



# The May 2023 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: 05/11-15/2023*

*1,680 adults*

*Margin of sampling error: +/- 3.4 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	Right direction	Wrong direction	DON'T KNOW	SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED
05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	21	78	*	*
04/13-17/2023 (N=1,230)	25	74	*	1
03/16-20/2023 (N=1,081)	21	78	*	*
02/16-20/2023 (N=1,247)	28	71	1	1
01/26-30/2023 (N=1,068)	25	73	1	*
12/1-5/2022 (N=1,124)	28	71	*	1
10/06-10/2022 (N=1,121)	25	74	*	1
09/09-12/2022 (N=1,054)	27	72	*	1
07/14-17/2022 (N=1,085)	17	83	-	*
06/23-27/2022 (N=1,053)	14	85	1	*
05/12-16/2022 (N=1,172)	21	78	*	*
4/14-18/2022 (N=1,085)	29	70	1	1
3/17-21/2022 (N=1,082)	31	68	*	1
2/18-21/2022 (N=1,289)	29	70	*	1
1/13-18/2022 (N=1,161)	26	74	*	*
12/2-7/2021 (N=1,089)	33	66	1	1
10/21-25/2021 (N=1,083)	32	67	1	*
9/23-27/2021 (N=1,099)	34	64	*	1
8/12-16/2021 (N=1,729)	39	61	*	*
7/15-19/2021 (N=1,308)	44	55	1	1
6/10-14/2021 (N=1,125)	46	53	*	1
4/29-5/3/2021 (N=1,842)	54	44	1	1
3/25-29/2021 (N= 1,166)	50	50	*	*
2/25-3/1/2021 (N=1,434)	48	51	*	1
1/28-2/1/2021 (N=1,055)	49	49	1	1
12/3-7/2020 (N=1,117)	37	62	1	1
10/8-12/2020 (N=1,121)	25	74	1	1
9/11-14/2020 (N = 1,108)	27	72	*	1
8/17-19/2020 (N=1,075)	23	75	1	*
7/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	20	80	*	*
6/11-15/2020 (N=1,310)	24	74	1	1
5/14-18/2020 (N=1,056)	33	65	1	1
4/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	36	63	1	-
3/26-29/2020 (N=1,057)	42	58	*	*
2/13-16/2020 (N=1,074)	41	59	*	*
1/16-21/2020 (N=1,353)	38	62	*	*
12/5-9/2019 (N=1,053)	36	63	*	*
10/24-28/2019 (N=1,075)	39	60	1	1
9/20-23/2019 (N=1,286)	38	60	1	1
8/15-18/2019 (N=1,059)	33	66	*	1
6/13-17/2019 (N=1,116)	36	63	*	1

AP-NORC	Right direction	Wrong direction	DON'T KNOW	SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED
4/11-14/2019 (N=1,108)	37	62	*	*
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	*
5/17-20/2019 (N=1,137)	35	62	2	1

**CUR2. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden 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 Joe Biden is handling his job as president?**

*If approve in CUR2:*

**CUR3A. Would you say you approve of the way Joe Biden 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 Joe Biden is handling his job as president strongly or do you disapprove just somewhat?**

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

AP-NORC	Approve NET	Strongly approve	Some-what approve	Lean toward approving	Do not lean either way	Dis-approve NET	Lean toward disapproving	Some-what dis-approve	Strongly dis-approve	DK	SKP/ REF
05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	<b>40</b>	12	28	*	<b>1</b>	<b>59</b>	*	21	38	*	*
04/13-17/2023 (N=1,230)	<b>42</b>	15	27	1	*	<b>58</b>	1	20	36	*	*
03/16-20/2023 (N=1,081)	<b>38</b>	12	26	*	<b>1</b>	<b>61</b>	1	21	40	-	*

AP-NORC	Approve NET	Strongly approve	Some-what approve	Lean toward approving	Do not lean either way	Dis-approve NET	Lean toward disapproving	Some-what dis-approve	Strongly dis-approve	DK	SKP/ REF
02/16-20/2023 (N=1,247)	45	16	28	*	1	54	*	19	35	*	1
01/26-30/2023 (N=1,068)	41	14	27	*	1	58	*	20	37	*	*
12/1-5/2022 (N=1,124)	43	15	28	*	1	55	1	20	34	-	1
10/06-10/2022 (N=1,121)	43	15	26	1	1	56	*	20	36	*	*
09/09-12/2022 (N=1,054)	45	16	30	*	1	53	*	20	33	*	*
07/14-17/2022 (N=1,085)	36	8	27	*	1	62	*	18	44	*	1
06/23-27/2022 (N=1,053)	39	12	27	*	1	60	*	19	41	-	*
05/12-16/2022 (N=1,172)	39	12	26	1	*	60	1	21	39	*	*
4/14-18/2022 (N=1,085)	45	15	30	*	*	54	*	18	36	*	*
3/17-21/2022 (N=1,082)	43	16	27	*	*	56	*	19	37	*	*
2/18-21/2022 (N=1,289)	44	15	29	*	1	55	1	19	35	*	*
1/13-18/2022 (N=1,161)	43	13	30	*	1	56	1	19	36	-	1
12/2-7/2021 (N=1,089)	48	18	30	*	1	51	*	20	30	-	*
10/21-25/2021 (N=1,083)	48	17	31	*	1	51	*	17	34	*	*

AP-NORC	<b>Approve NET</b>	Strongly approve	Some- what 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
9/23- 27/2021 (N=1,099)	<b>50</b>	18	31	1	<b>1</b>	<b>49</b>	*	17	32	*	*
8/12- 16/2021 (N=1,729)	<b>54</b>	24	30	*	*	<b>46</b>	*	15	30	*	*
7/15- 19/2021 (N=1,308)	<b>59</b>	25	33	1	*	<b>41</b>	1	14	26	-	*
9/23- 27/2021 (N=1,099)	<b>50</b>	18	31	1	<b>1</b>	<b>49</b>	*	17	32	*	*
8/12- 16/2021 (N=1,729)	<b>54</b>	24	30	*	*	<b>46</b>	*	15	30	*	*
7/15- 19/2021 (N=1,308)	<b>59</b>	25	33	1	*	<b>41</b>	1	14	26	-	*
6/10- 14/2021 (N=1,125)	<b>55</b>	26	29	*	<b>1</b>	<b>44</b>	1	14	29	-	-
4/29- 5/3/2021 (N=1,842)	<b>63</b>	34	29	*	<b>1</b>	<b>36</b>	*	11	25	*	*
3/25- 29/2021 (N=1,166)	<b>61</b>	31	29	*	*	<b>38</b>	*	13	25	-	1
2/25- 3/1/2021 (N=1,434)	<b>60</b>	32	28	*	*	<b>40</b>	*	15	24	*	*
1/28- 2/1/2021 (N=1,055)	<b>61</b>	35	26	*	<b>1</b>	<b>38</b>	*	11	26	*	*

**CURY2. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling...?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED, HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

AP-NORC		Approve	Disapprove	DK	SKP/REF
The economy	05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	33	66	*	1
	03/16-20/2023 (N=1,081)	31	68	*	1
	02/16-20/2023 (N=1,247)	36	61	1	2
	01/26-30/2023 (N=1,068)	33	66	*	1
	10/06-10/2022 (N=1,121)	36	63	*	*
	09/09-12/2022 (N=1,054)	38	61	*	1
	06/23-27/2022 (N=1,053)	28	69	1	1
	05/12-16/2022 (N=1,172)	33	67	*	1
	4/14-18 2022 (N=1,085)	33	66	*	1
	3/17-21/2022 (N=1,082)	34	65	1	*
	2/18-21/2022 (N=1,289)	38	61	*	1
	1/13-18/2022 (N=1,161)	37	62	*	1
	12/2-7/2021 (N=1,089)	41	57	*	1
	10/21-25/2021 (N=1,083)	41	58	1	1
	9/23-27/2021 (N=1,099)	47	51	1	1
	8/12-16/2021 (N=1,729)	49	49	*	1
	7/15-19/2021 (N=1,308)	52	47	*	*
	6/10-14/2021 (N=1,125)	51	47	*	2
	4/29-5/3/2021 (N=1,842)	57	42	*	2
3/25-29/2021 (N= 1,166)	60	39	*	1	

