



TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Axios/Ipsos Hard Truth Environmental Poll

Conducted by Ipsos using KnowledgePanel®
A survey of the American general population (ages 18+)

Interview dates: September 9 – September 15, 2021

Number of interviews: 2,184

Number of White interviews: 790

Number of Black interviews: 572

Number of Hispanic interviews: 566

Number of Asian/Pacific Islander interviews: 221

Margin of error: +/-2.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Reduced bases are unweighted values.

*NOTE: * = less than 0.5%, - = no respondents*

Annotated Questionnaire:

1. Which three of the following topics do you find the most worrying? (Select up to three)

Topic	Total April-May 2021	Total August 2021	Total September 2021	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/Pacific Islander
COVID-19/coronavirus	30	41	40	36	50	45	49
Political extremism or polarization	31	31	31	37	14	18	28
Climate change	21	29	25	24	15	28	37
Crime or gun violence	31	24	24	21	39	26	25
Healthcare	23	22	20	20	18	17	25
Government budget and debt	19	19	20	26	6	11	13
Immigration	20	19	18	22	4	16	10
Racial injustice and discrimination	25	17	17	10	51	17	21
Domestic terrorism	14	11	16	19	12	12	9
Taxes	13	12	13	15	7	10	11
Education	10	10	9	8	8	13	7
Social inequality	10	7	9	9	10	9	10
Natural disasters	5	6	9	7	10	14	10
Opioid or drug addiction	8	9	8	8	7	8	3
Unemployment	7	7	7	6	10	12	9
Foreign conflicts	5	5	6	7	4	4	5
Other	3	3	4	5	2	2	4
None of these	3	3	3	3	6	3	2
Skipped	*	*	*	-	1	-	1



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2. How good or poor would you rate the following environmental conditions in your neighborhood or community?

Amount of trees and greenery	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Almost always good	37	44	25	22	26
Mostly good	34	34	35	33	33
Mixed; more good than poor	13	11	15	18	21
Mixed; more poor than good	8	7	10	11	11
Mostly poor	4	3	5	7	5
Almost always poor	1	*	2	3	1
Don't know	2	1	7	4	2
Skipped	1	1	1	2	1
<i>Almost always good/mostly good (net)</i>	70	78	60	55	59
<i>Mixed (net)</i>	21	17	25	29	32
<i>Almost always poor/mostly poor (net)</i>	5	3	7	10	7

Air quality	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Almost always good	27	32	18	17	16
Mostly good	35	38	29	27	34
Mixed; more good than poor	18	16	19	22	25
Mixed; more poor than good	10	8	12	17	14
Mostly poor	4	2	7	6	6
Almost always poor	3	1	3	6	2
Don't know	3	2	9	4	2
Skipped	1	1	2	1	1
<i>Almost always good/mostly good (net)</i>	61	70	48	44	50
<i>Mixed (net)</i>	29	24	32	39	39
<i>Almost always poor/mostly poor (net)</i>	6	4	10	12	8



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2. How good or poor would you rate the following environmental conditions in your neighborhood or community?

Tap water quality	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Almost always good	30	36	16	19	24
Mostly good	32	34	27	29	37
Mixed; more good than poor	14	12	17	19	21
Mixed; more poor than good	8	6	13	12	6
Mostly poor	6	5	9	7	3
Almost always poor	4	3	6	5	3
Don't know	5	3	11	8	4
Skipped	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Almost always good/mostly good (net)</i>	62	70	43	48	61
<i>Mixed (net)</i>	22	18	30	31	27
<i>Almost always poor/mostly poor (net)</i>	10	8	15	12	6

Amount of noise pollution	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Almost always good	26	31	18	18	20
Mostly good	31	33	28	26	35
Mixed; more good than poor	21	21	20	21	19
Mixed; more poor than good	9	7	11	13	15
Mostly poor	5	4	7	7	4
Almost always poor	4	3	5	5	4
Don't know	4	2	8	8	1
Skipped	1	1	1	2	3
<i>Almost always good/mostly good (net)</i>	58	63	46	44	54
<i>Mixed (net)</i>	30	28	31	35	34
<i>Almost always poor/mostly poor (net)</i>	8	7	13	12	8



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2. How good or poor would you rate the following environmental conditions in your neighborhood or community?

