

# Social Justice Watch 0125

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[A record number of women are serving in the 117th Congress](#)

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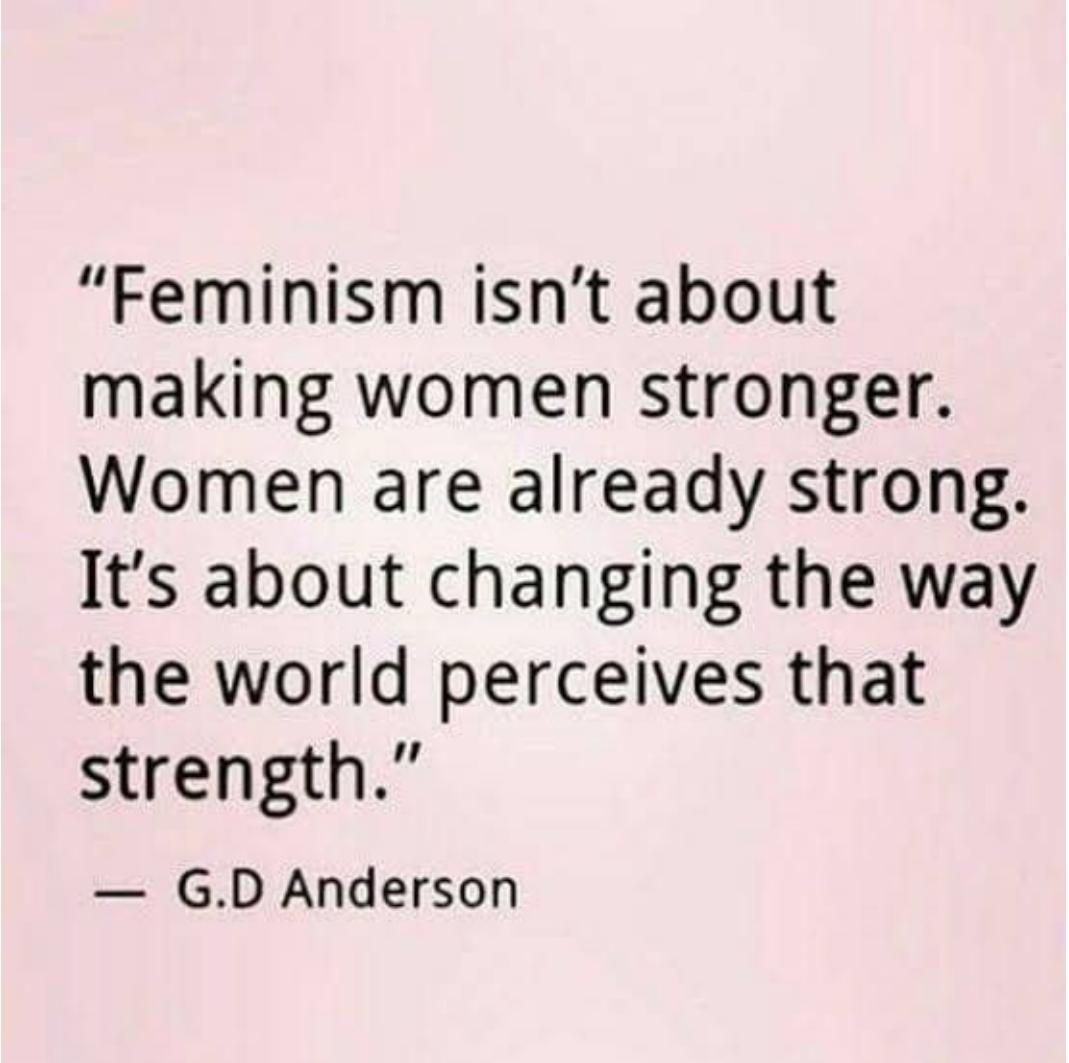
[Stop Pretending ‘Trap’ has Nothing to Do with Trans Women](#)

来源：[Social Justice Watch](#)

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“Feminism isn't about making women stronger. Women are already strong. It's about changing the way the world perceives that strength.”

— G.D Anderson

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<https://www.facebook.com/pinknews/photos/a.10150141268066518/1015937679>

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NO MAN WANTS A WOMAN,  
WHO...

WE DON'T  
CARE.



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So when children see a trans person... knowing children to be curious. How are parents gonna explain to them what this person or character identifies themselves as?



**Education Matters**  
@DrChaeEd

My 10-yo asked. I said, "When you were born, we said you were a boy & you ID as a boy today. Sometimes, as ppl grow, they realize that what they were called at birth isn't accurate for them." He said, "Oh okay. Thanks, mom."

It was pretty simple actually. 🙏

<https://www.facebook.com/transarmy/photos/a.101087104719810/249715853190>



feminist next door

@emrazz

1 in 4 women in your life have had an abortion.

You didn't know, because she's a totally normal person, not a demon

because the reasons for having one are individual and diverse

because legal abortions are medically safe

and because she's been shamed into keeping it a secret.

<https://www.facebook.com/ilchoiceactionteam/photos/a.467616547790/10155941>

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**Mehreen Khawaja**  
@MehreenKhawaja

...

One woman lying spoils the credibility of all women But one man raping or assaulting does not spoil the credibility of all men. If this is not male privilege then I don't know what is. #MeToo #Misogyny

<https://www.facebook.com/WOMENSRIGHTSNEWS/photos/a.2045420629215/>

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ithotyouknew

I put on my Tinder profile that I hate sports, I don't drink beer and I'm 150% feminine all day all the time and so many guys are like...offended? One guy was like "what if the guy you like loves sports, you won't even watch with him?" And I asked "will you wake up at 8am during fashion week to watch live streams of shows with me because that's what I'm really interested in. And he said "I don't really find that interesting." And I'm like THEN WHY THE FUCK WOULD I CARE ABOUT SPORTS FOR YOU OMG.

---



wyldwoodfaye

this isn't an isolated thing. women are expected to change for men. if you don't want to have children (ever) then someone is bound to say to you: well, what if your husband wants to have children? i was thinking about dyeing my hair & my dad says, what if the guy you're dating doesn't like it? we're expected to lose weight & to dress in a certain way to appeal to men. we're expected to be less opinionated, less assertive, less talented when competing against a man... it never fucking ends.

---

<https://www.facebook.com/sjsundays/photos/a.1198792810295206/17144888320>



Laura

@LauraLikesWine

ooo

How about instead of me explaining why I don't find rape jokes funny, you explain why you DO find them funny.

Go ahead, I'll wait.

<https://www.facebook.com/WOMENSRIGHTSNEWS/photos/a.2045420629215/>

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The Loud Protestor  
@LoudProtestor

BLM isn't anti white.  
Feminism isn't anti men.  
LGBT isn't anti straight.  
  
It's about equality.

<https://www.facebook.com/100169151995752/photos/a.100490018630332/111411311141113/>

#shethepeople



**Anantika Mehra**

@AnantikaMehra

Definitely allowing my husband  
to work after marriage. I'm such a  
progressive woman 

What we say:

Wow you husband allows you to work after marriage such a progressive person

What we forget :

Husband has no authority to give permission for anything because authority to dictate women is not equality. It is our life and we can do anything we want to do. Husband is not a class teacher who will give permission for going to bathroom and then we will go. I mean just imagine saying may I go to work dear husband ??

