

**2026 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 194: Religion Questions
May 26-June 1, 2026**

**TOPLINE
N=9,750**

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	9,750	+/- 1.4 percentage points

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS RELEASED PREVIOUSLY OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

**PPLFAV_a
ASK ALL:**

Is your overall opinion of Pope Leo XIV...

	NET Fav	<i>Very favorable</i>	<i>Mostly favorable</i>	NET Unfav	<i>Mostly unfavorable</i>	<i>Very unfavorable</i>	Never heard of this person	No answer
May 26-Jun 1, 2026	61	19	42	18	13	5	19	2
Jul 8-Aug 3, 2025	62	17	45	8	6	2	27	3

TREND FOR COMPARISON**ASK ALL:**

PPLFAV_a Is your overall opinion of Pope Francis...

	NET	<i>Very</i>	<i>Mostly</i>	NET	<i>Mostly</i>	<i>Very</i>	Never	No
	Favorable	<i>fav</i>	<i>fav</i>	Unfavorable	<i>unfav</i>	<i>unfav</i>	heard	answer
							of this	
							person	
Feb 3-9, 2025	53	9	44	32	21	12	13	2
Feb 13-25, 2024	57	11	46	29	19	10	11	3
Sep 20-26, 2021	60	15	46	28	18	10	8	3
Mar 1-7, 2021	63	14	49	28	18	10	7	2
Feb 4-15, 2020	64	16	48	27	17	9	7	2

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON**ASK ALL:**

Q. 51 Next, is your overall opinion of **[INSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE]** very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable? How about **[NEXT NAME]**? **[IF NECESSARY:** Just in general, is your overall opinion of **[NAME]** very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?] **[INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]**

	NET	<i>Very</i>	<i>Mostly</i>	NET	<i>Mostly</i>	<i>Very</i>	(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Favorable	<i>fav</i>	<i>fav</i>	Unfavorable	<i>unfav</i>	<i>unfav</i>	heard	Can't
							of this	rate/Ref
							person	
Pope Francis								
Jan 8-13, 2020	59	17	42	26	15	11	4	11
Sep 18-24, 2018	51	13	38	27	15	11	3	19
Jan 10-15, 2018	62	26	37	18	11	7	3	16
Jan 4-9, 2017	70	30	40	19	13	7	2	9
Oct 1-4, 2015	68	35	33	12	7	5	5	15
May 5-Jun 7, 2015	64	29	35	10	5	4	8	19
Feb 18-22, 2015	70	29	40	15	10	5	5	11
Feb 14-23, 2014	66	30	36	11	7	4	7	16
Sep 4-8, 2013	58	21	37	12	7	4	10	20
Mar 28-31, 2013	57	22	35	14	9	6	6	22
Pope Benedict XVI								
Feb 14-17, 2013	49	14	34	27	16	12	4	20
Apr, 2008	61	22	39	17	9	8	4	18
Mar, 2008	52	18	34	18	12	6	7	23
Aug, 2007	50	14	36	18	12	6	8	24
Jul, 2005	44	10	34	11	7	4	4	41
Pope John Paul II								
Jun, 1996	76	28	48	13	9	4	1	10
May, 1990	79	31	48	11	7	4	1	9
May, 1987	76	28	48	14	10	4	1	9

[PN: SHOW POPE_CRITICAL AND POPE_CRITICIZED ON SAME SCREEN; RANDOMIZE ORDER OF POPE_CRITICAL AND POPE_CRITICIZED]

POPE_CRITICAL

ASK IF HAS AN OPINION ABOUT POPE LEO OR DID NOT ANSWER PPLFAV_a (PPLFAV_a=1,2,3,4,98,99):

Do you think Pope Leo XIV...

SUMMARY TABLE BASED ON TOTAL:

May 26-	
Jun 1,	
<u>2026</u>	
15	Has been too critical of the Trump administration
17	Has not been critical enough of the Trump administration
27	Is striking the right balance
21	Not sure
1	No answer
19	NOT ASKED ("Never heard of" Pope Leo in PPLFAV_a)

POPE_CRITICIZED

ASK IF HAS AN OPINION ABOUT POPE LEO OR DID NOT ANSWER PPLFAV_a (PPLFAV_a=1,2,3,4,98,99):

Do you think Donald Trump...

SUMMARY TABLE BASED ON TOTAL:

May 26-	
Jun 1,	
<u>2026</u>	
41	Has been too critical of Pope Leo XIV
5	Has not been critical enough of Pope Leo XIV
12	Is striking the right balance
23	Not sure
1	No answer
19	NOT ASKED ("Never heard of" Pope Leo in PPLFAV_a)

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS RELEASED PREVIOUSLY OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE