

**2025 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 163 FEBRUARY 2025
INTERNET TOPLINE
FEBRUARY 10-17, 2025
TOTAL N=5,097**

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). For additional details, visit the methodology.

PN = Programming note

	Sample size	Margin of error at 95% confidence level
U.S. adults	5,097	+/- 1.6 percentage points

SM9

ASK ALL:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS]¹

How well do you think each of the following statements describes social media? Social media...

	<u>Very well</u>	<u>Somewhat well</u>	<u>Not too well</u>	<u>Not at all well</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Helps give a voice to underrepresented groups					
Feb 10-17, 2025	18	51	23	8	1
May 15-21, 2023	16	50	25	8	1
Jul 13-19, 2020	18	46	24	11	1
May 29-Jun 11, 2018	17	48	25	9	1
b. Distracts people from issues that are truly important					
Feb 10-17, 2025	36	43	15	5	1

¹ In the July 2020 survey, the question wording was: "How well do you think each of the following statements describes social media? Do you think social media..." In May 2018, question wording was: "Now thinking specifically about some of the ways that people use social media to engage with political or social issues that are important to them... How well do you think each of the following statements describes social media?"

May 15-21, 2023	39	43	14	4	*
Jul 13-19, 2020	38	41	15	5	2
May 29-Jun 11, 2018	35	42	16	5	1
c. Highlights important issues that might not get a lot of attention otherwise					
Feb 10-17, 2025	19	50	23	8	1
May 15-21, 2023	16	51	25	8	1
Jul 13-19, 2020	18	48	24	9	1
May 29-Jun 11, 2018	16	48	26	9	1
d. Makes it easier to hold powerful people accountable for their actions					
Feb 10-17, 2025	12	37	34	17	1
May 15-21, 2023	10	36	37	16	1
Jul 13-19, 2020	13	38	31	17	1
May 29-Jun 11, 2018	15	42	28	14	1
e. Makes people think they are making a difference when they really aren't					
Feb 10-17, 2025	30	46	18	5	1
May 15-21, 2023	28	48	19	4	1
Jul 13-19, 2020	32	44	17	5	2
May 29-Jun 11, 2018	28	43	21	6	2

SM11

**ASK IF SOCIAL MEDIA USER (SNSUSE=1) [N=4,113]²:
[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS]³**

How important is social media to you personally when it comes to the following things?

	Very <u>important</u>	Somewhat <u>important</u>	Not very <u>important</u>	Not important <u>at all</u>	No answer
a. Finding other people who share your views about important issues					
Feb 10-17, 2025	15	35	28	22	*
May 15-21, 2023	10	30	30	31	*
Jun 16-22, 2020	14	31	28	27	1
May 29-Jun 11, 2018	13	29	30	27	1
b. Getting involved with political or social issues that are important to you					
Feb 10-17, 2025	12	30	29	29	*
May 15-21, 2023	7	23	33	37	*
Jun 16-22, 2020	14	29	27	29	1
May 29-Jun 11, 2018	12	28	28	32	1

² Respondents received SM11 if they previously answered "Yes, I use social media sites" to the question: "Do you ever use social media sites like Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), or Instagram?"

³ In the June 2020 and May 2018 surveys, the question wording was: "How important, if at all, is social media to you personally when it comes to the following things?"

c. Giving you a venue to express your political opinions

Feb 10-17, 2025	11	23	27	38	*
May 15-21, 2023	7	20	30	43	*
Jun 16-22, 2020	15	25	27	33	1
May 29-Jun 11, 2018	12	25	27	36	1

ASK ALL:

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

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

PARTYLN As of today, do you lean more to...⁴

<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Something else</u>	<u>No answer</u>	<i>Lean Rep</i>	<i>Lean Dem</i>
28	29	29	13	1	20	18

⁴ PARTY and PARTYLN asked in a prior survey.