Polarization Research Lab

America's Political Pulse

May. 12-18 - Engaged Respondents

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1 About

We are a cross-university research lab (Dartmouth College, University of Pennsylvania and Stanford University). The lab exists to serve as a nexus for work on affective polarization, social trust, and political violence.

Our lab focuses on addressing the following critical questions:

- What are the principal causes of affective polarization and what can be done to treat it?
- When and where does affective polarization alter behavior? Why?
- How effective and durable are approaches to reducing affective polarization?

2 Affect

Question label: democrat_therm_1

Question text: "We'd like you to rate how you feel towards some groups on a scale of 0 to 100. Zero means very unfavorable and 100 means very favorable. Fifty means you do not feel favorable or unfavorable.

How would you rate your feeling toward Democrats?"

Responses

n	Min	Max	Mean	Median	SD	Skipped
27949	0	100	49.98	49.5	34.26	58

Responses by Demographics

Value	n	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Skipped
Partisanship						
Democrat	13585	0	100	76.07	20.64	12
	4903	0	100	32.26	26.29	15
Independent/Other						
Republican	9461	0	100	21.63	23.20	31
Sex						
Female	14713	0	100	53.13	33.67	33
Male	13236	0	100	46.48	34.63	25
Race						
Asian	668	0	100	53.39	29.76	6
Black	2884	0	100	65.90	28.77	5
Hispanic	3956	0	100	53.17	32.71	8
Middle Eastern	82	0	100	46.71	33.51	7
Multiracial	725	0	100	44.85	32.49	3
Native American	277	0	100	39.61	33.04	1
Other	640	0	100	34.77	33.25	4
White	18717	0	100	47.62	34.30	24
Highest Education						
No HS	1074	0	100	46.17	34.32	7
HS Graduate	8481	0	100	46.76	35.10	20
Some college	5795	0	100	48.88	33.92	10
2-year	3021	0	100	50.01	34.77	7
4-year	5960	0	100	52.37	33.12	10
Post-grad	3618	0	100	56.46	33.22	4
Age						
18-34	6570	0	100	54.01	30.36	24
35-50	6131	0	100	49.20	32.86	8
51-69	10633	0	100	48.14	36.17	15
70+	4615	0	100	49.55	37.17	11
2020 Vote Choice						
Didn't vote	4758	0	100	46.09	29.66	21
Donald Trump	9290	0	100	20.05	23.36	29
Joe Biden	12926	0	100	74.34	22.13	7
Other	975	0	100	30.51	26.30	1
Born again						
Not born again	20148	0	100	53.20	33.64	33
Born again	7801	0	100	41.67	34.56	25

Question label: republican_therm_1

Question text: "We'd like you to rate how you feel towards some groups on a scale of 0 to 100. Zero means very unfavorable and 100 means very favorable. Fifty means you do not feel favorable or unfavorable.

How would you rate your feeling toward Republicans?"

Responses

n	Min	Max	Mean	Median	SD	Skipped
27949	0	100	41.12	44.5	33.14	75

Responses by Demographics

Value	n	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Skipped
Partisanship						
Democrat	13585	0	100	21.07	23.05	50
	4903	0	100	34.51	26.00	14
Independent/Other						
Republican	9461	0	100	73.26	21.10	11
Sex						
Female	14713	0	100	40.13	33.41	40
Male	13236	0	100	42.22	32.86	35
Race						
Asian	668	0	100	34.23	28.86	5
Black	2884	0	100	33.65	28.81	8
Hispanic	3956	0	100	37.83	31.45	11
Middle Eastern	82	0	100	38.58	33.52	5
Multiracial	725	0	100	35.58	31.01	3
Native American	277	0	100	47.18	32.98	3
Other	640	0	100	40.06	31.38	5
White	18717	0	100	43.38	33.68	35
Highest Education						
No HS	1074	0	100	41.27	33.79	8
HS Graduate	8481	0	100	46.90	33.39	16
Some college	5795	0	100	40.15	33.17	20
2-year	3021	0	100	42.67	33.50	8
4-year	5960	0	100	37.40	32.18	15
Post-grad	3618	0	100	33.89	31.15	8
Age						
18-34	6570	0	100	38.46	31.29	27
35-50	6131	0	100	37.30	32.22	13
51-69	10633	0	100	41.89	33.91	25
70+	4615	0	100	48.18	34.08	10
2020 Vote Choice						
Didn't vote	4758	0	100	40.78	28.96	20
Donald Trump	9290	0	100	70.48	23.97	7
Joe Biden	12926	0	100	20.82	22.81	44
Other	975	0	100	31.31	26.90	4
Born again						
Not born again	20148	0	100	34.96	32.41	59
Born again	7801	0	100	57.02	30.00	16

