

Current Events Messaging Study

Conducted by: The Justice Research Fund

N=2,049 Registered Voters February 24 – March 2, 2025

Credibility interval: +/- 2.7% at the 95% confidence interval.

INTRODUCTION: Thank you for taking this important survey about current events in America. It should take about 15 minutes to complete. Please be assured that all your answers will be kept confidential.

1.	What is	your age?
----	---------	-----------

18-34	25%
35-49	28%
50-64	23%
65+	24%

2. What is your gender?

Male	51%
Female	49%
Non-binary	1%
Prefer not to answer	0%

3. Which of the following category or categories best describes your race or ethnicity? If more than one category applies, please select all that apply.

White, Non-Hispanic	69%
Black, Non-Hispanic	14%
Hispanic	_ 9%
AAPI	_ 5%
Other	_ 3%

4. What is the highest level of education you've completed?

Some high school or less	_ 2%
High school or equivalent	22%
Some college, but no degree	21%
Associate's degree / Trade school degree	16%
Bachelor's degree	26%
Graduate degree	11%
Doctorate degree	_ 2%

5.	Which of the following best describes your curr	ent employment status?
	Employed full-time	43%
	Employed part-time	
	Self-employed	
	Not employed	
	Not employed / Homemaker	
	Student	
6.	[IF EMPLOYED, ASK] Do you have more than or	ne paying job? (n=1,170)
	Yes	25%
	No	75%
	include your income PLUS the income of all me partners and armed forces members living at	embers living in your household (including cohabiting
	Less than \$25,000	16%
	\$25,000-\$49,999	23%
	\$50,000-\$74,999	19%
	\$75,000-\$99,999	16%
	\$100,000-\$124,999	9%
	\$125,000-\$149,999	6%
	\$150,000-\$174,999	3%
	\$175,000-\$199,999	2%
	\$200,000 or more	4%
	Don't know	1%
8.	We understand that plenty of people are not regregistered to vote?	gistered to vote, but we are wondering if you are
	Yes	100%
	No	0%
	Not sure	0%
9.		en and Donald Trump were the candidates Which o
	the following elections did you vote in, if any? If	you do not remember, please just indicate that.
	the following elections did you vote in, if any? If Yes, I voted in this election	
		85%
	Yes, I voted in this election	85% 11%

10.	The 2022 midterm elections Which of the follo	wing elections did you vote in, if any? If you do not
	remember, please just indicate that.	
	Yes, I voted in this election	69%
	No, I did not vote in this	26%
	I don't remember if I voted in this election	3%
	I was not eligible to vote in this election	2%
11.	The 2024 Presidential election, where Kamala H	arris and Donald Trump were the candidates
	Which of the following elections did you vote in,	if any? If you do not remember, please just ind
	Yes, I voted in this election	91%
	No, I did not vote in this	8%
	I don't remember if I voted in this election	1%
	I was not eligible to vote in this election	1%
12.	[IF VOTED IN 2020, ASK] In the 2020 election, for	or whom did you vote? (n=1707)
	Joe Biden	52%
	Donald Trump	43%
	Another candidate	3%
	I don't remember	0%
	Prefer not to answer	1%
13.	In the 2024 election, for whom did you vote?	
	Donald Trump	44%
	Kamala Harris	40%
	Another candidate	9%
	I don't remember	3%
	Prefer not to answer	5%

14. On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 means not at all engaged and 10 means very engaged, how politically engaged are you?

Net: Engaged (8-10)	45%
Net: Neutral (3-7)	46%
Net: Not Engaged (0-2)	9%
0	4%
1	20/
2	3%
3	5%
4	4%
5	12%
6	
7	16%
8	19%
9	10%
10	16%

15. How often do you talk to your close friends or family about politics and current events, either in person or online?

Every day	19%
Most day	24%
About once a week	25%
Less than once a week, but more than once a month _	14%
Rarely, less than once a month	13%
Never	_ 5%

16. When it comes to politics, which of the following do you generally think of yourself as:

Net: Democrat (with leaners)	47%
Net: Republican (with leaners)	40%
Net: Independent	10%
A strong Democrat	20%
A regular Democrat	15%
Independent, leaning Democrat	12%
Unaffiliated or independent	10%
Independent, leaning Republican	8%
A regular Republican	17%
A strong Republican	15%
Another Party (Please specify)	1%
Don't know	2%

17. When it comes to most political issues, do you think of yourself as a...?

Net: Progressive or liberal	32%	
Net: Conservative	35%	
Net: Moderate/Mixed	30%	
Very progressive or liberal	10%	
Progressive or liberal	12%	
Moderate, leaning progressive or liberal	10%	
Moderate	24%	
Moderate, leaning conservative	8%	
Conservative	16%	
Very conservative	11%	
Mixed - I have some views that are conservative		
and some that are liberal	6%	
Don't know	3%	

18. All things considered, do you think that things in the country are...

Headed in the right direction	40%
On the wrong track	52%
Don't know	8%

Please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable view of the following individuals and groups. If you have not heard of them, or do not have enough information to rate them, please indicate that.

										Not	
		Net:								enough	Never
		Name	_		Net -	Very	S'what	S'what	Very	info to	heard of
		ID	Fav.	Unfav.	Fav.	fav.	fav.	Unfav.	Unfav.	rate	them
19.	Donald Trump	98%	46%	52 %	-7%	28%	17%	8%	45%	1%	1%
20.	The Republican										
0.4	Party	95%	44%	51%	-7%	19%	25%	15%	36%	4%	1%
21.	The Democratic										
	Party	94%	46%	48%	-2%	20%	26%	19%	29%	5%	1%
22.	Elon Musk	93%	38%	55%	-17%	18%	19%	12%	43%	6%	1%
23.	Bernie Sanders	87 %	48%	39 %	10%	21%	28%	14%	25%	10%	3%
24.	JD Vance	87 %	38%	49 %	-11%	21%	16%	11%	38%	9%	5%
25.	Federal										
	Government										
	workers	82 %	56 %	26 %	30 %	20%	36%	18%	8%	15%	3%
26.	DOGE	78 %	34%	44%	-10%	17%	16%	10%	34%	13%	9%
27.	Joe Rogan	71 %	37 %	34%	3%	16%	21%	12%	22%	19%	10%
28.	Chuck Schumer	70 %	27 %	43%	-15%	11%	16%	17%	25%	19%	11%
29.	Alexandria										
	Ocasio-Cortez	68%	31%	37 %	-6%	15%	16%	12%	25%	17%	15%
30.	Mark Cuban	68%	38%	30%	8%	13%	25%	16%	14%	22%	10%
31.	Tucker Carlson	67 %	28%	40%	-12%	12%	16%	13%	27%	20%	13%
32.	The Libertarian										
	Party	60 %	25%	36 %	-11%	6%	19%	17%	18%	33%	6%
33.	Mike Johnson	57 %	24%	33%	-9%	9%	15%	12%	21%	24%	18%
34.	Hakeem Jeffries	53%	25%	28%	-3%	10%	15%	12%	17%	24%	22%
35.	Stephen A. Smith	44%	22%	21%	1%	8%	14%	12%	9%	28%	28%
36.	The Working										
	Families Party	40%	27%	13%	15%	12%	15%	8%	5%	28%	32%
37.	Theo Von	35%	18%	17%	1%	8%	10%	9%	9%	25%	39%
						•					

38. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job that President Trump is currently doing?

Net: Approve	47%
Net: Disagree	
Strongly approve	26%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	40%
Don't know	3%

How would you rate the job that President Trump is doing handling each of the following issues?

		Excellent	Not so good/	Net: Good -			Not so		Don't
		/ Good	Poor	Bad	Excellent	Good	good	Poor	know
39.	Inflation	33%	58%	-25%	12%	21%	19%	39%	8%
40.	Jobs	39%	51%	-12%	16%	24%	17%	34%	10%
41.	Growing the								
	economy	40%	52 %	-12%	18%	22%	16%	36%	8%
42.	Cleaning up								
	government	46%	48%	-3%	27%	19%	15%	34%	6%
43.	Immigration	48%	47 %	1%	29%	19%	16%	31%	5%
44.	National Security	47%	45 %	2%	24%	24%	14%	30%	8%
45.	Ukraine	34%	56 %	-21%	16%	18%	16%	40%	10%
46.	Israel and Gaza	35%	50 %	-15%	16%	20%	17%	33%	14%
47.	LGBTQ+ Rights	32%	54 %	-22%	16%	15%	15%	39%	14%

Do you think President Trump is spending too much time, not enough time, or the right amount of time focusing on each of the following issues:

		Net: Too Much – Not Enough	Too Much Tir	The Right Ar		ough Time
48.	Inflation	-48%	8%	36%	Ę	56%
49.	Jobs	-41%	9%	41%	Ę	50%
50.	Growing the					
	economy	-42%	8%	41%	Ę	51%
51.	Cleaning up					
	government	0%	28%	45%	2	28%
52.	Immigration	-47 %	7%	38%	Ę	55%
53.	National Security	10%	33%	45%	2	23%
54.	Ukraine	-28%	11%	50%		39%
55.	Israel and Gaza	-20%	19%	41%	3	39%
56.	LGBTQ+ Rights	-11%	'	21%	47%	32%

On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 means not at all aware and 10 means very aware, how aware are you of each of the following news stories about Trump's plans?

		Net: Aware (8-10)	Net: Somewhat Aware (3-7)	Net: Not Aware (0-2)
57.	DOGE firing government employees.	63%	26%	11%
58.	Threatening tariffs on Canada and Mexico as well tariffs on steel and			
	aluminum imports	62 %	29%	9%
59.	DOGE cutting off payments programs USAID.	59 %	28%	13%
60.	Canceling all DEI-related programs in the federal government	59 %	29%	12 %
61.	Instituting a policy that prevents transgender individuals from serving			
	in the military.	56 %	32 %	13%
62.	Demanding significant Ukrainian mineral rights for continuing support			
	and saying that Ukraine started the war with Russia.	54 %	32 %	14%
63.	Saying that tariffs may cause pain for consumers	49%	37 %	15%
64.	Congressional Republicans, with Trump's support trying to pass a			
	budget with deep cuts to Medicaid and substantial tax cuts for the			
	rich	47 %	35%	17%
65.	Instead of allowing Palestinians to return to Gaza, the United States			
	should take over Gaza and turn it into a resort.	47 %	33%	20%
66.	Trump admitted he did not have a plan to combat rising grocery prices			
	from Day 1.	38%	35%	27%
67.	Setting quotas for deportation numbers and taking away border patrol			
	agents from combatting the spread of Fentanyl	38%	41%	22%

68. Sometimes in surveys like this, people change their mind. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job that President Trump is currently doing?

Net: Approve	46%
Net: Disapprove	51%
Strongly approve	25%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	11%
Strongly disapprove	40%
Don't know	3%

On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 means not at all believable and 10 means completely believable, how much do you believe each of the following statements?

		Net: Believable (8-10)	Net: Neutral (3- 7)	Net: Not Believable (0-2)
69.	No one voted for billionaire Elon Musk, but he's running DOGE like he's the President. Just because voters elected Donald Trump does not mean they voted for Elon Musk to run the government.	48%	29%	24%
70.	Donald Trump has spent his time as President focused on stupid things, like renaming the Gulf of Mexico and trying to buy Greenland. Working people are struggling, and instead of focusing on that, he's doing things that have nothing to do with making life better.	47%	29%	24%
71.	Nothing Donald Trump has done shows that he cares about working-class voters. All he cares about is billionaires and his rich friends. He and Congressional Republicans want to pass a huge tax cut while also cutting Medicaid spending for poor and working-class families. Donald Trump says he's a man of the people, but he has a cabinet full of billionaires who have yet to do one thing for working-class people.	47%	26%	27%
72.	Donald Trump is worse this time around: he's acting like a dictator. We have three branches of government, but he is ignoring them. Donald Trump, JD Vance and Elon Musk have attacked judges and said they should be impeached and jailed, and have ignored laws and funding that Congress had already passed for critical services. He's acting more like a king than a president.	46%	27%	27%
73.	Donald Trump is turning America into an oligarchy. From appointing more billionaires to his cabinet than any president in history to doing favors to companies who are willing to donate to his campaign or say nice things about him, Donald Trump isn't representing the people - he's representing the powerful.	46%	28%	26%
74.	Donald Trump doesn't have solutions to America's problems. He has not done one thing to bring down prices of everyday goods or make housing more affordable. Instead, he's spending his time blaming others. Whether it's immigrants, trans people, or DEI, it's always someone else's fault we are in this mess because Donald Trump doesn't actually want to make our lives better.	45%	28%	27%

		Net: Believable (8-10)	Net: Neutral (3-7)	Net: Not Believable (0-2)
75.	Getting rid of government waste is a real problem but Donald Trump, Elon Musk and DOGE are focused on the wrong things. They're cutting vital funds for medical research into childhood cancer, and programs that prevent the spread of AIDS in Africa instead of ending billion dollar handouts to oil companies and sweetheart contracts for Elon Musk's companies.	45%	30%	26%
76.	DOGE and Donald Trump laid people off who are responsible for air traffic control at the FAA. They've laid off people responsible for combatting bird flu, which has driven up the price of eggs. They've laid off government scientists responsible for our nuclear weapons. We're all less safe because Donald Trump is President.	43%	30%	27%
77.	The policies Donald Trump is pursuing are bad for America. By closing USAID, countries around the world will trust the United States less, making room for China to come in and provide support.	43%	31%	27%
78.	Donald Trump keeps saying that America has gotten better since he became president and we're living in a golden age. But that's not true. Prices at the grocery store keep going up, people are not any safer, and Donald Trump doesn't seem to care. All he cares about is getting even with his enemies.	42 %	30%	28%

On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 means not at all convincing and 10 means very convincing, how convincing do you find each of the following statements?

	A/B SPLIT	Net: Convincing (8-10)	Net: Neutral (3-7)	Net: Not Convincing (0-2)
79.	[SPLIT A] Most immigrants - whether they're in the United States with or without documentation work hard to take care of their families. They pay their taxes, contribute positively to society, and are integral members of our communities. Raids at homes, schools, churches, and workplaces do nothing to make communities safer.	39%	35%	26%
80.	[SPLIT B] The Trump administration has set quotas to deport 2,500 people every day. They can't meet these quotas without resorting to extreme measures like targeting immigrants at schools and churches. Instead of prioritizing agents' time on useful tasks like trying to stop fentanyl from coming across the border, they are engaged in tearing families apart and scaring/terrorizing the community with raids.	37%	37%	25%
81.	[SPLIT A] As part of Trump's plans at the Southern Border, he has sent military troops. There's better things for these troops to be doing to defend our country, and he's wasting taxpayer dollars having troops stand around when they could be better used protecting our interests abroad.	37%	36%	27%
82.	[SPLIT B] One of the fundamental principles of our democracy is that the military is not deployed domestically. Donald Trump has violated this principle by unleashing troops at the Southern border, and it sets a dangerous and cruel precedent.	39%	34%	27%
83.	[SPLIT A] The Trump administration has started sending migrants in the United States to Guantanamo Bay in Cuba and hotels in Panama. This is not a real solution to our immigration challenges and only wastes taxpayer resources flying migrants abroad and using the military to guard them.	41%	33%	26%
84.	[SPLIT B] The Trump administration has started sending migrants in the United States to Guantanamo Bay in Cuba and hotels in Panama. Migrants and asylum seekers have rights too - like the right to legal representation and the right to plead their case before an immigration judge. Trump's solution of detaining people without trials is illegal and doesn't respect the basic human rights of migrants.	38%	35%	27%

