



The August 2018 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: 8/16-20/2018
1,055 adults*

Margin of error: +/- 4.2 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults

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

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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
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
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

CURY2. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling...?

If Don't know, skipped, or refused in CURY2

CURYX. If you had to choose, do you lean more toward approving or disapproving of the way Donald Trump is handling ...?

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

Economy

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	51	51	*	*	49	*	49	*	-
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	47	46	1	1	52	*	51	*	*
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	45	45	-	*	54	*	53	-	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	40	40	*	1	59	*	59	*	-
10/12-16/2017 (N=1,054)	41	41	*	1	58	1	57	*	*
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	42	42	*	1	56	1	56	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	43	43	1	1	55	*	55	*	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	50	49	1	1	48	1	47	-	*

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Taxes

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	45	44	*	*	54	1	54	*	-
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	46	45	1	1	53	1	52	*	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	33	32	*	1	66	*	65	1	-
10/12-16/2017 (N=1,054)	39	38	1	1	59	1	58	1	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	44	43	1	2	54	1	53	1	*

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED "GUN CONTROL", OTHER HALF ASKED "GUN POLICY"]

Gun control

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
8/16-20/2018 (N=531)	47	46	1	1	52	*	52	*	-
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	39	39	*	1	59	*	58	*	*
10/12-16/2017 (N=1,054)	40	39	1	1	59	*	58	*	*

Gun Policy

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
8/16-20/2018 (N=524)	40	40	*	*	59	*	59	*	-

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The federal budget deficit

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	39	38	`	`	59	*	59	*	*
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	35	34	1	2	62	*	62	*	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	43	42	1	2	54	1	53	1	*

North Korea

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	47	47	*	*	52	*	52	*	*
6/13-18/2018 (N=1,109)	55	54	1	1	43	*	43	*	1
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	42	41	1	1	56	*	56	*	*
10/12-16/2017 (N=1,054)	34	34	*	1	65	*	64	*	*
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	36	35	1	1	63	*	63	*	*

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Trade negotiations with other countries

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	39	39	*	*	61	1	60	-	-
6/13-18/2018 (N=1,109)	43	42	1	1	55	*	55	*	1
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	41	40	*	1	58	*	57	*	*

Foreign policy

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	36	36	1	*	63	1	62	*	*
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	34	34	*	1	64	*	64	*	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	30	30	*	1	69	*	68	*	-
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	34	34	*	1	65	*	64	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	35	34	*	1	63	1	63	*	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	40	40	1	1	58	1	57	*	*

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The Russia investigation

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	34	34	*	*	65	*	65	1	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	30	30	*	1	68	*	67	1	-

Immigration

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	38	38	*	*	61	*	61	-	-
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	37	37	*	*	62	*	62	*	*
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	35	35	*	1	64	*	64	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	39	39	*	*	60	*	60	*	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	45	45	*	1	54	*	54	-	*

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Health care

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	36	36	*	*	64	*	63	*	-
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	30	29	*	*	70	*	70	*	-
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	31	31	*	1	68	*	68	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	32	32	*	1	66	1	65	*	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	36	36	1	1	62	*	62	*	*

SC1. As you may know, Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy is retiring, and President Trump has nominated Brett Kavanaugh to replace him. Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation by the U.S. Senate as a Supreme Court Justice?

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Favor NET	25
Strongly favor	14
Somewhat favor	11
Neither favor nor oppose	46
Oppose NET	29
Somewhat oppose	10
Strongly oppose	19
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N=

1,055

SC2. Do you think the U.S. Senate should vote on Brett Kavanaugh’s confirmation as a Supreme Court Justice:

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Before the November midterm elections	51
After the November midterm elections	48
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,055</i>

TRADE1. How important should each of the following be when the United States negotiates trade agreements with other countries?

AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018	Extremely /very NET	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Slightly/ not at all NET	Slightly important	Not import- ant at all	DK	SKP /REF
The effect on U.S. industries	75	30	45	20	5	4	1	*	2
Keeping consumer prices low	65	26	40	25	8	8	*	-	1
Profits for American corporations	44	14	30	36	20	16	3	*	1
The effect on U.S. jobs	81	37	44	14	4	4	*	*	1
American competitiveness with other countries	65	25	40	25	9	7	2	*	1
Wages and working conditions in other countries	46	14	31	32	22	15	7	*	*
The environmental impact	68	29	39	22	9	7	2	1	1

N=1,055

TRADE2. Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose President Trump’s decision to place a tariff, that is, an import tax, on certain goods brought into the United States from other countries?

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Favor NET	38
Strongly favor	14
Somewhat favor	24
Neither favor nor oppose	21
Oppose NET	40
Somewhat oppose	19
Strongly oppose	21
DON’T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N=

1,055

TRADE3. Regardless of what you personally support, do you think the tariffs put in place by President Trump will increase or decrease, or have no effect on:

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018	Increase NET	Increase a lot	Increase somewhat	No effect	Decrease NET	Decrease somewhat	Decrease a lot	DK	SKP/ REF
Jobs in the U.S.	39	10	29	27	34	24	10	1	*
The price of consumer goods in the U.S.	72	21	52	14	13	10	4	*	*
Wages for American workers	28	5	23	42	29	21	8	*	1

N=1,055

TRADE4. Overall, do you think the tariffs put in place by President Trump will definitely help, probably help, neither help nor hurt, probably hurt, or definitely hurt each of the following?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018	Help NET	Definitely help	Probably help	Neither help nor hurt	Hurt NET	Probably hurt	Definitely hurt	DK	SKP/ REF
You and your family	19	5	14	45	35	26	10	*	1
Your local community	24	5	19	37	38	26	11	*	1
The national economy	40	10	30	16	44	27	17	*	1

N=1,055

IMM1. Thinking about legal immigration, do you think the number of legal immigrants to the U.S. should be increased, remain the same, or reduced?

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Increased NET	29
Increased a lot	11
Increased a little	18
Remain the same as it is	42
Reduced NET	28
Reduced a little	16
Reduced a lot	12
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N=

1,055

IMM2. Thinking about children who were separated from their families at the border, do you think the Trump Administration is currently doing too much, about the right amount or too little to reunite them?

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Too much	8
Right amount	33
Too little	58
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1

N=

1,055

IMM3. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, known as ICE? If you don't know enough about ICE to have an opinion, you can say that too.

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Favorable NET	30
Strongly favorable	17
Somewhat favorable	14
Unfavorable NET	37
Somewhat unfavorable	18
Strongly unfavorable	19
Don't know enough to have an opinion	33
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N=

1,055

IMM4. Do you support, oppose, or neither support nor oppose abolishing U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, known as ICE?

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Support NET	24
Strongly support	12
Somewhat support	12
Neither favor nor oppose	34
Oppose NET	41
Somewhat oppose	14
Strongly oppose	27
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N= 1,055

REL1. Please tell me if you think each of the following has too much influence on American politics today, about the right amount or too little influence?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018	Too much NET	Too much	Somewhat too much	About the right amount	Too little NET	Somewhat too little	Too little	DK	SKP/ REF
Evangelical Christians	39	22	17	36	22	11	12	1	2
The Catholic Church	38	17	21	42	17	11	6	1	2
Other Christian groups	30	12	18	44	24	14	10	1	1
Jewish groups	23	10	12	53	21	12	10	2	2
Muslim groups	35	18	17	31	30	18	12	2	2
Those that don't follow any religion	23	11	12	41	33	15	17	1	2

N=1,055

REL2. Overall, do you think that in the United States, religion currently has too much influence, about the right amount or too little influence on each of the following?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018	Too much NET	Too much	Somewhat too much	About the right amount	Too little NET	Somewhat too little	Too little	DK	SKP/ REF
Most members of Congress	38	21	17	30	30	15	16	*	2
The Supreme Court	34	17	17	40	24	12	12	*	1
President Trump	35	22	14	36	26	11	15	1	2
Your state government	30	12	18	40	28	13	14	*	1
What children are taught in public school	27	11	15	31	41	17	24	*	2
Family life in general	26	11	15	37	35	17	18	*	2
Popular culture	29	13	15	34	35	16	19	1	1

N=1,055

REL3. Overall, how much influence do you think religion SHOULD have on government policies concerning each of the following?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018	A lot/some NET	A lot	Some	Not much/no influence at all NET	Not much	No influence at all	DK	SKP/ REF
LGBT issues	34	15	19	64	16	48	1	2
Abortion	45	21	24	54	9	45	*	1
Poverty	57	25	31	42	9	33	*	1
Immigration	43	17	26	56	14	42	*	1
Foreign policy	34	11	23	65	18	48	*	1
Climate change	32	11	20	67	18	48	*	1
Education	49	22	27	50	12	38	*	1
Health Care	44	18	27	55	15	40	*	1
Income inequality	36	12	25	62	18	44	1	1
Gun policy	38	19	19	61	15	45	*	1

N=1,055

REL4. When you think about how to vote, how important is each of the following?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018	Extremely /very NET	Extremely Import- ant	Very important	Moderately important	Not very/not at all NET	Not very important	Not important at all	N/A	DK	SKP/ REF
That the candidate has strong religious beliefs	25	9	16	23	43	17	26	7	*	*
That the candidate shares your religious beliefs	19	8	11	23	47	19	28	10	*	1
That the candidate is supported by your religious leaders	15	7	9	21	51	18	33	12	*	*
That a candidate shares your view of the role of religion in politics	31	13	18	34	28	12	16	7	*	1

N=1,055

REL5. Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose allowing religious leaders to endorse political candidates while retaining their tax-exempt status?

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Favor NET	13
Strongly favor	5
Somewhat favor	8
Neither favor nor oppose	32
Oppose NET	53
Somewhat oppose	15
Strongly oppose	38
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1

N=

1,055

REL6. Which of the following statements comes closest to describing your beliefs?

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Religious but not spiritual	9
Spiritual but not religious	31
Neither religious nor spiritual	19
Both religious and spiritual	41
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1

N=

1,055

REL7. Do you consider yourself a born-again or evangelical Christian, or not?

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Yes, born-again/evangelical	29
No, not born-again/evangelical	71
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1

N=

1,055

REL8. What is your religious preference?

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Protestant	44
Catholic	23
Mormon	1
Jewish	1
Muslim	1
Other Christian	2
Other religion	2
Don't belong to any religious denomination	26
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N=

1,055

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If REL8 is "Other religion," "Don't know," or "Skipped/Refused"

REL9. Do you consider yourself a Christian, or not?

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Yes, a Christian	89
No, not a Christian	10
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>213</i>

REG. Are you currently registered to vote at your address, or not?

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Yes	81
No	18
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,055</i>

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

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Democrat	34
Republican	26
Independent	24
None of these	16
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,055</i>

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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 8/16-20/2018
Democrat NET	45
Strong Democrat	12
Moderate Democrat	22
Lean Democrat	11
Independent/None – Don't lean	18
Republican NET	37
Lean Republican	11
Moderate Republican	16
Strong Republican	10
Unknown	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,055</i>

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

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Liberal	23
Conservative	31
Moderate	44
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,055</i>

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

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Urban area	28
Suburban area	46
Rural area	25
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N= 1,055

AGE

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
18-24	12
25-34	18
35-44	17
45-54	13
55-64	20
65-74	14
75+	6

N= 1,055

GENDER

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Male	48
Female	52

N= 1,055

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RACE/ETHNICITY

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
White	63
Black or African American	12
Hispanic	16
Other	8
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,055</i>

MARITAL STATUS

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Married	48
Widowed	7
Divorced	11
Separated	2
Never married	23
Living with partner	9
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,055</i>

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Employed	57
Not employed	43
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,055</i>

EDUCATION

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Less than a high school diploma	11
High school graduate or equivalent	29
Some college	28
College graduate or above	33
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,055</i>

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INCOME

	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Under \$10,000	4
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	13
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	11
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	10
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	9
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	17
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	14
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	13
\$150,000 or more	9

N=

1,055

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 August 16 and 20, 2018, with adults age 18 and over representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 1,055 completed the survey—915 via the web and 140 via telephone. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish, depending on respondent preference. The final stage completion rate is 16.6 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 28.0 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 86.1 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 4.0 percent. The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 4.2 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.

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