Amount of trash or litter on streets	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Almost always good	30	36	20	19	20
Mostly good	28	29	24	26	34
Mixed; more good than poor	18	17	20	19	17
Mixed; more poor than good	11	8	13	15	13
Mostly poor	6	4	9	9	7
Almost always poor	5	3	7	7	5
Don't know	2	1	5	3	2
Skipped	1	1	1	1	3
<i>Almost always good/mostly good (net)</i>	58	65	44	45	54
<i>Mixed (net)</i>	29	25	33	34	31
<i>Almost always poor/mostly poor (net)</i>	11	8	16	16	11



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3. Do you live near, within half a mile or less, of the following?

A major highway or interstate	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	47	44	56	56	48
No	52	56	43	43	50
Skipped	1	*	1	1	2

Large industrial or manufacturing plants	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	11	9	16	14	9
No	89	90	82	85	89
Skipped	1	1	2	1	2

A garbage dump or waste transfer station	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	10	9	17	10	11
No	89	91	82	89	87
Skipped	1	*	2	1	2

A mine, or an oil or natural gas well	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	5	5	4	4	6
No	94	95	94	94	92
Skipped	1	*	2	1	2

A chemical plant or power generation plant	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	6	5	7	7	8
No	93	94	90	92	90
Skipped	1	1	2	1	2



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4. In the last year, have you experienced any of the following in your home?

Weather-related flooding	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	13	12	15	14	12
No	86	88	83	84	86
Skipped	1	*	1	1	2

Power outages lasting 24 hours or more	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	18	16	23	19	17
No	81	84	76	80	80
Skipped	1	*	1	1	2

A water boil notice or notification that your tap water was unsafe to drink	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	12	11	17	15	11
No	87	89	82	84	87
Skipped	1	*	1	*	2

Having to evacuate due to storm or wildfire conditions	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	4	4	4	6	5
No	95	96	95	93	93
Skipped	1	*	1	1	2

Storm or wildfire-related damage to your home	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	7	6	7	8	6
No	93	94	92	92	92
Skipped	1	*	1	*	2



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5. Do you support or oppose the following?

An increase in taxes on corporations and the wealthy to fund improvements in air and water quality in the U.S.	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Strongly support	38	34	44	47	43
Somewhat support	31	31	31	31	39
Somewhat oppose	15	16	14	13	9
Strongly oppose	14	18	9	7	7
Skipped	1	1	2	2	2
Total support (net)	69	65	75	78	82
Total oppose (net)	29	34	22	21	16

An increase in income taxes to fund improvements in air and water quality in the U.S.	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Strongly support	11	10	11	11	14
Somewhat support	28	26	37	31	32
Somewhat oppose	30	30	27	32	32
Strongly oppose	30	33	24	24	19
Skipped	1	1	2	2	3
Total support (net)	39	36	48	42	46
Total oppose (net)	59	63	50	56	51

An increase in gasoline taxes to fund deployment of renewable energy and electric vehicles	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Strongly support	10	9	8	10	16
Somewhat support	24	22	29	26	35
Somewhat oppose	29	27	32	35	27
Strongly oppose	36	40	28	28	18
Skipped	1	1	3	1	4
Total support (net)	34	31	37	36	51
Total oppose (net)	65	68	60	62	45



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5. Do you support or oppose the following?

Creation of a national fund to pay healthcare costs of people suffering from pollution-related illnesses	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Strongly support	20	15	32	28	20
Somewhat support	39	37	38	46	49
Somewhat oppose	25	29	18	16	17
Strongly oppose	14	17	8	7	11
Skipped	2	1	3	2	3
Total support (net)	59	53	71	74	69
Total oppose (net)	39	46	27	23	29

Limits on the amount of money companies have to pay out to people damaged by pollution created by that company	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Strongly support	8	7	11	11	8
Somewhat support	23	23	23	24	25
Somewhat oppose	34	35	29	33	35
Strongly oppose	33	33	34	30	28
Skipped	2	1	2	2	4
Total support (net)	32	30	35	35	34
Total oppose (net)	67	69	63	63	63

The federal government being primarily responsible for cleaning up polluted or contaminated sites across the U.S.	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Strongly support	29	24	36	40	33
Somewhat support	42	43	44	40	43
Somewhat oppose	20	23	14	14	18
Strongly oppose	7	8	4	5	3
Skipped	1	1	2	1	3
Total support (net)	71	67	79	80	76
Total oppose (net)	27	32	19	19	21

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5. Do you support or oppose the following?

