



DIVISIVENESS AND COLLABORATION IN AMERICAN PUBLIC LIFE

Methodology and Final Topline

Released December 2019

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The survey results below appear in the report titled “Divisiveness and Collaboration in American Public Life,” which summarizes findings from the inaugural Public Agenda/USA Today/Ipsos Hidden Common Ground survey. The data are based on a nationally representative survey of 1,548 adult Americans 18 years and older. The survey was fielded October 14th to 21st, 2019 by Ipsos using the web-enabled KnowledgePanel®. Respondents completed the survey in English.

A survey of Americans (ages 18+)

Interview dates: October 14 –21, 2019

Number of interviews: N=1,548

Number of interviews: those who self-identify as Republican N=466

Number of interviews: those who self-identify as Democrat N=533

Number of interviews: Independent (Independent + Another party) N=359

Number of interviews: Apolitical (No preference + Skipped) N=190

Margin of error among total: +/- 2.6 percentage points at the 95% confidence level

Margin of error among Republicans: +/- 4.7 percentage points at the 95% confidence level

Margin of error among Democrats: +/- 4.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level

Margin of error among Independents: +/- 5.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level

Margin of error among Apolitical: +/- 7.51 percentage points at 95% confidence level

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

*NOTE: * = less than 0.5%, - = no respondents*

Annotated Questionnaire:

1. At this moment, do you think each of the following is heading in the right direction or off on the wrong track?

Summary	Total		Republican		Democrat		Independent		Apolitical	
	Right direction	Wrong track	Right direction	Wrong track	Right direction	Wrong track	Right direction	Wrong track	Right direction	Wrong track
The country as a whole	28	70	58	41	8	91	24	75	26	67
Your community	69	28	74	25	71	29	68	30	59	33
Your personal life	87	12	92	8	89	11	86	12	73	19

The country as a whole	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Right direction	28	58	8	24	26
Wrong track	70	41	91	75	67
Skipped	2	1	1	1	7

1. At this moment, do you think each of the following is heading in the right direction or off on the wrong track?

Your community	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Right direction	69	74	71	68	59
Wrong track	28	25	29	30	33
Skipped	2	1	1	2	8

Your personal life	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Right direction	87	92	89	86	73
Wrong track	12	8	11	12	19
Skipped	2	1	*	2	8



2. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Summary	Total		Republican		Democrat		Independent		Apolitical	
	Total Agree	Total Disagree	Total Agree	Total Disagree	Total Agree	Total Disagree	Total Agree	Total Disagree	Total Agree	Total Disagree
There is more common ground among the American people than the news media and political leaders portray	73	26	82	17	67	32	76	24	62	32
The main reason our political leaders are divided is because there is not much common ground among the American people	42	57	41	58	45	55	35	64	47	47
Divisiveness and gridlock in American politics is <u>not</u> a big problem	15	83	16	83	12	87	14	86	26	68

There is more common ground among the American people than the news media and political leaders portray	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Strongly agree	22	32	15	25	14
Somewhat agree	51	50	53	50	48
Somewhat disagree	19	12	24	18	20
Strongly disagree	7	5	8	6	12
Skipped	1	1	1	*	5
Total Agree	73	82	67	76	62
Total Disagree	26	17	32	24	32

2. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

The main reason our political leaders are divided is because there is not much common ground among the American people	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Strongly agree	12	11	12	10	14
Somewhat agree	30	30	33	25	33
Somewhat disagree	35	33	36	41	28
Strongly disagree	21	25	19	23	19
Skipped	2	1	1	1	7
Total Agree	42	41	45	35	47
Total Disagree	57	58	55	64	47

Divisiveness and gridlock in American politics is <u>not</u> a big problem	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Strongly agree	4	4	4	5	5
Somewhat agree	11	12	9	8	21
Somewhat disagree	27	29	25	26	33
Strongly disagree	56	54	62	60	35
Skipped	1	1	1	-	6
Total Agree	15	16	12	14	26
Total Disagree	83	83	87	86	68

3. Which is a bigger problem?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
People are afraid to speak their mind honestly and say what they really mean for fear of criticism	21	27	14	22	24
People speak thoughtlessly without regard for harming other people	24	21	31	22	14
They are equal problems	46	45	47	51	42
Neither	8	7	8	4	16
Skipped	1	1	*	*	3