		Net: Convincing (8-10)	Net: Neutral (3-7)	Net: Not Convincing (0-2)
85.	[SPLIT A] Trump's mass deportations and attacks on immigrants are just another attack on working-class families. These people seeking a better life are farmworkers, roofers, restaurant workers, and essential workers all over the country. Kicking millions of workers out will crush major industries like housing construction and food production, further driving up prices.	42%	30%	28%
86.	[SPLIT B] Trump and his billionaire friends want to push immigrant working families further into the shadows with their threats of deportations so they can keep being an underclass of workers who have no rights and get low pay. This hurts all American workers because it ensures our wages and benefits stay low, too.	37%	34%	29%
87.	[SPLIT A] Trump has no solution for rising costs, so he's blaming immigrants for our problems. But immigrants aren't the reason we can't afford eggs or prescription drugs. It's billionaire CEOs who are making life unaffordable for working people.	43%	30%	27%
88.	[SPLIT B] Trump wants us to believe that immigrants are getting special treatment. But the only people getting special treatment in Trump's economy are the billionaires—like Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos—getting huge tax cuts.	42 %	31%	27%
89.	[SPLIT A] Donald Trump, Elon Musk and DOGE are focused on closing departments and getting rid of government employees. They are firing scientists, park rangers, and others doing vital work that makes us all safer.	46%	29%	25%
90.	[SPLIT B] Donald Trump, Elon Musk and DOGE aren't focused on making government better and more efficient for working-class people: they're focused on cutting government services and privatizing departments so their rich friends and corporations can get richer.	42%	31%	26%

		Net: Convincing (8-10)	Net: Neutral (3-7)	Net: Not Convincing (0-2)
91.	[SPLIT A] Trump's plan to institute tariffs will cost working-class families more. The price of everything from avocados to automobiles will rise, and the burden will be felt by working-class families who are already struggling to make ends meet.	46%	33%	21%
92.	[SPLIT B] Trump and Elon Musk have both said tariffs may cause "a little pain" to consumers and working-class Americans. That pain will have no benefits, all it will do is make prices go up and pay for a tax cut for billionaires and corporations.	43 %	32%	24%
93.	[SPLIT A] Donald Trump's plan to take over Gaza is nothing short of ethnic cleansing. Gaza is the home to many Palestinians, and they have the right to return and live there.	44%	32%	24%
94.	[SPLIT B] Donald Trump's plan to turn Gaza into an Americanowned resort tells you everything you need to know. Rather than thinking about the American troops who would be in harm's way to protect the land or the displaced Palestinians, all Donald Trump cares about is making money for himself.	43%	30%	27%

95. Here are some of the most popular podcasts in America. Which, if any, have you listened to in the last month? Please select all that apply.

Joe Rogan Experience	22%
The Daily	12%
The Ben Shapiro Show	11%
Conan O'Brien Needs a Friend	10%
This American Life	8%
This Past Weekend w/ Theo Von	7%
Pod Save America	7%
Pardon My Take	6%
My Favorite Murder with Karen Kilgariff	
and Georgia Hardstark	5%
Call your Girlfriend	5%
Anything Goes with Emma Chamberlain	5%
None of the above	56%

On a scale of 0-to-100, where 0 means very conservative and 100 means very progressive, where would you place each of the following parties?

