



Pell Center | Nationwide Survey | Toplines | May 2026

2034 interviews nationwide from May 4-12, 2026. Modeled Margin of Error = +/- 2.2%.

Q1a. [ONLY SEEN BY DEMOCRATS] How important is being a Democrat to your identity?

- 26% Extremely important
- 22 Very important
- 25 Moderately important
- 11 Slightly important
- 16 Not important at all

Q1b. [ONLY SEEN BY REPUBLICANS] How important is being a Republican to your identity?

- 25% Extremely important
- 23 Very important
- 25 Moderately important
- 9 Slightly important
- 18 Not important at all

Q1c. [ONLY SEEN BY INDEPENDENTS] How important is being a Independent to your identity?

- 32% Extremely important
- 22 Very important
- 19 Moderately important
- 7 Slightly important
- 20 Not important at all

Q1abc. [COMBINED] How important is being a [Democrat/Independent/Republican] to your identity?

- 25% Extremely important
- 23 Very important
- 24 Moderately important
- 9 Slightly important
- 18 Not important at all

Q2. How often do you pay attention to what's going on in government and politics?

- 41% Always
- 40 Most of the time
- 11 About half the time
- 7 Some of the time
- 1 Never

Polling was conducted online from May 4-12, 2026. Using Dynamic Online Sampling to attain a representative sample, Embold Research polled 2034 registered voters nationwide. Post-stratification was performed on age, gender, race/ethnicity, education, region, and 2024 presidential vote. You can see a full methodology statement [here](#), which complies with the requirements of AAPOR's Transparency Initiative. Members of the Transparency Initiative disclose all relevant details about our research, with the principle that the public should be able to evaluate and understand research-based findings, in order to instill and restore public confidence in survey results.

Q3. How confident are you in judging whether the news you see or read online is true or false?

18% Extremely confident
 32 Very confident
 31 Somewhat confident
 11 Not too confident
 8 Not at all confident

Q4. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	<u>Agree</u>		<u>Disagree</u>		Not Sure	Total Agree	Total Disagree
	Strong	Smwt	Smwt	Strong			
The US is in a constitutional crisis.	51	22	8	16	3	73	24
The US economy is in a recession.	31	28	17	17	6	59	34
The US is a democracy.	21	26	20	28	4	47	48
The US government has a strong system of checks and balances.	10	25	25	35	4	36	60
The US is a dictatorship.	13	22	12	49	4	35	61
The US economy is thriving.	7	25	17	49	2	32	66

Q5. Which of the following statements do you agree with most?

85% The United States was built on the idea that everyone is born with rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.
 15 The United States was built on the character of the Anglo-Saxon people, their distinct love of liberty and their sense of glory, destiny, and pride.

Q6a. [ONLY SEEN BY DEMOCRATS] Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	<u>Agree</u>		<u>Disagree</u>		Not Sure	Total Agree	Total Disagree
	Strong	Smwt	Smwt	Strong			
I try to avoid socializing with Republicans.	20	28	25	24	3	48	49
I avoid friendships with Republicans.	18	26	25	27	4	44	52
I would be upset if my friend or a close family member marries a Republican.	18	24	22	28	7	43	50

Q7a. [ONLY SEEN BY DEMOCRATS] Do you agree or disagree with the following statements about Republicans?

	<u>Agree</u>		<u>Disagree</u>		Not Sure	Total Agree	Total Disagree
	Strong	Smwt	Smwt	Strong			
Republicans are hypocritical.	54	29	8	5	4	83	13
Republicans are dangerous.	34	35	16	10	6	68	26
Republicans are immoral.	27	33	22	12	6	60	34
Republicans are mean.	24	33	23	13	7	57	36
Republicans are unfriendly.	16	24	33	17	9	41	50

Q8a. [ONLY SEEN BY DEMOCRATS] Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	<u>Agree</u>		<u>Disagree</u>		Not Sure	Total Agree	Total Disagree
	Strong	Smwt	Smwt	Strong			
It is appropriate to mock Republicans.	17	27	23	26	6	44	50
I am happy when negative things happen to Republicans.	12	21	23	36	8	34	59

Q6b. [ONLY SEEN BY REPUBLICANS] Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	<u>Agree</u>		<u>Disagree</u>		Not Sure	Total Agree	Total Disagree
	Strong	Smwt	Smwt	Strong			
I try to avoid socializing with Democrats.	10	16	24	47	3	26	71
I avoid friendships with Democrats.	7	14	24	52	3	21	76
I would be upset if my friend or a close family member marries a Democrat.	7	11	22	54	6	18	76

Q7b. [ONLY SEEN BY REPUBLICANS] Do you agree or disagree with the following statements about Democrats?

	<u>Agree</u>		<u>Disagree</u>		Not Sure	Total Agree	Total Disagree
	Strong	Smwt	Smwt	Strong			
Democrats are hypocritical.	57	25	6	8	4	82	14
Democrats are dangerous.	38	33	12	14	3	72	25
Democrats are immoral.	33	35	14	15	4	68	29
Democrats are mean.	31	34	15	16	5	64	31
Democrats are unfriendly.	26	30	23	18	3	56	40

Q8b. [ONLY SEEN BY REPUBLICANS] Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	<u>Agree</u>		<u>Disagree</u>		Not Sure	Total Agree	Total Disagree
	Strong	Smwt	Smwt	Strong			
It is appropriate to mock Democrats.	10	21	22	42	5	31	64
I am happy when negative things happen to Democrats.	9	16	20	49	5	25	69

Q9. Do you support or oppose the following?

	<u>Support</u>		<u>Oppose</u>		Not sure	Total Support	Total Oppose
	Strongly	Smwt	Smwt	Strongly			
Your party's president issuing executive orders on their own when they can't get cooperation from Congress	14	21	16	43	7	35	59
Your party's elected officials sometimes ignoring court decisions when the judges were appointed by a president from the other party	5	11	18	56	10	16	74
The government censoring media sources that spend more time attacking your party than the other party	8	8	12	65	8	16	76
When your party's candidate questions an election outcome, other party members being more loyal to your party than to election rules	5	10	14	53	18	15	67
Your party changing election rules mainly to make it harder for the other party to win an election or a majority	5	7	13	68	7	12	81
Your party reducing the number of polling stations in areas that typically support the other party	3	4	15	70	9	7	84

Q10. Do you support or oppose the following?

	<u>Support</u>		<u>Oppose</u>		Not sure	Total Support	Total Oppose
	Strongly	Smwt	Smwt	Strongly			
Stripping U.S. citizens of their citizenship and deporting them if they are determined to be a threat to the country	28	12	10	45	5	40	55
ICE officers regularly conducting surveillance and arrests at sensitive locations like schools, hospitals, places of worship, and social service locations	27	9	6	56	2	36	62

Q11. What are the biggest threats to democracy in the United States today? Please select up to three.

41%	Disinformation and fake news
38	Money in politics
37	Donald Trump
29	Politically motivated violence
27	Election fraud
23	Redistricting or gerrymandering
20	Voter suppression
20	Democratic officials
19	Political polarization
18	Racism and sexism
18	Foreign interference in elections
17	Federal judges and Supreme Court justices
16	Income inequality
15	Partisan media
13	Republican officials
11	Social media platforms
11	Lack of civic engagement
8	Lack of exposure to diverse perspectives
1	There are no threats to democracy in the United States
10	Other (please specify)

Q12. Would you say that it is more important for a child to be...

	OPTION A	OPTION B
Option A: Independent or Option B: Respectful of their elders	39	61
Option A: Obedient or Option B: Self-reliant	25	75
Option A: Well-behaved or Option B: Considerate	33	67
Option A: Curious or Option B: Good mannered	59	41
Option A: Polite or Option B: Free spirited	69	31
Option A: Orderly or Option B: Imaginative	24	76
Option A: Disciplined or Option B: Adaptable	44	56
Option A: Loyal or Option B: Open-minded	21	79

Q13. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

	<u>Agree</u>		<u>Disagree</u>		Not Sure	Total Agree	Total Disagree
	Strongly	Smwt	Smwt	Strongly			
Everyone should have their own lifestyle, religious beliefs, and sexual preferences, even if it makes them different from everyone else.	59	26	8	4	3	85	12
Students at high schools and at university must be encouraged to challenge, criticize, and confront established authorities.	32	32	19	13	4	64	32
Nobody should stick to the “straight and narrow.” Instead people should break loose and try out lots of different ideas and experiences.	19	42	21	12	6	61	33
The facts on crime and the recent public disorders show we have to crack down harder on troublemakers, if we are going to preserve law and order.	36	20	18	21	6	56	38
Obedience and respect for authority are the most important virtues children should learn.	21	30	24	22	3	51	46
The only way our country can get through the crisis ahead is to get back to our traditional values, put some tough leaders in power, and silence the troublemakers spreading bad ideas.	26	22	14	34	4	48	47

D1. Are you:

47% A man
52 A woman
2 Another identity

D2. Age

26% 18 to 34
24 35 to 49
23 50 to 64
27 65+

D3. Race/ethnicity

63% White / Caucasian
13 Hispanic or Latino/a
12 Black or African American
8 Asian / Pacific Islander
1 American Indian or Alaska Native
3 Other

D4. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

16% High school diploma or less
27 Some college, but no degree
14 Associate's degree, or two-year college degree
25 Bachelor's degree, or four-year college degree
17 Graduate degree

D5. Which of the following best describes how you identify politically?

13% MAGA
26 Conservative
25 Moderate
16 Liberal
20 Progressive

D6. Party ID

25% Strong Democrat
10 Weak Democrat
10 Independent lean Democrat
13 Pure Independent
10 Independent lean Republican
7 Weak Republican
26 Strong Republican

Party ID

44% Democrats
13 Pure Independents
43 Republicans

Party ID

34% Base Democrats
33 Independents + Leaners
33 Base Republicans

D9. How did you vote in the 2024 election for President, or for some reason were you unable to vote?

44%	Kamala Harris, the Democrat
44	Donald Trump, the Republican
5	A third party candidate
1	Not registered/Too young/Ineligible
7	Did not vote