4. Which one do you worry about more?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Americans have too many fundamental disagreements and conflicting values	10	10	12	7	9
Americans don't know how to talk about their disagreements and conflicts in constructive ways	43	45	42	48	33
Both equally	38	36	41	36	39
Neither	8	8	5	9	15
Skipped	1	1	*	1	4

5. In your opinion, is the inability to constructively disagree in the United States...

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Driven from the top down: that is, leaders set an example people follow	76	71	83	77	64
Driven from the bottom up: that is, leaders are just following behaviors people already have	21	27	15	20	28
Skipped	3	1	2	2	8

6. In general, do you think America deals with disagreements in a mostly constructive or mostly destructive way?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Mostly constructive	2	2	1	2	2
More constructive than destructive	8	8	7	10	7
Neither constructive nor destructive	21	19	21	18	26
More destructive than constructive	51	52	54	53	39
Mostly destructive	17	18	16	17	20
Skipped	1	1	*	1	5
Total Constructive	10	10	8	12	9
Total Destructive	69	70	71	70	59

7. Over the last ten years, do you think America has become more constructive or more destructive in how it deals with disagreements?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
More constructive	5	5	5	5	8
Stay the same	19	17	19	16	28
More destructive	74	77	76	78	60
Skipped	1	1	1	1	4

8. In the next ten years, do you think America will become more constructive or more destructive in how it deals with disagreements?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
More constructive	22	21	26	20	15
Stay the same	38	37	37	36	42
More destructive	39	41	35	43	39
Skipped	2	1	2	1	4



9. In general, do you think the following promote mostly constructive or mostly destructive public discussion and debate?

Summary	Total		Republican		Democrat		Independent		Apolitical	
	Total Constructive	Total Destructive	Total Constructive	Total Destructive	Total Constructive	Total Destructive	Total Constructive	Total Destructive	Total Constructive	Total Destructive
Journalism and news media	16	59	7	84	28	38	14	65	9	54
Social media	8	74	6	83	11	68	6	79	10	60
National political leaders	7	78	7	79	8	78	5	86	9	63
Local political leaders	22	44	20	47	26	40	22	47	14	44
Religious leaders	33	27	49	17	26	33	30	28	20	28
Ordinary people	34	23	38	25	34	21	32	23	30	24
Organized labor	25	28	19	41	34	18	21	34	22	22
Business leaders	23	33	31	26	20	38	23	33	18	35



9. In general, do you think the following promote mostly constructive or mostly destructive public discussion and debate?

Journalism and news media	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Mostly constructive	4	3	5	4	4
More constructive than destructive	12	4	23	11	5
Neither constructive nor destructive	23	9	33	21	31
More destructive than constructive	32	35	30	34	29
Mostly destructive	27	50	8	32	25
Skipped	2	1	1	-	6
Total Constructive	16	7	28	14	9
Total Destructive	61	85	40	65	60

9. In general, do you think the following promote mostly constructive or mostly destructive public discussion and debate?

Social media	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Mostly constructive	2	2	2	2	2
More constructive than destructive	6	4	9	4	8
Neither constructive nor destructive	16	10	20	13	24
More destructive than constructive	41	42	42	46	31
Mostly destructive	32	42	25	34	29
Skipped	2	1	1	1	6
Total Constructive	8	6	11	6	10
Total Destructive	75	84	69	81	66

National political leaders	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Mostly constructive	2	2	2	*	3
More constructive than destructive	6	5	7	5	6
Neither constructive nor destructive	13	12	12	9	23
More destructive than constructive	45	47	48	45	35
Mostly destructive	33	32	31	41	28
Skipped	2	1	2	*	5
Total Constructive	7	7	8	5	9
Total Destructive	80	80	80	86	68

Local political leaders	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Mostly constructive	4	3	5	3	4
More constructive than destructive	18	17	21	19	11
Neither constructive nor destructive	33	32	33	31	35
More destructive than constructive	29	29	28	33	24
Mostly destructive	15	17	12	14	20
Skipped	2	1	1	1	7
Total Constructive	22	20	26	22	14
Total Destructive	46	48	42	47	51

Religious leaders	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Mostly constructive	11	17	9	9	7
More constructive than destructive	22	32	17	21	13
Neither constructive nor destructive	39	33	39	41	45
More destructive than constructive	16	11	19	17	15
Mostly destructive	11	6	14	11	14
Skipped	2	1	1	*	6
Total Constructive	33	49	26	30	20
Total Destructive	29	18	35	29	35

9. In general, do you think the following promote mostly constructive or mostly destructive public discussion and debate?

Ordinary people	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Mostly constructive	7	10	8	4	5
More constructive than destructive	27	28	26	28	25
Neither constructive nor destructive	41	35	44	44	41
More destructive than constructive	19	23	18	16	18
Mostly destructive	4	3	4	7	6
Skipped	2	1	1	1	5
Total Constructive	34	38	34	32	30
Total Destructive	25	27	23	24	29

Organized labor	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Mostly constructive	5	4	9	3	4
More constructive than destructive	20	15	25	18	17
Neither constructive nor destructive	45	40	47	44	51
More destructive than constructive	19	26	13	24	13
Mostly destructive	9	14	5	10	9
Skipped	2	1	1	1	6
Total Constructive	25	19	34	21	22
Total Destructive	30	41	20	35	28

Business leaders	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Mostly constructive	4	6	2	4	3
More constructive than destructive	20	25	18	19	15
Neither constructive nor destructive	42	43	40	43	42
More destructive than constructive	25	20	30	25	22
Mostly destructive	8	6	9	8	13
Skipped	2	1	1	1	6
Total Constructive	23	31	20	23	18
Total Destructive	35	27	39	34	40

10. When you talk about politics or the government with family or friends, are those conversations...

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Mostly constructive	12	15	12	10	6
More constructive than destructive	18	19	23	20	4
Neither constructive nor destructive	27	25	27	29	27
More destructive than constructive	10	8	10	10	10
Mostly destructive	2	2	3	1	2
I don't talk about politics or the government with family or friends	30	31	25	29	47
Skipped	1	1	*	1	4
Total Constructive	30	33	35	30	10
Total Destructive	12	10	13	11	12

11. Have destructive partisan disagreements and divisiveness directly affected your life?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Yes	29	26	37	29	10
No	45	52	38	48	43
Don't know	26	21	24	22	44
Skipped	1	1	*	1	3

12. How have destructive partisan disagreements and divisiveness affected your life? (Select all the apply)

<i>Base: Partisan disagreements/divisiveness has directed affected life</i>	Total (N=479)	Republican (N=128)	Democrat (N=214)	Independent (N=115)	Apolitical (N=22)
Lost or had serious fight with friends or family	35	34	39	34	19
Had problems at work	8	10	7	7	12
Experienced depression, anxiety or sadness	40	30	48	34	42
Prompted you to get more involved in civic and political life	16	13	21	11	11
Prompted you to avoid getting involved in civic and political life	31	38	23	41	31
Caused you to pay more attention to political news and commentary	48	45	57	38	31
Caused you to avoid political news and commentary	42	46	36	52	44
Other	7	9	3	11	8
Skipped	1	2	-	-	12



13. Do you think each of the following has more to gain or more to lose from partisan disagreements and divisiveness in America?

Summary	Total		Republican		Democrat		Independent		Apolitical	
	More to gain	More to lose	More to gain	More to lose	More to gain	More to lose	More to gain	More to lose	More to gain	More to lose
Journalism and news media	44	27	50	33	41	24	49	28	35	17
Social media	38	29	38	33	39	28	43	29	30	21
National political leaders	39	40	36	46	43	39	39	42	33	29
Local political leaders	30	41	28	46	31	42	31	41	28	28
Religious leaders	22	35	15	45	28	30	23	39	20	21
Ordinary people	10	63	8	66	13	66	6	69	13	41
Organized labor	22	43	25	42	22	46	22	46	17	32
Business leaders	28	41	24	50	35	37	24	43	25	27

Journalism and news media	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
More to gain	44	50	41	49	35
More to lose	27	33	24	28	17
Makes no difference	27	15	33	22	42
Skipped	2	2	1	1	7

Social media	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
More to gain	38	38	39	43	30
More to lose	29	33	28	29	21
Makes no difference	31	27	31	26	42
Skipped	2	2	1	2	7

13. Do you think each of the following has more to gain or more to lose from partisan disagreements and divisiveness in America?

