

1,031 interviews adults ages 18-34; conducted online 7/23-8/1/2026

All results show as percentages unless otherwise indicated.

Q1 How important are each of the following to your personal identity?

(Ranked by Extremely important)

	Extremely <u>important</u>	Very <u>important</u>	Somewhat <u>important</u>	Not very <u>important</u>	Not at all <u>important</u>
Your family and friends	56	30	11	2	1
Your values and beliefs	53	36	9	1	1
Your job or career	28	35	26	6	5
Being an American	27	20	30	13	10
Your gender	26	26	27	12	9
Your family’s ancestry or country of origin	23	27	25	16	8
Your religion	22	18	21	15	24
Your race or ethnicity	22	25	25	16	12
The town, state or area where you’re from	18	24	34	17	7
Your political affiliation	17	22	31	20	11

Q2 When you think about the future for America, do you feel it’s more likely that America’s best years are still ahead of us, or do you feel it’s more likely that America’s best years may already be behind us?

- 46 More likely best years are still ahead
- 54 More likely best years may be behind

(FORM A)

Q3a What one word would you use to describe America today?

Changing/evolving
Corrupt/unjust
Chaotic/unstable
Positive/strong/free
Broken/bad
Divided/polarized
Declining/struggling
Fearful/anxious/uncertain

(FORM B)

Q3b In ten words or less, describe your greatest hope for America's future.

Kindness/compassion/respect
Peace/Safety
Unity/coming together Acceptance/diversity
Healthcare
Equality/Justice
Affordability/Opportunity
Environment/climate
Progress/Optimism
Freedom/Rights/Democracy
Political leadership/change

Q4 How patriotic do you feel towards the United States?

- 24 Very patriotic
- 29 Somewhat patriotic
- 24 Not very patriotic
- 16 Not at all patriotic
- 6 Don't know/not sure

Q5 How proud do you feel about being an American?

- 31 Very proud
- 27 Somewhat proud
- 23 Not very proud
- 16 Not at all proud
- 4 Don't know/not sure

Q6 Compared to the generation that came before yours, do you think your generation has made America better or worse?

- 13 Much better
- 31 Somewhat better
- 23 About the same
- 17 Somewhat worse
- 8 Much worse
- 7 Don't know/not sure

Q7 When thinking about the United States, do you feel proud about our country when it comes to each of the following...

	Yes, I feel proud about <u>this</u>	No, I don't feel proud <u>about this</u>
What America has been in the past	59	41
America as it is today	29	71
Where America is heading as a nation	30	70

Q8 In thinking about the United States, how do you feel about each of the following compared to the rest of the world?

(Ranked by “We are better than most countries”)

	We are better than most <u>countries</u>	We are about as good as other <u>countries</u>	We are worse than most <u>countries</u>
Our nation’s values	32	38	30
Our system of government	29	36	35
Our people	27	52	21

Q9 Which of the following best describes your views on The American Dream - the belief that, through hard work, anyone can achieve success?

- 24 The American Dream exists for everyone, including me
- 21 The American Dream might exist for some, but it’s out of reach for people like me
- 18 The American Dream exists for me, but it’s out of reach for other people
- 30 The American Dream no longer exists
- 8 Don’t know/not sure

Q10 Below is a list of things that some people say make America special or distinct. Please select the two items that make you most proud to be an American.

(Ranked by Highest %)

- 39 The diversity of America
- 37 The freedoms that Americans have
- 20 Americans’ ability to innovate, make important discoveries and contribute to human progress
- 17 The opportunities for people to work hard and improve their circumstances
- 16 Americans’ ability to be resilient and unite in times of crisis and hardship
- 16 The educational opportunities that are available in America
- 12 America’s achievements in areas like sports, arts and entertainment
- 10 America's role as a global leader
- 7 How Americans treat people in need
- 7 America’s system of justice
- 9 I am not proud of any of these things

Q11 Below are guiding principles that are included in the Declaration of Independence. Thinking about how things are going in the country today, please indicate whether you think America is living up to or falling short on each of these principles.

(Ranked by “America is living up to this principle”)

	Total Living up to this principle	America is strongly living up to this principle	America is somewhat living up to this principle	America is somewhat falling short on this principle	America is strongly falling short on this principle
Pursuit of happiness , that is, people can seek fulfilling, meaningful, and satisfying lives in the way that they choose	52	24	29	25	23
Opportunity , that is, all people have a chance to improve their lives and get ahead through their own effort, talent, and choices.	50	22	28	29	21
Liberty , that is, people are free to live their lives, speak their minds, and practice their beliefs	48	21	27	28	24
Self-determination , that is, the people have the power to decide how they are governed and who governs them	45	19	27	28	27
Equality , that is, every person has the same rights as anyone else	40	19	21	26	35

Q12 If the Founding Fathers of the country could see America today, do you think they would feel mostly pride, mostly disappointment or an equal mix of pride and disappointment with the current state of the nation?

- 13

Mostly pride
- 36

Mostly disappointment
- 41

Equal mix of both
- 10

Don't know/not sure

Q13 Please read the statements below and indicate which one you agree with more.

- 39

Americans are becoming more divided, but there's still more that unites us
- 47

Americans are becoming more divided, and we are splitting apart as a country
- 13

Americans are not more divided now than in the past

Q14 Below is a list of things that some people think are important to being an American and living up to American values. **Please carefully consider your own view of what it means to be an American and live up to American values.** Then rate how important you consider each one to be.

(Ranked by Essential)

	<u>Essential</u>	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not that important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>
Treating all people equally and fairly, regardless of their background	62	23	12	1	2
Respecting other people's freedoms, even when people disagree with what is being expressed	51	32	13	3	2
Behaving honestly and being truthful	49	34	13	2	2
Voting in elections	42	32	18	5	4
Helping others who need assistance and support	42	38	16	3	2
Working hard and trying to get ahead through individual efforts	31	40	22	5	3
Honoring military members and those who have served the country	31	31	25	8	5
Participating in demonstrations or events related to important causes or issues	24	31	29	11	5
Being able to speak English	23	20	26	16	15
(FORM A) Having faith	23	19	21	18	19
Paying taxes	21	29	31	11	9
Having been born in the United States	17	17	23	18	25
(FORM B) Believing in God	16	17	21	13	33
Flying the American flag	14	17	20	23	25

Q15 How confident are you that, across the country, the votes will be accurately cast and counted in this year's election--very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident or not at all confident?

- 19 Very confident
- 24 Fairly confident
- 24 Just somewhat confident
- 21 Not too confident
- 12 Not at all confident

Q16 Thinking about this year’s election for U.S. Congress, and in some states for other offices such as U.S. Senate and governor, please rate your own motivation to vote on the scale below.

5	1– Not at all likely/motivated to vote
4	2
3	3
5	4
8	5
12	6
11	7
13	8
11	9
29	10 – Certain to vote/extremely motivated to vote
7.2	Mean

Q17 Please indicate how closely the following statements describe you and your own situation.

	I strongly <u>agree</u>	I somewhat <u>agree</u>	I have mixed <u>feelings</u>	I somewhat <u>disagree</u>	I strongly <u>disagree</u>
I feel that I belong to a community or group that cares about me	26	25	31	11	7
I wish there were more ways for me to get involved in my community	27	32	29	7	5
I wish there were more opportunities for me to get to know and interact with people in my community	31	35	25	6	3

Q18 Thinking about what makes you feel special or proud about being an American, please look over the images below and rate how each one captures your own feelings.

(Ranked by Mean)

	This closely captures why I feel proud to be an American						This does NOT at all capture why I feel proud to be an American				
	Mean	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
	7.6	39	10	14	10	6	7	4	2	3	6
	7.4	34	11	14	10	9	8	4	3	2	6
	7.4	29	11	19	12	8	7	5	3	2	5
	7.4	33	10	13	12	10	10	3	2	2	6
	7.3	29	9	14	14	10	8	5	3	2	5

This closely captures why I feel proud to be an American

Mean 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

This does NOT at all capture why I feel proud to be an American



7.2 33 9 10 12 9 9 5 3 2 8



6.9 24 10 13 15 9 10 6 4 3 7



6.8 27 8 15 11 7 10 5 6 2 9



6.7 24 8 14 13 9 12 5 5 3 9

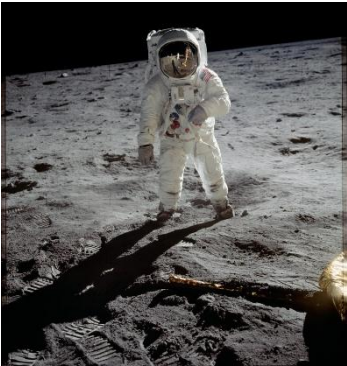


6.6 28 7 11 9 8 9 5 5 3 13

This closely captures why I feel proud to be an American

Mean 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

This does NOT at all capture why I feel proud to be an American



6.5 25 8 13 8 10 9 6 5 3 11



5.9 21 6 11 10 8 10 8 6 5 16



5.7 19 6 8 10 10 11 6 6 4 19



5.7 12 7 10 10 14 17 7 6 4 13



5.6 21 5 8 7 9 10 9 5 4 21

Q19 Please review the list of historical American events below. Select two events that you think are the best examples of what makes America special and what makes you most proud to be an American.

