



Views on Power and Influence in Washington

FINDINGS FROM THE JUNE 2017 AP-NORC NATIONAL POLL

✓ Most Americans say they have too little power in Washington these days

- Three in 4 say they have too little influence in Washington. About the same number say poor people have too little influence.
- Majorities also say that small businesses, working people, women, seniors, and minorities lack influence in Washington.
- Americans are split on whether LGBT people and religious groups have enough influence.

✓ Majorities say wealthy people and institutions have too much influence

- Americans are most likely to say wealthy people have too much influence in Washington (82 percent).
- Majorities also say large businesses, political lobbyists, and Wall Street have too much power.
- Half or more believe the military, men, and whites have the right amount of power.

✓ There is some partisan agreement about the tilt of power in Washington, but with notable exceptions

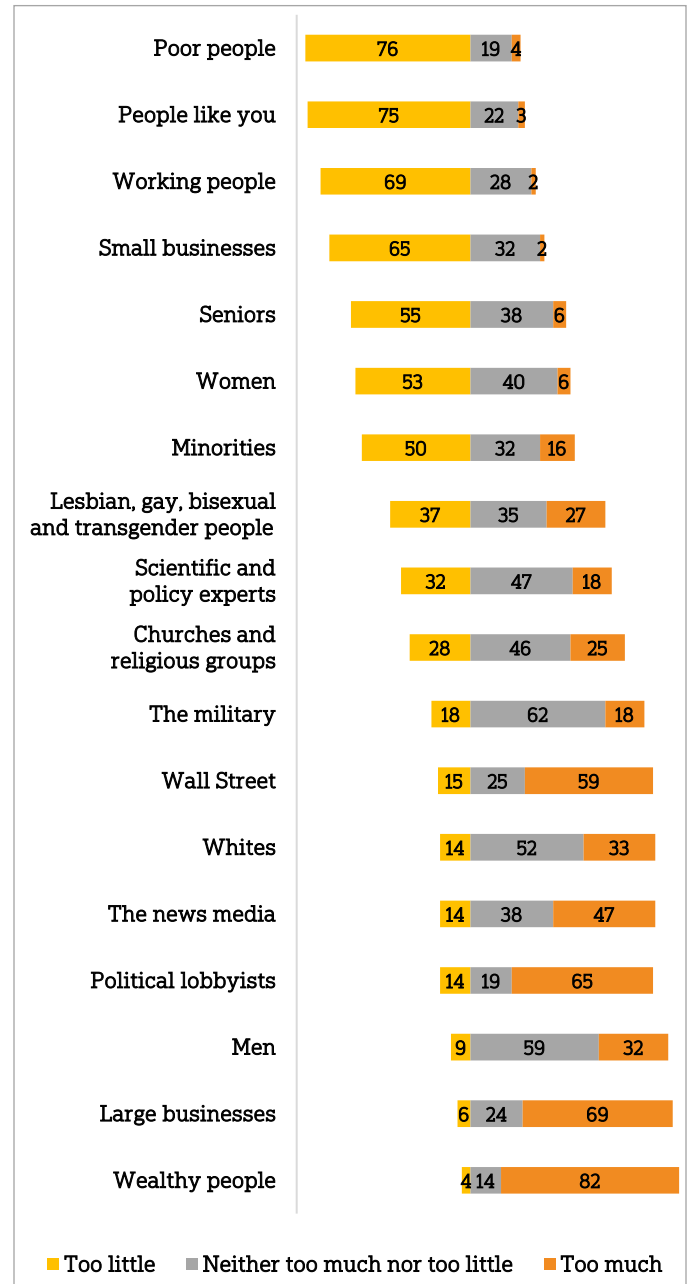
- Democrats and Republicans generally agree that people like them, working people, the poor, and small businesses don't have enough power in Washington, and that political lobbyists, Wall Street, large businesses, and the wealthy have too much influence.
- Republicans are nearly twice as likely as Democrats to say the news media has too much influence (67 percent vs. 35 percent).
- And Democrats are nearly three times as likely as Republicans to say women and minorities have too little influence in Washington and are five times as likely to say LGBT people have too little influence.

✓ Few express a great deal of confidence in U.S. institutions

- From a list of 15 government and private institutions, only the military is viewed with a great deal of confidence by a majority of Americans (56 percent).
- One in 3 have a great deal of confidence in the scientific community and medicine.
- Three in 10 have a great deal of confidence in the FBI and the U.S. government's intelligence gathering agencies.
- Just 1 in 10 express a great deal of confidence in the press, television, major companies, or organized labor.
- Many report they have hardly any confidence in Congress (40 percent) and the executive branch (37 percent).

Most Americans agree that they do not have enough power and influence in Washington

% who say each group has ...



Question: Do you think each of the following has too much, too little, or neither too much nor too little power and influence in Washington?