3 Trust and America

Question label: general_trust

Question text: "Do you think your wallet (or your valuables) would be returned to you if it were found by a stranger?"
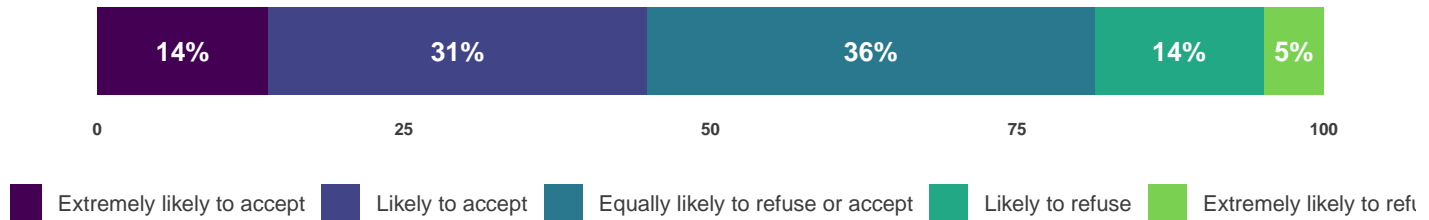
68%	32%

| 0 | 25 | 50 | 75 | 100 |

No Yes
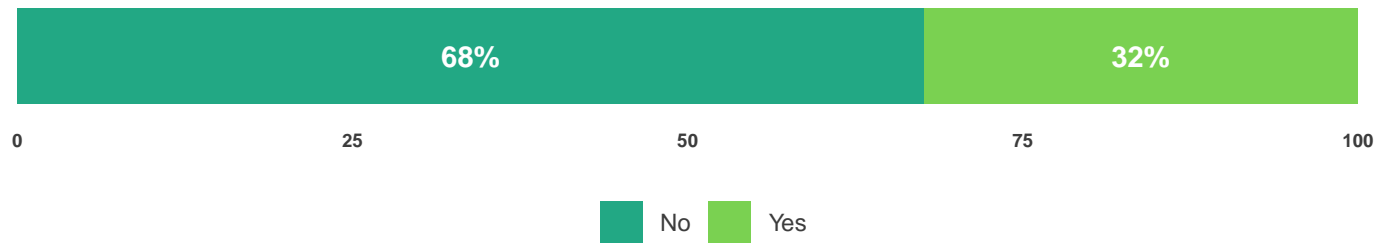
Responses

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	8936	32.34
No	18683	67.62

Responses by Demographics

Value	n	Yes	No
Partisanship			
Democrat	12496	35.76	64.24
Independent/Other	4700	25.50	74.50
Republican	10423	31.37	68.63
Sex			
Female	13839	31.32	68.68
Male	13780	33.39	66.61
Race			
Asian	693	29.18	70.82
Black	2876	30.16	69.84
Hispanic	4297	26.48	73.52
Middle Eastern	92	27.33	72.67
Multiracial	723	29.43	70.57
Native American	281	32.75	67.25
Other	628	34.02	65.98
White	18030	34.30	65.70
Highest Education			
No HS	2062	24.46	75.54
HS Graduate	7901	26.99	73.01
Some college	5673	31.32	68.68
2-year	2924	33.10	66.90
4-year	5685	36.91	63.09
Post-grad	3374	43.16	56.84
Age			
18-34	7406	34.15	65.85
35-50	6200	28.97	71.03
51-69	9717	30.89	69.11
70+	4295	37.46	62.54
2020 Vote Choice			
Didn't vote	5027	28.15	71.85
Donald Trump	10735	30.14	69.86
Joe Biden	11341	36.12	63.88
Other	516	36.43	63.57
Born again			
Not born again	19418	31.37	68.63
Born again	8201	34.68	65.32