Your state government being primarily responsible for cleaning up polluted or contaminated sites	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Strongly support	25	20	36	37	28
Somewhat support	48	50	42	44	51
Somewhat oppose	19	22	14	13	14
Strongly oppose	6	7	5	5	4
Skipped	1	1	2	2	3
Total support (net)	73	70	78	80	79
Total oppose (net)	25	29	20	18	18

6. Compared to ten years ago, do you think the following have become more or less frequent where you live, or has there been no change?

Wildfires	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Much more frequent	21	19	17	29	32
Somewhat more frequent	13	12	9	15	25
No change	52	58	49	40	34
Somewhat less frequent	2	2	2	3	2
Much less frequent	4	3	8	6	2
Don't know	6	5	13	7	2
Skipped	1	1	1	1	2
Total more frequent (net)	34	31	26	44	57
Total less frequent (net)	6	5	10	8	4

Flooding	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Much more frequent	13	11	19	15	19
Somewhat more frequent	27	28	27	25	24
No change	47	51	37	38	43
Somewhat less frequent	3	3	4	5	4
Much less frequent	3	1	3	9	4
Don't know	5	4	7	7	4
Skipped	1	1	1	1	2
Total more frequent (net)	40	39	47	41	43
Total less frequent (net)	6	4	8	14	7

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6. Compared to ten years ago, do you think the following have become more or less frequent where you live, or has there been no change?

Severe thunderstorms	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Much more frequent	13	10	23	16	13
Somewhat more frequent	26	27	28	24	27
No change	47	51	36	37	46
Somewhat less frequent	6	6	4	8	5
Much less frequent	2	1	2	7	3
Don't know	5	4	6	7	4
Skipped	1	1	2	1	1
Total more frequent (net)	39	37	50	40	40
Total less frequent (net)	9	7	6	15	8

Extreme cold	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Much more frequent	8	7	9	13	10
Somewhat more frequent	20	18	23	27	25
No change	48	53	41	35	42
Somewhat less frequent	14	15	15	11	10
Much less frequent	5	3	5	7	6
Don't know	4	4	5	6	4
Skipped	1	1	1	1	2
Total more frequent (net)	28	24	32	40	35
Total less frequent (net)	18	18	20	18	17

Hurricanes or tropical storms	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Much more frequent	15	14	21	15	13
Somewhat more frequent	19	18	21	20	28
No change	52	57	38	44	47
Somewhat less frequent	3	2	4	4	2
Much less frequent	4	3	5	8	3
Don't know	6	5	9	7	3
Skipped	1	1	1	2	4
Total more frequent (net)	34	32	43	35	41
Total less frequent (net)	7	5	9	12	5

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6. Compared to ten years ago, do you think the following have become more or less frequent where you live, or has there been no change?

Droughts	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Much more frequent	17	14	13	25	28
Somewhat more frequent	24	25	16	26	26
No change	45	50	43	32	35
Somewhat less frequent	5	4	7	5	3
Much less frequent	3	1	5	5	3
Don't know	5	4	13	6	2
Skipped	1	1	1	1	3
Total more frequent (net)	41	40	29	50	54
Total less frequent (net)	7	6	13	11	6

Tornadoes	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Much more frequent	9	8	14	13	8
Somewhat more frequent	18	19	20	15	18
No change	56	60	45	47	59
Somewhat less frequent	4	5	5	4	2
Much less frequent	4	2	6	9	3
Don't know	7	6	9	11	5
Skipped	1	1	1	1	3
Total more frequent (net)	28	27	34	28	26
Total less frequent (net)	8	6	11	13	6

Blizzards	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Much more frequent	5	3	7	9	6
Somewhat more frequent	11	11	10	12	13
No change	59	63	49	47	63
Somewhat less frequent	10	12	9	8	7
Much less frequent	6	5	10	11	4
Don't know	7	6	13	12	5
Skipped	1	1	1	2	3
Total more frequent (net)	16	14	18	20	19
Total less frequent (net)	17	16	18	19	10

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6. Compared to ten years ago, do you think the following have become more or less frequent where you live, or has there been no change?