<https://www.facebook.com/115998856437195/photos/a.116037606433320/4597/>

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thorsbian

Not to be a downer but if i had to, at 12 years old, listen to my mother tell me all the different ways men would want to hurt my body, and how i might prevent that, then i really feel like teenage boys can handle a conversation with their parents that starts “let's talk about consent”

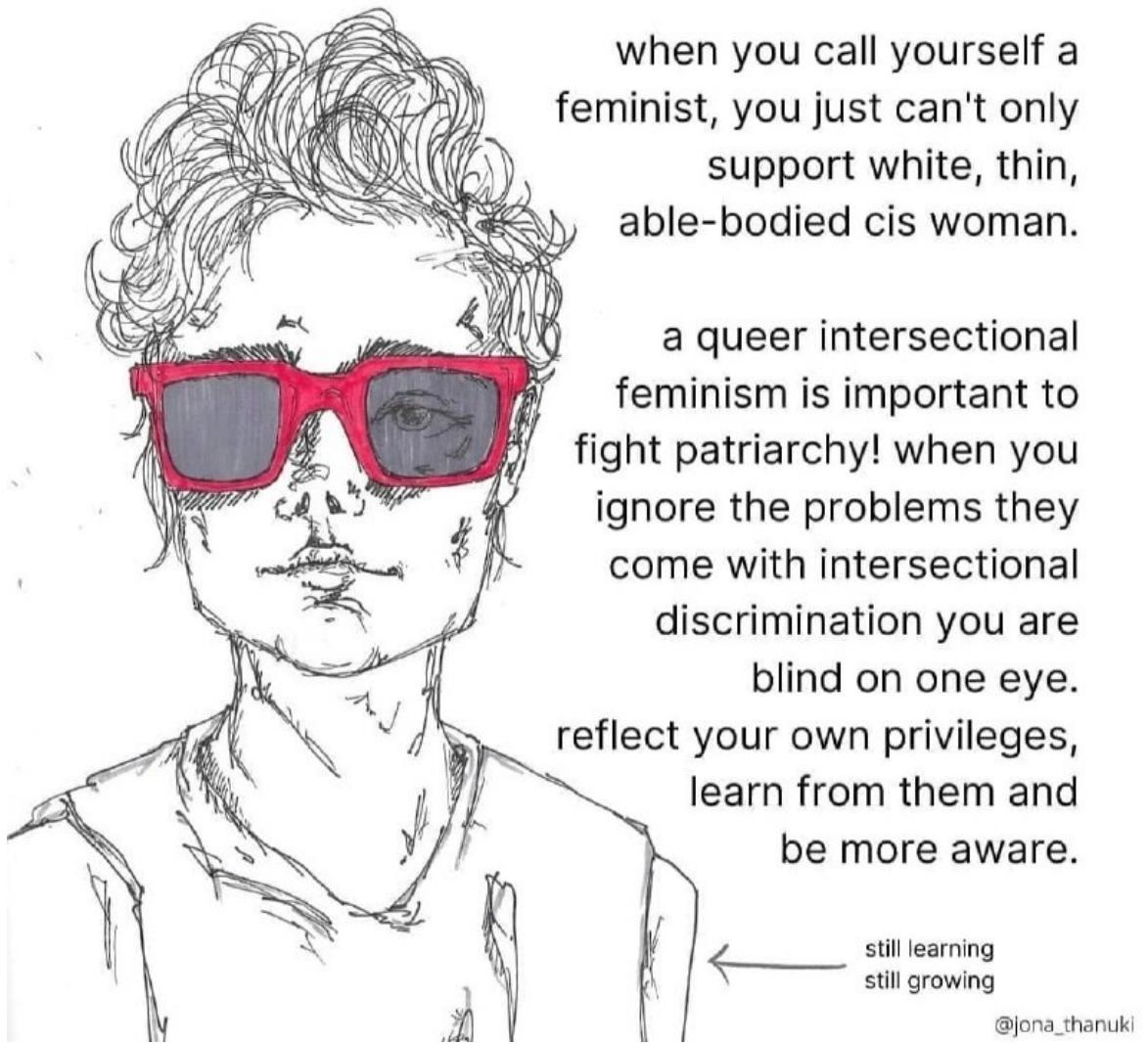
<https://www.facebook.com/WOMENSRIGHTSNEWS/photos/a.2045420629215/>

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**Opposing student loan  
forgiveness because  
you paid off yours is like  
not feeding the hungry  
because you already  
ate.**

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fbid=10158483010665783&set=a.10151180477090783](https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10158483010665783&set=a.10151180477090783)

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when you call yourself a feminist, you just can't only support white, thin, able-bodied cis woman.

a queer intersectional feminism is important to fight patriarchy! when you ignore the problems they come with intersectional discrimination you are blind on one eye.  
reflect your own privileges, learn from them and be more aware.

still learning  
still growing

@jona\_thanuki

<https://www.facebook.com/transarmy/photos/a.101087104719810/250365173121570/>

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Dan Price   
@DanPriceSeattle

...

Many people use my story (voluntarily cutting my CEO pay to give all workers \$70k+) as evidence capitalism works.  
"He did it on his own"

No! It proves it doesn't work. It's been 6 years & not one big company followed suit. Corporations will never voluntarily do the right thing.

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<https://www.facebook.com/TheOther98/photos/a.115969958413991/5833814513>

**Forever wondering if I'm  
truly far left or if I'm just  
an empathetic person  
living in a late capitalist  
hellscape where I get  
called a commie for  
saying, “Hey maybe poor  
people don't deserve  
to starve”**

@TheRealRynnstar



[https://www.facebook.com/photo?  
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# 消息精选

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Thailand jails woman for more than 43 years for insulting monarchy [link source](#)  
South China Morning Post

Thai woman jailed for more than 43 years for insulting monarchy  
The court halved her original sentence of 87 years because she had confessed,  
according to the Thai Lawyers for Human Rights group.

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[telegra.ph/Even-before-Capitol-riot-most-people-in-Germany-France-and-the-UK-had-concerns-about-US-political-system-01-19](#)

Telegraph

Even before Capitol riot, most people in Germany, France and the UK had concerns about U.S. political system  
The violent storming of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 by a mob of supporters of President Donald Trump has generated considerable attention overseas, as well as concerns about the health of American democracy. Even before the riot, however, many people in three...

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[telegra.ph/British-French-and-Germans-Give-Biden-High-Marks-After-US-Election-01-19](#)

Telegraph

British, French and Germans Give Biden High Marks After U.S. Election  
This analysis focuses on views of President-elect Joe Biden among three major U.S. allies: France, Germany and the United Kingdom. The survey examines optimism about trans-Atlantic relationships and expectations for U.S. foreign policy under Biden's administration....

