



TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Reuters/Ipsos Poll on Political Extremism and National Unity

Conducted by Ipsos using KnowledgePanel®
A survey of the American general population (ages 18+)
Interview dates: September 12-14, 2025
Number of interviews: 1,037

Margin of error: +/- 3.2 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for all respondents
Margin of error: +/- 6.1 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for Democrats
Margin of error: +/- 5.9 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for Republicans
Margin of error: +/- 5.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for independents

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

NOTE: * = less than 0.5%, - = no respondents, N/A = not applicable

Annotated Questionnaire

Q1. Over the last 20 years, do you think Americans have become ...

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
More tolerant of viewpoints different than their own	10%	12%	8%	10%
Less tolerant of viewpoints different than their own	79%	80%	85%	76%
Stayed about the same	10%	7%	7%	13%
Skipped	1%	*	-	1%

Q2. Which better describes your view of the country today?

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
We're divided over a lot of issues, but there's still more that unites us as Americans	25%	18%	34%	24%
We're divided over a lot of issues, and we are splitting apart as a country	74%	81%	66%	75%
Skipped	1%	1%	*	1%





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Q3. How much, if at all, does the way people talk about political issues in the country today encourage acts of violence among Americans?

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
A lot	63%	70%	63%	61%
A little	31%	26%	33%	32%
Not at all	5%	3%	4%	6%
Skipped	1%	*	1%	1%

Q4_1. Please indicate how concerned you are, if at all, about each of the following. Acts of violence committed against people in your community because of their political beliefs

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
Very concerned	33%	35%	35%	30%
Somewhat concerned	33%	35%	31%	37%
Not too concerned	21%	22%	24%	18%
Not at all concerned	7%	4%	7%	7%
Don't know	6%	4%	3%	7%
Skipped	1%	*	*	*
Concerned (Net)	66%	70%	66%	67%
Not concerned (Net)	28%	26%	31%	26%

Q4_2. Please indicate how concerned you are, if at all, about each of the following. Acts of violence committed against people in your community because of their religious beliefs

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
Very concerned	26%	26%	31%	22%
Somewhat concerned	27%	30%	23%	30%
Not too concerned	27%	27%	29%	26%
Not at all concerned	13%	12%	13%	14%
Don't know	6%	4%	3%	8%
Skipped	1%	*	*	1%
Concerned (Net)	53%	56%	55%	52%
Not concerned (Net)	40%	40%	42%	39%



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Q5_1. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? American society is broken

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
Strongly agree	31%	39%	25%	27%
Somewhat agree	40%	38%	44%	44%
Neither agree nor disagree	15%	11%	17%	13%
Somewhat disagree	7%	7%	9%	6%
Strongly disagree	3%	2%	4%	3%
Don't know	4%	2%	2%	6%
Skipped	1%	1%	*	*
Agree (Net)	71%	77%	68%	71%
Disagree (Net)	10%	9%	13%	9%

Q5_2. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? To fix America, we need a strong leader willing to break the rules

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
Strongly agree	11%	8%	18%	10%
Somewhat agree	14%	10%	21%	11%
Neither agree nor disagree	20%	14%	22%	20%
Somewhat disagree	14%	16%	15%	14%
Strongly disagree	32%	44%	21%	35%
Don't know	7%	7%	3%	9%
Skipped	1%	1%	*	1%
Agree (Net)	26%	18%	39%	21%
Disagree (Net)	46%	59%	36%	49%

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Q5_3. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? The American economy is rigged to advantage the rich and powerful

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
Strongly agree	40%	65%	13%	44%
Somewhat agree	28%	24%	30%	31%
Neither agree nor disagree	12%	3%	21%	9%
Somewhat disagree	8%	2%	19%	3%
Strongly disagree	8%	2%	15%	5%
Don't know	4%	3%	2%	7%
Skipped	1%	1%	*	*
Agree (Net)	67%	89%	43%	75%
Disagree (Net)	16%	5%	34%	8%

Q5_4. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Traditional parties and politicians don't care about people like me

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
Strongly agree	32%	37%	21%	36%
Somewhat agree	32%	32%	37%	33%
Neither agree nor disagree	18%	13%	23%	16%
Somewhat disagree	8%	10%	11%	4%
Strongly disagree	4%	3%	6%	3%
Don't know	5%	4%	2%	8%
Skipped	1%	1%	1%	0%
Agree (Net)	64%	69%	58%	69%
Disagree (Net)	12%	13%	17%	7%

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Q6_1. Thinking about recent violence in the country targeting political leaders and activists ... Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? The country is near a breaking point in its disagreements over politics

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
Strongly agree	39%	46%	36%	37%
Somewhat agree	43%	41%	49%	42%
Somewhat disagree	13%	10%	11%	16%
Strongly disagree	4%	2%	3%	3%
Skipped	2%	1%	1%	1%
Agree (Net)	82%	87%	85%	79%
Disagree (Net)	16%	13%	14%	19%

Q6_2. Thinking about recent violence in the country targeting political leaders and activists ... Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? There's an urgent need for greater unity among Americans

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
Strongly agree	62%	64%	68%	60%
Somewhat agree	28%	28%	24%	30%
Somewhat disagree	4%	5%	3%	5%
Strongly disagree	4%	2%	4%	5%
Skipped	1%	1%	1%	1%
Agree (Net)	90%	92%	92%	90%
Disagree (Net)	8%	7%	7%	9%

Q7_1. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? It is acceptable for a member of my political party to threaten or intimidate others to achieve a political goal

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
Strongly agree	2%	1%	2%	2%
Somewhat agree	4%	4%	4%	5%
Somewhat disagree	11%	13%	10%	10%
Strongly disagree	80%	81%	84%	83%
Skipped	2%	1%	1%	1%
Agree (Net)	7%	6%	5%	6%
Disagree (Net)	92%	93%	93%	93%



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Q7_2. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? To achieve my idea of a better society, violent acts are acceptable

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
Strongly agree	2%	2%	1%	2%
Somewhat agree	5%	5%	5%	5%
Somewhat disagree	11%	11%	6%	15%
Strongly disagree	80%	81%	87%	77%
Skipped	2%	1%	1%	1%
Agree (Net)	8%	7%	6%	7%
Disagree (Net)	91%	92%	93%	92%

Q7_3. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? It is acceptable for someone in my political party to commit violence to achieve a political goal

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
Strongly agree	2%	3%	1%	2%
Somewhat agree	4%	4%	2%	4%
Somewhat disagree	8%	9%	5%	9%
Strongly disagree	84%	83%	91%	84%
Skipped	2%	1%	1%	2%
Agree (Net)	6%	7%	3%	6%
Disagree (Net)	92%	92%	96%	93%

Q7_4. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Even when I disagree strongly with someone, they have a right to express their point of view

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
Strongly agree	73%	69%	79%	74%
Somewhat agree	19%	21%	16%	18%
Somewhat disagree	4%	5%	2%	4%
Strongly disagree	3%	3%	3%	3%
Skipped	2%	2%	1%	1%
Agree (Net)	91%	91%	95%	92%
Disagree (Net)	7%	8%	5%	7%





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Q8_1. How much have you read, seen, or heard about...? The killing of political activist Charlie Kirk at an event at Utah Valley University

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
A lot	68%	64%	81%	65%
A little	26%	31%	15%	28%
Nothing at all	6%	3%	4%	6%
Skipped	1%	1%	*	1%

Q8_2. How much have you read, seen, or heard about...? The killing of Minnesota Speaker of the House Melissa Hortman and her husband in their home

	Total (N=1,037)	Democrat (N=271)	Republican (N=292)	Independent (N=355)
A lot	26%	21%	30%	28%
A little	51%	57%	50%	49%
Nothing at all	22%	21%	19%	22%
Skipped	1%	1%	-	1%





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About the Study

This Ipsos poll was conducted in partnership with Reuters from September 12-14, 2025, using the probability-based KnowledgePanel®. This poll is based on a nationally representative probability sample of 1,037 adults age 18 or older.

The data for the total sample were weighted to adjust for gender by age, race/ethnicity, education, Census region, metropolitan status, and household income. Political party identification benchmarks are from the 2025 National Public Opinion Reference Survey (NPORS). The demographic benchmarks came from the 2024 March Supplement of the Current Population Survey (CPS).

- Gender (Male, Female) by Age (18–29, 30–44, 45-59 and 60+)
- Race/Hispanic Ethnicity (White Non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Other, Non-Hispanic, Hispanic, 2+ Races, Non-Hispanic)
- Education (Less than High School, High School, Some College, Bachelor or higher)
- 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+)
- Party ID (Republican, Leans Republican, Independent/Other, Democrat, Leans Democrat)

The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.2 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 1.10. 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.

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