Earthquakes	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Much more frequent	5	4	7	7	4
Somewhat more frequent	11	9	13	15	11
No change	68	75	53	54	73
Somewhat less frequent	2	1	3	4	4
Much less frequent	4	3	9	7	2
Don't know	9	7	13	12	4
Skipped	1	1	2	1	3
Total more frequent (net)	15	13	20	22	14
Total less frequent (net)	6	4	12	11	5

Extreme heat	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Much more frequent	25	21	30	34	29
Somewhat more frequent	38	38	32	37	43
No change	30	35	27	18	21
Somewhat less frequent	3	3	4	4	3
Much less frequent	1	1	1	2	1
Don't know	2	2	4	3	1
Skipped	1	1	1	1	2
Total more frequent (net)	63	59	62	71	72
Total less frequent (net)	4	4	6	6	3

7. Which of the following statements comes closest to your opinion?

	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Climate change is mostly caused by human activity	55	49	55	70	78
Climate change is mostly caused by natural patterns	24	29	16	16	14
Climate change is not really happening	5	5	4	3	1
Other	3	4	3	2	1
Don't know	12	12	21	8	5
Skipped	1	1	1	1	1



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8. Which of the following comes closest to your opinion about how humans can affect climate change?

	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Humans can reduce or reverse climate change, but people aren't willing to change their behavior to fix the problem	39	37	42	46	42
Humans can reduce or reverse climate change but it's unclear if we will do what is necessary	29	28	30	30	38
Humans can and are making progress to reduce or reverse climate change	12	14	11	7	10
Humans can't reduce or reverse climate change at this point	17	19	15	14	9
Skipped	2	2	3	2	2

9. Which statement comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Poor communities and people of color in America are more likely to suffer the consequences of pollution and environmental contamination	41	37	56	40	56
All Americans suffer the consequences of pollution and environmental contamination equally	57	61	42	58	42
Skipped	2	1	2	2	2

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10. Why do you think poor communities and people of color are more likely to suffer the consequences of pollution?

Base: Believe poor communities and people of color are more likely to suffer the consequences of pollution	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Government policies make it easier to pollute in poor communities	48	48	53	47	40
It is cheaper for businesses to operate in poor communities	53	56	46	51	51
Racism makes people overlook damage to poor Black and Hispanic communities	49	46	66	46	48
Residents of poor communities are less likely to fight back against polluters	46	44	52	46	49
Residents of poor communities are more likely to welcome the jobs than be concerned about the environmental damage	46	44	45	46	56
None of these	8	9	6	7	12
Skipped	1	*	-	2	-

11. Do you have the following conditions?

Asthma	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	11	11	12	10	10
No	89	88	87	90	88
Skipped	1	*	1	*	1

High blood pressure	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	29	30	41	22	20
No	70	70	58	78	78
Skipped	*	*	1	*	1



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11. Do you have the following conditions?

Chronic obstructed pulmonary disease (COPD)	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	5	6	4	2	3
No	95	94	95	97	95
Skipped	*	*	1	*	1

Cancer	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	4	4	4	3	4
No	95	95	94	97	94
Skipped	1	*	1	*	1

Diabetes	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Yes	13	12	16	16	8
No	86	88	83	83	91
Skipped	*	*	1	1	1

12. In the last year, how often, if at all, have you experienced the following?

Asthma attacks or difficulty breathing	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Very often	2	2	2	2	*
Sometimes	5	5	6	5	3
A few times	10	10	7	10	9
Not at all	83	82	84	83	86
Skipped	*	*	1	-	1
Very often/sometimes (net)	7	7	8	7	4
A few times/Not at all (net)	92	92	91	93	95



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12. In the last year, how often, if at all, have you experienced the following?