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[telegra.ph/Stop-Pretending-Trap-has-Nothing-to-Do-with-Trans-Women-01-22](https://telegra.ph/Stop-Pretending-Trap-has-Nothing-to-Do-with-Trans-Women-01-22) |  
[source](#)

Telegraph

Stop Pretending ‘Trap’ has Nothing to Do with Trans Women

CW: Liberal use of uncensored slurs, mentions and discussion of transmisogynistic violence and murder If you’re a trans woman, trans femme or just a femme presenting trans or non-binary person who happens to pass very well for cis, chances are you’ve been...

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[telegra.ph/A-record-number-of-women-are-serving-in-the-117th-Congress-01-22](https://telegra.ph/A-record-number-of-women-are-serving-in-the-117th-Congress-01-22)

Telegraph

A record number of women are serving in the 117th Congress

Women make up just over a quarter of all members of the 117th Congress – the highest percentage in U.S. history and a considerable increase from where things stood even a decade ago. Counting both the House of Representatives and the Senate, 144 of 539 seats...

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# A record number of women are serving in the 117th Congress

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Democratic members of the U.S. House of Representatives are sworn in by Speaker Nancy Pelosi during the first session of the 117th Congress on Jan. 3, 2021. (Erin Scott/POOL/AFP via Getty Images)

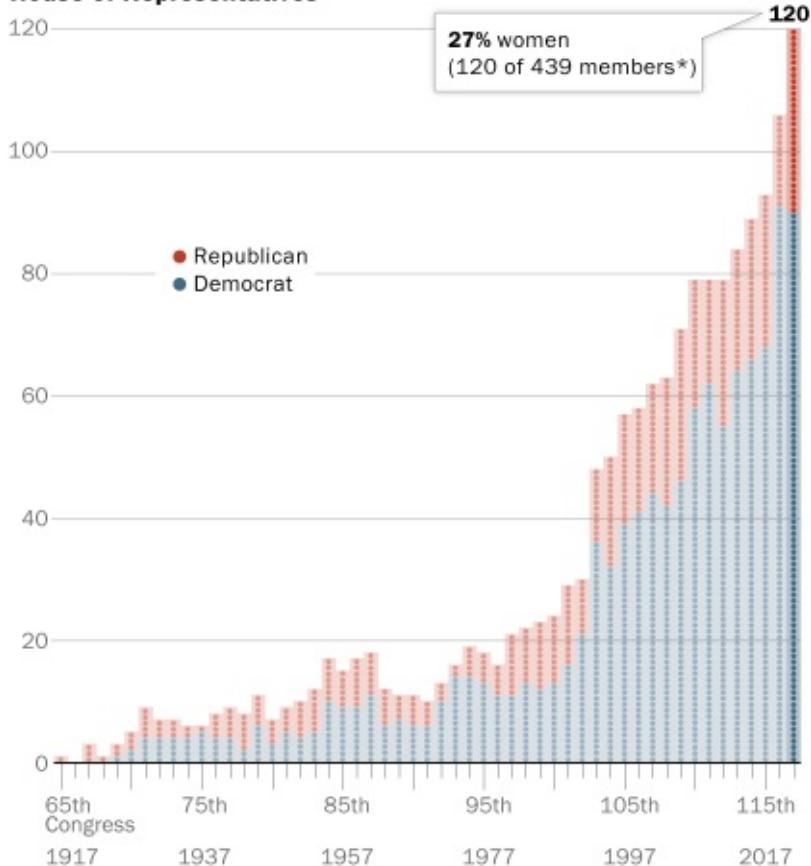
Women make up just over a quarter of all members of the 117th Congress – the highest percentage in U.S. history and a considerable increase from where things stood even a decade ago.

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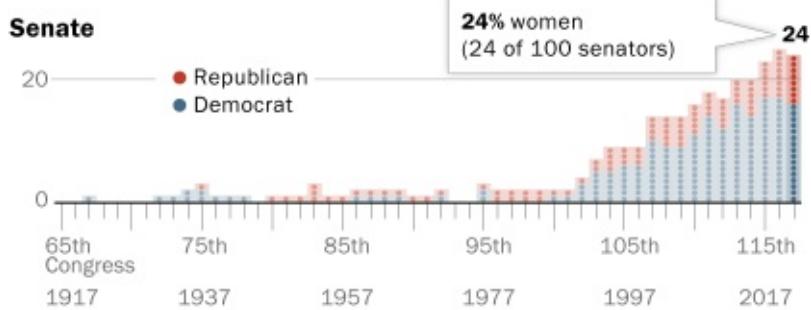
## Women make up more than a quarter of the 117th U.S. Congress' membership

*Women members of Congress, by party*

### House of Representatives



### Senate



\*Analysis based on House members sworn in as of Jan. 15, 2021.

Sources: Biographical Directory of the United States Congress; U.S. House of Representatives, Office of the Historian; Women in the United States Congress, 1917-2014 (Congressional Research Service); CQ Roll Call; Associated Press.

Counting both the House of Representatives and the Senate, 144 of 539 seats – or 27% – are held by women. That represents a 50% increase from the 96 women who were serving in the 112th Congress a decade ago, though it remains far below the female share of the overall U.S. population. A record 120 women are serving in the newly elected House, accounting for 27% of the total. In the Senate, women hold 24 of 100 seats, one fewer than the record number of seats they held in the last Congress.

This analysis counts voting as well as nonvoting members of Congress. Figures for the 117th Congress exclude two House seats that were vacant as of early January. It also excludes Sens. Kamala Harris, who is expected to resign her seat ahead of her inauguration as vice president on Jan. 20, and Kelly Loeffler, who lost a runoff election in Georgia earlier this month. Both are set to be replaced by men.

This analysis builds on earlier Pew Research Center work to analyze the gender makeup of Congress.

In the House, one New York race has not been called yet, and one Louisiana seat is empty because the congressman-elect died before he could be sworn in. Both seats were vacant when Congress was sworn in on Jan. 3, 2021, so the current number of representatives is 439. This analysis includes nonvoting members.

Independent members of Congress are counted with the party they caucus with.

Because Sen. Kamala Harris will ascend to the vice presidency this month, we are not including her in the count of female senators. We are, however, counting her seat as Democrat-held because a Democrat has been named to take her place.

For historical data on Congress, we used data from the Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, the U.S. House of Representatives Office of the Historian, the Congressional Research Service’s “Women in the United States Congress, 1917-2014” and CQ Roll Call. For 2020-21 election results, we used data from Ballotpedia and the Associated Press, as well as news reports.

Women make up a much bigger share of congressional Democrats (38%) than Republicans (14%). Across both chambers, there are 106 Democratic women and 38 Republican women in the new Congress. Women account for 40% of House Democrats and 32% of Senate Democrats, compared with 14% of House Republicans and 16% of Senate Republicans.

The 2020 general election sent just one new congresswoman to the Senate, Republican Cynthia Lummis of Wyoming, making her the first female senator to represent that state.

Republican women made significant gains in the House in the most recent election cycle. Of the 27 newly elected representatives who are women, two-thirds (18) are Republicans. Between the 115th and 116th Congresses, the number of GOP women in the House fell from 25 to 15. That number doubled this year to 30, the highest total ever.

California Rep. Nancy Pelosi, a Democrat and the first female speaker of the House, is serving her fourth term as speaker after being reelected earlier this month.

