



AAIPP Bulletin

September 2025

The Trump Presidency

According to [RealClearPolitics average](#) of polls from September 6 to September 21, 52.6% of Americans disapprove of President Trump’s job performance, while 46.1% approve. On his handling of [the economy](#), the poll average (8/18 – 9/21) shows 55.3% disapprove and 41.7% approve. On [immigration](#), Americans’ opinions are split as shown in poll average (8/18 – 9/21), with both approval and disapproval at 48.4%. On [crime](#), the poll average (8/18 – 9/15) indicates 48.7% disapproval to 47.8% approval.

Three recent polls, [AtlasIntel](#), [Washington Post-Ipsos](#), and [Harvard CAPS-Harris](#), show consistent results with respect to Asian/Pacific Islander (API) respondents. By far, API adults disapprove of President Trump’s job performance, much more so than the general U.S. adult population.

President Trump's Job Approval by Race & Ethnicity - September 2025							
		Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/PI	Other
<i>Do you approve or disapprove of the job Donald J. Trump is doing as President of the United States?</i>							
AtlasIntel Poll							
	Approve	46.9%	47.7%	54.3%	41.7%	25.5%	56.0%
	Disapprove	52.0%	50.7%	45.7%	58.3%	74.5%	44.0%
Washington Post - Ipsos Poll							
	Approve (Net)	43.0%	54.0%	16.0%	29.0%	34.0%	
	Disapprove (Net)	56.0%	46.0%	83.0%	69.0%	66.0%	
Harvard CAPS - Harris Poll							
	Approve (Net)	47.0%	53.0%	36.0%	32.0%	35.0%	40.0%
	Disapprove (Net)	49.0%	44.0%	60.0%	59.0%	62.0%	54.0%

Sources: Atlas U.S. national poll of U.S. adults conducted on September 12-16, 2025

Washington Post-Ipsos poll of U.S. adults conducted on September 11-15, 2025

Harvard CAPS - Harris Poll of registered voters conducted online within the U.S. on August 20-21, 2025

All three polls show a stark partisan divide in President Trump’s job approval ratings. Democrats overwhelmingly disapprove of his job performance (82.5% AtlasIntel, 92% Washington Post-Ipsos, and 81% Harvard CAPS-Harris), while Republicans overwhelmingly approve (91.9%, 89%, and 83% respectively).

