



The March 2019 AP-NORC Center Poll

Conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research
With funding from The Associated Press and NORC at the University of Chicago

*Interviews: 3/14-18/2019
1,063 adults*

Margin of error: +/- 4.1 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.

CUR1. Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the...

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP-NORC All adults	Right direction	Wrong direction	DON'T KNOW	SKIPPED ON WEB/ REFUSED
3/14-18/2019 (N=1,063)	35	63	*	1
1/16-20/2019 (N=1,062)	28	70	1	*
12/13-16/2018 (N=1,067)	39	59	*	1
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	39	60	*	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	38	62	*	*
6/13-18/2018 (N=1,109)	40	58	1	1
4/11-16/2018 (N=1,140)	39	60	*	*
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,222)	37	62	1	1
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	32	68	*	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	30	69	1	*
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	24	74	1	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	34	65	2	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	37	62	1	*

CUR2. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

If don't know, skipped, or refused in CUR2

CUR3. If you had to choose, do you lean more toward approving or disapproving of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

If approve in CUR2

CUR3A. Would you say you approve of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president strongly or do you approve just somewhat?

If disapprove in CUR2

CUR3B. Would you say you disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president strongly or do you disapprove just somewhat?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Lean toward approv- ing	Do not lean either way	Dis- approve NET	Lean toward disapp- roving	Some- what dis- approve	Strongly dis- approve	DK	SKP /REF
3/14-18/2019 (N=1,063)	40	22	18	*	*	58	1	15	42	-	1
1/16-20/2019 (N=1,062)	34	18	16	*	*	65	1	11	53	*	*
12/13-16/2018 (N=1,067)	42	21	21	*	1	56	*	14	42	-	1
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	40	21	19	*	1	59	*	14	45	-	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	38	18	20	-	1	60	1	17	43		
6/13-18/2018 (N=1,109)	41	21	20	*	1	57	*	16	42	*	*
4/11-16/2018 (N=1,140)	40	19	20	*	1	59	*	15	44	-	1
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	42	20	21	*	1	58	*	14	44	-	*
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	35	19	17	-	1	64	*	17	46	*	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	32	15	17	*	*	67	*	16	51	-	*
9/28- 10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	32	20	12	*	*	67	*	17	50	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	35	16	18	*	1	64	*	17	47	*	1
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	42	20	22	*	*	58	*	14	43	-	1

GUN1. Should gun laws in the United States be made more strict, left as they are, or made less strict?

	Much/ Somewhat more strict NET	Much more strict	Somewhat more strict	Left as they are	Much/ Somewhat less strict NET	Somewhat less strict	Much less strict	DK	SKP/ REF
AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019 (N=1,063)	67	39	28	22	10	8	2	*	1
AP-NORC 3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	69	45	24	22	9	5	4	-	1
AP-NORC 10/12-16/2017 (N=1,054)	61	36	25	27	11	7	5	*	1
AP-GfK 7/7-11/2016 (N=1,009)	64	34	30	23	11	7	5	-	2
AP-GfK 12/3-7/2015 (N=1,007)	58	33	26	25	14	7	7	-	3
AP-GfK 10/15-19/2015 (N=1,027)	58	36	23	27	12	8	5	-	3
AP-GfK 12/5-9/2013 (N=1,367)	52	29	23	31	15	8	7	-	2
AP-GfK 10/3-7/2013 (N=1,227)	55	34	21	28	14	8	6	-	3

GUN3. Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose each of the following policies?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	Strongly/ Somewhat favor NET	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Neither favor nor oppose	Strongly/ Somewhat oppose NET	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK	SKP/ REF
A nationwide ban on the sale of AR-15 rifles and similar semiautomatic weapons	60	47	13	15	24	8	16	*	1
A federal law requiring background checks on all potential gun buyers, including private sales and gun shows	83	71	13	8	7	4	3	*	1
A law in your state allowing trained teachers and administrators to be armed in schools	41	23	18	17	40	13	27	*	1
A federal law preventing mentally ill people from purchasing guns	84	67	17	8	6	3	3	1	1
Allowing courts to prevent people who are considered a danger to themselves or others, but have not been convicted of a crime, from owning a gun	76	55	21	12	11	6	6	*	1
Making 21 the minimum legal age to buy any gun nationwide	71	56	15	11	17	8	9	*	1

N=1,063

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AP-NORC 3/14-19/2018	Strongly/ Somewhat favor NET	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Neither favor nor oppose	Strongly/ Somewhat oppose NET	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK	SKP/ REF
A nationwide ban on the sale of AR-15 rifles and similar semiautomatic weapons	58	47	11	12	29	8	21	*	1
A nationwide ban on devices that convert semi-automatic guns to function like automatic guns, also known as “bump stocks”	70	55	14	12	17	6	10	*	1
A federal law requiring background checks on all potential gun buyers, including private sales and gun shows	84	69	15	8	7	3	5	*	1
A law in your state allowing trained teachers and administrators to be armed in schools	38	21	17	12	49	15	33	*	1
A federal law preventing mentally ill people from purchasing guns	85	69	16	8	7	3	3	*	1
Increased funding for mental health screening and treatment	85	64	20	11	4	2	1	*	1
Allowing courts to prevent people who are considered a danger to themselves or others, but have not been convicted of a crime, from owning a gun	78	57	21	9	11	6	5	1	1

N=1,122

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AP-GfK 7/7-11/2016	Strongly/ Somewhat favor NET	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Neither favor nor oppose	Strongly/ Somewhat oppose NET	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK	SKP/ REF
A nationwide ban on the sale of AR-15 rifles and similar semiautomatic weapons	57	43	14	15	25	9	17	-	3

N=1,009

GUN5. If it was harder for people to legally obtain guns in the United States, do you think there would be fewer or more of each of the following or wouldn't it make a difference?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019 ¹	Many/ somewhat fewer NET	Many fewer	Somewhat fewer	No difference	Many/ Somewhat more NET	Somewhat more	Many more	DK	SKP/ REF
Mass shootings	58	33	26	34	7	3	4	*	1
Suicides	45	16	29	50	5	2	3	*	1
Murders	54	23	30	38	7	3	4	-	1
Robberies	44	17	27	45	10	4	6	-	1

N=1,063

AP-NORC 3/14-19/2018	Many/ somewhat fewer NET	Many fewer	Somewhat fewer	No difference	Many/ Somewhat more NET	Somewhat more	Many more	DK	SKP/ REF
Mass shootings	60	35	25	30	9	3	6	*	1
Suicides	45	16	29	47	7	4	3	1	1
Homicides	51	21	31	38	9	5	5	*	1
Accidental shootings	60	28	32	31	8	5	4	*	1

N=1,122

AP-NORC 10/12-16/2017	Many/ somewhat fewer NET	Many fewer	Somewhat fewer	No difference	Many/ Somewhat more NET	Somewhat more	Many more	DK	SKP/ REF
Mass shootings	49	24	25	43	7	4	3	*	*
Suicides	40	14	26	55	4	3	1	*	1
Homicides	46	18	28	45	9	5	4	*	1
Accidental shootings	53	23	30	41	5	3	2	*	1

N= 1,054

¹ Modified response options to "Murders" instead of "Homicides" and "Robberies" instead of "Accidental shootings" in 2019

Now we'd like to get your thoughts on a different topic.

BET1. Do you think gambling is a major problem, a minor problem or not a problem at all in the United States today?

