

2026 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
Wave 196: Politics Survey
July 6 – 12, 2026

QUESTIONNAIRE

Note: The questions presented below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel. For all questions, the 98 ("don't know" in phone mode) and 99 (refusal in phone mode and no answer in web mode) codes are combined in the data for analytical purposes.

PN = Programming note

CODEBOOK FOR ATP SAMPLE VARIABLES TO BE USED IN SURVEY PROGRAMMING LOGIC

X_FORM

- 1 Form 1
- 2 Form 2

Note: Flag to randomly assign panelists to one of two forms (Form 1, Form 2) and weight within form
Source: Randomly assigned for each survey.

X_CITIZEN

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 99 Refused

Note: Flag to identify citizens filtered on CONG, POL10.
Source: Frame file variable F_CITIZEN.

 -----**MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE BEGINS HERE**-----

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****QUE: DTHPNLTY****ASK ALL:**

Do you favor or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?

[PN: IF CATI:] **(READ LIST)**

- 1 Strongly favor
- 2 Somewhat favor
- 3 Somewhat oppose
- 4 Strongly oppose
- 98 [PN: IF CATI:] **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

TXT:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF DTHPNLTYA, DTHPNLTYB, DTHPNLTYCMOD, AND DTHPNLTYD ON SAME SCREEN WITH A VISUAL LINE SEPARATOR BETWEEN EACH; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

TXT:

[PN: DISPLAY TO ALL:]

Next are a few pairs of statements about the death penalty in the U.S. Please choose the statement that comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right.

[PN: IF WEB:] *Please select one item from each pair.*

QUE: DTHPNLTYA**ASK ALL:**

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF CATI:] (First/Next), **(READ LIST)**

[PN: IF CATI:] **(RE-READ QUESTION STEM IF NECESSARY:** Next are a few pairs of statements about the death penalty in the U.S. Please choose the statement that comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right.)

- 1 The death penalty deters people from committing serious crimes
- 2 The death penalty does not deter people from committing serious crimes
- 98 [PN: IF CATI:] **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: DTHPNLTBY**ASK ALL:**

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF CATI:] (First/Next), (READ LIST)

[PN: IF CATI:] (RE-READ QUESTION STEM IF NECESSARY: Next are a few pairs of statements about the death penalty in the U.S. Please choose the statement that comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right.)

- 1 When someone commits a crime like murder, the death penalty is morally justified
- 2 The death penalty is morally wrong, even when someone commits a crime like murder
- 98 [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Don't know
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

QUE: DTHPNLTBYMOD**ASK ALL:**

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF CATI:] (First/Next), (READ LIST)

[PN: IF CATI:] (RE-READ QUESTION STEM IF NECESSARY: Next are a few pairs of statements about the death penalty in the U.S. Please choose the statement that comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right.)

- 1 Black people are more likely than White people to be sentenced to the death penalty for committing similar crimes
- 2 White people and Black people are equally likely to be sentenced to the death penalty for committing similar crimes
- 98 [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Don't know
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

QUE: DTHPNLTBYD**ASK ALL:**

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF CATI:] (First/Next), (READ LIST)

[PN: IF CATI:] (RE-READ QUESTION STEM IF NECESSARY: Next are a few pairs of statements about the death penalty in the U.S. Please choose the statement that comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right.)

- 1 There is some risk that an innocent person will be put to death
- 2 There are adequate safeguards to ensure that no innocent person will be put to death
- 98 [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Don't know
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE
