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Confidence in Trump Dips, and Fewer Now Say They Support His Policies and Plans

Rising share of Democrats want their party's congressional leaders to stand up to Trump

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About this research

This Pew Research Center report looks at how the U.S. public feels about Trump's job performance, their expectations for his administration, and their views about whether congressional leaders should work with each other and the president.

Why did we do this?

Pew Research Center conducted this research to check in on how the public is feeling about the Trump administration. It is part of our regular work to understand how Americans feel about the policies, actions and events that occur during the presidency – as well as to understand how Americans feel about current events.

Our research on presidents dates back to the 1980s, and has continued through the current Trump administration.

Learn more [about Pew Research Center](#) and our [politics research](#).

How did we do this?

We conducted a survey from January 20 through January 26, 2016 among 8,512 U.S. adults recruited through our American Trends panel.

Here are the [survey questions](#) used for this report, the [detailed responses](#) and the [survey methodology](#).

Confidence in Trump dips, and fewer now say they support his policies and plans

Rising share of Democrats want their party's congressional leaders to stand up to Trump

By Hannah Hartig and Jocelyn Kiley

A year into his second administration, Americans' views of President Donald Trump – already more negative than positive – have continued to slip.

- Trump's approval rating stands at 37%, down from 40% in the fall.
- By more than two-to-one, Americans say the administration's actions have been worse than they expected (50%) rather than better (21%).
- Only about a quarter of Americans today (27%) say they support *all or most* of Trump's policies and plans, down from 35% when he returned to office last year. That change has come entirely among Republicans.

A new Pew Research Center survey of 8,512 U.S. adults, conducted Jan. 20-26, also finds that – across six key qualities and abilities needed to serve as president – more Americans express little or no confidence in Trump than say they are extremely or very confident in him.

Confidence is down on all six measures since last year, particularly among Republicans.

Related: [How Americans See Immigration Officers' Behaviors and Civilian Actions](#)

Half of Americans say Trump's actions have been worse than they expected

% who ____ of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president



% who say the Trump administration's actions since taking office last year have been ____ expected



% who support ____ of Donald Trump's policies and plans



Note: No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 20-26, 2026.

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Trump's qualities and abilities as president

Today, 34% of Americans say they are extremely or very confident that Trump has the leadership skills needed to serve as president. A larger share (51%) are not too or not at all confident. Another 14% are somewhat confident.

Similarly, about half say they are not too or not at all confident Trump has the mental fitness (52%) or physical fitness (50%) to do the job. Roughly three-in-ten express confidence on these measures.

Many Americans lack confidence in Trump on several measures, including his ethics in office

% who say, thinking about the qualities needed to serve as president, they are ___ confident that Donald Trump ...

	Extremely/ Very	Somewhat	Not too/ Not at all
Has leadership skills to do the job	34	14	51
Has mental fitness to do the job	32	16	52
Has physical fitness to do the job	28	22	50
Picks good advisers	25	18	57
Respects the country's democratic values	25	15	59
Acts ethically in office	21	18	60

No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 20-26, 2026.

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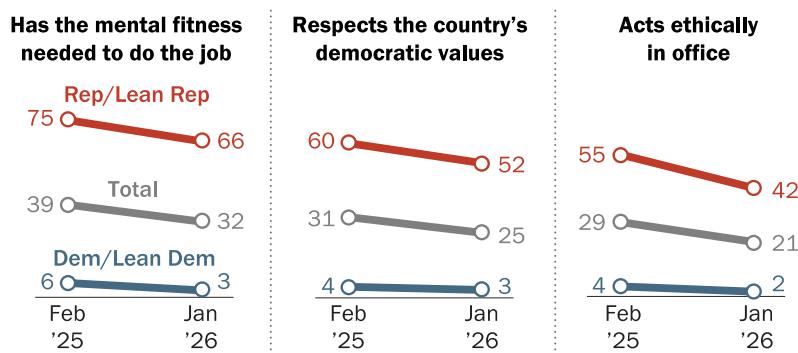
Even fewer say they are confident that Trump respects the country's democratic values (25% are extremely or very confident) or that he picks good advisers (25%).

Americans express the least amount of confidence in Trump to act ethically in office. Just 21% are extremely or very confident he does this, while 60% express little or no confidence.

While overall confidence in Trump's ethics in office was already relatively low last February (29%), it has declined 8 percentage points since. **And nearly all of that drop has come among Republicans:** At the beginning of Trump's second term, a 55% majority of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents said they were confident that Trump acts ethically in office, but that share now stands at 42%.

Republican confidence in Trump to respect country's democratic values, act ethically in office declines

% who say, thinking about the qualities needed to serve as president, they are extremely/very confident that Donald Trump ...



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 20-26, 2026.

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There's a similar pattern across all six qualities we asked about.

For example, 60% of Republicans said last February that they were extremely or very confident Trump respects the country's democratic values – it's 52% today. And while 66% of Republicans say he has the mental fitness to do the job, that's down from three-quarters last year.

Democrats' confidence in Trump on these measures remains very low.

For full trend on each of the qualities asked on the survey, refer to chart appendix.

Support for Trump's policies

There has also been a significant decline over the last year in the share of adults who say they agree with Trump's plans and policies.

- Last year, 35% said they supported all or most of his plans, 17% supported some of them and 47% supported only a few or none.
- Today, 27% say they support all or most, 20% support some and 52% support few or none.

The decline in support has come exclusively among Republicans. Last year, 67% said they supported all or most of Trump's plans and policies. Today, 56% do.