National political leaders	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
More to gain	39	36	43	39	33
More to lose	40	46	39	42	29
Makes no difference	19	16	16	18	31
Skipped	2	2	2	1	7

Local political leaders	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
More to gain	30	28	31	31	28
More to lose	41	46	42	41	28
Makes no difference	27	23	26	27	39
Skipped	2	3	1	1	5

Religious leaders	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
More to gain	22	15	28	23	20
More to lose	35	45	30	39	21
Makes no difference	40	38	41	37	50
Skipped	2	2	1	1	8

Ordinary people	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
More to gain	10	8	13	6	12
More to lose	63	66	66	69	41
Makes no difference	25	24	20	24	39
Skipped	2	2	1	1	7

Organized labor	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
More to gain	22	25	22	22	17
More to lose	43	42	46	46	32
Makes no difference	33	30	31	31	44
Skipped	3	3	1	2	8

Business leaders	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
More to gain	28	24	35	24	25
More to lose	41	50	37	43	27
Makes no difference	29	24	26	32	41
Skipped	3	3	2	1	8

14. Regarding ordinary people who identify as Democrats, what percent do you think are...?

Approachable <i>Base: Sample A</i>	Total (N=780)	Republican (N=232)	Democrat (N=257)	Independent (N=187)	Apolitical (N=104)
None 0%	3	6	-	2	5
10%	5	9	1	4	7
20%	6	13	1	4	4
30%	7	12	5	4	4
40%	10	13	7	10	9
50%	19	14	17	19	31
60%	10	6	14	9	9
70%	11	4	18	13	4
80%	13	6	20	16	4
90%	6	5	8	6	3
All 100%	3	1	5	1	4
Skipped	9	11	3	12	17
Mean	53.84	40.74	64.87	55.92	47.52

Unapproachable <i>Base: Sample B</i>	Total (N=768)	Republican (N=234)	Democrat (N=276)	Independent (N=172)	Apolitical (N=86)
None 0%	4	4	3	2	7
10%	10	5	15	9	4
20%	11	7	14	15	6
30%	11	12	12	8	11
40%	10	9	9	10	16
50%	14	12	11	19	22
60%	8	8	6	11	9
70%	8	10	6	7	8
80%	6	9	5	5	2
90%	5	9	4	5	2
All 100%	3	4	4	1	1
Skipped	11	11	11	8	13
Mean	44.7	52	40.41	44.08	42.53

15. Regarding ordinary people who identify as Republicans, what percent do you think are...?

Approachable <i>Base: Sample A</i>	Total (N=780)	Republican (N=232)	Democrat (N=257)	Independent (N=187)	Apolitical (N=104)
None 0%	3	1	6	1	5
10%	5	1	7	6	7
20%	6	1	11	7	1
30%	9	2	15	12	5
40%	8	4	12	8	10
50%	10	6	16	9	10
60%	8	9	6	11	8
70%	12	21	6	10	11
80%	9	19	3	9	3
90%	7	15	2	10	4
All 100%	3	6	-	3	4
Skipped	19	17	17	17	32
Mean	52.94	71.56	37.86	53.71	50.00

Unapproachable <i>Base: Sample B</i>	Total (N=768)	Republican (N=234)	Democrat (N=276)	Independent (N=172)	Apolitical (N=86)
None 0%	5	7	4	2	7
10%	12	16	9	14	7
20%	11	15	9	12	8
30%	10	14	9	12	2
40%	8	7	8	7	10
50%	7	6	7	9	7
60%	7	5	7	11	5
70%	10	6	13	9	9
80%	8	6	10	5	8
90%	5	2	7	4	3
All 100%	2	2	2	1	3
Skipped	17	14	15	15	31
Mean	43.56	35.92	49.15	42.33	46.15

16. Regarding ordinary people who identify as Democrats, what percent do you think are...?

Misguided but worth trying to find common ground with	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
None 0%	4	5	4	3	7
10%	8	7	11	8	3
20%	9	8	10	11	6
30%	8	8	10	7	6
40%	4	3	6	4	4
50%	17	14	16	19	19
60%	9	11	8	9	11
70%	8	9	7	8	5
80%	5	6	7	3	3
90%	4	7	3	5	2
All 100%	3	4	3	3	3
Skipped	19	17	16	18	32
Mean	46.45	49.93	44.3	45.98	45.51

17. Regarding ordinary people who identify as Republicans, what percent do you think are...?

Misguided but worth trying to find common ground with	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
None 0%	5	6	4	4	7
10%	8	14	6	7	4
20%	8	11	8	6	6
30%	11	11	12	8	11
40%	8	5	9	10	8
50%	9	8	10	10	10
60%	8	8	8	8	8
70%	7	7	8	9	2
80%	4	4	5	4	3
90%	5	4	7	3	2
All 100%	3	3	3	2	4
Skipped	24	18	20	28	36
Mean	44.22	40.07	47.8	45.04	41.97

18. Regarding ordinary people who identify as Democrats, what percent do you think are...?

So extreme you can't imagine finding common ground with them	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
None 0%	6	4	7	5	7
10%	17	9	27	15	10
20%	13	10	16	15	9
30%	9	8	9	13	7
40%	5	5	5	5	7
50%	6	4	5	9	10
60%	5	5	5	5	5
70%	6	11	3	6	4
80%	5	10	2	5	2
90%	5	12	2	5	2
All 100%	3	7	1	1	3
Skipped	19	16	18	15	33
Mean	38.83	54.08	27.49	37.94	37.54

19. Regarding ordinary people who identify as Republicans, what percent do you think are...?

So extreme you can't imagine finding common ground with them	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
None 0%	6	10	3	4	7
10%	16	27	7	19	10
20%	13	17	10	14	10
30%	5	4	7	6	4
40%	6	4	8	6	8
50%	10	9	10	11	12
60%	6	3	8	6	7
70%	5	3	8	6	2
80%	6	4	11	4	3
90%	5	1	8	5	3
All 100%	4	1	5	4	4
Skipped	17	16	13	15	30
Mean	40.8	27.03	51.87	39.99	40.41

20. Which of the following do you rely on most to understand the views of ordinary people who identify as Democrats?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
News media	18	15	24	19	9
Social media	5	4	7	4	7
Knowing people who are Democrats	28	27	32	32	11
The views of family/friend/coworkers	12	12	12	12	9
National political leaders	6	7	7	6	2
Don't really have a good way to understand the views of Democrats	24	31	11	23	43
Other	5	3	6	3	14
Skipped	2	2	1	1	6

21. Which of the following do you rely on most to understand the views of ordinary people who identify as Republicans?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
News media	17	12	25	17	9
Social media	5	3	6	4	8
Knowing people who are Republicans	29	47	21	33	10
The views of family/friend/coworkers	12	18	8	14	9
National political leaders	9	8	13	6	5
Don't really have a good way to understand the views of Republicans	21	8	23	24	39
Other	5	3	4	3	14
Skipped	1	1	1	1	5

22. How important is it for the United States to try to reduce divisiveness?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Very important	65	62	70	73	43
Somewhat important	27	31	24	22	35
Not too important	5	4	4	4	13
Not at all important	2	2	2	*	3
Skipped	2	2	*	*	6
Total Important	92	93	94	95	78
Total Not Important	7	6	6	4	16

23. Do you support or oppose the following ideas or policies as ways to reduce divisiveness or destructive disagreements in the United States?

Summary	Total		Republican		Democrat		Independent		Apolitical	
	Total Support	Total Oppose	Total Support	Total Oppose	Total Support	Total Oppose	Total Support	Total Oppose	Total Support	Total Oppose
Stronger government regulation of social media to make it less negative	38	31	42	35	41	27	35	37	30	24
Stronger government regulation of news organization to stop misinformation	50	25	59	23	47	28	49	30	42	12
Shifting more decisions from the federal to the local level where politics are less partisan	55	11	63	8	53	15	61	10	37	9
Teaching children to resolve their conflicts more constructively	85	3	88	3	89	2	86	3	68	4
Teaching adults how to talk about issues more constructively	77	5	78	3	82	5	80	3	57	9
Diminishing economic inequality	55	17	33	30	76	7	55	19	44	13
Making religion a bigger factor in American life	36	30	60	11	25	43	31	33	24	28
Making it easier for third-party and independent candidates to run for office so voters have more than just two choices	65	8	60	11	67	8	78	5	52	7
Requiring young people to do a year of national service working together with Americans from different backgrounds	46	21	43	25	51	18	47	20	37	18

23. Do you support or oppose the following ideas or policies as ways to reduce divisiveness or destructive disagreements in the United States?