AP-NORC		Approve	Disapprove	DK	SKP/REF
Gun policy	05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	31	67	1	1
	06/23-27/2022 (N=1,053)	36	62	1	1
	1/13-18/2022 (N=1,161)	35	64	*	1
	12/2-7/2021 (N=1,089)	36	61	1	1
	4/29-5/3/2021 (N=1,842)	48	49	1	2
	3/25-29/2021 (N= 1,166)	45	52	*	2
	06/23-27/2022 (N=1,053)	36	62	1	1
Immigration	05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	31	67	*	1
	02/16-20/2023 (N=1,247)	39	58	1	2
	01/26-30/2023 (N=1,068)	31	66	1	1
	10/06-10/2022 (N=1,121)	39	59	1	1
	05/12-16/2022 (N=1,172)	38	62	*	*
	1/13-18/2022 (N=1,161)	39	59	*	2
	10/21-25/2021 (N=1,083)	36	63	*	1
	9/23-27/2021 (N=1,099)	35	64	1	1
	6/10-14/2021 (N=1,125)	40	59	-	2
	4/29-5/3/2021 (N=1,842)	43	54	1	2
	3/25-29/2021 (N= 1,166)	42	56	*	2
	Student debt	05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	43	55	1

**B1A. How would you describe the nation's economy these days? Would you say...**

*If neither good nor poor, don't know, skipped, or refused in B1A:*

**B1B. If you had to choose, do you lean more toward the nation's economy being good or the nation's economy being poor?**

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

AP-NORC	Very/ Somewhat/ Lean toward good NET	Very good	Some- what good	Lean toward good	Neither good nor poor	Very/ Somewhat/ Lean toward poor NET	Lean toward poor	Some- what poor	Very poor	DK	SKP /REF
05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	<b>24</b>	1	13	9	*	<b>76</b>	12	34	29	-	*
04/13-17/2023 (N=1,230)	<b>30</b>	2	15	13	*	<b>69</b>	11	34	25	-	-
03/16-20/2023 (N=1,081)	<b>25</b>	1	14	10	*	<b>75</b>	11	38	26	-	*
02/16-20/2023 (N=1,247)	<b>32</b>	3	17	12	*	<b>68</b>	12	34	22	*	*
01/26-30/2023 (N=1,068)	<b>24</b>	2	13	9	<b>1</b>	<b>76</b>	13	35	28	*	-
12/1-5/2022 (N=1,124)	<b>25</b>	1	14	10	*	<b>75</b>	11	38	25	-	-
10/06-10/2022 (N=1,121)	<b>23</b>	2	12	9	*	<b>76</b>	13	36	28	*	*
09/09-12/2022 (N=1,054)	<b>29</b>	1	15	12	*	<b>71</b>	11	35	25	*	-
06/23-27/2022 (N=1,053)	<b>20</b>	2	10	9	<b>1</b>	<b>79</b>	9	35	35	-	-
05/12-16/2022 (N=1,172)	<b>22</b>	2	10	9	*	<b>78</b>	11	34	34	-	*
4/14-18/2022 (N=1,085)	<b>29</b>	2	16	12	*	<b>70</b>	11	35	24	-	*
3/17-21/2022 (N=1,082)	<b>31</b>	2	18	10	*	<b>69</b>	11	37	22	-	-
12/2-7/2021 (N=1,089)	<b>35</b>	3	21	11	*	<b>64</b>	16	33	16	-	*
10/21-25/2021 (N=1,083)	<b>35</b>	2	20	13	*	<b>65</b>	12	33	19	-	-
9/23-27/2021 (N=1,099)	<b>45</b>	2	27	16	-	<b>54</b>	17	25	12	*	-
7/15-19/2021 (N=1,308)	<b>45</b>	4	28	13	<b>1</b>	<b>54</b>	15	28	11	-	*
6/10-14/2021 (N=1,125)	<b>47</b>	3	27	17	*	<b>53</b>	14	26	13	-	-
3/25-29/2021 (N= 1,166)	<b>46</b>	2	25	19	*	<b>54</b>	16	27	11	-	-



