

Topline questionnaire

Pew Research Center
Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey
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Methodological notes:

- Survey results are based on national samples. For further details on sample designs, see Methodology section and our [international survey methods database](#).
- Due to rounding, percentages may not total 100%. The topline “total” columns show 100%, because they are based on unrounded numbers.
- Since 2007, Pew Research Center has used an automated process to generate toplines for its Global Attitudes surveys. As a result, numbers may differ slightly from those published prior to 2007.
- The U.S. survey was conducted on Pew Research Center’s American Trends Panel. Many questions have been asked in previous surveys on the phone. Phone trends for comparison are provided in separate tables throughout the topline. The extent of the mode differences varies across questions; while there are negligible differences on some questions, other have more pronounced differences. Caution should be taken when evaluating online and phone estimates.
- Not all questions included in the Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey are presented in this topline. Omitted questions have either been previously released or will be released in future reports.

		Q21a. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all. a. U.S. President Joe Biden					
		A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	31	29	16	23	1	100

U.S. phone trends for comparison

		Q21a. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all. a. U.S. President Joe Biden					
		A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Fall, 2020	33	27	10	28	0	100

In Fall 2020, asked 'U.S. President-elect Joe Biden'.

			How much confidence do you have in the U.S. president (Bush '01-'08, Obama '09-'16, Trump '17- Summer '20) to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence or no confidence at all?					
			A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Trump	March, 2020	28	19	15	36	1	100

U.S. phone trends for comparison

			How much confidence do you have in the U.S. president (Bush '01-'08, Obama '09-'16, Trump '17- Summer '20) to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence or no confidence at all?					
			A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Trump	Summer, 2020	28	15	12	45	0	100
		Spring, 2020	34	16	13	37	0	100
		Spring, 2019	25	20	14	40	1	100
		Spring, 2018	28	20	14	38	1	100
		Spring, 2017	25	21	16	38	1	100
	Obama	Spring, 2016	32	26	15	25	1	100
		Spring, 2015	26	32	15	27	0	100
		Spring, 2014	26	32	17	24	1	100
		Spring, 2013	32	25	16	26	1	100
		Spring, 2012	31	30	15	22	2	100
		Spring, 2011	29	32	19	19	1	100
		Spring, 2010	34	31	14	20	1	100
	Bush	Spring, 2009	48	26	13	11	2	100
		Spring, 2008	11	26	16	44	3	100
		Spring, 2007	18	27	19	34	2	100
		Spring, 2006	22	28	19	29	2	100
Spring, 2005		34	28	19	17	2	100	
		May, 2003	49	29	11	9	2	100

		Q37. What kind of leadership role should the U.S. play in the world? Should it be the single world leader, play a shared leadership role or not play any leadership role?				
		Single leader	Shared leadership	No leadership	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	11	78	10	1	100

		ASK IF "SHARED LEADERSHIP" IN Q37: Q38. Should the U.S. be the most active of the leading nations, or should it be about as active as other leading nations?				
		Most active	About as active	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	37	62	1	100	2064
	April, 2016	31	66	2	100	1498

U.S. phone trends for comparison

		Q37. What kind of leadership role should the U.S. play in the world? Should it be the single world leader, play a shared leadership role or not play any leadership role?				
		Single leader	Shared leadership	No leadership	DK/Refused	Total
United States	April, 2016	15	73	9	3	100

U.S. phone trends for comparison

		ASK IF "SHARED LEADERSHIP" IN Q37: Q38. Should the U.S. be the most active of the leading nations, or should it be about as active as other leading nations?				
		Most active	About as active	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	37	62	1	100	2064
	April, 2016	31	66	2	100	1498

		Q39. How important, if at all, is it that the U.S. is generally respected by other countries around the world?					
		Very important	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not at all important	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	50	37	9	4	0	100

		Q40. Now that Joe Biden is president, do you think other countries view the U.S. a lot more positively, a little more positively, a little more negatively or a lot more negatively?					
		A lot more positively	A little more positively	A little more negatively	A lot more negatively	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	30	39	13	16	2	100

		ASK FORM 1 ONLY: Q41a. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? a. Preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	64	32	3	1	100	1287
	November, 2018	66	27	5	1	100	2635

		ASK FORM 1 ONLY: Q41b. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? b. Protecting the jobs of American workers					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	75	22	2	0	100	1287
	November, 2018	71	23	5	1	100	2635

		ASK FORM 1 ONLY: Q41c. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? c. Strengthening the United Nations					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	30	48	21	1	100	1287
	November, 2018	39	41	19	1	100	2635

		ASK FORM 1 ONLY: Q41d. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? d. Reducing U.S. military commitments overseas					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	29	58	12	1	100	1287
	November, 2018	30	56	13	1	100	2635

		ASK FORM 1 ONLY: Q41e. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? e. Limiting the power and influence of Russia					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	42	49	8	1	100	1287
	November, 2018	42	45	11	2	100	2635

		ASK FORM 1 ONLY: Q41f. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? f. Promoting democracy in other nations					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	20	58	22	1	100	1287
	November, 2018	17	56	26	1	100	2653

		ASK FORM 1 ONLY: Q41g. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? g. Reducing illegal immigration into the U.S.					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	38	44	17	1	100	1287
	November, 2018	42	41	16	0	100	2653

		ASK FORM 1 ONLY: Q41h. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? h. Limiting the power and influence of China					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	48	44	7	1	100	1287
	November, 2018	32	57	10	1	100	2653

		ASK FORM 1 ONLY: Q41i. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? i. Maintaining the U.S. military advantage over all other countries					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	48	36	15	1	100	1287
	November, 2018	49	39	11	0	100	2663

		ASK FORM 1 ONLY: Q41j. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? j. Dealing with global climate change					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	44	38	18	1	100	1287
	November, 2018	46	37	17	0	100	2663

		ASK FORM 2 ONLY: Q41k. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? k. Reducing our trade deficit with foreign countries					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	40	54	4	1	100	1309
	November, 2018	42	47	9	1	100	2663

		ASK FORM 2 ONLY: Q41l. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? l. Promoting and defending human rights in other countries					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	34	56	9	1	100	1309
	November, 2018	31	57	11	1	100	2663

		ASK FORM 2 ONLY: Q41m. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? m. Reducing the spread of infectious diseases					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	71	24	3	1	100	1309
	November, 2018	51	44	5	1	100	2663

In 2018, question asked: "Reducing the spread of infectious diseases, such as AIDS and Ebola."

		ASK FORM 2 ONLY: Q41n. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? n. Limiting the power and influence of Iran					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	38	51	9	2	100	1309
	November, 2018	39	48	11	1	100	2663

		ASK FORM 2 ONLY: Q41o. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? o. Improving relationships with our allies					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	55	40	3	1	100	1309
	November, 2018	58	38	4	0	100	2689

		ASK FORM 2 ONLY: Q41p. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? p. Taking measures to protect the U.S. from terrorist attacks					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	71	26	2	1	100	1309
	November, 2018	72	24	4	0	100	2689

		ASK FORM 2 ONLY: Q41q. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? q. Getting other countries to assume more of the costs of maintaining world order					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	42	49	7	2	100	1309
	November, 2018	40	48	11	1	100	2689

		ASK FORM 2 ONLY: Q41r. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? r. Aiding refugees fleeing violence around the world					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	28	54	16	2	100	1309
	November, 2018	26	56	17	1	100	2689

		ASK FORM 2 ONLY: Q41s. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? s. Reducing legal immigration into the U.S.					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	22	39	38	2	100	1309
	November, 2018	26	35	38	1	100	2689

Due to an error in 2021, question asked about 'reducing legal immigrations into the U.S.'

		ASK FORM 2 ONLY: Q41t. Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? t. Limiting the power and influence of North Korea					
		Top priority	Some priority	No priority	DK/Refused	Total	N=
United States	Spring, 2021	40	49	9	2	100	1309
	November, 2018	40	50	9	1	100	2689

		Q42a. Thinking about Joe Biden's ability to handle a number of things, how confident are you that Joe Biden can do each of the following? a. Make good decisions about international trade					
		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not too confident	Not at all confident	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	26	33	18	23	1	100

		Q42b. Thinking about Joe Biden's ability to handle a number of things, how confident are you that Joe Biden can do each of the following? b. Deal effectively with the threat of terrorism					
		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not too confident	Not at all confident	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	26	34	17	22	1	100

		Q42c. Thinking about Joe Biden's ability to handle a number of things, how confident are you that Joe Biden can do each of the following? c. Make good decisions about the use of military force					
		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not too confident	Not at all confident	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	29	30	17	23	1	100

		Q42d. Thinking about Joe Biden's ability to handle a number of things, how confident are you that Joe Biden can do each of the following? d. Deal effectively with global climate change					
		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not too confident	Not at all confident	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	26	34	19	20	1	100

		Q42e. Thinking about Joe Biden's ability to handle a number of things, how confident are you that Joe Biden can do each of the following? e. Improve relationships with our allies					
		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not too confident	Not at all confident	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	38	29	14	18	1	100

		Q42f. Thinking about Joe Biden's ability to handle a number of things, how confident are you that Joe Biden can do each of the following? f. Deal effectively with China					
		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not too confident	Not at all confident	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	19	34	20	26	1	100

		Q43. Which statement comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?			
		Many of the problems facing our country can be solved by working with other countries	Few of the problems facing our country can be solved by working with other countries	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	54	45	1	100
	March, 2020	56	43	1	100

		Q44. Please choose the statement that comes closer to your own views – even if neither is exactly right.			
		In foreign policy, the U.S. should take into account the interests of its allies even if it means making compromises with them	In foreign policy, the U.S. should follow its own national interests even when its allies strongly disagree	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	64	34	2	100
	September, 2019	68	31	2	100
	March, 2019	65	33	2	100

		Q45. Please choose the statement that comes closer to your own views – even if neither is exactly right.			
		It's best for the future of our country to be active in world affairs	We should pay less attention to problems overseas and concentrate on problems here at home	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	49	50	1	100
	September, 2019	53	46	1	100
	March, 2019	51	48	1	100

		Q46a. How much, if at all, do you think the U.S. benefits from being a member of each of the following organizations? a. North Atlantic Treaty Organization, or NATO					
		A great deal	A fair amount	Not too much	Not at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	30	41	20	7	2	100

		Q46b. How much, if at all, do you think the U.S. benefits from being a member of each of the following organizations? b. The United Nations					
		A great deal	A fair amount	Not too much	Not at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	32	35	21	10	1	100

		Q46c. How much, if at all, do you think the U.S. benefits from being a member of each of the following organizations? c. The World Health Organization, or WHO					
		A great deal	A fair amount	Not too much	Not at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	33	32	20	14	1	100