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Thursday, November 9th

The State of Politics:

A Guide for Advocates





Key Takeaways:

- Nearly three in four Americans say the country is off on the wrong track, with most citing the national economy, the functioning of the government, and the level of political division in the country as reasons why.
- Three in four Americans call the U.S. political system dysfunctional, though there is at least some optimism for improvement: a majority say the system is dysfunctional, but fixable.
- Americans find Trump's role in the insurrection on January 6th, his efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act, his stoking racism in the events surrounding the deadly rally in Charlottesville, and his family separation policies at the border to be the most concerning things from his presidency.



The National Economy, Functioning of Government, Division Are Top Reasons Cited As to Why We're on the Wrong Track

For those who say the country is off on the wrong track (73%), the economy prevails as what they are thinking about (61%). Generally speaking, would you say the country today is...



[If wrong track] When you say you think the country is off on the wrong track...which of the below are you thinking about most?

The national economy	61%
The functioning of our government and institutions	47
The level of political division in the country	47
The position of the United States in the world today	35
Threats to my personal rights and freedoms	32
My personal financial situation	27
The state of foreign affairs	27
The safety and security of me and my family	26
The state of public health	16
The impact of social media on society	15
Too many changes in American culture	14
Our relationship with technology	6

Dem	em Ind	
50	59	68
46	53	46
54	41	44
25	43	39
30	32	32
31	21	27
23	17	32
25	24	28
26	19	9
19	14	12
10	13	18
6	7	6



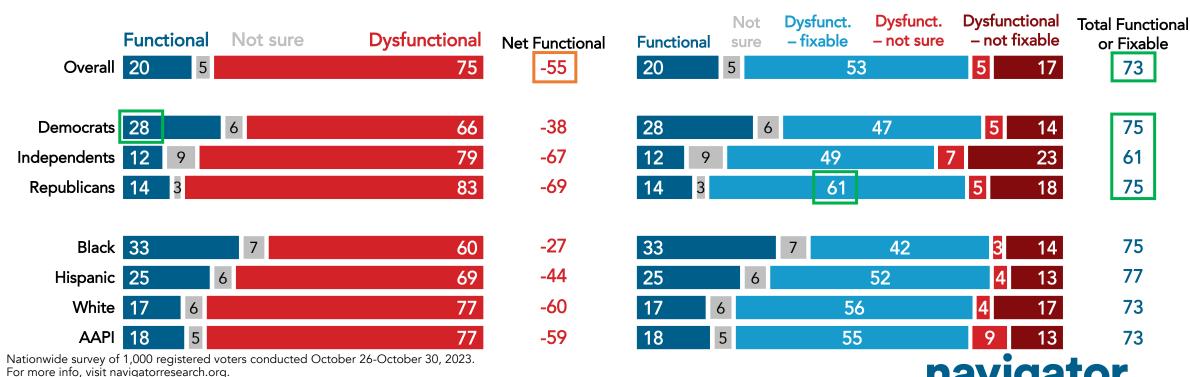
Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted October 26-October 30, 2023. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Three in Four Call the U.S. Political System Dysfunctional – Though Optimism Exists About Fixing It

Majorities across party lines say the current political system is dysfunctional, though more Democrats say the system is functional (28%). More Republicans say the system is dysfunctional but fixable (61%) than Democrats (47%) or independents (49%).

Do you think the current political system in the United States is generally functional or generally dysfunctional?

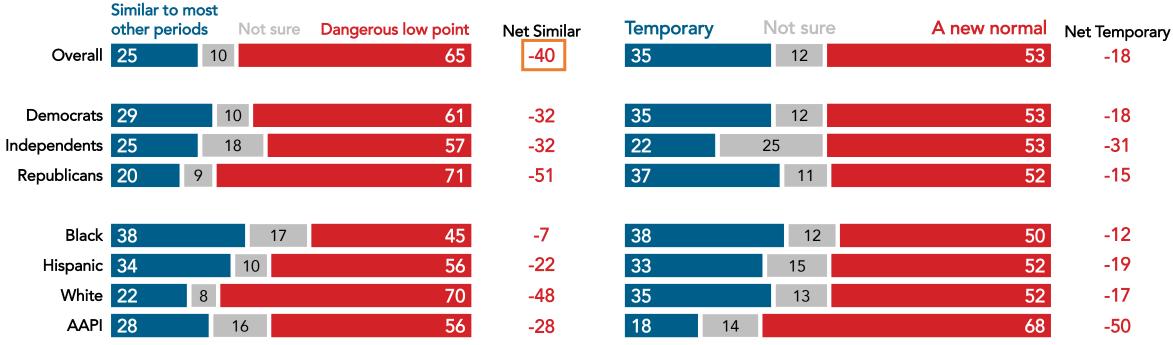
[If dysfunctional] You indicated that you think the current political system in the United States is generally dysfunctional. Do you think that it is fixable or not?



Two in Three Call Current Levels of Partisan Disagreement a Dangerous Low Point, and Majorities Say This Is a New Normal

Majorities across party lines say problems in America's politics have reached a dangerous low point (ranging from 57% of independents to 71% of Republicans), while narrow majorities also say these problems are a new normal (just over 50% for each partisan group).

Do you think problems in America's politics right now are similar to most other periods of partisan disagreement, or do you think these problems have reached a dangerous low point? Do you think the problems in America's political system are temporary, or are they a new normal?



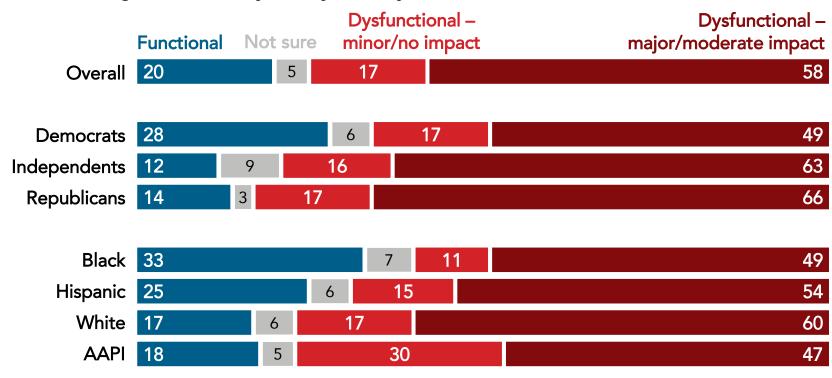
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Those Who Say the U.S. System Is Dysfunctional Say It Has an Impact on Them and Their Family

Republicans and independents are more likely to say the U.S. political system is dysfunctional and that this dysfunction has a major or moderate impact on them and their family (66% and 63%, respectively).

Do you think the current political system in the United States is generally functional or generally dysfunctional? [If dysfunctional] How much impact do you think dysfunction in Washington, D.C. has on you and your family?





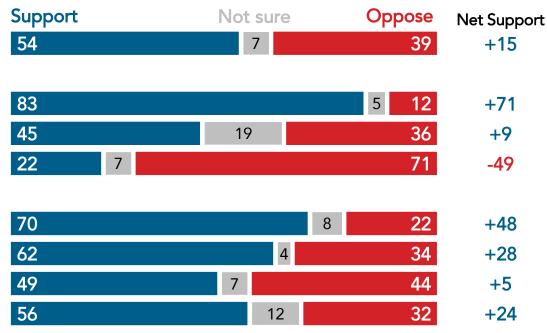
Seven in Ten Continue to Hear About Trump's Indictment, and Majorities Support Him Being Indicted

Democrats report hearing the most about Trump's indictments (75% hearing "a lot" or "some"), followed by Republicans (68%) and independents (57%). More than four in five Democrats support him being criminally indicted (83% support), as do seven in ten Black Americans (70%) and more than three in five Hispanic Americans (62%).

How much have you seen, read, or heard about the indictment of former President Donald Trump?

	A lot	Some	A little/Nothing	Total A Lot/Some
Overall	37	33	30	70
Democrats	43	33	24	75
Independents	26	30	43	57
Republicans	35	33	32	68
Black	37	33	30	70
Hispanic	40	31	29	71
White	38	33	30	71
AAPI	22	41	37	63

Do you support or oppose Donald Trump being criminally indicted?