	<b>Very/ Somewhat/ Lean toward good NET</b>	Very good	Some- what good	Lean toward good	<b>Neither good nor poor</b>	<b>Very/ Somewhat/ Lean toward poor NET</b>	Lean toward poor	Some- what poor	Very poor	DK	SKP /REF
AP-NORC											
2/25-3/1/2021 (N=1,434)	<b>37</b>	1	22	14	*	<b>63</b>	16	34	12	-	*
1/28-2/1/2021 (N=1,055)	<b>31</b>	1	17	12	*	<b>69</b>	15	37	17	-	-
12/3-7/2020 (N=1,117)	<b>38</b>	5	22	11	*	<b>62</b>	11	34	17	*	-
10/8-12/2020 (N=1,121)	<b>39</b>	6	22	11	*	<b>61</b>	10	31	20	-	*
9/11-14/2020 (N=1,108)	<b>40</b>	6	24	11	*	<b>60</b>	10	33	16	-	-
8/17-19/2020 (N=1,075)	<b>37</b>	4	21	12	*	<b>62</b>	12	32	18	-	-
07/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	<b>38</b>	4	22	12	-	<b>62</b>	11	30	21	-	-
6/11-15/2020 (N=1,310)	<b>36</b>	5	19	12	*	<b>63</b>	14	28	21	-	1
5/14-18/2020 (N=1,056)	<b>29</b>	3	13	13	*	<b>70</b>	9	31	30	-	*
4/16-20/2020 (N=1,057)	<b>29</b>	3	15	11	-	<b>71</b>	8	30	33	-	-
03/26-29/2020 (N=1,057)	<b>39</b>	9	17	12	*	<b>60</b>	10	29	21	-	-
1/16-21/2020 (N=1,353)	<b>67</b>	21	36	10	*	<b>33</b>	13	15	5	-	*
9/20-23/2019 (N=1,286)	<b>61</b>	18	31	11	*	<b>38</b>	11	19	8	1	*
6/13-17/2019 (N=1,116)	<b>63</b>	15	35	14	*	<b>36</b>	13	16	7	-	1

**AP1. Next we will ask you about some institutions in this country. As far as the people running these institutions are concerned, would you say you have a great deal of confidence, only some confidence, or hardly any confidence at all in them?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

		A great deal of confidence	Only some confidence	Hardly any confidence at all	DK	SKP /REF
AP-NORC						
The Supreme Court	05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	12	48	39	-	1
	03/16-20/2023 (N=1,081)	14	47	37	*	1
	07/14-17/2022 (N=1,085)	17	39	43	-	1
	4/14-18/2022 (N=1,085)	18	54	27	*	1
	2/18-21/2022 (N=1,289)	21	55	24	*	*
	09/11-14/2020 (N=1,108)	21	61	17	*	1
	02/13-16/2020 (N=1,074)	28	58	14	-	*
	6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	24	59	15	*	1
	5/12-15/2016 (N=1,108)	24	58	17	*	1
	2/18-3/6/2016 (N=2,014)	26	59	14	1	1
Organized religion	05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	10	45	44	*	1
	02/13-16/2020 (N=1,074)	16	47	37	*	1
	6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	18	50	32	1	1
	2/18-3/6/2016 (N=2,014)	20	56	24	*	1
Banks and financial institutions	05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	11	58	31	-	1
	03/16-20/2023 (N=1,081)	10	57	31	*	1
	09/11-14/2020 (N=1,108)	22	60	18	-	1
	02/13-16/2020 (N=1,074)	19	61	19	*	*
	6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	12	57	30	*	1
	2/18-3/6/2016 (N=2,014)	17	59	24	-	1
	03/16-20/2023 (N=1,081)	10	57	31	*	1
The government's intelligence gathering agencies	05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	16	48	35	*	1
	03/16-20/2023 (N=1,081)	18	49	31	*	2
	04/14-18/2022 (N=1,085)	25	47	26	*	1
	02/18-21/2022 (N=1,289)	23	52	24	*	*
	09/11-14/2020 (N=1,108)	23	56	19	*	1
	02/13-16/2020 (N=1,074)	27	55	18	*	*
	06/08-11/2017 (N=1,068)	29	52	17	1	1

