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# Black Americans Firmly Support Gender Equality but Are Split on Transgender and Nonbinary Issues

Nearly six-in-ten want organizations working for Black progress to address the distinct challenges facing Black LGBTQ people

BY Kiana Cox

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## How we did this

In recent years, Pew Research Center has conducted multiple studies that focus on gender and gender identity. This analysis of Black Americans' views on gender equality, gender roles, feminism, and transgender and nonbinary issues relies on data from four of these focused surveys.

The first was conducted among 8,660 Black adults (ages 18 and older) from Nov. 19, 2019, to June 3, 2020. It contains data from four sources: Pew Research Center's American Trends Panel (conducted online), NORC's AmeriSpeak panel (conducted online or by phone), Ipsos' KnowledgePanel (conducted online) and a national cross-sectional survey by the Center (conducted online and by mail). This survey provided the data on Black adults' views on gender, faith and family discussed in this report. For more information on this study, see its <a href="methodology">methodology</a> and <a href="methodology">questionnaire</a>.

The second was conducted online among 3,143 U.S. adults (ages 18 and older) from March 18 to April 1, 2020, on Ipsos' KnowledgePanel. There were 705 Black adults in the sample. This survey provided the data on the public's views of gender equality and feminism discussed in this report. For more information on this study, see its methodology and questionnaire.

The third survey was conducted online among 3,912 Black adults (ages 18 and older) from Oct. 4 to 17, 2021. The survey includes 1,025 Black adults on the Center's American Trends Panel and 2,887 Black adults on Ipsos' KnowledgePanel. This survey provided the data on Black adults' views of intersectional issues and their concerns about discrimination against LGBTQ people. For more information on this study, see its <a href="mailto:methodology">methodology</a> and <a href="mailto:questionnaire">questionnaire</a>.

The fourth survey was conducted online among 10,188 U.S. adults (ages 18 and older) from May 16 to 22, 2022, using the Center's American Trends Panel. There were 799 Black adults in the sample. This survey provided the data on the public's views of transgender and nonbinary issues discussed in this report. For more information on this study, see its <a href="mathenation-methodology">methodology</a> and <a href="mathenation-methodology">questionnaire</a>. Read more on how we measured the share of the U.S. population that is <a href="mathenation-methodology">transgender or nonbinary</a>.

Respondents in each study were recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses. Recruiting panelists by mail ensures that nearly all U.S. adults have a chance of selection. This gives us confidence that any sample can represent the whole population (see our <a href="Methods 101 explainer">Methods 101 explainer</a> on random sampling).

## **Terminology**

The terms "Black Americans," "Black adults" and "Black people" are used interchangeably throughout this report to refer to U.S. adults who self-identify as Black. These terms refer to Black adults who are single-race Black and say they have no Hispanic background, unless otherwise noted.

Throughout this report, educational descriptors are shortened to denote the following: "High school or less" indicates Black adults who have obtained a high school diploma or lower level of education, and "some college experience" or "with college experience" indicate Black adults who either attended college and obtained an associate degree but not a bachelor's degree, or who attended college without obtaining any degree.

The acronym "LGBTQ" collectively refers to people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer.

The term "**transgender**" is used here to refer to people whose gender is different from the sex they were assigned at birth. This includes, but is not limited to, transgender men (that is, men who were assigned female at birth) and transgender women (women who were assigned male at birth).

The term "**nonbinary**" refers to people who are neither a man nor a woman or who aren't strictly one or the other. Some, but not all, nonbinary participants also consider themselves to be transgender. Read more on how we measured the share of the U.S. population that is <u>transgender or nonbinary</u>.

The phrase "**gender equality**" is used throughout this report to refer to the extent to which women and men have equal rights, opportunities and access to resources in the United States.

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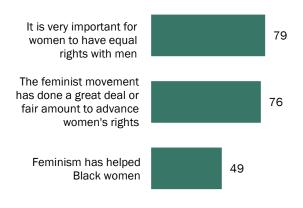
## Black Americans Firmly Support Gender Equality but Are Split on Transgender and Nonbinary Issues

Nearly six-in-ten want organizations working for Black progress to address the distinct challenges facing Black LGBTQ people

Discussions about gender equality and feminism have a long history among Black Americans. Some hallmarks of this history are Maria Miller Stewart publicly affirming the place of Black women as abolitionist leaders in Boston in 1832; the Combahee River Collective's formative statement on the intersection of race, gender, class and sexuality in 1977; Anita Hill's sexual harassment allegations against then-Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas in 1991; and the ongoing discussions about how women are represented in rap music, both as subjects and performers of songs. These often-contentious debates raise questions about the relative importance of gender and other inequalities among Black Americans, given the long history of racial inequality in the United States.

## an impact on women's rights and lives % of Black adults who say ...

Most Black adults say feminism has had



Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020. "Black Americans Firmly Support Gender Equality but Are Split on Transgender and Nonbinary Issues"

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To be sure, about six-in-ten non-Hispanic Black adults<sup>1</sup> (62%) say Black people should prioritize

the struggle against racism over other inequalities, according to a 2021 Pew Research Center survey of Black adults. Meanwhile, three-in-ten Black adults say the opposite: that racism should not be prioritized over other inequalities. Among the 30% who say racism should not be prioritized, most say this is because racism is just as important as other inequalities or that racism is interconnected with other inequalities.

<sup>1</sup> The terms "Black Americans," "Black adults" and "Black people" are used interchangeably throughout this report to refer to U.S. adults who are single-race Black and have no Hispanic background, unless otherwise noted.

Although most Black Americans view the fight against racism as their primary struggle for progress, they also support women's equality and think feminism has been a positive force for women overall and for Black women specifically, according to a 2020 Pew Research Center survey of U.S. adults.

About eight-in-ten non-Hispanic Black adults say it is very important for women to have equal rights with men (79%). The majority of Black adults (76%) also say the feminist movement has done a great deal or a fair amount to advance women's rights. And about half of Black adults say feminism has helped Black women (49%).

These findings stand in stark contrast to the contentious history that Black Americans have had with the feminist movement. Black women were <u>relegated to the back of feminist marches</u> in the 19th century, if not completely excluded. Black women <u>redefined</u> their approach to women's equality, and even <u>renamed</u> it "womanism" to make it more inclusive of their needs and to reject the exclusion they had experienced in feminist organizations.

This history provides context for the findings of the 2020 survey, which indicate that about two-thirds (68%) of Black adults view feminism as empowering, but nearly half (48%) would not use the term "feminist" to describe themselves.

## Black adults are split over how much society should accept transgender people

According to the Williams Institute, at least 1 million Black adults in the U.S. are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT), making up 12% of the nation's LGBT population. LGBT Black Americans are younger than non-LGBT Black adults, with nearly 60% under age 35 compared with 34% of non-LGBT Black adults. Women comprise a larger share of LGBT Black adults than of non-LGBT Black adults, and LGBT Black adults are slightly less likely to live in the South than the rest of the Black population.

Black LGBT and non-LGBT adults do not differ in their <u>sense of belonging</u> to their own race. Nearly half of both groups say they feel connected to Black communities. And 62% of Black lesbian, gay or bisexual adults and 29% of Black transgender adults say they feel a part of the larger LGBT community, the Williams Institute has found.

Still, over half of Black LGBT adults (55%) say the city or area they live in is not a good place for transgender people, and 39% say their areas are not safe for lesbian, gay or bisexual people. In

fact, the majority of Black LGBT people say they have experienced verbal insults or abuse (79%) or have been threatened with violence (60%).

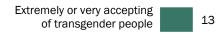
The social difficulties that Black LGBT people experience are reflected in Black Americans' views on gender identity issues, according to a 2022 Pew Research Center survey of U.S. adults. Only 13% of non-Hispanic Black adults say that U.S. society is extremely or very accepting of transgender people.

However, Black adults are split in their views on how accepting society should be. While 36% say society has not gone far enough in accepting people who are transgender, 31% say the level of acceptance in society has been about right and 29% say it has gone too far. And while about four-in-ten Black adults (41%) say views about transgender people and issues are changing at the right speed, roughly a third (34%) say they are changing too quickly.

These divergent points of view exist alongside each other, demonstrating that Black Americans' views on gender identity issues show much less consensus than their views on gender equality.

## Black adults are split in their views on transgender issues

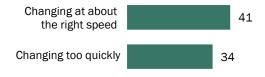
% of Black adults who say society is ...



% of Black adults who say our society has \_\_\_\_ when it comes to accepting transgender people



% of Black adults who say views in the U.S. on transgender people and issues are ...



Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted May 16-22, 2022. "Black Americans Firmly Support Gender Equality but Are Split on Transgender and Nonbinary Issues"

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The findings in this report emerge from four Pew Research Center surveys of U.S. adults conducted from 2019 to 2022. Using multiple Center surveys provides a unique opportunity to summarize Black Americans' views on gender equality and gender identity in the United States in the broadest scope. The report provides context for Black Americans' views on and experiences with current issues of national importance, such as their majority <u>disapproval of the overturning of Roe v. Wade</u> (67%) and the disproportionate number of Black transgender and nonbinary people who experience <u>fatal violence</u>.

Here are other findings presented in this report:

Black Americans are critical of the progress of women's equality in the U.S. About seven-in-ten Black adults (69%) say that the U.S. has not gone far enough in giving women equal rights with men. And among those who say this, a quarter say it's not too or not at all likely that there will be equal rights between women and men in the future.

Black Americans are more likely to have egalitarian views about gender roles than their houses of worship. Black adults believe that mothers and fathers who live in the same household should share parenting (86%) and financial responsibilities (73%). However, the majority of Black Americans who attend religious services at least a few times a year say their congregations are more likely to emphasize men's financial role in the family and involvement in Black communities as role models than women's family and community roles.

Black Americans are more likely to know someone who is transgender or nonbinary than to identify as such themselves. About 1.4% of Black adults are transgender or nonbinary. However, 35% of Black adults say they know someone who is transgender. And among those who have heard at least a little about people who do not identify as a man or woman, 26% say they know someone who identifies this way.

## 1. Black Americans' views of gender equality in society and gender roles in families

Black Americans are largely in support of gender equality between women and men and are critical of society's lack of progress in the United States.

For many Black adults, their support of gender equality aligns with their spiritual or moral beliefs. Large majorities say opposing gender discrimination is essential to what those beliefs mean to them.

However, those who attend religious services at least a few times a year say their congregations often do not share their egalitarian views. Whereas Black adults think men and women should share financial responsibilities for their families equally, their congregations emphasize this role for men more than they do for women.

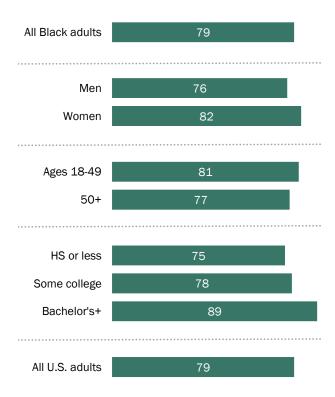
Findings in this chapter are drawn from two Pew Research Center surveys of U.S. adults conducted in 2019 and 2020.

# Black adults differ by gender and education in their views on the progress of gender equality

The majority of Black adults say it is very important for women to have equal rights with men in the U.S. (79%), according to a Center survey conducted March 18 to April 1, 2020.<sup>2</sup>

# About eight-in-ten Black adults say it is very important for women to have equal rights with men

% of Black adults who say it is very important for women to have equal rights with men in the U.S.



Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic. "Some college" includes Black adults who have an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020. "Black Americans Firmly Support Gender Equality but Are Split on Transgender and Nonbinary Issues"

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Only 18% say it is somewhat important, while 3% say it is not too or not at all important.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In this survey, Black adults only include U.S. adults who are single-race Black and have no Hispanic background, unless otherwise noted.

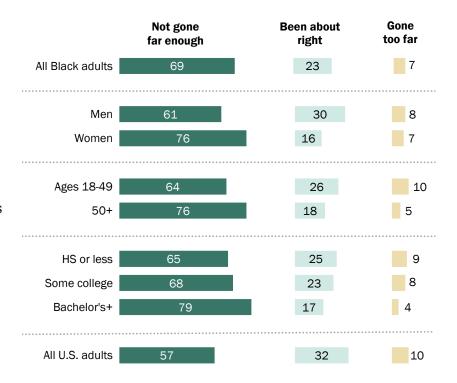
Three-quarters or more of Black men (76%) and Black women (82%) say it very important for women to have equal rights with men, as do 81% of Black adults 18 to 49 and 77% of those 50 and older.

Black Americans' views on gender equality vary by educational attainment. About nine-in-ten Black adults with a bachelor's degree or higher level of education (89%) say that women having equal rights with men is very important. Though still a majority, Black adults with some college experience (78%) and those with a high school diploma or less (75%) are less likely to say this.

While most Black adults favor gender equality, they are also critical of the lack of progress toward it in the United States. About seven-in-ten Black adults (69%) say the U.S. has not gone far enough when it

## 69% of Black adults say the U.S. has not gone far enough in giving women equal rights with men

% of Black adults who say the U.S. has \_\_\_\_ when it comes to giving women equal rights with men



Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic. "Some college" includes Black adults who have an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

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comes to giving women equal rights with men. Much smaller shares say the speed of this progress has been about right (23%) or has gone too far (7%). Black adults' views on this question differ by gender, age and education.

About three-quarters of Black women (76%) and Black adults 50 and older (76%) say the U.S. has not gone far enough when it comes to gender equality, compared with 61% of Black men and 64% of Black adults under 50.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Black Americans Firmly Support Gender Equality but Are Split on Transgender and Nonbinary Issues"

About eight-in-ten Black adults with a bachelor's degree (79%) say the country has not gone far enough in giving women equal rights with men, as compared with 68% of Black adults with some college experience and 65% with a high school diploma or less.

Overall, Black adults (69%) are more likely than all U.S. adults (57%) to say the U.S. has not gone far enough when it comes to gender equality.

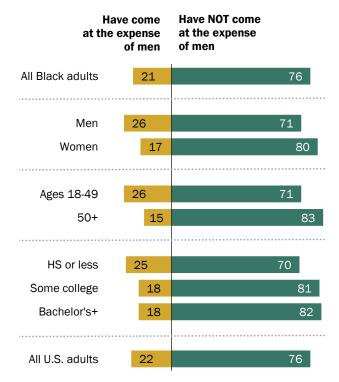
Among Black adults who say the U.S. has not gone far enough in giving women equal rights with men, three-quarters say it is at least somewhat likely that women in the U.S. will eventually have those rights (75%). However, only 24% say it is very likely, similar to the share that says it is not too or not at all likely (25%).

Black women who say the country has not gone far enough in giving women equal rights are more pessimistic about the prospect of achieving gender equality in the U.S. than Black men. About three-in-ten Black women say it is not too or not at all likely that women will eventually have equal rights with men (31%). Only 17% of Black men say the same.

Black women and men not only differ in their views on the progress of gender equality in the

## About three-quarters of Black adults say the gains women have made in society have not come at the expense of men

% of Black adults who say the gains women have made in society ...



Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic. "Some college" includes Black adults who have an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020. "Black Americans Firmly Support Gender Equality but Are Split on Transgender and Nonbinary Issues"

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country, they also differ on the costs. About a quarter of Black men say the gains women have made in society have come at the expense of men (26%). Smaller shares of Black women (17%) say the same. Still, most Black men (71%) say these gains have *not* come at the expense of men.

Although majorities of Black adults across age and education groups say the gains that women have made have not come at the expense of men, Black adults 50 and older and those with college experience (both with and without bachelor's degrees) are the most likely to say this.

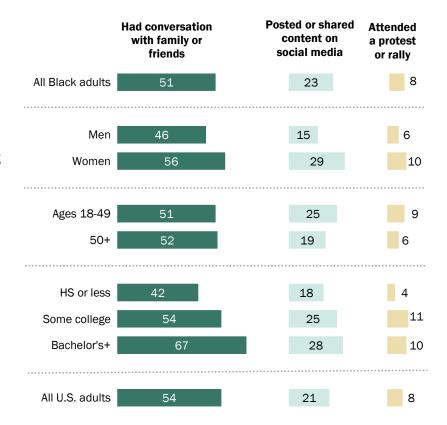
When it comes to sharing their views about gender and gender equality, Black adults are more likely to do so in conversations with family or friends (51%) than to post or share content on social networking sites (23%), contribute money to an organization working on gender issues (13%), contact a public official to express their opinion (9%) or attend a protest or rally (8%), according to the 2020 survey.

Some 56% of Black women say they have conversations about gender or gender equality with family and friends, and 46% of Black men say they do the same. Black women (29%) are more likely than Black men (15%) to post about gender issues on social media.

Black adults who have a bachelor's degree (67%) are more likely than those with a high school diploma or less (42%) to have conversations about gender and gender equality with relatives and friends.

## Black adults are more likely to have a conversation about gender equality with family or friends than post about it on social media or attend a protest

% of Black adults who say they have ever \_\_\_\_ about issues related to gender or gender equality



Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic. "Some college" includes Black adults who have an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

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And Black adults ages 18 to 49 (51%) are about as likely as those 50 and older (52%) to have conversations about gender and gender equality with their family or friends.

## Gender, faith and family

Many Black Americans see their views on gender equality as a core part of their religion or sense of morality, according to a Center survey of U.S. adults, with a large sample of Black adults, conducted Nov. 19, 2019, through June 3, 2020.<sup>3</sup>

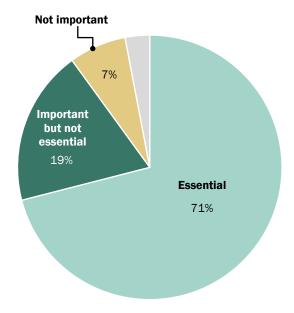
Two-thirds of <u>Black adults are Protestant</u> <u>Christians</u> (66%), while others are Catholic (6%), members of other Christian faiths such as Jehovah's Witnesses (3%), members of non-Christian faiths such as Islam (3%), or unaffiliated with a religion (21%).