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
Major problem	23
Minor problem	60
Not a problem	17
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1

N=

1,063

BET2. Do you think gambling on each of the following should be legal in your state, or don't you think so?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	Should	Should not	DK	SKP/ REF
Professional sports	60	38	*	1
College sports	42	56	*	1

N=1,063

BET3. If gambling on any type of sporting events were legal in your state, how interested would you be in betting through each of the following:

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	Extremely/ very interested NET	Extrem ely interes ted	Very interested	Moderate ly interested	Not very/Not interested at all NET	Not very interested	Not interest ed at all	DK	SKP/ REF
In-person at a stadium or arena	8	4	4	18	73	20	53	-	1
Online using betting or fantasy sports websites or apps	9	4	6	14	76	20	56	-	1
In-person at casinos	14	6	7	23	62	19	43	-	1

N=1,063

BET4. How often, if ever, do you bet on professional or college sports in each of the following ways?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	Frequently	Occasionally	Never	DK	SKP/ REF
In-person at a stadium or arena	1	7	91	-	1
Online using betting or fantasy sports websites or apps	2	8	89	-	1
In-person at casinos	2	18	79	*	1
Among friends or through an office pool	4	32	63	-	1

N=1,063

BET5. How interested are you in watching or following sports?

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
Extremely/very interested NET	33
Extremely interested	16
Very interested	17
Moderately interested	29
Not very /not interested at all NET	36
Not very interested	19
Not interested at all	17
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1

N=

1,063

Now on to something else.

RUS2. How concerned are you about the possibility that Donald Trump or others involved with his campaign had inappropriate contacts with the Russian government during the 2016 presidential campaign?

	AP-NORC 3/14- 18/2019	AP-NORC 12/13- 16/2018	AP-NORC 12/7- 11/2017	AP-NORC 6/8- 11/2017	AP-NORC 3/23- 27/2017
Extremely/very concerned NET	45	43	47	48	44
Extremely concerned	24	27	28	30	27
Very concerned	21	16	19	18	17
Moderately concerned	18	19	20	20	18
Not very concerned/not at all concerned NET	36	37	33	30	36
Not very concerned	15	16	16	12	19
Not at all concerned	22	22	17	18	18
DON'T KNOW	-	*	*	*	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*	1	*	1	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,063</i>	<i>1,067</i>	<i>1,020</i>	<i>1,068</i>	<i>1,110</i>

RUS3. When it comes to Donald Trump's ties with Russia, do you think he has done something illegal, or he has done something unethical, but NOT illegal, or do you think he has not done anything wrong?

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	AP-NORC 12/13-16/2018	AP-NORC 12/7-11/2017
He has done something illegal	37	38	40
He has done something unethical, but not illegal	32	34	32
He has not done anything wrong	27	25	25
DON'T KNOW	1	*	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	3	2	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,063</i>	<i>1,067</i>	<i>1,020</i>

RUS6. Do you think Donald Trump has tried to impede or obstruct the investigation into whether his campaign had ties to Russia or hasn't he tried to impede or obstruct the investigation?

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	AP-NORC 12/13-16/2018	AP-NORC 12/7- 11/2017	AP-NORC 6/8- 11/2017
Yes, he has tried to impede or obstruct the investigation	58	58	63	61
No, has not tried to impede or obstruct the investigation	39	40	35	37
DON'T KNOW	1	1	2	2
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	3	2	1	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,063</i>	<i>1,067</i>	<i>1,020</i>	<i>1,068</i>

RUS8. How confident are you that the Justice Department’s investigation of Donald Trump’s ties to Russia led by former FBI Director Robert Mueller is fair and impartial?

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	AP-NORC 12/13-16/2018	AP-NORC 12/7-11/2017	AP-NORC 6/8-11/2017
Extremely/very confident NET	33	32	26	26
Extremely confident	17	16	11	10
Very confident	16	16	15	17
Moderately confident	29	25	31	36
Not very/not confident at all NET	37	42	42	36
Not very confident	21	24	24	23
Not confident at all	15	18	18	12
DON’T KNOW	*	*	1	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2	1	*	1

N= 1,063 1,067 1,020 1,068

RUS10. If the Justice Department investigation finds that Trump did not personally have inappropriate contacts with Russia but did obstruct the investigation, should Congress take steps to remove him from office, or shouldn’t it?

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	AP-NORC 12/13-16/2018
Yes, should	52	51
No, should not	46	46
DON’T KNOW	1	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2	2

N= 1,063 1,067

Now on to something else.

