

2026 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
Wave 196: Politics Survey
July 6-12, 2026

QUESTIONNAIRE

Note: The questions presented below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel. For all questions, the 98 ("Don't know" in phone mode) and 99 ("Refusal" in phone mode and "No answer" in web mode) codes are combined in the data for analytical purposes.

PN = Programming note

CODEBOOK FOR ATP SAMPLE VARIABLES TO BE USED IN SURVEY PROGRAMMING LOGIC

X_FORM

- 1 Form 1
- 2 Form 2

Note: Flag to randomly assign panelists to one of two forms (Form 1, Form 2) and weight within form
Source: Randomly assigned for each survey.

X_CITIZEN

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 99 Refused

Note: Flag to identify citizens filtered on CONG, POL10.
Source: Frame file variable F_CITIZEN.

 -----**MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE BEGINS HERE**-----

QUE: SATIS**ASK ALL:**

All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

- 1 Satisfied
- 2 Dissatisfied
- 98 [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Don't know
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

QUE: POL1DT**ASK ALL:**

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

[PN: IF CATI:] [INTERVIEWER: IF R SAYS "It Depends", PROBE ONCE WITH:
 Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as
 President? IF STILL DEPENDS, ENTER AS "Don't know".]

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 98 [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Don't know
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

QUE: POL1DTSTR**ASK IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE OF TRUMP (POL1DT=1 OR 2):**

Do you [PN: IF POL1DT=1 INSERT "approve"; IF POL1DT=2 INSERT "disapprove"] of
 the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 Very strongly
- 2 Not so strongly
- 98 [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Don't know
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

BAT: INSTFAV**ASK ALL:**

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF WEB:] Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of the following?

[PN: IF CATI: **READ FOR FIRST ITEM:**] Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each of the following? First, **(INSERT ITEM)**. Is your opinion... **(READ LIST)**

[PN: IF CATI: **READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:**] What about **(INSERT ITEM)**? **(READ AS NECESSARY:** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of **(INSERT ITEM)**? Is your opinion... **(READ LIST))**

BATTERY ITEMS:

CONG Congress

ADDITIONAL ITEM HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Very favorable
- 2 Mostly favorable
- 3 Mostly unfavorable
- 4 Very unfavorable
- 98 [PN: IF CATI:] **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: MIDCMPGN**ASK ALL:**

How much thought, if any, have you given to the congressional elections coming up in November?

[PN: IF CATI:] **(READ LIST)**

- 1 A lot
- 2 Some
- 3 Not much
- 4 None at all
- 98 [PN: IF CATI:] **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: MATTERSCONG**ASK ALL:**

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; KEEP THE SCALE ALWAYS 1-4 ON SCREEN, WITH FINAL DATA SHOWING SCALE FROM 1-REALLY MATTERS TO 4-DOESN'T REALLY MATTER; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF WEB:] Thinking about how you feel about the 2026 congressional elections in November, where would you place yourself on the following scale?

[PN: IF CATI:] Thinking about how you feel about the 2026 congressional elections in November, please tell me where you would place yourself on a scale from 1 to 4, where 1 means it **[PN: INSERT RESPONSE OPTION=1]** and 4 means it **[PN: INSERT RESPONSE OPTION=4]**. You may use any number from 1 to 4.

[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ LIST)

- 1 Really matters which party wins control of Congress
- 2
- 3
- 4 Doesn't really matter which party wins control of Congress
- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: CONG**ASK IF CITIZEN (X_CITIZEN=1):**

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 3, 4 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

If the November elections for the U.S. House of Representatives were being held today, would you vote for...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 The Republican Party's candidate in your district
- 2 The Democratic Party's candidate in your district
- 3 Another candidate
- [PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]**
- 4 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: CONGA**ASK IF NOT SURE OR NO RESPONSE TO CONG (CONG=4,99):****[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1 IN SAME ORDER AS CONG, HOLDING 3, 4 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]**As of today, who do you lean more towards for the U.S. House of Representatives?**[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)**

- 1 The Republican Party's candidate in your district
- 2 The Democratic Party's candidate in your district
- 3 Another candidate

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

- 4 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: POL10**ASK IF CITIZEN (X_CITIZEN=1):**

Do you think about your vote for Congress this fall as...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 A vote for Trump
- 2 A vote against Trump
- 3 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Trump is not much of a factor in my vote for Congress this fall **[PN: IF CATI:]** Trump is not much of a factor in your vote for Congress this fall
- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: CONGISSUEOE**ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1):**

What one issue would you most like to hear the candidates running for Congress in your district talk about during the campaign?

