

METHODOLOGY AND TOPLINE

GREATER VOICE, GREATER IMPACT: Americans' Views on Making Democracy Work for Everyone

Public Agenda

National General Public Survey

Fielded November 6 to December 28,
2019

Data collected by Wiese Research
Group

Released July 2020

<https://www.publicagenda.org/reports/greater-voice-greater-impact/>

The survey results below appear in the Public Agenda report “Greater Voice, Greater Impact: Americans’ Views on Making Democracy Work for Everyone.” The data are based on a nationally representative survey of 1,000 American adults 18 and older. All interviews were conducted from November 6 to December 28, 2019. All 1,000 interviews were included in the analysis. The survey was conducted by telephone, including cellphones, and online. Respondents completed the surveys in English.

The Kettering Foundation served as a collaborator in this research. The survey was fielded by Wiese Research Group (WRG). Public Agenda designed the survey instrument and analyzed the data. When using the data, please cite Public Agenda.

The survey

This study used a multimodal design. Data were collected via telephone interviews, including cellphone interviews, and online. A total of 750 interviews were conducted by phone and 250 were completed online. Using the questionnaire designed by Public Agenda, WRG programmed the survey for both computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) and online administration.

In an attempt to interview a representative sample of adults in the United States, quota sampling was employed. Target quotas were established based on population statistics by census region and within each region by state, age, gender and race/ethnicity.

Phone sample

Phone samples were drawn from a variety of list types obtained from Marketing Systems Group. These sample list types included RDD (random digit dial), listed household landline, enhanced cell, age-targeted landline and cell and samples targeted to enhance the probability of reaching black and Hispanic respondents. About 75 percent of the phone interviews were completed with respondents reached by cellphone and 25 percent were completed with respondents reached by landline.

Web sample

An opt-in, nonprobability online panel was used after the phone sampling was completed to aid in coming as close as possible to achieving the desired demographic quotas that were established based on census benchmarks. Dynata provided the panel members for the online phase. The online panel included residents of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Before anyone was invited to participate, Dynata used a variety of proprietary and third-party methods to validate the respondents' identities and confirm humanity, then contacted potential respondents via app-alert notifications and emails.

Fielding

The survey was designed to be compatible with web and phone interviews. Respondents to both could refuse to answer any question. Questions that allowed the telephone respondent to volunteer "Don't know" as a response included "Don't know" as an explicit response category in the web version.

Before the fielding period, the survey was programmed using CATI software. This software was used to produce both a web and a CATI version of the survey. WRG and members of Public Agenda's research team checked the programs extensively to ensure skip patterns followed the design of the questionnaire.

The fielding period for this survey was November 6 to December 28, 2019. Telephone interviewers received both written materials on the survey and formal training. These included information about the goals of the study, detailed explanations of why questions were being asked, the meaning and pronunciations of key terms and pointers on potential obstacles to be overcome in getting good answers to questions and respondent problems that could be anticipated, as well as strategies for addressing potential problems.

At the outset of fielding, a Public Agenda staff member reviewed a set of recorded interviews. Following the review, the wordings of a few questions were modified slightly. Interviewers were monitored throughout the fielding period and were given feedback, when appropriate, to improve their interview technique and to clarify survey questions.

Within each landline household, a single respondent was selected based on gender/age quotas still open for that region, with callbacks scheduled if the desired adult was not available. Since cellphones were treated as individual devices and the interview might take place outside the respondent's home, each cellphone interview was conducted with the person answering the phone.

The phone survey response rate was 2.9 percent overall, using the American Association for Public Opinion Research Response Rate 4 formula. The response rate was 3.2 percent for the combined landline samples and 2.7 percent for the combined cell samples.

Once the phone survey phase was completed, invitations to complete the web survey were sent directly to panel members by Dynata, which accessed the survey via email and text message invitations as well as in-app alerts. Online survey responses included 703 who clicked on the invitation or link. Of those, 237 screened out of the survey (six did not qualify and 231 fell into demographic quotas that were full). Another 77 started but did not complete the survey, 139 completed but were omitted because they did not meet the quality criteria, leaving 250 usable surveys completed online.

Weighting

The final data were weighted to balance the sample to known national population parameters based on U.S. Census Bureau data for each of the four census regions and to correct for systematic under- or overrepresentation of key demographics. Quotas were met for each region and state, and therefore no additional weighting by geography was required to achieve a nationally representative sample of the United States.

The maximum standard error range (margin of error) for the total weighted sample is +/-3.1 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level. It is higher, however, for questions that were not asked of all respondents and for subgroup results.

Presurvey focus groups

Before developing the survey instrument, Public Agenda conducted three demographically diverse focus groups in June and July 2019 with adults 18 and older in New Rochelle, New York; Jackson, Mississippi; and Cincinnati, Ohio.

More information about this study can be obtained at <https://www.publicagenda.org/reports/greater-voice-greater-impact/> or by emailing research@publicagenda.org.

FULL SURVEY RESULTS

This topline indicates total and subgroup sample sizes for each question. A survey result of less than 0.5 percent is signified by an asterisk, and a result of zero is signified by a dash.

Unless otherwise stated, “Don’t know” and “Refused” are responses volunteered by participants that were not explicitly offered to them. Responses may not always total 100 percent due to rounding.

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
SQ2. May I please have your age? (Base: Total Sample)				
18 to 24	13%	7%	15%	20%
25 to 34	17%	15%	19%	18%
35 to 44	17%	13%	18%	23%
45 to 54	19%	22%	17%	18%
55 to 64	15%	23%	12%	11%
65 to 74	9%	9%	11%	5%
75 or above	8%	9%	7%	5%
Refused	1%	1%	1%	-
Under 18	-	-	-	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
SQ3. Do you consider yourself to be ... (Base: Total Sample)(Total Mentions/5 Replies)				
White	60%	79%	51%	48%
Black or African-American	18%	8%	25%	21%
Hispanic or Latino	15%	10%	18%	21%
Asian	7%	5%	7%	9%
Something else	6%	3%	4%	11%
Refused	2%	1%	1%	2%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
SQ4. What is your gender? (Base: Total Sample)				
Male	49%	59%	38%	59%
Female	51%	41%	62%	41%
Refused	-	-	-	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
Q1. The United States is meant to be a democracy, where citizens have a voice, rights are protected, and laws are fairly enforced. These days, would you say that our country's democracy is: (Base: Total Sample)				
In crisis	39%	28%	50%	35%
Facing serious challenges but not in crisis	41%	41%	41%	47%
Doing well	16%	27%	7%	12%
Don't know	4%	3%	2%	3%
Refused	1%	1%	*	3%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q3. And would you say this is likely to: (Base: Those who say our country's democracy is in crisis or facing serious challenges or doing well)				
Get better in the next few years	31%	35%	31%	19%
Get worse in the next few years	35%	31%	35%	48%
Stay the same	21%	23%	19%	22%
Don't know	12%	11%	13%	10%
Refused	1%	1%	1%	2%
	n=952	n=355	n=415	n=129
Q36. Do you think the design and structure of our nation's government...? (Base: Total Sample)				
Is fine as long as we elect the right people to represent us	52%	61%	50%	42%
Needs significant change no matter who we elect to represent us	40%	33%	43%	47%
Don't know	4%	3%	3%	7%
Depends	3%	2%	3%	2%
Refused	1%	1%	1%	2%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
Q37A. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why you think our nation's government needs significant change: So that ordinary people can have more of a voice? (Base: Those who think the design and structure of our government needs significant change no matter who we elect to represent us)				
Is a MAJOR reason	69%	66%	75%	55%
MINOR reason	22%	20%	18%	36%
NOT a reason	7%	10%	5%	9%
Don't know	3%	4%	2%	-
Refused	-	-	-	-
	n=386	n=116	n=179	n=66

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q37B. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why you think our nation's government needs significant change: So that government can solve problems more effectively? (Base: Those who think the design and structure of our government needs significant change no matter who we elect to represent us)				
Is a MAJOR reason	67%	58%	70%	72%
MINOR reason	19%	20%	18%	17%
NOT a reason	10%	16%	8%	8%
Don't know	4%	5%	2%	4%
Refused	1%	1%	1%	-
	n=386	n=116	n=179	n=66
Q37C. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why you think our nation's government needs significant change: So that individuals and businesses can solve problems without government getting involved? (Base: Those who think the design and structure of our government needs significant change no matter who we elect to represent us)				
Is a MAJOR reason	45%	71%	27%	49%
MINOR reason	33%	21%	42%	35%
NOT a reason	17%	6%	24%	13%
Don't know	5%	1%	6%	3%
Refused	*	-	1%	-
	n=386	n=116	n=179	n=66
Q38. How important is it for candidates in the upcoming elections to promise to change the design and structure of government? (Base: Those who don't think the design and structure of our government is fine as long as we elect the right people to represent us)				
Very important	46%	44%	50%	41%
Somewhat important	30%	29%	33%	32%
Not too important	8%	7%	7%	8%
Not important at all	9%	11%	6%	14%
Don't know	5%	5%	4%	3%
Refused	2%	3%	*	2%
	n=465	n=136	n=206	n=80

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q9. When it comes to problems facing communities or the nation, which of the following statements comes closer to your own view? (Base: Total Sample)				
It's mostly our responsibility as Americans to help find solutions—it's not enough to just vote and pay taxes	64%	74%	56%	65%
It's mostly the government's responsibility to find solutions—that's why we vote and pay taxes	28%	21%	37%	25%
Don't know	6%	4%	5%	8%
Refused	1%	1%	1%	2%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136

Q10. When it comes to how problems are addressed at the NATIONAL level, which of the following statements comes closer to your own view? (Base: Total Sample)				
Ordinary people have little influence over how the nation addresses problems	41%	40%	41%	47%
When enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how the nation addresses problems	55%	57%	56%	47%
Don't know	4%	2%	3%	5%
Refused	*	-	-	1%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136

Q39A. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why ordinary people have little influence over how the NATION addresses problems: Special interests dominate the political process? (Base: Those who think ordinary people have little influence over how the nation addresses problems/not already answering Q41)				
Is a MAJOR reason	76%	81%	78%	74%
MINOR reason	16%	16%	13%	23%
NOT a reason	4%	1%	8%	-
Don't know	3%	2%	2%	3%
Refused	-	-	-	-
	n=313	n=107	n=137	n=52

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q39B. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why ordinary people have little influence over how the NATION addresses problems: Ordinary people do not care enough? (Base: Those who think ordinary people have little influence over how the nation addresses problems/not already answering Q41)				
Is a MAJOR reason	36%	41%	30%	42%
MINOR reason	40%	42%	40%	43%
NOT a reason	22%	15%	28%	13%
Don't know	2%	2%	2%	1%
Refused	*	-	1%	-
	n=313	n=107	n=137	n=52
Q39C. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why ordinary people have little influence over how the NATION addresses problems: Ordinary people are too divided? (Base: Those who think ordinary people have little influence over how the nation addresses problems/not already answering Q41)				
Is a MAJOR reason	52%	50%	51%	57%
MINOR reason	29%	27%	35%	26%
NOT a reason	15%	18%	13%	15%
Don't know	3%	5%	2%	2%
Refused	-	-	-	-
	n=313	n=107	n=137	n=52
Q39D. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why ordinary people have little influence over how the NATION addresses problems: Elected leaders are out of touch with ordinary people? (Base: Those who think ordinary people have little influence over how the nation addresses problems/not already answering Q41)				
Is a MAJOR reason	79%	79%	76%	84%
MINOR reason	14%	14%	17%	13%
NOT a reason	6%	7%	7%	2%
Don't know	1%	-	-	1%
Refused	-	-	-	-
	n=313	n=107	n=137	n=52

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q40A. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why when enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how the NATION addresses problems: Ordinary people can pressure elected leaders to pay attention to them? (Base: Those who think when enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how the nation addresses problems/not already answering Q42)				
Is a MAJOR reason	63%	65%	62%	65%
MINOR reason	23%	21%	26%	15%
NOT a reason	9%	7%	10%	8%
Don't know	5%	6%	2%	12%
Refused	*	-	1%	-
	n=322	n=125	n=142	n=37
Q40B. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why when enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how the NATION addresses problems: Elected leaders care about ordinary people's opinions? (Base: Those who think when enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how the nation addresses problems/not already answering Q42)				
Is a MAJOR reason	37%	35%	38%	43%
MINOR reason	36%	35%	38%	39%
NOT a reason	22%	24%	19%	18%
Don't know	4%	4%	4%	-
Refused	1%	1%	*	-
	n=322	n=125	n=142	n=37
Q11. When it comes to how problems are addressed in COMMUNITIES, which of the following statements comes closer to your own view? (Base: Total Sample)				
Ordinary people have little influence over how their community addresses problems	22%	25%	20%	21%
When enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how their community addresses problems	74%	72%	76%	74%
Don't know	4%	2%	4%	5%
Refused	1%	*	*	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q41A. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why ordinary people have little influence over how their COMMUNITY addresses problems: Special interests dominate the political process? (Base: Those who think ordinary people have little influence over how their community addresses problems/not already answering Q39)				
Is a MAJOR reason	73%	71%	72%	84%
MINOR reason	13%	18%	11%	8%
NOT a reason	8%	5%	11%	9%
Don't know	5%	6%	6%	-
Refused	-	-	-	-
	n=157	n=69	n=60	n=22
Q41B. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why ordinary people have little influence over how their COMMUNITY addresses problems: Ordinary people do not care enough? (Base: Those who think ordinary people have little influence over how their community addresses problems/not already answering Q39)				
Is a MAJOR reason	46%	47%	42%	42%
MINOR reason	33%	27%	39%	38%
NOT a reason	18%	22%	15%	19%
Don't know	3%	4%	2%	-
Refused	1%	-	1%	-
	n=157	n=69	n=60	n=22
Q41C. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why ordinary people have little influence over how their COMMUNITY addresses problems: Ordinary people are too divided? (Base: Those who think ordinary people have little influence over how their community addresses problems/not already answering Q39)				
Is a MAJOR reason	52%	42%	64%	61%
MINOR reason	28%	33%	24%	26%
NOT a reason	16%	20%	10%	14%
Don't know	4%	5%	1%	-
Refused	-	-	-	-
	n=157	n=69	n=60	n=22

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q41D. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why ordinary people have little influence over how their COMMUNITY addresses problems: Elected leaders are out of touch with ordinary people? (Base: Those who think ordinary people have little influence over how their community addresses problems/not already answering Q39)				
Is a MAJOR reason	68%	71%	64%	80%
MINOR reason	22%	16%	31%	15%
NOT a reason	6%	7%	4%	4%
Don't know	3%	4%	1%	-
Refused	1%	1%	-	-
	n=157	n=69	n=60	n=22
Q42A. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why when enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how their COMMUNITY addresses problems: Ordinary people can pressure elected leaders to pay attention to them? (Base: Those who think when enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how their community addresses problems/not already answering Q40)				
Is a MAJOR reason	62%	66%	61%	58%
MINOR reason	26%	27%	25%	34%
NOT a reason	9%	5%	12%	7%
Don't know	4%	2%	2%	2%
Refused	-	-	-	-
	n=505	n=186	n=213	n=74
Q42B. Is the following a MAJOR reason, MINOR reason, or NOT a reason why when enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how their COMMUNITY addresses problems: Elected leaders care about ordinary people's opinions? (Base: Those who think when enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how their community addresses problems/not already answering Q40)				
Is a MAJOR reason	43%	45%	44%	34%
MINOR reason	34%	38%	33%	37%
NOT a reason	18%	14%	17%	24%
Don't know	5%	3%	5%	3%
Refused	*	1%	-	1%
	n=505	n=186	n=213	n=74

