



## May 2021 American Perspectives Survey Topline Questionnaire

Total N=2,019 adults. | Interview dates: May 14 – May 23, 2021.

*Note: All results shown are percentages. An asterisk (\*) replaces percentages greater than zero but less than 0.5 percent. Responses may not total to 100 percent due to rounding.*

### ASK ALL:

**Q.1** Thinking about your life now, do you think there is not much that could improve your quality of life or are there some things that would make your life better?

16	Not much could improve my life
84	Some things could make life better
1	Refused

**Q.2** How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the following aspects of your life? **[RANDOMIZE]**

A. The number of friends you have

18	Completely satisfied
33	Very satisfied
30	Somewhat satisfied
13	Not too satisfied
4	Not at all satisfied
1	Refused

B. Amount of time you are able to spend with your friends and family

12	Completely satisfied
27	Very satisfied
37	Somewhat satisfied
19	Not too satisfied
5	Not at all satisfied
*	Refused

C. Your personal health

9	Completely satisfied
30	Very satisfied
40	Somewhat satisfied
16	Not too satisfied
5	Not at all satisfied
1	Refused

**Q.3** Thinking about the last 12 months, would you say it was a more difficult period for you personally or was it not any more difficult than usual?

22	Much more difficult
46	Somewhat more difficult
32	Not more difficult
1	Refused

**Q.4** Over the last 12 months, have you lost touch with any of your friends or have you remained in regular contact with your friends?

9	Yes, have lost touch with most of my friends
38	Yes, have lost touch with a few friends
51	No, have remained in regular contact
1	Refused

**Q.5** Who do you usually talk to first when you have a personal problem?

16	A friend
53	Your spouse or partner
10	Your parents
5	Your children
6	A sibling
3	Other family member
5	Other [SPECIFY]
1	Refused

**Q.6** In the past seven days, how often, if at all, did you...

A. Feel lonely or isolated

2	Every day
4	Nearly every day
19	A few times
23	Once or twice
50	Never
1	Refused

B. Feel like you have no one you can count on

2	Every day
4	Nearly every day
14	A few times
15	Once or twice
65	Never
1	Refused

C. Feel depressed

3	Every day
4	Nearly every day
16	A few times
26	Once or twice
51	Never
1	Refused

D. Have difficulty sleeping

5	Every day
9	Nearly every day
21	A few times
29	Once or twice
35	Never
1	Refused

E. Feel anxious

4	Every day
8	Nearly every day
19	A few times
29	Once or twice
39	Never
1	Refused

**Q.7** How well do the following terms describe you....?

A. I can keep a conversation going with anyone about anything

28	Very well
47	Somewhat well
18	Not too well
7	Not at all well
1	Refused

B. I generally prefer talking with people 1 on 1 than engaging with a group

29	Very well
56	Somewhat well
12	Not too well
2	Not at all well
1	Refused

C. Socializing with people I don't know well is exhausting

18	Very well
38	Somewhat well
28	Not too well
15	Not at all well
1	Refused

D. In social settings, I generally prefer to listen more than talk

28	Very well
50	Somewhat well
17	Not too well
4	Not at all well
1	Refused

E. I often prefer spending time by myself

28	Very well
47	Somewhat well
18	Not too well
6	Not at all well
1	Refused

F. I make friends easily

22	Very well
45	Somewhat well
24	Not too well
7	Not at all well
1	Refused

**Now, thinking about the different types of people you consider friends...**

**Q.8** Do you have any of the following types of friends?

A. People you mostly see only in certain places, such as work, school, the gym, the park, or a coffee shop

69 Yes

30 No

1 Refused

B. People you only interact with online

39 Yes

61 No

1 Refused

C. People you primarily participate in activities with, such as sports, hobbies, community service, or some other activity

51 Yes

49 No

1 Refused

D. Someone you have known since childhood

67 Yes

32 No

1 Refused

**Q.9** When was the last time you did any of the following?

A. Talked to a friend on the phone

30 Within the past 24 hours

24 Within the past 7 days

9 Within the past 2 weeks

11 Within the past month

7 Within the past 2 or 3 months

14 More than 3 months ago

5 Never

1 Refused

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1010]:**

- B. Texted a friend
- |    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 54 | Within the past 24 hours      |
| 19 | Within the past 7 days        |
| 6  | Within the past 2 weeks       |
| 5  | Within the past month         |
| 3  | Within the past 2 or 3 months |
| 4  | More than 3 months ago        |
| 7  | Never                         |
| 1  | Refused                       |

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1009]:**

- C. Emailed a friend
- |    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 16 | Within the past 24 hours      |
| 15 | Within the past 7 days        |
| 8  | Within the past 2 weeks       |
| 9  | Within the past month         |
| 7  | Within the past 2 or 3 months |
| 19 | More than 3 months ago        |
| 25 | Never                         |
| 1  | Refused                       |