SAFE1. Compared to 20 years ago, do you think each of the following places have become more safe, less safe or are they about as safe as they were?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED AND HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	More safe	Less safe	About as safe	DK	SKP/ REF
Schools	13	67	20	*	1
Colleges and universities	13	57	28	*	1
Churches, synagogues, mosques and other places of worship	6	61	32	*	1
Bars and restaurants	8	45	46	*	1
Airports	37	36	25	*	1
Public transportation systems	15	45	38	*	1
Workplaces and office buildings	14	43	42	*	1
Concerts	20	47	32	*	2
Sporting events	23	36	40	*	1

N=1,063

KIDS. Are you the parent or guardian of any children who are currently in kindergarten through 12th grade, or not?

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
Yes	30
No	69
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1

N=

1,063

If yes in KIDS.

KIDS2. Are any of your children attending a _____, or not?

AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	Yes	No	DK	SKP/ REF
Traditional public school	81	18	-	*
Private or religious school	12	85	-	3
Charter school	6	90	-	4

N=331

If yes in KIDS.

SAFE2. In general, how confident are you that your children are safe in school?

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
Extremely/very confident NET	35
Extremely confident	7
Very confident	28
Moderately confident	43
Not too/not confident at all NET	21
Not too confident	16
Not confident at all	6
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N=

331

SAFE3. Do you think each of the following makes schools more safe, less safe, or doesn't it make any difference?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED AND HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	More safe	Less safe	No difference	DK	SKP/ REF
Practicing lockdowns or procedures for active threat situations	79	3	16	-	2
Having teachers carry guns in schools after undergoing training	41	35	22	*	2
Having armed security guards in the building	73	8	17	*	2
Having metal detectors at school entrances	75	4	20	*	1
Making mental health counselors and resources available in schools	74	3	22	*	1
Organizing campaigns to discourage bullying	67	5	27	-	1
Monitoring the content of students' social media accounts	60	7	31	1	1
Conducting random searches of students' lockers	62	6	31	*	1
Conducting random searches of students themselves	52	9	36	1	2
Stricter gun laws	57	9	33	*	1

N=1,063

SAFE4. Would you say it is acceptable or unacceptable for public schools to routinely do each of the following?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	Acceptable	Unacceptable	DK	SKP/ REF
Monitor the content of students' social media accounts	58	41	*	1
Conduct random searches of students' lockers	73	25	*	1
Conduct random searches of students themselves	50	49	*	1

N=1,063

SAFE5. How confident are you in the ability of each of the following to respond to an active shooter?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	Extremely/ very confident NET	Extrem ely confide nt	Very confident	Moderate ly confident	Not very/Not too confident NET	Not very confident	Not confide nt at all	DK	SKP/ REF
<i>If yes in KIDS.</i> Your child's school (N= 311)	31	9	22	44	24	20	5	-	-
Law enforcement in your community (N= 1,063)	47	15	32	38	14	9	4	*	1
Schools in your area (N= 1,063)	31	9	23	43	24	18	6	1	1

SAFE6. How much do you blame each of the following for shootings in schools?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	A great deal/a moderate amount NET	A great deal	A moderate amount	Not too much/ not at all NET	Not much	Not at all	DK	SKP/ REF
The availability of guns	68	48	20	31	17	14	-	1
Parents	75	31	44	24	18	6	-	1
The schools themselves	39	9	30	59	39	20	-	2
The internet	78	36	41	21	15	6	*	1
Television programs, movies, music and video games	69	33	36	30	20	10	-	1
News coverage of similar incidents	73	31	42	26	20	6	*	1
Students being bullied by other students	88	50	38	11	9	2	-	1

N=1,063

PID1. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an independent or none of these?

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
Democrat	35
Republican	27
Independent	22
None of these	14
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1
N=	1,063

If Democrat in PID1

PIDa. Do you consider yourself a strong Democrat or a moderate Democrat?

If Republican in PID1

PIDb. Do you consider yourself a strong Republican or a moderate Republican?

