

**2025 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL**  
**WAVE 164 FEB 2025**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025**  
**TOTAL N=5,123**

**Note:** All numbers are percentages unless otherwise noted. Percentages less than 0.5% are replaced by an asterisk (\*). Rows/columns may not total 100% due to rounding. The questions presented below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel.

"No answer" includes web respondents who do not answer the question as well as telephone respondents who refuse to answer or who say they don't know how to answer. In cases where "not sure" was offered as an explicit option to web and telephone respondents, the "no answer" category includes only web skips and telephone refusals.

This survey was conducted primarily online, with some interviews conducted by live telephone. This topline shows the programming language for online administration. For details on how questions were slightly modified for phone administration, visit the questionnaire.

American Trends Panel surveys conducted between October 2016 and June 2024 were conducted fully online (with tablets and data plans provided to adults without home internet). For additional details, visit the methodology.

**PN = Programming note**

	<b>Sample size</b>	<b>Margin of error at 95% confidence level</b>
U.S. adults	5,123	+/- 1.5 percentage points
Form 1	2,542	+/- 2.2 percentage points
Form 2	2,581	+/- 2.2 percentage points

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****FREEDOM****ASK ALL:****[ PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS ]**

In the U.S. ...

		Completely <u>free</u>	Somewhat <u>free</u>	Not very <u>free</u>	Not at all <u>free</u>	No <u>answer</u>
PRESS	How free is the media to report the news?					
	Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	33	46	16	4	1
	Apr 1-7, 2024	33	46	16	5	*
SAY	How free are people to say what they want?					
	Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	32	54	12	2	*
	Apr 1-7, 2024	28	53	15	4	*
INTERNET	How free are people to use the internet?					
	Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	54	38	5	2	1
	Apr 1-7, 2024	40	48	9	3	*

**NEWS SOCIETY****ASK ALL:****[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 ]**

Overall, how important do you think the freedom of the press is to the well-being of society?

	Extremely <u>important</u>	Very <u>important</u>	Somewhat <u>important</u>	A little <u>important</u>	Not at all <u>important</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	47	31	17	4	2	1
Apr 1-7, 2024	44	29	18	6	2	1

**[ PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF NEWSCORP AND NEWSGOVT ]****NEWSCORP****ASK ALL:****[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1 IN SAME ORDER AS NEWSGOVT HOLDING 5 AND 99 LAST ]**How much, if at all, do you think that U.S. news organizations are influenced by corporations and financial interests?

	A great <u>deal</u>	Somewhat	Not very <u>much</u>	Not at all	Not sure	No <u>answer</u>
Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	55	30	6	1	8	1
Apr 1-7, 2024	51	33	6	1	9	1

## [ PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF NEWSCORP AND NEWSGOVT ]

## NEWSGOVT

## ASK ALL:

[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1 IN SAME ORDER AS NEWSCORP HOLDING 5 AND 99 LAST ]

How much, if at all, do you think that U.S. news organizations are influenced by government and political interests?

	A great <u>deal</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	Not very <u>much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>Not sure</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	57	29	5	1	7	1
Apr 1-7, 2024	49	34	7	1	9	1

## NEWSRESTRICT

## ASK ALL:

[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 ]

How concerned are you, if at all, about potential restrictions on press freedoms in the United States?

	<u>Extremely concerned</u>	<u>Very concerned</u>	<u>Somewhat concerned</u>	<u>A little concerned</u>	<u>Not at all concerned</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	22	21	26	15	14	1
Apr 1-7, 2024	19	22	29	17	11	1

## [ PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF VIOLENTG AND MISINFG ]

## VIOLENTG

ASK IF FORM 1 (X\_FORM=1) [N=2,542]:

[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 IN SAME ORDER AS MISINFG HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST ]

Which comes closer to your own view – even if neither is exactly right?

	The U.S. government should take steps to restrict <u>extremely violent</u> content online, even if it limits people from freely publishing or accessing information	People's freedom to publish and access information should be protected, even if it means <u>extremely violent</u> content can also be published	No answer
Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	52	46	2
Jun 5-11, 2023	60	38	3

## [ PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF VIOLENTG AND MISINFG ]

## MISINFG

ASK IF FORM 1 (X\_FORM=1) [N=2,542]:

[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 IN SAME ORDER AS VIOLENTG HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST ]

Which comes closer to your own view – even if neither is exactly right?

	The U.S. government should take steps to restrict <u>false</u> information online, even if it limits people from freely publishing or accessing information	People's freedom to publish and access information should be protected, even if it means <u>false</u> information can also be published	No answer
Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	51	47	2
Jun 5-11, 2023	55	42	3
Jul 26-Aug 8, 2021	48	50	2
Feb 26-Mar 11, 2018	39	58	4

## [ PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF VIOLENTT AND MISINFT ]

## VIOLENTT

ASK IF FORM 2 (X\_FORM=2) [N=2,581]:

[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 IN SAME ORDER AS MISINFT HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST ]

Which comes closer to your own view – even if neither is exactly right?