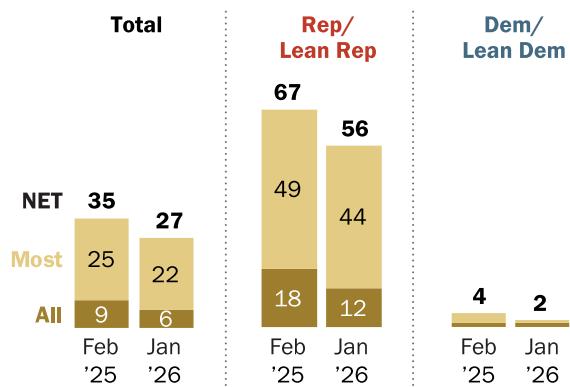
Very small shares of Democrats say they support his policies. Most (87%) support only a few or none.

Related: [Few Americans support Trump's proposed takeover of Greenland.](#)

[For full trend details, refer to the appendix.](#)

Republican support for Trump's agenda has declined over the last year

% who say they support all/most of Donald Trump's plans and policies



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 20-26, 2026.

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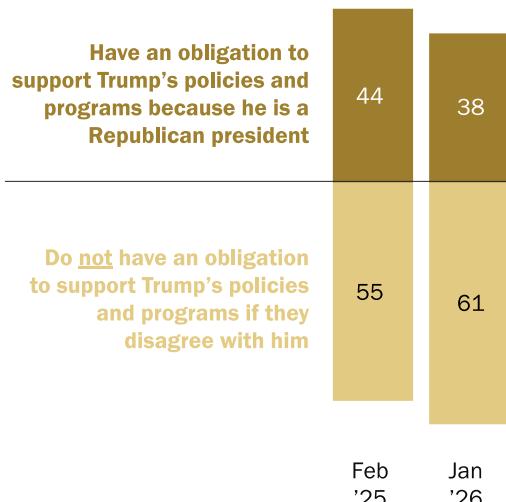
Do Republicans in Congress have an obligation to support Trump?

Today, 38% of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents say that congressional Republicans “have an obligation to support Trump’s policies and programs because he is a Republican president.” But a far larger share (61%) say GOP members of Congress *do not* have an obligation to support Trump if they disagree with him.

The share saying Republicans in Congress do not have this obligation is up since last year, from 55%.

Republicans increasingly say GOP members of Congress aren’t obligated to support Trump if they disagree with him

% of *Rep/Lean Rep* who say Republicans in Congress ...



Note: No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 20-26, 2026.

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Other key findings from the survey

- Democrats overwhelmingly say their congressional leadership should stand up to Trump.**

Today, 82% (up from 70% last year) want to see their leaders pushing back against Trump, even if that makes it harder to address problems. A smaller majority of Republicans (61%) say Trump should stand up to Democratic leaders. This is similar to their views a year ago.

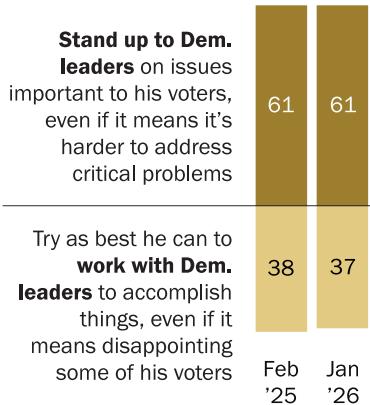
- Nearly half of Americans (47%) now say Trump will be an unsuccessful president**

in the long term. This share is up 14 points since last year, with most of this change occurring among Democrats. A majority of Republicans continue to say Trump will be successful in the long run.

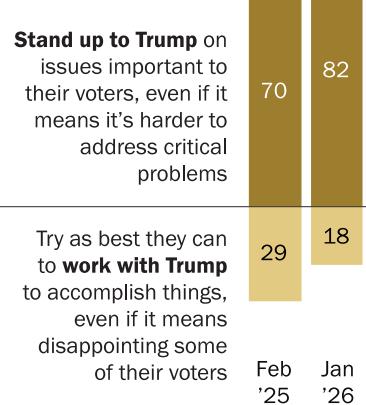
- Trump's approval among Republicans is now 73% – down slightly since September.** Older Americans, White adults and those without a college degree continue to approve of his performance more than others. [See detailed tables for additional demographic breaks.](#)

Democrats increasingly say their congressional leaders should stand up to Trump on their issues

% of **Rep/Lean Rep** who say Donald Trump should ...



% of **Dem/Lean Dem** who say Democratic congressional leaders should ...



Note: No answer responses are not shown.

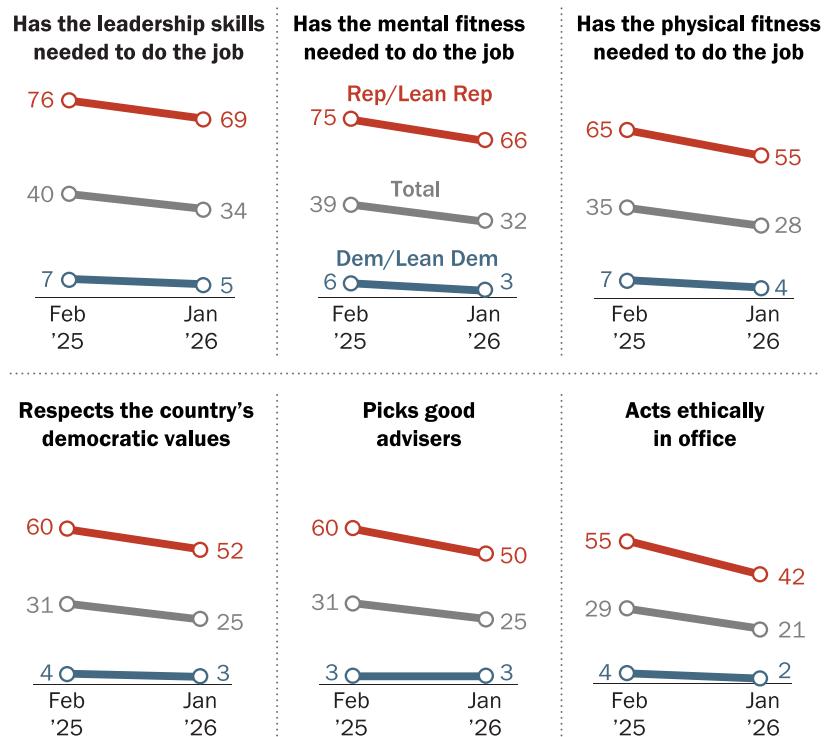
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 20-26, 2026.

