PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Reuters/Ipsos Poll: Upper Age Limits for Political Office

Topline Findings

Washington, DC, November 17, 2022 – *These are the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between November 9-10, 2022. For this survey, a sample of 1,003 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.8 percentage points for all respondents.*

For complete results, please refer to the following annotated questionnaire:

Full Annotated Questionnaire

		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
With which political party do you most identify? Detailed	Democrat	36%	100%	0%	0%
	Republican	35%	0%	100%	0%
	Independent	21%	0%	0%	100%
	None/DK	8%	0%	0%	0%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3061Y22_1. [There should be term limits for the House of Representatives and U.S. Senate] Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.	Strongly agree	51%	47%	61%	49%
	Somewhat agree	28%	33%	27%	22%
	Somewhat disagree	8%	10%	6%	9%
	Strongly disagree	5%	4%	3%	10%
	Don't know	8%	6%	4%	11%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3061Y22_2. [There should be an upper age limit for service as president, a senator, and as a member of the House of Representatives] Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.	Strongly agree	31%	32%	37%	26%
	Somewhat agree	35%	37%	35%	37%
	Somewhat disagree	15%	15%	14%	19%
	Strongly disagree	9%	10%	8%	10%
	Don't know	9%	6%	5%	8%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3061Y22_3. [When the president reaches a certain age, they should be forced to retire at the end of their term and not be eligible for re-election] Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.	Strongly agree	29%	28%	38%	22%
	Somewhat agree	30%	28%	34%	30%
	Somewhat disagree	20%	20%	14%	29%
	Strongly disagree	12%	14%	9%	13%
	Don't know	9%	10%	4%	6%
	Total	1003	468	342	119

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		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
TM3061Y22_4. [When a lawmaker reaches a certain age, they should be forced to retire at the end of their term and not be eligible for re-election] Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.	Strongly agree	28%	28%	33%	25%
	Somewhat agree	33%	34%	35%	31%
	Somewhat disagree	18%	19%	17%	19%
	Strongly disagree	12%	11%	9%	17%
	Don't know	9%	8%	6%	8%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3061Y22_5. [When a Supreme Court Justice reaches a certain age, they should be forced to retire at the end of the court's term] Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.	Strongly agree	31%	36%	30%	30%
	Somewhat agree	29%	31%	31%	23%
	Somewhat disagree	19%	18%	22%	20%
	Strongly disagree	11%	8%	11%	16%
	Don't know	9%	7%	5%	11%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3061Y22_6. [Leaders who are older often have valuable experience, and should not be discounted just because of their age] Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.	Strongly agree	24%	28%	24%	23%
	Somewhat agree	41%	42%	40%	42%
	Somewhat disagree	19%	19%	23%	16%
	Strongly disagree	8%	6%	8%	10%
	Don't know	7%	6%	4%	9%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3061Y22_7. [As long as a lawmaker or judge is in good health, they should not be barred from serving because of age] Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.	Strongly agree	20%	23%	19%	20%
	Somewhat agree	35%	35%	38%	29%
	Somewhat disagree	28%	26%	29%	30%
	Strongly disagree	10%	10%	10%	12%
	Don't know	7%	6%	3%	9%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3062Y22_1. [President of the United States] Do you believe there should be an upper age limit for these jobs?	Yes	61%	63%	67%	57%
	No	25%	26%	23%	27%
	Not sure	14%	12%	10%	15%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3062Y22_2. [U.S. Senator] Do you believe there should be an upper age limit for these jobs?	Yes	60%	61%	67%	52%
	No	25%	25%	23%	34%
	Not sure	15%	14%	10%	14%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3062Y22_3. [Member of the United States House of Representatives] Do you believe there should be an upper age limit for these jobs?	Yes	60%	61%	68%	55%
	No	25%	25%	23%	31%
	Not sure	15%	15%	10%	14%
	Total	1003	468	342	119

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		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
TM3062Y22_4. [Supreme Court Justice] Do you believe there should be an upper age limit for these jobs?	Yes	59%	62%	62%	54%
	No	27%	26%	26%	33%
	Not sure	14%	12%	12%	13%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3063Y22_1. [President of the United States] What should the upper age limit be for the following positions?	Age 50	7%	10%	3%	6%
	Age 55	3%	5%	1%	4%
	Age 60	8%	8%	6%	11%
	Age 65	16%	16%	14%	17%
	Age 70	27%	24%	32%	24%
	Age 75	25%	22%	31%	22%
	Age 80	10%	10%	12%	10%
	Not sure	4%	5%	2%	7%
	Total	613	290	227	69
TM3063Y22_2. [U.S. Senator] What should the upper age limit be for the following positions?	Age 50	6%	10%	3%	1%
	Age 55	3%	4%	1%	2%
	Age 60	8%	10%	7%	7%
	Age 65	19%	18%	19%	20%
	Age 70	26%	25%	22%	36%
	Age 75	25%	21%	34%	14%
	Age 80	9%	6%	11%	14%
	Not sure	4%	6%	2%	6%
	Total	612	285	228	66
TM3063Y22_3. [Member of the United States House of Representatives] What should the upper age limit be for the following positions?	Age 50	7%	8%	5%	6%
	Age 55	3%	4%	1%	3%
	Age 60	9%	11%	7%	10%
	Age 65	17%	16%	15%	20%
	Age 70	27%	28%	26%	32%
	Age 75	24%	20%	34%	11%
	Age 80	9%	8%	10%	12%
	Not sure	4%	4%	2%	6%
	Total	604	281	227	65
TM3063Y22_4. [Supreme Court Justice] What should the upper age limit be for the following positions?	Age 50	7%	10%	4%	7%
	Age 55	2%	4%	1%	0%
	Age 60	7%	7%	8%	5%
	Age 65	17%	16%	15%	18%
	Age 70	27%	28%	27%	26%
	Age 75	24%	19%	31%	21%
	Age 80	12%	11%	11%	17%
	Not sure	4%	5%	3%	6%
	Total	588	287	204	67

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		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
TM3064Y22. As you may know, the average age of a member of the House of Representatives is 60 years old and the average age in the Senate is 66 years old. How concerned, if at all, are you that members of Congress are too old to represent the American population	Very concerned	23%	27%	22%	21%
	Somewhat concerned	38%	37%	39%	40%
	Not very concerned	23%	23%	24%	23%
	Not at all concerned	10%	10%	11%	9%
	Not sure	6%	3%	3%	7%
	Total	1003	468	342	119

INFO BOX: As you may know, President Joe Biden will turn 80 years old on November 20, 2022. Former President Donald Trump is 76 years old, and if he were to run for president and win in 2024, he'd start office at 78 years old. Senator Mitch McConnell is 80 years old. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is 82 years old.

		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
TM3065Y22_1_2. [Joe Biden, Is up to the challenge of running for president in 2024] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	13%	25%	6%	8%
	Slightly describes	20%	29%	8%	22%
	Doesn't really describe	25%	31%	12%	32%
	Does not describe at all	43%	15%	74%	38%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_1_3. [Joe Biden, Is too old to work in government] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	43%	21%	69%	39%
	Slightly describes	27%	38%	17%	27%
	Doesn't really describe	18%	23%	8%	23%
	Does not describe at all	13%	18%	7%	11%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_1_4. [Joe Biden, Represents and understands the American people well] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	18%	38%	5%	11%
	Slightly describes	27%	40%	7%	35%
	Doesn't really describe	17%	12%	21%	17%
	Does not describe at all	38%	10%	67%	37%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_1_5. [Joe Biden, Is mentally sharp and able to deal with challenges] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	16%	32%	6%	9%
	Slightly describes	24%	39%	6%	24%
	Doesn't really describe	21%	18%	17%	30%
	Does not describe at all	39%	11%	71%	37%
	Total	1003	468	342	119

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		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
TM3065Y22_1_6. [Joe Biden, Has the upper hand on .. and keeps them in check] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	10%	19%	4%	8%
	Slightly describes	23%	38%	10%	22%
	Doesn't really describe	29%	31%	22%	31%
	Does not describe at all	38%	12%	64%	38%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_1_7. [Joe Biden, Cannot handle the physical toll of being ..] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	37%	16%	63%	29%
	Slightly describes	25%	30%	18%	30%
	Doesn't really describe	22%	30%	7%	30%
	Does not describe at all	17%	24%	12%	10%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_2_2. [Donald Trump, Is up to the challenge of running for president in 2024] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	25%	9%	43%	24%
	Slightly describes	26%	21%	31%	28%
	Doesn't really describe	16%	18%	11%	23%
	Does not describe at all	33%	53%	15%	25%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_2_3. [Donald Trump, Is too old to work in government] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	30%	47%	12%	29%
	Slightly describes	25%	23%	24%	28%
	Doesn't really describe	24%	18%	30%	25%
	Does not describe at all	21%	12%	33%	18%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_2_4. [Donald Trump, Represents and understands the American people well] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	24%	7%	45%	21%
	Slightly describes	21%	13%	27%	25%
	Doesn't really describe	14%	12%	12%	17%
	Does not describe at all	41%	67%	16%	37%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_2_5. [Donald Trump, Is mentally sharp and able to deal with challenges] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	26%	11%	49%	20%
	Slightly describes	24%	15%	29%	31%
	Doesn't really describe	17%	21%	11%	20%
	Does not describe at all	32%	53%	11%	29%
	Total	1003	468	342	119

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		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
TM3065Y22_2_6. [Donald Trump, Has the upper hand on .. and keeps them in check] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	18%	7%	29%	18%
	Slightly describes	23%	14%	36%	19%
	Doesn't really describe	25%	25%	20%	30%
	Does not describe at all	35%	54%	15%	32%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_2_7. [Donald Trump, Cannot handle the physical toll of being ..] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	26%	44%	9%	22%
	Slightly describes	20%	22%	15%	27%
	Doesn't really describe	27%	18%	32%	33%
	Does not describe at all	27%	15%	44%	18%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_3_1. [Mitch McConnell, Is capable of winning elections] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	12%	14%	13%	9%
	Slightly describes	41%	38%	44%	44%
	Doesn't really describe	29%	27%	26%	29%
	Does not describe at all	19%	20%	17%	18%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_3_3. [Mitch McConnell, Is too old to work in government] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	31%	38%	29%	28%
	Slightly describes	33%	31%	37%	29%
	Doesn't really describe	24%	20%	27%	24%
	Does not describe at all	12%	11%	8%	19%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_3_4. [Mitch McConnell, Represents and understands the American people well] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	7%	7%	9%	6%
	Slightly describes	29%	24%	39%	24%
	Doesn't really describe	32%	29%	31%	36%
	Does not describe at all	31%	39%	21%	34%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_3_5. [Mitch McConnell, Is mentally sharp and able to deal with challenges] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	9%	10%	11%	7%
	Slightly describes	40%	36%	45%	40%
	Doesn't really describe	31%	30%	30%	33%
	Does not describe at all	21%	25%	14%	20%
	Total	1003	468	342	119

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		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
TM3065Y22_3_6. [Mitch McConnell, Has the upper hand on .. and keeps them in check] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	7%	8%	7%	7%
	Slightly describes	30%	28%	37%	28%
	Doesn't really describe	37%	36%	37%	36%
	Does not describe at all	26%	28%	19%	28%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_3_7. [Mitch McConnell, Cannot handle the physical toll of being ..] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	21%	26%	18%	18%
	Slightly describes	33%	32%	36%	30%
	Doesn't really describe	33%	30%	34%	37%
	Does not describe at all	13%	12%	11%	15%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_4_1. [Nancy Pelosi, Is capable of winning elections] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	18%	33%	6%	15%
	Slightly describes	37%	43%	32%	37%
	Doesn't really describe	23%	17%	26%	27%
	Does not describe at all	22%	7%	36%	21%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_4_3. [Nancy Pelosi, Is too old to work in government] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	37%	20%	58%	33%
	Slightly describes	28%	31%	23%	31%
	Doesn't really describe	22%	28%	11%	26%
	Does not describe at all	14%	20%	9%	10%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_4_4. [Nancy Pelosi, Represents and understands the American people well] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	15%	29%	5%	9%
	Slightly describes	27%	42%	14%	23%
	Doesn't really describe	23%	18%	20%	35%
	Does not describe at all	35%	10%	61%	32%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_4_5. [Nancy Pelosi, Is mentally sharp and able to deal with challenges] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	17%	33%	6%	10%
	Slightly describes	34%	45%	19%	39%
	Doesn't really describe	23%	13%	27%	31%
	Does not describe at all	26%	8%	48%	20%
	Total	1003	468	342	119

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		All Respondents	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
TM3065Y22_4_6. [Nancy Pelosi, Has the upper hand on .. and keeps them in check] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	12%	24%	7%	2%
	Slightly describes	29%	43%	17%	30%
	Doesn't really describe	30%	24%	28%	39%
	Does not describe at all	29%	10%	48%	29%
	Total	1003	468	342	119
TM3065Y22_4_7. [Nancy Pelosi, Cannot handle the physical toll of being ..] To what extent, if at all, do the following statements describe each of the public figures below:	Strongly describes	26%	13%	44%	20%
	Slightly describes	31%	34%	29%	30%
	Doesn't really describe	27%	31%	15%	40%
	Does not describe at all	16%	22%	13%	10%
	Total	1003	468	342	119

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About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between November 9-10, 2022 on behalf of Thomson Reuters. For this survey, a sample of 1,003 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English.

The sample was randomly drawn from Ipsos' online panel, partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling 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 2019 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 3.8 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=1,003, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=+/- 5.3 percentage points).

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