

America's Hidden Common Ground on Renewing Democracy

Public Agenda

Representative surveys of U.S. adults

Fielded May 24 to 27, 2021

Data collected by Ipsos

Released July 2021

<https://www.publicagenda.org/reports/renewing-democracy/>

Methodology and Topline

The survey results below appear in the Public Agenda report “America’s Hidden Common Ground on Strengthening Democracy” which summarizes findings from a national survey of 1,260 adult Americans ages 18 and older from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii. The survey was fielded online May 24 to 27, 2021 by Ipsos in English. The Kettering Foundation served as a collaborator in this research. This research is supported in part by the Charles Koch Institute and Civic Health Project. When referencing this report, please cite Public Agenda.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos’ online panel (see [link](#) for more info on “Access Panels and Recruitment”), partner online panel sources, and “river” sampling (see [link](#) for more info on the Ipsos “Ampario Overview” sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing a sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2018 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Posthoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, and education.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online non-probability surveys. All sample surveys and surveys may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online surveys is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the survey has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.1 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following (n=1,260, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=+/-4.6 percentage points). The survey has a credibility interval of plus or minus 5.6 percentage points for Democrats, plus or minus 6.4 percentage points for Republicans, plus or minus 6.4 percentage points for Independents, and plus or minus 7.2 percentage points for politically unaffiliated individuals.

Some questions in this survey are trended with a survey conducted September 14 to October 15, 2018, for Public Agenda by Wiese Research Associates, Inc. and released August 2019. That survey was based on a nationally-representative probability sample of adults aged 18 or older (n=1,000) and conducted over the phone and online. Further information about the 2018 survey can be found at <https://www.publicagenda.org/reports/strengthening-democracy-what-do-americans-think/>.

Some questions in this survey are trended with a survey conducted November 6 to December 28, 2019, for Public Agenda by Wiese Research Associates, Inc. and released July 2020. That survey was based on a nationally-representative probability sample of adults aged 18 or older (n=1,000) and conducted over the phone and online. Further information about the 2019 survey can be found at <https://www.publicagenda.org/reports/greater-voice-greater-impact/>.

The 2018 and 2019 surveys were fielded via telephone interviews. In 2021, the survey was fielded online. While significant changes in data points from the telephone surveys to the online survey can largely be attributed to the changing environment, switching from a phone to online approach may have also generated a mode effect. Questions that allowed telephone respondents to volunteer “Don’t know” as a response in the telephone surveys also included “Don’t know” as an explicit response category in the online survey. The topline includes this “Don’t know” option for all questions that included it as an explicit response category in the online survey. The topline denotes questions that included “Don’t know” as an explicit response category in the telephone surveys but did not include “Don’t know” in the online survey with a dash (-), indicating null or missing values. Insignificant values of less than 0.5% are indicated with an asterisk (*).

Full Annotated Questionnaire

1. 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:

| Trending | 9/14-15, 2018 | 11/6-12/28, 2019 | 5/24-27, 2021 |
|---|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| In crisis | 39% | 39% | 36% |
| Facing serious challenges but not in crisis | 42% | 41% | 50% |
| Doing well | 15% | 16% | 14% |
| Don't know | 3% | 4% | - |
| Refused | 1% | 1% | - |

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=1,260) | Democrats (N=405) | Republicans (N=306) | Independents (N=307) | Politically unaffiliated (N=242) |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| In crisis | 36% | 25% | 48% | 36% | 36% |
| Facing serious challenges but not in crisis | 50% | 55% | 46% | 47% | 51% |
| Doing well | 14% | 20% | 6% | 17% | 13% |

2. And would you say this is likely to:

| Trending | 9/14-15, 2018 | 11/6-12/28, 2019 | 5/24-27, 2021 |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Get better in the next few years | 24% | 31% | 27% |
| Stay the same | 20% | 35% | 31% |
| Get worse in the next few years | 44% | 31% | 42% |
| Don't know | 12% | 12% | - |
| Refused | * | 1% | - |

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|----------------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Get better in the next few years | 27% | 48% | 14% | 21% | 21% |
| Stay the same | 31% | 33% | 23% | 35% | 33% |
| Get worse in the next few years | 42% | 20% | 63% | 44% | 46% |

3. Do you think the design and structure of our nation’s government is fine as long as we elect the right people to represent us or needs significant change no matter who we elect to represent us?

| Trending | 11/6-12/28, 2019 | 5/24-27, 2021 |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Needs significant change no matter who we elect to represent us | 52% | 47% |
| Is fine as long as we elect the right people to represent us | 40% | 53% |
| Don’t know | 4% | - |
| Depends | 3% | - |
| Refused | 1% | - |

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|---|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Needs significant change no matter who we elect to represent us | 53% | 52% | 47% | 55% | 63% |
| Is fine as long as we elect the right people to represent us | 47% | 48% | 53% | 45% | 37% |

4. Is each of the following a major reason, minor reason, or not a reason why you think our nation’s government needs significant change?

| Trending | 11/6-12/28, 2019 | 5/24-27, 2021 |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------|
| So that ordinary people can have more of a voice | 69% | 71% |
| So that government can solve problems more effectively | 67% | 63% |

Major Reason Summary

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| So that our political system can become less divisive and more constructive | 75% | 74% | 72% | 83% | 68% |
| So that ordinary people can have more of a voice | 71% | 72% | 63% | 77% | 66% |
| So that government can solve problems more effectively | 63% | 64% | 55% | 66% | 65% |
| So that communities can solve problems without government getting in the way | 47% | 38% | 58% | 45% | 50% |
| So that businesses can prosper without government getting in the way | 46% | 38% | 61% | 44% | 41% |

a. So that ordinary people can have more of a voice

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Major reason | 71% | 72% | 63% | 77% | 66% |
| Minor reason | 24% | 24% | 29% | 18% | 28% |
| Not a reason | 5% | 3% | 7% | 5% | 7% |

b. So that government can solve problems more effectively

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Major reason | 63% | 64% | 55% | 66% | 65% |
| Minor reason | 29% | 29% | 35% | 27% | 22% |
| Not a reason | 9% | 7% | 10% | 7% | 14% |

c. So that communities can solve problems without government getting in the way

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Major reason | 47% | 38% | 58% | 45% | 50% |
| Minor reason | 40% | 43% | 30% | 46% | 36% |
| Not a reason | 14% | 20% | 12% | 9% | 14% |

d. So that businesses can prosper without government getting in the way

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Major reason | 46% | 38% | 61% | 44% | 41% |
| Minor reason | 36% | 41% | 31% | 35% | 34% |
| Not a reason | 19% | 21% | 8% | 21% | 25% |

e. So that our political system can become less divisive and more constructive

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Major reason | 75% | 74% | 72% | 83% | 68% |
| Minor reason | 20% | 18% | 26% | 14% | 27% |
| Not a reason | 5% | 9% | 2% | 3% | 6% |

5. In order to create a healthier democracy, how important, if at all, is each of the following?

Total Important Summary

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Apolitical |
|---|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| That people have accurate, trustworthy news and information | 91% | 92% | 92% | 91% | 88% |
| That elections are fair, secure and hassle-free | 91% | 93% | 92% | 93% | 83% |
| That government is efficient and effective | 90% | 91% | 93% | 90% | 82% |
| That government respects individual liberty and responsibility | 90% | 90% | 91% | 90% | 86% |
| That communities and government work together more effectively to solve problems | 90% | 93% | 90% | 90% | 87% |
| That political leaders put aside destructive partisan divisiveness | 88% | 91% | 88% | 88% | 77% |
| That government serves ordinary people, not the rich and powerful | 88% | 91% | 91% | 86% | 82% |
| That ordinary people put aside destructive partisan divisiveness | 84% | 86% | 84% | 87% | 73% |
| That racism is not a barrier to political participation | 84% | 90% | 80% | 84% | 80% |
| That ordinary people get more involved in civic and political life | 82% | 88% | 85% | 78% | 73% |
| That communities make decisions without the federal government getting in the way | 79% | 75% | 85% | 78% | 76% |

a. That people have accurate, trustworthy news and information

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Apolitical |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Very important | 74% | 72% | 80% | 75% | 69% |
| Somewhat important | 17% | 20% | 13% | 16% | 19% |
| Not too important | 5% | 5% | 6% | 4% | 6% |
| Not important at all | 2% | 1% | 1% | 3% | 1% |
| Don't know | 2% | 2% | 1% | 2% | 5% |
| <i>Important (Net)</i> | <i>91%</i> | <i>92%</i> | <i>92%</i> | <i>91%</i> | <i>88%</i> |
| <i>Not important (Net)</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>7%</i> |

b. That ordinary people put aside destructive partisan divisiveness

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Apolitical |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Very important | 58% | 60% | 56% | 62% | 50% |
| Somewhat important | 26% | 26% | 29% | 25% | 23% |
| Not too important | 7% | 7% | 8% | 4% | 11% |
| Not important at all | 3% | 2% | 1% | 5% | 4% |
| Don't know | 6% | 5% | 6% | 5% | 11% |
| <i>Important (Net)</i> | <i>84%</i> | <i>86%</i> | <i>84%</i> | <i>87%</i> | <i>73%</i> |
| <i>Not important (Net)</i> | <i>10%</i> | <i>9%</i> | <i>10%</i> | <i>9%</i> | <i>16%</i> |

c. That political leaders put aside destructive partisan divisiveness

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Apolitical |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Very important | 67% | 69% | 67% | 69% | 59% |
| Somewhat important | 21% | 22% | 21% | 20% | 19% |
| Not too important | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 8% |
| Not important at all | 2% | 1% | 3% | 2% | 6% |
| Don't know | 5% | 4% | 3% | 5% | 10% |
| <i>Important (Net)</i> | <i>88%</i> | <i>91%</i> | <i>88%</i> | <i>88%</i> | <i>77%</i> |
| <i>Not important (Net)</i> | <i>8%</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>8%</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>13%</i> |

d. That racism is not a barrier to political participation

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Apolitical |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Very important | 64% | 70% | 54% | 67% | 61% |
| Somewhat important | 21% | 20% | 26% | 17% | 19% |
| Not too important | 6% | 4% | 9% | 7% | 5% |
| Not important at all | 5% | 2% | 6% | 6% | 3% |
| Don't know | 4% | 3% | 4% | 3% | 12% |
| <i>Important (Net)</i> | <i>84%</i> | <i>90%</i> | <i>80%</i> | <i>84%</i> | <i>80%</i> |
| <i>Not important (Net)</i> | <i>11%</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>16%</i> | <i>13%</i> | <i>8%</i> |

e. That elections are fair, secure and hassle-free

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Apolitical |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Very important | 75% | 73% | 83% | 74% | 68% |
| Somewhat important | 16% | 20% | 9% | 19% | 15% |
| Not too important | 4% | 3% | 3% | 4% | 4% |
| Not important at all | 2% | 1% | 4% | 2% | 1% |
| Don't know | 3% | 3% | 1% | 1% | 11% |
| <i>Important (Net)</i> | <i>91%</i> | <i>93%</i> | <i>92%</i> | <i>93%</i> | <i>83%</i> |
| <i>Not important (Net)</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>4%</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>5%</i> |

f. That ordinary people get more involved in civic and political life

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Apolitical |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Very important | 44% | 49% | 45% | 43% | 36% |
| Somewhat important | 38% | 39% | 39% | 35% | 37% |
| Not too important | 11% | 7% | 9% | 15% | 14% |
| Not important at all | 3% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 3% |
| Don't know | 4% | 3% | 3% | 4% | 10% |
| <i>Important (Net)</i> | <i>82%</i> | <i>88%</i> | <i>85%</i> | <i>78%</i> | <i>73%</i> |
| <i>Not important (Net)</i> | <i>14%</i> | <i>9%</i> | <i>12%</i> | <i>19%</i> | <i>17%</i> |

g. That government is efficient and effective

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Apolitical |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Very important | 70% | 71% | 74% | 68% | 60% |
| Somewhat important | 21% | 20% | 18% | 22% | 22% |
| Not too important | 5% | 5% | 3% | 6% | 7% |
| Not important at all | 2% | 1% | 3% | 1% | 1% |
| Don't know | 3% | 3% | 1% | 3% | 9% |
| <i>Important (Net)</i> | <i>90%</i> | <i>91%</i> | <i>93%</i> | <i>90%</i> | <i>82%</i> |
| <i>Not important (Net)</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>8%</i> |

