



## AAIPP Bulletin

July 2026

### Political Climate

Based on the RealClear Politics average of recent polls (6/18-7/16), President Donald Trump's current [job approval rating](#) stands at 55.6% disapprove to 41.1% approve.

Consistent with the RCP average, the [Washington Post / Ipsos](#), [Harvard CAPS – Harris](#), and [Quantus Insights](#) polls show that a majority of U.S. adults/voters disapprove of President Trump's job performance by 61%, 54% and 55% respectively. A majority of Asian adults/voters also indicate disapproval, 71%, 60%, and 54% respectively.

| President Trump's Job Approval - July 2026                                             |  |                 |       |                       |       |                  |       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-----------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|------------------|-------|
|                                                                                        |  | Wash Post/Ipsos |       | Harvard CAPS - Harris |       | Quantus Insights |       |
|                                                                                        |  | Overall         | Asian | Overall               | Asian | Overall          | Asian |
| Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president? |  |                 |       |                       |       |                  |       |
| Net Approve                                                                            |  | 37.0%           | 26.0% | 42.0%                 | 35.0% | 43.3%            | 44.2% |
| Somewhat approve                                                                       |  | 22.0%           | 20.0% | 19.0%                 |       | 3.7%             | 4.7%  |
| Strongly approve                                                                       |  | 15.0%           | 6.0%  | 23.0%                 |       | 39.6%            | 39.5% |
| Net disapprove                                                                         |  | 61.0%           | 71.0% | 54.0%                 | 60.0% | 54.5%            | 53.5% |
| Strongly disapprove                                                                    |  | 47.0%           | 48.0% | 40.0%                 |       | 51.2%            | 53.5% |
| Somewhat disapprove                                                                    |  | 14.0%           | 23.0% | 14.0%                 |       | 3.3%             | 0.0%  |
| Neutral / No opinion                                                                   |  | 2.0%            | 3.0%  | 4.0%                  |       | 2.2%             | 2.3%  |

Source: Washington Post-Ipsos poll of 2,648 U.S. adults conducted July 8 - 13, 2026; Harvard CAPS - Harris poll of 1,776 registered voters conducted July 11 - 12, 2026; Quantus Insights National Survey of 1,140 likely voters conducted July 3, 6, 7, 2026.

Concerning the [direction of the country](#), a majority of American adults (58.3%) say that the country is on the wrong track, while only 35.7% believe that the country is headed in the right direction, according to the RCP average of recent polls (6/26-7/13).

In the Quantus Insights National Survey, a majority of likely voters (62%) say that the country is on the wrong track. 67% of Asian likely voters say the same. When asked which major political party they think is more extreme in its views concerning economic policy, social and cultural issues, and the role of government, voters overall are quite evenly split in their opinion of the Democrats (42%) and the Republicans (42%). More Asian likely voters point to the Republicans than the Democrats, 44% to 35%.

If the mid-term congressional elections were being held today, all likely voters favor the Democratic candidate slightly more than the Republican candidate in their congressional district, 47% to 42%. Asian likely voters would vote for the Democratic candidate in a bigger margin, 56% to 32%. The WashPost - Ipsos poll shows Democrats leading Republicans by three percentage points among registered voters (48% to 45%), and by 26 percentage points among Asian voters (58% to 32%).

Concerning the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), 52% of likely voters have a strongly unfavorable opinion. A plurality (44%) of Asian likely voters hold a strongly unfavorable view, while about one in four (26%) are strongly in favor of it.