Insomnia or difficulty sleeping	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Very often	15	15	16	15	10
Sometimes	22	22	20	22	20
A few times	30	32	23	25	31
Not at all	33	30	38	37	39
Skipped	1	*	2	1	1
Very often/sometimes (net)	37	37	37	37	30
A few times/Not at all (net)	62	62	62	62	69

Heat exhaustion or heat-related fatigue	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
Very often	3	2	4	7	2
Sometimes	9	7	9	18	10
A few times	24	26	20	19	17
Not at all	63	65	65	55	70
Skipped	*	*	2	*	1
Very often/sometimes (net)	13	9	13	25	12
A few times/Not at all (net)	87	91	86	74	86

13. Which of these is your main source of news?

	Total August 2021	Total September 2021	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander
ABC / CBS / NBC News	21	23	23	33	15	16
Digital or online news	16	17	18	9	13	27
Public television or radio	10	10	8	7	22	8
FOX News	9	9	10	6	6	4
Social media	8	8	6	10	15	15
CNN	6	5	3	12	5	7
MSNBC	3	3	3	5	2	1
Your local newspaper	3	3	4	2	2	4
New York Times or Washington Post	3	2	3	1	2	5
Other	5	8	10	4	7	4
None of these	14	11	11	10	9	7
Skipped	1	1	1	1	*	1



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About the Study

This Axios/Ipsos Hard Truths Environmental poll was conducted September 9th to September 15th, 2021 by Ipsos using our KnowledgePanel®. This poll is based on a nationally representative probability sample of 2,184 general population adults age 18 or older.

The survey was conducted using KnowledgePanel, the largest and most well-established online probability-based panel that is representative of the adult US population. Our recruitment process employs a scientifically developed addressed-based sampling methodology using the latest Delivery Sequence File of the USPS – a database with full coverage of all delivery points in the US. Households invited to join the panel are randomly selected from all available households in the U.S. Persons in the sampled households are invited to join and participate in the panel. Those selected who do not already have internet access are provided a tablet and internet connection at no cost to the panel member. Those who join the panel and who are selected to participate in a survey are sent a unique password-protected log-in used to complete surveys online. As a result of our recruitment and sampling methodologies, samples from KnowledgePanel cover all households regardless of their phone or internet status and findings can be reported with a margin of sampling error and projected to the general population.

The study was conducted in both English and Spanish. The data were weighted to adjust for gender by age, race/ethnicity, education, Census region, metropolitan status, household income, race/ethnicity by gender, race/ethnicity by age, race/ethnicity by education and race/ethnicity by region. The demographic benchmarks came from 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) from the US Census Bureau. The weighting categories were as follows:

- Gender (Male, Female) by Age (18–29, 30–44, 45–59, and 60+)
- Race/Hispanic Ethnicity (White Non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander Non-Hispanic, Other or 2+ Races Non-Hispanic, Hispanic)
- Education (High School graduate or less, Some College, Bachelor and beyond)
- Census Region (Northeast, Midwest, South, West)
- Metropolitan status (Metro, non-Metro)
- Household Income (Under \$25,000, \$25,000-\$49,999, \$50,000-\$74,999, \$75,000-\$99,999, \$100,000-\$149,999, \$150,000+)
- Race/Hispanic Ethnicity (White/Other non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Hispanic) by gender (Male, Female)
- Race/Hispanic Ethnicity (White/Other non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Hispanic) by age (18-44, 45+)
- Race/Hispanic Ethnicity (White/Other non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Hispanic) by education (Less than college grad, Bachelor and beyond)
- Race/Hispanic Ethnicity (White/Other non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Hispanic) by Census region (Northeast, Midwest, South, West)



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The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 2.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level, for results based on the entire sample of adults. The margin of sampling error takes into account the design effect, which was 1.46. The margin of sampling error is higher and varies for results based on sub-samples. In our reporting of the findings, percentage points are rounded off to the nearest whole number. As a result, percentages in a given table column may total slightly higher or lower than 100%. In questions that permit multiple responses, columns may total substantially more than 100%, depending on the number of different responses offered by each respondent.

About Ipsos

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