**ASK ALL:**

- D. Had a private conversation in which you shared personal feelings or problems
- |    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 19 | Within the past 24 hours      |
| 20 | Within the past 7 days        |
| 8  | Within the past 2 weeks       |
| 11 | Within the past month         |
| 9  | Within the past 2 or 3 months |
| 19 | More than 3 months ago        |
| 13 | Never                         |
| 1  | Refused                       |
- E. Received emotional support from a friend
- |    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 14 | Within the past 24 hours      |
| 17 | Within the past 7 days        |
| 9  | Within the past 2 weeks       |
| 12 | Within the past month         |
| 9  | Within the past 2 or 3 months |
| 23 | More than 3 months ago        |
| 14 | Never                         |
| 1  | Refused                       |

F. Had a serious argument with a friend

2	Within the past 24 hours
3	Within the past 7 days
2	Within the past 2 weeks
4	Within the past month
4	Within the past 2 or 3 months
42	More than 3 months ago
43	Never
1	Refused

G. Told a friend that you loved them

21	Within the past 24 hours
16	Within the past 7 days
7	Within the past 2 weeks
10	Within the past month
5	Within the past 2 or 3 months
16	More than 3 months ago
24	Never
1	Refused

H. Played video games with a friend or group of friends

5	Within the past 24 hours
5	Within the past 7 days
3	Within the past 2 weeks
5	Within the past month
4	Within the past 2 or 3 months
19	More than 3 months ago
59	Never
1	Refused

**Q.10** How often do you discuss government and politics with your friends?

6	Nearly every day
15	A few times a week
24	A few times a month
55	less often
1	Refused

**Q.11** How long ago did you most recently make a new friend?

46	Within the last 12 months
20	In the last 2 years
7	In the last 3 years
3	In the last 4 years
5	In the last 5 years
2	In the last 6 years
1	In the last 7 years
2	In the last 8 years
12	Longer than eight years ago
1	Refused

**Q.12** Thinking about your friends, how many ...

A. Are Republicans

19	A lot
34	Some
25	Just a few
19	None of them
3	Refused

B. Are Democrats

24	A lot
43	Some
20	Just a few
9	None of them
3	Refused

C. Have the same religious background as you

22	A lot
43	Some
20	Just a few
13	None of them
2	Refused

D. Have the same racial or ethnic background as you

41	A lot
38	Some
13	Just a few
6	None of them
2	Refused



**Now, thinking only about the friends you are close to...**

**Q.13** Not counting your relatives, about how many close friends would you say you have? Just your best estimate

12	None/Do not have a close friend
7	One friend
13	Two friends
17	Three friends
11	Four friends
13	Five friends
12	Six to Nine friends
13	Ten or more friends
1	Refused

**ASK IF HAVE A CLOSE FRIEND [N=1756]:**

**Q.14** How many of your close friends know each other?

25	All or nearly all of them
26	Most of them
15	About half of them
22	Few of them
12	None of them
*	Refused

**Q.15** Are any of your close friends a different gender than you?

58	Yes
42	No
*	Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.16** Do you have one person you consider to be your best friend?

59	Yes, have a best friend
40	No, do not have a best friend
1	Refused

**ASK IF HAVE BEST FRIEND [N=1198]:**

**Q.17** Is your best friend a member of your family or not?

21	Yes
78	No
1	Refused

**ASK IF HAVE BEST FRIEND & MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY [N=264]:**

**Q.18** And what relation is your best friend to you...

60	Spouse or partner
17	Sibling
7	Child
7	Parent
9	Some other family member [SPECIFY]
*	Refused

**ASK IF HAVE BEST FRIEND [N=1198]:**

**Q.19** In just a few words, what about this person makes them your best friend?

OPEN-END

**ASK IF NOT CURRENTLY MARRIED [N=779]:**

**RSTATUS1** Are you currently in a committed romantic relationship, or not?

37	Yes
62	No
1	Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**RELIG1** What is your present religion, if any?

29	Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, Jehovah's Witness, etc.)
21	Roman Catholic (Catholic)
2	Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/LDS)
*	Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or some other orthodox church)
2	Jewish (Judaism)
*	Muslim (Islam)
1	Buddhist
1	Hindu
7	Atheist (do not believe in God)
6	Agnostic (not sure if there is a God)
12	Nothing in particular
15	Just Christian
2	Something else [SPECIFY]
2	Refused

**ASK IF PROTESTANT, ROMAN CATHOLIC, MORMON, ORTHODOX, JUST CHRISTIAN OR SOMETHING ELSE [N=1140]:**

**BORN1** Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

35	Yes
64	No
1	Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**ATTEND1** Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?

