



TOPLINE RESULTS

Welfare Poll

FIELD DATES	SAMPLE	MARGIN OF ERROR
July 1–6, 2026	1,121 likely voters	±3.1 pts (95% CI)

This poll surveyed 1,121 likely voters via web panel and SMS from July 1, 2026 to July 6, 2026. Results were weighted by 2024 vote, age, race, gender, and education to match population demographics. The margin of error is ±3.1 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Donald Trump is doing as President?

Strongly approve	26%
Somewhat approve	18%
Somewhat disapprove	6%
Strongly disapprove	48%
Not sure / Never heard of them	2%

Q2 In politics today, generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?

Democrat	33%
Republican	35%
Independent	25%
Something else	7%

Q3 And in terms of ideology, which way would you say you lean?

Very right-leaning	18%
Somewhat right-leaning	19%
Moderate	36%
Somewhat left-leaning	13%
Very left-leaning	13%

Q4 Which would you say describes you better?

ASKED OF RESPONDENTS WHO LEAN RIGHT IN Q3.

I am a traditional conservative	58%
I am a part of the MAGA (Make America Great Again) movement	42%

Q5 Which would you say describes you better?

ASKED OF RESPONDENTS WHO LEAN LEFT IN Q3.

I am a traditional liberal	51%
I am a democratic socialist	49%

Q6 Thinking back to the presidential election in November of 2024, for whom did you vote?

Donald Trump, the Republican	48%
Kamala Harris, the Democrat	45%
Someone else	2%
Did not vote	5%

Q7 What is the highest level of formal education you have completed?

High school or less	21%
Some college / Associate's degree	33%
Vocational school	6%
Bachelor's degree	24%
Postgraduate	16%

Q8 Which of the following best describes your race or ethnicity?

White	72%
African American or Black	11%
Hispanic, Mexican, Latino, Latina, Spanish	6%
Asian	5%
Other	6%

Q9 Thinking about the November 2026 general election for U.S. Congress, how likely would you say you are to vote? Would you say you are...

Absolutely certain	65%
Very likely	16%
Somewhat likely	11%
Not very likely	5%
Not at all likely	3%

Q10 Do you or anyone in your household currently receive, or have you received in the past, SNAP or food stamp benefits?

Yes, currently	15%
Yes, in the past	15%
No	69%
Prefer not to say	2%

Q11 If the election for Congress in your district were held today, would you vote for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate?

Definitely Republican	30%
Probably Republican	13%
Probably Democratic	11%
Definitely Democratic	36%
Not sure	10%

Q12 In the 2028 Presidential primary election, which primary are you more likely to vote in?

The Republican presidential primary	44%
The Democratic presidential primary	44%
I won't vote in either party's presidential primary	13%

Q13 If the 2028 Democratic Presidential primary election were held today, for whom would you vote?

ASKED OF RESPONDENTS WHO CHOSE THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY IN Q12.

Gavin Newsom	15%
Kamala Harris	19%
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez	12%
Josh Shapiro	4%
Rahm Emanuel	0%
Pete Buttigieg	13%
Jon Stewart	1%
Jon Ossoff	3%
Wes Moore	0%
Andy Beshear	2%
Cory Booker	3%
Ro Khanna	0%
JB Pritzker	1%
Mark Kelly	6%
Chris Murphy	0%
Ruben Gallego	0%
Someone else	3%
Not sure	16%

Q14 If the 2028 Republican Presidential primary election were held today, for whom would you vote?

ASKED OF RESPONDENTS WHO CHOSE THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY IN Q12.

JD Vance	37%
Marco Rubio	20%
Donald Trump Jr.	9%
Ron DeSantis	7%
Nikki Haley	1%
Robert F. Kennedy Jr.	2%
Ted Cruz	2%
Pete Hegseth	1%
Vivek Ramaswamy	1%
Glenn Youngkin	0%
Tucker Carlson	1%
Thomas Massie	1%
Someone else	2%
Not sure	14%

Q15 If the 2028 Republican Presidential primary election were between JD Vance and Marco Rubio, for whom would you vote?

ASKED OF RESPONDENTS WHO CHOSE THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY IN Q12.

JD Vance	48%
Marco Rubio	29%
Not sure	23%

Q16 If President Donald Trump endorsed Marco Rubio in the 2028 Republican Presidential primary election, for whom would you vote?

ASKED OF RESPONDENTS WHO CHOSE THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY IN Q12.