The partisan gender division hasn't always looked this way. Until the 1929 stock market crash, most of the dozen women elected to the House were Republicans, and for several decades afterward the two parties were generally close in numbers in that chamber. But the gap widened in the 1970s and has persisted, despite a temporary narrowing during the Reagan-Bush 1980s. Of the 232 women elected to the House in 1992 or later, 157 (68%) have been Democrats, as have 27 of the 42 women (64%) who have served in the Senate since 1992.

## **The history of women in Congress**

## Milestones for women in Congress

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



**1916:** Jeannette Rankin (R-MT) becomes first woman elected to Congress



**1964:** Patsy Mink (D-HI) becomes first Asian American woman elected to Congress



**1968:** Shirley Chisholm (D-NY) becomes first black woman elected to Congress



**1973:** Yvonne Braithwaite Burke (D-CA) becomes first congresswoman to give birth while in office



**1983:** Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) begins her time in the House, longest tenure of any woman



**2007:** Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) becomes first woman to serve as speaker (1983-present)

### SENATE



**1922:** Rebecca Latimer Felton (D-GA) is first woman appointed to Senate; serves one day



**1932:** Hattie Caraway (D-AR) becomes first woman elected to Senate



**1948:** Margaret Chase Smith (R-ME) becomes first woman elected to Senate in a regular general election



**1978:** Nancy Kassebaum (R-KS) becomes first woman elected to a full Senate term without her husband having previously served in Congress



**1986:** Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) elected to first of five Senate terms. Including her previous five terms in the House, she served in Congress longer than any other woman (40 years)



**1992:** Carol Moseley Braun (D-IL) becomes first black woman elected to Senate

Sources: Biographical Directory of the United States Congress; U.S. House of Representatives, Office of the Historian; Women in the United States Congress, 1917-2014 (Congressional Research Service, Oct. 31, 2014); CQ Roll Call.

Women have been in Congress for more than a century. The first, Republican Jeannette Rankin of Montana, was elected to the House in 1916, two years after her state gave women the vote. But it's only been in the past few decades that women have served in more substantial numbers. About two-thirds of the women ever elected to the House (232 of 352, including the newest members of the 117th Congress) have been elected in 1992 or later.

The pattern is similar in the Senate: 42 of the 58 women who have ever served in the Senate – including Lummis, the newest female senator – took office in 1992 or later.

The 19th Amendment, which extended the franchise to women across the nation, was ratified in 1920. That November, Alice Mary Robertson of Oklahoma became the first woman to defeat an incumbent congressman. (She lost the seat back to him two years later.) In 1922, veteran suffragist Rebecca Latimer Felton of Georgia was appointed to fill a vacant Senate seat; when Congress was unexpectedly called back into session, Felton was sworn in as the first-ever female senator, though she only served for a day.

While women remained scarce in the Senate well into the 1980s, their numbers gradually, though not consistently, increased in the House – generally paralleling the expansion of women's roles in society more broadly. In 1928, seven women were elected to the 71st Congress, a record at the time, and two more joined them later via special election. But that trend plateaued during the Great Depression and World War II. It wasn't until after the war that the upward trajectory of women in Congress resumed, with 18 women serving in the House in 1961-62.

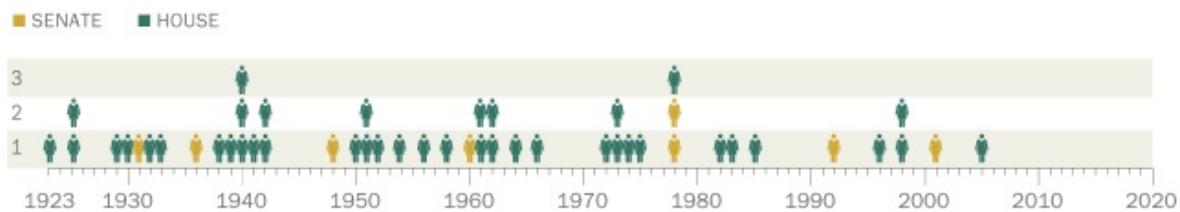
Although the 1970s saw prominent figures such as Barbara Jordan, Elizabeth Holtzman and Bella Abzug enter Congress, women's overall numbers didn't change much until 1981, when their House caucus exceeded 20 members for the first time. The big jump, however, came in 1992 – later dubbed "The Year of the Woman" – when four new female senators and 24 new congresswomen were elected. Academics have offered various explanations for why 1992 was such a breakthrough year for women in Congress, including an unusually large number of open seats due to redistricting and backlash from the Clarence Thomas-Anita Hill hearings.

## ‘Widow’s succession’ in Congress

Well into the 1970s, one of the most common ways for a woman to enter Congress was by succeeding her deceased husband or father, either by election or appointment. Of the 90 women who served in the House between 1916 and 1980, 31 were initially elected to their husband’s seat after he died; three were chosen to replace their husbands on the ballot when the men died before Election Day; and one, Winnifred Mason Huck of Illinois, was elected in 1922 to fill the last four months of her late father’s term. (Another early congresswoman, Katherine Gudger Langley of Kentucky, won her husband’s seat in 1926 after he resigned following his conviction for violating Prohibition laws.)

### ‘Widow’s succession’ less common than it used to be

*Number of women who were elected or appointed to their late husband’s seat in the House or Senate*



Note: Includes three women who were named on the ballot after their husbands died before the election, and one woman appointed to the Senate seat her husband had won posthumously.

Sources: Biographical Directory of the United States Congress; U.S. House of Representatives, Office of the Historian; Women in the United States Congress, 1917-2014 (Congressional Research Service, Oct. 31, 2014); CQ Roll Call.

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Like Langley, most of the holders of these so-called “widow’s succession” seats stayed in Congress for only a term or two. But some went on to distinguished careers on Capitol Hill. Margaret Chase Smith of Maine, for instance, won a special election in 1940 to fill the last seven months of her husband’s term. Smith went on to win four full House terms on her own, then was elected to four terms in the Senate, thereby becoming the first woman to serve in both chambers. Lindy Boggs, who was elected to her husband’s seat in 1973 after he was presumed killed in a plane crash, served nearly 18 years. She later was named U.S. ambassador to the Holy See.

Six of the 14 women who served in the Senate before 1980 were either elected or appointed to fill their late husbands’ seats. Of those, only two (Hattie Caraway of Arkansas and Maurine Brown Neuberger of Oregon) subsequently

won full terms in their own right.

*Note: This is an update of a post originally published Dec. 18, 2018.*

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*is an associate digital producer at Pew Research Center.* POSTS BIO EMAIL



Drew DeSilver

*is a senior writer at Pew Research Center.* POSTS BIO TWITTER EMAIL

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# **British, French and Germans Give Biden High Marks After U.S. Election**

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A billboard in Berlin on Nov. 12, 2020, days after Joe Biden was declared the winner of the U.S. presidential election. (Christian Ender/Getty Images)

This analysis focuses on views of President-elect Joe Biden among three major U.S. allies: France, Germany and the United Kingdom. The survey examines optimism about trans-Atlantic relationships and expectations for U.S. foreign policy under Biden's administration. Views of the United States and the newly elected president are considered in the context of long-term trend data.