Question label: institutional_corruption

Question text: "If a member of Congress were offered a bribe to influence the awarding of a government contract, do you think that the member of Congress would accept or refuse the bribe?"
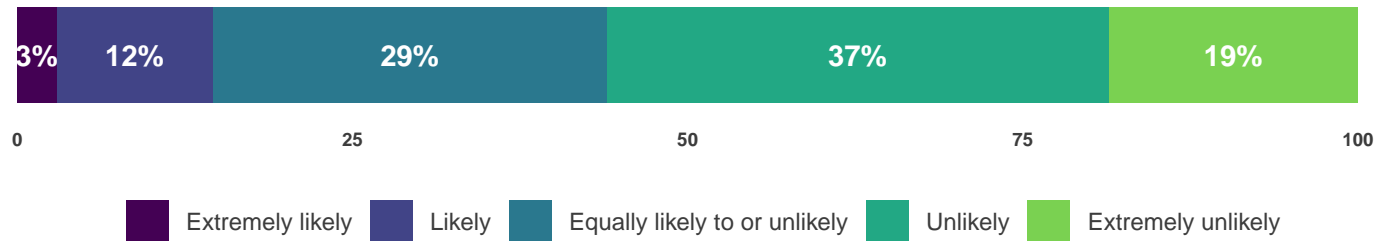
14%	31%	36%	14%	5%

0   25   50   75   100

| ■ Extremely likely to accept | ■ Likely to accept | ■ Equally likely to refuse or accept | ■ Likely to refuse | ■ Extremely likely to refuse |

Responses

Response	Frequency	Percent
Extremely likely to refuse	1349	4.88
Likely to refuse	3817	13.81
Equally likely to refuse or accept	10077	36.47
Likely to accept	8535	30.89
Extremely likely to accept	3849	13.93

Responses by Demographics

Value	n	Extremely likely to refuse	Likely to refuse	Equally likely to refuse or accept	Likely to accept	Extremely likely to accept
Partisanship						
Democrat	12496	5.52	17.23	38.91	28.24	10.11
Independent/Other	4702	3.53	8.07	35.88	30.28	22.25
Republican	10430	4.74	12.32	33.83	34.36	14.76
Sex						
Female	13842	4.39	11.73	39.54	31.56	12.78
Male	13785	5.38	15.91	33.40	30.23	15.09
Race						
Asian	693	7.06	15.74	38.03	25.07	14.10
Black	2876	8.69	16.55	40.40	25.63	8.73
Hispanic	4297	5.67	12.97	39.12	27.85	14.39
Middle Eastern	92	5.18	24.30	25.01	28.80	16.71
Multiracial	724	3.53	10.34	33.15	33.21	19.77
Native American	281	8.53	11.21	32.04	28.75	19.47
Other	627	5.26	6.98	32.09	31.87	23.80
White	18036	3.99	13.87	35.57	32.60	13.97
Highest Education						
No HS	2059	8.03	9.92	34.05	29.10	18.90
HS Graduate	7907	5.01	12.44	39.75	29.22	13.58
Some college	5674	3.79	12.23	35.23	33.65	15.10
2-year	2926	6.05	11.94	33.79	33.65	14.58
4-year	5686	4.44	15.61	35.24	31.35	13.36
Post-grad	3376	4.23	20.68	36.78	28.14	10.17
Age						
18-34	7410	6.46	14.81	34.68	29.85	14.19
35-50	6202	4.65	12.06	34.63	31.83	16.83
51-69	9719	4.08	13.09	37.58	31.11	14.14
70+	4297	4.30	16.28	39.73	30.87	8.82
2020 Vote Choice						
Didn't vote	5029	6.38	11.71	39.11	28.38	14.43
Donald Trump	10742	4.15	11.17	33.05	34.37	17.25
Joe Biden	11339	5.01	17.42	38.94	28.60	10.04
Other	517	2.68	10.32	27.92	33.59	25.48
Born again						
Not born again	19425	4.32	13.27	37.24	31.00	14.16
Born again	8202	6.22	15.10	34.65	30.64	13.38

