

**2024 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 155 SEPTEMBER 2024
FINAL TOPLINE
SEP 16-22, 2024
TOTAL N=9,680**

Note: All numbers are percentages unless otherwise noted. Percentages less than 0.5% are replaced by an asterisk (*). Rows/columns may not total 100% due to rounding. The questions presented below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel.

"No answer" includes web respondents who do not answer the question as well as telephone respondents who refuse to answer or who say they don't know how to answer. In cases where "not sure" was offered as an explicit option to web and telephone respondents, the "no answer" category includes only web skips and telephone refusals.

This survey was conducted primarily online, with some interviews conducted by live telephone. This topline shows the programming language for online administration. For details on how questions were slightly modified for phone administration, visit the questionnaire.

American Trends Panel surveys conducted between October 2016 and June 2024 were conducted fully online (with tablets and data plans provided to adults without home internet). American Trends Panel surveys conducted prior to October 2016 were conducted primarily online, with some respondents completing by mail. For additional details, visit the methodology.

PN = Programming note

	Sample size	Margin of error at 95% confidence level
U.S. adults	9,680	+/- 1.3 percentage points

**GROUP_TRUST¹
ASK ALL:**

How much, if at all, do you trust the information you get from...

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. National news organizations					
Sep 16-22, 2024	13	45	28	13	*
Jul 18-Aug 21, 2022	15	46	26	13	*
Jun 14-27, 2021	12	46	28	14	*
Oct 29-Nov 11, 2019	17	49	24	11	*
Jul 8-21, 2019	21	54	19	5	*
Feb 22-Mar 4, 2018	21	49	20	9	*
Mar 13-27, 2017	20	52	22	6	*
Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016	18	59	18	6	*

¹ In 2021, question wording read "How much, if at all, do you trust the information that comes from each of the following?"

GROUP_TRUST CONTINUED ...		<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
b.	Local news organizations					
	Sep 16-22, 2024	18	56	20	6	*
	Jul 18-Aug 21, 2022	17	54	21	7	*
	Jun 14-27, 2021	18	57	18	7	*
	Oct 29-Nov 11, 2019	21	57	15	5	*
	Jul 8- 21, 2019	29	57	12	3	*
	Feb 22-Mar 4, 2018	28	55	12	5	1
	Mar 13-27, 2017	25	60	12	2	*
	Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016	22	60	14	3	1
c.	Friends, family, and acquaintances					
	Sep 16-22, 2024	10	61	25	4	*
	Oct 29-Nov 11, 2019	8	57	28	6	1
	Jul 8-21, 2019	11	62	24	3	*
	Feb 22-Mar 4, 2018	13	58	23	5	1
	Mar 13-27, 2017	15	61	21	3	1
	Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016	14	63	19	3	1
d.	Social media sites, such as Facebook, X (formerly Twitter) or YouTube ²					
	Sep 16-22, 2024	5	32	40	22	*
	Jul 18-Aug 21, 2022	6	27	39	28	*
	Jun 14-27, 2021	4	22	40	33	1
	Oct 29-Nov 11, 2019	4	23	38	34	1
	Jul 8-21, 2019	6	33	35	26	*
	Feb 22-Mar 4, 2018	4	29	36	30	1
	Mar 13-27, 2017	5	30	40	25	*
	Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016 ³	4	30	33	32	1

[PN: SHOW WATCHDOG_1 AND WATCHDOG_3 ON SAME SCREEN; RANDOMIZE ORDER OF WATCHDOG_1 AND WATCHDOG_3; RECORD RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

WATCHDOG_1

ASK ALL:

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1]

Some people think that by criticizing leaders, news organizations keep political leaders from doing their job. Others think that such criticism is worth it because it keeps political leaders from doing things that should not be done. Which position is closer to your opinion?

Sep 16- Sep 22, 2024		Feb 19- Mar 4, 2019	Feb 22- Mar 4, 2018	Mar 13- Mar 27, 2017	Jan 12- Feb 8, 2016 ⁴
24	Criticism keeps political leaders from doing their job	29	31	28	21
74	Criticism keeps political leaders from doing things that shouldn't be done	68	65	70	75
2	No answer	3	4	2	4

² For the 2022 survey, GROUP_TRUSTd read "Social media sites, such as Facebook, Twitter or YouTube". For the 2016, 2017 and 2021 surveys, GROUP_TRUSTd read "Social networking sites, such as Facebook and Twitter." For the 2018 and 2019 surveys, GROUP_TRUSTd read "Social media sites, such as Facebook, Twitter or Snapchat."

³ In 2016, GROUP_TRUST_d was asked only of web users.

⁴ For the comparable phone trends from before 2016 for WATCHDOG_1, see [here](#).

WATCHDOG_3**ASK ALL:****[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1]**

In presenting the news dealing with political and social issues, do you think that news organizations...

Sep 16- Sep 22, 2024		Feb 18- Mar 2, 2020	Oct 29- Nov 11, 2019	Feb 19- Mar 4, 2019	Feb 22- Mar 4, 2018	Mar 13- Mar 27, 2017	Jan 12- Feb 8, 2016 ⁵
22	Deal fairly with all sides	20	22	26	30	28	24
77	Tend to favor one side	79	76	72	68	72	74
1	No answer	2	1	2	2	*	3

MAINSOURCE_OE**ASK ALL:**

What news source do you turn to most often for political news? Please list the name of the specific news organization or source.

[OPEN END RESPONSES RECODED]

Sep 16- Sep 22, 2024 ⁶	
13	Fox News
10	CNN
6	Local television
5	ABC News
3	NBC News
3	NPR
3	MSNBC
3	The New York Times
3	CBS News
2	X (Twitter)
2	Television, unspecified
2	Newsmax
2	YouTube, including specific channels
1	AP/Associated Press
1	BBC
1	Local news, unspecified
1	Internet/Social media/Website, unspecified
22	Other
17	No Answer

⁵ For the comparable phone trends from before 2016 for WATCHDOG_3, see [here](#).

⁶ Respondents were asked to provide their main source for political news. If respondents volunteered more than one source, the first one mentioned was accepted. No answer includes those who said they do not know what their main source of political news is, those who say they do not get political news, and those who refused the question. Sources shown individually are those that were named by at least 1.0% of respondents in 2024.

MAINSOURCE_OE CONTINUED...

March 8-14

2021⁷

14	CNN
13	Fox News/Fox News Cable Channel/Fox
6	Local television
4	NPR
4	NBC News
4	ABC News
4	MSNBC
3	The New York Times
3	CBS News
2	Newsmax
2	YouTube (including specific channels, not including Young Turks)
1	Internet (including "social media," "website," no specific source)
1	Television (no specific source)
1	Univision
1	One America News Network / OAN / OANN
1	The Washington Post
1	Facebook (including specific groups)
1	Local news (no specific source)
18	All other sources
15	Refused/Don't know

MAINSOURCE_MAIN**ASK IF PROVIDED A RESPONSE TO MAINSOURCE_OE (MAINSOURCE_OE NE 98 OR 99)****[N=8,835]:****[PN: ROTATE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 HOLDING 3 LAST]**

Thinking about your main news source you entered in the previous question, do you think that news source is part of the mainstream news media?

Sep 16-

Sep 22,

2024

60	Yes, it is part of the mainstream media
24	No, it is not part of the mainstream media
16	Not sure
*	No answer

⁷ Respondents were asked to provide their main source for political news. If respondents volunteered more than one source, the first one mentioned was accepted. No answer includes those who said they do not know what their main source of political news is, those who say they do not get political news, and those who refused the question. Sources shown individually are those that were named by at least 1.0% of respondents in 2021.

CAMPNII
ASK ALL:

How closely have you been following news about candidates for the 2024 presidential election?

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>No answer</u>
2024 election					
Sep 16-22, 2024	28	40	25	6	*
Jul 1-7, 2024	27	38	26	9	*
Apr 8-14, 2024	22	36	28	13	*
2020 election⁸					
Oct 6-12, 2020	39	36	18	6	*
Aug 31-Sep 7, 2020	30	35	23	11	*
Jun 4-10, 2020	21	23	29	17	1
Apr 20-26, 2020	19	33	31	16	*
Feb 18-Mar 2, 2020	23	37	29	12	*
Jul 22-Aug 4, 2019	15	37	34	14	*
2016 election⁹					
Oct 25-Nov 8, 2016	41	37	16	6	*
Sep 27-Oct 10, 2016	35	40	18	7	*
Jun 7-Jul 5, 2016	35	43	18	4	*

CAMPINFOREL

ASK ALL:

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1]

How easy or difficult has it been for you to find reliable information about the 2024 presidential election?

Sep 16- Sep 22 <u>2024</u>	
14	Very easy
25	Somewhat easy
32	Neither easy nor difficult
22	Somewhat difficult
7	Very difficult
1	No answer

⁸ In surveys conducted in 2019 or 2020, the question asked about the 2020 presidential election.

⁹ In surveys conducted in 2016, the question asked about the 2016 presidential election.

CAMPINFODIFF**ASK ALL:****[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1]**

When you get news and information about the presidential campaign and candidates, do you generally find it...

Sep 16- Sep 22, <u>2024</u>		Oct 6- Oct 12, <u>2020</u>
52	Difficult to determine what is true and what is not	55
47	Easy to determine what is true and what is not	45
1	No answer	1

CAMPCOVER1**ASK ALL:**

How well do you think the news media have covered the 2024 presidential election?

Sep 16- Sep 22, <u>2024</u>		Aug 31- Sep 7, <u>2020</u> ¹⁰
13	Very well	12
45	Somewhat well	46
26	Not too well	27
15	Not at all well	14
1	No answer	2

INACCMED**ASK ALL:****[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1]**

How often have you seen inaccurate news coverage about the 2024 presidential election?

Sep 16- Sep 22, <u>2024</u>	
14	Extremely often
23	Very often
36	Somewhat often
22	Not too often
3	Not at all
2	No answer

¹⁰ In the 2020 survey, the question asked about the 2020 presidential election.

CAMPCOVEROWN**ASK ALL:**

Overall, how well do you think the news sources you turn to most often have covered the 2024 presidential election?

Sep 16- Sep 22, <u>2024</u>		Oct 6- Oct 12, <u>2020</u> ¹¹
27	Very well	30
54	Somewhat well	53
15	Not too well	12
3	Not at all well	4
1	No answer	1

INACCOWN**ASK ALL:**

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS INACCMED]

How often have you seen inaccurate news about the 2024 presidential election from the news sources you turn to most often?

Sep 16- Sep 22, <u>2024</u>	
3	Extremely often
7	Very often
25	Somewhat often
48	Not too often
15	Not at all
2	No answer

INACCONV**ASK ALL:**

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS IN SAME ORDER AS INACCMED]

When talking about the 2024 presidential election with people you know, how often have you heard people share information about the campaign or candidates that you think is inaccurate?

Sep 16- Sep 22, <u>2024</u>	
8	Extremely often
19	Very often
31	Somewhat often
21	Not too often
4	Not at all
	[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]
17	I don't discuss the 2024 presidential election at all
*	No answer

¹¹ In the 2020 survey, the question asked about the 2020 presidential election.

STOPTALK**ASK ALL:**

Have you ever stopped talking to someone about political and election news, whether in person or online, because of something they said?

Sep 16- Sep 22, <u>2024</u>		Oct 6- Oct 12, <u>2020</u>	Oct 29- Nov 11, <u>2019</u>
45	Yes	42	45
55	No	58	54
*	No answer	1	1

ELECT_MOST**ASK ALL:****[PN: RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-7]**

What is the most common way you get political and election news?

Sep 16- Sep 22, <u>2024</u>	
3	Print newspapers or magazines
5	Radio
35	Television
20	Social media
21	News websites or apps
8	Search through Google or other search engines
5	Podcasts
	Some other way (please specify): [PN: INSERT
4	SINGLE LINE TEXT BOX]
1	No answer

CAMP20NEWS**ASK ALL¹²:****[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

Please indicate whether each of the following is a source of political and election news for you.

	<u>Major source</u>	<u>Minor source</u>	<u>Not a source</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Fox News				
Sep 16-22, 2024	22	28	49	1
Aug 31-Sep 7, 2020	21	28	50	1
b. CNN				
Sep 16-22, 2024	21	33	46	1
Aug 31-Sep 7, 2020	20	34	46	1
CAMP20NEWS CONTINUED ...	<u>Major source</u>	<u>Minor source</u>	<u>Not a source</u>	<u>No answer</u>
c. MSNBC				
Sep 16-22, 2024	12	28	58	1
Aug 31-Sep 7, 2020	13	28	58	1
d. ABC, CBS, or NBC				
Sep 16-22, 2024	30	37	31	1
Aug 31-Sep 7, 2020	32	37	31	1
e. NPR				
Sep 16-22, 2024	12	22	65	2
Aug 31-Sep 7, 2020	15	22	62	2
f. The New York Times				
Sep 16-22, 2024	12	26	61	1
Aug 31-Sep 7, 2020	14	28	57	1
g. Washington Post				
Sep 16-22, 2024	8	24	66	1
Aug 31-Sep 7, 2020	11	28	60	1
h. Talk radio, such as Sean Hannity or Mark Levin				
Sep 16-22, 2024	8	19	72	1
Aug 31-Sep 7, 2020	10	17	72	1

¹² In the 2020 survey, respondents were asked to answer this question about "Fox News Cable Channel" for CAMP20NEWS_a, "ABC, CBS, or NBC national network TV" for CAMP20NEWS_d, and "Talk radio, such as Rush Limbaugh or Sean Hannity" for CAMP20NEWS_h. In the 2024 survey, a random sample of half of respondents were shown those items, and half of respondents were shown the items shown here, which have been amended for clarity and accuracy. For CAMP20NEWS_h, the sample was split between "Conservative talk radio, such as Sean Hannity or Mark Levin" and "Talk radio, such as Sean Hannity or Mark Levin". No systematic significant differences emerged between the two samples' responses, and so the respondents were combined into one sample.

ELECTFTIGUE

ASK ALL:

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1]

Thinking about the coverage of the presidential campaign and candidates, which comes closer to your view?

Sep 16- Sep 22, 2024		Apr 8- Apr 14, 2024	Oct 6- Oct 12, 2020	Jun 7- Jul 5, 2016
39	I like seeing a lot of coverage of the campaign and candidates	35	37	39
59	I am worn out by so much coverage of the campaign and candidates	62	61	59
1	No answer	3	2	1

ELECTINT

ASK ALL:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1]

When it comes to news about the presidential campaign and candidates, how interested are you in getting news about each of the following?

		Extremely <u>interested</u>	Very <u>interested</u>	Somewhat <u>interested</u>	Not too <u>interested</u>	Not at all <u>interested</u>	No <u>answer</u>
PER	The candidates' personal lives Sep 16-22, 2024	4	10	32	35	19	*
ISS	The candidates' stances on issues Sep 16-22, 2024	43	33	16	4	4	*
EXP	The candidates' career experience Sep 16-22, 2024	18	31	31	12	7	*
MOR	The candidates' moral character Sep 16-22, 2024	28	32	26	8	5	*
RAC	Which candidate is leading in the race Sep 16-22, 2024	16	26	35	14	9	*
ACT	Candidates' actions and comments on the campaign trail Sep 16-22, 2024	18	31	33	11	6	*

ELECTTOPMOST**ASK ALL:****[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS 1-6, HOLDING 7 LAST]**

When it comes to news about the presidential campaign and candidates, which of the following topics would you say you see the most news about?

Sep 16-
Sep 22,
2024

- | | |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8 | The candidates' personal lives |
| 17 | The candidates' stances on issues |
| 3 | The candidates' career experience |
| 14 | The candidates' moral character |
| 13 | Which candidate is leading in the race |
| 40 | Candidates' actions and comments on the campaign trail |
| | Something else (please specify): [PN: INSERT SINGLE |
| 4 | LINE TEXT BOX] |
| 2 | No answer |

NEWS24**ASK ALL:****[PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF SCREENS 1 AND 2; RANDOMIZE ITEMS WITHIN EACH SCREEN]**

How much, if anything, have you heard or read about each of the following?

		<u>A lot</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Nothing at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
ASSAS	The attempted assassination of Donald Trump in July Sep 16-22, 2024	66	29	4	*
HARRIS	Kamala Harris replacing Joe Biden as the Democratic candidate Sep 16-22, 2024	70	25	5	*
VANCE	JD Vance, Trump's vice presidential candidate Sep 16-22, 2024	36	47	16	*
WALZ	Tim Walz, Harris' vice presidential candidate Sep 16-22, 2024	32	47	21	*
RFK	Former independent candidate Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. endorsing Donald Trump Sep 16-22, 2024	22	55	23	*
DEB	The debate between Kamala Harris and Donald Trump Sep 16-22, 2024	64	30	6	*
DNC	The Democratic National Convention in August Sep 16-22, 2024	29	45	25	*
RNC	The Republican National Convention in July Sep 16-22, 2024	24	49	27	*

PARTY**ASK ALL¹³:**

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

Sep 16-
Sep 22,
2024

29	Republican
29	Democrat
29	Independent
13	Something else
1	No answer

PARTYLN**ASK IF INDEP, SOMETHING ELSE OR REFUSED (PARTY=3, 4 OR REFUSED) [N=3,856]:**

As of today do you lean more to...

BASED ON TOTAL [N=9,680]:

Sep 16-
Sep 22,
2024

19	The Republican Party
19	The Democratic Party
4	No answer

¹³ Respondents indicated their party in previous surveys.