

Majority of Americans Believe There is Intelligent Life and Civilizations on Other Planets

Nearly three in ten believe that alien societies would be like human societies

Washington, DC, January 28, 2020 – A recent Ipsos poll reveals that more than six in ten Americans believe there is life on other planets. While a majority (57%) think there is intelligent life and civilizations on other planets, 26% of Americans believe that alien societies, if they exist, would be similar to human societies. Moreover, nearly half (45%) agree that UFOs exist and have visited the Earth, and more than one third (37%) say that humans will create permanent outer space colonies within the next 80 years.

For full results, please refer to the following questionnaire.







Full Annotated Questionnaire:

1. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (Select one for each)

Total Agree Summary

	Total (N=1,005)
There is life on other planets	66%
There is intelligent life and civilizations on other planets	57%
UFOs exist and have visited the Earth	45%
Humans will have permanent colonies in outer space by 2100	37%
If they exist, alien and human societies would be similar	26%

a. There is life on other planets

	Total
Strongly agree	29%
Somewhat agree	36%
Somewhat disagree	10%
Strongly disagree	7%
Don't know	17%
Agree (Net)	66%
Disagree (Net)	18%

b. There is intelligent life and civilizations on other planets

	Total
Strongly agree	22%
Somewhat agree	35%
Somewhat disagree	12%
Strongly disagree	11%
Don't know	20%
Agree (Net)	57%
Disagree (Net)	22%







c. Humans will have permanent colonies in outer space by 2100

	Total
Strongly agree	9%
Somewhat agree	28%
Somewhat disagree	23%
Strongly disagree	15%
Don't know	25%
Agree (Net)	37%
Disagree (Net)	38%

d. UFOs exist and have visited the Earth

	Total
Strongly agree	15%
Somewhat agree	30%
Somewhat disagree	17%
Strongly disagree	14%
Don't know	25%
Agree (Net)	45%
Disagree (Net)	31%

e. If they exist, alien and human societies would be similar

	Total
Strongly agree	3%
Somewhat agree	22%
Somewhat disagree	27%
Strongly disagree	18%
Don't know	29%
Agree (Net)	26%
Disagree (Net)	45%







About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between January 2-3, 2020, on behalf of Medium. For this survey, a sample of 1,005 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos' online panel (see link below for more info on "Access Panels and Recruitment"), partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos "Ampario Overview" sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing a sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2016 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Posthoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, and education.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online non-probability polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following (n= 1,005, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=+/- 5.0 percentage points).

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About Ipsos

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Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos is listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1st, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and the Mid-60 index and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

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