BLW YouGov spec

This study is being conducted by John Carey, Gretchen Helmke, Brendan Nyhan, and Susan Stokes, who are professors at Dartmouth College (Carey and Nyhan), the University of Rochester (Helmke), and Yale University (Stokes). We ask for your attention for a few minutes and we thank you for your attention and your responses. Your participation is voluntary and you may decline the survey or withdraw at any time. No information that identifies you will be collected or retained by the researchers. However, any online interaction carries some risk of being accessed. Do you consent to participate in the survey?

- Yes
- No

How old are you?

- Under 18
- 18 - 24
- 25 - 34
- 35 - 44
- 45 - 54
- 55 - 64
- 65 - 74
- 75 - 84
- 85 or older
Now we would like to ask you about your views on politics. On the next several screens you will see questions about the executive (president), legislature (Congress), and judiciary (courts), as well as about the news media and the political actions of individual citizens. The questions will ask you to evaluate the importance of certain principles or values to democracy in general, and how well those principles or values are being upheld in practice in the United States.
### How important are these characteristics for democratic government? [randomly display 9 of 27]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Not Relevant</th>
<th>Beneficial</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Essential</th>
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<td>Government officials are legally sanctioned for misconduct</td>
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Government protects individuals’ right to engage in unpopular speech or expression.

Political competition occurs without criticism of opponents’ loyalty or patriotism.

Elections are free from foreign influence.

Parties and candidates are not barred due to their political beliefs and ideologies.

All adult citizens have equal opportunity to vote.

All votes have equal impact on election outcomes.

Elections are conducted, ballots counted, and winners determined without pervasive fraud or manipulation.

Executive authority cannot be expanded.
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<tr>
<td>Advantage any particular political party</td>
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[timing]
How well do the following statements describe the United States as of today?
[Carry forward 9 displayed choices from "How important are these characteristics for democratic government?"]

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<th>The U.S. does not meet this standard</th>
<th>The U.S. partly meets this standard</th>
<th>The U.S. mostly meets this standard</th>
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[timing]

End of Block

On a scale from 0 to 100, where 0 is least democratic and 100 is most democratic, how would you rate the political system of the United States as of today?

United States today

[end of block]

How important is it for you to live in a country that is governed democratically? On this scale where 1 means it is “not at all important” and 10 means “absolutely important,” what position would you choose?

Not at all important Absolutely important
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

End of Block
In what state do you currently reside?

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri
Montana
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
North Carolina
North Dakota
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Carolina
South Dakota
☐ Tennessee
☐ Texas
☐ Utah
☐ Vermont
☐ Virginia
☐ Washington
☐ West Virginia
☐ Wisconsin
☐ Wyoming
☐ Puerto Rico
☐ I do not reside in the United States

What is your gender?

☐ Male
☐ Female
☐ Other
When it comes to politics, would you describe yourself as liberal, conservative, or neither liberal nor conservative?

- Very conservative
- Somewhat conservative
- Slightly conservative
- Moderate; middle of the road
- Slightly liberal
- Somewhat liberal
- Very liberal

Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?

- Republican
- Democrat
- Independent
- Something else
If Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent,... Democrat Is Selected

Would you call yourself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat?

- Strong Democrat
- Not very strong Democrat

If Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent,... Republican Is Selected

Would you call yourself a strong Republican or not a very strong Republican?

- Strong Republican
- Not very strong Republican

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Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or to the Democratic Party?

- Closer to the Republican Party
- Closer to the Democratic Party
- Neither

[timing]

Page Break
What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?

- Did not graduate from high school
- High school diploma or the equivalent (GED)
- Some college
- Associate's degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree
- Professional or doctorate degree

Please check one or more categories below to indicate what race(s) you consider yourself to be.

- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Multi-racial
- Other

Are you of Spanish or Hispanic origin or descent?

- Yes
- No
Generally, how interested are you in politics?

- Extremely interested
- Very interested
- Somewhat interested
- Not very interested
- Not at all interested

[Timing]

End of Block

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as President?

- Strongly approve
- Somewhat approve
- Somewhat disapprove
- Strongly disapprove

[Timing]

End of Block
The next set of questions helps us learn what types of information are commonly known to the public. Please answer these questions on your own without asking anyone or looking up the answers. Many people don’t know the answers to these questions, but we’d be grateful if you would please answer every question even if you’re not sure what the right answer is.

It is important to us that you do NOT use outside sources like the Internet to search for the correct answer. Will you answer the following questions without help from outside sources?

- Yes
- No

[timing]

End of Block

For how many years is a United States Senator elected - that is, how many years are there in one full term of office for a U.S. Senator?

- Two years
- Four years
- Six years
- Eight years
- None of these
- Don’t know
How many times can an individual be elected President of the United States under current laws?

- Once
- Twice
- Four times
- Unlimited number of terms
- Don't know

How many U.S. Senators are there from each state?

- One
- Two
- Four
- Depends on which state
- Don't know

Who is currently the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom?

- Richard Branson
- Nick Clegg
- David Cameron
- Theresa May
- Margaret Thatcher
- Don't know
For how many years is a member of the United States House of Representatives elected - that is, how many years are there in one full term of office for a U.S. House member?

- Two years
- Four years
- Six years
- Eight years
- For life
- Don’t know

It is essential for the validity of this study that we know whether participants looked up any information online during the study. Did you make an effort to look up information during the study? Please be honest; you will still be paid and you will not be penalized in any way if you did.

- Yes, I looked up information
- No, I did not look up information
Do you have any comments on the survey? Please let us know about any problems you had or aspects of the survey that were confusing.

[textbox]

Thank you for answering these questions. This research is not intended to support or oppose any political candidate or office. The research has no affiliation with any political candidate or campaign and has received no financial support from any political candidate or campaign. Should you have any questions about this study, please contact Prof. Brendan Nyhan at brendan.j.nyhan@dartmouth.edu.

End of Block