About seven-in-ten Black adults, regardless of their religious affiliation, say opposing sexism or discrimination against women is essential to their faith or sense of morality (71%). Much smaller shares of Black adults say opposing sexism is important but not essential to their faith or sense of morality (19%) or not important at all (7%).

Roughly seven-in-ten Black adults across genders and age groups say opposing sexism is essential to their faith or sense of morality. However, Black adults with a high school diploma or less (64%) are less likely than those with a bachelor's degree (76%) or those who have some college experience (73%) to say this.

# About seven-in-ten Black adults say opposing sexism is essential to their faith or sense of morality

% of Black adults who say opposing sexism or discrimination against women is \_\_\_\_ to their faith or morality



Note: Black adults include those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic, Black and at least one other race and non-Hispanic, or Black and Hispanic. Religiously affiliated respondents were asked how important opposing sexism is to what being Christian, Jewish or Muslim means to them, depending on their religious identity. Other affiliated respondents were asked how important opposing sexism is to what "being faithful to their religious tradition" means to them. Religiously unaffiliated respondents were asked how important opposing sexism is to what "being a moral person" means to them. Share of respondents who didn't offer a response shown but not labeled.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020.

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Although the majority of Black adults say opposing sexism is essential to their faith or sense of morality, only about three-in-ten Black adults

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> In this survey, Black adults include those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic, Black and at least one other race and non-Hispanic, or Black and Hispanic.

who attend religious services at least a few times a year (28%) say they heard a sermon on sexism in the year prior to the survey.<sup>4</sup>

Black Americans' broad acceptance of gender equality carries over to their views of gender roles in their families. The majority say mothers and fathers should be equally responsible for family finances in households where both are present (73%), while a quarter say that fathers should take the lead.

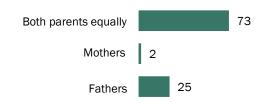
Black women (76%) are somewhat more likely than Black men (69%) to say mothers and fathers should share financial responsibilities equally. Though still a majority, Black adults ages 18 to 49 (75%) are slightly more likely to say this than those 50 and older (70%). And about three-quarters of Black adults across all education levels say that mothers and fathers should share family financial responsibilities equally.

An even larger majority of Black Americans believe that mothers and fathers should split child care responsibilities in households where both parents are present (86%). Most demographic subgroups of Black adults share this view, with few differences among them.

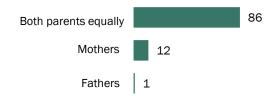
# Majority of Black Americans say parents should equally share financial and childrearing responsibilities in families

% of Black adults who say \_\_\_\_ should be mostly responsible for ...

... providing for the family financially in households where there is both a mother and a father



... taking care of the children in households where there is both a mother and a father



Note: Black adults include those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic, Black and at least one other race and non-Hispanic, or Black and Hispanic. Share of respondents who didn't offer a response not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020.

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Although Black adults take these egalitarian stances on gender roles in their personal lives, many of them belong to congregations with different views. Roughly 60% of Black adults <u>attend religious services</u> at least annually. This includes 33% who attend weekly or more. And among those who attend annually, 60% go to houses of worship where the majority of the congregation and the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This survey was conducted from Nov. 19, 2019, to June 3, 2020, with most respondents participating in January 2020.

clergy is Black – meaning that Black adults are hearing these gendered messages about Black families from Black religious leaders in predominantly Black religious spaces.

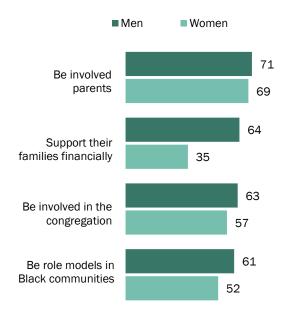
About seven-in-ten Black adults who attend religious services at least a few times a year say their congregations place a lot of emphasis on the need for both men (71%) and women (69%) to be involved parents.

But when it comes to being involved in congregations and being role models in Black communities, somewhat fewer hear these messages emphasized for women than men. For instance, 61% of Black congregants say their houses of worship strongly emphasize the need for men to be good role models, and 52% hear this emphasized for women.

There is an especially large gap on the issue of financial support within families: Only about a third of Black adults who attend religious services at least a few times a year (35%) say that their congregations stress that women should support their families financially, compared with 64% who say their congregations emphasize this for men.

# Many Black Americans say their congregations emphasize men's more than women's roles in families and communities

Among Black adults who attend religious services at least a few times a year, % who say their congregation places a lot of emphasis on the need for men or women to ...



Note: Black adults include those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic, Black and at least one other race and non-Hispanic, or Black and Hispanic.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020.

"Black Americans Firmly Support Gender Equality but Are Split on Transgender and Nonbinary Issues"

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## 2. Black Americans and their views on feminism

The relationship between Black Americans and the U.S. feminist movement has been contentious since the 19th century. Feminist activists such as Susan B. Anthony and Alice Paul <u>racially</u> <u>stereotyped Black men</u> during Reconstruction and <u>kept Black women suffragists</u> at the back of women's marches in the early 20th century.

In the 1970s, Black women criticized the feminist movement for being narrowly focused on the <u>issues of middle-class White women</u>. Many White feminist activists expressed a desire to work outside the home, one that many Black feminist activists did not share because Black women had historically been a part of the labor force as enslaved workers, farmers and maids. And in an era that saw the codifying of Roe v. Wade, Black women's fight for reproductive rights extended beyond abortion to advocacy against <u>forced sterilizations</u>.

Since the 1990s, Black Americans' feminist tensions have often revolved around questions of intraracial harm and betrayal. Anita Hill's <u>sexual harassment allegation</u> against Clarence Thomas, the women who have made <u>sexual assault claims against hip-hop stars</u> such as R. Kelly and Russell Simmons, and Meredith Watson's <u>sexual assault claim</u> against former Virginia Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax are all examples of Black women being positioned as race traitors who are <u>"trying to bring a good brother down."</u> Indeed, Black Americans' relationship with feminism is fraught from both external and internal challenges to the movement's legitimacy.

This chapter draws data on Black adult's views of feminism from a Pew Research Center survey of U.S. adults conducted in March and April of 2020.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> In this survey, Black adults only include U.S. adults who are single-race Black and have no Hispanic background, unless otherwise noted.

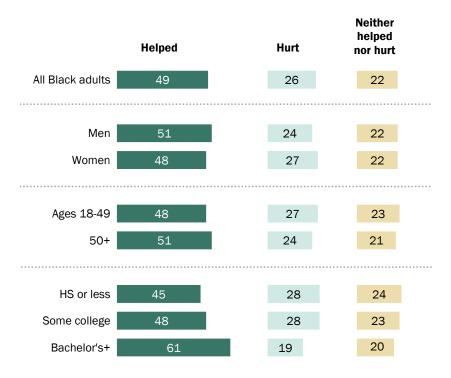
## Black adults say feminism has had a significant impact on women's rights

Despite this history of tension, about three-quarters of Black adults (76%) say the feminist movement has done a lot to advance women's rights in the U.S. This includes 28% who say the feminist movement has done a great deal to advance these rights and 48% who say it has done a fair amount. Much smaller shares say the feminist movement hasn't done much (17%) or anything at all (6%) to advance women's rights.

While Black adults view feminism as impactful overall, they have different views on the extent to which the movement has helped various groups of women. About half of Black adults (49%) say feminism has helped Black women, either a little (33%) or a lot (16%). About a quarter of Black adults

## About half of Black adults say feminism has helped Black women

% of Black adults who say feminism has \_\_\_\_ Black women



Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic. "Some college" includes Black adults who have an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

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say feminism has hurt Black women (26%), either a little (10%) or a lot (15%). At the same time, 22% of Black adults say feminism has neither helped nor hurt Black women.

Black adults differ on this question primarily by education. Those with a bachelor's degree (61%) are more likely than those with a high school diploma or less (45%) to say feminism has helped Black women. In contrast, about three-in-ten Black adults with a high school diploma or less or some college education (28% each) say feminism has hurt Black women, while 19% of Black adults with a bachelor's degree say the same. And Black adults with a high school diploma or less (19%)

<sup>&</sup>quot;Black Americans Firmly Support Gender Equality but Are Split on Transgender and Nonbinary Issues"

are more likely than those with a bachelor's degree (8%) to say feminism has hurt Black women a *lot*.

Reflecting some of the historical tension described above, Black adults are more likely to say that feminism has had a significant positive impact on White women than on Black women. While 42% of Black adults say feminism has helped White women a lot, a much smaller share say the same about Black women (16%).

When asked specifically about the impact of feminism on their personal lives, about a third of Black women (36%) say feminism has helped them personally, either a little (29%) or a lot (7%). Smaller shares say that feminism has hurt them (13%), either a little or a lot (7% respectively). And half of Black women say feminism has neither helped nor hurt them personally (49%).

## How Black Americans describe feminism

When asked how they would describe feminism in the U.S. today, the majority of Black adults say it is "empowering" (68%). This is higher than the shares who describe it as "inclusive" (45%), "polarizing" (34%) or "outdated" (24%).

About seven-in-ten Black women (71%) and 65% of Black men describe feminism as empowering, as do 70% of Black adults 18 to 49 and 65% of Black adults 50 and older.