[PN: INSERT SINGLE LINE TEXT BOX]

- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: CONGISSUE_CLOSED**ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2):****[PN: RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-5 HOLDING 6, 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION ROTATION IN DATA FILE]****[PN: IF WEB, SOFT PROMPT IF SELECT CODE 6 AND LEFT BLANK: "You did not provide a response in the text box. If you would like to skip, click Next." ALLOW TO CONTINUE IF SKIP AGAIN WITHOUT ENTERING TEXT; IF CATI, INTERVIEWERS MUST ENTER A TEXT RESPONSE IF CODE 6 SELECTED]**

What one issue would you most like to hear the candidates running for Congress in your district talk about during the campaign?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 The economy
- 2 Immigration
- 3 Foreign policy
- 4 Healthcare
- 5 Education
- 6 Other (please specify): **[PN: INSERT SINGLE LINE TEXT BOX]**
- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: OWNREP**ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2):**

Would you like to see your representative in Congress be reelected in the next congressional elections?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- [PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]**
- 3 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Don't know enough about my representative to say **[PN: IF CATI:]** Don't know enough about your representative to say
- 4 **[PN: IF WEB:]** My representative is not running for reelection **[PN: IF CATI:]** Your representative is not running for reelection
- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: MOSTREP**ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2):**

Regardless of how you feel about your own representative, would you like to see most members of Congress reelected in the next congressional elections?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST IF NECESSARY)

1 Yes

2 No

98 [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Don't know

99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

QUE: DEMCONGWORK**ASK IF SUPPORT DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE OR LEAN TOWARD DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE (CONG=2 OR CONGA=2):**

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

Which is more important to you in a Democratic congressional candidate?

Someone who, if elected, will focus on...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

1 Finding common ground with Republicans on policies, even if it means giving up some things Democrats want

2 Pushing hard for policies Democrats want, even if it makes it much harder to get some things done

98 [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Don't know

99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

QUE: REPCONGWORK

**ASK IF SUPPORT REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE OR LEAN TOWARD REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE
(CONG=1 OR CONGA=1):**

**[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE
ROTATION IN DATA FILE]**

Which is more important to you in a Republican congressional candidate?

Someone who, if elected, will focus on...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 Finding common ground with Democrats on policies, even if it means giving up some things Republicans want
- 2 Pushing hard for policies Republicans want, even if it makes it much harder to get some things done
- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: DTECON

ASK ALL:

Since taking office, have Donald Trump's economic policies made economic conditions...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 Not had much of an effect
- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

BAT: PTYISSUE**ASK ALL:**

[PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF SCREEN 1 AND SCREEN 2; RANDOMIZE ITEMS WITHIN EACH SCREEN; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1 HOLDING 5, 98, AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATIONS AND ROTATIONS IN DATA FILE]

[PN: SHOW "READ FOR FIRST ITEM" AND "READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS" ON THE FIRST SCREEN; ON THE FIRST SCREEN, BETWEEN THE QUESTION TEXT AND THE GRID, INCLUDE AN INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: "[**INTERVIEWER NOTE: QUESTION CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE**]" ; ONLY SHOW "READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS" ON THE SECOND SCREEN]

[PN: IF WEB:] Which party would you say you agree with on each of the following policy areas?

[PN: IF CATI: **READ FOR FIRST ITEM:**] Which party would you say you agree with on each of the following policy areas? First, (**INSERT ITEM**). Would you say you... (**READ LIST**)?

[PN: IF CATI: **READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:**] What about (**INSERT ITEM**)? (**READ AS NECESSARY:** Would you say you... (**READ LIST**)?)

