

Trump Transition Survey



Online sample of 1084 respondents fielded over web panels from November 12 to November 14 and weighted to education, age, gender, race, and 2020 election results. The margin of error is +/- 4.6.

1) Some policy makers are suggesting that the Trump administration should make it easier to build infrastructure for large AI models. What do you think?

	All	D	I	R
The Trump administration should make it easier to build infrastructure for large AI models no matter what.....	6	3	2	10
The Trump administration should make it easier to build infrastructure for large AI models if this is paired with mandatory safety testing	39	32	41	45
The Trump administration shouldn't make it easier to build infrastructure for large AI models no matter what.....	27	37	24	19
Not sure	29	29	33	26

2) Different advisors to Donald Trump have different views on AI policy.

One approach, best represented by Elon Musk, is that the Trump administration should try to reduce the most extreme risks from AI while also building up AI infrastructure.

Another approach, best represented by Mark Andreessen, is to reduce and prevent AI regulation in all areas.

Which approach do you think the Trump administration should focus on?

-The Elon Musk approach: Focus on catastrophic risks while building up AI infrastructure

-The Mark Andreessen approach: Have as little AI regulation as possible in all areas

-Not sure

	All	D	I	R
The Elon Musk approach: Focus on catastrophic risks while building up AI infrastructure.....	62	50	56	76
The Mark Andreessen approach: Have as little AI regulation as possible in all areas.....	11	16	7	8
Not sure	28	35	37	17

3) Should Elon Musk devote much of his time working with the Trump administration to making sure US AI policy is sensible?

	All	D	I	R
Yes	51	21	47	81
No	29	53	33	5
Not sure	20	26	20	14

4) Should Donald Trump listen more to Elon Musk or to other AI executives on AI policy?

	All	D	I	R
Donald Trump should listen to Elon Musk.....	37	14	38	60
Donald Trump should listen to other AI executives	30	51	27	12
Not sure	32	35	36	27

5) Which do you think that the Trump administration should focus on? (N=750)

	All	D	I	R
Reducing catastrophic risks from AI, such as bad actors using AI for cyberattacks and biological attacks	63	51	63	74
Reducing gender and racial bias in AI and risks from disinformation caused by AI	22	31	20	14
Not sure	16	18	18	12

6) Some members of Trump's inner circle want to focus on the core catastrophic risks of AI that threaten national security. Others want to avoid focusing on dangers of AI at all and only focus on making it easier to build powerful AI models. Which approach do you think is best for Trump to follow? (N=754)

	All	D	I	R
Focus on catastrophic risks from AI that threaten national security	75	76	76	74
Focus on making it easier to build powerful AI models	9	6	6	14
Not sure	16	19	18	12

7) Donald Trump and allies have expressed many ideas around AI. Donald Trump has said both that AI is a dangerous and powerful technology, and that if it's development is inevitable, the US needs to keep its lead.

When Donald Trump becomes president in 2025, what should he prioritize?

	All	D	I	R
Keeping the US ahead of China on AI	26	15	15	41
Making sure AI is safe	59	66	68	48
Not sure	15	18	17	10

8) Donald Trump and allies have expressed many ideas around AI. Donald Trump has said both that AI is a dangerous and powerful technology, and that if it's development is inevitable, the US needs to keep its lead.

When Donald Trump becomes president in 2025, what should he prioritize?

	All	D	I	R
Keeping the US ahead of China on AI	50	40	37	66
Making it easier to build larger and more powerful AI models..	21	25	22	16
Not sure	29	35	41	18

9) Donald Trump and allies have expressed many ideas around AI. Donald Trump has said both that AI is a dangerous and powerful technology, and that if it's development is inevitable, the US needs to keep its lead.

When Donald Trump becomes president in 2025, what should he prioritize?

	All	D	I	R
Making sure AI is safe	78	82	76	74
Making it easier to build larger and more powerful AI models..	10	7	4	15
Not sure	13	11	20	11

10) Donald Trump and allies have expressed many ideas around AI.

Some Donald Trump allies have warned of the danger of China on AI and the need to stay ahead and restrict what technologies reach China.

Other Donald Trump allies have warned of restricting AI technology, and how this could endanger free expression.

When in conflict, which goal do you think is most important for Donald Trump to focus on?

	All	D	I	R
Preventing China from having access to the most powerful AI .	61	48	58	76
Keeping AI unrestricted and free for anyone to use and modify.....	15	21	12	11
Not sure	23	31	31	12

11) Donald Trump has discussed how powerful AI systems will require extensive power, power that may be difficult to generate because of current regulations on power-plant construction. Do you think regulation should be eased so the power needed for AI systems can be built?

	All	D	I	R
Yes, regulations should be eased on power generation for AI systems.....	31	25	29	37
No, regulations should not be eased on power generation for AI systems	48	56	45	42
Not sure	21	19	26	21

12) Which of the following approaches to AI regulation do you think Trump should follow when he becomes president?

	All	D	I	R
Be as strict as possible and try to slow down the advancement of AI	26	31	25	23
Remove barriers to advancing AI, but add regulations to ensure AI that is built is safe	52	50	51	53
Remove all regulations on AI to make sure it advances as fast and freely as possible	4	4	2	6
Not sure	17	15	22	18

13) Trump Admin Quotes (N=797)

	All	D	I	R
America isn't ready for the era of AI national security threats. How we navigate this terrain will profoundly shape the next few decades.	62	62	68	59
Both big AI companies and startups should be allowed to build AI as fast and aggressively as they can.....	22	24	17	22
Existing laws already govern AI appropriately, and a morass of red tape would harm U.S. competition	32	29	26	37
I would certainly push for having some kind of regulatory body that at least has insight into what these companies are doing and can ring the alarm bell	82	84	85	77
The United States will continue to embrace the fuel of the AI revolution, drive American innovation, and defend our values. We will not cede leadership in artificial intelligence to anyone..	60	58	55	64
The development of AI is not just a technological race; it's a geopolitical contest.	48	47	61	44
The warnings about AI dangers often serve to create regulations that favor Big Tech.....	49	49	44	51