h. That government serves ordinary people, not the rich and powerful

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Apolitical |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Very important | 69% | 71% | 69% | 71% | 64% |
| Somewhat important | 19% | 20% | 22% | 15% | 18% |
| Not too important | 6% | 5% | 4% | 8% | 5% |
| Not important at all | 3% | 2% | 2% | 3% | 4% |
| Don't know | 3% | 2% | 3% | 2% | 8% |
| <i>Important (Net)</i> | <i>88%</i> | <i>91%</i> | <i>91%</i> | <i>86%</i> | <i>82%</i> |
| <i>Not important (Net)</i> | <i>8%</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>11%</i> | <i>9%</i> |

i. That government respects individual liberty and responsibility

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Apolitical |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Very important | 68% | 64% | 75% | 69% | 61% |
| Somewhat important | 22% | 25% | 17% | 21% | 25% |
| Not too important | 4% | 6% | 3% | 4% | 4% |
| Not important at all | 2% | 1% | 4% | 2% | 2% |
| Don't know | 4% | 3% | 2% | 4% | 7% |
| <i>Important (Net)</i> | <i>90%</i> | <i>90%</i> | <i>91%</i> | <i>90%</i> | <i>86%</i> |
| <i>Not important (Net)</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>7%</i> |

j. That communities make decisions without the federal government getting in the way

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Apolitical |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Very important | 40% | 35% | 50% | 38% | 37% |
| Somewhat important | 39% | 40% | 36% | 40% | 38% |
| Not too important | 13% | 15% | 8% | 14% | 14% |
| Not important at all | 4% | 5% | 3% | 4% | 2% |
| Don't know | 5% | 6% | 4% | 3% | 8% |
| <i>Important (Net)</i> | <i>79%</i> | <i>75%</i> | <i>85%</i> | <i>78%</i> | <i>76%</i> |
| <i>Not important (Net)</i> | <i>16%</i> | <i>19%</i> | <i>11%</i> | <i>19%</i> | <i>16%</i> |

k. That communities and government work together more effectively to solve problems

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Apolitical |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Very important | 64% | 64% | 66% | 62% | 62% |
| Somewhat important | 27% | 29% | 25% | 27% | 24% |
| Not too important | 5% | 3% | 6% | 8% | 4% |
| Not important at all | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 3% |
| Don't know | 2% | 2% | 2% | 0% | 6% |
| <i>Important (Net)</i> | <i>90%</i> | <i>93%</i> | <i>90%</i> | <i>90%</i> | <i>87%</i> |
| <i>Not important (Net)</i> | <i>8%</i> | <i>5%</i> | <i>8%</i> | <i>10%</i> | <i>7%</i> |

6. Of those, which if the single most important to create a healthier democracy? Please choose one.

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|---|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| That government serves ordinary people, not the rich and powerful | 16% | 19% | 12% | 14% | 18% |
| That political leaders put aside destructive partisan divisiveness | 15% | 14% | 17% | 17% | 10% |
| That elections are fair, secure and hassle-free | 11% | 6% | 19% | 12% | 6% |
| That government is efficient and effective | 9% | 10% | 10% | 8% | 5% |
| That communities and government work together more effectively to solve problems | 9% | 10% | 8% | 4% | 16% |
| That people have accurate, trustworthy news and information | 8% | 7% | 8% | 8% | 9% |
| That government respects individual liberty and responsibility | 8% | 5% | 9% | 10% | 6% |
| That racism is not a barrier to political participation | 6% | 11% | 2% | 5% | 4% |
| That ordinary people put aside destructive partisan divisiveness | 4% | 6% | 2% | 5% | 4% |
| That ordinary people get more involved in civic and political life | 4% | 5% | 2% | 4% | 4% |
| That communities make decisions without the federal government getting in the way | 2% | 1% | 3% | 1% | 3% |
| Don't know | 9% | 7% | 6% | 11% | 15% |

7. When it comes to problems facing communities or the nation, which of the following statements comes closer to your own view?

| Trending | 11/6-12/28, 2019 | 5/24-27, 2021 |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|
| It's mostly our responsibility as Americans to help find solutions – it's not enough to just vote and pay taxes | 64% | 59% |
| It's mostly the government's responsibility to find solutions – that's why we vote and pay taxes | 28% | 41% |
| Don't know | 6% | - |
| Refused | 1% | - |

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|---|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| It's mostly our responsibility as Americans to help find solutions – it's not enough to just vote and pay taxes | 59% | 53% | 64% | 62% | 59% |
| It's mostly the government's responsibility to find solutions – that's why we vote and pay taxes | 41% | 47% | 36% | 38% | 41% |

8. When it comes to how problems are addressed at the national level, which of the following statements comes closer to your own view?

| Trending | 11/6-12/28, 2019 | 5/24-27, 2021 |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------|
| When enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how the nation addresses problems | 55% | 58% |
| Ordinary people have little influence over how the nation addresses problems | 41% | 42% |
| Don't know | 4% | - |
| Refused | 3% | - |

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| When enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how the nation addresses problems | 58% | 68% | 55% | 52% | 52% |
| Ordinary people have little influence over how the nation addresses problems | 42% | 32% | 45% | 48% | 48% |

9. [Asked if Q8 = “Ordinary people have little influence over how the nation addresses problems”] Is each of the following a major reason, minor reason, or not a reason why ordinary people have little influence over how the nation addresses problems?

| <i>Trending</i> | 11/6-12/28, 2019 | 5/24-27, 2021 |
|--|------------------|---------------|
| Special interests dominate the political process | 76% | 66% |
| Ordinary people are too divided | 52% | 47% |
| Ordinary people do not care enough | 36% | 33% |

Major Reason Summary

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=543) | Democrats (N=138) | Republicans (N=136) | Independents (N=148) | Politically unaffiliated (N=121) |
|---|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Elected leaders do not respect ordinary people’s opinions | 73% | 67% | 77% | 76% | 70% |
| Special interests dominate the political process | 66% | 64% | 66% | 71% | 60% |
| Ordinary people are too divided | 47% | 54% | 46% | 43% | 47% |
| There are few meaningful ways for people to have an influence | 45% | 44% | 35% | 49% | 54% |
| Getting involved is too complicated and time-consuming | 34% | 32% | 30% | 39% | 33% |
| Ordinary people do not care enough | 33% | 37% | 31% | 31% | 33% |

a. Special interests dominate the political process

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=543) | Democrats (N=138) | Republicans (N=136) | Independents (N=148) | Politically unaffiliated (N=121) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Major reason | 66% | 64% | 66% | 71% | 60% |
| Minor reason | 26% | 30% | 25% | 25% | 26% |
| Not a reason | 7% | 6% | 8% | 4% | 13% |

b. Ordinary people do not care enough

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=543) | Democrats (N=138) | Republicans (N=136) | Independents (N=148) | Politically unaffiliated (N=121) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Major reason | 33% | 37% | 31% | 31% | 33% |
| Minor reason | 47% | 50% | 44% | 46% | 50% |
| Not a reason | 21% | 13% | 26% | 23% | 17% |

c. Ordinary people are too divided

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=543) | Democrats (N=138) | Republicans (N=136) | Independents (N=148) | Politically unaffiliated (N=121) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Major reason | 47% | 54% | 46% | 43% | 47% |
| Minor reason | 39% | 37% | 35% | 42% | 41% |
| Not a reason | 14% | 9% | 19% | 14% | 12% |

d. Elected leaders do not respect ordinary people's opinions

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=543) | Democrats (N=138) | Republicans (N=136) | Independents (N=148) | Politically unaffiliated (N=121) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Major reason | 73% | 67% | 77% | 76% | 70% |
| Minor reason | 21% | 23% | 18% | 21% | 24% |
| Not a reason | 6% | 10% | 5% | 3% | 7% |

e. There are few meaningful ways for people to have an influence

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=543) | Democrats (N=138) | Republicans (N=136) | Independents (N=148) | Politically unaffiliated (N=121) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Major reason | 45% | 44% | 35% | 49% | 54% |
| Minor reason | 45% | 43% | 52% | 43% | 36% |
| Not a reason | 11% | 13% | 13% | 8% | 10% |

f. Getting involved is too complicated and time-consuming

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=543) | Democrats (N=138) | Republicans (N=136) | Independents (N=148) | Politically unaffiliated (N=121) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Major reason | 34% | 32% | 30% | 39% | 33% |
| Minor reason | 46% | 49% | 54% | 38% | 41% |
| Not a reason | 20% | 19% | 15% | 23% | 25% |

10. [Asked if Q8 = “When enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how the nation addresses problems”] Is each of 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?

| Trending | 11/6-12/28, 2019 | 5/24-27, 2021 |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Ordinary people can pressure elected leaders to pay attention to them | 63% | 63% |
| Elected leaders care about ordinary people’s opinions | 37% | 46% |

Major Reason Summary

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=717) | Democrats (N=267) | Republicans (N=170) | Independents (N=159) | Politically unaffiliated (N=121) |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Ordinary people can pressure elected leaders to pay attention to them | 63% | 63% | 70% | 63% | 49% |
| There are many things people can do to address problems, whether or not elected officials are involved | 57% | 62% | 58% | 51% | 57% |
| Elected leaders care about ordinary people’s opinions | 46% | 53% | 49% | 37% | 42% |

a. Ordinary people can pressure elected leaders to pay attention to them

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=717) | Democrats (N=267) | Republicans (N=170) | Independents (N=159) | Politically unaffiliated (N=121) |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Major reason | 63% | 63% | 70% | 63% | 49% |
| Minor reason | 31% | 32% | 25% | 32% | 37% |
| Not a reason | 6% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 14% |

b. Elected leaders care about ordinary people’s opinions

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=717) | Democrats (N=267) | Republicans (N=170) | Independents (N=159) | Politically unaffiliated (N=121) |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Major reason | 46% | 53% | 49% | 37% | 42% |
| Minor reason | 40% | 36% | 40% | 44% | 44% |
| Not a reason | 13% | 11% | 12% | 18% | 14% |

- c. There are many things people can do to address problems, whether or not elected officials are involved

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=717) | Democrats (N=267) | Republicans (N=170) | Independents (N=159) | Politically unaffiliated (N=121) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Major reason | 57% | 62% | 58% | 51% | 57% |
| Minor reason | 39% | 36% | 41% | 44% | 32% |
| Not a reason | 4% | 3% | 2% | 6% | 11% |

11. When it comes to how problems are addressed in local communities, which of the following statements comes closer to your own view?

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|---|-------|-----------|-------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| When enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how their community addresses problems | 73% | 73% | 74% | 75% | 70% |
| Ordinary people have little influence over how their community addresses problems | 27% | 27% | 26% | 25% | 30% |

12. [Asked if Q11 = “Ordinary people have little influence over how their community addresses problems”] Is each of the following a major reason, minor reason, or not a reason why ordinary people have little influence over how their community addresses problems?

Major Reason Summary

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=328) | Democrats (N=104) | Republicans (N=74) | Independents (N=71) | Politically unaffiliated (N=79) |
|---|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Elected leaders do not respect ordinary people’s opinions | 59% | 61% | 45% | 69% | 58% |
| Special interests dominate the political process | 55% | 51% | 59% | 60% | 50% |
| Ordinary people are too divided | 45% | 46% | 45% | 43% | 44% |
| There are few meaningful ways for people to have an influence | 40% | 47% | 26% | 47% | 38% |
| Ordinary people do not care enough | 33% | 31% | 31% | 37% | 30% |
| Getting involved is too complicated and time-consuming | 32% | 38% | 22% | 37% | 25% |

a. Special interests dominate the political process

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=328) | Democrats (N=104) | Republicans (N=74) | Independents (N=71) | Politically unaffiliated (N=79) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Major reason | 55% | 51% | 59% | 60% | 50% |
| Minor reason | 39% | 47% | 38% | 32% | 35% |
| Not a reason | 6% | 2% | 3% | 8% | 15% |

b. Ordinary people do not care enough

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=328) | Democrats (N=104) | Republicans (N=74) | Independents (N=71) | Politically unaffiliated (N=79) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Major reason | 33% | 31% | 31% | 37% | 30% |
| Minor reason | 49% | 57% | 55% | 35% | 49% |
| Not a reason | 18% | 12% | 14% | 27% | 22% |

c. Ordinary people are too divided

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=328) | Democrats (N=104) | Republicans (N=74) | Independents (N=71) | Politically unaffiliated (N=79) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Major reason | 45% | 46% | 45% | 43% | 44% |
| Minor reason | 40% | 45% | 42% | 34% | 41% |
| Not a reason | 15% | 10% | 12% | 23% | 16% |

d. Elected leaders do not respect ordinary people's opinions

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=328) | Democrats (N=104) | Republicans (N=74) | Independents (N=71) | Politically unaffiliated (N=79) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Major reason | 59% | 61% | 45% | 69% | 58% |
| Minor reason | 34% | 32% | 45% | 26% | 34% |
| Not a reason | 7% | 7% | 9% | 5% | 8% |

e. There are few meaningful ways for people to have an influence

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=328) | Democrats (N=104) | Republicans (N=74) | Independents (N=71) | Politically unaffiliated (N=79) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Major reason | 40% | 47% | 26% | 47% | 38% |
| Minor reason | 50% | 49% | 62% | 41% | 50% |
| Not a reason | 10% | 4% | 13% | 12% | 12% |

f. Getting involved is too complicated and time-consuming

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=328) | Democrats (N=104) | Republicans (N=74) | Independents (N=71) | Politically unaffiliated (N=79) |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Major reason | 32% | 38% | 22% | 37% | 25% |
| Minor reason | 51% | 43% | 62% | 45% | 57% |
| Not a reason | 17% | 19% | 15% | 18% | 18% |

13. [Asked if Q11 = “When enough people get involved, they have a lot of influence over how their community addresses problems”] Is each of 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?

| Trending | 11/6-12/28, 2019 | 5/24-27, 2021 |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Ordinary people can pressure elected leaders to pay attention to them | 62% | 62% |
| Elected leaders care about ordinary people’s opinions | 43% | 46% |

Major Reason Summary

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=932) | Democrats (N=301) | Republicans (N=232) | Independents (N=236) | Politically unaffiliated (N=163) |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Ordinary people can pressure elected leaders to pay attention to them | 62% | 66% | 67% | 58% | 49% |
| There are many things people can do to address problems, whether or not elected officials are involved | 58% | 62% | 60% | 53% | 52% |
| Elected leaders care about ordinary people’s opinions | 46% | 53% | 49% | 38% | 44% |

- a. Ordinary people can pressure elected leaders to pay attention to them

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=932) | Democrats (N=301) | Republicans (N=232) | Independents (N=236) | Politically unaffiliated (N=163) |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Major reason | 62% | 66% | 67% | 58% | 49% |
| Minor reason | 32% | 26% | 30% | 36% | 41% |
| Not a reason | 6% | 7% | 4% | 5% | 10% |

- b. Elected leaders care about ordinary people’s opinions

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=932) | Democrats (N=301) | Republicans (N=232) | Independents (N=236) | Politically unaffiliated (N=163) |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Major reason | 46% | 53% | 49% | 38% | 44% |
| Minor reason | 41% | 39% | 38% | 45% | 47% |
| Not a reason | 12% | 8% | 13% | 17% | 9% |

- c. There are many things people can do to address problems, whether or not elected officials are involved

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total (N=932) | Democrats (N=301) | Republicans (N=232) | Independents (N=236) | Politically unaffiliated (N=163) |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Major reason | 58% | 62% | 60% | 53% | 52% |
| Minor reason | 37% | 34% | 36% | 39% | 37% |
| Not a reason | 6% | 4% | 3% | 8% | 11% |

14. Let's say there is an issue in your local community that you feel needs to be addressed. Would you be more or less likely to get involved...?

Total More Likely Summary

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|---|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| If elected leaders worked closely with your community to address the issue | 72% | 74% | 76% | 67% | 67% |
| If the process was convenient, efficient and easy to understand | 72% | 74% | 79% | 68% | 65% |
| If the community could make the final decision about how to address the issue | 67% | 65% | 75% | 65% | 58% |
| If the process involved building common ground among community members with different ideas and perspectives | 65% | 69% | 66% | 61% | 63% |
| If you could contribute your skills and experiences to addressing the issue | 61% | 65% | 64% | 57% | 55% |
| If the process was fun and creative | 54% | 58% | 52% | 50% | 57% |
| If you could participate entirely online | 49% | 55% | 48% | 43% | 46% |
| If process involved a meeting where everyone got two minutes at the microphone to voice their opinion to public officials | 47% | 49% | 55% | 39% | 43% |
| If the process involved watching a debate between Democratic and Republican public officials | 35% | 46% | 40% | 25% | 23% |

a. If elected leaders worked closely with your community to address the issue

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Much more likely | 37% | 43% | 37% | 31% | 38% |
| A little more likely | 35% | 32% | 39% | 36% | 29% |
| Would make no difference | 18% | 17% | 16% | 21% | 18% |
| A little less likely | 4% | 4% | 3% | 5% | 4% |
| A lot less likely | 1% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 3% |
| Don't know | 5% | 5% | 4% | 5% | 7% |
| <i>More likely (Net)</i> | <i>72%</i> | <i>74%</i> | <i>76%</i> | <i>67%</i> | <i>67%</i> |
| <i>Less likely (Net)</i> | <i>5%</i> | <i>4%</i> | <i>4%</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>7%</i> |

b. If the community could make the final decision about how to address the issue

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Much more likely | 33% | 34% | 39% | 28% | 30% |
| A little more likely | 33% | 31% | 36% | 37% | 28% |
| Would make no difference | 20% | 23% | 15% | 21% | 23% |
| A little less likely | 5% | 4% | 4% | 6% | 6% |
| A lot less likely | 3% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 3% |
| Don't know | 6% | 6% | 3% | 6% | 11% |
| <i>More likely (Net)</i> | <i>67%</i> | <i>65%</i> | <i>75%</i> | <i>65%</i> | <i>58%</i> |
| <i>Less likely (Net)</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>8%</i> | <i>8%</i> |

c. If you could contribute your skills and experiences to addressing the issue

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Much more likely | 25% | 30% | 25% | 19% | 26% |
| A little more likely | 36% | 35% | 40% | 38% | 29% |
| Would make no difference | 26% | 20% | 22% | 33% | 28% |
| A little less likely | 5% | 4% | 7% | 3% | 8% |
| A lot less likely | 2% | 3% | 2% | 1% | 3% |
| Don't know | 6% | 8% | 3% | 6% | 7% |
| <i>More likely (Net)</i> | <i>61%</i> | <i>65%</i> | <i>64%</i> | <i>57%</i> | <i>55%</i> |
| <i>Less likely (Net)</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>10%</i> | <i>4%</i> | <i>10%</i> |

d. If the process was fun and creative

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Much more likely | 24% | 29% | 24% | 18% | 26% |
| A little more likely | 30% | 29% | 28% | 31% | 31% |
| Would make no difference | 32% | 26% | 34% | 37% | 31% |
| A little less likely | 6% | 7% | 6% | 5% | 4% |
| A lot less likely | 3% | 4% | 4% | 4% | 1% |
| Don't know | 5% | 5% | 4% | 4% | 7% |
| <i>More likely (Net)</i> | <i>54%</i> | <i>58%</i> | <i>52%</i> | <i>50%</i> | <i>57%</i> |
| <i>Less likely (Net)</i> | <i>9%</i> | <i>11%</i> | <i>10%</i> | <i>9%</i> | <i>5%</i> |

e. If the process was convenient, efficient and easy to understand

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Much more likely | 39% | 41% | 43% | 34% | 36% |
| A little more likely | 33% | 32% | 36% | 33% | 30% |
| Would make no difference | 17% | 15% | 13% | 23% | 19% |
| A little less likely | 4% | 5% | 3% | 4% | 4% |
| A lot less likely | 2% | 1% | 2% | 2% | 4% |
| Don't know | 5% | 6% | 3% | 4% | 8% |
| <i>More likely (Net)</i> | <i>72%</i> | <i>74%</i> | <i>79%</i> | <i>68%</i> | <i>65%</i> |
| <i>Less likely (Net)</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>5%</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>8%</i> |

f. If the process involved watching a debate between [ROTATE (Democratic and Republican/Republican and Democratic)] public officials

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Much more likely | 14% | 20% | 16% | 8% | 7% |
| A little more likely | 21% | 26% | 23% | 17% | 16% |
| Would make no difference | 35% | 33% | 32% | 39% | 34% |
| A little less likely | 13% | 9% | 12% | 16% | 13% |
| A lot less likely | 11% | 5% | 12% | 14% | 19% |
| Don't know | 6% | 6% | 4% | 6% | 11% |
| <i>More likely (Net)</i> | <i>35%</i> | <i>46%</i> | <i>40%</i> | <i>25%</i> | <i>23%</i> |
| <i>Less likely (Net)</i> | <i>24%</i> | <i>14%</i> | <i>24%</i> | <i>31%</i> | <i>31%</i> |

g. If the process involved building common ground among community members with different ideas and perspectives

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Much more likely | 29% | 36% | 24% | 24% | 29% |
| A little more likely | 36% | 33% | 41% | 37% | 34% |
| Would make no difference | 23% | 18% | 24% | 28% | 21% |
| A little less likely | 5% | 5% | 5% | 4% | 7% |
| A lot less likely | 2% | 1% | 2% | 2% | 1% |
| Don't know | 5% | 7% | 4% | 4% | 8% |
| <i>More likely (Net)</i> | <i>65%</i> | <i>69%</i> | <i>66%</i> | <i>61%</i> | <i>63%</i> |
| <i>Less likely (Net)</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>6%</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>7%</i> | <i>8%</i> |

- h. If process involved a meeting where everyone got two minutes at the microphone to voice their opinion to public officials

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Much more likely | 18% | 22% | 20% | 14% | 14% |
| A little more likely | 29% | 27% | 35% | 25% | 29% |
| Would make no difference | 32% | 31% | 28% | 38% | 26% |
| A little less likely | 10% | 8% | 9% | 12% | 11% |
| A lot less likely | 6% | 5% | 4% | 6% | 10% |
| Don't know | 6% | 7% | 4% | 5% | 10% |
| <i>More likely (Net)</i> | 47% | 49% | 55% | 39% | 43% |
| <i>Less likely (Net)</i> | 16% | 13% | 13% | 18% | 21% |

- i. If you could participate entirely online

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Much more likely | 24% | 28% | 24% | 20% | 23% |
| A little more likely | 25% | 27% | 24% | 23% | 23% |
| Would make no difference | 31% | 29% | 29% | 36% | 31% |
| A little less likely | 7% | 4% | 7% | 8% | 9% |
| A lot less likely | 8% | 4% | 12% | 8% | 7% |
| Don't know | 6% | 7% | 3% | 6% | 8% |
| <i>More likely (Net)</i> | 49% | 55% | 48% | 43% | 46% |
| <i>Less likely (Net)</i> | 14% | 8% | 19% | 15% | 16% |

15. The following are new systems for making decisions that some local governments have implemented. For each, do you think your local government should implement it, should not implement it, or you are not sure?

| Trending | 11/6-12/28, 2019 | 5/24-27, 2021 |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Ordinary people vote directly on whether to approve laws or regulations | 54% | 59% |
| A small representative group of ordinary people is appointed to study an issue and make recommendations to elected leaders | 50% | 57% |
| Ordinary people develop ideas for spending tax dollars and then vote on which ideas to fund | 50% | 54% |
| Ordinary people go online to share ideas for solving problems, comment on other people's ideas, and prioritize their favorites | 37% | 53% |

