

SINE INSTITUTE of POLICY & POLITICS

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY • WASHINGTON, DC

FUTURE CAUCUS

CLOSEUP
WASHINGTON DC



the Generation Lab

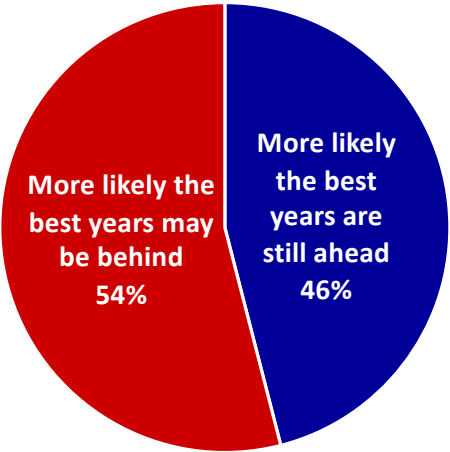
Hope, Doubt & the Road Ahead: *Young Americans Look to the Future*

The American Promise at 250

15

Young Americans are divided as they look to the future, but a majority say it's more likely the country's best years are behind us, not in front of us.

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?



	Best years likely ahead
Men	52%
Women	41%
Non-college track	38%
College track	54%
Republicans	64%
Independents	40%
Democrats	41%
White adults	49%
Black adults	54%
Hispanic adults	42%



Those who express less optimism include women, non-college track, independents & Democrats and Hispanic young adults,

Young Americans hope for a future filled with opportunity, progress, and equality.

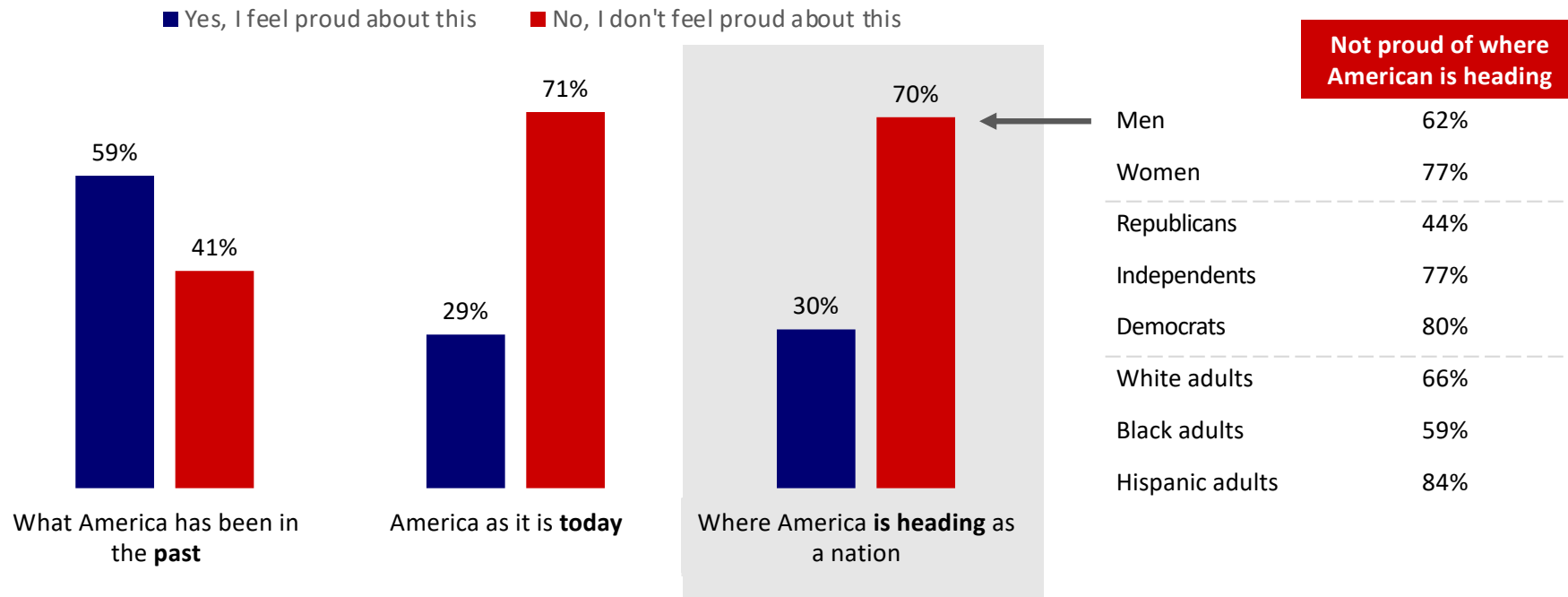
Describe your greatest hope for America's future (coded open end).

A word cloud representing the greatest hopes for America's future. The words are arranged in a vertical stack, with the most prominent words in the center. The words are: Kindness/compassion/respect, Peace/Safety, Unity/coming together, Acceptance/diversity, Equality/Justice, Healthcare, Affordability/Opportunity, Environment/climate, Progress/Optimism, Freedom/Rights/Democracy, and Political leadership/change. The words are in various shades of blue and purple, with some words being larger and bolder than others.

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

Young Americans are proud of the country's past, but not of the present or future.

When thinking about the United States, do you feel proud about our country when it comes to...?



Young Americans see current divisions as more of a harbinger for the future.

Indicate which statement you agree with more.

- Americans are becoming more divided, but there's still more that unites us
- Americans are becoming more divided, and we are splitting apart as a country
- Americans are not more divided now than in the past

