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Friday, May 3rd

Trump's Criminal Cases: A Guide for Advocates

This survey largely fielded during jury selection for the New York criminal trial involving Donald Trump. The final day this survey fielded was the day attorneys delivered opening statements in this trial.



Credit: Evan El-Amin/Shutterstock





Key Takeaways:

- Nearly three in five Americans continue to say Trump committed a crime as president, though a plurality believe he will not be convicted of any of the crimes of which he is accused.
- Seven in ten Americans see the various criminal charges against Donald Trump as serious, with the charges in his two attempts to overturn the 2020 election being seen as the most serious.
- Americans are most concerned Trump "doesn't believe laws apply to him,"
 and independents are particularly concerned that "Trump believes in one
 set of rules for him, and one set of rules for everyone else" and "thinks he
 is above the law."



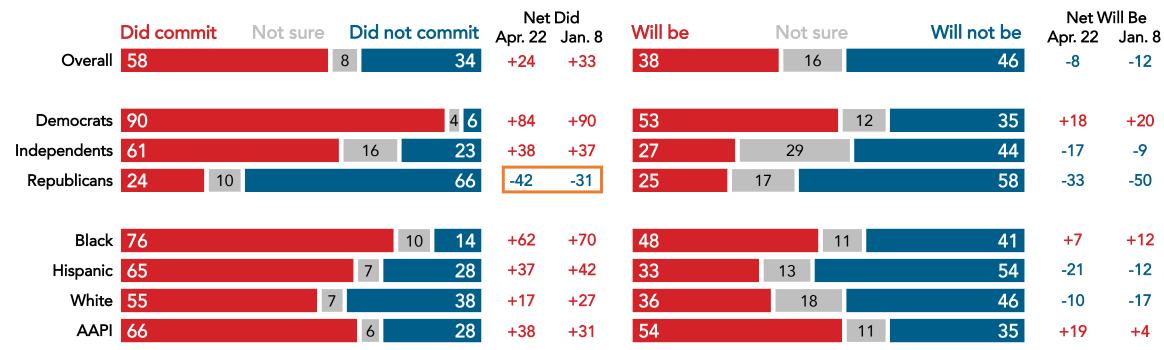
A Majority Believes Trump Committed a Crime as President, Though a Plurality Believe He Will Not Be Convicted

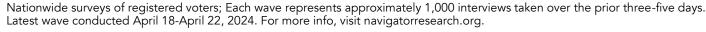
A declining share of Republicans say they believe Trump committed a crime as president (net -42 did commit a crime today, down from net -31 in early January).

Do you think Donald Trump committed a crime at any point as president?

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Do you think Donald Trump will be convicted of any of the crimes of which he is accused?







Americans See the Charges Against Trump as "Very Serious"

More than half of Americans say the federal indictment for his efforts to overturn the 2020 election and the Georgia indictment are "very serious" (54 and 53%), while about half say the same of the hush money case in Manhattan (48%).

For each of the following, please indicate how serious you think the charges against Donald Trump are. % Very **Total Serious** Serious Somewhat serious Sep. '23 Overall Very serious Not serious Dem Rep Donald Trump was indicted for his efforts to overturn the 2020 election 30 54 leading up to the January 6th, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol, with 16 charges including conspiracy to defraud the United States Donald Trump was indicted in Georgia for his efforts to overturn his 2020 election loss in the state, with charges including a violation of the state 18 53 72 96 racketeering law, conspiracy to impersonate a public officer, forgery, and making false statements to government officials and law enforcement Donald Trump was indicted for mishandling classified documents from 50 94 69 his time as President, with charges including obstruction of justice and 51 19 destruction or falsification of records Donald Trump was indicted in Manhattan for falsifying business records, with charges including allegedly using campaign funds for personal 45 21 31 expenses including a hush money payment to adult film actress Stormy Daniels, and then lying about it



A Range of Arguments About Trump in His Hush Money Trial Raise Concerns for a Majority of Americans

Independents are most concerned that Trump "believes in one set of rules for him, and one set of rules for everyone else" and "thinks he is above the law" (70% concerning).

Below is a list of statements regarding the charges Donald Trump is facing. Please indicate how concerning you find each statement.

Total Concerning Somewhat Don't Very Not concerning believe concerning Overall Dem concerning Ind Rep Donald Trump believes in one set of rules for him, and one set of rules for 64 31 51 everyone else. If any other American did what he has done, they would be convicted, but he thinks he is above the law Donald Trump has consistently tried to interfere in free and fair elections, from trying to overturn the election results in 2020 when he lost, to falsifying business records and using campaign funds to cover up an affair, conceal it from voters, and protect his chances of winning in 2016 Donald Trump is just another power-hungry billionaire who cares only about himself and his own interests: he'll do anything to get and keep 13 power so he can help himself and his rich friends. He thinks he can pay his way out of any situation



Trump's Belief the Law Does Not Apply to Him Is Most Troubling When It Comes to the Charges Against Him

Democrats and independents are most concerned that Trump "doesn't believe the laws apply to him" (75% and 46% concerning, respectively), while Republicans are most concerned that "he may be convicted of a felony" (22%).

When it comes to all of the investigations and charges around Donald Trump, which of the following concerns you the most?

	% top three most concerning	Dem	Ind	Rep
He doesn't believe laws apply to him	48%	75	46	20
He's dishonest	36	54	41	15
He's fraudulent	31	50	35	9
He has fought to overturn elections	26	44	26	8
He may be convicted of a felony	19	18	16	22
He is a bad role model for our kids	12	17	13	8
He isn't as rich as he has claimed to be	4	4	5	3
Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted April For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.	18-April 22, 2024.		nav	/igator



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.

About the Study

Global Strategy Group conducted a public opinion survey among a sample of 1,000 registered voters from April 18-April 22, 2024. 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. 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.

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To learn more about Navigator:

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