96.	Democratic Party	
	Conservative (0-39)	30%
	Moderate (40-60)	18%
	Liberal/Progressive (61-100)	53%
	Mean	58.9
97.	Republican Party	
	Conservative (0-39)	67%
	Moderate (40-60)	15%
	Liberal/Progressive (61-100)	18%
	Mean	28.3
98.	Green Party	
	Conservative (0-39)	49%
	Moderate (40-60)	25%
	Liberal (61-100)	26%
	Mean	38.5
99.	Working Families Party	
	Conservative (0-39)	46%
	Moderate (40-60)	32%
	Liberal/Progressive (61-100)	22%
	Mean	39.1
100.	The Libertarian Party	
	Conservative (0-39)	56%
	Moderate (40-60)	28%
	Liberal/Progressive (61-100)	16%
	Mean	32.2

	More influence	30%	
	The same amount of influence	40%	
	Less influence	19%	
	Don't know	10%	
102.	Do you currently own or rent your home?		
	Own	60%	
	Rent	34%	
	Other	5%	
	Prefer not to answer	1%	
103.	Which of the following best describes the area in which you live?		
	Urban	28%	
	Suburban	49%	
	Small town	9%	
	Rural	15%	
104.	Which of the following best describes your marital status?		
	Married	41%	
	Living with partner/significant other	12%	
	Single, never married	31%	
	Separated or divorced	12%	
	Widowed	5%	
	Prefer not to answer	0%	
	Fielei flot to allswei		
105.	Do you currently have any children living in yo	our home under the age of 18?	
105.		-	
105.	Do you currently have any children living in yo	31%	

Catholic	230%	
Protestant		
Fundamentalist/Evangelical Christian		
Jewish		
LDS/Mormon		
Muslim		
Another religion		
No religious preference		
Secular humanist		
Atheist		
Agnostic		
Agricotic	070	
Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend r		
More than once a week	8%	
Once a week	21%	
Once or twice a month	10%	
A few times a year	15%	
Seldom		
Never		
Which of the following do you identify as?		
Heterosexual or straight	89%	
Gay		
Lesbian		
Bisexual		
Other Queer identity (e.g. pansexual, asexual		
None of the above	•	
I don't know		
Prefer not to say		
Do you identify as transgender or non-binary	y?	
Do you identify as transgender or non-binary Yes		
	2%	

110.	Are you, or is anyone in your household, a labor union	n member?
	Yes, I am	10%
	Yes, another member of my household is	
	Yes, both I and another member of my household is_	
	No	
	Don't know	
111.	[IF UNION MEMBER, ASK] Which type of union are y of? Please select all that apply. (n=243)	ou or a member of your household a member
	Police union	15%
	Fire union	
	Teachers' union	
	Private sector labor union	
	Other (please specify)	
	Prefer not to say	
112.	Which of the following economic categories best des	scribes your household?
	Lower-income	_ 17%
	Lower middle/working class	_ 28%
	Middle class	_ 42%
	Upper middle class	_ 11%
	Upper class	2%
113.	Which of the following social platforms, if any, do you	u use regularly? Please select all that apply.
	YouTube	_ 73%
	Facebook	
	Instagram	_ 48%
	TikTok	_ 34%
	Twitter / X	_ 27%
	Snapchat	_ 25%
	Pinterest	
	Reddit	
	LinkedIn	_ 20%
	WhatsApp	_ 16%
	Discord	_ 13%
	Twitch	_ 10%
	Tumblr	4%
	Truth Social	3%
	Rumble	2%
	Bitchute	1%
	None of the above	6%

114. Please select any of the following sources that you regularly watch or visit for news or current events. Please select all that apply.

Local TV news	56%
Network news (ABC, CBS, NBC)	46%
YouTube	43%
Facebook	38%
Fox News	31%
CNN	28%
Instagram	23%
TikTok	22%
X (formerly known as Twitter)	17%
MSNBC	16%
Snapchat	11%
PBS	13%
Barstool Sports	4%
None of the above	7%

###

Methodology

This survey, which was conducted online, carries a margin of error equivalent of 2.7% at the 95 percent credibility level. Weights were calculated based on Census and American Community Survey. Gender, age, race and ethnicity, education, income and geography, and issues associated with online propensity were used for weighting.