However, Black adults differ by education on this question. While three-quarters of Black adults with a bachelor's degree (75%) describe feminism as empowering, a smaller share of Black adults with a high school diploma or less share this view (63%).

## Nearly seven-in-ten Black adults describe feminism in the U.S. as empowering

% of Black adults who say each of the following describes feminism in the U.S. today

	Empowering	Inclusive	Polarizing	Outdated
All Black adults	68	45	34	24
		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
Men	65	41	38	27
Women	71	48	32	20
		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
Ages 18-49	70	45	37	25
50+	65	45	31	22
HS or less	63	39	30	25
Some college	71	44	36	26
Bachelor's+	75	57	41	18
All U.S. adults	64	42	45	30

Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic. "Some college" includes Black adults who have an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

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Differences by education also appear in other descriptors of feminism. A majority of Black adults with a bachelor's degree (57%) characterize feminism as inclusive. The same is true of only 39% of Black adults with a high school diploma or less and 44% of those with some college experience. While 41% of Black bachelor's degree holders describe feminism as polarizing, only 30% of those with a high school diploma or less say the same. And roughly one-in-five Black bachelor's degree holders (18%) describe feminism as outdated, while about a quarter of Black adults with a high school diploma or less (25%) or some college experience (26%) share this view.

And while Black adults (68%) and the general public (64%) are both most likely to view feminism as empowering, Black adults are less likely than Americans overall to characterize feminism as polarizing (34% vs. 45%) or outdated (24% vs. 30%).

Aside from their descriptions about feminism in the U.S. overall, Black adults were also asked about how well the term describes them personally. About half of Black adults say "feminist" does not describe them (48%), saying it applies either not too well (25%) or not well at all (24%). Roughly a third of Black adults say "feminist" describes them somewhat well (36%). And only 16% say it describes them very well.

Black men (63%) are much more likely than Black women (36%) to say "feminist" does not describe them well. Meanwhile, Black women are more likely than Black men to say that feminism describes them somewhat well (44% vs. 27%) or very well (20% vs. 10%).

And 54% of Black adults with a high school diploma or less say "feminist" does not describe them well, compared with 43% of those with a bachelor's degree and 44% of those with college experience and no bachelor's degree.

## 3. Black Americans' views on transgender and nonbinary issues

The intersection of race with gender identity and sexuality presents a unique set of challenges for Black Americans. Although most Black adults say they <u>experience discrimination</u> because of their race (79%), many scholars and activists say the nature of discrimination changes when people have multiple identities. This compounded nature of inequality was termed <u>"intersectionality"</u> in 1989 by legal scholar Kimberlé Crenshaw.

Intersectionality was originally put forward to examine blind spots in discrimination law that caused Black women's claims of unequal treatment to be routinely misinterpreted by courts. Black women were left to either bring suits based on race, in which their experiences were compared with Black men's, or to bring suits as women and have their claims be compared to those of White women. They often lost both types of cases. If they tried to claim they were discriminated against specifically as "Black women," they were accused of opening a <u>"Pandora's box"</u> by seeking to create a new legally protected class.

Beyond its legal beginnings, the more popular usage of intersectionality focuses on how different mixtures of identities produce different, and often worse, experiences of inequality. For example, while about <u>one-in-three LGBTQ Americans</u> report that they have experienced discrimination in the year prior to being surveyed, <u>LGBTQ people of color</u> are more likely to report discrimination of any kind than White LGBTQ people, a 2020 Center for American Progress-NORC survey found. These intersectional differences are particularly dire when it comes to transgender and nonbinary people specifically. Since 2013, over 300 transgender and nonbinary people have been victims of fatal violence, <u>according to the Human Rights Campaign Foundation</u>. Two-thirds (63%) of those victims have been Black transgender women.

This chapter draws on data from two Pew Research Center surveys. The first was of U.S. adults with a large oversample of Black adults and was conducted in October 2021. The second was of U.S. adults and conducted in May 2022.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup> In these surveys, Black adults only include U.S. adults who are single-race Black and have no Hispanic background, unless otherwise noted.

## Black Americans prioritize race but still think other inequalities should be addressed

About six-in-ten Black adults (62%) say Black people should prioritize the struggle against racism over other inequalities, according to a 2021 survey of U.S. adults. At the same time, three-in-ten Black adults (30%) say the opposite: that racism should not be prioritized over other inequalities.

Among those who say racism should not be prioritized, most say this is because racism is equally as important as other inequalities (43%) or that racism is interconnected with other inequalities (36%).

Although many Black Americans view the fight against racism as their primary

# Black liberals are more likely than moderates or conservatives to be concerned about discrimination against LGBTQ people

% of Black adults who say they are \_\_\_\_ concerned about discrimination against LGBTQ people

	Extremely/ Very	Somewhat	A little/ Not at all	
All Black adults	46	22	28	
Men	43	21	32	
Women	49	22	26	
Ages 18-49	44	21	30	
50+	49	23	26	
HS or less	41	18	35	
Some college	49	24	24	
Bachelor's+	50	25	24	
Conservative	37	16	44	
Moderate	47	24	28	
Liberal	57	24	17	

Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic. "Some college" includes Black adults who have an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Share of respondents who said LGBTQ people do not experience discrimination or who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Oct. 4-17, 2021.

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struggle for progress, they also view discrimination against LGBTQ people as problematic.

Nearly half of Black adults say they are extremely or very concerned about discrimination against LGBTQ people (46%). About one-in-five Black adults say they are somewhat concerned about it (22%), and 28% of Black adults say they are a little or not at all concerned.

When it comes to education, half of Black adults with a bachelor's degree (50%) and some college experience but no bachelor's degree (49%) say they are extremely or very concerned about discrimination against LGBTQ people, compared with 41% of those with a high school diploma or less.

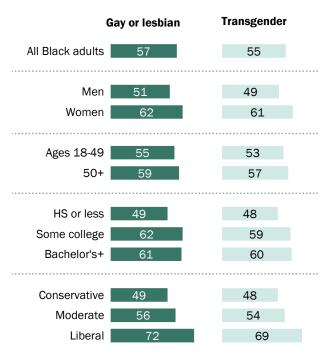
The shares of Black liberals (57%) and moderates (47%) who are extremely or very concerned outpace the share of Black conservatives who say this (37%).

When it comes to social action on intersectional issues, nearly six-in-ten Black adults say it is extremely or very important for organizations that are working toward Black equality to address the distinctive challenges of Black people who are gay or lesbian (57%) or transgender (55%).

Survey respondents were asked the same question about how important it is for organizations working toward Black equality to address the distinct challenges of other groups of Black people. For these other groups, larger shares say the organizations should address the distinctive challenges of Black youth (86%), Black men and women (84% respectively), Black senior citizens (83%) and formerly incarcerated Black people (77%).

# Nearly six-in-ten Black adults say Black organizations should address the challenges Black LGBTQ people face

% of Black adults who say it is extremely or very important for organizations that are working toward Black equality to address the distinctive challenges of Black people who are ...



Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic. "Some college" includes Black adults who have an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Oct. 4-17, 2021. "Black Americans Firmly Support Gender Equality but Are Split on Transgender and Nonbinary Issues"

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When it comes to their views on organizations working toward equality for Black gay, lesbian or transgender people, Black adults differ by gender, education and political ideology. Black women are more likely than Black men to say it is extremely or very important for organizations that work toward Black equality to address the distinctive challenges of Black people who are gay or lesbian (62% vs. 51%). There is a similar split between Black women (61%) and Black men (49%) when it comes to addressing the issues that Black transgender people face.

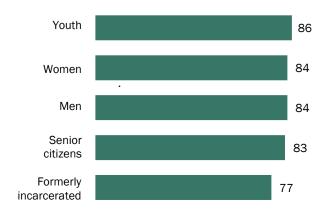
About six-in-ten Black adults with a bachelor's degree (61%) and those with college experience but no bachelor's degree (62%) say organizations working toward Black equality should address the unique issues of Black people who are gay or lesbian. A smaller share of Black adults with a high school diploma or less say the same (49%). This pattern repeats when it comes to the issues that Black transgender people face.

Black liberals are more likely than their moderate and conservative peers to say that organizations working toward Black equality should address the distinctive challenges faced by Black gay and lesbian (72%) or transgender (69%) people.

CORRECTION (Feb. 27, 2023): In the chart "Nearly six-in-ten Black adults say Black organizations should address the challenges Black LGBTQ people face," the rows for women and men have been edited to correct an inversion in the percentages of Black women

# Large majority of Black adults say organizations working toward Black equality should address youth issues

% of Black adults who say it is extremely or very important for organizations that are working toward Black equality to address the distinctive challenges of Black people who are ...



Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Oct. 4-17, 2021. "Black Americans Firmly Support Gender Equality but Are Split on Transgender and Nonbinary Issues"

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and Black men who think organizations should address challenges that Black gay and lesbian people face. These figures are 62% and 51%, respectively. These numbers were referenced correctly in the body of the report, and the changes did not affect the report's substantive findings.

