



The Associated Press-NORC  
Center for Public Affairs Research

# The December 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: 12/5-9/2019  
1,053 adults*

*Margin of error: +/- 4.0 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults*

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

**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	<b>Approve NET</b>	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Lean toward approv- ing	<b>Do not lean either way</b>	<b>Dis- approve NET</b>	Lean toward disapp- roving	Some- what dis- approve	Strongly dis- approve	DK	SKP /REF
12/5-9/2019 (N=1,053)	<b>40</b>	23	17	*	-	<b>60</b>	*	15	45	-	*
10/24-28/2019 (N=1,075)	<b>42</b>	25	17	*	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>	*	14	42	-	1
09/20-23/2019 (N=1,286)	<b>40</b>	24	16	*	<b>1</b>	<b>59</b>	*	16	42	-	1
8/15-18/2019 (N=1,058)	<b>36</b>	21	15	*	*	<b>62</b>	-	16	46	*	2
6/13-17/2019 (N=1,116)	<b>38</b>	19	19	*	*	<b>60</b>	*	17	43	-	1
5/17-20/2019 (N=1,137)	<b>38</b>	19	18	*	<b>1</b>	<b>61</b>	1	13	47	*	1
4/11-14/2019 (N=1,108)	<b>39</b>	19	20	*	<b>1</b>	<b>60</b>	*	13	46	-	*
3/14-18/2019 (N=1,063)	<b>40</b>	22	18	*	*	<b>58</b>	1	15	42	-	1
1/16-20/2019 (N=1,062)	<b>34</b>	18	16	*	*	<b>65</b>	1	11	53	*	*
12/13-16/2018 (N=1,067)	<b>42</b>	21	21	*	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>	*	14	42	-	1
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	<b>40</b>	21	19	*	<b>1</b>	<b>59</b>	*	14	45	-	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	<b>38</b>	18	20	-	<b>1</b>	<b>60</b>	1	17	43		

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6/13-18/2018 (N=1,109)	<b>41</b>	21	20	*	<b>1</b>	<b>57</b>	*	16	42	*	*
4/11-16/2018 (N=1,140)	<b>40</b>	19	20	*	<b>1</b>	<b>59</b>	*	15	44	-	1
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	<b>42</b>	20	21	*	<b>1</b>	<b>58</b>	*	14	44	-	*
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	<b>35</b>	19	17	-	<b>1</b>	<b>64</b>	*	17	46	*	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	<b>32</b>	15	17	*	*	<b>67</b>	*	16	51	-	*
9/28- 10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	<b>32</b>	20	12	*	*	<b>67</b>	*	17	50	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	<b>35</b>	16	18	*	<b>1</b>	<b>64</b>	*	17	47	*	1
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	<b>42</b>	20	22	*	*	<b>58</b>	*	14	43	-	1

**HOL1. Do you celebrate each of the following holidays, or not?**

AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019	Yes	No	DK	SKP/ REF
Christmas	92	8	-	*
Hanukkah	5	92	*	3
Kwanzaa	3	93	*	3
New Year's Eve	81	18	-	1

N=1,053

Ask if "Yes" to "Christmas" in HOL1

**HOL2. Which comes closest to describing how you celebrate Christmas? Do you celebrate it more as a [religious] holiday or more as a [non-religious cultural] holiday?**

**[HALF SAMPLE SHOW RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

	AP-NORC 12/5- 9/2019
Religious holiday	52
Non-religious cultural holiday	48
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	-

N =

967

**HOL3. How well do each of the following words describe the way you feel during the December holiday season?**

**[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

AP-NORC 12/5- 9/2019	<b>Extremely/ Very well NET</b>	Extremely well	Very well	<b>Moderately well</b>	<b>Not very well/ Not well at all NET</b>	Not very well	Not well at all	DK	SKP/ REF
Grateful	<b>73</b>	36	37	<b>21</b>	<b>5</b>	3	3	-	*
Stressed	<b>29</b>	10	19	<b>39</b>	<b>32</b>	20	11	-	*
Festive	<b>49</b>	18	31	<b>31</b>	<b>19</b>	15	4	1	*
Lonely	<b>19</b>	6	13	<b>22</b>	<b>58</b>	25	32	-	1
Generous	<b>52</b>	15	37	<b>37</b>	<b>10</b>	8	2	-	1
Sad	<b>19</b>	7	12	<b>25</b>	<b>55</b>	28	27	-	1

N=1,053

**HOL4. Does your family have any traditions that you are looking forward to this holiday season, or not?**

	AP-NORC 12/5- 9/2019
Yes	58
No	41
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N =

1,053

**HOL5. Does your family have any traditions that you are dreading this holiday season, or not?**

	AP-NORC 12/5- 9/2019
Yes	12
No	87
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1

N =

1,053

**HOL6. Do you plan to volunteer or make donations during this holiday season?**

	AP-NORC 12/5- 9/2019
Yes	59
No	41
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

N =

1,053

**REL1: Overall, how much influence do you think religion has on government policies concerning each of the following?**

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019	<b>A lot/ Some NET</b>	A lot	Some	<b>Not much/ No influence at all NET</b>	Not much	No influence at all	DK	SKP/ REF
LGBT issues	<b>63</b>	32	32	<b>33</b>	20	14	3	1
Abortion	<b>77</b>	48	29	<b>22</b>	14	8	1	*
Poverty	<b>50</b>	17	33	<b>50</b>	33	17	*	*
Immigration	<b>48</b>	17	31	<b>51</b>	29	22	*	1
Foreign policy	<b>46</b>	16	30	<b>53</b>	32	21	*	1
Climate change	<b>26</b>	10	16	<b>74</b>	38	35	*	1
Education	<b>50</b>	17	33	<b>49</b>	31	18	1	*
Health care	<b>42</b>	14	28	<b>58</b>	34	23	*	1
Income inequality	<b>36</b>	12	24	<b>64</b>	36	27	*	*
Gun policy	<b>42</b>	17	25	<b>57</b>	32	25	1	*

N=1,053

**REL2. Overall, how much influence do you think religion SHOULD have on government policies concerning each of the following?**

**[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019	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	<b>34</b>	14	20	<b>64</b>	17	47	1	*
Abortion	<b>46</b>	27	20	<b>53</b>	12	41	*	*
Poverty	<b>52</b>	25	26	<b>48</b>	11	37	-	*
Immigration	<b>36</b>	15	21	<b>63</b>	16	47	*	*
Foreign policy	<b>34</b>	11	23	<b>66</b>	18	48	*	*
Climate change	<b>28</b>	10	18	<b>72</b>	18	54	*	*
Education	<b>41</b>	16	25	<b>58</b>	14	45	-	*
Health Care	<b>39</b>	15	24	<b>60</b>	15	46	-	*
Income inequality	<b>38</b>	15	22	<b>62</b>	16	46	*	*
Gun policy	<b>33</b>	16	17	<b>66</b>	17	50	*	*

*N=1,053*

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	<b>34</b>	15	19	<b>64</b>	16	48	1	2
Abortion	<b>45</b>	21	24	<b>54</b>	9	45	*	1
Poverty	<b>57</b>	25	31	<b>42</b>	9	33	*	1
Immigration	<b>43</b>	17	26	<b>56</b>	14	42	*	1
Foreign policy	<b>34</b>	11	23	<b>65</b>	18	48	*	1
Climate change	<b>32</b>	11	20	<b>67</b>	18	48	*	1
Education	<b>49</b>	22	27	<b>50</b>	12	38	*	1
Health Care	<b>44</b>	18	27	<b>55</b>	15	40	*	1
Income inequality	<b>36</b>	12	25	<b>62</b>	18	44	1	1
Gun policy	<b>38</b>	19	19	<b>61</b>	15	45	*	1

*N=1,055*

**POLICY1. Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose making abortion illegal except in cases of rape or incest, or when the life of the pregnant woman is at risk?**

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
<b>Strongly/Somewhat favor NET</b>	<b>37</b>
Strongly favor	25
Somewhat favor	11
<b>Neither favor nor oppose</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Strongly/Somewhat oppose NET</b>	<b>45</b>
Somewhat oppose	10
Strongly oppose	35
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
N=	1,053

**POLICY2. Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose each of the following government policies?**

**[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

- A. Increasing assistance for poor Americans, such as unemployment benefits, health insurance, and food assistance**

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
<b>Strongly/Somewhat favor NET</b>	<b>62</b>
Strongly favor	36
Somewhat favor	27
<b>Neither favor nor oppose</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Strongly/Somewhat oppose NET</b>	<b>19</b>
Somewhat oppose	12
Strongly oppose	7
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
N=	1,053

**B. A border policy that separates children from their parents when the parents are detained for entering the country illegally**

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
<b>Strongly/Somewhat favor NET</b>	<b>18</b>
Strongly favor	7
Somewhat favor	11
<b>Neither favor nor oppose</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Strongly/Somewhat oppose NET</b>	<b>67</b>
Somewhat oppose	13
Strongly oppose	54
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,053</i>

**C. Regulating the amount of carbon dioxide that power and industrial plants can emit**

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
<b>Strongly/Somewhat favor NET</b>	<b>70</b>
Strongly favor	43
Somewhat favor	27
<b>Neither favor nor oppose</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Strongly/Somewhat oppose NET</b>	<b>11</b>
Somewhat oppose	6
Strongly oppose	5
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,053</i>



**D. A single payer health care system, in which all Americans would get their health insurance from one government plan**

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019	AP-NORC 4/11-14/2019	AP-NORC 1/12-16/2017
<b>Strongly/Somewhat favor NET</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>38</b>
Strongly favor	20	16	19
Somewhat favor	21	26	19
<b>Neither favor nor oppose</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Strongly/Somewhat oppose NET</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>39</b>
Somewhat oppose	10	11	14
Strongly oppose	24	21	25
DON'T KNOW	1	1	1
SKIP/REFUSED	*	1	*
N=	1,053	1,108	1,036

**E. A nationwide ban on the sale of AR-15 rifles and similar semiautomatic weapons**

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019	AP-NORC 3/14- 18/2019	AP-NORC 3/14-19/2018	AP-GfK 7/7-11/2016
<b>Strongly/Somewhat favor NET</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>57</b>
Strongly favor	40	47	47	43
Somewhat favor	12	13	11	14
<b>Neither favor nor oppose</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Strongly/Somewhat oppose NET</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>25</b>
Somewhat oppose	11	8	8	9
Strongly oppose	22	16	21	17
DON'T KNOW	*	*	*	-
SKIP/REFUSED	*	1	1	3
N=	1,053	1,063	1,122	1,009

**F. Giving low income parents tax-funded vouchers they can use to help pay for tuition for their children to attend private or religious schools of their choice instead of public schools**

	AP-NORC /2019	AP-NORC 4/20-23/2017
<b>Strongly/Somewhat favor NET</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>43</b>
Strongly favor	23	19
Somewhat favor	18	24
<b>Neither favor nor oppose</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Strongly/Somewhat oppose NET</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>35</b>
Somewhat oppose	16	16
Strongly oppose	21	19
DON'T KNOW	-	1
SKIP/REFUSED	*	1
N=	1,053	1,036

**G. Reducing U.S. military intervention overseas**

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
<b>Strongly/Somewhat favor NET</b>	<b>50</b>
Strongly favor	20
Somewhat favor	30
<b>Neither favor nor oppose</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Strongly/Somewhat oppose NET</b>	<b>19</b>
Somewhat oppose	10
Strongly oppose	9
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
N=	1,053

**H. Increasing taxes on wealthy Americans**

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
<b>Strongly/Somewhat favor NET</b>	<b>70</b>
Strongly favor	46
Somewhat favor	24
<b>Neither favor nor oppose</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Strongly/Somewhat oppose NET</b>	<b>15</b>
Somewhat oppose	7
Strongly oppose	9
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	-
N=	1,053

**I. Prohibiting discrimination against people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender in workplaces, housing and schools**

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
<b>Strongly/Somewhat favor NET</b>	<b>62</b>
Strongly favor	48
Somewhat favor	14
<b>Neither favor nor oppose</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Strongly/Somewhat oppose NET</b>	<b>17</b>
Somewhat oppose	7
Strongly oppose	10
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
N=	1,053

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

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
Religious but not spiritual	9
Spiritual but not religious	29
Both religious and spiritual	43
Neither religious nor spiritual	18
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
N=	1,053

**RELIG. What is your present religion, if any?<sup>1</sup>**

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, Jehovah's Witness, etc.)	32
Roman Catholic (Catholic)	19
Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/LDS)	2
Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or some other orthodox church)	1
Jewish (Judaism)	1
Muslim (Islam)	1
Buddhist	1
Hindu	*
Atheist (do not believe in God)	4
Agnostic (not sure if there is a God)	5
Nothing in particular	15
Just Christian	16
Unitarian (Universalist)	8
Something else – please specify	5
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	-

N=

1,053

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<sup>1</sup> RELIG is an appended variable from the AmeriSpeak respondent profile. RELIG was only asked of AmeriSpeak respondents to this survey who had not filled out the profile survey within the past year or who had RELIG missing from their profile.

**ATTEND.** How often do you attend religious services?<sup>2</sup>

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
Never	25
Less than once per year	14
About once or twice a year	12
Several times a year	13
About once a month	6
2-3 times a month	5
Nearly every week	6
Every week	12
Several times a week	6
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	-
N=	1,053

Ask if "Protestant," "Roman Catholic," "Mormon," "Orthodox," "Just Christian," or "Something else" in RELIG

**BORN.** Would you describe yourself as a 'born-again' or evangelical Christian, or not?<sup>3</sup>

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
Yes	33
No	67
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	-
N=	762

<sup>2</sup> D4 is an appended variable from the AmeriSpeak respondent profile. D4 was only asked of AmeriSpeak respondents to this survey who had not filled out the profile survey within the past year or who had D4 missing from their profile.

<sup>3</sup> BORN is an appended variable from the AmeriSpeak respondent profile. BORN was only asked of AmeriSpeak respondents to this survey who had not filled out the profile survey within the past year or who had BORN missing from their profile.

**PID. Combines PID1, PIDI, PIDA, and PIDB.**

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
<b>Democrat NET</b>	<b>46</b>
Strong Democrat	12
Moderate Democrat	22
Lean Democrat	12
<b>Independent/None – Don't lean</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Republican NET</b>	<b>36</b>
Lean Republican	11
Moderate Republican	13
Strong Republican	12
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,053</i>

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

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
Liberal	21
Conservative	46
Moderate	31
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,053</i>

**DM5. How would you describe the community you live in now?**

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
Urban	26
Suburban	42
Rural	31
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,053</i>

## AGE

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
18-24	12
25-34	19
35-44	15
45-54	15
55-64	18
65-74	13
75+	8
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,053</i>

## GENDER

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
Male	48
Female	52
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,053</i>

## RACE/ETHNICITY

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
White	63
Black or African American	12
Hispanic	16
Other	9
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,053</i>

## MARITAL STATUS

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
Married	44
Widowed	6
Divorced	14
Separated	2
Never married	26
Living with partner	7
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,053</i>

## EMPLOYMENT STATUS

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
Employed	56
Not employed	44
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,053</i>

## EDUCATION

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
Less than a high school diploma	11
High school graduate or equivalent	28
Some college	28
College graduate or above	33
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,053</i>



**INCOME**

	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
Under \$10,000	9
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	9
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	12
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	9
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	9
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	20
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	14
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	13
\$150,000 or more	6

*N*=

*1,053*

### **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 percent 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 December 5 and 9, 2019, with adults age 18 and over representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 1,053 completed the survey—969 via the web and 84 via telephone. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish, depending on respondent preference. The final stage completion rate is 17.9 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 24.1 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 85.6 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 3.7 percent. The overall margin of sampling error is +/-4.0 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](mailto: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.

- 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.