Question label: institutional_response

Question text: "If you were to complain about the poor quality of a public service, how likely or unlikely is it that the problem would be easily resolved?"
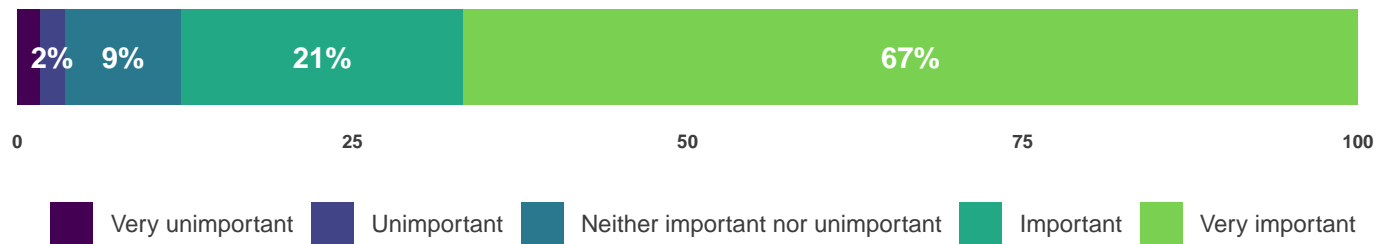
3%	12%	29%	37%	19%

| 0 | 25 | 50 | 75 | 100 |

■ Extremely likely ■ Likely ■ Equally likely to or unlikely ■ Unlikely ■ Extremely unlikely

Responses

Response	Frequency	Percent
Extremely unlikely	5139	18.60
Unlikely	10341	37.43
Equally likely to or unlikely	8122	29.40
Likely	3219	11.65
Extremely likely	806	2.92

Responses by Demographics

Value	n	Extremely unlikely	Unlikely	Equally likely to or unlikely	Likely	Extremely likely
Partisanship						
Democrat	12497	13.85	36.13	32.33	14.01	3.68
Independent/Other	4702	24.22	34.70	31.64	7.64	1.80
Republican	10430	21.76	40.22	24.87	10.64	2.51
Sex						
Female	13841	17.57	39.07	31.67	9.70	1.98
Male	13787	19.63	35.78	27.12	13.61	3.86
Race						
Asian	693	18.85	37.99	31.18	10.74	1.24
Black	2876	10.57	26.80	37.32	20.11	5.20
Hispanic	4296	15.35	31.48	36.05	14.26	2.86
Middle Eastern	92	15.15	37.76	31.34	9.35	6.40
Multiracial	724	25.49	40.93	24.23	8.03	1.33
Native American	281	22.31	27.48	28.53	13.85	7.83
Other	628	29.39	36.63	22.60	7.99	3.39
White	18038	19.96	40.56	26.93	9.97	2.59
Highest Education						
No HS	2062	17.66	33.48	32.38	12.53	3.96
HS Graduate	7905	17.64	34.62	32.69	12.36	2.69
Some college	5674	19.35	39.05	28.97	10.48	2.15
2-year	2925	20.19	36.06	28.62	11.32	3.81
4-year	5686	18.63	40.02	25.97	12.10	3.28
Post-grad	3376	18.73	40.53	27.04	10.95	2.75
Age						
18-34	7409	14.41	30.92	28.81	19.31	6.54
35-50	6201	22.96	34.37	28.70	10.99	2.98
51-69	9720	21.03	40.89	28.99	7.97	1.13
70+	4299	14.06	45.23	32.34	7.73	0.65
2020 Vote Choice						
Didn't vote	5028	16.57	32.29	33.88	13.75	3.51
Donald Trump	10743	23.90	40.16	24.41	9.34	2.19
Joe Biden	11340	14.06	37.08	32.37	13.09	3.40
Other	517	27.84	38.36	24.25	7.68	1.86
Born again						
Not born again	19425	19.52	39.24	29.82	9.55	1.87
Born again	8203	16.43	33.13	28.40	16.63	5.41