Views of U.S. Adults on the Trump Administration's Handling of Major Issues (by race & ethnicity)							
	U.S. Adults	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/PI	Other	
<i>Do you think President Trump's policies generally safeguard or undermine American democracy ?</i>							
Safeguard democracy	39.0%	43.0%	34.6%	24.8%	33.9%	26.9%	
Undermine democracy	50.2%	47.6%	54.6%	57.0%	58.5%	57.0%	
Mixed results	9.5%	8.0%	8.2%	18.2%	7.5%	9.9%	
Don't know	1.4%	1.4%	2.6%	0.0%	0.2%	6.2%	
<i>Do you agree/disagree with the President's dismissal of the Bureau of Labor Statistics Commissioner?</i>							
Agree	36.1%	39.5%	35.4%	20.3%	36.0%	28.0%	
Disagree	53.8%	51.2%	59.1%	62.2%	63.9%	51.0%	
Don't know	10.1%	9.3%	5.4%	17.5%	0.2%	21.0%	
<i>In your opinion, which of these statements best describe President Trump's policy approach toward American economic institutions ?</i>							
Threatening the independence of U.S. economic institutions for political gain	49.5%	46.0%	61.9%	56.9%	54.8%	56.6%	
Reflecting legitimate policy goals	29.8%	34.3%	19.6%	16.7%	20.6%	24.0%	
Reflecting both motives and legitimate policy goals	16.6%	15.9%	13.5%	20.1%	24.5%	13.4%	
Don't know	4.0%	3.7%	5.0%	6.3%	0.2%	6.0%	
Source: AtlasIntel U.S. National poll of U.S. adults conducted on September 12-16, 2025							
<i>Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling the economy ?</i>							
Approve	40.0%	49.0%	15.0%	28.0%	31.0%		
Disapprove	59.0%	50.0%	84.0%	71.0%	68.0%		
Skipped	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%		
<i>Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling immigration ?</i>							
Approve	44.0%	55.0%	20.0%	24.0%	39.0%		
Disapprove	55.0%	43.0%	79.0%	74.0%	61.0%		
Skipped	1.0%	2.0%	1.0%	2.0%	0.0%		
<i>Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling the issue of crime in this country?</i>							
Approve	44.0%	53.0%	20.0%	33.0%	43.0%		
Disapprove	54.0%	45.0%	79.0%	66.0%	56.0%		
Skipped	1.0%	2.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%		
<i>Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling tariffs on imported goods?</i>							
Approve	34.0%	44.0%	12.0%	21.0%	21.0%		
Disapprove	64.0%	55.0%	86.0%	78.0%	79.0%		
Skipped	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	1.0%	0.0%		
<i>Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Trump is handling the situation with Israel and Gaza?</i>							
Approve	39.0%	48.0%	12.0%	27.0%	37.0%		
Disapprove	58.0%	49.0%	86.0%	70.0%	63.0%		
Skipped	3.0%	3.0%	2.0%	3.0%	0.0%		
<i>Do you approve or disapprove of President Trump's handling of the situation involving Russia and Ukraine?</i>							
Approve	38.0%	47.0%	14.0%	26.0%	30.0%		
Disapprove	60.0%	51.0%	84.0%	70.0%	68.0%		
Skipped	2.0%	2.0%	3.0%	3.0%	1.0%		
Source: Washington Post-Ipsos poll of U.S. adults conducted on September 11-15, 2025							

On major policy issues, a majority of U.S. adults have negative opinions on the Trump administration's handling of many of them, including the economy, immigration, crime, tariffs, the war in Gaza, and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. U.S. adults also believe that the Trump administration's policies generally undermine American democracy and American economic institutions. API adults' views are even more negative than that of the general U.S. adult population.

Immigration

[Brookings' analysis](#) of [Census Bureau population estimates](#) released last year revealed that the nation's population growth rate of nearly 1% for the year July 2023 to July 2024 was driven mostly by immigration. This growth represented a much-needed uptick from the historically low population growth of the COVID-19 period, along with the diminishing growth of recent decades.

From 2020 to 2024, the total U.S. population rose from 331 million to 340 million. Over this period, the Hispanic share of the population rose from 18.8% to 20%; the Asian American population from 6.1% to 6.7%; and the two-or-more-races population from 2.1% to 2.5%. At the same time, the white population share declined from 59.5% to 57.5%, and the Black and AIAN shares stayed steady at 12.6% and 0.7%, respectively.

Meanwhile, a [new Pew Research Center analysis](#) of Census Bureau data finds that, after more than 50 years of rapid growth, the nation's immigrant population is now in decline. As of June 2025:

- 51.9 million immigrants lived in the U.S.
- 15.4% of all U.S. residents were immigrants, down from a recent historic high of 15.8%.
- 19% of the U.S. labor force were immigrants, down from 20% and by over 750,000 workers since January.

According to a recent Pew Research Center estimate, the number of [unauthorized immigrants](#) in the United States reached an all-time high of 14 million in 2023 after two consecutive years of record growth. The increase of 3.5 million in two years is the biggest on record. Such an increase was driven primarily by growth in the number of unauthorized immigrants who were living in the U.S. with some protections from deportation, such as immigrants paroled into the country and asylum seekers.

2026 Midterm Elections

A [RealClearPolitics average of polls from 8/11 – 9/22](#) shows that the 2026 generic congressional vote is competitive, with Democrats leading 45% to 41.4%. Democrats' narrow lead by one percentage point has also been observed by Echelon Insights, a Republican pollster, in [a survey of voters conducted August 14-17, 2025](#).

A September [AtlasIntel poll](#) shows that a narrow majority (51.8%) of U.S. adults would be most likely to vote for the Democratic candidate in a hypothetical midterm elections for the House of Representatives, while an August [Emerson College Polling survey](#) finds voters evenly split in their hypothetical midterm vote choice. Asian adults in the

AtlasIntel poll would overwhelmingly vote Democratic (73.8%). Meanwhile, a plurality of Asian voters in the Emerson College Polling survey would vote the same (42.7%).

2026 Midterm Elections: Views of U.S. Adults/Voters (by race & ethnicity)							
	U.S. Adults	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/PI	Other	
<i>If the midterm elections for the House of Representatives were held today, who would you be most likely to vote for?</i>							
AtlasIntel							
The Democratic candidate	51.8%	48.5%	76.1%	55.0%	73.8%	39.3%	
The Republican candidate	43.5%	47.5%	23.9%	41.2%	23.0%	31.3%	
Don't know	3.9%	3.3%	0.0%	2.3%	3.2%	24.9%	
Would not vote	0.8%	0.7%	0.0%	1.5%	0.0%	4.5%	
Emerson College Polling							
The Democratic candidate	43.3%	40.0%	59.3%	46.3%	42.7%	42.5%	
The Republican candidate	43.0%	49.4%	17.5%	35.0%	35.6%	44.9%	
Don't know	13.7%	10.6%	23.2%	18.7%	21.7%	12.5%	
Sources: AtlasIntel U.S. National poll of U.S. adults conducted on September 12-16, 2025							
Emerson College Polling national survey of registered voters conducted on August 25-26, 2025							

Recent Releases

[Centenarians: 2020](#)

U.S. Census Bureau (September 22, 2025)

This special report provides an updated portrait of the centenarian population (people who have reached the age of 100) in the United States and is based on age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, living arrangements, and geographic distribution information from the 2020 Census. Centenarians in the United States increased by 50% from 53,364 in 2010 to 80,139 in 2020. During this decade, the share of the centenarian population that was White alone declined from 82.5 percent to 74.6 percent, while the share of the Asian alone and “All other races” populations increased. Similarly, the Hispanic share increased.

Asian alone centenarians went from 2.5 percent in 2010 to 4.6 percent in 2020. With respect to their living arrangements, 61.4 percent living in households with others, 21.4 percent living alone in household, 14.2 percent living in a nursing home, and 3 percent living in other group quarters.

[Mapping Deportations: Unmasking the History of Racism in U.S. Immigration Enforcement](#)

Center for Immigration Law and Policy at the UCLA School of Law and Million Dollar Hoods (September 15, 2025)

The researchers mapped the eight million deportation orders that the United States issued between 2022 and 1895, the time range for when the earliest and latest data was available. What the researchers found was that most of the orders have sought to deport people to Mexico and nonwhite countries across Latin America. Even at turn of the 20th century, at the height of European immigration to the United States, immigrants from nonwhite countries were a disproportionate share of deportees.

[Filipino Immigrants in the United States](#)

Migration Policy Institute (September 4, 2025)

This brief provides updated information on the Filipino immigrant population in the United States, focusing on its size, geographic distribution, and socioeconomic characteristics. Examples of characteristics examined include income and poverty, immigration pathway and naturalization, unauthorized immigrant population, health coverage, as well as remittances.

[Educational Attainment in the United States: 2024](#)

U.S. Census Bureau (September 3, 2025)

The Census Bureau recently released new educational attainment data examining the education level of adults age 18 and older by age, sex, race, nativity and other demographic and social characteristics. Data are based on statistics from the [Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement](#).

ABOUT AAIPP

The Asian American Institute for Public Policy (AAIPP) is a national, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to advancing equality and full participation for Asian Americans. It works to amplify Asian American voice and thought leadership to address community concerns and to contribute pragmatic solutions to vital social, economic, and political issues in America. Through an inclusive perspective and a politically balanced approach, AAIPP seeks to promote reasoned dialogue and informed policy discourse that is guided by empirical research and critical analysis. www.aaipp.org

Contact: Cao K. O, President cao@aaipp.org