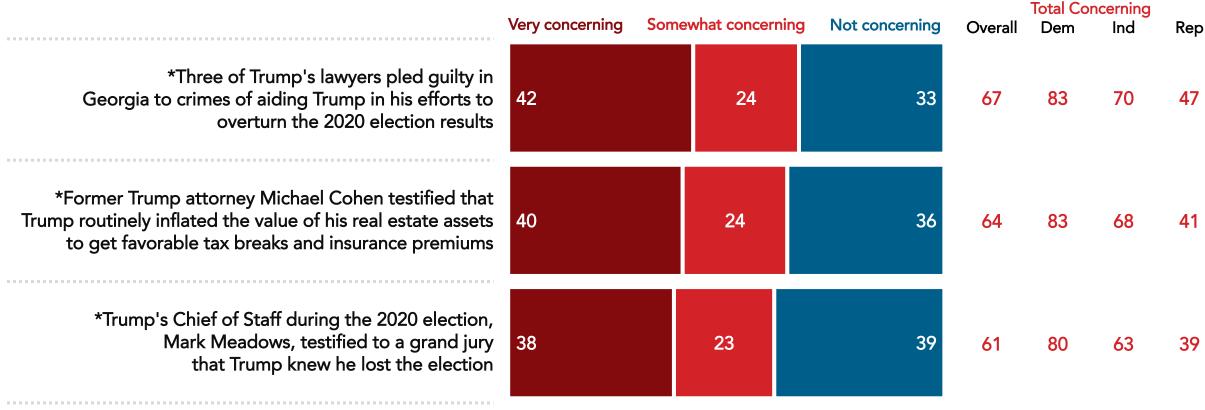
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Majorities Are Concerned By Recent Revelations in Trump's Court Cases

Americans find multiple Trump lawyers pleading guilty in Georgia most concerning (42% "very concerning," 67% total concerning).

Below is a list of some events that have happened recently related to some of the charges Donald Trump is facing. Please indicate how concerning you find each one.



^{*}These questions included language that these events had recently happened, with varying amounts of time. Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted October 26-October 30, 2023. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.



Trump's Role in January 6th, Trying to Repeal the ACA, Charlottesville, Border Policies Most Concerning to Americans

Below is a list of some of the things that former President Donald Trump did during his presidency. Please indicate how concerning you find each one.

Donald Trump		Somewhat			Not	Total Concerning			
······································	concerning	concerning	beli	eve cor	cerning	Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep
[his] actions led to the violent insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on January 6 th , 2021, leading to the deaths of multiple police officers	49		15	22	14	63	91	61	33
tried to repeal the Affordable Care Act and health care protections for people with pre-existing conditions, which some now estimate would take health insurance away from nearly 30 million Americans	47		16	13	24	64	91	64	33
stoked racism and hatred, including blaming "many sides" for and saying there were "very fine people on both sides" of a deadly neo-Nazi rally in Charlottesville, Virginia	47		16	20	17	62	90	61	32
separated at least 5,500 migrant families, and ordered some migrant children to be placed in cages, with some families still not reunited	46	•	16	20	18	62	90	60	30
downplayed the COVID-19 pandemic, and his mishandling of it led to the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Americans	45	1	3	24	17	59	89	56	26
refused to concede that Biden won the 2020 election and still refuses to accept the results	45	1	6	7	32	61	87	57	32
appointed three Supreme Court justices who helped to eliminate the right to an abortion by overturning <i>Roe v. Wade</i>	45	1	6	8	32	60	88	60	28
[his] policies on the COVID-19 pandemic led to tens of millions of job losses and catastrophic economic damage, and the economy is still recovering	44	1	6	26	14	60	89	55	27
withdrew the U.S. from the 2015 nuclear deal, causing chaos in the Middle East and enabling Iran to make progress toward having nuclear weapons	43	1	9	17	21	62	88	63	32
lowered the corporate tax rate by 40%, creating a huge tax break for big corporations with record profits	43	1	9	10	28	62	88	57	33
withdrew from the 2015 Paris Climate Accord, meaning the U.S. would not work with countries around the world to help reduce climate change	42	16	8		34	58	86	56	25



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About Navigator

In a world where the news cycle is the length of a tweet, our leaders often lack the real-time public-sentiment analysis to shape the best approaches to talking about the issues that matter the most. Navigator is designed to act as a consistent, flexible, responsive tool to inform policy debates by conducting research and reliable guidance to inform allies, elected leaders, and the press. Navigator is a project led by pollsters from Global Strategy Group and GBAO along with an advisory committee, including: Jessica Floyd, The Hub Project; Christina Reynolds, EMILY's List; Mike Podhorzer, AFL-CIO; Jesse Ferguson, progressive strategist; Navin Nayak, Center for American Progress Action Fund; Stephanie Valencia, EquisLabs; and Melanie Newman, Planned Parenthood Action Fund.

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To learn more about Navigator:

http://navigatorresearch.org

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About the Study

Global Strategy Group conducted public opinion surveys among a sample of 1,000 registered voters from October 26-October 30, 2023. 100 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 75 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among independent voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among voters ages 18-34. The survey was conducted online, recruiting respondents from an opt-in online panel vendor. Respondents were verified against a voter file and special care was taken to ensure the demographic composition of our sample matched that of the national registered voter population across a variety of demographic variables.