



Survey of Likely 2026 General Election Voters

National

September 1 - 2, 2026

n=1500 | $\pm 2.53\%$

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RESEARCH

Q1. Top Priority: Which one of the following issues do you believe should be the top priority for U.S. Congress?

	Freq.	Sep '26	Aug '26	Jul '26	Jun '26	Δ
Inflation and the economy	411	27.4%	26.9%	22.2%	23.8%	+0.5
Threats to democracy	220	14.6%	16.0%	16.3%	17.7%	-1.4
Government spending and waste	192	12.8%	11.1%	12.3%	13.8%	+1.7
Illegal immigration and border security	190	12.7%	12.2%	14.0%	11.6%	+0.5
Healthcare	131	8.7%	9.5%	10.5%	9.4%	-0.8
Social Security and Medicare	121	8.1%	7.3%	8.1%	7.0%	+0.8
National security	69	4.6%	5.3%	3.4%	4.9%	-0.7
Climate change	58	3.8%	4.5%	4.2%	2.1%	-0.7
Crime and public safety	40	2.7%	3.4%	3.6%	4.2%	-0.7
Gun control	30	2.0%	1.9%	2.9%	2.5%	+0.1
Abortion	20	1.3%	0.9%	1.3%	1.9%	+0.4
Unsure	18	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	+0.1
Total	1,500	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Q2. Country Direction: Generally speaking, would you say things in the United States are headed in the right direction or off on the wrong track?

	Freq.	Sep '26	Aug '26	Jul '26	Jun '26	Δ
<u>Right Direction</u>	543	36.2%	36.8%	36.3%	39.2%	-0.6
Definitely the right direction	178	11.9%	14.1%	13.0%	15.0%	-2.2
Mostly the right direction	365	24.3%	22.7%	23.4%	24.2%	+1.6
<u>Wrong Track</u>	907	60.5%	59.0%	60.4%	57.4%	+1.5
Mostly the wrong track	233	15.5%	17.2%	15.8%	12.4%	-1.7
Definitely the wrong track	674	44.9%	41.8%	44.6%	44.9%	+3.1
Unsure	50	3.3%	4.2%	3.3%	3.5%	-0.9
Total	1,500	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Q3. Generic Ballot: If the election was held today, and you had to make a choice, would you vote for the Republican or Democratic candidate for U.S. Congress?

	Freq.	Sep '26	Aug '26	Jul '26	Jun '26	Δ
<u>Republican Candidate</u>	631	42.1%	41.9%	43.8%	43.9%	+0.2
Definitely the Republican candidate	482	32.2%	34.1%	34.6%	35.2%	-1.9
Probably the Republican candidate	149	9.9%	7.9%	9.1%	8.7%	+2.0
<u>Democratic Candidate</u>	760	50.7%	48.8%	49.9%	49.1%	+1.9
Probably the Democratic candidate	121	8.1%	8.4%	8.3%	8.7%	-0.3
Definitely the Democratic candidate	639	42.6%	40.4%	41.6%	40.4%	+2.2
Unsure	108	7.2%	9.3%	6.4%	7.0%	-2.1
Total	1,500	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

The following is a list of names of various people, ideas, and organizations that may have been mentioned in the news recently. For each one, please indicate if you have heard of the name and if you have, whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of them. If you haven't heard of one, choose so.

Q4. Donald Trump

	Freq.	Sep '26	Aug '26	Jul '26	Jun '26	Δ
<u>Favorable</u>	585	39.0%	42.1%	41.9%	42.3%	-3.1
Very Favorable	368	24.5%	26.6%	29.0%	28.0%	-2.1
Somewhat Favorable	218	14.5%	15.6%	12.9%	14.3%	-1.1
<u>Unfavorable</u>	873	58.2%	55.4%	56.1%	55.4%	+2.8
Somewhat Unfavorable	100	6.7%	7.0%	5.3%	5.5%	-0.3
Very Unfavorable	772	51.5%	48.4%	50.8%	49.9%	+3.1
No Opinion	37	2.5%	2.3%	1.5%	2.1%	+0.2
Never Heard Of	5	0.3%	0.1%	0.6%	0.2%	+0.2
Total	1,500	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Q5. Caregiver Status: Do you currently consider yourself a caregiver – either for a child or children, or for another family member such as for an aging parent or relative with a disability? Select all that apply.

	Freq.	%
<u>Caregiver</u>	615	41.0%
Yes, for a child/children	353	23.5%
Yes, for an aging parent	205	13.7%
Yes, for a relative with a disability	150	10.0%
<u>No, not a caregiver</u>	846	56.4%
Unsure	39	2.6%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q6. Paid Leave Access: Does your current employer offer paid leave from your job if you needed it - for example, for the birth or adoption of a child, a serious illness of your own, or to care for a sick family member?

	Freq.	%
<u>Parent/Guardian</u>	585	39.0%
Yes, paid parental/family leave	108	7.2%
Yes, paid medical leave for my own health condition	101	6.7%
Yes, both paid parental/family and medical leave	244	16.3%
Yes, some paid leave, but I'm not sure what type	131	8.7%
<u>No, I would not have access to paid leave</u>	284	18.9%
<u>Not currently employed</u>	563	37.5%
Unsure	69	4.6%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q7. Tax Fairness: Thinking about the amount of taxes you pay, do you think the federal government is doing enough to help Americans who are raising families?

	Freq.	%
<u>Doing Too Much</u>	158	10.5%
Doing way too much	70	4.7%
Doing somewhat too much	88	5.9%
<u>About the right amount</u>	221	14.7%

<u>Doing Too Little</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>66.6%</u>
Doing somewhat too little	300	20.0%
Doing way too little	699	46.6%
Unsure	121	8.1%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q8. Newborn Savings Account Position: As of 2025, a new type of savings account is available for every child born in the U.S. between 2025 and 2028, started with \$1,000 from the federal government. The money grows without being taxed, and once the child becomes an adult, it can be used for any purpose and is taxed as ordinary income when withdrawn, similar to a retirement account.

Do you support or oppose this type of policy?

	Freq.	%
<u>Support</u>	<u>1,007</u>	<u>67.1%</u>
Strongly support	516	34.4%
Somewhat support	491	32.7%
<u>Oppose</u>	<u>321</u>	<u>21.4%</u>
Somewhat oppose	138	9.2%
Strongly oppose	183	12.2%
Unsure	172	11.5%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q9. Cost-Related Stress Factor: Which of the following routine costs in your life causes you the most stress?

	Freq.	%
Housing (rent or mortgage)	242	16.1%
Childcare	32	2.1%
Healthcare or insurance costs	307	20.4%
Groceries and food	265	17.7%
Debt payments	164	10.9%
Transportation or gas prices	99	6.6%
Energy or utility bills	143	9.5%
None of these cause me significant stress	221	14.7%
Unsure	28	1.9%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q10. News Attention: How much attention do you pay to news about politics on TV, radio, newspapers, or the Internet?

	Freq.	Sep '26	Aug '26	Jul '26	Jun '26	Δ
A great deal	297	19.8%	29.6%	27.8%	27.5%	-9.8
A lot	265	17.6%	20.2%	18.2%	17.1%	-2.6
A moderate amount	538	35.8%	30.1%	32.1%	32.3%	+5.7
A little	300	20.0%	15.3%	15.6%	15.0%	+4.7
None at all	88	5.8%	3.9%	5.3%	6.6%	+1.9
Unsure	12	0.8%	1.0%	1.0%	1.5%	-0.2
Total	1,500	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Q11. Television Service: Which of the following best describes how you primarily watch television at home?

	Freq.	Sep '26	Aug '26	Jul '26	Jun '26	Δ
Cable TV (such as Comcast, Spectrum, or Cox)	251	16.7%	16.9%	17.0%	16.6%	-0.2
Satellite TV (such as DirecTV or Dish)	102	6.8%	6.8%	6.9%	8.0%	0
Free streaming services (such as Tubi, Pluto TV, or Peacock's free tier)	219	14.6%	12.5%	13.0%	15.4%	+2.1
A live paid TV streaming service (such as YouTube TV, Hulu Live, or Sling)	534	35.6%	32.0%	31.6%	31.0%	+3.6
A combination of cable or satellite and streaming	229	15.3%	17.4%	17.5%	14.6%	-2.1
Over-the-air antenna only	72	4.8%	4.7%	4.6%	4.9%	+0.1
I do not watch television at home	92	6.1%	9.8%	9.4%	9.3%	-3.7
Total	1,500	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Q12. News Source: What are your primary sources for news? Select up to three options.

	Freq.	Sep '26	Aug '26	Jul '26	Jun '26	Δ
National broadcast television news (i.e. NBC, ABC, CBS)	399	26.6%	28.4%	27.5%	27.2%	-1.8
Local broadcast television news	352	23.5%	22.4%	23.7%	22.8%	+1.1
Cable news (i.e. Fox News, MSNBC / MS NOW, CNN)	500	33.3%	33.0%	31.7%	29.4%	+0.3
Streaming app(s)	148	9.9%	10.6%	11.7%	9.9%	-0.7
<u>Social Media</u>	715	47.7%	40.0%	42.1%	40.0%	+7.7
TikTok	175	11.7%	9.0%	9.9%	8.6%	+2.7
Facebook	316	21.1%	14.0%	16.0%	15.2%	+7.1
Twitter / X	161	10.7%	8.9%	8.8%	7.7%	+1.8
YouTube	331	22.1%	20.0%	19.7%	21.1%	+2.1
Newspaper	182	12.1%	11.6%	12.1%	11.1%	+0.5
Talk radio	146	9.8%	10.8%	9.6%	10.6%	-1.0
Podcasts	178	11.9%	15.3%	12.5%	13.2%	-3.4
News media websites	352	23.4%	30.1%	26.0%	24.3%	-6.7
AI, like ChatGPT	55	3.6%	3.2%	2.6%	3.2%	+0.4
Other websites	179	11.9%	16.7%	12.8%	13.6%	-4.8
Unsure	30	2.0%	1.8%	1.9%	2.6%	+0.2
Total	1,500	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Q13. Partisanship by Response: Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Democrat, Republican, or Independent?

	Freq.	%
<u>Republican</u>	565	37.7%
Strongly Republican	340	22.6%
Mostly Republican	226	15.1%
<u>Independent</u>	338	22.5%
<u>Democratic</u>	570	38.0%
Mostly Democratic	216	14.4%

Strongly Democratic	354	23.6%
Unsure	26	1.8%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q14. Type of Republican: What type of Republican do you more consider yourself?

	Freq.	Sep '26	Aug '26	Jul '26	Jun '26	Δ
<u>Trump Republican</u>	241	42.6%	44.0%	45.3%	41.1%	-1.4
Much more a Trump Republican	137	24.2%	27.2%	28.3%	23.5%	-3.0
Somewhat more a Trump Republican	104	18.4%	16.9%	17.0%	17.7%	+1.5
<u>Traditional Conservative Republican</u>	310	54.8%	54.1%	51.3%	57.4%	+0.7
Somewhat more a traditional conservative Republican	159	28.1%	26.7%	26.5%	26.8%	+1.4
Much more a traditional conservative Republican	151	26.7%	27.3%	24.8%	30.7%	-0.6
Unsure	15	2.6%	1.9%	3.5%	1.4%	+0.7
Total	565	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Q15. Type of Democrat: What type of Democrat do you more consider yourself?

	Freq.	Sep '26	Aug '26	Jul '26	Jun '26	Δ
<u>Progressive Democrat</u>	356	62.5%	61.1%	62.9%	59.1%	+1.4
Much more a progressive Democrat	184	32.3%	29.8%	35.8%	31.6%	+2.5
Somewhat more a progressive Democrat	172	30.3%	31.3%	27.1%	27.5%	-1.0
<u>Traditional Democrat</u>	192	33.8%	33.0%	32.3%	36.5%	+0.8
Somewhat more a traditional Democrat	108	19.0%	17.9%	18.3%	20.6%	+1.1
Much more a traditional Democrat	84	14.8%	15.1%	14.0%	15.9%	-0.3
Unsure	21	3.7%	5.9%	4.8%	4.4%	-2.2
Total	570	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Q16. Type of Independent: What type of Independent do you more consider yourself?

	Freq.	Sep '26	Aug '26	Jul '26	Jun '26	Δ
One who is more right leaning	52	15.4%	13.1%	13.4%	13.1%	+2.3
One who is somewhat right leaning	43	12.7%	18.2%	16.6%	16.6%	-5.5
One who is truly middle-of-the-road and switches sides	123	36.4%	37.8%	36.0%	36.1%	-1.4
One who is somewhat left leaning	50	14.7%	12.4%	12.7%	14.6%	+2.3
One who is more left leaning	52	15.5%	13.5%	16.2%	14.9%	+2.0
Unsure	18	5.3%	5.1%	4.9%	4.8%	+0.2
Total	338	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Q17. Gender: Are you female or male?

	Freq.	%
Female	804	53.6%
Male	696	46.4%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q18. Age Range: What is your age as of today?

	Freq.	%
<u>Under 55</u>	729	48.6%
18 - 29	160	10.6%
30 - 44	313	20.8%
45 - 54	257	17.1%
<u>55 and Over</u>	771	51.4%
55 - 64	326	21.7%
65+	444	29.6%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q19. Ideology: And thinking about your views toward politics and government, would you say you are...

	Freq.	%
<u>Conservative</u>	599	39.9%
Very conservative	312	20.8%
Somewhat conservative	287	19.2%
<u>Moderate</u>	396	26.4%
<u>Liberal</u>	460	30.6%
Somewhat liberal	217	14.5%
Very liberal	243	16.2%
Unsure	45	3.0%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q20. Specific Voter History: Which of the following general elections did you vote in? Select all that apply.

	Freq.	%
2018 - Congressional Midterm	1,011	67.4%
2020 - Presidential	1,317	87.8%
2022 - Congressional Midterm	1,123	74.8%
2024 - Presidential	1,372	91.5%
I did not vote in any of these elections	34	2.3%
Unsure	23	1.6%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q21. Marital Status: What is your current marital status?

	Freq.	%
Single	367	24.5%
Married	840	56.0%
Divorced	168	11.2%
Widowed	94	6.2%
Separated	18	1.2%
Unsure	13	0.9%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q22. Community Type: Do you consider the area where you live to be more rural, small town, suburban, or urban?

	Freq.	%
Rural	178	11.9%
Small town	233	15.5%
Suburban	773	51.5%
Urban	316	21.1%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q23. Income by Response: What annual household income range do you fall within out of the following options?

	Freq.	%
Less than \$25,000	132	8.8%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	200	13.3%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	216	14.4%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	164	10.9%
\$100,000 - \$124,999	215	14.3%
\$125,000 - \$149,999	167	11.1%
\$150,000 - \$249,999	221	14.7%
\$250,000+	95	6.3%
Unsure	91	6.1%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q24. Race/Ethnicity: Which of the following best describes your race or ethnicity?

	Freq.	%
White or Caucasian	1,070	71.4%
Asian or Pacific Islander	30	2.0%
Black or African American	165	11.0%
Hispanic or Latino	163	10.9%
Other	44	2.9%
Unsure	27	1.8%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q25. 2024 Retro Ballot: Thinking back, who did you vote for in the 2024 election for President?

	Freq.	%
Republican Donald Trump	663	44.2%
Democrat Kamala Harris	693	46.2%
Another candidate	59	3.9%
Did not vote in 2024	49	3.3%
Unsure	37	2.5%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q26. Education Level: What's the highest level of education you have completed?