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q16. Generally speaking, how involved are you in the life of your community through such things as volunteering, joining civic groups or watching out for your neighbors – very involved, somewhat involved, not too involved, or not involved at all? (Base: Total Sample)				
Very involved	28%	32%	26%	20%
Somewhat involved	42%	48%	41%	40%
Not too involved	18%	13%	23%	22%
Not involved at all	9%	6%	9%	16%
Don't know	2%	2%	1%	1%
Refused	*	-	-	1%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
Q43A. Would the following make you MUCH MORE LIKELY to get involved, A LITTLE MORE LIKELY, or would it make NO DIFFERENCE when there is an issue in your LOCAL COMMUNITY that you feel needs to be addressed: If elected leaders worked with you to address that issue? (Base: Total Sample)				
Much more likely to get involved	52%	54%	52%	54%
A little more likely	27%	28%	29%	21%
Would make no difference	17%	16%	17%	21%
Don't know	2%	1%	2%	4%
Depends on issue	2%	1%	1%	*
Refused	-	-	-	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
Q43B. Would the following make you MUCH MORE LIKELY to get involved, A LITTLE MORE LIKELY, or would it make NO DIFFERENCE when there is an issue in your LOCAL COMMUNITY that you feel needs to be addressed: If you and your fellow community members could make the final decision about how to address the issue? (Base: Total Sample)				
Much more likely to get involved	53%	53%	52%	58%
A little more likely	27%	30%	28%	22%
Would make no difference	16%	14%	16%	18%
Don't know	2%	1%	2%	2%
Depends on issue	2%	1%	1%	*
Refused	*	*	1%	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q43C. Would the following make you MUCH MORE LIKELY to get involved, A LITTLE MORE LIKELY, or would it make NO DIFFERENCE when there is an issue in your LOCAL COMMUNITY that you feel needs to be addressed: If you could contribute your skills and experiences to addressing the issue? (Base: Total Sample)				
Much more likely to get involved	48%	47%	50%	43%
A little more likely	30%	30%	32%	27%
Would make no difference	18%	21%	14%	25%
Don't know	3%	1%	3%	4%
Depends on issue	2%	1%	1%	2%
Refused	*	-	*	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
Q43D. Would the following make you MUCH MORE LIKELY to get involved, A LITTLE MORE LIKELY, or would it make NO DIFFERENCE when there is an issue in your LOCAL COMMUNITY that you feel needs to be addressed: If the process for addressing the issue was fun and creative? (Base: Total Sample)				
Much more likely to get involved	28%	24%	33%	31%
A little more likely	26%	26%	28%	24%
Would make no difference	41%	47%	35%	40%
Don't know	3%	2%	3%	4%
Depends on issue	2%	2%	1%	1%
Refused	-	-	-	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
Q44. Which of the following statements comes closer to your view? (Base: Total Sample)				
Generally, people are too busy and overwhelmed to get involved in their communities	44%	43%	44%	48%
If people care, they will find ways to get involved in their communities no matter how busy they are	51%	54%	52%	44%
Don't know	5%	3%	4%	7%
Refused	1%	-	*	1%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q45. Which of the following statements comes closer to your view about civic and political life in the United States today? (Base: Total Sample)				
Racism can make it difficult for some Americans to participate	50%	25%	71%	50%
All Americans have an equal opportunity to participate regardless of race	46%	72%	26%	45%
Don't know	4%	3%	3%	6%
Refused	*	1%	*	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
Q46A. For the following, please tell me if you think YOUR LOCAL government should implement that system, should NOT implement that system, or you are not sure: Ordinary people develop ideas for spending tax dollars and then vote on which ideas to fund? (Base: Total Sample)				
Your local government should implement that	50%	48%	52%	51%
Should NOT implement that	17%	20%	16%	15%
Not sure	29%	28%	27%	30%
My local government already does this	2%	2%	2%	2%
Depends	3%	2%	3%	1%
Refused	1%	*	1%	1%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
Q46B. For the following, please tell me if you think YOUR LOCAL government should implement that system, should NOT implement that system, or you are not sure: Ordinary people vote directly on whether to approve laws or regulations? (Base: Total Sample)				
Your local government should implement that	54%	57%	54%	49%
Should NOT implement that	18%	19%	16%	23%
Or are you not sure	23%	19%	24%	23%
My local government already does this	3%	2%	4%	3%
Depends	3%	2%	2%	1%
Refused	*	-	-	1%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q46C. For the following, please tell me if you think YOUR LOCAL government should implement that system, should NOT implement that system, or you are not sure: A small representative group of ordinary people is appointed to study an issue and make recommendations to elected leaders? (Base: Total Sample)				
Your local government should implement that	50%	50%	54%	47%
Should NOT implement that	15%	17%	13%	15%
Or are you not sure	30%	26%	29%	34%
My local government already does this	2%	2%	2%	1%
Depends	4%	4%	2%	1%
Refused	*	*	*	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136