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Appendix: Additional charts

Confidence in Trump on several key qualities and abilities needed to serve as president

% who say, thinking about the qualities needed to serve as president, they are extremely/very confident that Donald Trump ...

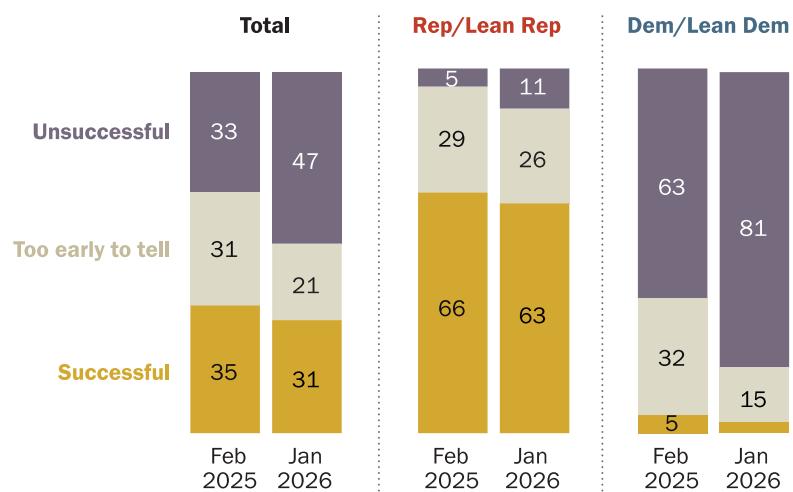


Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 20-26, 2026.

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Will Trump be a successful president in the long term?

% who say Donald Trump will be a(n) ___ president in the long run



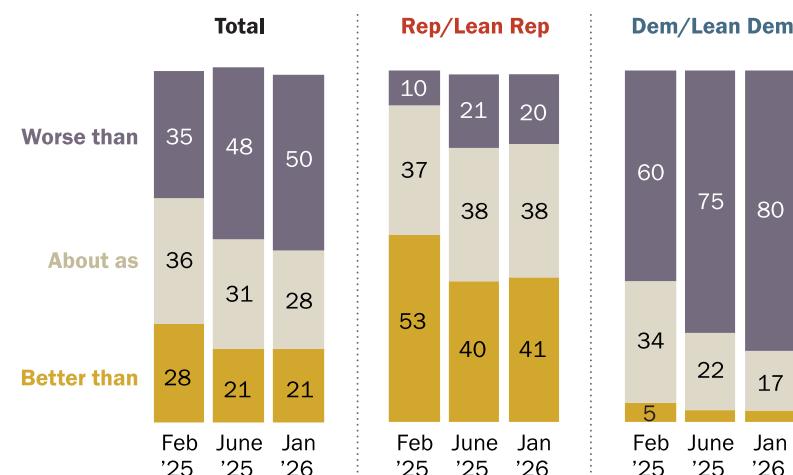
Note: No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 20-26, 2026.

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Have the Trump administration's actions since taking office in 2025 been better or worse than expected?

% who say the Trump administration's actions since taking office last year have been ___ expected



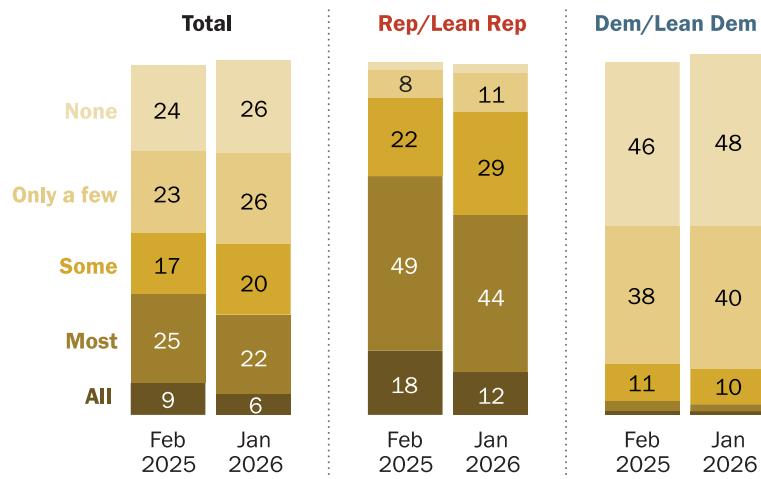
Note: No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 20-26, 2026.

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Public support for Trump's policies and plans

% who say they support ____ of Donald Trump's policies and plans



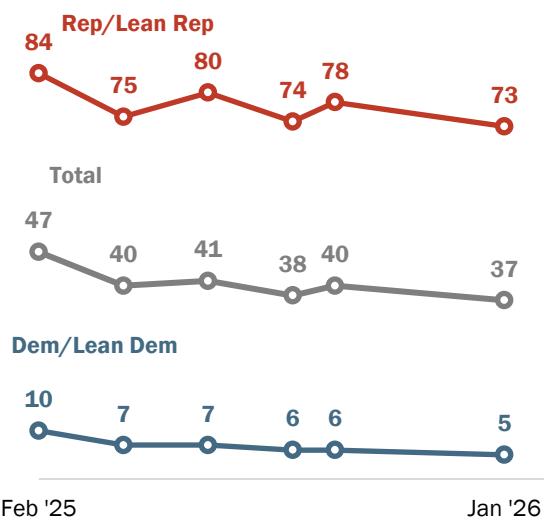
Note: No answer responses are not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 20-26, 2026.

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Trump's approval rating in first year of his second term

% who *approve* of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 20-26, 2026.

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Acknowledgments

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Methodology

The American Trends Panel survey methodology

Overview

Data in this report comes from Wave 185 of the American Trends Panel (ATP), Pew Research Center’s nationally representative panel of randomly selected U.S. adults. The survey was conducted from Jan. 20 to Jan. 26, 2026. A total of 8,512 panelists responded out of 9,302 who were sampled, for a survey-level response rate of 92%.

The cumulative response rate accounting for all stages of nonresponse and attrition is 3%. The break-off rate among panelists who logged on to the survey and completed at least one item is 2%. The margin of sampling error for the full sample of 8,512 respondents is plus or minus 1.4 percentage points.

The survey includes [oversamples](#) of non-Hispanic Asian adults and adults ages 18-to-29 in order to provide more precise estimates of the opinions and experiences of these smaller demographic subgroups. These oversampled groups are weighted back to reflect their correct proportions in the population.

SSRS conducted the survey for Pew Research Center via online (n=8,272) and live telephone (n=240) interviewing. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish.

To learn more about the ATP, read “[About the American Trends Panel](#).”

Panel recruitment

Since 2018, the ATP has used address-based sampling (ABS) for recruitment. A study cover letter and a pre-incentive are mailed to a stratified, random sample of households selected from the U.S. Postal Service’s Computerized Delivery Sequence File. This Postal Service file has been estimated to cover 90% to 98% of the population.¹ Within each sampled household, the adult with the next birthday is selected to participate. Other details of the ABS recruitment protocol have changed over time but are available upon request.² Prior to 2018, the ATP was recruited using landline and cellphone random-digit-dial surveys administered in English and Spanish.

¹ AAPOR Task Force on Address-based Sampling. 2016. “[AAPOR Report: Address-based Sampling](#).”

² Email pewsurveys@pewresearch.org.

A national sample of U.S. adults has been recruited to the ATP approximately once per year since 2014. In some years, the recruitment has included additional efforts (known as an “oversample”) to improve the accuracy of data for underrepresented groups. For example, Hispanic adults, Black adults and Asian adults were oversampled in 2019, 2022 and 2023, respectively.

Sample design

The overall target population for this survey was noninstitutionalized persons ages 18 and older living in the United States. It featured a stratified random sample from among ATP members who previously completed Wave 183. Non-Hispanic Asian adults and adults ages 18 to 29 were selected with certainty. The remaining panelists were sampled at rates designed to ensure that the share of respondents in each stratum is proportional to its share of the U.S. adult population to the greatest extent possible. Respondent weights are adjusted to account for differential probabilities of selection as described in the Weighting section below.

Questionnaire development and testing

The questionnaire was developed by Pew Research Center in consultation with SSRS. The web program used for online respondents was rigorously tested on both PC and mobile devices by the SSRS project team and Pew Research Center researchers. The SSRS project team also populated test data that was analyzed in SPSS to ensure the logic and randomizations were working as intended before launching the survey.

Incentives

All respondents were offered a post-paid incentive for their participation. Respondents could choose to receive the post-paid incentive in the form of a check or gift code to Amazon.com, Target.com or Walmart.com. Incentive amounts ranged from \$5 to \$20 depending on whether the respondent belongs to a part of the population that is harder or easier to reach. Differential incentive amounts were designed to increase panel survey participation among groups that traditionally have low survey response propensities.

Data collection protocol

The data collection field period for this survey was Jan. 20 to Jan. 26, 2026. Surveys were conducted via self-administered web survey or by live telephone interviewing.

For panelists who take surveys online:³ Postcard notifications were mailed to a subset on Jan. 20.⁴ Survey invitations were sent out in two separate launches: soft launch and full launch. Sixty panelists were included in the soft launch, which began with an initial invitation sent on Jan. 20. All remaining English- and Spanish-speaking sampled online panelists were included in the full launch and were sent an invitation on Jan. 21.

**Invitation and reminder dates for web respondents,
ATP Wave**

	Soft launch	Full launch
Initial invitation	Jan. 20, 2026	Jan. 21, 2026
First reminder	Jan. 22, 2026	Jan. 22, 2026
Final reminder	Jan. 24, 2026	Jan. 24, 2026

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Panelists participating online were sent an email invitation and up to two email reminders if they did not respond to the survey. ATP panelists who consented to SMS messages were sent an SMS invitation with a link to the survey and up to two SMS reminders.

For panelists who take surveys over the phone with a live interviewer: Prenotification postcards were mailed on Jan. 16. Soft launch took place on Jan. 20 and involved dialing until a total of four interviews had been completed. All remaining English- and Spanish-speaking sampled phone panelists' numbers were dialed throughout the remaining field period. Panelists who take surveys via phone can receive up to six calls from trained SSRS interviewers.

Data quality checks

To ensure high-quality data, Center researchers performed data quality checks to identify any respondents showing patterns of satisficing. This includes checking for whether respondents left questions blank at very high rates or always selected the first or last answer presented. As a result of this checking, two ATP respondents were removed from the survey dataset prior to weighting and analysis.

³ The ATP does not use routers or chains in any part of its online data collection protocol, nor are they used to direct respondents to additional surveys.

⁴ Postcard notifications for web panelists are sent to 1) panelists who were recruited within the last two years and 2) panelists recruited prior to the last two years who opt to continue receiving postcard notifications.

Weighting

The ATP data is weighted in a process that accounts for multiple stages of sampling and nonresponse that occur at different points in the panel survey process. First, each panelist begins with a base weight that reflects their probability of recruitment into the panel. These weights are then calibrated to align with the population benchmarks in the accompanying table to correct for nonresponse to recruitment surveys and panel attrition. If only a subsample of panelists was invited to participate in the wave, this weight is adjusted to account for any differential probabilities of selection. Because respondents to this wave were sampled from among respondents to Wave 183, the weights were also adjusted to account for nonresponse to Wave 183.

Among the panelists who completed the survey, this weight is then calibrated again to align with the population benchmarks identified in the accompanying table and trimmed at the 1st and 99th percentiles to reduce the loss in precision stemming from variance in the weights. Sampling errors and tests of statistical significance take into account the effect of weighting.

American Trends Panel weighting dimensions

Variable	Benchmark source
Age (detailed)	2023 American Community Survey (ACS)
Age x Gender	
Education x Gender	
Education x Age	
Race/Ethnicity x Education	
Race/Ethnicity x Gender	
Race/Ethnicity x Age	
Born inside vs. outside the U.S. among Hispanics and Asian Americans	
Years lived in the U.S.	
Census region x Metropolitan status	
Volunteerism	2023 CPS Volunteering & Civic Life Supplement
Frequency of internet use	2025 National Public Opinion Reference Survey (NPORS)
Religious affiliation	
Party affiliation x Race/Ethnicity	
Party affiliation x Age	
Validated 2024 presidential election turnout and vote choice	Candidate vote share is based on official results from the Federal Election Commission. Turnout is based on estimates from the Election Lab at the University of Florida. The size of the voting-eligible population is based on the 2023 ACS.

Note: Estimates from the ACS are based on noninstitutionalized adults. For weighting to the 2024 presidential election results, panelists are considered validated voters if their self-report of having voted was confirmed after matching to a national voter registry.

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The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey.

Sample sizes and margins of error, ATP Wave 185

Group	Unweighted sample size	Weighted %	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	8,512		1.4 percentage points
Half form	At least 4,250		2.0 percentage points
Rep/Lean Rep	3,913	46%	2.1 percentage points
Half form	At least 1,953		3.0 percentage points
Dem/Lean Dem	4,343	48%	2.0 percentage points
Half form	At least 2,164		2.8 percentage points

Note: This survey includes oversamples of non-Hispanic Asian adults and adults ages 18-to-29 respondents. Unweighted sample sizes do not account for the sample design or weighting and do not describe a group's contribution to weighted estimates. See the Sample design and Weighting sections above for details.

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Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request. In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Dispositions and response rates

Final dispositions, ATP Wave 185

	AAPOR code	Total
Completed interview	1.1	8,512
Logged in (web) / Contacted (CATI), but did not complete any items	2.11	145
Started survey; broke off before completion	2.12	100
Never logged on (web) / Never reached on phone (CATI)	2.20	541
Survey completed after close of the field period	2.27	0
Other non-interview	2.30	2
Completed interview but was removed for data quality	2.90	2
Total panelists sampled for the survey		9,302
Completed interviews	I	8,514
Partial interviews	P	0
Refusals	R	245
Non-contact	NC	541
Other	O	4
Unknown household	UH	0
Unknown other	UO	0
Not eligible	NE	0
Total		9,302
AAPOR RR1 = I / (I+P+R+NC+O+UH+UO)		92%

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Cumulative response rate, ATP Wave 185

	Total
Weighted response rate to recruitment surveys	12%
% of recruitment survey respondents who agreed to join the panel, among those invited	74%
% of those agreeing to join who were active panelists at start of Wave 185	40%
Response rate to Wave 183 survey	92%
Response rate to Wave 185 survey	92%
Cumulative response rate	3%

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2026 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 185 POLITICS JANUARY SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
January 20-26, 2026
N=8,512

Note: 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.

* "No answer" includes web respondents who do not answer the question as well as telephone respondents who refuse to answer or who say that 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.

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=4,250]:

SATIS All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>No answer*</u>
Jan 20-26, 2026	29	69	1
Oct 6-16, 2025	27	72	1
Aug 4-10, 2025	34	65	1
Apr 28-May 4, 2025	32	67	1
Mar 10-16, 2025	34	65	1
Jan 27-Feb 2, 2025	38	61	1
Nov 12-17, 2024	29	70	1
Sep 30-Oct 6, 2024	23	76	*
Aug 5-11, 2024	24	75	1
Jul 1-7, 2024	18	82	*
May 13-19, 2024	22	78	1
Jan 16-21, 2024	21	78	1
Nov 27-Dec 3, 2023	22	77	1
Jul 10-16, 2023	22	77	1
Jun 5-11, 2023	21	78	1
Mar 27-Apr 2, 2023	19	80	1
Jan 18-24, 2023	22	78	*
Nov 16-27, 2022	24	75	1
Oct 10-16, 2022	21	79	1
Aug 1-14, 2022	18	81	1
Apr 25-May 1, 2022	24	75	1
Jan 10-17, 2022	21	78	1
Sep 20-26, 2021	25	74	1
Sep 13-19, 2021	26	74	*
Mar 1-7, 2021	33	66	1
Nov 12-17, 2020	22	77	1
Sep 30-Oct 5, 2020	18	82	1
Jul 27-Aug 2, 2020	12	87	1

SATIS CONTINUED ...

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>No answer*</u>
Jun 16-22, 2020	12	87	1
Apr 7-12, 2020	31	68	1
Mar 19-24, 2020	33	66	1
Oct 29-Nov 11, 2019	31	69	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	28	71	1
Jul 22-Aug 4, 2019	27	72	1
Nov 27-Dec 10, 2018	34	65	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	36	63	1
Feb 28-Mar 12, 2017 ⁵	32	68	*
Sep 27-Oct 10, 2016	23	75	2
Jun 7-Jul 5, 2016	19	80	1
Sep 15-Oct 3, 2014	25	75	*

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=4,262]:

YEARAHEAD Looking ahead, as far as you are concerned, do you think that 2026 will be ...
[ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1]

	<u>Better than 2025</u>	<u>Worse than 2025</u>	<u>No answer*</u>
Jan 20-26, 2026	50	48	1
Jan 27-Feb 2, 2025	55	45	*
Jan 16-21, 2024	55	45	1
Jan 18-24, 2023	57	43	*
Jan 10-17, 2022	61	38	1
Jan 8-12, 2021	67	32	1
Jan 6-19, 2020	55	43	2

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Looking ahead, as far as you are concerned, do you think that [coming year] will be better or worse than [prior year]?

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Jan 8-13, 2020	55	34	11
Jan 9-14, 2019	47	43	10
Jan 10-15, 2018	61	29	11
Jan 4-9, 2017	49	42	9
Jan 7-14, 2016	56	30	14
Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	49	42	9
Jan 15-19, 2014	56	35	9
Dec 5-9, 2012	55	36	9
Jan 11-16, 2012	57	29	14
Dec 1-5, 2010	55	31	14
Jan 6-10, 2010	67	26	8
Jan 7-11, 2009	52	37	11
December, 2007	50	34	16
December, 2006	57	28	15
December, 1999	66	19	15
December, 1998	59	25	16
December, 1994	59	28	13
Gallup: December, 1993	64	20	16

¹ The W24.5 Mode Study survey was administered by web and phone. Results reported here are from web mode only.

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Gallup: December, 1992	61	11	28
Gallup: December, 1991	61	31	8
Gallup: December, 1990	48	42	10
Gallup: December, 1986	53	25	22
Gallup: December, 1985	64	20	17
Gallup: December, 1984	61	20	19
Gallup: December, 1982	50	32	18
Gallup: December, 1981	41	44	15

ASK ALL:

POL1DT Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

ASK IF ANSWERED POL1DT (POL1DT=1,2) [N=8,378]:

POL1DTSTR Do you [IF POL1DT=1: approve; IF POL1DT=2: disapprove] of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president...

	NET Approve	<u>Very</u> <u>strongly</u>	<u>Not so</u> <u>strongly</u>	<u>No</u> <u>answer</u> *	NET Disapprove	<u>Very</u> <u>strongly</u>	<u>Not so</u> <u>strongly</u>	<u>No</u> <u>answer</u> *	<u>No</u> <u>answer</u> *
Trump Second Term									
Jan 20-26, 2026	37	27	10	*	61	49	12	*	2
Sep 22-28, 2025	40	29	10	1	58	47	11	*	2
Aug 4-10, 2025	38	27	11	*	60	47	13	*	2
Jun 2-8, 2025	41	30	11	*	58	46	12	*	1
Apr 7-13, 2025	40	31	9	*	59	48	10	*	1
Jan 27-Feb 2, 2025	47	37	9	*	51	40	11	*	2
Trump First Term									
Jan 8-12, 2021	29	21	7	*	68	56	12	*	3
Jul 27-Aug 2, 2020	38	n/a	n/a	n/a	59	n/a	n/a	n/a	3
Jun 16-22, 2020	39	29	9	1	59	48	11	*	2
Apr 7-12, 2020	44	33	10	1	53	42	11	*	3
Mar 19-24, 2020	45	34	10	1	52	40	11	*	2
Jan 6-19, 2020	40	31	9	*	58	46	11	1	1
Sep 3-15, 2019	40	31	9	*	58	46	11	1	1
Jul 22-Aug 4, 2019	40	n/a	n/a	n/a	59	n/a	n/a	n/a	1
Apr 29-May 13, 2019	40	29	10	*	59	48	10	*	1
Feb 4-17, 2019	38	n/a	n/a	n/a	61	n/a	n/a	n/a	1
Nov 7-13, 2018	41	n/a	n/a	n/a	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	1
Sep 24-Oct 7, 2018	38	n/a	n/a	n/a	61	n/a	n/a	n/a	2
Jul 30-Aug 12, 2018	40	31	9	*	59	48	10	*	2
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	38	29	9	*	60	48	12	*	2
Aug 8-21, 2017	36	26	10	*	63	49	13	*	1
Apr 4-18, 2017	39	27	12	*	61	45	15	*	1
Feb 28-Mar 12, 2017 ⁶	44	30	13	*	56	43	12	*	1

See past presidents' approval trends: [Joe Biden](#), [Barack Obama](#), [George W. Bush](#), [Bill Clinton](#)⁶

The W24.5 Mode Study survey was administered by web and phone. Results reported here are from web mode only.

ASK ALL:

DTSUCCESS

In the long run, do you think Donald Trump will be...

[ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 3 LAST]

Jan 20-26, <u>2026</u>		Jan 27-Feb 2, <u>2025</u>	Jan 6-19, <u>2020</u>
31	A successful president	35	34
47	An unsuccessful president	33	48
21	Too early to tell	31	18
1	No answer*	1	1

TREND FOR COMPARISON:*In the long run, do you think Joe Biden will be...*

	Jan 8-12, <u>2021</u>
A successful president	29
An unsuccessful president	26
Too early to tell	44
No answer	1

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON*In the long run, do you think Donald Trump will be a successful or unsuccessful president, or do you think it is too early to tell?*

	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Too early to tell</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Trump				
Jan 8-13, 2020	36	37	26	1
Jan 9-14, 2019	29	47	23	1
Jan 10-15, 2018	23	41	34	1
Jan 4-9, 2017	21	20	58	1
Obama				
Jan 7-14, 2016	37	34	26	3
Jan 7-11, 2015	32	38	29	2
Jan 15-19, 2014	28	34	35	3
Jun 12-16, 2013	34	31	33	2
Jan 9-13, 2013	33	26	39	2
Jan 11-16, 2012	27	32	39	2
Jan 5-9, 2011	25	26	47	2
Jan 6-10, 2010	24	21	52	3
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	27	18	54	2
Jan 7-11, 2009	30	4	65	1
Bush				
January, 2007	24	45	27	4
January, 2006	27	37	32	4
Early October, 2005	26	41	30	3
January, 2005	36	27	35	2
December, 2003	39	20	38	3
Early October, 2002	40	15	44	1
January, 2001	26	15	58	1
Clinton				
January, 1999	44	24	29	3
Early September, 1998	38	24	35	3
February, 1995	18	34	43	5
October, 1994	14	35	48	3
May, 1994	21	26	52	1
January, 1994	21	19	57	3
October, 1993	18	25	56	1
September, 1993	22	22	54	2
August, 1993	13	25	60	2

