer

OTHER QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL: RACESURV20

Thinking about your own experience, have you ever personally experienced discrimination or been treated unfairly because of your race or ethnicity?

	NET Regularly/from <u>time to time</u>	Yes, <u>regularly</u>	Yes, from time to <u>time</u>	<u>No</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	79	15	64	19	2
Black Americans* June 4 - June 10, 2020	83	17	66	15	2
Black Americans* Jan. 22 - Feb. 5, 2019	76	13	63	23	1
General public Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	48	6	42	52	1
<i>General public</i> June 4 - June 10, 2020	46	6	40	53	1
<i>General public</i> Jan. 22 - Feb. 5, 2019	45	6	39	54	1

^{*} This sample only includes non-Hispanic Black Americans

ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

REBUILT1

Thinking about how Black people are treated in this country, how much, if at all, do you think the following systems need to change for Black people to be treated fairly? [RANDOMIZE ITEMS; DISPLAY RESPONSE OPTIONS 4-1 FOR RANDOM HALF OF SAMPLE]

a. The economic system

Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
3	Requires no changes
94	NET Changes needed
11	Requires only minor changes
46	Requires major changes
37	Needs to be completely rebuilt
3	No answer

REBUILT1 CONTINUED

b. The health care system

Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021 4 Requires no changes 94 NET Changes needed 15 Requires only minor changes 45 Requires major changes Needs to be completely rebuilt 2 No answer

c. The political system

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
4	Requires no changes
93	NET Changes needed
8	Requires only minor changes
43	Requires major changes
42	Needs to be completely rebuilt
3	No answer

d. Policing

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
3	Requires no changes
95	NET Changes needed
8	Requires only minor changes
38	Requires major changes
49	Needs to be completely rebuilt
2	No answer

e. The courts and judicial process

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
3	Requires no changes
95	NET Changes needed
9	Requires only minor changes
38	Requires major changes
48	Needs to be completely rebuilt
2	No answer

REBUILT1 CONTINUED

f. The prison system

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
3	Requires no changes
94	NET Changes needed
7	Requires only minor changes
33	Requires major changes
54	Needs to be completely rebuilt
3	No answer

ASK IF CHANGES NEEDED (REBUILT1a-f=2,3,4) AND IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

REBUILT2 In your lifetime, how likely is it that each of the following systems will be changed for

Black people to be treated fairly? [DISPLAY ITEMS IN SAME ORDER AS

REBUILT1]

a. The economic system

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
12	NET Extremely/Very likely
5	Extremely likely
7	Very likely
25	Somewhat likely
62	NET A little/Not at all likely
29	A little likely
33	Not at all likely
1	No answer
n=3,729	

b. The health care system

Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
16	NET Extremely/Very likely
6	Extremely likely
11	Very likely
32	Somewhat likely
51	NET A little/Not at all likely
27	A little likely
24	Not at all likely
1	No answer
n=3,729	

REBUILT2 CONTINUED

c. The political system

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
11	NET Extremely/Very likely
4	Extremely likely
6	Very likely
25	Somewhat likely
63	NET A little/Not at all likely
26	A little likely
37	Not at all likely
1	No answer
n=3,729	

d. Policing

NET Extremely/Very likely
Extremely likely
Very likely
Somewhat likely
NET A little/Not at all likely
A little likely
Not at all likely
No answer

e. The courts and judicial process

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
12	NET Extremely/Very likely
5	Extremely likely
7	Very likely
23	Somewhat likely
65	NET A little/Not at all likely
29	A little likely
36	Not at all likely
1	No answer
n=3,729	

f. The prison system

Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
11	NET Extremely/Very likely
5	Extremely likely
6	Very likely
21	Somewhat likely
67	NET A little/Not at all likely
26	A little likely
40	Not at all likely
1	No answer
n=3,729	

POLICE_FUND ** Thinking about police departments in your area, do you think that spending on policing should be ...

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
35	NET Increased	48
16	Increased a lot	21
19	Increased a little	28
39	Stay about the same	38
23	NET decreased	13
14	Decreased a little	8
9	Decreased a lot	5
3	No answer	1

^{**} This question was asked of all respondents, but was asked of the KnowledgePanel (KP) sample from Oct. 4-17, 2021, and asked of the American Trends Panel (ATP) sample on Sept. 13-19, 2021.

ASK ALL DECREASE FUNDING (XPANEL=1 AND POLICE_FUND=4,5):

POLICE_DECREASE** If police spending in your area is decreased, which of the following should be the top priority for these funds? [RANDOMIZE RESPONSES 1-4, 5 ALWAYS LAST]

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
40	Medical, mental health and social services in your area	52
25	K-12 schools in your area	15
12	Roads, water systems and other infrastructure in your	13
	area	
13	Reducing taxes for those who live in your area	15
9	Something else [anchor]	4
1	No answer	*
n=739		n=1,046

^{**} This question was asked of all respondents who think that spending on policing in their area should decrease, but was asked of the KP sample from Oct. 4-17, 2021, and asked of the ATP sample on Sept. 13-19, 2021.

OTHER QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

WHT_ALLY Which statement comes closest to your view, even if none are exactly right?

[RANDOMIZE RESPONSES; USE SAME ORDER FOR LAT_ALLY AND ASN_ALLY]

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
42	White people would make good political allies for Black people only if they experience some of the hardships that Black people face
35	White people would make good political allies for Black people even if they don't experience the same hardships that Black people face
18	White people would NOT make good political allies for Black people
3	No answer

ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

LAT_ALLY Which statement comes closest to your view, even if none are exactly right?

[RANDOMIZE RESPONSES; USE SAME ORDER FOR WHT_ALLY AND

ASN_ALLY]

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
37	Latinos would make good political allies for Black people only if they
	experience some of the hardships that Black people face
40	Latinos would make good political allies for Black people even if they don't
	experience the same hardships that Black people face
16	Latinos would NOT make good political allies for Black people
7	No answer

ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

ASN ALLY Which statement comes closest to your view, even if none are exactly right?

[RANDOMIZE RESPONSES; USE SAME ORDER FOR LAT_ALLY AND WHT_ALLY]

Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
34	Asian Americans would make good political allies for Black people only if they experience some of the hardships that Black people face
35	Asian Americans would make good political allies for Black people even if they don't experience the same hardships that Black people face
23 7	Asian Americans would NOT make good political allies for Black people No answer

OTHER QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a...

ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE OR REFUSED (PARTY=3,4,99):

PARTYSUM As of today do you lean more to...

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
10	Republican/lean Republican	43
80	Democrat/lean Democrat	51
10	Independent/other/no answer	6

ASK ALL:

IDEO In general, would you describe your political views as... [RANDOMLY DISPLAY

RESPONSES 1-5 OR 5-1]

Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		General public Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
5	Very conservative	8
11	Conservative	24
47	Moderate	39
21	Liberal	17
8	Very liberal	7
8	No answer	4

GENDER Do you describe yourself as a man, a woman, or in some other way?

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
40	Man	47
57	Woman	52
1	Some other way	1
1	No answer	1

ASK ALL:

F_EDUCCAT What is the highest degree or level of school that you have completed?

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
26	College graduate +	34
36	Some college	31
38	HS graduate or less	35
*	No answer	*

ASK ALL:

CITIZEN Are you a citizen of the United States, or not?

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
97	Yes	94
2	No	6
1	No answer	*

ASK ALL:

INCOME Last year what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes?

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
41	Less than \$30,000	22
12	\$30,000 to less than \$40,000	11
9	\$40,000 to less than \$50,000	9
8	\$50,000 to less than \$60,000	9
6	\$60,000 to less than \$70,000	7
5	\$70,000 to less than \$80,000	7
4	\$80,000 to less than \$90,000	7
3	\$90,000 to less than \$100,000	6
9	\$100,000 or more	22
5	No answer	5

BIRTHPLACE Where were you born?

NOTE: COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN RECODED INTO MAJOR GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
86	U.S. (50 states and District of Columbia)	82
1	U.S. (Puerto Rico)	1
4	U.S. (other territory)	2
8	Another country	13
1	No answer	1

ASK ALL:

RELIG What is your present religion, if any?

Black Americans		General public
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021		Oct. 4 - 17, 2021
70	NET Christian	64
64	Protestant	41
5	Roman Catholic	20
1	Other Christians	2
1	Non-Christian	4
23	Unaffiliated	29
4	Atheist/agnostic	11
19	Nothing in particular	18
6	No answer	4