**NDC1. How closely are you following the debate over increasing the national debt limit?**

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

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
<b>Extremely/very closely NET</b>	<b>21</b>
Extremely closely	6
Very closely	15
<b>Somewhat closely</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Not closely at all/not very closely NET</b>	<b>41</b>
Not very closely	24
Not closely at all	17
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED / REFUSED	*

N=

1,680

**NDC2. How well would you say you understand the debate over increasing the national debt limit?**

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

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
<b>Extremely/very well NET</b>	<b>20</b>
Extremely well	5
Very well	16
<b>Somewhat well</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Not well at all/not very well NET</b>	<b>39</b>
Not very well	27
Not well at all	12
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED / REFUSED	*

N=

1,680

**NDC3. The national debt limit is a cap on the legal borrowing capacity of the U.S. government. If the national debt limit is not increased, the U.S. government will default, meaning it will be unable to pay its bills. Which of the following comes closest to your opinion about what Congress should do? Do you think Congress should ...**

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

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
Increase the national debt limit without conditions	19
Increase the national debt limit <u>only if</u> lawmakers include terms on reducing the federal budget deficit	63
Not increase the national debt limit under any circumstances	16
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED / REFUSED	1

N=

1,680

**NDC4. If the national debt limit is not increased and the U.S. government defaults, how concerned are you about the impact on the economy?**

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

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
<b>Extremely/very concerned NET</b>	<b>66</b>
Extremely concerned	33
Very concerned	34
<b>Somewhat concerned</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Not concerned at all/not very concerned NET</b>	<b>6</b>
Not very concerned	5
Not concerned at all	2
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED / REFUSED	1

N=

1,680

**NDC5. Do you approve, disapprove or neither approve nor disapprove of how each of the following is handling negotiations over increasing the national debt limit?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED, HALF SAMPLE SHOWN RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

AP NORC 05/11- 15/2023	<b>Strongly/ somewhat approve NET</b>	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	<b>Neither approve nor disapprove</b>	<b>Strongly/ somewhat disapprove NET</b>	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
President Biden	<b>27</b>	9	18	<b>25</b>	<b>48</b>	16	32	*	1
Democrats in Congress	<b>26</b>	8	18	<b>29</b>	<b>45</b>	18	27	*	1
Republicans in Congress	<b>22</b>	6	16	<b>29</b>	<b>49</b>	21	28	*	*

*N=1,680*

**COL2. How important should each of the following be when colleges and universities make decisions about admitting students?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

AP NORC 05/11- 15/2023	<b>Extremely/ very important NET</b>	Extremely important	Very important	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Not at all/not too important NET</b>	Not too important	Not at all important	DK	SKP/ REF
Athletic ability	<b>9</b>	3	6	<b>29</b>	<b>61</b>	28	33	-	1
Ability to afford tuition	<b>34</b>	13	21	<b>37</b>	<b>28</b>	14	14	-	1
Race and ethnicity	<b>13</b>	6	7	<b>18</b>	<b>68</b>	17	52	*	1
Gender	<b>9</b>	4	5	<b>14</b>	<b>77</b>	17	60	-	*
Scores on standardized tests, such as the SAT or ACT	<b>47</b>	16	31	<b>36</b>	<b>17</b>	11	6	*	*
Whether a family member attended	<b>9</b>	3	6	<b>18</b>	<b>73</b>	23	50	-	*
Donations to the school	<b>10</b>	4	6	<b>17</b>	<b>73</b>	19	54	*	*
High school grades	<b>62</b>	22	40	<b>30</b>	<b>8</b>	5	3	-	*

*N=1,680*

**AFFIRM.** The U.S. Supreme Court is weighing whether colleges and universities can consider race and ethnicity as part of their admissions decisions, a practice commonly known as affirmative action. Do you think the Supreme Court should or should not prohibit the consideration of race and ethnicity in admissions?

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
Should	35
Should not	63
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED / REFUSED	2

N= 1,680

**REL1.** Many things can make a person feel that their life is meaningful and fulfilling. How much meaning and fulfillment does each of the following provide you?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED, HALF SAMPLE SHOWN RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP NORC 05/11-15/2023	A lot/some NET	A lot	Some	None at all/only a little NET	Only a little	Not at all	DK	SKP/ REF
Your religious faith	55	34	21	45	14	31	*	*
Meditating	43	15	28	57	24	32	-	*
Volunteer work	55	18	36	44	21	23	*	1
Being outdoors and experiencing nature	85	53	32	14	10	4	-	1
Spending time with family	89	66	23	11	8	3	-	*
Spending time with friends	82	47	35	17	12	5	-	1
Connecting with people on social media	30	5	25	70	35	35	*	*
Counseling or therapy	36	12	25	62	21	41	*	1
Hobbies	81	41	40	18	14	4	*	*
Physical exercise	75	33	42	24	19	6	*	*
Your job	55	23	32	43	18	24	*	2

N=1,680

**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?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED, HALF SAMPLE SHOWN RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

AP NORC		Too much	About the right amount	Too little	DK	SKP/ REF
Most members of Congress	05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	38	32	29	*	1
	8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	38	30	30	*	2
The Supreme Court	05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	39	37	23	*	1
	8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	34	40	24	*	1
President Biden	05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	20	48	31	*	1
What children are taught in public schools	05/11-15/2023 (N=1,680)	31	31	37	*	1
	09/09-12/2022 (N=1,054)	30	31	36	1	1
	8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	27	31	41	*	2

**REL3. In general, how much trust do you have in religious or spiritual leaders?**

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

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023	AP-NORC 10/21-25/2021
<b>A lot/some NET</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>61</b>
A lot	9	17
Some	37	44
<b>None at all/not much NET</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>39</b>
Not much	30	23
Not at all	24	16
DON'T KNOW	-	*
SKIPPED / REFUSED	*	*
N=	1,680	1,083

**REL4. Do you believe in God or a higher power, or not?**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
Yes	79
No	21
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED / REFUSED	*

N= 1,680

**REL5. Which, if any, of the following do you believe in? Do you believe....**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

AP NORC 05/11-15/2023	Yes	No	DK	SKP/ REF
In reincarnation	34	64	*	1
That spirits of people who have died can interact with the living	50	48	*	1
In heaven	69	29	*	2
In hell	58	41	*	1
In angels	69	30	*	1
In the devil or Satan	56	43	*	1
In astrology, or that the position of the stars and planets can affect people's lives	34	66	*	1
In yoga as a spiritual practice	33	66	*	1
That spiritual energy can be rooted in physical things, such as plants, rivers or crystals	42	57	*	1
That some things can't be explained by science or natural causes	83	17	*	1
In the power of prayer	72	28	*	1
In karma	63	35	1	1

N=1,680



**REL6. Research shows that a growing percentage of Americans do not identify with a religious group. Do you think that trend is a good thing, a bad thing, or neither a good thing nor bad thing for society?**

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

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
<b>Very good/somewhat good thing NET</b>	<b>23</b>
Very good thing	13
Somewhat good thing	11
<b>Neither a good thing or a bad thing</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Very bad/somewhat bad thing NET</b>	<b>37</b>
Somewhat bad thing	17
Very bad thing	19
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED / REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>

**ATTEND. How often do you attend religious services?**

	AP-NORC 05/11- 15/2023	AP-NORC 05/12- 16/2022	AP-NORC 02/13- 16/2020	AP-NORC 12/05- 09/2019	AP-NORC 05/17- 20/2019
Never	32	32	28	25	26
Less than once per year	15	18	16	14	12
About once or twice a year	11	9	12	12	10
Several times a year	10	8	9	13	11
About once a month	5	4	5	6	6
2-3 times a month	6	6	7	5	7
Nearly every week	5	5	6	6	8
Every week	12	14	14	12	14
Several times a week	4	4	5	6	5
DON'T KNOW	-	-	-	-	-
SKIP/REFUSED	1	*	*	-	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>	<i>1,172</i>	<i>1,015</i>	<i>1,053</i>	<i>1,137</i>

**ATTEND2. Would you say you attend religious services more often, about as often or less often than you did five years ago?**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023	AP-NORC 05/12-16/2022
More often	14	11
About as often	53	51
Less often	33	37
DON'T KNOW	-	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>	<i>1,172</i>

**REL7. Which of the following statements comes closest to describing your beliefs?**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023	AP-NORC 10/21-25/2021	AP-NORC 12/5-9/2019
Religious but not spiritual	6	8	9
Spiritual but not religious	32	26	29
Both religious and spiritual	44	46	43
Neither religious nor spiritual	18	19	18
DON'T KNOW	-	*	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1	1	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>	<i>1,083</i>	<i>1,053</i>

Show if religious or both religious and spiritual in REL7.

REL8. How important is each of the following for why you would consider yourself religious?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP NORC 05/11- 15/2023	Extremely/ very important NET	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not at all/not too important NET	Not very important	Not at all important	DK	SKP/ REF
For spiritual growth and guidance	70	38	32	21	8	5	2	-	1
To worship God	80	54	26	13	6	3	3	-	1
For community with fellow members	45	20	25	36	18	10	8	-	1
It's part of my family or cultural traditions	53	25	29	31	15	10	5	*	1
For the moral or ethical code that religion provides	64	36	28	26	8	4	4	*	1

N=585

Show if spiritual but not religious or neither religious nor spiritual REL7.

REL9. How important is each of the following for why you don't consider yourself religious?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP NORC 05/11- 15/2023	Extremely/ very important NET	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not at all/not too important NET	Not too important	Not at all important	DK	SKP/ REF
I don't like organized religion	55	35	21	18	24	11	12	*	2
I don't believe in God	33	22	11	18	47	14	33	-	2
I don't like the positions that religious faiths take on political or social issues	57	37	20	22	19	7	12	-	2
It's not part of my family or cultural traditions	16	10	6	27	56	20	36	*	2
Because of reports of abuse or misconduct by religious leaders	53	33	20	26	19	7	12	-	2

N=1,083

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

*If Democrat:*

**PIDA. Do you consider yourself a strong or not so strong Democrat?**

*If Republican:*

**PIDB. Do you consider yourself a strong or not so strong Republican?**

*If independent, none of these, don't know, skipped, or refused:*

**PIDI. Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?**

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

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
<b>Democrat NET</b>	<b>44</b>
Strong Democrat	16
Not so strong Democrat	17
Lean Democrat	11
<b>Independent/None – Don't lean</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Republican NET</b>	<b>37</b>
Lean Republican	10
Not so strong Republican	12
Strong Republican	16
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>

**D3. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be a liberal, moderate, or conservative?**

*If liberal:*

**D4. Do you consider yourself very liberal or somewhat liberal?**

*If conservative:*

**D5. Do you consider yourself very conservative or somewhat conservative?**

**Combines D3, D4, D5:**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
<b>Liberal NET</b>	<b>21</b>
Very liberal	11
Somewhat liberal	10
<b>Moderate</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Conservative NET</b>	<b>31</b>
Somewhat conservative	17
Very conservative	14
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>

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

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
Urban area	23
Suburban area	50
Rural area	26
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>

**RELIG. What is your present religion, if any?**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
Protestant	25
Roman Catholic	19
Mormon	1
Orthodox	*
Jewish	1
Muslim	1
Buddhist	1
Hindu	1
Atheist	7
Agnostic	7
Nothing in particular	16
Just Christian	18
Unitarian	*
Something else	2
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>

*If Religion is Protestant, Roman Catholic, Mormon, Orthodox, Christian, or something else:*

**BORN. Would you describe yourself as a 'born-again' or evangelical Christian, or not?**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
Yes	38
No	62
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	-
<i>N=</i>	<i>739</i>

**AGE**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
18-29	20
30-44	27
45-59	23
60+	30
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>

**GENDER**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
Male	49
Female	51
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>

**RACE/ETHNICITY**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
White, non-Hispanic	65
Black or African American	10
Hispanic	15
Other	10
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>

**MARITAL STATUS**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
Married	48
Not married	52
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>

**EMPLOYMENT STATUS**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
Employed	57
Not employed	43
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>

**EDUCATION**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
Less than a high school diploma	10
High school graduate or equivalent	26
Some college	34
College graduate or above	18
Post grad study/professional degree	12
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>

**CENSUS REGION**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
<b>Northeast NET</b>	<b>17</b>
New England	5
Mid-Atlantic	12
<b>Midwest NET</b>	<b>21</b>
East North Central	14
West North Central	7
<b>South NET</b>	<b>38</b>
South Atlantic	19
East South Central	7
West South Central	12
<b>West NET</b>	<b>23</b>
Mountain	7
Pacific	17
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>

**HOME OWNERSHIP**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
Owned or being bought by you or someone in your household	70
Rented for cash	27
Occupied without payment of cash rent	3
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,680</i>



**INCOME**

	AP-NORC 05/11-15/2023
Under \$10,000	4
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	9
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	9
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	8
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	7
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	21
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	15
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	14
\$150,000 or more	11

*N=**1,680*

## 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 May 11 and 15, 2023 with adults aged 18 and over representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 1,680 completed the survey—1,609 via the web and 71 by telephone. Panel members were invited by email or by phone from an NORC telephone interviewer. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish, depending on respondent preference. Respondents were offered a small monetary incentive for completing the survey. The final stage completion rate is 18.4 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 20.7 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 79.9 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 3.0 percent. The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 3.4 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups. For example, the margin of sampling error is +/- 5.0 percentage points for Democrats and +/- 5.8 percentage points for Republicans.

Respondents who indicate their religious preference is "nothing in particular," atheist, or agnostic were sampled at a higher rate than their proportion of the population for reasons of analysis. The overall margin of sampling error for the 900 completed interviews with those respondents is +/- 5.0 percentage points.

Sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error and there may be other unmeasured error in this or any other survey.

Quality assurance checks were conducted to ensure data quality. In total, 72 interviews were removed for nonresponse to at least 50% of the questions asked of them, for completing the survey in less than one-third the median interview time for the full sample, or for straight-lining all grid questions asked of them. These interviews were excluded from the data file prior to weighting.

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 2021 Current Population Survey. The weighted data reflect the U.S. population of adults age 18 and over.

Complete questions and results are available at: [apnorc.org](http://apnorc.org).

Additional information on the AmeriSpeak Panel methodology is available at: <https://amerispeak.norc.org/about-amerispeak/Pages/Panel-Design.aspx>.

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 an independent global news organization dedicated to factual reporting. Founded in 1846, AP today remains the most trusted source of fast, accurate, unbiased news in all formats and the essential provider of the technology and services vital to the news business. More than half the world's population sees AP journalism every day. [www.ap.org](http://www.ap.org)
- NORC at the University of Chicago is one of the oldest objective and nonpartisan research institutions in the world. [www.norc.org](http://www.norc.org)

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. In its 10 years, The AP-NORC Center has conducted more than 250 studies exploring the critical issues facing the public, covering topics like health care, the economy, COVID-19, trust in media, and more. Learn more at [www.apnorc.org](http://www.apnorc.org).