If Independent, None of these, or Don't Know/SKIPPED ON WEB/Refused in PID1

PIDi. Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

[PID1, PIDA, PIDB, AND PIDI COMBINED]

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
Democrat NET	45
Strong Democrat	15
Moderate Democrat	20
Lean Democrat	9
Independent/None – Don't lean	16
Republican NET	37
Lean Republican	11
Moderate Republican	16
Strong Republican	11
Unknown	2
N=	1,063

G11B. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a...?

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
Liberal	22
Conservative	31
Moderate	42
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	4
N=	1,063

GUN6. Do you happen to have in your home or garage any guns or revolvers?

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	AP-NORC 3/14-19/2018
Yes	35	38
No	62	59
DON'T KNOW	*	-
SKIP/REFUSED	3	3
N=	1,063	1,122

If yes in GUN6

GUN6A. Do any of these guns personally belong to you?

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019	AP-NORC 3/14-19/2018
Yes	76	79
No	24	21
DON'T KNOW	-	-
SKIP/REFUSED	-	-
N=	359	403

DM5. Which one of the following best describes where you live?

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
Urban area	26
Suburban area	49
Rural area	24
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1
N=	1,063

AGE

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
18-24	12
25-34	19
35-44	16
45-54	17
55-64	17
65-74	14
75+	7
N=	1,063

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GENDER

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
Male	48
Female	52

N= 1,063

RACE/ETHNICITY

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
White	63
Black or African American	12
Hispanic	16
Other	8

N= 1,063

MARITAL STATUS

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
Married	51
Widowed	4
Divorced	12
Separated	2
Never married	24
Living with partner	8

N= 1,063

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
Employed	58
Not employed	42

N= 1,063

EDUCATION

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
Less than a high school diploma	11
High school graduate or equivalent	29
Some college	28
College graduate or above	32

N= 1,063

INCOME

	AP-NORC 3/14-18/2019
Under \$10,000	6
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	9
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	14
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	10
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	8
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	16
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	15
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	14
\$150,000 or more	8
<i>N</i> =	1,063

Study Methodology

This survey was conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and with funding from The Associated Press and NORC at the University of Chicago. Data were collected using the AmeriSpeak Omnibus®, a monthly multi-client survey using NORC’s probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. The survey was part of a larger study that included questions about other topics not included in this report. During the initial recruitment phase of the panel, randomly selected U.S. households were sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame and then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, and field interviewers (face-to-face). The panel provides sample coverage of approximately 97% of the U.S. household population. Those excluded from the sample include people with P.O. Box only addresses, some addresses not listed in the USPS Delivery Sequence File, and some newly constructed dwellings.

Interviews for this survey were conducted between March 14 and 18, 2019, with adults age 18 and over representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 1,063 completed the survey—946 via the web and 117 via telephone. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish, depending on respondent preference. The final stage completion rate is 19.8 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 34.2 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 85.1 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 5.8 percent. The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 4.1 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups.

Once the sample has been selected and fielded, and all the study data have been collected and made final, a poststratification process is used to adjust for any survey nonresponse as well as any noncoverage or under and oversampling resulting from the study specific sample design. Poststratification variables included age, gender, census division, race/ethnicity, and education. Weighting variables were obtained from the 2018 Current Population Survey. The weighted data reflect the U.S. population of adults age 18 and over.

For more information, email info@apnorc.org.

About the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research taps into the power of social science research and the highest-quality journalism to bring key information to people across the nation and throughout the world.

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- The Associated Press (AP) is the world's essential news organization, bringing fast, unbiased news to all media platforms and formats.
- NORC at the University of Chicago is one of the oldest and most respected, independent research institutions in the world.

The two organizations have established The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals.

The founding principles of The AP-NORC Center include a mandate to carefully preserve and protect the scientific integrity and objectivity of NORC and the journalistic independence of AP. All work conducted by the Center conforms to the highest levels of scientific integrity to prevent any real or perceived bias in the research. All of the work of the Center is subject to review by its advisory committee to help ensure it meets these standards. The Center will publicize the results of all studies and make all datasets and study documentation available to scholars and the public.