For this report, we use data from nationally representative telephone surveys of 3,066 adults from Nov. 12 to Dec. 23, 2020, in France, Germany and the UK. Additional data is included from a survey conducted among 1,003 adults in the U.S. from Nov. 10 to Dec. 7, 2020.

Here are the questions used for the report, along with responses, and the survey

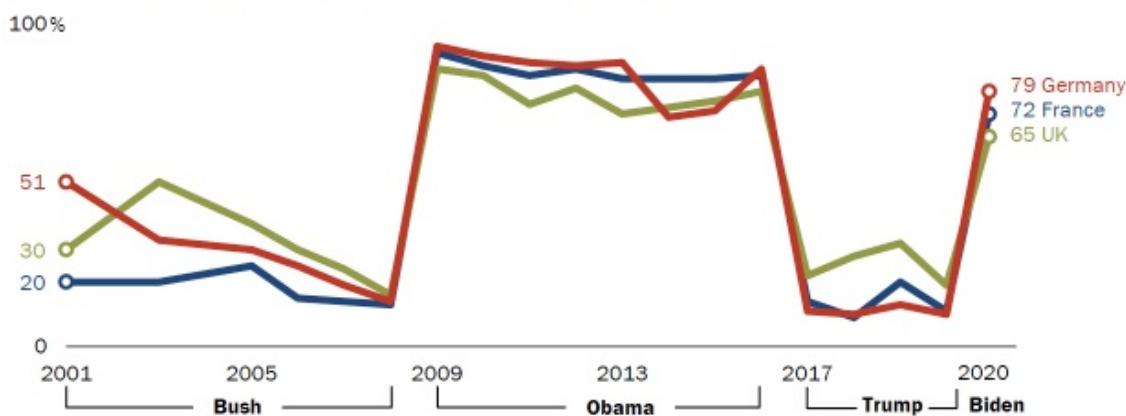
methodology.

Throughout his presidency, Donald Trump was broadly unpopular internationally, and his poor ratings have had a negative impact on America's overall image, especially among key allies and partners of the United States. By contrast, early reviews for his successor, President-elect Joe Biden, are much more positive, according to a new Pew Research Center survey in France, Germany and the United Kingdom. People in all three countries express confidence in Biden and optimism that relations with the U.S. will improve now that he is moving into the White House.

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**Biden receives much better ratings than Trump did**

% who have confidence in \_\_\_ to do the right thing regarding world affairs



Source: Fall 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q28.

"British, French and German Publics Give Biden High Marks After U.S. Election"

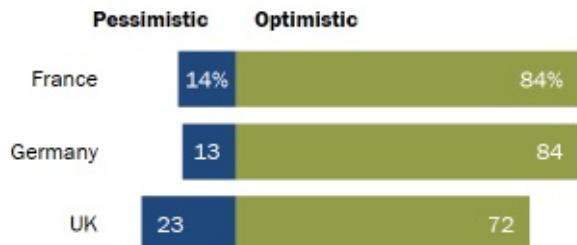
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## **Widespread optimism about relations with the U.S.**

*% who feel generally \_\_\_ about their country's relations with the U.S.*



*% who feel generally \_\_\_ about their country's relations with European countries*



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown

Source: Fall 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q31a-b.

"British, French and German Publics Give Biden High Marks After U.S. Election"

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Large majorities in Germany (79%), France (72%) and the UK (65%) say they have confidence in Biden to do the right thing in world affairs – a dramatic change from the low ratings Trump received in a survey conducted in the summer of 2020 in these three nations. As he prepares to begin his presidency, Biden’s ratings are only slightly lower than the ratings Barack Obama received near the end of his second term.

Large majorities also say that, when thinking of the future of their country, they are optimistic about their country’s relations with the U.S., including more than eight-in-ten in Germany and France and roughly seven-in-ten in the UK.

There is also considerable optimism on the other side of the Atlantic: 73% of Americans feel optimistic about U.S. relations with European countries. This view is especially widespread among Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents (83%), but also held by a majority of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents (62%).

In the three European countries surveyed, people have high expectations for the Biden administration on major policy issues. Substantial majorities believe that

with Biden in the White House U.S. policies will improve on issues such as foreign policy, climate change and dealing with the coronavirus outbreak.

In this moment of transition between the Trump and Biden eras, overall ratings for the U.S. are mixed. About half in the UK and France and 40% in Germany have a favorable opinion of the U.S., representing in each case a significant increase from the summer 2020 survey but still somewhat lower favorability than in the last years of Obama’s presidency.

The survey finds that even before the violent storming of the U.S. Capitol in early January by a mob of Trump’s supporters, there were widespread concerns about the health of U.S. democracy among three of America’s closest allies: 73% of Germans, 64% of the French and 62% of the British think the U.S. political system needs to be subject to either major changes or completely reformed. (See “Even before riot at Capitol, most people in Germany, France and the UK had concerns about U.S. political system” for more on this question, as well as other findings on attitudes regarding the health of American democracy.)

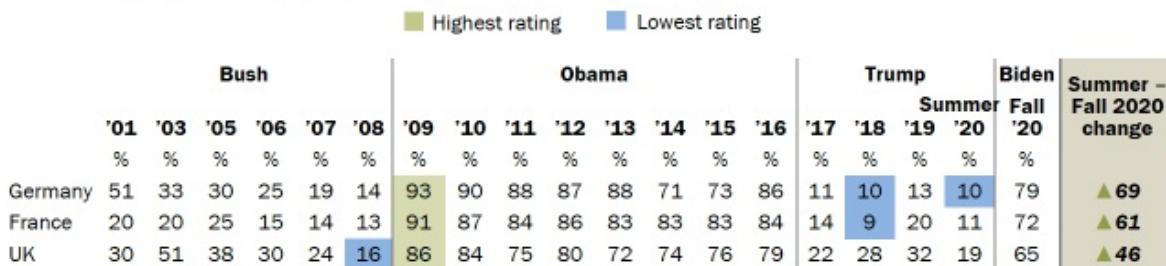
These are among the key findings from a Pew Research Center survey conducted among 3,066 adults in France, Germany and the UK from Nov. 12 to Dec. 23, 2020. Additional data comes from a survey of 1,003 U.S. adults conducted from Nov. 10 to Dec. 7, 2020.

## **Confidence in Biden high**

Ratings for Donald Trump were consistently negative in these three countries throughout his time in office. For instance, only about one-in-ten Germans expressed confidence in Trump in the four surveys Pew Research Center conducted in Germany during his presidency. In contrast, 79% now have confidence in Biden.

## As with Bush-Obama transition, Biden election boosts international confidence in U.S. president

% who have confidence in \_\_\_ to do the right thing regarding world affairs



Note: All changes shown are statistically significant.

Source: Fall 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q28.

"British, French and German Publics Give Biden High Marks After U.S. Election"

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Whereas Trump’s low marks often resembled the poor ratings received by George W. Bush during his administration, Biden’s reviews are closer to some of the highly positive ones for Obama during his two terms as president. (A Pew Research Center survey to be conducted later in 2021 will explore whether Biden’s ratings change once he takes office.)