Question label: vote_importance

Question text: "How important or unimportant is it to vote in every election?"
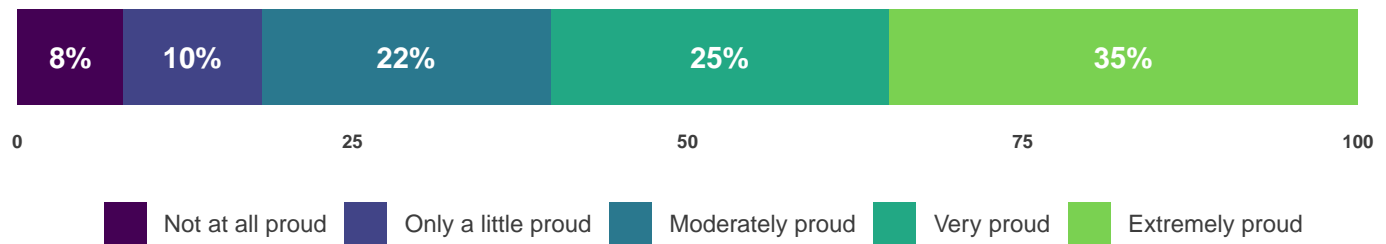
2%	9%	21%	67%

| 0 | 25 | 50 | 75 | 100 |

- ■ Very unimportant ■ Unimportant ■ Neither important nor unimportant ■ Important ■ Very important

Responses

Response	Frequency	Percent
Very important	18439	66.73
Important	5810	21.03
Neither important nor unimportant	2407	8.71
Unimportant	512	1.85
Very unimportant	462	1.67

Responses by Demographics

Value	n	Very important	Important	Neither important nor unimportant	Unimportant	Very unimportant
Partisanship						
Democrat	12498	72.73	19.78	5.70	1.08	0.71
Independent/Other	4702	39.20	26.46	23.02	5.15	6.17
Republican	10431	71.97	20.07	5.87	1.30	0.79
Sex						
Female	13842	67.12	20.48	9.11	1.80	1.49
Male	13788	66.35	21.58	8.31	1.90	1.85
Race						
Asian	693	50.58	30.74	14.39	2.36	1.94
Black	2876	57.33	24.64	12.88	2.88	2.27
Hispanic	4297	59.35	24.77	12.06	2.14	1.69
Middle Eastern	92	40.31	28.85	17.37	6.51	6.97
Multiracial	724	65.68	18.27	11.20	2.74	2.11
Native American	281	54.24	26.23	11.78	2.31	5.43
Other	628	64.19	19.18	10.62	1.86	4.15
White	18039	71.08	19.24	6.77	1.54	1.37
Highest Education						
No HS	2062	49.02	27.07	17.62	3.27	3.03
HS Graduate	7907	63.00	22.51	10.68	1.88	1.93
Some college	5675	65.94	21.03	9.31	2.12	1.60
2-year	2925	69.70	19.01	7.64	1.94	1.71
4-year	5686	69.99	21.35	6.23	1.38	1.04
Post-grad	3376	79.59	15.07	2.75	1.20	1.38
Age						
18-34	7410	46.66	32.79	15.39	3.06	2.11
35-50	6202	59.47	24.32	10.93	2.51	2.76
51-69	9719	77.53	15.30	5.05	1.09	1.03
70+	4300	87.41	8.95	2.28	0.55	0.80
2020 Vote Choice						
Didn't vote	5029	29.73	32.02	26.05	5.97	6.22
Donald Trump	10743	74.41	18.64	5.19	1.01	0.76
Joe Biden	11341	76.78	17.93	4.20	0.72	0.37
Other	517	46.87	31.75	12.02	4.38	4.97
Born again						
Not born again	19427	66.34	20.69	9.13	2.01	1.83
Born again	8203	67.67	21.83	7.72	1.48	1.30

Question label: pride

Question text: "How proud are you to be an American?"