	Freq.	%
No degree	784	52.3%
Some high school	15	1.0%
High school diploma/GED	242	16.1%
Technical Certification	67	4.5%
Some college or Associate's Degree	460	30.7%
At least College	710	47.3%
Four-year undergraduate or Bachelor's Degree	416	27.7%

Graduate degree or further	294	19.6%
Unsure	6	0.4%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q27. General Election (X of 4)

	Freq.	%
0 of 4	53	3.6%
1 of 4	188	12.5%
2 of 4	171	11.4%
3 of 4	207	13.8%
4 of 4	869	57.9%
Unsure	13	0.8%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q28. Geo - Region

	Freq.	%
Mid-Atlantic	92	6.1%
Midwest	332	22.1%
Northeast	256	17.0%
South	224	15.0%
Southwest	296	19.8%
West	300	20.0%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q29. Gender + Age

	Freq.	%
F 18 - 29	86	5.7%
F 30 - 44	168	11.2%
F 45 - 54	138	9.2%
F 55 - 64	171	11.4%
F 65+	242	16.1%
M 18 - 29	74	4.9%
M 30 - 44	145	9.7%
M 45 - 54	119	7.9%
M 55 - 64	155	10.3%
M 65+	203	13.5%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q30. Partisanship + Gender

	Freq.	%
F GOP	263	17.5%
M GOP	302	20.2%
F DEM	370	24.7%
M DEM	200	13.3%
F Independent	153	10.2%
M Independent	185	12.4%
Unsure	26	1.8%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q31. Race + Gender

	Freq.	%
White Female	585	39.0%
White Male	485	32.4%
Asian Female	12	0.8%
Asian Male	18	1.2%
Black Female	98	6.6%
Black Male	67	4.4%
Hispanic Female	73	4.9%
Hispanic Male	90	6.0%
Other Female	25	1.6%
Other Male	20	1.3%
Unsure	27	1.8%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q32. Gender + Education

	Freq.	%
Female At least College	370	24.6%
Female No degree	431	28.7%
Male At least College	340	22.7%
Male No degree	353	23.5%
Unsure	6	0.4%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q33. Marital Status + Gender

	Freq.	%
Single Male	160	10.7%
Single Female	207	13.8%
Married Male	444	29.6%
Married Female	396	26.4%
Divorced Male	61	4.0%
Divorced Female	108	7.2%
Widowed Male	20	1.3%
Widowed Female	74	4.9%
Separated Male	5	0.3%
Separated Female	13	0.9%
Unsure	13	0.9%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q34. Reachability Tier

	Freq.	%
Saturated (76-100)	208	14.0%
Reachable (51-75)	957	64.4%
Hard to Reach (0-50)	322	21.7%
Total	1,487	100.0%

Q35. Socialist-Curious Flag

	Freq.	%
Socialist-Curious	540	36.0%
All Others	960	64.0%
Total	1,500	100.0%

Q36. Socialism Knowledge Bucket

	Freq.	%
Correct (7-10)	413	29.9%
Partial (4-6)	541	39.1%
Incorrect (0-3)	428	30.9%
Total	1,382	100.0%

Methodology

This probabilistic survey was conducted September 1 - 2, 2026, with 1500 likely 2026 general election voters in National. It has a margin of error of $\pm 2.53\%$. Known registered voters were interviewed via online panel and SMS. This survey was weighted to a likely 2026 general election voter universe.

About

Cygnal is an award-winning international polling, public opinion, and predictive analytics firm that pioneered multi-mode polling, text-to-web collection, and emotive analysis. Cygnal consistently ranks as the most accurate firm, and clients rely on Cygnal's ability to create intelligence for action. Its team members have worked in all 50 states and multiple countries on more than 3,000 corporate, public affairs, and political campaigns.

Impact Research is a full-service public opinion research and consulting firm that bridges the gap between data and action.

American Policy Ventures is a bipartisan nonprofit that aims to de-risk the work of cross-partisan policymaking and collaboration for our nation's leaders — enabling them to reduce polarization, get things done, and tackle the critical issues of our time.

BPC Action is the premier federal political advocate for bipartisan solutions to the challenges facing our country—including economic growth and sound fiscal policy, energy innovation, and workforce needs.