Your Local Government Should Implement Summary

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Creating well-organized opportunities for people to get together and discuss different ideas for addressing problems | 65% | 65% | 67% | 66% | 56% |
| Creating councils of community members and elected officials, who make decisions together about local issues | 62% | 65% | 62% | 65% | 52% |
| Ordinary people vote directly on whether to approve laws or regulations | 59% | 62% | 65% | 53% | 53% |
| A small representative group of ordinary people is appointed to study an issue and make recommendations to elected leaders | 57% | 60% | 60% | 57% | 46% |
| Ordinary people develop ideas for spending tax dollars and then vote on which ideas to fund | 54% | 56% | 59% | 52% | 47% |
| Ordinary people go online to share ideas for solving problems, comment on other people's ideas, and prioritize their favorites | 53% | 57% | 55% | 52% | 42% |
| Using computer programs, algorithms and artificial intelligence to make more government decisions | 24% | 33% | 22% | 17% | 23% |

a. Ordinary people develop ideas for spending tax dollars and then vote on which ideas to fund

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Your local government should implement | 54% | 56% | 59% | 52% | 47% |
| Your local government should NOT implement | 21% | 24% | 21% | 19% | 18% |
| Not sure | 25% | 20% | 20% | 29% | 36% |

b. Ordinary people vote directly on whether to approve laws or regulations

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Your local government should implement | 59% | 62% | 65% | 53% | 53% |
| Your local government should NOT implement | 19% | 19% | 19% | 20% | 14% |
| Not sure | 23% | 19% | 16% | 27% | 34% |

c. A small representative group of ordinary people is appointed to study an issue and make recommendations to elected leaders

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Your local government should implement | 57% | 60% | 60% | 57% | 46% |
| Your local government should NOT implement | 18% | 18% | 19% | 17% | 20% |
| Not sure | 25% | 22% | 21% | 25% | 35% |

d. Ordinary people go online to share ideas for solving problems, comment on other people's ideas, and prioritize their favorites

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Your local government should implement | 53% | 57% | 55% | 52% | 42% |
| Your local government should NOT implement | 21% | 21% | 23% | 20% | 21% |
| Not sure | 26% | 22% | 22% | 28% | 37% |

- e. Using computer programs, algorithms and artificial intelligence to make more government decisions

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Your local government should implement | 24% | 33% | 22% | 17% | 23% |
| Your local government should NOT implement | 46% | 43% | 49% | 49% | 38% |
| Not sure | 30% | 24% | 29% | 34% | 39% |

- f. Creating well-organized opportunities for people to get together and discuss different ideas for addressing problems

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Your local government should implement | 65% | 65% | 67% | 66% | 56% |
| Your local government should NOT implement | 14% | 16% | 14% | 12% | 17% |
| Not sure | 21% | 19% | 19% | 23% | 27% |

- g. Creating councils of community members and elected officials, who make decisions together about local issues

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Your local government should implement | 62% | 65% | 62% | 65% | 52% |
| Your local government should NOT implement | 16% | 16% | 17% | 14% | 16% |
| Not sure | 22% | 19% | 21% | 21% | 32% |

16. Which of the following statements comes closer to your view about civic and political life in the United States today?

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|---|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| All Americans have an equal opportunity to participate regardless of race | 56% | 42% | 80% | 54% | 48% |
| Racism can make it difficult for some Americans to participate | 44% | 58% | 20% | 46% | 52% |

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

Total Agree Summary

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| The federal government should make sure that voting is simple, convenient and hassle-free for everyone in every state | 86% | 92% | 83% | 86% | 81% |
| Overcoming racism is now more important than ever | 75% | 91% | 60% | 71% | 76% |
| There is more common ground among the American people than the news media and political leaders portray | 72% | 64% | 86% | 70% | 68% |
| Overcoming racism requires more than changing people's attitudes, it requires fundamental changes in our laws and institutions | 68% | 88% | 46% | 67% | 70% |
| Corporations should use their influence to discourage states from making it harder for people of color to vote | 66% | 84% | 46% | 67% | 63% |
| Most people have good intentions even if they are sometimes racially biased | 64% | 62% | 70% | 64% | 57% |
| Accusing people of racism is often really a way to silence debate | 61% | 51% | 73% | 61% | 60% |
| The main reason our political leaders are divided is because there is not much common ground among the American people | 56% | 64% | 46% | 55% | 57% |
| Sometimes it is best to ignore race altogether because it is too divisive | 56% | 44% | 65% | 58% | 58% |
| Racism is largely a problem of the past; it is unproductive to focus on it today | 45% | 34% | 56% | 47% | 45% |
| Overcoming racism is hopeless | 30% | 38% | 26% | 27% | 30% |

- a. There is more common ground among the American people than the news media and political leaders portray

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Strongly agree | 26% | 15% | 42% | 26% | 19% |
| Somewhat agree | 46% | 49% | 44% | 44% | 49% |
| Somewhat disagree | 22% | 27% | 12% | 23% | 23% |
| Strongly disagree | 6% | 9% | 2% | 7% | 9% |
| <i>Agree (Net)</i> | <i>72%</i> | <i>64%</i> | <i>86%</i> | <i>70%</i> | <i>68%</i> |
| <i>Disagree (Net)</i> | <i>28%</i> | <i>36%</i> | <i>14%</i> | <i>30%</i> | <i>32%</i> |

- b. The main reason our political leaders are divided is because there is not much common ground among the American people

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Strongly agree | 17% | 22% | 12% | 14% | 21% |
| Somewhat agree | 39% | 42% | 34% | 41% | 36% |
| Somewhat disagree | 31% | 28% | 36% | 30% | 30% |
| Strongly disagree | 13% | 7% | 18% | 15% | 14% |
| <i>Agree (Net)</i> | <i>56%</i> | <i>64%</i> | <i>46%</i> | <i>55%</i> | <i>57%</i> |
| <i>Disagree (Net)</i> | <i>44%</i> | <i>36%</i> | <i>54%</i> | <i>45%</i> | <i>43%</i> |

- c. Corporations should use their influence to discourage states from making it harder for people of color to vote

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Strongly agree | 32% | 48% | 16% | 27% | 34% |
| Somewhat agree | 34% | 35% | 30% | 39% | 29% |
| Somewhat disagree | 15% | 8% | 17% | 16% | 20% |
| Strongly disagree | 19% | 8% | 37% | 17% | 17% |
| <i>Agree (Net)</i> | <i>66%</i> | <i>84%</i> | <i>46%</i> | <i>67%</i> | <i>63%</i> |
| <i>Disagree (Net)</i> | <i>34%</i> | <i>16%</i> | <i>54%</i> | <i>33%</i> | <i>37%</i> |

- d. The federal government should make sure that voting is simple, convenient and hassle-free for everyone in every state

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Strongly agree | 59% | 65% | 60% | 55% | 53% |
| Somewhat agree | 27% | 26% | 24% | 31% | 28% |
| Somewhat disagree | 10% | 8% | 11% | 10% | 12% |
| Strongly disagree | 4% | 1% | 5% | 4% | 6% |
| <i>Agree (Net)</i> | <i>86%</i> | <i>92%</i> | <i>83%</i> | <i>86%</i> | <i>81%</i> |
| <i>Disagree (Net)</i> | <i>14%</i> | <i>8%</i> | <i>17%</i> | <i>14%</i> | <i>19%</i> |

e. Overcoming racism requires more than changing people's attitudes, it requires fundamental changes in our laws and institutions

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Strongly agree | 34% | 51% | 13% | 33% | 40% |
| Somewhat agree | 34% | 36% | 32% | 35% | 31% |
| Somewhat disagree | 20% | 10% | 28% | 22% | 19% |
| Strongly disagree | 12% | 2% | 26% | 11% | 11% |
| <i>Agree (Net)</i> | <i>68%</i> | <i>88%</i> | <i>46%</i> | <i>67%</i> | <i>70%</i> |
| <i>Disagree (Net)</i> | <i>32%</i> | <i>12%</i> | <i>54%</i> | <i>33%</i> | <i>30%</i> |

f. Overcoming racism is now more important than ever

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Strongly agree | 42% | 61% | 25% | 37% | 44% |
| Somewhat agree | 33% | 30% | 35% | 34% | 32% |
| Somewhat disagree | 15% | 7% | 21% | 19% | 14% |
| Strongly disagree | 10% | 2% | 19% | 10% | 10% |
| <i>Agree (Net)</i> | <i>75%</i> | <i>91%</i> | <i>60%</i> | <i>71%</i> | <i>76%</i> |
| <i>Disagree (Net)</i> | <i>25%</i> | <i>9%</i> | <i>40%</i> | <i>29%</i> | <i>24%</i> |

g. Overcoming racism is hopeless

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Strongly agree | 9% | 12% | 7% | 7% | 11% |
| Somewhat agree | 21% | 26% | 19% | 20% | 19% |
| Somewhat disagree | 33% | 29% | 32% | 39% | 28% |
| Strongly disagree | 37% | 33% | 42% | 34% | 42% |
| <i>Agree (Net)</i> | <i>30%</i> | <i>38%</i> | <i>26%</i> | <i>27%</i> | <i>30%</i> |
| <i>Disagree (Net)</i> | <i>70%</i> | <i>62%</i> | <i>74%</i> | <i>73%</i> | <i>70%</i> |

h. Sometimes it is best to ignore race altogether because it is too divisive

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Strongly agree | 24% | 18% | 30% | 23% | 27% |
| Somewhat agree | 32% | 27% | 36% | 35% | 31% |
| Somewhat disagree | 20% | 22% | 20% | 19% | 19% |
| Strongly disagree | 24% | 34% | 15% | 23% | 23% |
| <i>Agree (Net)</i> | <i>56%</i> | <i>44%</i> | <i>65%</i> | <i>58%</i> | <i>58%</i> |
| <i>Disagree (Net)</i> | <i>44%</i> | <i>56%</i> | <i>35%</i> | <i>42%</i> | <i>42%</i> |

i. Most people have good intentions even if they are sometimes racially biased

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Strongly agree | 14% | 17% | 14% | 10% | 15% |
| Somewhat agree | 50% | 45% | 56% | 54% | 42% |
| Somewhat disagree | 25% | 27% | 18% | 27% | 29% |
| Strongly disagree | 11% | 11% | 11% | 9% | 13% |
| <i>Agree (Net)</i> | <i>64%</i> | <i>62%</i> | <i>70%</i> | <i>64%</i> | <i>57%</i> |
| <i>Disagree (Net)</i> | <i>36%</i> | <i>38%</i> | <i>30%</i> | <i>36%</i> | <i>43%</i> |

j. Racism is largely a problem of the past; it is unproductive to focus on it today

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Strongly agree | 21% | 16% | 28% | 19% | 21% |
| Somewhat agree | 24% | 17% | 28% | 28% | 24% |
| Somewhat disagree | 24% | 20% | 29% | 25% | 25% |
| Strongly disagree | 31% | 47% | 16% | 27% | 30% |
| <i>Agree (Net)</i> | <i>45%</i> | <i>34%</i> | <i>56%</i> | <i>47%</i> | <i>45%</i> |
| <i>Disagree (Net)</i> | <i>55%</i> | <i>66%</i> | <i>44%</i> | <i>53%</i> | <i>55%</i> |

k. Accusing people of racism is often really a way to silence debate

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Strongly agree | 29% | 17% | 46% | 28% | 23% |
| Somewhat agree | 32% | 33% | 27% | 34% | 36% |
| Somewhat disagree | 23% | 30% | 15% | 23% | 22% |
| Strongly disagree | 16% | 19% | 12% | 16% | 18% |
| <i>Agree (Net)</i> | <i>61%</i> | <i>51%</i> | <i>73%</i> | <i>61%</i> | <i>60%</i> |
| <i>Disagree (Net)</i> | <i>39%</i> | <i>49%</i> | <i>27%</i> | <i>39%</i> | <i>40%</i> |

18. Which of the following comes closest to your view?

| 5/24-27, 2021 | Total | Democrats | Republicans | Independents | Politically unaffiliated |
|--|-------|-----------|-------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| The U.S. can both make voting simple, convenient and hassle-free for everyone AND prevent voter fraud | 68% | 64% | 67% | 73% | 70% |
| Making voting simple, convenient and hassle-free for everyone is a bigger priority than preventing voter fraud | 17% | 25% | 10% | 13% | 18% |
| Preventing voter fraud is a bigger priority than making voting simple, convenient and hassle-free for everyone | 15% | 11% | 23% | 14% | 12% |