



**US NATIONAL SURVEY
ON BEHALF OF THE CIVITAS INSTITUTE OF UT-AUSTIN
APRIL 24-MAY 1, 2023
1,200 US ADULTS**

MOOD OF THE COUNTRY

Are you registered to vote?

- 86% Yes
- 13% No
- 1% Don't know

Would you say things in the United States today are:

- 28% Generally headed in the right direction
- 62% Off in the wrong direction
- 11% Don't know/Not sure

For each of the following issues facing the country today, please tell us how important the issue is to you personally.

	(1) Extremely important	(2) Somewhat important	(3) Neither important nor unimportant	(4) Not very important	(5) Not at all important
RANKED BY % EXTREMELY IMPORTANT					
Inflation/high prices/gas prices	64%	25	7	3	1
Health care/Medicare	62%	27	8	2	2
Crime/safety	58%	29	9	4	1
Social Security	55%	30	10	3	2
Education/schools	54%	30	11	4	2
Gun violence	54%	25	13	4	4
Taxes/tax rates	50%	33	12	4	1
National security/defense	50%	31	12	4	3
Gun rights	48%	23	15	6	7
Jobs/employment	47%	37	12	3	2
Criminal justice/policing	46%	38	11	3	3
The federal budget deficit	45%	30	16	6	4
Eligible people being prevented from voting	45%	25	17	7	6

Terrorism	43%	31	17	6	3
Border security	43%	30	13	9	5
Immigration	42%	32	15	8	3
Energy/energy policy	41%	38	15	4	3
Ineligible people being allowed to vote	40%	24	16	10	10
Abortion rights	40%	23	17	8	12
Climate change/environment	38%	24	14	11	14
Foreign policy	37%	38	17	6	2
Systemic racism/white supremacy	37%	22	16	10	15
Wealth inequality	33%	27	18	11	11
Trade/tariffs	23%	41	27	7	3

DEMOCRACY AND CAPITALISM RATINGS

How would you rate the way **democracy** is working in the United States today?
(Split-Sample: N=583)

- 5% Excellent
- 14% Very good
- 27% Somewhat good
- 15% Neither good nor bad
- 18% Somewhat poor
- 10% Very poor
- 11% Terrible

Collapsed:

- 46% Positive
- 15% Middle
- 39% Negative

How would you rate the way **democratic elections** are working in the United States today?
(Split-Sample: N=583)

- 7% Excellent
- 17% Very good
- 22% Somewhat good
- 17% Neither good nor bad
- 15% Somewhat poor
- 9% Very poor
- 13% Terrible

Collapsed:

- 46% Positive
- 17% Middle

37% Negative

How would you rate the way **the free enterprise system** is working in the United States today?

(Split-Sample: N=413)

7% Excellent
18% Very good
22% Somewhat good
15% Neither good nor bad
15% Somewhat poor
10% Very poor
7% Terrible

Collapsed:

47% Positive
15% Middle
32% Negative

How would you rate the way **capitalism** is working in the United States today?

(Split-Sample: N=400)

7% Excellent
14% Very good
29% Somewhat good
19% Neither good nor bad
16% Somewhat poor
5% Very poor
10% Terrible

Collapsed:

50% Positive
19% Middle
31% Negative

How would you rate the way **private investment and ownership of business** is working in the United States today?

(Split-Sample: N=386)

6% Excellent
15% Very good
28% Somewhat good
23% Neither good nor bad
17% Somewhat poor
7% Very poor
4% Terrible

Collapsed:

50% Positive
23% Middle
28% Negative

Would you say that American democracy is a good or bad example for other countries around the world to follow?

47% Good example
29% Bad example
24% Don't know

Would you say that the American economic system is a good or bad example for other countries around the world to follow?

46% Good example
33% Bad example
21% Don't know

As you probably know, the United States government classifies documents and information to protect national security. In recent years, do you think the government has classified too many documents as "top secret," too few documents as "top secret", or has it been about right in how much it has classified as "top secret"?

46% Too many
15% Too few
39% About right

Do you support or oppose the United States government attempting to influence news media organizations and social media organizations to stop the spread of what it considers misinformation?

18% Strongly support
23% Somewhat support
16% Neither support nor oppose
7% Somewhat oppose
29% Strongly oppose
7% Unsure

Collapsed:

41% Support
16% Middle
36% Oppose

In general, do you think the United States should provide more economic assistance to help the spread of democracy around the world, should it provide less economic assistance, or is it providing the right amount?

25% More
 40% Less
 35% About the right amount

In general, do you think the United States should provide more military assistance to help the spread of democracy around the world, should it provide less military assistance, or is it providing the right amount?

18% More
 45% Less
 38% About the right amount

Thinking about how things are in the United States today, would you say that you agree or disagree with the following statements...

	(1) Strongly agree	(2) Somewhat agree	(3) Neither agree nor disagree	(4) Somewhat disagree	(5) Strongly disagree
RANKED BY % STRONGLY AGREE					
Many politicians are corrupt	41%	34	17	5	3
Many people live in areas where it is dangerous to walk around at night	35%	36	18	9	3
Religion and traditional values are becoming much less central to the country	32%	35	20	9	4
American is the best country in the world	32%	22	22	13	11
Most people have a good chance to improve their standard of living	22%	36	19	15	8
No matter who wins an election, things do not change very much	20%	34	17	18	11
The rights of people to express their views in public are protected	15%	34	20	20	10
People are mostly treated equally regardless of race or ethnicity	15%	25	18	21	21
The court system treats everyone fairly	7%	17	21	27	28
Elected officials care what ordinary people think	7%	15	18	27	33

FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

How important are each of the following to making the United States a democracy?

	(1) Extremely important	(2) Somewhat important	(3) Neither important nor unimportant	(4) Somewhat unimportant	(5) Extremely unimportant
RANKED BY % EXTREMELY IMPORTANT					
That all people have equal protection under the law	75%	16	7	1	1
The right to vote	74%	14	8	2	1
Equal treatment regardless of race or ethnicity	73%	17	8	1	1
Freedom of speech	72%	20	6	2	1
The right to privacy	68%	21	8	2	1
Freedom of religion	67%	21	8	3	2
Freedom for people to assemble peacefully	66%	22	9	1	2
The right to a speedy trial with an impartial jury	63%	25	11	1	1
Freedom of press	63%	24	10	2	2
Freedom to petition the government	61%	25	10	2	1
Freedom from unreasonable searches	59%	25	13	2	1
The right to bear arms	44%	21	14	10	11

Which of these freedoms or rights is most important? Second most? Third most?

RANKED BY % TOTAL TOP THREE MENTIONS	First	Second	Third	Total top three
Freedom of speech	22%	17	16	55%
That all people have equal protection under the law	18%	13	14	46%
The right to vote	15%	15	12	41%
Equal treatment regardless of race or ethnicity				
The right to privacy	8%	12	13	33%
Freedom of religion	12%	9	9	30%
The right to bear arms	11%	11	7	29%
Freedom of press	4%	5	7	16%
Freedom for people to assemble peacefully	3%	5	7	15%
The right to a speedy trial with an impartial jury	2%	5	5	12%
Freedom from unreasonable searches	2%	4	7	12%
Freedom to petition the government	3%	3	5	11%

How much, if at all, does the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution—which guarantees freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and other rights—protect Americans?

- 37% A great deal
- 39% A fair amount
- 16% Not that much
- 2% Not at all
- 6% Don't know

How much, if at all, does the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution protect people like you?

- 30% A great deal
- 39% A fair amount
- 20% Not that much
- 4% Not at all
- 7% Don't know

To what extent do you think each of the following freedoms is secured or threatened in the country today?

	(1) Extremely secured	(2) Somewhat secured	(3) Neither secured nor threatened/ Both	(4) Somewhat threatened	(5) Extremely threatened
RANKED BY % EXTREMELY SECURED					
The right to bear arms	22%	27	20	16	16
Freedom of religion	20%	29	20	19	11
The right to vote	17%	32	18	20	12
Freedom of speech	14%	32	17	22	15
Freedom for people to assemble peacefully	13%	33	20	23	11
Freedom of press	13%	31	23	20	14
That all people have equal protection under the law	11%	28	18	27	18
Freedom to petition the government	11%	32	30	17	11
The right to a speedy trial with an impartial jury	11%	30	30	20	10
Freedom from unreasonable searches or arrests	8%	28	23	26	15
The right to privacy	9%	27	19	26	20

How easy or difficult is it for the following people to use their free speech rights without fear of being penalized in America today? On a scale of 1 to 7 with 1 being very difficult and 7 being very easy.

	MEAN	Very Hard (1)	(2)	(3)	Middle (4)	(5)	(6)	Very Easy (7)
RANKED BY MEAN RATING								
Wealthy people	5.94	3%	2	3	9	10	18	54
Liberals	5.14	5%	4	9	17	17	18	31
Men	5.06	7%	4	8	15	19	18	30
College students	5.02	4%	3	8	22	23	16	24
White Americans	5.01	10%	6	7	12	14	19	32
Socialists	4.80	6%	5	11	24	16	15	24
Defund the police activists	4.65	7%	8	11	21	15	11	26

Women	4.62	7%	7	11	21	20	15	19
Black Lives Matter activists	4.61	10%	10	11	15	14	12	28
Religious Christians	4.60	11%	7	10	17	15	15	25
Conservatives	4.51	13%	7	8	19	14	16	22
White supremacists	4.51	13%	7	10	17	16	14	23
LGBTQ people	4.47	11%	10	14	16	11	10	28
MAGA people	4.44	15%	6	8	19	15	13	23
Hispanic and Latino Americans	4.33	7%	10	15	25	18	11	15
Black and African Americans	4.32	12%	11	14	16	14	13	21
Asian Americans	4.19	8%	9	16	26	17	13	11
Religious Jews	4.17	9%	10	16	24	18	11	13
People like you	4.09	14%	9	14	20	18	12	13
Working-class people	4.08	9%	10	17	26	16	13	10
Immigrants	4.01	14%	13	14	19	14	10	16
Religious Muslims	3.96	13%	12	16	21	14	9	15

Using a 1-7 scale, in which “1” means a very good job, “7” means a very poor job, and “4” is the mid-point meaning neither good nor poor, how would you rate the job the K-12 schools are doing teaching young people what they need to know about each of the following?

RANKED BY MEAN RATING	MEAN	Very good job (1)	(2)	(3)	Middle (4)	(5)	(6)	Very poor job (7)
Freedom from unreasonable searches or arrests	4.55	6%	5	10	33	16	11	19
The right to bear arms	4.50	8%	7	10	30	12	11	21
The right to privacy	4.48	7%	8	11	28	16	13	18
The right to a speedy trial with an impartial jury	4.45	6%	7	10	35	14	11	17
Freedom to petition the government	4.43	7%	7	10	34	14	12	17
Freedom of religion	4.41	10%	9	11	26	13	13	20
That all people have equal protection under the law	4.41	8%	8	10	28	16	12	17
Freedom for people to assemble peacefully	4.31	8%	10	11	31	14	11	16
Freedom of press	4.28	8%	10	11	29	15	10	16
Freedom of speech	4.22	10%	10	13	25	15	9	17
The right to vote	3.99	12%	13	14	26	13	10	14

ATTITUDES TOWARDS INSTITUTIONS

For each of the following, please tell us whether you have a favorable view, an unfavorable view, or don't you have an opinion:

	(1) Very favorable	(2) Somewhat favorable	(3) Neither favorable nor unfavorable/ Both	(4) Somewhat unfavorable	(5) Very unfavorable
RANKED BY % VERY FAVORABLE					
Small businesses	35%	39	21	4	2
The U.S. Military	30%	33	23	10	5
Police and law enforcement personnel	24%	32	24	13	8
The Center for Disease Control (CDC)	20%	28	22	11	19
Labor unions	19%	26	30	14	12
The U.S. Supreme Court	13%	27	25	17	19
The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)	13%	26	29	13	19
Facebook/Meta	12%	17	25	22	25
State government	11%	30	28	19	13
The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)	11%	25	33	15	16
Twitter	11%	16	29	18	27
Local government	10%	34	32	17	7
The news media	9%	24	25	20	23
The Internal Revenue Service (IRS)	9%	20	34	18	20
Instagram	9%	20	40	16	16
The U.S. Congress	8%	18	26	26	23
TikTok	8%	11	25	16	40
Large corporations	7%	20	33	23	16

RELIGIOUS ATTITUDES

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	(1) Strongly agree	(2) Somewhat agree	(3) Neither agree nor disagree	(4) Somewhat disagree	(5) Strongly disagree
RANKED BY % STRONGLY AGREE					
America holds a special place in God's plan	17%	20	30	8	26
The United States is spiritually predestined to lead the world	12%	17	29	12	31
The vast resources of the United States indicate that God has chosen it to lead other nations	12%	17	31	10	31
The success of the United States is NOT a reflection of divine will	31%	19	34	9	7

To what extent do you support or oppose the following policies?