Q46D. For the following, please tell me if you think YOUR LOCAL government should implement that system, should NOT implement that system, or you are not sure: Ordinary people go online to share ideas for solving problems, comment on other people's ideas and prioritize their favorites? (Base: Total Sample)				
Your local government should implement that	37%	37%	37%	42%
Should NOT implement that	26%	29%	26%	21%
Or are you not sure	31%	28%	31%	34%
My local government already does this	2%	2%	2%	1%
Depends	4%	4%	4%	1%
Refused	*	1%	-	1%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q47. You indicated that your local government should implement at least one of the new systems for making decisions that I just mentioned. Which of the following is the MAIN reason why you think that? (Base: Those saying their local government should implement at least one new system for making decisions)				
To better solve local problems	30%	32%	32%	25%
To get more people involved in the community	28%	24%	33%	25%
To give people more control over government decisions	38%	43%	31%	47%
Some other reason	1%	*	1%	-
Don't know	1%	*	2%	1%
Depends	1%	*	1%	2%
Refused	*	-	*	-
	n=821	n=311	n=359	n=110

Q48. Which of the following is the MAIN reason why you are not sure or do NOT think your local government should implement any of the new systems I just mentioned? (Base: Those saying their local government should NOT implement at least one new system for making decisions)				
It would not do anything to solve local problems	17%	17%	14%	36%
Not enough people would participate	19%	22%	24%	19%
Leaders would ignore what people want	22%	23%	26%	13%
Some other reason	14%	20%	13%	11%
My local government already does this	2%	3%	2%	-
Don't know	17%	12%	15%	9%
Depends	8%	3%	5%	12%
Refused	1%	-	2%	-
	n=179	n=61	n=65	n=26

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q49A. Please tell me if you think the NATIONAL government should implement that system, should NOT implement that system, or you are not sure: Ordinary people develop ideas for spending tax dollars and then vote on which ideas to fund? (Base: Those saying their local government should implement that new system for making decisions)				
The national government should implement that	65%	67%	65%	64%
Should NOT implement that	14%	16%	14%	12%
Or are you not sure	17%	16%	17%	19%
National government already does this	1%	1%	1%	1%
Depends	2%	-	3%	3%
Refused	*	-	*	-
	n=489	n=176	n=216	n=69

Q49B. Please tell me if you think the NATIONAL government should implement that system, should NOT implement that system, or you are not sure: Ordinary people vote directly on whether to approve laws or regulations ? (Base: Those saying their local government should implement that new system for making decisions)				
The national government should implement that	62%	59%	63%	64%
Should NOT implement that	17%	19%	13%	24%
Or are you not sure	18%	19%	20%	10%
National government already does this	*	*	1%	-
Depends	2%	2%	3%	-
Refused	*	-	-	1%
	n=535	n=213	n=231	n=66