BATTERY ITEMS:**[PN: SHOW ON SCREEN 1]**

DEBT	ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1): Policies to deal with the budget deficit
LGT	ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1): Policies related to people who are gay, lesbian or transgender
FRCEML	ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1): Policies related to the use of military force
ARTINT	ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1): [PN: IF WEB:] Policies related to artificial intelligence (AI) [PN: IF CATI:] Policies related to artificial intelligence, also known as AI
CRIME	ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2): Policies to deal with crime
ABPOL	ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2): Abortion policy
ENV	ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2): Policies related to the environment and climate
EDUC	ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2): Education policy

[PN: SHOW ON SCREEN 2]

IMM	Immigration policy
HC	Healthcare policy
FRGN	Foreign policy
ECON	Policies to deal with the economy

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

- 1 Strongly agree with the Republican Party
- 2 Somewhat agree with the Republican Party
- 3 Somewhat agree with the Democratic Party
- 4 Strongly agree with the Democratic Party

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

- 5 [PN: IF WEB:] Don't agree with either party [PN: IF CATI:] Or don't you agree with either party?
- 98 [PN: IF CATI:] (**DO NOT READ**) Don't know
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (**DO NOT READ**) Refused

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

TXT:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ECON1/ECON1B AND PERSFNC/PERSFNCB IN BLOCKS, SUCH THAT ECON1 ALWAYS APPEARS BEFORE ECON1B AND PERSFNC ALWAYS APPEARS BEFORE PERSFNCB; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN THE DATA FILE.]

QUE: ECON1**ASK ALL:**

Thinking about the nation's economy...

How would you rate economic conditions in this country today?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 Excellent
 - 2 Good
 - 3 Only fair
 - 4 Poor
 - 98 [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Don't know
 - 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused
-

QUE: ECON1B**ASK ALL:**

A year from now, do you expect that economic conditions in the country as a whole will be...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 Better
- 2 Worse
- 3 About the same as now
- 98 [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Don't know
- 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

TXT:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ECON1/ECON1B AND PERSFNC/PERSFNCB IN BLOCKS, SUCH THAT ECON1 ALWAYS APPEARS BEFORE ECON1B AND PERSFNC ALWAYS APPEARS BEFORE PERSFNCB; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN THE DATA FILE.]

QUE: PERSFNC**ASK ALL:**

[PN: IF WEB:] Thinking about your personal finances...

[PN: IF WEB:] How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in...

[PN: IF CATI:] Thinking about your personal finances... How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in **(READ LIST)**

1 Excellent shape

2 Good shape

3 Only fair shape

4 Poor shape

98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know

99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: PERSFNCB**ASK ALL:**

A year from now, do you expect that the financial situation of you and your family will be...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

1 Better

2 Worse

3 About the same as now

98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know

99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

BAT: ECONCONC**ASK ALL:**

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF WEB:] How concerned, if at all, are you personally about each of the following economic issues in the country today?

[PN: IF CATI: **READ FOR FIRST ITEM:**] How concerned, if at all, are you personally about each of the following economic issues in the country today? First, **(INSERT ITEM)? (READ LIST)**

[PN: IF CATI: **READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:**] What about **(INSERT ITEM)? (READ AS NECESSARY: How concerned, if at all, are you personally about (INSERT ITEM)? (READ LIST IF NECESSARY))**

BATTERY ITEMS:

UNEM	People who want to work being unable to find jobs
PRICE	The price of food and consumer goods
HC	The cost of healthcare
GAS	ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1): The price of gasoline
ELEC	ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1): The price of electricity
STCK	ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1): How the stock market is doing
REAL	ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2): The cost of housing
ENG2	ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2): The price of gasoline and energy
ARTFCL	ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2): [PN: IF WEB:] The role of artificial intelligence (AI) in the economy [PN: IF CATI:] The role of artificial intelligence, also known as AI, in the economy

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

1	Very concerned
2	Somewhat concerned
3	Not too concerned
4	Not at all concerned
98	[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Don't know
99	[PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE