

**Right Count National Survey**  
**N = 4,975 Registered Voters**  
**February 18<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026**  
**100% Online**  
**MOE ±1.4 percentage points**

**SECTION: DEMOGRAPHICS & TURNOUT**

**QDEMOAGE.** Which of the following age groups do you belong to?

- 8% 18-24
- 16% 25-34
- 16% 35-44
- 15% 45-54
- 16% 55-64
- 29% 65 or older

**QDEMOSEX.** What is your gender?

- 48% Male
- 52% Female

**QDEMORACE.** Is your racial or ethnic heritage white, black, Hispanic, Asian or something else?

- 71% White
- 9% Black or African American
- 13% Hispanic
- 5% Asian
- 1% Other

**QVTINT.** How likely are you to vote in the midterm elections in November 2026—would you say extremely likely to vote, very likely, somewhat likely, or not at all likely?

- 64% Extremely likely to vote
- 17% Very likely to vote
- 12% Somewhat likely to vote
- 4% Not at all likely to vote
- 3% Unsure

- 81% **Likely to vote**
- 16% **Not likely to vote**

**QGVOTER.** Thinking about all elections including school board, local, and primary elections, how many of them have you voted in over the past few years?

- 35% All of them
- 31% Most of them
- 13% About half of them
- 12% Less than half of them
- 6% None of them
- 2% Unsure

- 66% **Most or all**
- 18% **Half or less**

**QVOTETYPE.** Now thinking about most general elections, which answer best describes how you voted?

- 23% Straight Democratic
- 17% Mostly Democratic
- 5% A few more Democrats than Republicans

- 9% About equally for both parties
- 5% A few more Republicans than Democrats
- 17% Mostly Republican
- 20% Straight Republican
- 2% Other
- 2% Never voted
  
- 45% **More Democrats**
- 42% **More Republicans**

## SECTION: CONFIDENCE IN ELECTIONS

**QSTATECONFIDENCE.** How confident are you that votes will be accurately counted and cast in the 2026 elections in your state?

- 43% Very confident
- 34% Somewhat confident
- 14% Not too confident
- 5% Not at all confident
- 4% Unsure
  
- 77% **Confident**
- 19% **Not confident**

**QOTHERSTATECOMP.** Compared to other states, do you think your state does a better or worse job of ensuring that ballots are cast and counted accurately?

- 21% Much better
- 29% Somewhat better
- 10% Somewhat worse
- 6% Much worse
- 23% About the same
- 11% Unsure
  
- 50% **Better**
- 16% **Worse**

**Q2020VALIDITY.** Which of the following best describes how you think about the 2020 presidential election today?

- 43% The election was legitimate and the results were correct
- 37% There may have been some issues, but at this point the outcome should be accepted and moved past
- 20% The election was rigged and the outcome should still be questioned

**QACCURACY.** When it comes to how votes are counted, which of these comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

- 38% I'm more concerned that eligible voters' ballots may not be counted
- 36% I'm more concerned that ballots that should not count may be included
- 26% Not very concerned about either of these

**QMAILINBALLOT.** Which statement comes closer to your view about mail-in voting, even if neither is exactly right?

- 40% Mail-in voting opens the door for fraud and abuse. If elections are going to be secure, voting should happen in person, not through the mail.
- 51% Mail-in voting is a convenient and secure way to vote. Safeguards like signature checks and audits make sure only legal votes are counted.
- 9% Unsure

Thinking more about how people vote and how votes are counted, how much would you say you trust or distrust each of the following methods of voting?

**QVOTINGDROPBOX.** Ballot drop boxes

30% Strongly trust  
37% Somewhat trust  
17% Somewhat distrust  
12% Strongly distrust  
5% Unsure

67% **Trust**  
29% **Distrust**

**QVOTINGELECTRONIC.** Electronic voting machines

38% Strongly trust  
39% Somewhat trust  
13% Somewhat distrust  
5% Strongly distrust  
4% Unsure

77% **Trust**  
18% **Distrust**

**QVOTINGSCAN.** Optical scan paper ballots

32% Strongly trust  
40% Somewhat trust  
12% Somewhat distrust  
4% Strongly distrust  
12% Unsure

72% **Trust**  
16% **Distrust**

**QVOTINGMACHINE.** Ballot scanners / tabulation machines

34% Strongly trust  
43% Somewhat trust  
12% Somewhat distrust  
5% Strongly distrust  
6% Unsure

77% **Trust**  
17% **Distrust**

**QVOTINGSIGNATURE.** Signature verification software

33% Strongly trust  
43% Somewhat trust  
12% Somewhat distrust  
4% Strongly distrust  
9% Unsure

76% **Trust**  
16% **Distrust**

**QVOTINGMANUALCOUNT.** Manual hand counts of paper ballots

32% Strongly trust  
38% Somewhat trust

18% Somewhat distrust  
8% Strongly distrust  
4% Unsure

70% **Trust**  
26% **Distrust**

**QVOTINGREMOTE.** Remote voting for military and overseas voters

37% Strongly trust  
40% Somewhat trust  
11% Somewhat distrust  
5% Strongly distrust  
7% Unsure

77% **Trust**  
16% **Distrust**

Below are some proposals related to how elections are run. For each one, please tell us on a scale of 0 to 5 how much this would improve your confidence in the accurate casting and counting of votes, where 0 means it will make no difference to you and 5 means this would make you completely confident in vote accuracy.

**QVOTEROLLS.** Cleaning up the voter lists to ensure that they are accurate and up to date

5% 0 – Makes no difference  
2% 1  
6% 2  
19% 3  
30% 4  
38% 5 – Makes me completely confident in vote accuracy

68% **4 or 5 (High confidence boost)**

**QVOTERID.** Requiring all individuals to provide valid, government-issued photo identification and verification of voter registration in order to vote

7% 0 – Makes no difference  
3% 1  
5% 2  
16% 3  
22% 4  
47% 5 – Makes me completely confident in vote accuracy

69% **4 or 5 (High confidence boost)**

**QBALLOTSECURITY.** Requiring secure storage of ballots that have been cast either by mail, early in-person, or after election day

4% 0 – Makes no difference  
2% 1  
5% 2  
19% 3  
28% 4  
42% 5 – Makes me completely confident in vote accuracy

70% **4 or 5 (High confidence boost)**

**QVIDEODROPBOX.** Requiring 24/7 video monitoring of ballot drop boxes

6% 0 – Makes no difference

- 2% 1
- 5% 2
- 16% 3
- 28% 4
- 43% 5 – Makes me completely confident in vote accuracy

71% **High confidence boost (4 or 5)**

**QVOTINGMACHINE2.** Barring voting machines from connecting to the internet and requiring regular testing of voting machines

- 5% 0 – Makes no difference
- 2% 1
- 6% 2
- 22% 3
- 28% 4
- 37% 5 – Makes me completely confident in vote accuracy

65% **High confidence boost (4 or 5)**

**QFEDERALISM.** Which statement comes closer to your view of who should run elections in the states?

- 61% States should set and run their own elections with federal agencies having limited oversight roles
- 25% Federal agencies should be the ultimate decision-makers on election administration, even if states disagree
- 14% Unsure

**QCOURTS.** Which comes closer to your view about who should have the final say in setting election rules in the United States?

- 35% Federal courts, including the Supreme Court
- 13% Elected Officials in Washington, DC
- 37% State governments
- 15% Unsure

## **SECTION: ELECTION PROCESS KNOWLEDGE & INTEREST**

**QELECTIONIMPORTANCE.** Overall, how important do you think elections are to the functioning of American democracy?

- 60% Extremely important
- 24% Very important
- 11% Somewhat important
- 2% Not very important
- 1% Not important at all
- 3% Unsure

84% **Important**  
3% **Not Important**

**QELECTIONVALUES.** Which of the following comes closest to your view about elections in the United States?

- 65% Elections are important because they are a fair and accurate way to reflect what voters want, even when the outcome is disappointing.
- 31% Elections matter because they determine who governs, regardless of how the process works.
- 4% Winning matters more than the process used to get there.

**QELECTIONMORAL.** When elections are very close, which comes closer to your view?

- 84% Making sure every vote is counted properly and the process is fair, even if it leads to an outcome I dislike
- 12% Making sure my preferred candidate wins, given what is at stake
- 5% Unsure

**QLEARNPROCESS.** On a scale from 1 to 7, how interested are you in learning more about the election process in your state and locality, where 1 means not at all interested and 7 means extremely interested?

- 4% 1 – Not at all interested
- 3% 2
- 3% 3
- 25% 4 – Neutral
- 19% 5
- 22% 6
- 23% 7 – Extremely interested
- 1% Unsure

- 64% **Interested (5-7)**
- 11% **Not Interested (1-3)**

**QTRUSTANDLEARN.** Which of these comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

- 53% I don't fully trust how elections are run, but I believe the answer is learning how the process works and making it better
- 15% The election system is too broken to fix, and learning more about it won't change anything
- 32% I fully trust the election system in my state

**QILLEGALVOTING.** Based on what you've heard or read, how common do you think it is for non-citizens to vote in U.S. elections?

- 20% Very common
- 26% Somewhat common
- 32% Rare, but does happen
- 15% I don't believe this happens at all
- 7% Unsure

- 46% **Common**
- 47% **Rare or doesn't happen**

Some people express different concerns about the integrity of elections. For each of the following, please indicate how much you see this as a problem in elections today.

**QFOREIGNINTERFERENCE.** Foreign interference in U.S. elections

- 38% A very serious problem
- 34% A somewhat serious problem
- 16% Not too serious of a problem
- 6% Not a problem at all
- 5% Unsure

- 72% **Serious problem**
- 22% **Not a problem**

**QCORRUPTOFFICIALS.** Corrupt or biased local election officials

- 40% A very serious problem
- 31% A somewhat serious problem
- 17% Not too serious of a problem
- 7% Not a problem at all

5% Unsure

71% **Serious problem**

24% **Not a problem**

**QBALLOTSTUFFING.** Ballot stuffing at unattended drop boxes

34% A very serious problem

28% A somewhat serious problem

18% Not too serious of a problem

13% Not a problem at all

7% Unsure

62% **Serious problem**

31% **Not a problem**

**QFRAUD.** Fraud involving mail-in ballots

38% A very serious problem

25% A somewhat serious problem

18% Not too serious of a problem

15% Not a problem at all

4% Unsure

63% **Serious problem**

33% **Not a problem**

**QNONCITIZENS.** Non-citizens voting illegally

35% A very serious problem

23% A somewhat serious problem

20% Not too serious of a problem

18% Not a problem at all

4% Unsure

58% **Serious problem**

38% **Not a problem**

**QMEDIA.** Media or political actors spreading misleading information about elections

48% A very serious problem

32% A somewhat serious problem

12% Not too serious of a problem

4% Not a problem at all

4% Unsure

80% **Serious problem**

16% **Not a problem**

**QMANIPULATION.** Some people say that without a clear understanding of how elections work, voters are more likely to be influenced by whichever side is the loudest. How much would you say you agree or disagree with that statement?

22% Strongly agree

46% Somewhat agree

17% Somewhat disagree

8% Strongly disagree

8% Unsure

68% **Agree**

25% **Disagree**

## SECTION: INFORMATION CHANNELS & ACTION

Switching gears and now thinking about how you get news and information.

**QNEWSSOURCE.** Which of the following is the main source through which you consume news about politics and current events?