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q49C. Please tell me if you think the NATIONAL government should implement that system, should NOT implement that system, or you are not sure: A small representative group of ordinary people is appointed to study an issue and make recommendations to elected leaders? (Base: Those saying their local government should implement that new system for making decisions)				
The national government should implement that	64%	73%	58%	65%
Should NOT implement that	16%	16%	14%	18%
Or are you not sure	17%	10%	22%	13%
National government already does this	1%	-	2%	-
Depends	2%	1%	3%	2%
Refused	*	-	*	1%
	n=505	n=190	n=231	n=65
Q49D. Please tell me if you think the NATIONAL government should implement that system, should NOT implement that system, or you are not sure: Ordinary people go online to share ideas for solving problems, comment on other people's ideas and prioritize their favorites? (Base: Those saying their local government should implement that new system for making decisions)				
The national government should implement that	64%	66%	63%	62%
Should NOT implement that	15%	14%	12%	17%
Or are you not sure	19%	17%	22%	21%
National government already does this	1%	1%	1%	-
Depends	1%	1%	1%	-
Refused	-	-	-	-
	n=367	n=136	n=157	n=55
D3. What best describes the area where you live? Would you say it is urban, suburban, rural or a mix? (Base: Total Sample)				
Urban	22%	16%	25%	28%
Suburban	35%	33%	40%	31%
Rural	21%	32%	13%	13%
A mix	19%	18%	20%	23%
Don't know	2%	1%	2%	4%
Refused	*	-	*	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
D4. How long have you lived in the community where you live now? (Base: Total Sample)				
Less than 1 year	5%	3%	7%	5%
1 to 5 years	17%	14%	20%	17%
6 to 10 years	16%	14%	15%	26%
11 to 20 years	21%	19%	23%	19%
More than 20 years	40%	49%	34%	33%
Don't know	*	-	*	-
Refused	*	-	-	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
D5. Are you married, living with a partner, divorced, separated, widowed or never married? (Base: Total Sample)				
Married	52%	63%	46%	43%
Living with a partner	8%	5%	10%	11%
Divorced	7%	9%	6%	6%
Separated	2%	1%	3%	4%
Widowed	6%	5%	6%	8%
Never married	23%	16%	28%	26%
Refused	2%	1%	1%	2%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
D6. Are you the parent or guardian of a child under the age of 18, or not? (Base: Total Sample)				
Yes	31%	31%	27%	43%
No	68%	69%	73%	55%
Don't know	*	*	-	1%
Refused	*	-	-	1%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
D7. What is the last grade of school you completed? (Base: Total Sample)				
Less than high school graduate	4%	3%	4%	6%
High school graduate or GED, including technical/vocational training or certificate	22%	24%	18%	26%
Some college but no degree	22%	21%	23%	27%
Graduated from a two-year college	11%	12%	12%	8%
Graduated from a four-year college	21%	25%	21%	17%
Graduate school or more	19%	15%	23%	16%
Don't know	*	-	-	-
Refused	*	-	*	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
D8. Currently, are you yourself employed full-time, employed part-time, self-employed or not employed? (Base: Total Sample)				
Full-time	45%	47%	44%	47%
Part-time	9%	7%	9%	11%
Self-employed	11%	14%	9%	12%
Not employed	33%	30%	36%	30%
Refused	2%	2%	1%	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
D9. Are you...? (Base: Those not employed)				
Retired	51%	63%	47%	40%
A homemaker	18%	19%	15%	18%
A student	8%	2%	10%	16%
Temporarily unemployed	12%	6%	15%	15%
Disabled/handicapped	10%	9%	13%	7%
Don't know	1%	-	-	4%
Refused	*	-	*	-
	n=343	n=116	n=160	n=42

	NATIONAL	Republican/ Republican leaning	Democrat/ Democrat leaning	Independents
Q30. Is your total annual household income from all sources and before taxes less than \$50,000, \$50,000 but less than \$100,000 or over \$100,000? (Base: Total Sample)				
Less than \$50,000	32%	24%	36%	41%
\$50,000 but less than \$100,000	34%	37%	32%	33%
Over \$100,000	28%	31%	28%	24%
Don't know	1%	0%	1%	0%
Refused	5%	7%	2%	2%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
D10. In politics today, do you consider yourself...? (Base: Total Sample)				
Republican	28%	78%	-	-
Democrat	32%	-	76%	-
Independent	31%	20%	22%	100%
Other	3%	1%	1%	-
Don't know	2%	1%	1%	-
Refused	4%	-	-	-
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
D11. As of today do you lean more to the...? (Base: Those who consider themselves Independent/Other/Don't know)				
Democratic Party	29%	-	100%	-
Republican Party	22%	100%	-	-
Do not lean	46%	-	-	100%
Refused	3%	-	-	-
	n=360	n=87	n=103	n=136
STATUS (Base: Total Sample)				
Phone	75%	82%	71%	78%
Online	25%	18%	29%	22%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136
REGION (Base: Total Sample)				
Northeast	18%	14%	20%	21%
Midwest	21%	21%	21%	21%
South	37%	41%	36%	33%
West	23%	24%	23%	25%
	N=1,000	n=372	n=424	n=136