At this point, there are few significant ideological differences between the left and the right regarding attitudes toward Biden in these three nations. He receives roughly the same positive reviews among people who place themselves on the left, center and right of the political spectrum. However, Biden generally gets somewhat lower ratings from supporters of right-wing populist parties. For example, just 51% of Germans with a favorable view of Alternative for Germany (AfD) have confidence in Biden, compared with 84% of those with an unfavorable opinion of the party. Smaller but still significant differences exist between supporters and nonsupporters of the Brexit Party (now called Reform UK) in the UK and National Rally in France. (See appendix for more information on European populist parties.)

In the UK, views about Biden also differ according to how people feel about Brexit. While 76% of those who identify as “remainders” express confidence in Biden, it’s just 52% among “leavers.”

## Optimism about U.S. policies under Biden

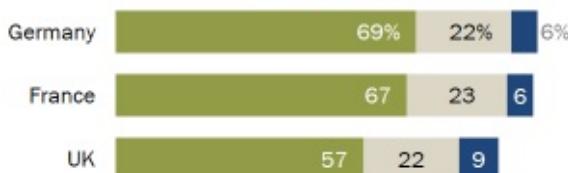
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## Many in European countries surveyed expect improvements under Biden

% who say that when Joe Biden becomes president, U.S.  
will ...

■ Improve ■ Do not expect it to change ■ Get worse

### Foreign policy



### Response to climate change



### Response to the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown.

Source: Fall 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q29a-c.

"British, French and German Publics Give Biden High Marks After U.S. Election"

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Reflecting widespread trust in Biden, majorities in France, Germany and the UK are hopeful that America's handling of various international issues will improve once he takes office.

Just under 60% in the UK and roughly two-thirds in Germany and France think U.S. foreign policy will improve under Biden's administration. About 65% in each country anticipate improvements in America's response to climate change. And roughly 70% in all three countries say the same about America's response to the coronavirus outbreak.

Overall, fewer than a third in any country do not expect changes in any of these

areas when Biden becomes president. And only around one-in-ten or fewer believe things will get worse.

The survey did not reference specific potential policy changes under Biden. The substance of Trump policies engendered considerable criticism abroad, suggesting that many believe there is considerable room for improvement. In 2019, 85% in the UK and 90% in both France and Germany disapproved of Trump's withdrawal from international climate change agreements. And fewer than one-in-five in each of the three countries rated America's response to the coronavirus positively in summer 2020.

In the absence of policy particulars, optimism about U.S. policies tends to be more pronounced on the political left than right in France, Germany and the UK. This is particularly true when it comes to America's response to the coronavirus outbreak. In the UK, people on the left are 16 percentage points more likely than those on the right to say America's response to the outbreak will get better. In France and Germany, 80% of those on the left vs. 68% of those on the right share this view.

Optimism about policy changes under Biden is also muted among supporters of right-wing populist parties – a segment that tended to express relatively positive views of Trump and his policies. Yet even among these supporters, the prevailing view is that America's response to the coronavirus pandemic, climate change and overall foreign policy will improve under the new U.S. president. For example, roughly half (51%) of Germans with a favorable view of AfD think the U.S. response to climate change will improve when Biden takes office; in the UK, a 56% majority of Brexit (Reform UK) supporters agree, as do 58% of National Rally backers in France.

## **Upbeat view of future relations with U.S.**

A generally positive outlook extends to trans-Atlantic relations as well. More than eight-in-ten in France and Germany are optimistic about their country's future relations with the U.S., and roughly seven-in-ten in the UK share this view.

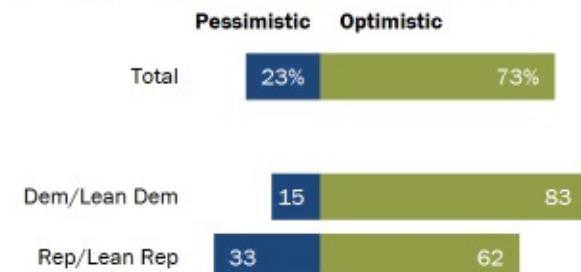
In Germany, this optimism follows a recent low point in bilateral relations. In a survey conducted by Körber-Stiftung in September 2020, 79% of Germans described present relations between their country and the U.S. as bad, and many

did not view the U.S. as a partner on important international issues.

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### Most Americans are optimistic about future trans-Atlantic relations

% of Americans who feel generally \_\_\_ about their country's future relations with European countries



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown.

Source: Fall 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q31b.

"British, French and German Publics Give Biden High Marks After U.S. Election"

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In all three countries polled, people who express confidence in President-elect Biden to do the right thing in world affairs are much more likely to be optimistic about bilateral relations with the U.S. Among those who have confidence in Biden, overwhelming majorities in France (92%), Germany (91%) and the UK (79%) say they are optimistic on future relations. However, even among those who do not trust Biden, most are hopeful about their country's relations with the U.S., including 64% in France, 62% in Germany and 60% in the UK.

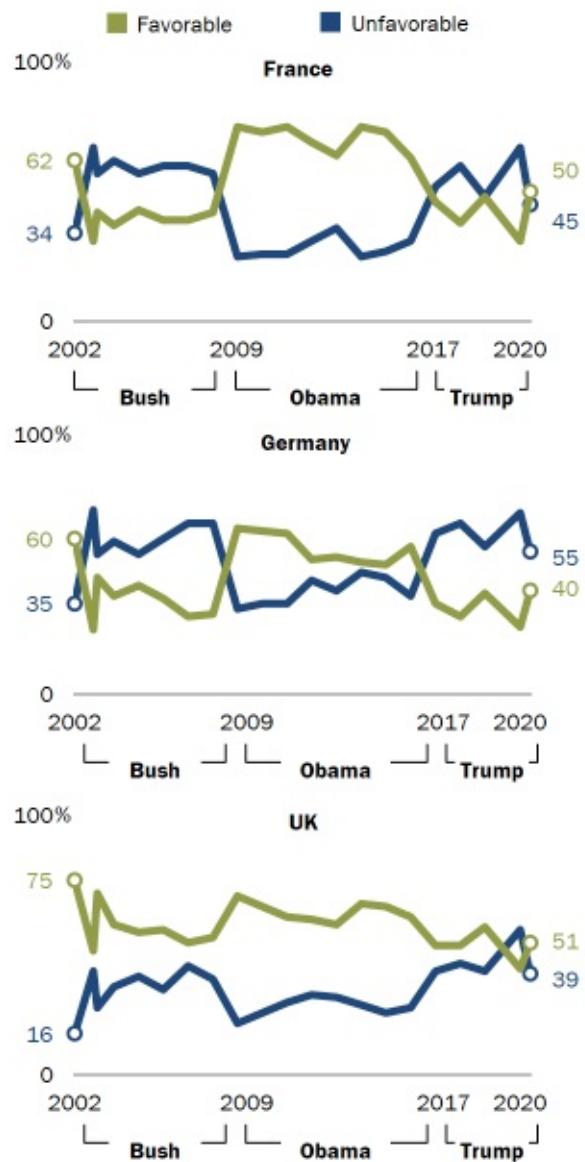
Nearly three-in-four Americans are also optimistic about relations between their country and countries in Europe. This opinion is particularly common among Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents (83%), but a majority of Republicans and Republican leaners (62%) also hold this view.

