

This Washington Post-ABC News-Ipsos poll was conducted among 2,589 U.S. adults, Feb. 12-17, 2026, via the probability-based Ipsos KnowledgePanel®. Results have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus two percentage points for the full sample, including design effects due to weighting. The error margin is plus or minus 2.2 points for the sample of 2,087 registered voters. Sampling error is not the only cause of differences in polls. Sampling, fieldwork and data processing were provided by Ipsos Public Affairs.

Where noted, trend comparisons are to random-digit-dialed telephone surveys ("CATI mode") by The Washington Post and ABC News or others. Questions were reformatted as of January 2024 given the change to a self-administered online questionnaire. Differences from previous results may reflect mode effects.

See full methodological details at the end of this document.

In the tables below, asterisks in data columns indicate <0.5 percent. "Skipped" shows the share of respondents who skipped the question in online administration.

"Skipped/No opinion" shows the share of respondents who skipped the question or who selected an explicit "no opinion" option in online administration. Respondents interviewed via telephone were able to volunteer a "no opinion" response. Phrases surrounded by parentheticals within questions indicate clauses that were randomly rotated for respondents.

Questions 1-3 held for later release.

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Trump is handling each of the following?

2/17/26 - Summary table among U.S. adults

	Approve	Disapprove	Skipped
b. Immigration	40	58	2
f. The immigration situation at the U.S.-Mexico border	47	50	2
(Items a, c-e held for later release)			

Trend, where available:

b. Immigration

	Approve			Disapprove			Skipped
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
2/17/26	40	NA	NA	58	NA	NA	2
10/28/25	43	NA	NA	56	NA	NA	1
9/15/25*	44	NA	NA	55	NA	NA	1
4/22/25	46	NA	NA	53	NA	NA	1
2/18/25	50	NA	NA	48	NA	NA	3
7/1/19**	40	NA	NA	57	NA	NA	2
4/25/19	39	29	10	57	11	46	4
9/21/17	35	24	11	62	11	51	3

*Sept. 2025: Washington Post-Ipsos, all others Post-ABC.

**July 2019 and previous: CATI mode. "Skip" was "no opinion."

f. No trend.

Questions 5-7 held for later release.

8. Who do you trust to do a better job handling each of the following?

2/17/26 - Summary table among registered voters

	Trump	The Democrats in Congress	Neither	Both equally	Skipped
a. Immigration	38	34	24	3	1
b. Held for later release (Items randomized)					

Trend where available:

a. Immigration

	Trump	The Democrats in Congress	Neither	Both equally	Skipped
2/17/26	38	34	24	3	1
7/2/18*	30	38	24	7	1

*Washington Post-Schar School

Questions 9-14 held for later release.

15. In deporting undocumented immigrants, do you think Trump is (going too far), is (not going far enough), or is handling it about right?

	Going too far	Not going far enough	Handling it about right	Skip
2/17/26	58	12	28	1
10/28/25*	50	15	34	1
4/22/25	48	16	34	1

*Both 2025 questions were asked in multi-item series

Questions 16-20 held for later release.

21. When a federal law enforcement agency wants to forcibly enter someone's home, should they need to get approval from a judge, or is approval from the federal agency enough?

	Need to get approval from a judge	Approval from the federal agency is enough	Skipped
2/17/26	77	20	3

Questions 22-30 held for later release.

31. There are about 14 million undocumented immigrants living in the United States. Would you support or oppose an effort by the federal government to deport all these undocumented immigrants and send them back to their home countries?

	Support		Oppose			No opinion /Skipped
	NET	Strongly	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
2/17/26	50	25	48	25	23	3
2/18/25*	51	27	45	23	22	4
10/8/24**	56	32	43	22	21	1
3/6/16***	36	23	61	19	42	4
11/19/15	42	29	55	21	34	2

**11 million

***ABC-Ipsos; 2024 and previous: "at least 11 million"

***2016 and previous in CATI mode

32. Do you support or oppose expanded operations by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to detain and deport undocumented immigrants in the United States?

	Support			Oppose			No opinion /Skipped
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
2/17/26	40	23	17	53	15	38	8
10/28/25*	45	27	17	46	13	33	9

*Asked in multi-item series

33. Do you support or oppose the tactics ICE is using to enforce immigration laws?

	Support			Oppose			No opinion /Skipped
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
2/17/26	31	17	13	62	12	50	7

34. Would you support or oppose each of the following?

2/17/26 - Summary table among U.S. adults

	Support			Oppose			No op /Skip
	NET	Strngly	Somwhat	NET	Smewhat	Strngly	
a. Abolishing ICE, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency	37	23	14	50	16	34	13
b. Replacing Department of Homeland Security director Kristi Noem	44	37	8	23	6	16	33
c. Denying federal funds to 'sanctuary cities' that limit cooperation with ICE (Items randomized)	38	26	12	46	11	35	17

Trend where available:

a-b: No trend

c. Denying federal funds to 'sanctuary cities' that limit cooperation with ICE

	Support			Oppose			No op /Skip
	NET	Strngly	Somwhat	NET	Smewhat	Strngly	
2/17/26	38	26	12	46	11	35	17
2/10/25*	41	27	13	40	12	28	19

*NPR-Ipsos

35. How concerned, if at all, are you that federal immigration enforcement agents could arrest or detain...

2/17/26 - Summary table among U.S. adults

	-- More concerned --			---- Less concerned ----			
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	Skip
a. A close friend or family member	33	15	18	66	19	47	1
b. Someone else you know	40	19	21	59	20	40	1

(Response options shown in reverse order for half sample)

NET 35a. and 35b.

	Very/Somewhat concerned	Not too/Not at all concerned
2/17/26	42	58

36. What's your own personal reaction to immigration enforcement in Minnesota? Are you:

	--- Not concerned/Concerned ---	----- Upset/Angry -----					
	Not Concerned	Upset but					
	NET concerned but not upset	NET not angry	Angry	Skipped			
2/17/26	44	23	21	54	17	37	2

(Response options shown in reverse order for half sample)

37. Of the immigrants who were deported from the U.S. since January 2025, how many do you think were violent criminals?

	---- More than half ---	----- Less than that -----					
	NET Nearly all	Most	NET Less than half	Hardly any	Skipped		
2/17/26	27	7	21	70	37	33	3

(Response options shown in reverse order for half sample)

Q38 held for later release.

39. Would you describe yourself as a supporter of the MAGA movement, or not?

	Supporter	Not a supporter	Skipped
2/17/26	26	70	4
Republicans & Rep leaners	54	42	4

*** END ***

METHODOLOGICAL DETAILS

This poll was jointly sponsored and funded by The Washington Post, ABC News and Ipsos. The poll includes a random sample of 2,589 U.S. adults. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish.

The questionnaire was administered with the exact questions in the exact order as they appear in this document. Demographic questions are not shown. If a question was asked of a reduced base of the sample, a parenthetical preceding the question identifies the group asked. Phrases surrounded by parentheticals within questions indicate clauses that were randomly rotated for respondents.

Ipsos conducted sampling, interviewing and tabulation for the survey using the KnowledgePanel, a nationwide survey panel designed to be representative of the U.S. adult population. KnowledgePanel members are recruited through probability sampling methods using address-based sampling. Panel members who do not have internet access are provided with a tablet and internet service. KnowledgePanel members receive a per survey incentive, usually the equivalent of \$1 (though for some it is \$2) in points that can be redeemed for cash or prizes.

In this poll, invitations were sent to 3,834 panelists, resulting in 2,589 completed interviews. In quality control, 56 respondents were removed for skipping half or more of the questions for which they were eligible or for completing the survey among the fastest 1 percent of interviews.

Ipsos used probability-proportional-to-size sampling to draw a national sample of adults using the KnowledgePanel matching U.S. population benchmarks. This survey uses statistical weighting procedures to account for deviations in the survey sample from known population characteristics, which helps correct for differential survey participation and random variation in samples. The following table shows unweighted, weighted and benchmark values for weighting variables in the Feb. 12-17, 2026, Washington Post-Ipsos poll.

The following table shows unweighted, weighted and benchmark values for weighting variables:

	Unweighted	Weighted	Benchmark
Age by sex	%	%	%
18-29, Male	7.9	10.1	10.1
18-29, Female	8.1	9.9	9.9
30-44, Male	12.3	13.1	13.1
30-44, Female	11.6	13.0	13.0
45-59, Male	11.9	11.3	11.3
45-59, Female	12.0	11.5	11.5
60+, Male	17.1	14.4	14.4
60+, Female	19.1	16.7	16.7
Race/ethnicity			
White/Non-Hispanic	64.8	59.9	59.9
Black/Non-Hispanic	11.0	12.0	12.0
Other or 2+ Races/Non-Hispanic	8.8	9.6	9.6
Hispanic	15.3	18.4	18.4
Education			
Less than HS	7.7	9.1	9.1
HS graduate or equivalent	27.3	28.4	28.4
Some college	25.1	26.2	26.2
Bachelor's degree	23.8	22.7	22.7
Master's or above	16.2	13.6	13.6
Region by metro status			
Northeast, metro	15.4	16.0	16.0
Northeast, non-metro	1.8	1.2	1.2
Midwest, metro	17.7	16.2	16.2
Midwest, non-metro	4.4	4.2	4.2
South, metro	33.8	33.2	33.2
South, non-metro	5.0	5.4	5.4
West, metro	19.7	21.4	21.4
West, non-metro	2.2	2.3	2.3
Household income			
Under \$25,000	12.0	9.3	9.3
\$25,000-\$49,999	14.5	13.5	13.5
\$50,000-\$74,999	13.5	14.1	14.1
\$75,000-\$99,999	13.2	12.1	12.1
\$100,000-\$149,999	19.0	18.6	18.6
\$150,000 and over	27.8	32.4	32.4

Language dominance			
Not Hispanic	84.7	81.6	81.6
Hispanic - English dominant	4.5	5.2	5.1
Hispanic - Bilingual	8.1	9.6	9.7
Hispanic - Spanish dominant	2.7	3.7	3.7
2024 presidential vote			
Donald Trump	31.1	29.5	29.5
Kamala Harris	32.9	28.6	28.6
Another candidate	1.0	1.0	1.0
Did not vote/Refused	34.9	40.9	40.9
Party identification			
Democrat	28.3	27.9	27.9
Ind/Other - lean Democrat	20.6	19.0	19.0
Refused to lean	6.6	8.2	8.2
Ind/Other - lean Republican	14.0	14.8	14.8
Republican	30.6	30.1	30.1

Sources:

- Census Bureau Current Population Survey 2025 March Supplement (age by sex, race/ethnicity, education, region by metro status, household income)
- Census Bureau 2024 American Community Survey (language dominance)
- Associated Press tabulation of certified results (2024 presidential vote)

Political party identification benchmarks are from the 2025 NPORS annual survey, with a midyear adjustment estimated across aggregated KnowledgePanel surveys accounting for changes in panelists' party identification over time.

All error margins have been adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, which is 1.09 for this survey. The design effect is a factor representing the survey's deviation from a simple random sample and takes into account decreases in precision due to sample design and weighting procedures.

ABC News, The Washington Post and Ipsos are charter members of AAPOR's Transparency Initiative, which recognizes organizations that disclose key methodological details on the research they produce.