## Personal connections to people who are transgender and nonbinary

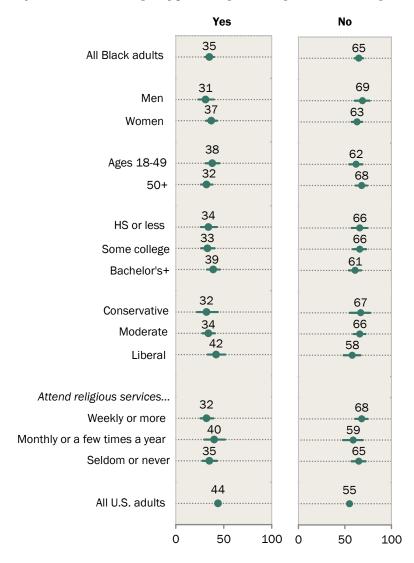
About 1.4% of Black adults are transgender or nonbinary – that is, their gender is something other than the sex they were assigned at birth.

Although few are transgender themselves, 35% of Black adults know someone who is transgender. This is smaller than the share of the general public who say they know a transgender person (44%).

Among Black adults who know someone who is transgender, that person is more likely to be a friend (63%) than a relative (31%) or co-worker (29%).

## About one-in-three Black adults know someone who is transgender

% of Black adults who say they personally know anyone who is transgender



Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic. "Some college" includes Black adults who have an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown. Lines surrounding data points represent the margin of error of each estimate.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted May 16-22, 2022.

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The majority of Black adults (64%) say they have heard about people who are nonbinary – that is, those who do not identify as a man or woman. This includes 19% who have heard a lot and 45% who have heard a little.

About a third of Black adults (36%) say they have heard nothing at all about nonbinary people. Among Black adults who have heard at least a little, 26% say they know someone personally who is nonbinary.

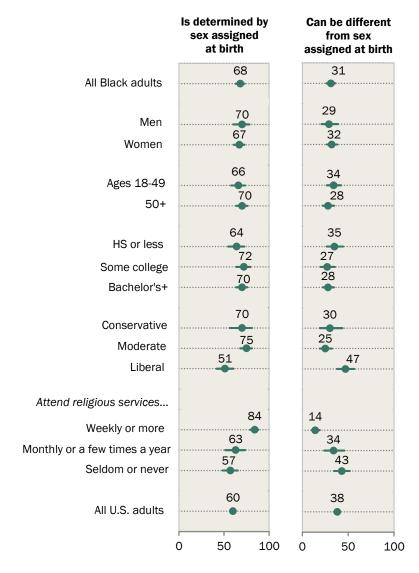
## Most Black adults say gender is determined by the sex assigned at birth

About two-thirds of Black adults (68%) say that whether a person is a man or a woman is determined by the sex they were assigned at birth. A smaller share say the opposite: that someone can be a man or woman even if this differs from the sex they were assigned at birth (31%).

Black adults (68%) are slightly more likely than the general public (60%) to say that gender is determined by sex at birth.

## Most Black adults say a person's gender is determined by the sex they were assigned at birth

% of Black adults who say whether a person is a man or woman ...



Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic. "Some college" includes Black adults who have an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown. Lines surrounding data points represent the margin of error of each estimate.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted May 16-22, 2022.

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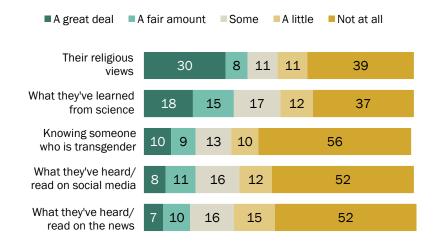
About two-thirds or more of Black men and women, as well as of those of various ages and educational levels, say that gender is based on sex assignment at birth. However, there are differences by political ideology and religious service attendance.

Black moderates (75%) are more likely than liberals (51%) to say that whether a person is a man or woman is determined by their sex assigned at birth.

And about eight-in-ten Black adults who attend religious services at least once a week (84%) say gender is based on sex assignment at birth. This is higher than the shares among those who attend monthly or a

# Three-in-ten Black adults say their religious beliefs greatly influenced their views on whether gender can differ from sex at birth

% of Black adults who say each of the following has influenced their views on whether someone's gender can be different from their sex assigned at birth



Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted May 16-22, 2022.

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few times a year (63%) or who seldom or never attend (57%).

Black adults' views on whether someone's gender can differ from the sex they were assigned at birth are influenced by different sources. Some 37% of Black adults say their views are influenced a great deal or fair amount by their religious beliefs, while 33% say their views are influenced by what they learned from science.

About one-in-five say their views on sex assignment at birth are influenced by knowing someone who is transgender (20%), what they have heard or read on social media (19%) or what they have heard or read on the news (17%). Black adults differ in the influences they cite by religious service attendance and political ideology.

Black adults who attend religious services weekly (54%) are more likely than those who rarely or never attend (22%) to say their religious beliefs influenced their views on sex assignment at birth a great deal or a fair amount.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Black Americans Firmly Support Gender Equality but Are Split on Transgender and Nonbinary Issues"  $\,$ 

About a third of Black liberals (32%) say their views on whether gender is determined by sex assignment at birth are influenced a great deal or fair amount by knowing someone who is transgender. Smaller shares of Black moderates (15%) and conservatives (13%) say the same.

## Black adults are split on how accepting society should be of transgender people

Six-in-ten Black adults (60%) say there is a great deal or fair amount of discrimination against transgender people in the U.S. today, according to a 2022 Pew Research Center survey of U.S. adults.<sup>7</sup> And 40% say society is a little or not at all accepting of transgender people.

Despite these views, there is no consensus among Black adults about how accepting society should be of transgender people. Roughly a third of Black adults say society has not gone far enough when it comes to accepting people who are transgender (36%), 31% say acceptance of transgender people has been about right and 29% say it has gone too far. Black adults differ on this question by political ideology and religious service attendance.

About half of Black liberals (49%) say society has not gone far enough in accepting transgender people, while smaller shares of moderates (32%) and conservatives (26%) say the same. Meanwhile, Black adults who attend religious services monthly (37%) or weekly (36%) are more likely than those who seldom or never attend (20%) to say society has gone too far in accepting transgender people.

There is also no clear consensus among Black adults on how quickly views on transgender and nonbinary issues in society are changing. Some 41% say views are changing at the right speed, 34% say views are changing too quickly and about one-in-five Black adults (22%) say they are not changing quickly enough.

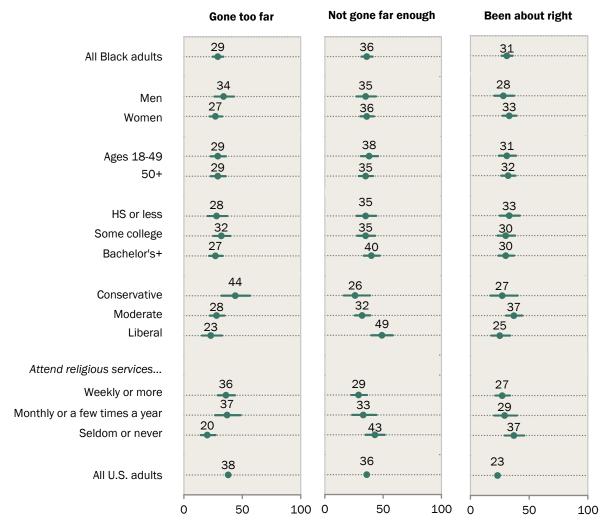
Like many of the views stated above, Black adults differ on the speed of change by religious service attendance and political ideology. Those who attend religious services weekly (44%) are more likely than those who rarely or never attend (27%) to say views on transgender and nonbinary issues in society are changing too quickly. And about one-third of Black liberals (33%) say views are not changing quickly enough, compared with 18% of moderates and 14% of conservatives.

<sup>7</sup> In this survey, Black adults only include U.S. adults who are single-race Black and have no Hispanic background, unless otherwise noted.

While there are no clear majority opinions on these issues among Black adults, they are less likely than the general public to say our society has gone too far in accepting people who are transgender (29% vs. 38%).

## No consensus among Black adults about how much society should accept transgender people

% of Black adults who say our society has \_\_\_\_\_ when it comes to accepting people who are transgender



Note: Black adults include only those who say their race is Black alone and non-Hispanic. "Some college" includes Black adults who have an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown. Lines surrounding data points represent the margin of error of each estimate.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted May 16-22, 2022.

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<sup>&</sup>quot;Black Americans Firmly Support Gender Equality but Are Split on Transgender and Nonbinary Issues"

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**Study 1 (questions on gender, faith, and family):** R. Khari Brown, associate professor of sociology at Wayne State University; Ryon J. Cobb, assistant professor of sociology at the University of Georgia; Yolanda Pierce, professor and dean at Howard University School of Divinity; Tia Noelle Pratt, president and director of research at TNPratt & Associates LLC; Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson, chairman of the Conference of National Black Churches; Josef Sorett, professor of religion and African American and African diaspora studies and chair of the religion department at Columbia University; and Eric Williams, curator of religion for the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture.

**Study 2 (questions on gender equality and feminism):** Carrie Lukas, president, Independent Women's Forum; Dana R. Fisher, professor of sociology at the University of Maryland; Kristin Goss, Kevin D. Gorter professor of public policy and political science, Duke University; and Corrine McConnaughy, research scholar, department of politics, Princeton University.

Study 3 (questions on intersectional issues and Black adults' concern about discrimination against LGBTQ people): Michael C. Dawson, John D. MacArthur professor of political science and the College at the University of Chicago; Leah Wright Rigueur, SNF Agora Institute associate professor of history at Johns Hopkins University; C. Riley Snorton, professor of English language and literature and the Center for Gender and Sexuality Studies at the University of Chicago; Mosi Adesina Ifatunji, assistant professor of Afro-American studies and sociology at

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**Study 4 (questions on transgender and nonbinary issues):** Erica Anderson, clinical psychologist at Anderson Health Strategies LLC; Leonardo Kattari, LEO lecturer at University of Michigan; Shanna Kattari, assistant professor of social work and assistant professor of women's studies at University of Michigan; Lain Mathers, assistant professor of sociology at Indiana State University; C. Riley Snorton, professor of English language and literature at the University of Chicago; and Ben Vincent, research coordinator at the Trans Learning Partnership.

Find related reports online at <a href="https://www.pewresearch.org/topic/race-ethnicity/racial-ethnic-groups/black-americans/">https://www.pewresearch.org/topic/race-ethnicity/racial-ethnic-groups/black-americans/</a>.

## **Methodologies**

This report draws on four surveys conducted by Pew Research Center between 2019 and 2022 using the <u>American Trends Panel</u> and supplemented by samples from the Ipsos KnowledgePanel and NORC's AmeriSpeak panel. Brief descriptions of and links to the methodologies for these previously released surveys are included below.

## The four studies

## Study 1: Black Americans' views on faith and religion

The first survey that this report draws on was conducted among 8,660 Black adults (ages 18 and older) from Nov. 19, 2019, to June 3, 2020, and contains data from four sources: Pew Research Center's American Trends Panel (conducted online), NORC's AmeriSpeak panel (conducted online or by phone), Ipsos' KnowledgePanel (conducted online) and a national cross-sectional survey by the Center (conducted online and by mail). In this survey, Black adults include those who say they are Black and non-Hispanic, Black and at least one other race and non-Hispanic, or Black and Hispanic. This survey provided the questions on gender, faith and family discussed in Chapter 1 of this report. To learn more, read the <u>detailed methodology</u> and the <u>report based on this survey</u>.

## Study 2: U.S. adults' views on gender equality and feminism

The second was conducted online among 3,143 U.S. adults (ages 18 and older) from March 18 to April 1, 2020, on Ipsos' KnowledgePanel. There were 705 non-Hispanic Black adults in the sample. In this survey, Black adults only include those who say they are single-race Black and non-Hispanic. This survey provided the questions on gender equality and feminism discussed in Chapters 1 and 2 of this report. To learn more, read the <u>detailed methodology</u> and the <u>report based on this survey</u>.

## Study 3: Black Americans' views on racial identity and racial inequality

The third survey was conducted online among 3,912 Black adults (ages 18 and older) from Oct. 4 to 17, 2021. The survey includes 1,025 Black adults on the Center's American Trends Panel and 2,887 Black adults on Ipsos' KnowledgePanel. In this survey, Black adults include those who say they are Black and non-Hispanic, Black and at least one other race and non-Hispanic, or Black and Hispanic. There were 3,416 Black and non-Hispanic adults in the sample. This survey provided the questions on intersectionality and Black adults' concern about discrimination against LGBTQ people in Chapter 3 of this report. To learn more, read the detailed methodology and two reports based on this survey covering Black Americans' racial identity and political views.

## Study 4: U.S. adults' views on transgender and nonbinary issues

The fourth survey was conducted online among 10,188 U.S. adults (ages 18 and older) from May 16 to 22, 2022, using the Center's American Trends Panel. There were 799 Black adults in the sample. In this survey, Black adults only include those who say they are Black and non-Hispanic. This survey provided the questions on transgender and nonbinary issues discussed in Chapter 3 of this report. To learn more, read the <u>detailed methodology</u> and two reports based on this survey covering <u>transgender and nonbinary adults</u> in the United States and Americans' views on <u>gender identity and transgender issues</u>. Learn more about how we measured the share of the U.S. population that is <u>transgender or nonbinary</u>.

## **Toplines**

## Study 1: Black Americans' views on faith and religion

# PEW RESEARCH CENTER 2019-2020 SURVEY OF RELIGION AMONG BLACK AMERICANS November 19, 2019-June 3, 2020 BLACK AMERICANS TOTAL N=8,660 GENERAL PUBLIC TOTAL N=13,234

NOTE: THIS TOPLINE ONLY SHOWS RESPONSES FOR QUESTIONS FEATURED IN THIS REPORT. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EXACT QUESTION WORDING, ORDER, AND FILTERING, SEE THE FULL TOPLINE AND QUESTIONNAIRE. THIS TOPLINE SHOWS AGGREGATED DATA FOR RESPONDENTS FROM DIFFERENT SAMPLES. RESPONSES TO SOME QUESTIONS WERE COLLECTED IN PREVIOUS SURVEYS. ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN 0.5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (\*). ROWS/COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING. "BLACK AMERICANS" REFERS TO BLACK U.S. ADULTS AND "GENERAL PUBLIC" REFERS TO ALL U.S. ADULTS REGARDLESS OF RACE.

#### **ASK ALL:**

ESSENT How important is each of the following to what being [FAITHFUL] means to you?

[PROGRAMMING INSTRUCTION: [FAITHFUL: If respondent is Christian insert "Christian"; If Jewish insert "Jewish"; If Muslim insert "Muslim"; If no religion insert "a moral person"; For all others insert "faithful to your religious tradition"]

	<u>Essential</u>	NET Not essential	Important, but not <u>essential</u>	Not <u>important</u>	No <u>answer</u>
e. Opposing sexism or discrimination against women				·	
Black Americans					
Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	71	27	19	7	3
General public Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	66	32	23	9	2

#### [RANDOMIZE GENDRESP1 AND GENDRESP2]

#### **ASK ALL:**

**GENDRESP1** 

Who do you think should be mostly responsible for providing for the family financially in households where there's a mother and a father?

## [RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH 3 ALWAYS LAST; SHOW RESPONSE OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS GENDRESP2]

Black Americans		General public
Nov. 19, 2019-		Nov. 19, 2019-
June 3, 2020		<u>June 3, 2020</u>
2	Mother	1
25	Father	27
73	Both equally	71
1	No answer	1

#### **ASK ALL:**

GENDRESP2

Who do you think should be mostly responsible for taking care of the children in households where there's a mother and a father?

## [RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH 3 ALWAYS LAST; SHOW RESPONSE OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS GENDRESP1]

Black Americans		General public
Nov. 19, 2019-		Nov. 19, 2019-
June 3, 2020		<u>June 3, 2020</u>
12	Mother	15
1	Father	1
86	Both equally	84
1	No answer	1

#### **ASK IF ATTEND AT LEAST A FEW TIMES A YEAR:**

SERPOOR

During the past year, have you heard a sermon, lecture or group discussion at your church or house of worship that dealt with any of the following? [SPLIT ITEMS OVER TWO SCREENS, WITH a-c ON FIRST SCREEN AND d-f ON SECOND SCREEN; RANDOMIZE ITEMS ON EACH PAGE]

	Yes, heard this at my house of worship	No, did not hear this at my house <u>of worship</u>	No answer
<ul> <li>d. Discrimination against women or sexism Black Americans [N=5,553] Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020</li> </ul>	28	68	3
General public [N=7,755] Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	20	77	2

## [RANDOMIZE EMPH1 AND EMPH2] ASK IF ATTEND AT LEAST A FEW TIMES A YEAR:

EMPH1

How much, if at all, does your congregation emphasize that MEN should do each of the following? [RANDOMIZE ITEMS; DISPLAY IN SAME ORDER AS EMPH2]

	A lot	<u>Some</u>	Not much	Not at all	No answer
a. Be involved parents  Black Americans [N=5,553]					
Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	71	17	5	4	3
General public [N=7,755]					
Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	65	21	5	6	2
b. Support their families financially Black Americans [N=5,553]					
Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	64	20	7	6	3
General public [N=7,755]					
Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	49	27	10	12	3
<ul> <li>c. Be role models [IF BLACK INSERT: in Black communities; IF NOT BLACK INSERT: in the community]</li> </ul>					
Black Americans [N=5,553]					
Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	61	20	6	9	3
General public [N=7,755]					
Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	57	26	7	8	2
d. Be involved in the congregation					
Black Americans [N=5,553] Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	63	24	6	4	3
·					
General public [N=7,755] Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	55	29	7	7	2

#### ASK IF ATTEND AT LEAST A FEW TIMES A YEAR:

EMPH2

How much, if at all, does your congregation emphasize that WOMEN should do each of the following? [RANDOMIZE ITEMS; DISPLAY IN SAME ORDER AS EMPH1]

	A lot	<u>Some</u>	Not much	Not at all	No answer
a. Be involved parents  Black Americans [N=5,553]  Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	69	16	5	6	3
General public [N=7,755] Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	67	20	5	7	2

#### EMPH2 CONTINUED...

b. Support their families financially Black Americans [N=5,553] Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	35	29	17	15	3
General public [N=7,755]  Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	20	30	25	22	3
c. Be role models [IF BLACK INSERT: in Black communities; IF NOT BLACK INSERT: in the community]  Black Americans [N=5,553]	52	25	9	11	3
Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020  General public [N=7,755]  Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	32 49	30	9	9	2
d. Be involved in the congregation  Black Americans [N=5,553]  Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	57	28	7	6	3
General public [N=7,755]  Nov. 19, 2019-June 3, 2020	50	33	8	7	2

## Study 2: U.S. adults' views on gender equality and feminism

# PEW RESEARCH CENTER 19TH AMENDMENT SURVEY March 18-April 1, 2020 BLACK AMERICANS TOTAL N=705 GENERAL PUBLIC TOTAL N=3,143

NOTE: THIS TOPLINE ONLY SHOWS RESPONSES FOR QUESTIONS FEATURED IN THIS REPORT. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EXACT QUESTION WORDING, ORDER, AND FILTERING, SEE THE ORIGINAL TOPLINE. ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN 0.5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (\*). ROWS/COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING. "BLACK AMERICANS" REFERS TO BLACK U.S. ADULTS WHO SAY THEY ARE SINGLE-RACE BLACK AND NON-HISPANIC AND "GENERAL PUBLIC" REFERS TO ALL U.S. ADULTS REGARDLESS OF RACE.

#### **ASK ALL:**

EQRIGHTS1 How important, if at all, is it for women to have equal rights with men in our country?

Black Americans		General public
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
79	Very important	79
18	Somewhat important	18
2	Not too important	2
1	Not at all important	1
*	No answer	*

#### **ASK ALL:**

EQRIGHTS2 When it comes to giving women equal rights with men, do you think our country

[RANDOMIZE: (has gone too far), (has not gone far enough)] or has been about right?

Black Americans		General public
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
7	Has gone too far	10
69	Has not gone far enough	57
23	Has been about right	32
1	No answer	1

ASK IF NOT GONE FAR ENOUGH (EQRIGHTS2=2):
EQRIGHTS5 How likely, if at all, is it that women in our country will eventually have equal rights with men?

Black Americans [n=508]		General public [n=1,876]
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
24	Very likely	31
51	Somewhat likely	53
22	Not too likely	15
3	Not at all likely	2
*	No answer	*

#### **ASK ALL:**

GAINS Which statements comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right?

Black Americans March 18-		General public March 18-
<u> April 1, 2020</u>		<u> April 1, 2020</u>
21	The gains women have made in society have come at the expense of men	22
76	The gains women have made in society have NOT come at the expense of men	76
3	No answer	2

#### **ASK ALL:**

WOMACTIVISM Have you ever done any of the following, or not?

a. Contacted a public official to express your opinion on issues related to gender or gender equality

Black Americans		General public
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
9	NET Yes	9
4	Yes, in the last 12 months	4
5	Yes, but not in the last 12 months	5
90	No	91
1	No answer	1

b. Contributed money to an organization that takes positions on issues related to gender or gender equality

Black Americans		General public
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
13	NET Yes	13
5	Yes, in the last 12 months	6
8	Yes, but not in the last 12 months	6
87	No	87
1	No answer	*

#### **WOMACTIVISM CONTINUED...**

c. Attended a protest or a rally that focused on issues related to gender or gender equality

Black Americans		General public
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
8	NET Yes	8
2	Yes, in the last 12 months	2
6	Yes, but not in the last 12 months	6
91	No	91
1	No answer	*

d. Had conversations with family or friends about issues related to gender or gender equality

Black Americans		General public
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
51	NET Yes	54
34	Yes, in the last 12 months	38
17	Yes, but not in the last 12 months	16
48	No	45
1	No answer	*

e. Posted or shared content on social networking sites related to gender or gender equality

Black Americans		General public
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
19	NET Yes	16
11	Yes, in the last 12 months	10
8	Yes, but not in the last 12 months	6
64	No	63
16	Does not use social media	20
1	No answer	*

#### **ASK ALL:**

DESCRIBE How well, if at all, do each of the following describe you?

#### b. Feminist

	General public
	March 18-April 1, 2020
Very well	14
Somewhat well	37
Not too well	28
Not at all well	21
No answer	1
	Somewhat well Not too well Not at all well

#### **ASK ALL:**

ADVANCE2

Overall, how much, if at all, have each of the following done to advance women's rights in our country?

#### c. The feminist movement

Black Americans		General public
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
76	NET A great deal/A fair amount	70
28	A great deal	22
48	A fair amount	48
23	NET Not much/Nothing at all	28
17	Not much	21
6	Nothing at all	7
2	No answer	2

#### **ASK ALL:**

FEMINISM1

Do you think each of the following words describe feminism in our country today?  $\begin{tabular}{l} [\textbf{RANDOMIZE ITEMS}] \end{tabular}$ 

#### a. Empowering

Black Americans		General public
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
68	Yes, describes feminism	64
29	No, does not describe feminism	34
3	No answer	3

#### b. Outdated

Black Americans		General public
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
24	Yes, describes feminism	30
74	No, does not describe feminism	68
3	No answer	3

#### c. Inclusive

Black Americans		General public
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
45	Yes, describes feminism	42
51	No, does not describe feminism	55
3	No answer	3

#### FEMINISM1 CONTINUED...

#### d. Polarizing

Black Americans		General public
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
34	Yes, describes feminism	45
61	No, does not describe feminism	52
5	No answer	3

#### **ASK ALL:**

FEMINISM2 Overall, what impact, if any, has feminism had on the lives of each of the following groups?

#### a. White women

Black Americans		General public
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
64	NET Helped a lot/a little	64
42	Helped a lot	32
23	Helped a little	32
9	NET Hurt a lot/a little	13
6	Hurt a little	8
3	Hurt a lot	4
24	Neither hurt nor helped	21
2	No answer	2

#### b. Black women

Black Americans March 18–April 1, 2020		General public <u>March 18</u> –April 1, 2020
49	NET Helped a lot/a little	61
16	Helped a lot	21
33	Helped a little	40
26	NET Hurt a lot/a little	16
10	Hurt a little	9
15	Hurt a lot	7
22	Neither hurt nor helped	21
2	No answer	3

#### ASK IF WOMAN (F\_SEX=2):

## h. You personally

Black women		All women
[n=359]		[n=1,561]
March 18-April 1, 2020		March 18-April 1, 2020
36	NET Helped a lot/a little	41
7	Helped a lot	10
29	Helped a little	31
13	NET Hurt a lot/a little	7
7	Hurt a little	4
7	Hurt a lot	2
49	Neither hurt nor helped	50
2	No answer	2

### Study 3: Black Americans' views on racial identity and racial inequality

## PEW RESEARCH CENTER 2021 SURVEY OF BLACK AMERICANS October 4-17, 2021 BLACK AMERICANS TOTAL N=3,416

NOTE: THIS TOPLINE ONLY SHOWS RESPONSES FOR QUESTIONS FEATURED IN THIS REPORT. TO SEE OTHER QUESTIONS ASKED IN THE SURVEY, SEE PREVIOUS TOPLINES HERE AND HERE. ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN 0.5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (\*). ROWS/COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING. "BLACK AMERICANS" REFERS TO BLACK U.S. ADULTS WHO SAY THEY ARE SINGLE-RACE BLACK AND NON-HISPANIC.

#### **ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):**

PERSCON How concerned are you about discrimination against ...

c. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ) people

#### **Black Americans** Oct. 4 - 17, 2021 46 **NET Extremely/Very concerned** 27 Extremely concerned 19 Very concerned Somewhat concerned 22 28 NET A little/Not at all concerned A little concerned 13 Not at all concerned 15 This group does not experience discrimination 1 3 No answer

#### **ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):**

BLK\_PROBS1 Which statement comes closest to your view, even if neither is exactly right? [RANDOMIZE]

Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
62	Black people should prioritize the struggle against racism over other
20	inequalities
30	Black people should NOT prioritize the struggle against racism over other inequalities
8	No answer

#### ASK IF BLACK AND SHOULD NOT PRIORITIZE RACISM (RACEMOD=2 AND BLK\_PROBS1=2):

BLK\_PROBS2 Which of the following best describes why you think racism should not be prioritized over other inequalities? [RANDOMIZE 1-4 WITH 5 ALWAYS LAST]

Black Americans

DIACK AITICITCATIS	
[n=981]	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
36	Racism is interconnected with other inequalities
43	Racism is equally as important as other inequalities
12	There are other inequalities that are more important than racism
5	Black people don't need to address any inequalities
2	Something else [text box] [anchor]
1	No answer

#### ASK IF BLACK (RACEMOD=2):

BLK\_GROUPS How important is it for organizations that are working toward Black equality to

address the distinctive challenges of the following people? [RANDOMIZE WITH G

**ALWAYS LAST]** 

a. Black people who are gay or lesbian

#### **Black Americans** Oct. 4 - 17, 2021 **57 NET Extremely/Very important** 33 Extremely important 24 Very important 19 Somewhat important **NET A little/Not at all important** 20 9 A little important Not at all important 12 3 No answer

#### b. Black transgender people

#### **Black Americans**

Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
55	NET Extremely/Very important
33	Extremely important
22	Very important
19	Somewhat important
22	NET A little/Not at all important
9	A little important
14	Not at all important
3	No answer

#### **BLK\_GROUPS CONTINUED...**

#### c. Black women

Black Americans Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
84	NET Extremely/Very important
59	Extremely important
25	Very important
9	Somewhat important
5	NET A little/Not at all important
3	A little important
2	Not at all important
3	No answer

#### d. Black men

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
84	<b>NET Extremely/Very important</b>
60	Extremely important
24	Very important
10	Somewhat important
4	NET A little/not at all important
3	A little important
2	Not at all important
2	No answer

#### e. Black youth

#### **Black Americans**

Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
86	NET Extremely/Very important
64	Extremely important
22	Very important
8	Somewhat important
3	NET A little/not at all important
1	A little important
2	Not at all important
2	No answer

#### f. Black senior citizens

#### **Black Americans**

DIACK ATTICITIONS	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
83	NET Extremely/Very important
56	Extremely important
27	Very important
10	Somewhat important
4	NET A little/not at all important
2	A little important
2	Not at all important
4	No answer

#### **BLK\_GROUPS CONTINUED...**

g. Black people who were formerly incarcerated

Black Americans	
Oct. 4 - 17, 2021	
77	NET Extremely/Very important
46	Extremely important
31	Very important
15	Somewhat important
5	NET A little/not at all important
3	A little important
2	Not at all important
3	No answer

## Study 4: U.S. adults' views on transgender and nonbinary issues

## PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 16-22, 2022 BLACK AMERICANS TOTAL N=799 GENERAL PUBLIC TOTAL N=10,188

NOTE: THIS TOPLINE ONLY SHOWS RESPONSES FOR QUESTIONS FEATURED IN THIS REPORT. TO SEE OTHER QUESTIONS ASKED IN THE SURVEY, SEE PREVIOUS TOPLINES HERE AND HERE. ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN 0.5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (\*). ROWS/COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING. "BLACK AMERICANS" REFERS TO BLACK U.S. ADULTS WHO SAY THEY ARE SINGLE-RACE BLACK AND NON-HISPANIC AND "GENERAL PUBLIC" REFERS TO ALL U.S. ADULTS REGARDLESS OF RACE.

#### **ASK ALL:**

TRANSGEND1 Which statement comes closer to your views, even if neither is exactly right? [RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS]

Black Americans		General public
May 16-22, 2022		May 16-22, 2022
68	Whether someone is a man or a woman is determined by	60
	the sex they were assigned at birth	
31	Someone can be a man or a woman even if that is different	38
	from the sex they were assigned at birth	
1	No answer	1

#### **ASK ALL:**

TRANSGEND4

How much has each of the following influenced your views about whether someone's gender can be different from the sex they were assigned at birth? [RANDOMIZE ITEMS; RANDOMLY DISPLAY RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5 OR 5-1]

#### a. What you've learned from science

Black Americans		General public
May 16-22, 2022		May 16-22, 2022
18	A great deal	26
15	A fair amount	18
17	Some	18
12	A little	10
37	Not at all	27
1	No answer	1

#### TRANSGEND4 CONTINUED...

#### b. Your religious views

Black Americans		General public
May 16-22, 2022		<u>May 16-22, 2022</u>
30	A great deal	20
8	A fair amount	9
11	Some	12
11	A little	8
39	Not at all	50
2	No answer	1

#### c. What you've heard or read in the news

	General public
	May 16-22, 2022
A great deal	4
A fair amount	10
Some	19
A little	17
Not at all	49
No answer	1
	A fair amount Some A little Not at all

#### d. What you've heard or read on social media

Black Americans		General public
May 16-22, 2022		May 16-22, 2022
8	A great deal	5
11	A fair amount	9
16	Some	16
12	A little	14
52	Not at all	55
*	No answer	1

#### e. Knowing someone who is transgender

Black Americans		General public
May 16-22, 2022		May 16-22, 2022
10	A great deal	11
9	A fair amount	10
13	Some	15
10	A little	10
56	Not at all	53
1	No answer	1

#### ASK FORM 1 (XFORM=1):

TRANSGEND7 How much discrimination do you think there is against transgender people in our society today? [RANDOMLY DISPLAY RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5 OR 5-1 USING SAME ORDER AS TRANSGEND4, WITH 6 ALWAYS LAST]

Black Americans		General public
[n=400]		[n=5,120]
May 16-22, 2022		May 16-22, 2022
36	A great deal	29
23	A fair amount	28
22	Some	21
3	A little	9
3	None at all	5
12	Not sure	7
1	No answer	*

#### **ASK FORM 2 (XFORM=2) [n=5,068]:**

TRANSGEND8 How accepting do you think our society is of people who are transgender? [RANDOMLY DISPLAY RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5 OR 5-1 USING SAME ORDER AS TRANSGEND4, WITH 6 ALWAYS LAST]

Black Americans		General public
[n=399]		[n=5,068]
May 16-22, 2022		<u>May 16–22, 2022</u>
3	Extremely accepting	3
10	Very accepting	11
32	Somewhat accepting	35
29	A little accepting	34
11	Not at all accepting	10
15	Not sure	7
*	No answer	*

#### **ASK ALL:**

TRANSGEND3 Which of the following statements comes closest to your view? [RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH 3 ALWAYS LAST]

Black Americans May 16-22, 2022		General public May 16-22, 2022
	Our society has GONE TOO FAR in accepting people who are	
29	transgender	38
	Our society has NOT GONE FAR ENOUGH in accepting people who	
36	are transgender	36
	Our society has been ABOUT RIGHT when it comes to accepting	
31	people who are transgender	23
3	No answer	2

#### **ASK ALL:**

TRANSGEND2MOD Do you personally know anyone who is transgender?

Black Americans		General public
May 16-22, 2022		<u>May 16-22, 2022</u>
35	Yes	44
65	No	55
*	No answer	*

#### ASK IF KNOWS SOMEONE WHO IS TRANSGENDER (TRANSGEND2MOD=1):

TRANSGEND2aMOD Thinking about the person or people you know who are transgender, are any of them... [RANDOMIZE ITEMS a-c WITH ITEM d ALWAYS LAST]

#### a. A family member

Black Americans		General public
[n=310]		[n=4,718]
May 16-22, 2022		<u>May 16-22, 2022</u>
31	Yes	22
69	No	77
*	No answer	1

#### b. A friend

Black Americans		General public
[n=310]		[n=4,718]
May 16-22, 2022		May 16-22, 2022
63	Yes	60
36	No	39
1	No answer	1

#### c. A co-worker

Black Americans		General public
[n=310]		[n=4,718]
May 16-22, 2022		May 16-22, 2022
29	Yes	28
70	No	71
1	No answer	1

#### d. Younger than 18

Black Americans		General public
[n=310]		[n=4,718]
May 16-22, 2022		May 16-22, 2022
12	Yes	20
88	No	80
*	No answer	*

#### **ASK ALL:**

TRANSGEND11 Some people don't identify as a man or a woman. Instead, they may describe themselves as not having a gender or describe their gender using terms such as "nonbinary" or "gender fluid."

> How much have you heard about people not identifying as a man or a woman? [RANDOMLY **DISPLAY RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-3 OR 3-1]**

Black Americans		General public
May 16-22, 2022		<u>May 16-22, 2022</u>
19	A lot	26
45	A little	52
36	Nothing at all	21
*	No answer	*

#### ASK IF HAS HEARD AT LEAST A LITTLE ABOUT PEOPLE NOT IDENTIFYING AS A MAN OR A WOMAN (TRANSGEND11=1,2):

TRANSGEND12 Do you personally know anyone who does not identify as a man or a woman?

	General public
	[n=8,453]
	<u>May 16-22, 2022</u>
Yes	25
No	75
No answer	*
	No

#### **ASK ALL:**

TRANSGEND19 Thinking about the topics we asked you about in this survey related to transgender issues and people who don't identify as a man or a woman, would you say views on these issues in our society are... [RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH 3 ALWAYS LAST]

Black Americans		General public
May 16-22, 2022		<u>May 16-22, 2022</u>
34	Changing too quickly	43
22	Not changing quickly enough	26
41	Changing at about the right speed	28
4	No answer	3

#### **SEX/GENDERNEW COMBO TABLE, BASED ON TOTAL:**

**ASK ALL:** 

What sex were you assigned at birth, on your original birth certificate?  ${\bf [RANDOMIZE}$  RESPONSE OPTIONS] SEX

**ASK ALL:** 

Do you describe yourself as a man, a woman, nonbinary or in some other way? **[DISPLAY RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 IN SAME ORDER AS SEX]** GENDERNEW

Black Americans May 16-22, 2022		General public  May 16-22, 2022
1.4	NET: Trans man/Trans woman/Nonbinary	1.6
0.8	Trans man/Trans woman	0.6
0.6	Nonbinary	1.0
0.5	Another identity	0.5
96.9	Not trans/Nonbinary	96.3
1.2	No answer	1.6