### A slight uptick in ratings of the U.S.

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## European publics surveyed divided on views of the U.S.

% who have a \_\_\_ view of the U.S.



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown.

Source: Fall 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q27a.

"British, French and German Publics Give Biden High Marks After U.S. Election"

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Overall views of the U.S. in the three European countries surveyed are lukewarm. In France and the UK, about half see the U.S. favorably while about four-in-ten or more see the country unfavorably. Germans are especially critical,

with a majority holding an unfavorable view of the U.S. and only four-in-ten viewing the U.S. positively.

Still, these evaluations of the U.S. are more sanguine than the ratings the U.S. received last summer. In France, the share who see the U.S. favorably has increased by 19 percentage points, and the share has increased by 14 and 10 points in Germany and the UK, respectively. For the French and Germans, these are also the most favorable views of the U.S. expressed during the Trump presidency.

The increase in positive ratings for the U.S. is not as great as the increase observed in our 2009 survey, following the election of Barack Obama, in which ratings improved dramatically from the lower marks seen throughout much of George W. Bush’s presidency. A Pew Research Center survey to be conducted later this year will examine whether views of the U.S. shift further once Biden takes office.

Although those on the ideological left are in some cases more optimistic about the direction of policy change under a Biden administration, it is those on the right who have more favorable attitudes toward the U.S. overall. For instance, six-in-ten Britons on the ideological right have favorable view of the U.S., compared with only about a third of their compatriots on the left. A similar pattern holds in France, where 56% on the right are favorable toward the U.S., versus 38% on the left. The difference between those on the left and on the right is not statistically significant in Germany.

Ratings of the U.S. also differ with views of right-wing populist political parties. In all three countries surveyed, those who have favorable views of a right-wing populist party are more likely than those with unfavorable views to also see the U.S. favorably.

For those in the UK, attitudes are additionally divided by views about Brexit. Those who think of themselves as “remainders” are 14 percentage points less likely to have a favorable view of the U.S. than those who see themselves as “leavers.”

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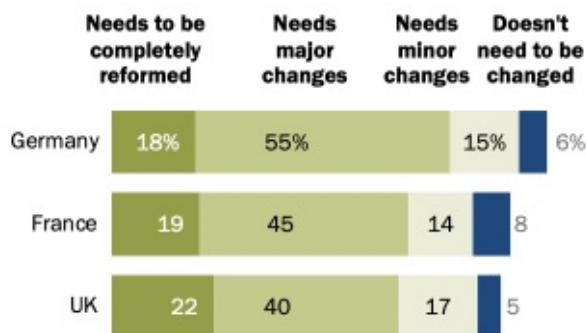
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# Even before Capitol riot, most people in Germany, France and the UK had concerns about U.S. political system

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## Majorities in three European countries say the U.S. political system needs major changes or complete reform

% who say the political system in the U.S. ...



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown.

Source: Fall 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q14b.

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The violent storming of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 by a mob of supporters of President Donald Trump has generated considerable attention overseas, as well as concerns about the health of American democracy. Even before the riot, however, many people in three key allies of the United States – Germany, France and the United Kingdom – were worried about the American political system.

Large majorities in all three countries said in a fall 2020 Pew Research Center survey that the U.S. system needs either major changes or to be completely reformed. The view was especially common in Germany, where 55% said major changes are necessary and an additional 18% said the system should be completely reformed. The share of people who said major changes to the U.S.

system are necessary was slightly lower in France (45%) and the UK (40%).

Few people in the three nations said *no* changes to the U.S. system are needed.

This analysis covers how those in Germany, France and the UK see the U.S. political system following the 2020 election. It includes demographic analysis comparing responses to the questions by views about political parties. The post also draws on long-term trend data to contextualize these views.

For this post, we use data from nationally representative telephone surveys of 3,066 adults from Nov. 12 to Dec. 23, 2020, in France, Germany and the UK. We also use a Körber-Stiftung survey conducted by Kantar in Germany from Nov. 6-10 among 1,058 respondents.

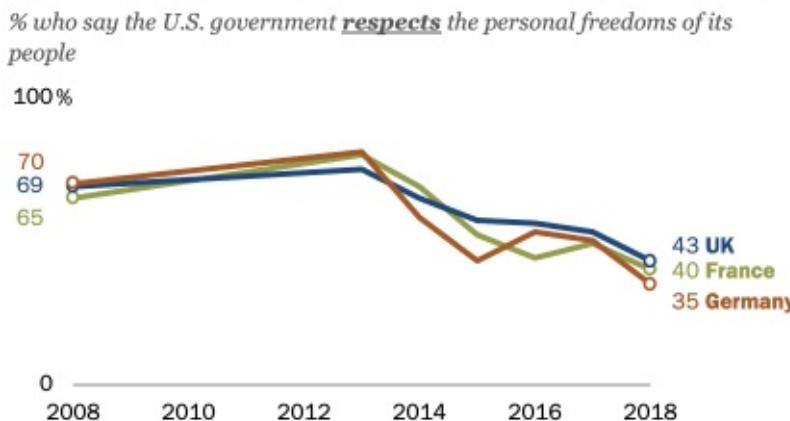
Here are the questions used for this report, along with responses, and its methodology.

In the UK and Germany, attitudes toward right-wing populist political parties played a role on this question. Those with a favorable view of the UK's Brexit Party (now called the Reform Party) and Germany's Alternative for Germany (AfD) were less likely than people with negative views of those parties to say the U.S. system needs to be completely reformed.

A separate survey conducted in Germany by Körber-Stiftung days after the 2020 election found declining confidence in U.S. democracy. When asked if the election strengthened or weakened their trust in U.S. democracy, 53% of Germans said it weakened their trust. About a third (34%) said it strengthened their trust, and about one-in-ten (7%) said it neither strengthened nor weakened their trust.

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## **Share of the public saying U.S. government respects personal freedoms declined in Germany, France, UK**



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey, Q30b.

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While the 2020 election may have raised concerns about the health of the U.S. political system among people in other countries, doubts about certain aspects of American democracy have been growing over the past several years.

In Germany, France and the UK – as well as other nations around the world – the share of people who believe the U.S. government respects the personal freedoms of its people has declined over time. As is true with many aspects of America’s international image, views on this question turned more negative during the Trump years, but the trend began before he took office.

Pew Research Center first recorded a decrease on this measure between 2013 and 2014, as news broke about Edward Snowden and National Security Agency surveillance around the world. Further declines occurred in 2015 following protests in Ferguson, Missouri, in response to the police killing of Michael Brown the year before. The erosion steadily continued through 2018, the last time the question was asked.

Previous international surveys by the Center also asked a question regarding “American ideas about democracy.” In 2017, the last time the question was asked, global publics were mixed in their views of American ideas about democracy. Globally, a median of 46% said they dislike these ideas, while 43% said they like them. Majorities in France (64%) and Germany (56%) said they dislike American ideas about democracy, but the share who said this was lower

in the UK (44%).

*Note: Here are the questions used for this report, along with responses, and its methodology.*

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# Stop Pretending ‘Trap’ has Nothing to Do with Trans Women

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**CW: Liberal use of uncensored slurs, mentions and discussion of transmisogynistic violence and murder**

If you’re a trans woman, trans femme or just a femme presenting trans or non-binary person who happens to pass very well for cis, chances are you’ve been called or have seen some other trans femme person be called, a **trap**.

A **trap**, for those lucky uninitiated, is (by definitions that have been given to me by many-a person defending it) a term that popped up in online anime communities in the Anglo speaking world (4Chan especially), that refers to cis men who are so extremely feminine, that people (usually cishet men who are attracted to them) cannot tell them apart from cis women.

The term is meant to invoke discomfort for the cishet man who experiences attraction to someone they learn is a man, and comedic to onlookers who find the idea of some unsuspecting dude being unknowingly attracted to someone of the same gender because of gender presentation, to be humorous.

This sort of relationship is undoubtedly homophobic, as there shouldn’t be anything funny or strange about finding someone of the same gender attractive. The humour directly comes from the idea of same-sex attraction being abnormal and worthy of mockery and from the cis man having his masculinity and heterosexuality put into risk and questioned. Him losing face to his fellows is a comedic element.

In recent years as meme culture developed, people began to wear their attraction to ‘traps’ on their sleeves, no longer really feeling ashamed or disgusted of it (barring the unhealthy dynamic this sprang from and the term itself).

In this way, i assume many cis men discovered latent sexual attractions, or simply grew more comfortable with the attraction to the point where they feel

their heterosexuality is intact.

This isn't really anything new. Many cishet men have always found transgender women or crossdressing men appealing. You see it throughout history, and especially well documented in recent times (the popularity of trans porn and trans sex workers for cis men etc;). Cis men in the 60's and 70's in the Tenderloin District of San Francisco openly engaged trans women there and knowingly sought them out, either for dancing or sex (as many trans women and drag queens in the district were sex workers).

However, this shouldn't be taken as a justification or that this relationship somehow became healthy in general, as such giving validity to the term.

True, some people may develop more than just a fetishistic attraction to the idea, develop their sexuality to the point where they see trans women as also people who you can date, interact with, fall in love with and not just objects of sexual urges.

But as a fetish this dynamic is still very very much alive and thriving, and constitutes the majority of transgender pornography produced and consumed.

This is one dynamic is what you see present when a transgender woman is referred to as a trap.

Many cis guys who see a trans woman and think 'trap' either know they're trans women and are engaging with her in the only way they know how (a disgusting and off-putting one for many), some don't know and assume it's a crossdressing cis man (a lot to read into that too) but many know they're trans women and don't care and **specifically use the term to deny the trans woman her identity**.

In this way, 'trap' joined the ranks of 'shemale' and 'tranny' as the go-to slur to refer to trans women, and all three sharing a dynamic of both being a statement of power and as well as extremely sexual terms, 'shemale' and 'trap' more than 'tranny', but nonetheless you see 'tranny' used in transgender pornography.

Yet despite all this, many people who hold the term in close regard deny the term is even adjacent to trans women or is even used on trans women at all.

This is usually followed by the caveat that, if it is, it's either being used incorrectly by a minority of people, or the oversensitive transgender SJW cabal

took the term, ignorant of it's true context and accused the innocent anime fans of transphobia.

The truth is that whether or not they want to admit it, trans women (trans sex workers ESPECIALLY) are routinely and commonly referred to as traps, either by men who get off on the fetish or by men who wish to stigmatise and harm trans women by directly implying she will only ever be a man trying to trick cis men into having sex with her.

**One of the largest (if not THE largest) trans erotica subreddits on reddit is called /r/traps, and the rules explicitly state that it is a subreddit for trans women to post erotic content along with crossdressing men.**

Beyond that, look at the results for 'trap' on sites like PornHub, XHamster, RedTube. **Many, many of the people featured in the video are not crossdressing men, but transgender women and various trans femmes.**

Some transgender sex workers, actresses and camgirls market themselves using the term exactly BECAUSE they understand that a significant portion of their audience experiences trans women as 'traps' rather than as women, and as such depend upon them as an audience.

The term 'trap' and its application to a group of people who never consented to it, hits a chord all-too familiar for many trans women and trans femmes, a pervasive and old cultural idea that contributes to the violence we face day-to-day and dictates many of our interactions.

How and who we date, how we speak, how we present, where we go and when and where we go to the bathroom: **the idea that trans women are cis gay men who's reason for transitioning is to lure unsuspecting cishet men into sex. Thereby 'trapping' them.**

The 'trans panic' defense is legal in all but two US states and it is a legal defense where a cishet man can get away with viciously murdering a transgender woman, if he claims that he panicked upon seeing her genitalia during a sexual encounter and felt he was in danger of being raped. The idea there of course is that the transgender woman explicitly lured him with her feminine wiles explicitly to rape him.

Many trans activists and just ordinary trans women sticking up for themselves,

argue that a lot of what we consider to be an innate sexual attraction is really a blend of cultural traditions that influence what we're attracted to, that ultimately, attractions is ideology.

Unsurprisingly, they're pilloried by both cis men and TERFs as trying to 'force' people to have sex with them out of shame, and here we see that exact same dynamic played up again.

What prompted me to make this was seeing a response to a twitter leftie talking about much of what i spoke about her, in refference to news of a trans woman who was stabbed a staggering 119 times, about why you shouldn't call trans women 'traps' because it's the reason many of us face violence like this.

The response accused them of exploiting a murder for political pointscoring, as according to them, 'trap' has absolutely nothing to do with trans women because **'transphobes don't see trans women as 'traps', just as men'**.

**However this makes no sense within their internal logic here.** If we accept their premise that 'traps' aren't trans women, but feminine cis men, then what is the implication of 'trap' being used to reffer to a trans woman here, if not 'you're actually a man'? 'Traps' are understood to be male by a large portion of the men engaging with the term.

How many times have we seen this gif, when the topic is about a trans woman:



Transphobic men calling trans women 'traps' are specifically calling them that because they accept the idea that a 'trap' is male. They're aware of what they're doing and how they're using the term and they use it to abuse trans women.

Even the pervasive question ‘are traps gay?’ is full of implications pointing directly at trans women. This question comes from an internal division, from people who seek to secure their heterosexuality by claiming that ‘traps’ are so feminine that their genitalia (and by their gender essentialist logic, maleness) doesn’t matter, while the other camp is firmly set in the original idea that a ‘trap’ will only ever be a man.

Here we see an implicit acceptance that ‘femininity’ and even the feminine gender is largely performative, and that a feminine cis man is effectively abandoning his assigned gender. Thereby the person attracted to them has saved his heterosexuality.

This question is often levied at trans women or posed whenever the topic is a cis passing trans woman by cis men who are either insecure in their sexualities or are trying to unnerve transgender women by perpetuating a negative stereotype.

The fact is, no matter how much they try to say it isn’t related to us, we on the other hand, have to live with the reality where we’re just as likely to be called ‘traps’ as we are ‘trannies’. Where we have to sit and watch ourselves be referred to as ‘traps’ in Internet forum after Internet forum and then have asswipes tell us it never happens.

Oh, and if you’re one of those who believes trans women are women but still refer to us as ‘traps, please...

**Don’t.**

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