	Technology companies should take steps to restrict <u>extremely</u> <u>violent</u> content online, even if it limits people from freely publishing or accessing information	People's freedom to publish and access information should be protected, even if it means <u>extremely</u> <u>violent</u> content can also be published	No answer
Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	58	39	2
Jun 5-11, 2023	71	26	2

## [ PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF VIOLENTT AND MISINFT ]

## MISINFT

ASK IF FORM 2 (X\_FORM=2) [N=2,581]:

[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 IN SAME ORDER AS VIOLENTT HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST ]

Which comes closer to your own view – even if neither is exactly right?

	Technology companies should take steps to restrict <u>false</u> information online, even if it limits people from freely publishing or accessing information	People's freedom to publish and access information should be protected, even if it means <u>false</u> information can also be published	No answer
Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	60	38	2
Jun 5-11, 2023	65	32	3
May 16-22, 2022	61	37	2
Jul 26-Aug 8, 2021	59	39	2
Feb 26-Mar 11, 2018	56	42	2

## SEEKPOL

ASK ALL:

[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST ]

Which statement best describes how you get political news?

	I mostly get political news because I'm looking for it	I mostly get political news because I happen to come across it	No answer
Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	45	54	1
Apr 8-14, 2024	42	57	2
Mar 8-14, 2021	46	54	1

**ADMINFOL25****ASK ALL:**

How closely, if at all, have you been following news about the actions and initiatives of the Trump administration since Donald Trump took office in January?

Feb 24-  
Mar 2,  
2025

31	Very closely
40	Fairly closely
21	Not too closely
8	Not at all closely
*	No answer

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:****ASK ALL:**

TOPICFOL How closely, if at all, have you been following news about...

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. The actions and initiatives of the Biden administration since the inauguration Mar 8-14, 2021	22	44	25	9	*

**ADMINNOT**

**ASK IF FOLLOW NOT TOO OR NOT AT ALL CLOSELY (ADMINFOL25=3,4) [N=1,348]:**  
**[ PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS ]**

How much of a reason, if any, is each of the following for why you are not following news about the Trump administration very closely?

		<u>Major reason</u>	<u>Minor reason</u>	<u>Not a reason</u>	<u>No answer</u>
REL	It's not relevant to my life Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	15	32	51	1
WORN	I'm worn out by the amount of it Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	49	25	25	1
DISLIKE	I don't like what the administration is doing Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	34	23	42	1
FOLLOW	I don't typically follow political news Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	48	31	21	*
TRUST	I trust the administration to make good decisions Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	13	22	64	1

**ADMINWHY****ASK IF FOLLOW VERY OR FAIRLY CLOSELY (ADMINFOL25=1,2) [N=3,769]:****[ PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS ]**

How much of a reason, if any, is each of the following for why you are following news about the Trump administration closely?

		<u>Major reason</u>	<u>Minor reason</u>	<u>Not a reason</u>	<u>No answer</u>
REL	It's relevant to my life Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	62	30	8	*
CONCERN	I'm concerned about what the administration is doing Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	66	17	16	*
LIKE	I like what the administration is doing Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	36	16	47	*
AVOID	It's hard to avoid Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	43	30	26	*
ENT	It's entertaining or interesting Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	25	33	42	*

**ADMINNEWS25****ASK ALL:****[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 HOLDING 3, 4 AND 99 LAST ]**

Since Donald Trump took office in January, would you say you are paying more, less, or about the same amount of attention to political news as you were before he took office?

Feb 24-  
Mar 2,  
2025

40	More attention
10	Less attention
46	About the same amount of attention
4	Not sure
*	No answer

**ADMIN1****ASK ALL:****[ PN: RANDOMIZE INSERT SHOWN IN PARENS ]**

How much, if anything, have you heard about the relationship between the **[ PN: RANDOMIZE INSERT SHOWN ]** "Trump administration and the U.S. news media"; "U.S. news media and the Trump administration" ]?

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Nothing at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Feb 24-Mar 2, 2025	36	44	19	*
Mar 13-27, 2017	72	22	6	*

**MEDIA\_ADMIN25****ASK ALL:****[ PN: RANDOMIZE INSERT SHOWN IN PARENS IN SAME ORDER AS ADMIN1; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST ]**

Do you think that **[ PN: RANDOMIZE INSERT SHOWN IN SAME ORDER AS ADMIN1 ]** "the Trump administration and the U.S. news media"; "the U.S. news media and the Trump administration" ] currently have a...?

Feb 24-	
Mar 2,	
<u>2025</u>	
2	Very good relationship
9	Somewhat good relationship
22	Neutral relationship
42	Somewhat bad relationship
22	Very bad relationship
3	No answer

**[ PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF TRUMPMED1 AND TRUMPMED2 ]****TRUMPMED1****ASK ALL:****[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 IN SAME ORDER AS TRUMPMED2 HOLDING 3, 98 AND 99 LAST ]**

When it comes to the U.S. news media, would you say the Trump administration has been...

Feb 24-	
Mar 2,	
<u>2025</u>	
46	Too critical
22	Not critical enough
29	Mostly fair
3	No answer

**[ PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF TRUMPMED1 AND TRUMPMED2 ]**



**TRUMPMED2****ASK ALL:**

**[ PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 IN SAME ORDER AS TRUMPMED1 HOLDING 3, 98 AND 99 LAST ]**

When it comes to the Trump administration, would you say the U.S. news media have been...

Feb 24-

Mar 2,

2025

39	Too critical
36	Not critical enough
22	Mostly fair
3	No answer