JD Vance	36%
Marco Rubio	43%
Not sure	21%

Q17 If President Donald Trump endorsed JD Vance in the 2028 Republican Presidential primary election, for whom would you vote?

ASKED OF RESPONDENTS WHO CHOSE THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY IN Q12.

JD Vance	53%
Marco Rubio	26%
Not sure	21%

Q18 Thirty years ago, Congress reformed welfare to make the following changes. For each reform made by Congress, say whether you support or oppose the change.

	STRONGLY SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	STRONGLY OPPOSE	NOT SURE
Shifted administration of welfare from an unlimited federal entitlement to a limited set of grants administered by states	24%	26%	14%	13%	23%
Required people on welfare to prove they were seeking work	48%	26%	10%	7%	9%
Established a lifetime limit of five years on welfare benefits	25%	23%	17%	20%	15%
Restricted legal immigrants from receiving welfare benefits for their first 5 years in the U.S.	35%	23%	16%	15%	11%
Banned individuals with felony drug convictions from receiving food stamps	29%	20%	21%	18%	12%

Q19 Broadly speaking, when it comes to administering government-provided and taxpayer-supported welfare, which comes closer to your view?

We need to crack down on waste, fraud, and abuse within the system	53%
We should keep the system mostly as it is today	8%
We need to make it easier for eligible people to receive welfare benefits	31%
Not sure	8%

Q20 Which comes closer to your view about how government assistance should work?

Assistance should be targeted—focused on those who are truly unable to provide for themselves	67%
Assistance should be universal—available to everyone regardless of income, as a basic benefit	24%
Not sure	9%

Q21 What should be the main goal of government assistance programs?

Making sure everyone has a basic minimum, regardless of how much others have	65%
Reducing the gap between the rich and the poor	21%
Not sure	14%

Q22 Some people have proposed a universal basic income, where every adult would receive a set monthly payment from the government regardless of income or whether they work, and the program would require significant government funding. Do you support or oppose this proposal?

Strongly support	15%
Somewhat support	17%
Somewhat oppose	14%
Strongly oppose	36%
Not sure	17%

Q23 Some people have proposed replacing most existing welfare programs with a universal basic income, where every adult would receive the same monthly payment from the government regardless of income or whether they work. Would you support or oppose replacing most existing welfare programs with a universal basic income?

Strongly support	13%
Somewhat support	17%
Somewhat oppose	15%
Strongly oppose	37%
Not sure	18%

Q24 Which is the better way to help low-income households?

Give cash that recipients can spend however they choose	10%
Provide benefits such as food, housing, or health care that can only be used for those purposes	80%
Not sure	9%

Q25 In general, do you think government-provided welfare programs mostly...

Help people get back on their feet	47%
Make people more dependent on the government	41%
Not sure	13%

Q26 Which comes closer to your view?

Every American has a right to a basic standard of living that government should guarantee	48%
Helping those in need is a good thing to do, but not something government is obligated to provide	41%
Not sure	10%

Q27 Who should have primary responsibility for helping people who can't help themselves?

Government	45%
Families and local communities	25%
Churches and private charities	12%
Not sure	18%

Q28 Broadly speaking, when it comes to spending on welfare programs, do you think the government spends...

Too much	34%
About the right amount	14%
Too little	33%
Not sure	18%

Q29 If the government wanted to make welfare benefits more generous, which would you prefer?

Raise taxes to pay for it	10%
Cut other government spending to pay for it	41%
Don't make benefits more generous	33%
Not sure	15%

Q30 Countries with the most generous universal benefits generally pay for them through higher taxes on most households, including many middle-income and working-class families. Which comes closest to your view?

I'd support more generous benefits even if it meant higher taxes on families like mine	13%
I'd support more generous benefits only if they were paid for by taxes on the wealthy	37%
I oppose more generous benefits regardless of who pays	35%
Not sure	15%

Q31 Broadly speaking, when it comes to spending on welfare under the current system, do you think most dollars spent end up going to...

People who really need it	37%
Waste, fraud, and abuse	48%
Not sure	15%

Q32 Broadly speaking, when it comes to dealing with government welfare programs responsibly, which party do you trust more?

Democrats	39%
Republicans	36%
Neither	26%

Q33 Thinking about issues Congress deals with, how much of a priority should it be to reduce waste, fraud, and abuse in the federal food stamps program?

Very important	50%
Somewhat important	23%
A little important	14%
Not at all important	6%
Not sure	7%

Q34 In general, how concerned are you about waste, fraud, and abuse in the federal food stamps program?

Extremely concerned	28%
Very concerned	20%
Somewhat concerned	27%
Not at all concerned	18%
Not sure	7%

Q35 Thinking about federal spending on food stamps, do you think the federal government is doing too much, too little, or about the right amount to address waste, fraud, and abuse in the federal food stamps program?

Too much	17%
About the right amount	23%
Too little	42%
Not sure	19%

Q36 In 2000, about 1 in 17 Americans (6%) received food stamps benefits. Today, about 1 in 8 (12%) do—roughly double the share. Do you think this increase is...

A good thing	7%
A bad thing	55%
Neither good nor bad	27%
Not sure	11%

During the COVID-19 pandemic, enrollment in the food stamps program increased significantly. Even after the pandemic ended and the economy improved, food stamps enrollment remained much higher than it had been before the pandemic.

Q37 Which comes closer to your view?

Enrollment remaining high is appropriate because many people still need assistance, despite economic improvement	44%
Enrollment should have declined as the economy recovered	45%
Not sure	12%

The food stamps program currently requires most adults without young children to work, train, or volunteer at least 20 hours a week to continue receiving benefits beyond the first three months of participation in the program. A law passed by Congress in 2025 expanded this requirement to adults up to age 64 and to parents whose youngest child is 14 or older.

Q38 Do you support or oppose expanding the work requirement in this way?

Strongly support	29%
Somewhat support	28%
Somewhat oppose	17%
Strongly oppose	15%
Not sure	12%

Q39 Which statement comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

States that have waste in the food stamps program should be required to cover part of the cost of that waste.	55%
The federal government should continue covering the full cost of the food stamps program, even when states have higher payment error rates.	29%
Not sure	17%

Q40 Lawmakers are considering delaying a new rule that would require states that waste the most money administering the food stamp program to cover part of those costs. Do you support or oppose delaying this rule?

Support delaying the rule	27%
Oppose delaying the rule	46%
Not sure	27%

Q41 In general, do you support or oppose the death penalty being available as a possible punishment for select egregious crimes?

Strongly support	35%
Somewhat support	23%
Somewhat oppose	12%
Strongly oppose	16%
Not sure	13%

Q42 For each of the following crimes, please indicate whether you support or oppose the use of the death penalty for a person convicted of that crime.

	STRONGLY SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	STRONGLY OPPOSE	NOT SURE
Premeditated murder	52%	20%	6%	14%	7%
Mass murder	67%	9%	5%	13%	6%
Murder involving torture, sexual violence, or other extreme cruelty	65%	11%	5%	12%	6%
Murder of a child	66%	10%	6%	13%	6%
Rape of an adult	34%	23%	16%	17%	9%
Rape of a child	59%	12%	8%	13%	7%
Acts of terrorism resulting in death	60%	14%	6%	13%	7%
Treason during wartime	35%	20%	14%	18%	14%
Espionage against the United States	34%	19%	12%	20%	15%
Large-scale drug trafficking	26%	19%	20%	25%	10%

Q43 Do you support or oppose abolishing police departments?

Strongly support	5%
Somewhat support	5%
Somewhat oppose	14%
Strongly oppose	68%
Not sure	9%

Q44 Do you support or oppose abolishing prisons?

Strongly support	4%
Somewhat support	8%
Somewhat oppose	15%
Strongly oppose	64%
Not sure	9%

Q45 Do you support or oppose abolishing U.S. borders, meaning anyone who wishes to immigrate to the United States may do so freely, without government approval or vetting?

Strongly support	6%
Somewhat support	8%
Somewhat oppose	16%
Strongly oppose	62%
Not sure	8%

Q46 What is your age?

18–34	19%
35–49	24%
50–64	29%
65+	28%

Q47 What is your sex?

Male	48%
Female	52%

Q48 What is your religious affiliation?

Protestant	29%
Catholic	19%
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon)	2%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	1%
Hindu	0%
Buddhist	1%
Agnostic	5%
Atheist	6%
No religious affiliation	20%
Other religion	15%

Q49 Which of the following categories best describes your annual household income?

Less than \$25,000	15%
\$25,000 to less than \$50,000	21%
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	19%
\$75,000 to less than \$100,000	15%
\$100,000 to less than \$125,000	9%
\$125,000 to less than \$150,000	7%
More than \$150,000	14%

Q50 In what manner, if any, are you employed?

Unemployed	11%
Retired	29%
Homemaker	5%
Manufacturing	7%
Service industry (food service, taxis, hotels, etc.)	14%
White collar (office jobs)	19%
Government or nonprofit	5%
Professional (doctor, lawyer, etc.)	8%