- 40% Television (such as CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, local TV)
- 17% Online news websites or apps (such as New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Yahoo News)
- 21% Social media platforms (such as Facebook, X/Twitter, TikTok, Instagram)
- 6% Radio or podcasts (such as NPR, talk radio, or news podcasts)
- 4% Printed newspapers or magazines
- 8% Friends, family, or word of mouth
- 4% Not sure / Don't know

**QNEWSPREFPLATFORM.** Which type of online platforms do you get news and information from the most? (Select all that apply)

- 34% Facebook
- 39% YouTube
- 18% X / Twitter
- 22% TikTok
- 19% Podcasts
- 30% Local News Paper or Websites
- 45% Local News Broadcast
- 33% Cable News
- 21% Radio
- 5% None of these
- 1% Don't know

**QDECLAREPITCH.** If a new right-of-center news site said the following, would you find it appealing or would it not be appealing to you? "They want you angry and confused. We explain how the system really works - so you can cut through the noise and call out the lies."

- 23% Very appealing
- 37% Somewhat appealing
- 18% Not very appealing
- 13% Not at all appealing
- 9% Don't know

- 60% **Appealing**
- 31% **Not appealing**

## SECTION: DEMOGRAPHICS

Now a few more questions for background and statistical purposes...

**QDEMOPARTYID.** Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, a Libertarian, a Green Party, an Independent or something else?

- 36% Republican
- 36% Democrat
- 1% Libertarian
- 1% Green Party
- 23% Independent
- 2% No preference
- 1% Other
- 1% Unsure

**QDEMOINTENSE.** Would you call yourself a strong [QDEMOPARTYID RESPONSE] or a not very strong [QDEMOPARTYID RESPONSE]?

- 70% Strong
- 30% Not very strong

*[IF QDEMOPARTYID = Independent/Other/No preference, ASK QDEMOLEAN]*

**QDEMOLEAN.** Do you think of yourself closer to the Republican or the Democratic party?

- 26% Republican
- 32% Democrat
- 42% Neither

**QDEMOPARTYID\_COMBINED.**

- 25% Republican – Strong
- 11% Republican – Not very strong
- 7% Republican – Lean
- 9% Democrat – Lean
- 10% Democrat – Not very strong
- 26% Democrat – Strong
- 12% Neither

43% **Republican Total**

45% **Democrat Total**

**Q2024.** Who did you vote for in the 2024 election for U.S. President?

- 44% Donald Trump
- 43% Kamala Harris
- 3% Another Party Candidate
- 9% I did not vote in the 2024 Election
- 1% Don't Know

**QVOTETYPE.** Now thinking about most general elections, which answer best describes how you voted?

- 23% Straight Democratic
- 17% Mostly Democratic
- 5% A few more Democrats than Republicans
- 9% About equally for both parties
- 5% A few more Republicans than Democrats
- 17% Mostly Republican
- 20% Straight Republican
- 2% Other
- 2% Never voted

45% **More Democrats**

42% **More Republicans**

**QDEMOEDUCATION.** What is the last grade of school you completed?

- 26% High School or Less
- 35% Vocation school / Technical school / 2-year degree / Some college
- 28% 4-year bachelor's degree
- 11% Post-graduate degree (e.g. MA, MBA, LLD, PhD)

61% **Less than a bachelor's degree**

28% **Bachelor's degree**

11% **Post-graduate**

**QDEMOHOMEOWNERRENTER.** Are you a homeowner or do you rent?

**61%** Homeowner

**39%** Renter

**QDEMOINCOME.** Which of the following income groups includes your total household income before taxes?

**19%** \$30,000 or less

**18%** \$30,001 - \$49,999

**21%** \$50,000 - \$74,999

**16%** \$75,000 - \$99,999

**25%** \$100,000 or more

**37%** **Less than \$50k**

**21%** **\$50k - \$75k**

**16%** **\$75k - \$100k**

**25%** **More than \$100k**

**QDEMOMARITALSTATUS.** What is your marital status?

**55%** Single

**45%** Married

**QDEMOCHILDREN.** Do you have children 18 years of age or younger in your household?

**28%** Yes

**72%** No