Stronger government regulation of social media to make it less negative	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Strongly support	17	19	18	16	14
Somewhat support	21	22	23	19	16
Neither support nor oppose	29	22	31	27	39
Somewhat oppose	13	14	13	14	10
Strongly oppose	18	21	14	23	14
Skipped	2	2	1	1	7
Total Support	38	42	41	35	30
Total Oppose	31	35	27	37	24

Stronger government regulation of news organization to stop misinformation	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Strongly support	26	34	22	25	20
Somewhat support	25	25	25	24	22
Neither support nor oppose	23	17	24	20	38
Somewhat oppose	10	9	11	11	5
Strongly oppose	15	14	17	19	7
Skipped	2	1	1	1	7
Total Support	50	59	47	49	42
Total Oppose	25	23	28	30	12

Shifting more decisions from the federal to the local level where politics are less partisan	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Strongly support	19	25	15	23	10
Somewhat support	36	38	38	38	27
Neither support nor oppose	32	28	31	28	48
Somewhat oppose	8	6	11	7	4
Strongly oppose	4	2	4	4	6
Skipped	2	1	1	1	6
Total Support	55	63	53	61	37
Total Oppose	11	8	15	10	9

23. Do you support or oppose the following ideas or policies as ways to reduce divisiveness or destructive disagreements in the United States?

Teaching children to resolve their conflicts more constructively	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Strongly support	64	62	70	68	48
Somewhat support	21	26	19	19	20
Neither support nor oppose	11	8	8	10	22
Somewhat oppose	2	2	1	1	1
Strongly oppose	1	*	1	2	3
Skipped	2	1	1	1	6
Total Support	85	88	89	86	68
Total Oppose	3	3	2	3	4

Teaching adults how to talk about issues more constructively	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Strongly support	47	46	51	50	34
Somewhat support	30	33	31	30	23
Neither support nor oppose	17	17	12	16	27
Somewhat oppose	3	2	3	2	4
Strongly oppose	2	1	1	1	5
Skipped	2	1	1	1	7
Total Support	77	78	82	80	57
Total Oppose	5	3	5	3	9

Diminishing economic inequality	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Strongly support	33	14	52	31	24
Somewhat support	22	20	24	24	19
Neither support nor oppose	26	35	16	25	37
Somewhat oppose	10	16	5	12	7
Strongly oppose	7	14	2	7	6
Skipped	2	1	1	1	6
Total Support	55	33	76	55	44
Total Oppose	17	30	7	19	13

23. Do you support or oppose the following ideas or policies as ways to reduce divisiveness or destructive disagreements in the United States?

Making religion a bigger factor in American life	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Strongly support	19	34	14	14	12
Somewhat support	16	26	11	16	12
Neither support nor oppose	32	27	31	36	40
Somewhat oppose	9	5	13	7	9
Strongly oppose	21	6	30	26	19
Skipped	2	1	1	1	7
Total Support	36	60	25	31	24
Total Oppose	30	11	43	33	28

Making it easier for third-party and independent candidates to run for office so voters have more than just two choices	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Strongly support	35	25	33	55	26
Somewhat support	31	35	34	23	26
Neither support nor oppose	25	28	23	16	35
Somewhat oppose	5	7	6	3	4
Strongly oppose	3	4	3	1	3
Skipped	2	2	1	1	6
Total Support	65	60	67	78	52
Total Oppose	8	11	8	5	7

Requiring young people to do a year of national service working together with Americans from different backgrounds	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Strongly support	19	17	22	22	13
Somewhat support	26	26	28	25	24
Neither support nor oppose	32	31	30	32	38
Somewhat oppose	10	13	10	7	8
Strongly oppose	11	13	8	13	10
Skipped	2	1	1	1	6
Total Support	46	43	51	47	37
Total Oppose	21	25	18	20	18

24. Have you ever done each of the following?

Summary	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
	Total Yes	Total Yes	Total Yes	Total Yes	Total Yes
Call people out when they are rude, disrespectful, or destructive	76	78	78	79	64
Consider changing the way you use or behave on social media	45	40	51	45	40
Post your opinions about politics on social media	35	34	40	31	28
Share stories on social media that make you angry	39	38	41	38	36
Watch the news from an outlet with different political views than yours	74	75	78	80	53
Talk in-person about politics or government with friends and/or family	79	83	82	83	57
Argue with people who have different political views than you	59	59	64	63	39
Have a constructive conversation with someone who has different political views than you	79	80	83	85	59
Work together to try to solve a problem in your community with someone who has different political views than you	55	53	57	59	48

Call people out when they are rude, disrespectful, or destructive	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Yes, often	13	12	14	13	11
Yes, sometimes	34	31	38	37	27
Yes, but hardly ever	29	35	27	29	26
No, never	22	22	21	20	29
Skipped	2	1	1	1	6
Total Yes	76	78	78	79	64

24. Have you ever done each of the following?

Consider changing the way you use or behave on social media	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Yes, often	10	7	13	12	8
Yes, sometimes	20	18	23	19	18
Yes, but hardly ever	15	15	15	14	14
No, never	53	58	48	54	53
Skipped	2	1	1	1	7
Total Yes	45	40	51	45	40

Post your opinions about politics on social media	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Yes, often	6	5	8	6	4
Yes, sometimes	12	11	15	9	8
Yes, but hardly ever	17	18	17	16	17
No, never	63	64	59	68	64
Skipped	2	1	1	1	8
Total Yes	35	34	40	31	28

Share stories on social media that make you angry	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Yes, often	4	3	7	3	3
Yes, sometimes	16	16	18	13	14
Yes, but hardly ever	19	20	16	22	19
No, never	59	60	57	61	58
Skipped	2	1	2	1	6
Total Yes	39	38	41	38	36

Watch the news from an outlet with different political views than yours	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Yes, often	11	11	8	17	10
Yes, sometimes	33	35	34	38	22
Yes, but hardly ever	30	29	35	26	22
No, never	24	23	21	19	40
Skipped	2	1	1	1	7
Total Yes	74	75	78	80	53

Talk in-person about politics or government with friends and/or family	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Yes, often	17	17	22	16	8
Yes, sometimes	33	35	36	36	15
Yes, but hardly ever	29	31	24	31	35
No, never	19	16	17	17	36
Skipped	2	2	1	1	7
Total Yes	79	83	82	83	57

24. Have you ever done each of the following?

Argue with people who have different political views than you	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Yes, often	4	4	5	4	2
Yes, sometimes	20	18	24	21	12
Yes, but hardly ever	35	37	35	38	24
No, never	39	40	35	36	54
Skipped	2	1	1	*	6
Total Yes	59	59	64	63	39

Have a constructive conversation with someone who has different political views than you	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Yes, often	10	10	10	12	6
Yes, sometimes	36	34	39	42	22
Yes, but hardly ever	34	36	34	31	31
No, never	19	19	16	14	33
Skipped	2	1	1	1	7
Total Yes	79	80	83	85	59

Work together to try to solve a problem in your community with someone who has different political views than you	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Yes, often	7	5	8	8	6
Yes, sometimes	25	23	26	27	22
Yes, but hardly ever	24	25	24	25	20
No, never	43	46	41	40	45
Skipped	2	1	1	1	7
Total Yes	55	53	57	59	48

25. How much attention, if at all, are you paying to the presidential campaigns and upcoming election?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
A great deal	31	36	37	31	7
Some	30	29	33	34	21
A little	23	22	22	22	27
None at all	15	13	8	12	39
Skipped	1	1	*	1	5
Total Attention (a great deal + some)	61	64	69	65	29
Total No Attention (a little + none at all)	37	35	30	34	66

26. How important is it to you that the candidate you vote for actively works toward unifying the country and making it less divisive?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Very important	56	47	69	58	41
Somewhat important	33	41	25	33	35
Not too important	7	8	4	7	10
Not at all important	2	3	1	1	6
Skipped	2	1	*	2	8
Total Important	89	88	94	91	76
Total Not Important	9	11	6	8	16

27. Which, if any, of the current Democratic and Republican candidates for president do you think is most likely to unify the country and make it less divisive?

Joe Biden
 Cory Booker
 Pete Buttigieg
 Julian Castro
 Kamala Harris
 Amy Klobuchar
 Beto O'Rourke
 Bernie Sanders
 Mark Sanford
 Donald Trump
 Andrew Yang
 Elizabeth Warren
 Other
 None of the candidates
 Skipped

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28. So far, would you say the current presidential campaign process is...

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Bringing out the best in Americans	6	8	5	4	5
Bringing out the worst in Americans	43	44	40	51	34
Both of these	49	46	54	44	54
Skipped	2	1	1	1	7

29. Regarding the current presidential campaigns, do you think the candidates overall are campaigning in a more destructive or constructive fashion?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Apolitical
Mostly constructive	3	2	5	2	3
More constructive than destructive	16	4	28	14	10
Neither constructive nor destructive	28	17	36	24	39
More destructive than constructive	37	53	24	42	27
Mostly destructive	14	21	6	18	14
Skipped	2	2	1	1	7
Total Constructive	19	6	33	16	13
Total Destructive	50	74	29	60	41

30. If you thought the opposing party's presidential candidate had the best shot at unifying the country, how tempted would you be to vote for him or her?

<i>Base: Self-identifying Republican or Democrat</i>	Total (N=999)	Republican (N=466)	Democrat (N=533)	Independent (N=0)	Apolitical (N=0)
Very tempted	17	17	17	-	-
Somewhat tempted	26	21	30	-	-
A little tempted	24	25	24	-	-
Not at all tempted	32	36	28	-	-
Skipped	1	1	1	-	-
Total Tempted (very + somewhat)	43	38	47	-	-
Total Not Tempted (a little + not at all)	56	61	52	-	-

31. Would you vote for a Republican candidate even if they were running a divisive campaign?

<i>Base: Self-identifying Republicans</i>	Total (N=466)	Republican (N=466)	Democrat (N=0)	Independent (N=0)	Apolitical (N=0)
Yes	24	24	-	-	-
No	19	19	-	-	-
Don't know	55	55	-	-	-
Skipped	1	1	-	-	-

32. Would you vote for a Democrat candidate even if they were running a divisive campaign?

<i>Base: Self-identifying Democrats</i>	Total (N=533)	Republican (N=0)	Democrat (N=533)	Independent (N=0)	Apolitical (N=0)
Yes	19	-	19	-	-
No	28	-	28	-	-
Don't know	51	-	51	-	-
Skipped	1	-	1	-	-



Methodology

This Public Agenda/USA Today/Ipsos survey was conducted October 14th to 21st, 2019 by Ipsos Public Affairs KnowledgePanel® – a division of Ipsos. This poll was based on a nationally-representative probability sample of adults age 18 or older (n=1,548)

The survey was conducted using the web-enabled KnowledgePanel®, which is the largest and most well-established online panel that is representative of the adult US population. Our recruitment process employs a scientifically developed addressed-based sampling methodology using the latest Delivery Sequence File of the USPS – a database with full coverage of all delivery points in the US. Households are randomly selected from all available households in the U.S. Persons in these households are invited to join and participate in the web-enabled KnowledgePanel®. For those potential panel members who do not already have internet access, Ipsos provides a tablet and internet connection at no cost to the panel member. Those who join the panel and who are selected to participate in a survey are sent a unique password-protected log-in used to complete surveys online. As a result of our recruitment and sampling methods, samples from KnowledgePanel cover all households regardless of their phone or internet status and provide fully representative online samples to the research community.

The survey was weighted to adjust for gender by age, race, education, Census region by metropolitan status, household income and language proficiency. The above weights for KnowledgePanel respondents were then raked to the geodemographic distributions of the 18 and over adult population. The needed benchmarks were obtained from the 2018 March Supplement of the Current Population Survey (CPS). Moreover, we used the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS) to obtain language proficiency benchmarks to adjust weights for Hispanic respondents.

- Gender (Male and Female) by Age (18-29, 30-44, 45-59, 60+)
- Race-Ethnicity (White/Non-Hispanic, Black/Non-Hispanic, Other/Non-Hispanic, Hispanic, 2+ Races/Non-Hispanic)
- Census Region (Northeast, Midwest, South, and West) by Metropolitan Status (Metro and Non-Metro)
- Education (Less than High School, High School, Some College, Bachelor or Higher)
- Household Income (Under \$25K, \$25K-\$49,999, \$50K-\$74,999, \$75K-\$99,999, \$100K-\$149,999, \$150K and Over)
- Language Proficiency (Non-Hispanic, English Proficient Hispanic, Bilingual Hispanic, Spanish Proficient Hispanic)

The margin of sampling error among the total sample of adults age 18 or older is plus or minus 2.6 percentage points at the 95% confidence level, the Republican sample is plus or minus 4.7 percentage points, the Democrat sample is plus or minus 4.5 percentage points, the Independent sample is plus or minus 5.5 percentage points, and the Apolitical sample is plus or minus 7.5 percentage points. The margin of sampling error takes into account the design effect, which was plus or minus 2.63 percentage points. The margin of sampling error is higher and varies for results based on sub-samples. In our reporting of the findings, percentage points are rounded off to the nearest whole number. As a result, percentages in a given table column may total slightly higher or lower than 100%. In questions that permit multiple responses, columns may total substantially more than 100%, depending on the number of different responses offered by each respondent.