	(1) Strongly support	(2) Somewhat support	(3) Neither support nor oppose	(4) Somewhat oppose	(5) Strongly oppose
RANKED BY % STRONGLY SUPPORT					
Allowing Native Americans to stop business development on land they consider sacred.	36%	27	25	7	5
Allowing business owners to refuse to participate in same-sex weddings because of religious objections.	34%	18	21	9	17
Allowing Muslims to build a mosque in your community.	30%	22	31	6	11
Allowing the government to restrict religious services to protect public health.	17%	18	21	14	29

DEMOGRAPHICS

GENDER

49% Male
51% Female

AGE

19% 18-29
26% 30-44
15% 45-54
18% 55-64
23% 65+

RACE

63% White/Anglo
13% African American/Black
16% Hispanic/Latino
3% Asian American
1% Native American
2% Two or more races
1% Middle Eastern
2% Other

EDUCATION

4% No high school degree
34% High school graduate
17% Some college
11% Two-year college degree
22% Four-year college degree
12% Post-graduate

MARITAL STATUS

48% Married
2% Separated
10% Divorced
5% Widowed
31% Never married
4% Domestic/Civil partnership

CHILDREN

23% Children under 18 in household
77% Else

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

42% Full-time
13% Part-time
0% Temporarily laid off
6% Unemployed
21% Retired
6% Permanently disabled
6% Homemaker
5% Student
1% Other

FAMILY INCOME

6% Less than \$10k
9% \$10k-\$20k
23% \$20k-\$50k
31% \$50k-\$100k
17% \$100k-\$250k
2% More than \$250k
9% Prefer not to say

PARTY IDENTIFICATION

22% Strong Democrat
15% Not so strong Democrat
6% Lean Democrat
19% Independent
8% Lean Republican
10% Not so strong Republican
17% Strong Republican

Collapsed Party ID:

43% Democrat
19% Independent
35% Republican

2020 PRESIDENTIAL VOTE

38% Joe Biden
35% Donald Trump
2% Other
26% Did not vote for president

IDEOLOGY

10% Very liberal
18% Liberal
33% Moderate
18% Conservative
12% Very conservative

RELIGION

28% Protestant
24% Catholic
3% Jewish
1% Muslim
1% Buddhist
1% Mormon
1% Eastern or Greek Orthodox
0% Hindu
8% Atheist
6% Agnostic
20% Nothing in particular
7% Else

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

11% More than once a week
16% Once a week
6% Once or twice a month
10% A few times a year
23% Seldom
30% Never
4% Don't know

BORN AGAIN

32% Yes
68% No

Do you or does anyone in your household belong to a union or a teachers' association?

7% I am a union member
4% I am a teachers' association member
7% Someone else in the household belongs to a union
4% Someone else in the household belongs to a teachers' association
2% This is both union and teachers' association household
63% Non-union
14% Not sure

Are you or is anyone in your household currently active U.S. military?

3% Yes, I am active military
5% Yes, someone else in the household is active military
90% No
2% Not sure

Are you or is anyone in your household a veteran of the U.S. military?

9% Yes, I am a veteran
13% Yes, someone else in the household is a veteran
76% No
3% Not sure

Are you or is anyone in the household a gun owner?

23% Yes, I am a gun owner

17% Yes, someone in the household is a gun owner

63% No

Do you own a truck?

21% Yes, truck owner

70% No

Are you a smoker?

19% Yes

81% No

METHODOLOGY

From April 24-May 1, 2023, YouGov interviewed 1,262 respondents who were then matched down to a sample of 1200 to produce the final dataset. The respondents were matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race, and education. The frame was constructed by stratified sampling from the full 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year sample with selection within strata by weighted sampling with replacements (using the person weights on the public use file).

The matched cases were weighted to the sampling frame using propensity scores. The matched cases and the frame were combined and a logistic regression was estimated for inclusion in the frame. The propensity score function included age, gender, race/ethnicity, years of education, and region. The propensity scores were grouped into deciles of the estimated propensity score in the frame and post-stratified according to these deciles.

The weights were then post-stratified on 2016 and 2020 Presidential vote choice, and a four-way stratification of gender, age (4-categories), race (4-categories), and education (4-categories), to produce the final weight.