8%	10%	22%	25%	35%

0	25	50	75	100

■ Not at all proud ■ Only a little proud ■ Moderately proud ■ Very proud ■ Extremely proud

Responses

Response	Frequency	Percent
Extremely proud	9672	35.00
Very proud	6967	25.21
Moderately proud	5961	21.57
Only a little proud	2846	10.30
Not at all proud	2182	7.90

Responses by Demographics

Value	n	Extremely proud	Very proud	Moderately proud	Only a little proud	Not at all proud
Partisanship						
Democrat	12498	22.94	23.51	26.56	15.54	11.44
Independent/Other	4699	25.31	23.68	27.31	11.81	11.89
Republican	10431	53.84	27.95	13.02	3.34	1.85
Sex						
Female	13842	30.75	25.17	23.04	12.04	9.00
Male	13786	39.28	25.27	20.11	8.56	6.79
Race						
Asian	693	17.02	23.15	30.25	17.64	11.94
Black	2876	29.98	28.77	23.14	10.79	7.32
Hispanic	4296	30.58	25.02	25.75	10.00	8.66
Middle Eastern	92	16.99	28.65	29.93	13.06	11.37
Multiracial	724	27.34	23.25	23.07	13.92	12.42
Native American	281	50.89	20.91	15.67	4.90	7.63
Other	628	36.37	22.50	22.32	8.26	10.55
White	18038	37.66	25.00	19.96	10.01	7.37
Highest Education						
No HS	2060	34.16	21.97	23.85	12.12	7.89
HS Graduate	7906	42.24	26.39	17.79	7.86	5.72
Some college	5675	32.45	24.95	22.11	10.13	10.35
2-year	2926	37.43	24.38	20.58	10.11	7.50
4-year	5686	29.13	26.52	23.98	11.97	8.40
Post-grad	3375	30.70	23.41	24.96	12.56	8.37
Age						
18-34	7409	25.52	22.31	24.77	14.01	13.38
35-50	6202	25.80	24.69	25.94	13.14	10.43
51-69	9717	40.65	26.94	19.81	8.07	4.52
70+	4300	51.87	27.09	13.76	4.86	2.43
2020 Vote Choice						
Didn't vote	5026	22.39	24.24	27.18	13.17	13.03
Donald Trump	10743	54.58	27.67	12.70	3.38	1.68
Joe Biden	11341	22.78	23.51	27.30	15.38	11.04
Other	517	19.37	21.24	26.04	15.08	18.28
Born again						
Not born again	19425	28.91	23.81	24.31	12.77	10.21
Born again	8203	49.45	28.54	15.11	4.47	2.43

Question label: fair_treatment

Question text: "Do you agree or disagree that you can expect fair treatment from government authorities?"
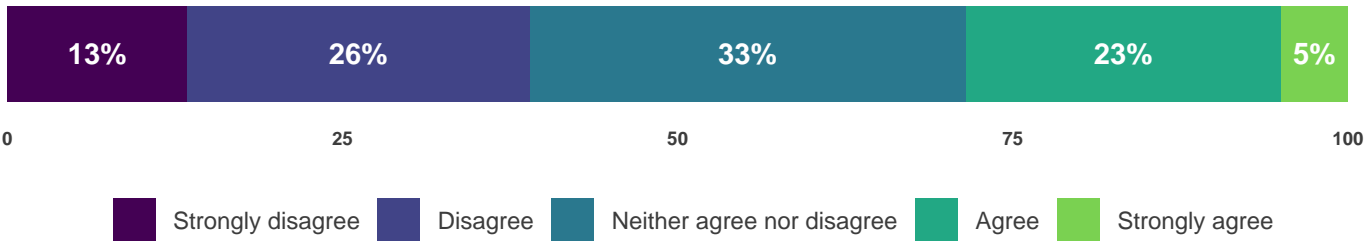
Responses

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	1393	5.04
Agree	6485	23.47
Neither agree nor disagree	8992	32.54
Disagree	7053	25.53
Strongly disagree	3708	13.42

Responses by Demographics

Value	n	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Partisanship						
Democrat	12499	6.31	30.54	34.26	21.66	7.23
Independent/Other	4702	3.09	14.22	34.68	26.07	21.95
Republican	10431	4.40	19.17	29.53	29.92	16.99
Sex						
Female	13843	4.30	21.21	35.68	26.88	11.94
Male	13788	5.79	25.74	29.39	24.16	14.91
Race						
Asian	693	5.66	23.92	38.88	21.76	9.78
Black	2876	7.60	26.28	37.49	18.95	9.68
Hispanic	4297	5.70	24.47	33.84	24.09	11.90
Middle Eastern	92	4.09	28.23	32.00	27.96	7.72
Multiracial	724	2.56	16.50	32.32	29.57	19.04
Native American	281	7.56	18.30	28.77	25.26	20.11
Other	628	3.72	10.79	31.34	28.36	25.79
White	18039	4.56	23.54	31.32	26.79	13.79
Highest Education						
No HS	2062	7.08	14.41	33.24	27.71	17.56
HS Graduate	7907	4.80	21.12	35.78	24.61	13.69
Some college	5675	3.43	21.69	31.40	28.03	15.45
2-year	2926	6.13	22.09	30.45	25.75	15.58
4-year	5686	5.26	27.92	31.13	24.78	10.91
Post-grad	3376	5.77	31.18	30.65	23.19	9.21
Age						
18-34	7410	8.82	28.18	27.94	22.50	12.56
35-50	6202	4.80	22.50	32.48	25.82	14.40
51-69	9720	3.23	20.95	34.32	26.91	14.59
70+	4300	2.96	22.45	36.55	27.18	10.87
2020 Vote Choice						
Didn't vote	5029	5.80	20.61	35.87	24.26	13.45
Donald Trump	10743	3.74	17.01	28.85	30.75	19.65
Joe Biden	11342	5.99	31.22	34.70	20.99	7.09
Other	517	3.80	15.51	29.56	28.57	22.55
Born again						
Not born again	19428	3.94	23.35	33.57	25.93	13.21
Born again	8203	7.65	23.75	30.11	24.57	13.92

Error: The weight variable contains missing values.

| 13% | 26% | 33% | 23% | 5% |

0   25   50   75   100

■ Strongly disagree   ■ Disagree   ■ Neither agree nor disagree   ■ Agree   ■ Strongly agree

4   Demographics

Partisanship

Response	Frequency	Percent
Democrat	12499	45.23
Independent/Other	4702	17.02
Republican	10431	37.75

Sex

Response	Frequency	Percent
Female	13843	50.1
Male	13788	49.9

Race

Response	Frequency	Percent
Asian	693	2.51
Black	2876	10.41
Hispanic	4297	15.55
Middle Eastern	92	0.33
Multiracial	724	2.62
Native American	281	1.02
Other	628	2.27
White	18039	65.29

Highest level of education

Response	Frequency	Percent
No HS	2062	7.46
HS Graduate	7907	28.61
Some college	5675	20.54
2-year	2926	10.59
4-year	5686	20.58
Post-grad	3376	12.22

Age

Response	Frequency	Percent
18-34	7410	26.82
35-50	6202	22.44
51-69	9720	35.18
70+	4300	15.56

2020 Vote Choice

Response	Frequency	Percent
Didn't vote	5029	18.20
Donald Trump	10743	38.88
Joe Biden	11342	41.05
Other	517	1.87

Born again

Response	Frequency	Percent
Not born again	19428	70.31
Born again	8203	29.69

5 Methods

Data were collected from a nationally representative sample of 27,949 American adults via YouGov. Data were collected between May. 12-18 2022. All results are weighted. The survey margin of error is +/- 3.1%.