ASK ALL:

QUALPRES_TRMP Thinking about the qualities needed to serve as president, how confident are you that Donald Trump...⁷
[ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1]

		Extremely confident	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not too confident	Not at all confident	No answer*
MF	Has the <u>mental</u> fitness needed to do the job						
	Jan 20-26, 2026	17	15	16	14	37	*
	Jan 27-Feb 2, 2025 ⁸	23	17	16	14	30	*
PHY	Has the <u>physical</u> fitness needed to do the job						
	Jan 20-26, 2026	12	15	22	19	31	1
	Jan 27-Feb 2, 2025 ⁹	17	18	24	17	24	1
RSP	Respects the country's democratic values						
	Jan 20-26, 2026	13	12	15	15	43	1
	Jan 27-Feb 2, 2025	17	14	16	14	39	*
	Apr 8-14, 2024	17	13	16	12	41	1
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=4,250]							
FIRM	Has the leadership skills needed to do the job						
Jan 20-26, 2026	19	15	14	14	36	*	
Jan 27-Feb 2, 2025	25	15	16	13	30	*	
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=4,262]							
ADV	Picks good advisers						
	Jan 20-26, 2026	11	14	18	17	40	1
	Jan 27-Feb 2, 2025 ¹⁰	16	15	18	14	37	1
ETH	Apr 8-14, 2024	11	14	22	15	37	1
	Acts ethically in office						
	Jan 20-26, 2026	9	12	18	15	45	1
	Jan 27-Feb 2, 2025	15	13	17	14	40	*
	Apr 8-14, 2024	11	12	17	14	45	1

⁷ Prior to January 2026, question was worded: "Thinking about the qualities needed to effectively serve another term as president, how confident are you that Donald Trump...?"

⁸ Prior to January 2026, the word "mental" was not underlined.

⁹ Prior to January 2026, the word "physical" was not underlined.

¹⁰ Prior to January 2026, the word "advisers" was spelled "advisors."

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=4,250]:**

Thinking about important issues facing the country today...

TRUMPISSUE1 Overall, would you say you tend to agree with Donald Trump on...

[ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1]

Jan 20-26, <u>2026</u>		Jul 1-7, <u>2024</u>	Feb 4-15, <u>2020</u>	Apr 25-May 1 <u>2018</u>	PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON: Aug 15-21 <u>2017</u>
13	All or nearly all issues	16	19	19	15
27	Many, but not all issues	25	23	22	18
22	A few issues	23	23	24	21
37	No or almost no issues	35	34	33	45
1	No answer*	1	1	2	1

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=4,250]:

TRUMPISSUE2 Now thinking not about issues, but just about the way Donald Trump conducts himself as president, would you say you...

[ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-3/3-1]

Jan 20-26, <u>2026</u>		Jul 1-7, <u>2024</u> ¹¹	Feb 4-15, <u>2020</u> ¹²	Apr 25-May 1 <u>2018</u>	PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON: Aug 15-21 <u>2017</u>
16	Like the way he conducts himself	13	15	19	16
32	Have mixed feelings about the way he conducts himself	32	30	26	25
51	Don't like the way he conducts himself	54	53	54	58
1	No answer*	1	3	2	1

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=4,262]:

NEWPRES_SUPP How many of Donald Trump's policies and plans would you say you support?

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

Jan 20-26, <u>2026</u>		Jan 27-Feb 2, <u>2025</u>
6	All of them	9
22	Most of them	25
20	Some of them	17
26	Only a few of them	23
26	None of them	24
1	No answer*	1

¹¹ In July 2024, the question was worded "Now thinking NOT about issues, but about Donald Trump's personal conduct, would you say you..."

¹² In February 2020, the question was worded "Now thinking NOT about issues, but just about the way Donald Trump conducts himself as president, would you say you..."

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=4,262]:

NEWPRES_ACTNS Would you say the Trump administration's actions since taking office last year have been... **[ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1]**

Jan 20-26, <u>2026</u>		Jun 2-8, <u>2025</u> ¹³	Jan 27-Feb 2, <u>2025</u>
11	A lot better than you expected	11	17
10	A little better than you expected	10	11
28	About what you expected	31	36
15	A little worse than you expected	17	12
34	A lot worse than you expected	32	24
1	No answer*	*	1

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF PRESWITHOP AND OPWITHPRES SUCH THAT FORM 1 (X_FORM=1) GETS PRESWITHOP FIRST AND OPWITHPRES SECOND WHILE FORM 2 (X_FORM=2) GETS OPWITHPRES FIRST AND PRESWITHOP SECOND]

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=4,250]:

PRESWITHOP This year, do you think Donald Trump should... **[ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 IN SAME ORDER AS OPWITHPRES]**

Jan 20-26, <u>2026</u>		Jan 27-Feb 2, <u>2025</u>
64	Try as best he can to work with Democratic congressional leaders to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing people who voted for him	63
33	Stand up to Democratic congressional leaders on issues that are important to people who voted for him, even if it means it's harder to address critical problems facing the country	35
2	No answer*	2

TREND FOR COMPARISON

This year, do you think Joe Biden should...

	Jan 16-21 <u>2024</u>	Jan 18-24, <u>2023</u>	Jan 10-17, <u>2022</u>	Jan 8-12, <u>2021</u> ¹⁴
Try as best he can to work with Republican congressional leaders to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing some people who voted for him	74	73	67	74
Stand up to Republican congressional leaders on issues that are important to the people who voted for him, even if it means it's harder to address critical problems facing the country	24	25	29	23
No answer	2	2	4	3

¹³ Prior to January 2026, the question was worded "Would you say the Trump administration's actions so far have been..."
¹⁴ In January 2021, second response option was worded as "... on issues that are important to his supporters ...".

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=4,262]:

OPWITHPRES This year, do you think Democratic congressional leaders should... **[ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 IN SAME ORDER AS PRESWITHOP]**

Jan 20-26, <u>2026</u>	49	Try as best they can to work with Donald Trump to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing people who voted for them	55
	49	Stand up to Donald Trump on issues that are important to people who voted for them, even if it means it's harder to address critical problems facing the country	43
	2	No answer*	2

TREND FOR COMPARISON

This year, do you think Republican congressional leaders should...

		Jan 16-21 <u>2024</u>	Jan 18-24, <u>2023</u>	Jan 10-17, <u>2022</u>	Jan 8-12, <u>2021</u>
Try as best they can to work with Joe Biden to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing some Republican voters		60	63	61	66
Stand up to Joe Biden on issues that are important to Republican voters, even if it means it's harder to address critical problems facing the country		37	35	37	31
No answer		3	2	2	3

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**

IMMIG_FAVOPP Thinking about immigration policy, do you favor or oppose each of the following?
[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1 IN SAME ORDER AS VEN_MADREMV]

		Strongly <u>favor</u>	Somewhat <u>favor</u>	Somewhat <u>oppose</u>	Strongly <u>oppose</u>	No <u>answer</u> *
SCMED	Requiring people who want to enter the U.S. to let immigration officers review their social media accounts Jan 20-26, 2026	25	31	20	23	2
FEE	Giving people priority in the immigration process if they pay a \$1 million fee Jan 20-26, 2026	5	14	20	60	2
ASY	Suspending all asylum applications from people seeking to live in the U.S. to escape violence or danger Jan 20-26, 2026	11	21	30	36	2
MIL	Maintaining a large military presence at the U.S. border with Mexico Jan 20-26, 2026	31	31	21	16	1

IMMIG_FAVOPP CONTINUED ...

			Strongly <u>favor</u>	Somewhat <u>favor</u>	Somewhat <u>oppose</u>	Strongly <u>oppose</u>	No <u>answer</u> *
DTN	Keeping large numbers of immigrants in detention centers while their cases are decided	Jan 20-26, 2026	14	21	24	40	2
PAU75	Pausing visa applications from people in 75 countries seeking to legally immigrate to the U.S.	Jan 20-26, 2026	16	23	30	30	2

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF IMMIGPPL_ACCEPT AND IMMIGAGNT_ACCEPT]****ASK ALL:**

IMMIGPPL_ACCEPT

Do you think each of the following is acceptable or unacceptable for people to do? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1 IN SAME ORDER AS IMMIGAGNT_ACCEPT]**

			Definitely <u>acceptable</u>	Probably <u>acceptable</u>	Probably <u>unacceptable</u>	Definitely <u>unacceptable</u>	No <u>answer</u> *
VDEO	Record video of immigration officers while they make arrests	Jan 20-26, 2026	48	26	13	12	1
TRCK	Share information about where immigration officers are arresting people	Jan 20-26, 2026	35	24	18	22	1
REPT	Report people who they think may be in the country illegally to immigration officers	Jan 20-26, 2026	22	30	22	25	2

ASK ALL:

IMMIGAGNT_ACCEPT

Do you think each of the following is acceptable or unacceptable for federal immigration officers to do? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1 IN SAME ORDER AS IMMIGPPL_ACCEPT]**

			Definitely acceptable	Probably acceptable	Probably unacceptable	Definitely unacceptable	No answer*
MASK	Wear face coverings that hide their identities while working	Jan 20-26, 2026	21	16	15	46	1
NGBH	Increase their presence in neighborhoods with many immigrants	Jan 20-26, 2026	18	26	21	33	1
RLAN	Use a person's looks or the language they speak as a reason to check their immigration status	Jan 20-26, 2026	10	18	20	51	1
CITZ	Arrest U.S. citizens who help people avoid immigration officers	Jan 20-26, 2026	23	21	20	34	2

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=4,250]:**

EXPAND_GRNLND_MOD

Donald Trump has mentioned an interest in the U.S. taking over Greenland. How likely do you think it is that Donald Trump will do this? **[ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 HOLDING 6 LAST]**

Jan 20-26, 2026		Mar 24-30, 2025 ¹⁵
8	Extremely likely	7
12	Very likely	16
21	Somewhat likely	28
22	Not too likely	22
17	Not at all likely	13
19	Not sure	14
1	No answer*	*

¹⁵

In the 2025 survey, question was worded "Donald Trump has mentioned an interest in the U.S. taking over Greenland. How likely do you think it is that Donald Trump will pursue this?"

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=4,250]:

EXPAND2_GRNLND

Do you favor or oppose the U.S. taking over Greenland, as Donald Trump has proposed? **[ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1 HOLDING 5 LAST]**

Jan 20-26, <u>2026</u>		Mar 24-30, <u>2025</u>
10	Strongly favor	8
12	Somewhat favor	15
13	Somewhat oppose	12
45	Strongly oppose	43
20	Not sure	22
1	No answer*	1

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK REPUBLICAN AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS (XPARTYSUMFINAL=1) [N=3,913]:**

REPWORKTRMP

Which comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

Republicans in Congress... **[ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1]**

Jan 20-26, <u>2026</u>		Jan 27-Feb 2, <u>2025</u>
38	Have an obligation to support Donald Trump's policies and programs because he is a Republican president	44
61	Do <u>not</u> have an obligation to support Donald Trump's policies and programs if they disagree with him	55
1	No answer*	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...¹⁶

Republican	Democrat	Independent	Something else	No answer*	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
28	26	29	15	2	18	21

¹⁶ PARTY and PARTYLN asked in a prior survey.