

American Views on Patriotism



Summary of Survey Findings
Research by American Culture & Faith Institute
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Introduction to the Research

The information shared in this report is drawn from a pair of national surveys conducted online during October and November of 2017 by the American Culture & Faith Institute. Each survey involved 1,000 respondents age 18 or older. The sample in each survey reflects the demographic profile of the US adult population. The questions shown are one portion of a larger survey conducted each month. These questions relate to the concept of patriotism in America.

The American Culture & Faith Institute (ACFI) is a division of United in Purpose, a non-partisan, non-profit organization. The mission of United in Purpose is to educate, motivate and activate conservative Christians to engage in cultural transformation in ways that are consistent with the gospel of Jesus Christ. The organization does not support or promote individual political candidates or parties.

ACFI is under the leadership of veteran researcher George Barna, who serves as the Executive Director. The ACFI team includes several experienced research professionals who assist in the development and completion of each project. Much of the team's research is accessible on the ACFI website, located at www.culturefaith.com.

Section 1: Self-Perceptions

Americans describe themselves in many ways. These surveys revealed that seven out of ten Americans (70%) consider themselves to be Christian; half of all adults (52%) say that they are deeply committed to practicing their faith; four out of ten (38%) claim they would prefer socialism to capitalism; only one-third (35%) believes that the United States is heading in the right direction these days; and one out of every eight adults (12%) define themselves as “gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, or transgender.”

Beyond those designations, the survey also revealed that most adults have lukewarm views regarding their other commitments and self-perceptions. For instance:

- Slightly less than half “completely” embrace the idea that they “feel proud to be an American.” Another one-third (36%) say that description is “mostly accurate.”
- Just three out of ten adults (29%) say are accurately described as wanting the government to stay out of their life.
- Interestingly, most Americans seem aware that their political views are not “clear and unchanging.” Three-quarters of adults recognize their ambiguity on political matters.
- Only one-quarter of adults (26%) firmly acknowledge their tolerance of different social and political views.
- Surprisingly few people (12%) strongly affirmed their standing as a “culture warrior.” In fact, a larger share of the public (19%) completely rejects that self-description.
- While the proportion of people who are proud to be an American is limited, only 10% say that preferring to live in another country is a completely accurate description of their views. Half of all respondents said such a label was completely inaccurate.
- A mere 8% said they always trust the government to do the right thing.

Q: Tell us about you, personally. How well does each of the characteristics shown below describe you?

<u>Description of yourself</u>	<u>Accurate description</u>		<u>Inaccurate description</u>	
	<u>completely</u>	<u>mostly</u>	<u>mostly</u>	<u>completely</u>
Feel proud to be an American.....	46%	36%	12%	6%
Want the government to stay out of your life.....	29	42	23	6
Your political views are clear and unchanging...	27	47	20	7
Tolerant of different social/political views.....	26	50	18	7
A culture warrior.....	12	31	38	19
Would prefer to live in another country.....	10	17	24	49
Always trust government to do the right thing....	8	23	37	32

Each of the characteristics is a “completely accurate” description:

<u>Description of yourself</u>	<u>Consrv.</u>	<u>Mod.</u>	<u>Liberal</u>	<u>GOP</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Indep.</u>
Feel proud to be an American.....	65%	43%	37%	66%	43%	43%
Your political views are clear and unchanging.....	38	18	41	34	33	20
Want the government to stay out of your life.....	37	27	26	34	24	31
Tolerant of different social/political views.....	16	26	36	22	29	27
A culture warrior.....	10	9	22	13	17	11
Always trust government to do the right thing.....	7	7	12	9	9	5
Would prefer to live in another country.....	5	10	18	5	14	9

The responses of people based on their political ideology and their party identification revealed divergent points-of-view. Notably, the responses of Republicans and conservatives were virtually identical, even though only 52% of registered Republicans are conservatives. Similarly, the responses of registered Democrats were similar to those of liberals, even though just 37% of Democrats qualified as liberals. Not to be left behind, independent voters had responses nearly identical to those of ideological moderates; 66% of independent voters are moderates.

- Two-thirds of Republicans and conservatives are proud to be American; about two out of five of the other segments (moderates, liberals, Democrats, independents) feel the same way.
- None of the six political segments had a majority claiming that their political views are “clear and unchanging” – apparently, uncertainty and flexibility are the name of the game for all of these voter groups.
- A shockingly small proportion of the populace strongly affirms the idea of keeping the government out of their life, ranging from one-third of Republicans, independents, and conservatives to one-quarter of moderates, liberals, and Democrats.
- Most people realize that they are not especially tolerant of people who hold different social and political views. Conservatives ranked as the least likely to be tolerant; liberals were the most likely to perceive themselves to be tolerant – twice as likely as conservatives to portray themselves as tolerant.
- Liberals (22%) were more than twice as likely as conservatives (10%) and moderates (9%) to describe themselves as culture warriors. Perhaps because of the sharp and omnipresent partisan differences in the U.S. there was a much smaller gap in this perception between Republicans (13%) and Democrats (17%).
- Very few adults, regardless of party affiliation or ideology, “always” trust the government to do the right thing. Liberals were slightly more likely to possess such faith than anyone else (12%), but that amounts to just one out of eight people.
- Despite the heated rhetoric from many celebrities during the 2016 campaign about how they would move out of the U.S. if Donald Trump were elected President, relatively few people

have a hankering for leaving the USA. Liberals were more than three times as likely as conservatives to indicate a preference for living in another country (18% vs. 5%). Party-wise, Democrats were nearly three times more likely than Republicans to express such a desire (14% vs. 5%, respectively).

Faith, age and race also had correlations with some of these self-descriptions. In general, the more devout the Christian, the less like-minded they were with Skeptics; Protestants and Catholics held generally similar views; blacks and Hispanics were more similar to each other than to whites; and there is often a substantial age gap between those under and over 50 years of age. Here are some of the specific differences identified in the survey.

- The groups most likely to feel proud to be American were born again Christians (56%); whites (49%); and adults 65 or older (64%). Those who were notably unlikely to admit to such pride included Skeptics (28%) and adults under 30 years of age (34%).
- There were no particular subgroups that stood out as being especially desirous of having the government to be out of their life altogether. There was no segment for which even four out of ten respondents completely agreed that they want the government to stay out of their life – thus a tacit admission that a majority still contend government can add some value to their life.
- How confusing are the times? The fact that no age, racial, or religious segment of the population has more than one-third who claim their political views are clear and unchanging is testimony to the fact that regarding political matters these days people are either ill-informed, disinterested, or confused about – or, perhaps, meet all of those conditions.
- Tolerance of different political views seems more related to age than anything else. Millennials were by far the most likely to claim to be tolerant of different views (36%), along with people who adhere to non-Christian faiths (33%). Those least likely to self-identify as tolerant were Protestants and people 50 or older.
- The people most likely to view themselves as a culture warrior are adults aligned with a non-Christian faith; non-whites; and Millennials. Those who are least likely to claim that label are whites, born again Christians, and people 50-plus.
- Few people say they would prefer to live in another country. The types most likely included non-Christians, non-whites, and Millennials. Protestants and seniors were the segments least likely to embrace the notion.

Each of the characteristics is a “completely accurate” description:

Description of yourself	Born		Other		Pro-	
	again	Notional	faith	Skeptics	testant	Cath
Feel proud to be an American.....	56%	48%	48%	28%	55%	46%
Want the government to stay out of your life.....	32	29	22	28	29	28
Your political views are clear and unchanging.....	31	24	33	23	30	26
Tolerant of different social/political views.....	25	23	33	28	20	26
A culture warrior.....	10	13	18	11	12	10
Would prefer to live in another country.....	7	10	14	14	5	12
Always trust government to do the right thing.....	6	10	11	5	10	8

- Not many people “always” trust the government to do the right thing. The groups most prone to such trust were – gasp! – Millennials. At 13%, it was not a large proportion, but it surpassed all other age, race, and religious niches. And it certainly differed markedly from the 2% among the 65-plus crowd.

Each of the characteristics is a “completely accurate” description:

<u>Description of yourself</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>
Feel proud to be an American.....	49%	44%	43%
Want the government to stay out of your life.....	29	32	34
Your political views are clear and unchanging.....	26	32	32
Tolerant of different social/political views.....	26	29	23
A culture warrior.....	10	17	18
Would prefer to live in another country.....	9	15	14
Always trust government to do the right thing.....	6	13	12

Each of the characteristics is a “completely accurate” description:

<u>Description of yourself</u>	<u>18-29</u>	<u>30-49</u>	<u>50-64</u>	<u>65+</u>
Tolerant of different social/political views.....	36%	27%	19%	22%
Feel proud to be an American.....	34	42	52	64
Want the government to stay out of your life.....	33	28	26	27
Your political views are clear and unchanging.....	28	25	24	34
A culture warrior.....	21	13	8	7
Would prefer to live in another country.....	21	10	7	2
Always trust government to do the right thing.....	13	8	7	2

Section 2: Meaningful Aspects of Life

Patriotism and the American experience are comprised of many components. In assessing some of the more widely recognized elements, the survey discovered that nearly nine out of ten adults (87%) consider freedom of speech to be very meaningful to them, personally. Not far behind were freedom of religion (very meaningful to 82%), citizenship (81%), and Constitution (80%).

Lesser proportions of adults, but a large majority nevertheless – roughly two-thirds of the public – identified three other elements as very meaningful to them. Those included the American flag (70%), the national anthem (65%), and the pledge of allegiance (65%).

About six out of ten adults deemed the Bible (60%) and the right to bear arms (57%) to be very meaningful to them.

Q: Regardless of what other people might think, how meaningful is each of the following to you, personally?

<u>Item</u>	----- how meaningful is it to you? -----				
	<u>very</u>	<u>somewhat</u>	<u>not too</u>	<u>not at all</u>	<u>not sure</u>
1. Freedom of speech.....	87%	10%	2%	1%	1%
2. Freedom of religion.....	82	12	4	2	1
3. American citizenship.....	81	13	4	2	1
4. U.S. Constitution.....	80	13	4	2	1
5. American flag.....	70	18	7	5	1
6. National anthem.....	65	19	9	7	1
7. Pledge of allegiance.....	65	19	9	6	1
8. The Bible.....	60	18	9	11	1
9. Right to bear arms.....	57	21	13	9	1

Examining the party identification and political ideology segments clarifies what matters to these different groups.

- Conservatives registered the highest score – i.e., were the most likely to say each item evaluated was “very meaningful” to them – on each of the nine elements tested. The lone exception related to freedom of speech, which liberals were equally passionate about.
- Liberals had a radically different profile from conservatives on the significance of these items. Liberals were 20 points less likely to consider citizenship personally very meaningful and 27 points less likely to assign high value to the right to bear arms. They were even less likely to attach meaning to the American flag (30 points less), the pledge of allegiance (33 points

lower), the national anthem (36 points lower), and the Bible (38 points lower). This is reflective of the substantially different worldviews held by conservatives and liberals.

- The differences across party lines were less substantial than those related to ideology. While Republicans were notably more likely to revere the Constitution than were either Democrats or independents, all three segments had a similar level of respect for citizenship, freedom of speech, and freedom of religion.
- Democrats and independents had similar and significantly lower levels of appreciation for the American flag, the national anthem, the pledge of allegiance, the Bible, and the right to bear arms than did Republicans. The largest gaps related to the national anthem (30-point difference between Republicans and Democrats) and the pledge of allegiance (29-point gap).

Each of the following is “very meaningful” to you, personally

<u>Item</u>	<u>Conserv</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Liberal</u>	<u>GOP</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Indep.</u>
American citizenship.....	93%	79%	73%	87%	81%	83%
U.S. Constitution.....	91	76	78	91	81	79
Freedom of speech.....	90	84	90	89	89	89
Freedom of religion.....	90	80	76	83	84	86
American flag.....	86	66	56	87	62	63
National anthem.....	85	61	49	85	55	62
Pledge of allegiance.....	82	62	49	85	56	59
The Bible.....	80	57	42	76	52	54
Right to bear arms.....	73	52	46	72	46	49

Faith inclinations clearly make a profound difference in how people see the country, and in their responses to what is most meaningful to them. The close tie between being born again and assigning great meaning to the signs, symbols, and provisions of American freedom and greatness are strong and undeniable. When compared to three other faith segments – Notional Christians (i.e., not born again but consider themselves to be Christian), adults aligned with a non-Christian faith, and Skeptics – born again adults emerged as by far the group most supportive of the elements tested in the survey. They ranked highest on all nine of the elements tested, although more than four out of five of each group considered freedom of speech to be personally very meaningful. Skeptics were at the bottom of the ranking for seven of the nine elements, more positive than other groups only in relation to the right to bear arms (on which non-Christian faith adherents ranked lowest).

Each of the following is “very meaningful” to you, personally

<u>Item</u>	<u>Born again</u>	<u>Notional</u>	<u>Other faith</u>	<u>Skeptics</u>	<u>Protestant</u>	<u>Catholic</u>
Freedom of religion.....	92%	82%	88%	65%	89%	83%
The Bible.....	92	59	51	17	77	63
Freedom of speech.....	90	85	86	83	85	86
American citizenship.....	89	84	74	68	89	86
U.S. Constitution.....	88	82	69	69	90	83
American flag.....	84	71	58	47	82	75
Pledge of allegiance.....	82	67	54	37	77	74
National anthem.....	81	68	56	37	78	75
Right to bear arms.....	67	57	23	41	60	53

Catholics and Protestants were generally of similar accord, although Protestants had a somewhat higher average across all nine items (81% compared to 74%). The exception was that Protestants were much more likely to describe the Bible as personally very meaningful (77% versus 63%).

Each of the following is “very meaningful” to you, personally

<u>Item</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>
Freedom of speech.....	87%	85%	88%
American citizenship.....	84	74	75
U.S. Constitution.....	84	72	69
Freedom of religion.....	82	86	78
Pledge of allegiance.....	78	49	57
American flag.....	75	55	62
National anthem.....	71	45	60
Right to bear arms.....	59	55	49
The Bible.....	58	77	57

Whites were more likely than non-whites to characterize most of the elements to be personally very meaningful. The major exception, strangely, was the Bible, which blacks were far more likely than anyone else to revere. Also, the freedoms of speech and religion were generally hailed by all three of the major racial/ethnic groups. Blacks were noteworthy for their very low score awarded to how meaningful they find the national anthem and the pledge of allegiance.

The age group that found these items to be least meaningful was Millennials. Among the age groups, they generated the lowest score on six of the nine items. There was little difference for most of the elements evaluated between the 50-to-64 and the 65-plus groups. However, there was a significant difference in points of view between those under 50 and those 50-plus. The latter higher scores for each of the items studied except one: the right to bear arms! In that case, 59% of the people under 50 said that right was personally very meaningful compared to 53% among those 50 or older.

Each of the following is “very meaningful” to you, personally

<u>Item</u>	<u>18-29</u>	<u>30-49</u>	<u>50-64</u>	<u>65+</u>
Freedom of speech.....	83%	86%	89%	87%
Freedom of religion.....	78	80	86	84
American citizenship.....	70	77	86	93
U.S. Constitution.....	70	77	85	90
Right to bear arms.....	60	59	55	51
American flag.....	59	66	75	80
Pledge of allegiance.....	54	60	71	75
National anthem.....	53	63	72	72
The Bible.....	53	59	66	61

Section 3: Defining Patriotism

The idea of being “patriotic” has different meanings to different people, so the survey examined how good a fit 15 of those meanings are with the American people. Perhaps due to their lack of circumspection on this matter, a majority of people felt that 14 of the 15 options they were given can be considered to be an accurate description of what it means to be patriotic.

There were, however, different levels of the breadth of support for the various descriptions. There were five descriptions that were accepted by three-quarters or more of the public. About nine out of ten adults adopted each of three particular descriptions: that individual rights come with personal responsibilities, that patriotism entails feeling proud to be an American, and believing in and obeying the Constitution. About three out of every four respondents noted that being committed to carrying out one’s individual civic duty and being willing to die to protect our freedoms were also accurate ways of depicting patriotism.

Roughly two out of three adults agreed that each of six elements is part of being patriotic. Those included defending and living by the rules and ways of life described in the Constitution, whether you agree with them or not; refusing to tolerate abuse of the American flag; using non-violent civil disobedience to overcome social injustice; being willing to serve in the military or via some other form of public service if the need arises and the country seeks your help; voting in every election; and believing that America always comes first.

Smaller majorities concurred that three other concepts are part of patriotism. Those ideas were that a patriot is someone who is willing to join the military to defend the nation, if called upon; one who respects those in positions of government authority, regardless of disagreements with them; and believing that America’s enemies are your enemies.

The only idea tested that was embraced by a minority of respondents was that you should always accept the choices made by the President while retaining the right to lawfully express disagreement. That concept was endorsed as patriotism by 46%.

Given this long list of attributes that constitute patriotism in the mind of most Americans, it is obvious that there is a disparity between how patriotism is defined and how it is embodied by our citizens.

Q: The idea of being “patriotic” has different meanings to different people. Please indicate whether you think each of the following is an accurate or inaccurate description of what it means to you, personally, to be “patriotic.”

<u>Description of patriotism</u>	<u>accurate</u>	<u>inaccurate</u>	<u>not sure</u>
Individual rights come with personal responsibilities.....	90%	5%	5%
Feel proud to be an American.....	86	8	6
Believe in and obey the Constitution.....	86	6	7
Committed to carrying out your individual civic duty.....	76	12	12
Willing to die to protect our freedoms.....	72	14	15
Defending and living by the rules and ways of life described in the Constitution, whether you agree with them or not.....	70	17	13
Refuse to tolerate abuse of the American flag.....	69	21	11
Use non-violent civil disobedience to overcome social injustice.	67	17	16
Willing to serve in the military or via some other form of public service if the need arises and the country seeks your help...	66	18	16
Voting in every election.....	64	24	12
Believe America comes first – always.....	62	26	12
Willing to join the military to defend the nation, if called upon.	60	23	17
Respect those in positions of government authority, even if you disagree with them.....	59	28	14
America’s enemies are your enemies.....	54	29	18
Always accept the choices made by the President while retaining the right to lawfully express disagreement.....	46	38	15

Conservatives and liberals have notably different views about what constitutes patriotism. Conservatives were at least ten percentage points more likely to consider each of the following to be an accurate description of patriotic activity or thought:

- Believe America comes first – always (+35 points)
- Refuse to tolerate abuse of the American flag (+32 points)

- Always accept the choices made by the President while retaining the right to lawfully express disagreement (+29 points)
- America’s enemies are your enemies (+25 points)
- Defending and living by the rules and ways of life described in the Constitution, whether you agree with them or not (+24 points)
- Willing to join the military to defend the nation, if called upon (+24 points)
- Respect those in positions of government authority, even if you disagree with them (+21 points)
- Willing to serve in the military or via some other form of public service if the need arises and the country seeks your help (+17 points)
- Feel proud to be an American (+17 points)
- Willing to die to protect our freedoms (+15 points)
- Believe in and obey the Constitution (+13 points)

In contrast, there was only one element among the 15 tested which liberals were at least ten percentage points more likely than conservatives to describe as an accurate depiction of patriotism. That was the willingness to use non-violent civil disobedience to overcome social injustice, showing a 12-point gap between the two segments.

Accurate description of patriotism:

<u>Description of patriotism</u>	<u>Consrv</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Liberal</u>
Individual rights come with personal responsibilities.....	97%	87%	90%
Feel proud to be an American.....	95	84	78
Believe in and obey the Constitution.....	95	84	82
Defending and living by the rules and ways of life described in the Constitution, whether you agree with them or not....	88	67	62
Refuse to tolerate abuse of the American flag.....	87	65	55
Committed to carrying out your individual civic duty.....	85	73	76
Believe America comes first – always.....	82	60	47
Willing to die to protect our freedoms.....	80	70	65
Willing to serve in the military or via some other form of public service if the need arises and the country seeks your help.....	79	63	62
Voting in every election.....	75	60	67
Willing to join the military to defend the nation, if called upon.	75	57	51
Respect those in positions of government authority, even if you disagree with them.....	68	58	47
America’s enemies are your enemies.....	68	50	43
Use non-violent civil disobedience to overcome social injustice.	65	65	77
Always accept the choices made by the President while retaining the right to lawfully express disagreement.....	65	43	36

Accurate description of patriotism

<u>Description of patriotism</u>	<u>GOP</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Indep.</u>
Individual rights come with personal responsibilities.....	96%	90%	91%
Feel proud to be an American.....	96	83	85
Believe in and obey the Constitution.....	94	87	85
Refuse to tolerate abuse of the American flag.....	88	55	66
Defending and living by the rules and ways of life described in the Constitution, whether you agree with them or not.....	86	67	72
Committed to carrying out your individual civic duty.....	84	79	78
Willing to die to protect our freedoms.....	82	70	77
Willing to serve in the military or via some other form of public service if the need arises and the country seeks your help.....	81	67	67
Willing to join the military to defend the nation, if called upon..	78	56	61
Believe America comes first – always.....	78	55	60
Voting in every election.....	76	80	67
America’s enemies are your enemies.....	74	44	51
Respect those in positions of government authority, even if you disagree with them.....	74	48	55
Use non-violent civil disobedience to overcome social injustice..	65	73	74
Always accept the choices made by the President while retaining the right to lawfully express disagreement.....	63	34	51

Not surprisingly, born again Christians were the faith segment most likely to embrace the various traditional views about patriotism. More than 90% of them adopted three of the statements: individual rights come with responsibilities (95%), they feel proud to be American (93%), and that believing in and obeying the Constitution (93%) is a core element of patriotism. Ninety percent of Notionals embraced the idea that patriotism is about individual rights producing personal responsibilities. Neither the Skeptics nor people associated with non-Christian faiths reached the 90% level of agreement with any of the 15 statements.

On a spiritual continuum, one could argue that the farther one was from the “devout Christian” end of the spectrum, the less likely they were to accept any given statement as indicative of genuine patriotism. Consequently, the mean scores across all 15 statements formed a straight-line that decreased as one moved from strongly Christian to firmly irreligious. The average score for born again adults was 76%; for Notionals, 69%; for people of non-Christian faiths, 63%; for Skeptics, 57%. Among Skeptics, half or less embraced six of the 15 statements; among people associated with a non-Christian faith, half or less adopted three of the statements; among Notional Christians, just one statement was deemed accurate by less than half; and among born again Christians every one of the 15 statements was embraced by a majority – i.e., none of the statements received support from less than half of the segment.

Among the biggest differences across the faith continuum were:

- “Refuse to tolerate abuse of the American flag”: ranged from 81% of born again adults to just 50% of Skeptics, a 31-point gap;
- “Believe America comes first – always”: the range was from 70% to 41%, reflecting a difference of 29 percentage points;
- “Respect those in positions of government authority, even if you disagree with them”: the range of 67% down to 39% left a 28-point gap;
- “America’s enemies are your enemies”: the 26-point gap was based on a range from 65% to 39%;
- “Committed to carrying out your individual civic duty”: this stamen generated a 20-point difference, from the 85% of born agains who believe this concept represents patriotism to the 65% among the Skeptics who agreed with them.
- The only statement for which Skeptics were more likely to agree than were born again Christians was the idea of using non-violent civil disobedience to overcome social injustice; 71% of Skeptics felt that embodies true patriotism while 67% of born again Christians concurred. Notional Christians (64%) were the least likely to buy this notion while people of non-Christian faiths (69%) were among those more likely to adopt the concept.

Accurate description of patriotism:

Description of patriotism	Born again	Notional	Other faith	Skeptics	Pro-test	Cath
Individual rights come with personal responsibilities.....	95%	90%	85%	86%	96%	90%
Feel proud to be an American.....	93	86	80	79	91	89
Believe in and obey the Constitution.....	93	85	78	81	91	91
Committed to carrying out your individual civic duty.....	85	76	77	65	82	76
Defending and living by the rules and ways of life described in the Constitution, whether you agree with them or not....	81	71	64	56	80	71
Refuse to tolerate abuse of the American flag.....	81	71	54	50	78	77
Willing to die to protect our freedoms.....	78	73	59	64	81	76
Willing to serve in the military or via some other form of public service if the need arises and the country seeks your help....	74.	68	60	55	74	67
Voting in every election.....	72	65	65	53	73	65
Believe America comes first – always.....	70	67	64	41	72	63
Willing to join the military to defend the nation, if called upon.	68	61	46	50	72	62
Respect those in positions of government authority, even if you disagree with them.....	67	62	55	39	66	63
Use non-violent civil disobedience to overcome social injustice.	67	64	69	71	65	70
America’s enemies are your enemies.....	65	53	48	39	66	55
Always accept the choices made by the President while retaining the right to lawfully express disagreement...	52	49	45	33	55	48

Race and ethnicity had very visible differences of opinion regarding the content of patriotism. White adults, who constitute two-thirds of the current adult population, were the racial/ethnic segment most likely to believe that each of the 15 statements accurately described what it means to be patriotic. More than half of them adopted each of those statements as an accurate depiction. The mean scores for the entire list of statements were highest among whites while the scores were nearly identical between blacks and Hispanics. However, the statements most likely to generate low acceptance varied between the two dominant non-white segments. Less than half of all blacks were likely to accept the statements, “willing to join the military to defend the nation, if called upon;” “refuse to tolerate abuse of the American flag;” “America’s enemies are your enemies;” and “always accept the choices made by the President while retaining the right to lawfully express disagreement.” A minority of Hispanics embraced the latter two of those statements.

<u>Accurate description of patriotism</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>
Individual rights come with personal responsibilities.....	92%	86%	89%
Believe in and obey the Constitution.....	90	80	78
Feel proud to be an American.....	89	76	83
Committed to carrying out your individual civic duty.....	79	72	71
Willing to die to protect our freedoms.....	76	60	68
Defending and living by the rules and ways of life described in the Constitution, whether you agree with them or not.....	75	62	63
Refuse to tolerate abuse of the American flag.....	75	45	61
Willing to serve in the military or via some other form of public service if the need arises and the country seeks your help.....	71	56	56
Use non-violent civil disobedience to overcome social injustice..	67	71	64
Willing to join the military to defend the nation, if called upon..	65	49	52
Voting in every election.....	65	69	59
Believe America comes first – always.....	64	66	54
Respect those in positions of government authority, even if you disagree with them.....	59	64	55
America’s enemies are your enemies.....	58	45	45
Always accept the choices made by the President while retaining the right to lawfully express disagreement.....	51	33	38

In general, age made a predictable difference based on the pattern in which the younger the person was, the less likely they were to accept a given statement as an accurate description of patriotism. The average gap between the views of Millennials and people 65-plus was 18 percentage points.

The largest differences between the youngest and oldest Americans, with the younger folks always at the lower end of the adoption continuum, were:

- “Willing to join the military to defend the nation, if called upon” – a 33-point gap between the young and old;
- “Defending and living by the rules and ways of life described in the Constitution, whether you agree with them or not” – a 30-point gap;
- “Voting in every election” – there was a 28%-point difference between the extreme age groups;
- “Willing to serve in the military or via some other form of public service if the need arises and the country seeks your help” – this description of patriotism generated a difference of 25 percentage points;
- “Believe America comes first – always” – produced a gap of 22 points;
- “Willing to carry out your individual civic duty” – also produced a 22-point gap.

Accurate description of patriotism

Description of patriotism	AGE	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Individual rights come with personal responsibilities.....		79%	90%	94%	96%
Feel proud to be an American.....		75	85	90	92
Believe in and obey the Constitution.....		73	86	91	94
Use non-violent civil disobedience to overcome social injustice..		67	62	74	67
Committed to carrying out your individual civic duty.....		67	73	81	89
Willing to die to protect our freedoms.....		65	69	72	84
Refuse to tolerate abuse of the American flag.....		62	70	69	73
Defending and living by the rules and ways of life described in the Constitution, whether you agree with them or not.....		57	68	74	87
Willing to serve in the military or via some other form of public service if the need arises and the country seeks your help.....		57	62	69	82
Respect those in positions of government authority, even if you disagree with them.....		57	62	58	55
Voting in every election.....		50	61	72	78
Believe America comes first – always.....		50	61	67	72
Willing to join the military to defend the nation, if called upon..		46	56	63	79
Always accept the choices made by the President while retaining the right to lawfully express disagreement.....		42	44	48	54
America’s enemies are your enemies.....		41	49	62	64

Section 4: Personal Patriotism Assessment

Overall, adults sense a decline happening in patriotism in the U.S. Overall, just one out of every eight adults (13%) claims patriotism is on the rise while half of the nation believes it is waning. (About one-quarter say it is stable, and one-tenth are clueless.)

As usually happens in research, we also discovered that while people may be concerned about the state of American patriotism, most of the respondents (59%) characterized themselves as “extremely” or “very” patriotic. The problem is usually “them.”

Q: Do you believe that the citizens of the United States are becoming more patriotic, less patriotic, or the level of patriotism is remaining about the same?

1. becoming more patriotic	13%
2. remaining about the same	27
3. becoming less patriotic	50
4. don't know	10

Q: Overall, how patriotic do you consider yourself to be?

1. Extremely patriotic	23%
2. Very patriotic	36
3. Somewhat patriotic	28
4. Not too patriotic	6
5. Not at all patriotic	3
6. Don't know	4

When the political views and commitments of respondents are taken into consideration, the results of these questions assume a somewhat different pallor. For instance, conservatives (62%) are far more likely than either moderates (49%) or liberals (36%) to perceive that Americans are becoming less patriotic.

Similarly, conservatives are far more likely to characterize themselves as extremely patriotic – in fact, about twice as likely to do so are either moderates or liberals. Overall, just half of moderates and liberals consider themselves to be either “extremely” or “very” patriotic – substantially less than the three-fourths of conservatives who do so.

Conservatives and Republicans are the people most likely to perceive a drop in patriotism in America, with three out of five people in those groups claiming a decline. Fifty-six percent of independent voters and half of moderates claim such a decline is happening, compared to only four out of ten Democrats and liberals.

Q: Do you believe that the citizens of the United States are becoming more patriotic, less patriotic, or the level of patriotism is remaining about the same?

	<u>Conservatives</u>	<u>Moderates</u>	<u>Liberals</u>	<u>GOP</u>	<u>Dems</u>	<u>Indep.</u>
becoming more patriotic	15%	11%	18%	16%	15%	11%
remaining about the same	16	28	38	21	33	24
becoming less patriotic	62	49	36	61	41	56
don't know	7	13	8	2	11	10

Conservatives (78%) and Republicans (81%) were more likely than their counterparts to describe themselves as either “extremely” or “very” patriotic. Moderates (52%) and liberals (51%) had similar levels, while independents (57%) were slightly more likely than Democrats to emerge at the high end of the patriotism self-rating scale.

Again, those associated with the Christian faith rated themselves higher in terms of personal patriotism than did those associated with non-Christian faiths or with no faith. Within the Christian universe, Protestant Christians rated themselves more highly on the patriotism scale than did Catholics.

White adults were more likely than non-white adults to consider themselves to be patriotic. While two-thirds of whites (65%) said they were either extremely or very patriotic, the same designations were embraced by about half of Hispanics (53%) and a minority of blacks (44%).

Q: Overall, how patriotic do you consider yourself to be?

	<u>Conservatives</u>	<u>Moderates</u>	<u>Liberals</u>	<u>GOP</u>	<u>Dems</u>	<u>Indep.</u>
Extremely patriotic	36%	18%	20%	38%	18%	19%
Very patriotic	42	34	31	43	34	38
Somewhat patriotic	19	31	34	17	31	31
Not too patriotic	1	7	8	2	10	7
Not at all patriotic	1	4	4	0	3	3
Don't know	1	6	3	0	4	3

Q: Overall, how patriotic do you consider yourself to be?

	<u>Born again</u>	<u>Notional</u>	<u>Other faith</u>	<u>Skeptic</u>	<u>Protestant</u>	<u>Catholic</u>
Extremely patriotic	39%	24%	10%	11%	37%	25%
Very patriotic	32	37	28	29	38	40
Somewhat patriotic	22	25	42	39	20	27
Not too patriotic	3	6	10	9	2	5
Not at all patriotic	2	3	4	6	1	1
Don't know	3	4	6	6	2	2

Q: Overall, how patriotic do you consider yourself to be?

	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>
Extremely patriotic	26%	16%	19%
Very patriotic	39	28	34
Somewhat patriotic	28	27	26
Not too patriotic	3	14	10
Not at all patriotic	2	7	6
Don't know	3	9	5

The older a respondent was, the more likely he/she was to believe that they are extremely or very patriotic. Among those 65-plus, three-quarters (75%) said they fall in that category. Slightly less than two-thirds of the 50-to-64s (63%), about half of the 30-to-49 niche (55%), and only four out of ten Millennials (40%) assumed the same label.

Q: Overall, how patriotic do you consider yourself to be?

	<u>18-29</u>	<u>30-49</u>	<u>50-64</u>	<u>65+</u>
Extremely patriotic	12%	23%	25%	30%
Very patriotic	28	32	38	45
Somewhat patriotic	33	30	28	22
Not too patriotic	11	7	4	2
Not at all patriotic	6	3	3	2
Don't know	10	5	3	*

Section 5: Patriotic Commitment

While most Americans consider themselves to be suitably patriotic, they do not have similar feelings about the patriotism of many well-known individuals or organizations.

There was not a single organization among those evaluated whose patriotism was rated on par with that of the pool of survey respondents. Overall, six out of ten respondents said they were at least “very patriotic.” The organizations with the highest “very patriotic” ratings included the NRA (33%), the U.S. Supreme Court (30%), and the GOP (28%).

Entities for which one-quarter of the public felt the organization was very patriotic included the U.S. Senate, the Democratic Party, Chick-fil-A, Fox News, and the U.S. House of Representatives.

The lowest “very patriotic” levels were accorded to Hobby Lobby (20%), CNN (18%), New York Times (18%), National Football League (NFL) (18%), Planned Parenthood (17%), Target (13%), and Starbucks (11%).

The survey also found that the four individuals whose patriotism was assessed rated even lower than the average organization tested. Less than one out of every five adults said that the four celebrities rated were “very patriotic.” Those individuals were NFL player Colin Kaepernick (17%); filmmaker Michael Moore (15%); CNN personality Rachel Maddow (14%); and political activist Al Sharpton (14%).

Q: How patriotic do you consider each of these individuals and organizations to be?

<u>Organization</u>	<u>---- how patriotic is this organization? -----</u>				
	<u>very</u>	<u>somewhat</u>	<u>not too</u>	<u>not at all</u>	<u>not sure</u>
National Rifle Association (NRA).....	33%	26%	14%	15%	12%
U.S. Supreme Court.....	30	35	16	7	12
Republican Party.....	28	31	17	13	11
U.S. Senate.....	24	35	20	10	12
Democratic Party.....	24	31	15	18	12
Chick-fil-A.....	24	21	17	14	23
Fox News.....	24	28	15	14	20
U.S. House of Representatives.....	23	36	20	10	12
Hobby Lobby.....	20	23	17	15	25
CNN.....	18	29	17	16	20
New York Times.....	18	28	18	13	25
National Football League (NFL).....	18	24	23	21	15
Planned Parenthood.....	17	28	16	21	18
Target.....	13	28	20	16	25
Starbucks.....	11	22	18	15	35

---- how patriotic is this individual? ----

<u>Individual</u>	<u>very</u>	<u>somewhat</u>	<u>not too</u>	<u>not at all</u>	<u>not sure</u>
Colin Kaepernick (NFL player).....	17%	14%	15%	33%	22%
Michael Moore (filmmaker).....	15	19	14	19	33
Rachel Maddow (TV personality).....	14	17	13	15	42
Al Sharpton (political activist).....	14	18	16	25	28

Based on people’s political ideology, their views of the patriotism of individuals and organizations are quite different. (There was a very strong correlation between the views of Republicans and conservatives, between Democrats and liberals, and between independents and moderates.)

- A majority of conservatives rated the NRA as “very patriotic.” That was the only organization to win a majority label of very patriotic from the six political subgroups. Less than half as many moderates and liberals deemed the NRA to be very patriotic.
- Other organizations that conservatives were at least twice as likely as moderates and liberals to be very patriotic included Chick-fil-A, Hobby Lobby, and Fox News.
- Moderates and liberals were at least twice as likely as conservatives to rate, CNN, the National Football League (NFL), Target, New York Times, Planned Parenthood, and Starbucks as very patriotic.
- All three groups gave relatively similar – and low – patriotism scores to the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Senate, and the U.S. House of Representatives.

Q: How patriotic do you consider each of these organizations to be?

Considered to be very patriotic

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Conserv</u>	<u>Moderates</u>	<u>Liberals</u>	<u>GOP</u>	<u>Dems</u>	<u>Indep.</u>
National Rifle Association (NRA).....	57%	27%	24%	61%	19%	30%
Chick-fil-A.....	43	20	18	41	17	24
Republican Party.....	42	23	28	48	19	25
Fox News.....	39	18	19	40	19	16
Hobby Lobby.....	36	14	19	37	15	19
U.S. Supreme Court.....	29	29	36	33	30	28
U.S. House of Representatives.....	23	21	26	27	21	16
U.S. Senate.....	19	24	28	26	24	19
Democratic Party.....	15	23	39	11	41	22
CNN.....	12	18	27	9	28	13
National Football League (NFL).....	10	17	30	10	25	12
Target.....	10	10	22	11	16	10
New York Times.....	9	17	30	8	29	12
Planned Parenthood.....	9	14	34	9	25	11
Starbucks.....	7	9	22	7	18	5

Not surprisingly, liberals were several times more likely than both conservatives and moderates to deem each of the four individuals who were evaluated to be “very patriotic.” Liberals were especially supportive of football player Colin Kaepernick. In contrast, there was no case in which even as few as one out of every six moderates or one out of every ten conservatives assessed any of the four celebrities to be “very patriotic.”

Q: How patriotic do you consider each of these individuals to be?

Considered to be very patriotic

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Conserv</u>	<u>Moderates</u>	<u>Liberals</u>	<u>GOP</u>	<u>Dems</u>	<u>Indep.</u>
Al Sharpton (political activist).....	9	12	26	4	23	10
Rachel Maddow (TV personality).....	8	12	26	4	23	11
Colin Kaepernick (NFL player).....	7	15	38	6	31	14
Michael Moore (filmmaker).....	6	15	31	6	29	8

Not unexpectedly, the casting of patriotic or non-patriotic by faith segments aligned with the perceived ideological theological views of the various organizations examined. For instance, born again Christians were much more likely than other people to characterize the NRA, Chick-fil-A, and Hobby Lobby as “very patriotic.” People of non-Christian faiths were more likely than born again Christians to argue that CNN, Planned Parenthood, the NFL are very patriotic. Skeptics, who reside at the opposite end of the spiritual continuum from the born again constituency, were the group least likely to label any of the organizations as very patriotic – and, of course, they themselves were lowest on the patriotism assessment scale.

Q: How patriotic do you consider each of these organizations to be?

Considered to be very patriotic

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Born again</u>	<u>Notional</u>	<u>Other faith</u>	<u>Skeptics</u>	<u>Protestant</u>	<u>Cath</u>
National Rifle Association (NRA).....	44%	30%	24%	26%	41%	27%
U.S. Supreme Court.....	35	30	38	22	33	30
Chick-fil-A.....	33	26	21	12	31	26
Republican Party.....	32	29	28	18	33	27
Hobby Lobby.....	29	19	23	9	29	17
Fox News.....	28	26	20	14	27	30
Democratic Party.....	27	24	27	20	23	26
U.S. House of Representatives.....	24	24	27	17	23	22
U.S. Senate.....	24	26	28	17	25	24
CNN.....	18	18	24	18	17	18
New York Times.....	18	16	20	18	15	20
Planned Parenthood.....	17	17	23	16	15	17
National Football League (NFL).....	16	18	23	19	16	19
Target.....	14	14	17	6	13	14
Starbucks.....	10	12	11	12	11	12

Q: How patriotic do you consider each of these individuals to be?

Considered to be very patriotic

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Born again</u>	<u>Notional</u>	<u>Other faith</u>	<u>Skeptics</u>	<u>Protestant</u>	<u>Cath</u>
Al Sharpton (political activist).....	13%	12%	19%	17%	14%	11%
Colin Kaepernick (NFL player).....	13	16	21	27	14	15
Rachel Maddow (TV personality).....	11	14	15	16	14	12
Michael Moore (filmmaker).....	11	16	22	20	16	12

Race and ethnicity impacted views of patriotism in discernible ways. Whites were more likely than others to call the NRA very patriotic. Blacks were notably more likely than whites to deem the Democratic Party, CNN, Planned Parenthood, New York Times, Target, and Starbucks to be very patriotic, and much less likely to place the NRA in that category. Hispanics were the segment most likely to portray the U.S. Supreme Court and the U.S. Senate as very patriotic, while joining blacks in being significantly more likely than whites to place Planned Parenthood, New York Times, Target, and Starbucks in the “very patriotic” bracket.

Q: How patriotic do you consider each of these organizations to be?

Considered to be very patriotic

<u>Organization</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>
National Rifle Association (NRA).....	36%	17%	30%
U.S. Supreme Court.....	29	33	36
Republican Party.....	29	24	29
Chick-fil-A.....	25	27	23
Fox News.....	24	26	24
Democratic Party.....	22	36	27
U.S. House of Representatives.....	22	27	25
U.S. Senate.....	22	28	31
Hobby Lobby.....	20	17	22
CNN.....	14	38	23
Planned Parenthood.....	14	27	26
National Football League (NFL).....	14	31	22
New York Times.....	13	30	25
Target.....	10	23	18
Starbucks.....	8	18	14

Blacks were far more likely than whites to describe each of the four celebrities evaluated – filmmaker Michael Moore, pro football player Colin Kaepernick (he of the take-a-knee-during-the-national-anthem fame), liberal news commentator Rachel Maddow, and liberal political activist Al Sharpton – as being individuals they would classify as being very patriotic. In all four cases, white respondents were the least likelt to agree with that characterization.

Q: How patriotic do you consider each of these individuals to be?

Considered to be very patriotic

<u>Organization</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>
Michael Moore (filmmaker).....	12%	29%	16%
Colin Kaepernick (NFL player).....	11	40	24
Rachel Maddow (TV personality).....	11	27	15
Al Sharpton (political activist).....	9	38	13%

Age also affected peoples’ points of view about the organizations and individuals examined – but not always in the ways expected. Millennials, often described as opposing entrenched institution, gave the highest “very patriotic” acceptance rate of any of the age groups to the Republican Party, House of Representatives, Democratic Party, NFL, Planned Parenthood, and Target. They were near the top in describing the Supreme Court, U.S. Senate, Chick-fil-A, CNN, New York Times, and Starbucks as very patriotic. In short, they were the age group most generous in handing out that designation. The age segment that was the stingiest in assessing organizations as very patriotic was those who are 65 or older.

Q: How patriotic do you consider each of these organizations to be?

Considered to be very patriotic

<u>Organization</u>	<u>18-29</u>	<u>30-49</u>	<u>50-64</u>	<u>65+</u>
Republican Party.....	35%	26%	28%	20%
U.S. Supreme Court.....	34	32	28	24
U.S. House of Representatives.....	32	23	21	13
U.S. Senate.....	30	27	21	12
National Rifle Association (NRA).....	30	34	35	28
Democratic Party.....	30	22	25	21
Planned Parenthood.....	27	16	14	11
Chick-fil-A.....	27	25	24	21
National Football League (NFL).....	24	20	17	8
Fox News.....	22	22	27	24
Target.....	18	13	11	7
Hobby Lobby.....	18	18	23	21
CNN.....	18	20	21	11
New York Times.....	17	20	18	12
Starbucks.....	12	14	9	6

Q: How patriotic do you consider each of these individuals to be?

Considered to be very patriotic

<u>Organization</u>	<u>18-29</u>	<u>30-49</u>	<u>50-64</u>	<u>65+</u>
Colin Kaepernick (NFL player).....	24%	22%	14%	9%
Al Sharpton (political activist).....	17	16	13	8
Michael Moore (filmmaker).....	16	18	15	11
Rachel Maddow (TV personality).....	15	13	13	14

Section 6: The American Experience

Adults in this country possess a range of perceptions about the experience of being American. The survey identified some of those perspectives.

Surprisingly, only half of all adults strongly agree that basic freedoms are under attack in the U.S. Another one-third moderately agrees with that claim. Perhaps even more surprising is that less than half of all adults (45%) strongly affirm the idea that the United States is less united now than at any prior time during their lifetime. Again, an additional one-third of the populace has a moderate degree of agreement with that idea. Further, less than half of the public (45%) strongly agrees that our most visible political leaders are doing little to bring the country together.

Notably smaller proportions of the adult public strongly agree with each of the other statements explored. Only one-third strongly agreed that the U.S. does not have a widely-shared vision of our future for people to rally around. Understandably, not quite one-fourth of the public strongly agrees that they would feel safe wearing a “Make America Great Again” hat anywhere in the US. However, a large segment of the population maintains some hope for the future. Only one out of every five adults firmly believes that things are so divided these days that it is no longer possible to bring the nation together.

Q: Please indicate whether you, *personally*, agree or disagree with each of these statements, no matter what you think other people may believe.

<u>Statement</u>	-----agree----- <u>strongly</u>	<u>somewhat</u>	--- disagree --- <u>somewhat</u>	---- <u>strongly</u>	don't <u>know</u>
Basic freedoms are under attack in America.....	51%	32%	9%	4%	6%
The United States is less united now than at any prior time during your lifetime.....	45	31	12	5	7
Our most visible political leaders are doing little to bring the country together.....	45	29	15	6	6
The US does not have a widely-shared vision of our future for people to rally around.....	34	36	15	5	9
You would feel safe wearing a Make America Great Again hat anywhere in the US.....	22	18	20	29	11
Things are so divided these days that it is no longer possible to bring the nation together.....	21	33	24	15	7

As has been the pattern throughout this research, again a major distinction between the views of conservatives and liberals was evident in relation to these statements. The outcomes were clear:

- Conservatives were more likely than liberals and moderates to believe that basic freedoms are under attack in America these days, and more likely to say they would feel safe wearing a Make America Great Again hat anywhere in the country.
- Conservatives were less likely than both liberals and moderates to believe that our most visible political leaders are doing little to bring the country together; that the US does not have a widely-shared vision of our future for people to rally around; and that things are so divided these days that it is no longer possible to bring the nation together.

The views of moderates were less predictable than those of people at the ends of the ideological spectrum. The study found that moderates were less likely than liberals to indicate strong agreement with each of the six statements. However, moderates were less likely to offer strong agreement than conservatives for two statements, more likely for three statements, and equally likely for the remaining statement. Compared to conservatives, moderates were:

- Less likely to feel safe wearing a Make America Great Again hat and less likely to say that basic freedoms are under attack.
- More likely to say that our most visible political leaders are doing little to bring the country together; that the US does not have a widely-shared vision of our future for people to rally around; and that things are so divided these days that it is no longer possible to bring the nation together.
- Equally likely to say that the United States is less united now than at any prior time during their lifetime.

Strong agreement with the statement:

<u>Statement</u>	<u>Consrv</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Liberal</u>	<u>GOP</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Indep</u>
Basic freedoms are under attack in America...	60%	46%	53%	50%	56%	52%
The United States is less united now than at any prior time during your lifetime.....	41	43	58	39	54	48
Our most visible political leaders are doing little to bring the country together.....	32	45	63	25	64	50
You would feel safe wearing a Make America Great Again hat anywhere in the US.....	28	19	24	24	20	20
The US does not have a widely-shared vision of our future for people to rally around.....	26	33	49	23	45	35
Things are so divided these days that it is no longer possible to bring the nation together...	13	21	32	14	29	20

As was seen in other portions of the survey, the views of Republicans were nearly the same as those of conservatives, and the perspectives of Democrats were nearly identical to those of liberals.

Faith adherence affected peoples' views on these statements.

- The two people groups that typically exhibit the deepest commitment to their faith – born again Christians and the non-Christian adherents – are the most likely to believe basic American freedoms are under attack. Protestants are more likely than Catholics to accept that thesis.
- The two groups that have distanced themselves from Christianity (non-Christian faith adherents and Skeptics) are the most likely to believe that our most visible political leaders are doing little to bring the country together and also to argue that things are so divided these days that it is no longer possible to bring the nation together.
- Skeptics are the most likely to say that the nation lacks a widely-shared vision of the future for people to rally around. They were also the segment least likely to say they would feel safe wearing a Make America Great Again hat anywhere in the U.S.
- Regardless of faith there is general agreement that the United States is less united now than at any prior time during our lifetime.

Strong agreement with the statement:

Statement	Born again	Notional	Other faith	Skeptics	Protest.	Cath
Basic freedoms are under attack in America...	57%	48%	52%	47%	55%	46
The United States is less united now than at any prior time during your lifetime.....	45	44	49	47	45	41
Our most visible political leaders are doing little to bring the country together.....	37	42	51	62	39	42
The US does not have a widely-shared vision of our future for people to rally around.....	30	35	29	43	33	33
You would feel safe wearing a Make America Great Again hat anywhere in the US.....	24	23	29	15	23	21
Things are so divided these days that it is no longer possible to bring the nation together...	18	20	26	25	18	19

Race and ethnicity had surprisingly little relationship with peoples' views on the statements tested. Non-whites were somewhat more likely than whites to say that our most visible political leaders are doing little to bring the country together. They were also slightly more likely to contend that the U.S. does not have a widely-shared vision of our future for people to rally around.

When it comes to age segments, again, there was general unanimity of perspective related to the statements evaluated. The only significant pattern was that people 65 or older had slightly different views on a couple of items. The oldest Americans were less likely than their juniors to believe that the United States is less united now than at any prior time during your lifetime. The nation's senior citizens were also less than half as likely as younger citizens to believe that things are so divided these days that it is no longer possible to bring the nation together. Having been through more life

experiences than the rest of the population, our seniors seem confident that it is still possible to unite the nation, despite the challenging state of affairs we face these days.

Strong agreement with the statement:

<u>Statement</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>
Basic freedoms are under attack in America...	52%	54%	49%
The United States is less united now than at any prior time during your lifetime.....	45	48	47
Our most visible political leaders are doing little to bring the country together.....	43	53	47
The US does not have a widely-shared vision of our future for people to rally around.....	33	38	37
You would feel safe wearing a Make America Great Again hat anywhere in the US.....	24	24	26
Things are so divided these days that it is no longer possible to bring the nation together...	19	19	19

Strong agreement with the statement:

<u>Statement</u>	<u>18-29</u>	<u>30-49</u>	<u>50-64</u>	<u>65+</u>
Basic freedoms are under attack in America...	49%	49%	55%	49%
The United States is less united now than at any prior time during your lifetime.....	44	46	48	40
Our most visible political leaders are doing little to bring the country together.....	44	42	48	48
The US does not have a widely-shared vision of our future for people to rally around.....	37	34	34	32
You would feel safe wearing a Make America Great Again hat anywhere in the US.....	22	24	21	20
Things are so divided these days that it is no longer possible to bring the nation together...	29	23	19	10

END