7	More than once a week
18	Once a week
6	Once or twice a month
11	A few times a year
27	Seldom
30	Never
1	Refused

**ASK IF ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES AT LEAST A FEW TIMES A YEAR [N=880]:**

**Q.20** Do you have any close friends at your church or place of worship or do you not have any close friends there?

51	Yes
49	No
*	Refused

**ASK IF HAVE A CLOSE FRIEND:**

Thinking about how you first met the people you consider your close friends...

**Q.21** How many of your close friends have you met through the following... **[SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]**

54	At work or through partner or spouses' job
35	In your neighborhood
21	At church or place of worship
47	At a school you attend now, or attended in the past
10	At your child's school
40	Through other friends
19	Through clubs or other organizations that you belong to
8	Online
5	Some other way [Specify - OPEN END]
*	Refused

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.22** What best describes your current living situation? Are you living with... **[SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]**

- |    |                                      |
|----|--------------------------------------|
| 14 | Parents                              |
| 64 | Spouse, partner or significant other |
| 4  | Unrelated roommates                  |
| 13 | Siblings or other family members     |
| 13 | Live alone                           |
| 1  | Other [SPECIFY]                      |
| 1  | Refused                              |

**ASK IF HAVE ROOMMATES [N=64]:**

**Q.23** How would you currently describe your relationship with your roommate(s)? In general, would you say...

- |    |                                     |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 5  | You do not get along                |
| 24 | You get along, but are not friends  |
| 27 | You are friends, but not that close |
| 44 | You are close friends               |

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.24** Have you ever stopped talking to or being friends with someone because of something they said about government and politics?

- |    |         |
|----|---------|
| 15 | Yes     |
| 84 | No      |
| 1  | Refused |

**ASK IF STOPPED TALKING/BEING FRIENDS:**

**Q.25** In just a few words, can you explain what happened?

OPEN-END

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.26** Have you personally received at least one dose of a coronavirus vaccine, or not?

- |    |         |
|----|---------|
| 67 | Yes     |
| 32 | No      |
| 1  | Refused |

**ASK IF HAVE A CLOSE FRIEND: [N=1756]**

**Q.27** Thinking about your friends, how many been completely or partially vaccinated for COVID-19?

- |    |                    |
|----|--------------------|
| 15 | All of them        |
| 41 | Most of them       |
| 17 | About half of them |
| 18 | Just a few of them |
| 8  | None of them       |
| 2  | Refused            |

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.28** Have any of your friends or family members encouraged you to get vaccinated, or advised you against getting vaccinated or has this not come up?<sup>1</sup>

- |    |                                     |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 40 | Encouraged getting vaccinated       |
| 6  | Advised against getting vaccinated  |
| 34 | Neither/Have not talked about it    |
| 18 | Both encouraged and advised against |
| 2  | Refused                             |

**ASK IF HAVE NOT RECEIVED VACCINE [N=580]:**

**Q.29** How likely are you to get the COVID-19 (coronavirus) vaccine?

- |    |                   |
|----|-------------------|
| 12 | Very likely       |
| 18 | Somewhat likely   |
| 22 | Not very likely   |
| 44 | Not at all likely |
| 5  | Refused           |

**ASK ALL:**

**Q.30** Do you personally know anyone in the United States who has tested positive for the coronavirus?  
**[SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]**

- |    |                    |
|----|--------------------|
| 9  | Yes, myself        |
| 41 | Yes, family member |
| 37 | Yes, friend        |
| 36 | Yes, someone else  |
| 19 | No                 |
| 1  | Refused            |

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<sup>1</sup> The question was edited for clarity. The original question included an extraneous "the," which did not alter the meaning of the question, and was removed.

## Survey Methodology

The survey was designed and conducted by the Survey Center on American Life. Interviews were conducted among a random sample of 2,019 adults (age 18 and up) living in the United States, including all 50 states and the District of Columbia. All interviews were conducted among participants of the the Ipsos KnowledgePanel, a probability-based panel designed to be representative of the US general population, not just the online population. Interviewing was conducted between May 14 and May 23 2021. Interviews were conducted in Spanish and English.

Initially, participants are chosen scientifically by a random selection of telephone numbers and residential addresses. Persons in selected households are then invited by telephone or mail to participate in the Ipsos KnowledgePanel. For those who agree to participate but do not already have internet access, Ipsos provides at no cost a laptop and internet service provider connection. People who already have computers and internet service are permitted to participate using their own equipment. Panelists then receive unique log-in information for accessing surveys online and then are sent emails throughout each month inviting them to participate in research.

The data were weighted to adjust for gender by age, race, education, Census region by metropolitan status, and household income. The sample weighting was accomplished using an iterative proportional fitting (IFP) process that simultaneously balances the distributions of all variables.

The use of survey weights in statistical analyses ensures that the demographic characteristics of the sample closely approximate the demographic characteristics of the target population. The margin of error for the qualified survey sample is  $\pm 2.4$  percentage points at the 95 percent level of confidence. The design effect for the survey is 1.2.