(Ranked by Top Choice)

	Top Choice (1)	Second Choice (2)	Combined Top (1&2)
The American Revolution and the Declaration of Independence (1776)	32	6	38
The civil rights movement, including the Voting Rights Act and desegregation (1950's & 60's)	22	16	38
The election of Barack Obama, the first Black American President (2008)	10	16	25
The New Deal and other programs meant to address the Great Depression (1930's)	7	7	14
The U.S. role in ending World War II (1941-1945)	7	13	20
The Apollo 11 moon landing (1969)	6	7	12
National unity in the wake of the 9/11 attacks (2001)	6	13	18
The Supreme Court legalization of gay marriage (2015)	6	13	19
The 'Miracle on Ice' Olympic gold medal victory for the U.S. men's hockey team (1980)	2	3	5
The fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the Cold War (1989)	1	4	6

Q20 In the past year, have you provided regular care or support for someone with a health condition, disability, injury, or mental health need?

- 34 Yes
- 57 No
- 9 Not sure

(ASK ONLY IF SAID PROVIDED CARE OR SUPPORT IN Q20)

Q21 From the list below, please indicate who you have provided care or support to in the past year. Select all that apply.

(Ranked by Highest %)

- 39 Parent or guardian
- 24 Non-family member
- 23 Grandparent
- 20 Sibling
- 18 Other family member

(ASK ONLY IF SAID PROVIDED CARE OR SUPPORT IN Q20)

Q22 From the list below, please indicate what types of support you have provided in the past year. Select all that apply.

(Ranked by Highest %)

- 67 Emotional support
- 60 Help with daily tasks such as meals, cleaning, or transportation
- 52 Help with medical or health related tasks, living medication and physical assistance
- 38 Managing appointments or communicating with health care providers
- 35 Helping with paperwork, including filling out forms and insurance claims
- 34 Contributing financial support to help with bills or other needed resources

(ASK ONLY IF SAID PROVIDED CARE OR SUPPORT IN Q20)

Q23 How would you describe your ability to balance the caregiving and support role you perform while also fulfilling your responsibilities at school or at your job?

- 15 It's very difficult
- 27 It's fairly difficult
- 36 It's somewhat difficult
- 23 It's not difficult

Demographic Questions

Gender Do you describe yourself as a man, a woman, or some other way?

- 48 Man
- 48 Woman
- 4 Non-binary/Other

Age For statistical purposes, in what year were you born?

35 Age 18-24

29 Age 25-29

36 Age 30-34

Register Are you currently registered to vote?

86 Yes, I am registered to vote

14 No, I am not registered to vote

PartyID In politics, would you describe yourself as a ...?

8 Strong Republican

15 Leaning Republican

25 Complete Independent

24 Leaning Democrat

21 Strong Democrat

7 Something else

Areatype Which of the following best describes the area where you live?

39 Urban

41 Suburban

12 Small town

8 Rural

Education1 Which of the following best describes the highest level of education you have completed?

- 4 I did not/have not graduate(d) from high school
- 33 High school graduate
- 21 Some college, but no degree (yet)
- 2 Trade or vocational school
- 11 2-year college degree
- 18 4-year college degree
- 11 Postgraduate degree (MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, etc.)
- 38 High school or less**
- 34 Some college/vocational**
- 29 4-year college grad or higher**

Education2 With regard to school, are you currently enrolled at any of the following? (If you will start enrollment in the fall, please count that as current enrollment)

- 4 High school
- 3 Trade or vocational school
- 7 2-year or junior college or community college
- 32 4-year college/university
- 8 Graduate school
- 2 Business or professional school (law, medicine, etc.)
- 44 Not currently enrolled in any of these

Race1 What racial or ethnic group best describes you? (Select only one.)

- 48 White
- 15 Black or African-American
- 21 Hispanic or Latino
- 7 Asian or Asian-American
- 2 Native American
- 1 Middle Eastern
- 6 Two or more races (Biracial, multiracial)
- 1 Other

Orient How would you describe your sexual orientation?

- 8 Gay, lesbian, or homosexual
- 15 Bisexual
- 72 Heterosexual or straight
- 5 Something else

Trans Do you identify as transgender?

- 3 Yes
- 94 No
- 3 Prefer not to say