| <b>Political Climate: Likely Voters' Views</b> by race and ethnicity (July 2026)                                                                                                                         |                |              |              |                 |              |              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Overall</b> | <b>White</b> | <b>Black</b> | <b>Hispanic</b> | <b>Asian</b> | <b>Other</b> |
| Sample size                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1,140          | 72.3%        | 10.7%        | 11.1%           | 3.8%         | 2.0%         |
| <i>Overall, would you say the country is headed in the right direction or on the wrong track?</i>                                                                                                        |                |              |              |                 |              |              |
| Right track                                                                                                                                                                                              | 38.4%          | 39.6%        | 30.3%        | 38.6%           | 32.6%        | 43.5%        |
| Wrong track                                                                                                                                                                                              | 61.6%          | 60.4%        | 69.7%        | 61.4%           | 67.4%        | 56.5%        |
| <i>When it comes to economic policy, social and cultural issues, and the role of government, which major party do you think is more extreme in its views overall - the Democrats or the Republicans?</i> |                |              |              |                 |              |              |
| Both about the same                                                                                                                                                                                      | 12.7%          | 11.4%        | 12.3%        | 20.5%           | 16.3%        | 8.7%         |
| Democrats                                                                                                                                                                                                | 42.0%          | 48.5%        | 10.7%        | 33.1%           | 34.9%        | 39.1%        |
| Republicans                                                                                                                                                                                              | 42.2%          | 37.5%        | 74.6%        | 40.2%           | 44.2%        | 47.8%        |
| Unsure / no opinion                                                                                                                                                                                      | 3.1%           | 2.7%         | 2.5%         | 6.3%            | 4.7%         | 4.3%         |
| <i>If the 2026 House Representatives elections were held today, would you vote for the Republican or the Democrat in your congressional district?</i>                                                    |                |              |              |                 |              |              |
| Democrat                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 47.1%          | 42.4%        | 73.0%        | 49.6%           | 55.8%        | 47.8%        |
| Republican                                                                                                                                                                                               | 42.3%          | 48.0%        | 13.9%        | 38.6%           | 27.9%        | 34.8%        |
| Undecided                                                                                                                                                                                                | 10.6%          | 9.6%         | 13.1%        | 11.8%           | 16.3%        | 17.4%        |
| <i>Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA)?</i>                                                                                                     |                |              |              |                 |              |              |
| Somewhat favorable                                                                                                                                                                                       | 6.3%           | 6.4%         | 4.9%         | 7.9%            | 7.0%         | 0.0%         |
| Strongly favorable                                                                                                                                                                                       | 19.8%          | 17.9%        | 20.5%        | 26.8%           | 25.6%        | 30.4%        |
| Strongly unfavorable                                                                                                                                                                                     | 52.4%          | 54.1%        | 54.1%        | 43.3%           | 44.2%        | 47.8%        |
| Somewhat unfavorable                                                                                                                                                                                     | 6.3%           | 6.4%         | 4.1%         | 5.5%            | 9.3%         | 13.0%        |
| Neutral / No opinion                                                                                                                                                                                     | 15.3%          | 15.2%        | 16.4%        | 16.5%           | 14.0%        | 8.7%         |

Source: Quantus Insights National Survey of Likely Voters conducted July 3, 6 & 7, 2026

## New Population Estimates

The U.S. Census Bureau's recently released [new population estimates](#) show significant growth of the population of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians & Pacific Islanders (AANHPI) in the South between April 1, 2020 and July 1, 2025. Last year, Arkansas became the 35<sup>th</sup> state with an AANHPI population of 100,000 or more. AANHPIs grew by more than 25 percent in 7 of the 35 states, and 5 are in the South.

| States with 100,000 or more Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians & Other Pacific Islanders                                                    |            |           |            |                                    |       |       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| (Race alone or in combination) (as of July 1, 2025)                                                                                        |            |           |            |                                    |       |       |
|                                                                                                                                            |            |           |            | Percent Change Since April 1, 2020 |       |       |
|                                                                                                                                            | Asian      | NHPI      | Total      | Asian                              | NHPI  | Total |
| <b>United States</b>                                                                                                                       | 28,796,610 | 2,019,733 | 30,816,343 | 15.0%                              | 11.1% | 14.7% |
| <b>States</b>                                                                                                                              |            |           |            |                                    |       |       |
| California                                                                                                                                 | 8,115,009  | 455,173   | 8,570,182  | 8.1%                               | 5.2%  | 7.9%  |
| Texas                                                                                                                                      | 2,482,126  | 108,096   | 2,590,222  | 29.8%                              | 21.6% | 29.5% |
| New York                                                                                                                                   | 2,457,922  | 62,731    | 2,520,653  | 8.5%                               | 10.5% | 8.6%  |
| Washington                                                                                                                                 | 1,203,764  | 142,794   | 1,346,558  | 23.7%                              | 14.8% | 22.7% |
| New Jersey                                                                                                                                 | 1,228,363  | 26,000    | 1,254,363  | 13.5%                              | 23.6% | 13.7% |
| Hawaii                                                                                                                                     | 813,355    | 394,674   | 1,208,029  | -1.7%                              | -0.8% | -1.4% |
| Florida                                                                                                                                    | 1,072,914  | 62,562    | 1,135,476  | 22.1%                              | 23.0% | 22.2% |
| Illinois                                                                                                                                   | 1,032,071  | 24,500    | 1,056,571  | 14.0%                              | 11.0% | 13.9% |
| Virginia                                                                                                                                   | 894,223    | 31,069    | 925,292    | 14.5%                              | 13.9% | 14.5% |
| Georgia                                                                                                                                    | 725,348    | 28,142    | 753,490    | 24.6%                              | 20.3% | 24.4% |
| Pennsylvania                                                                                                                               | 719,767    | 24,245    | 744,012    | 16.2%                              | 25.0% | 16.4% |
| Massachusetts                                                                                                                              | 698,547    | 15,814    | 714,361    | 16.3%                              | 17.6% | 16.3% |
| North Carolina                                                                                                                             | 581,832    | 31,412    | 613,244    | 31.3%                              | 16.6% | 30.4% |
| Maryland                                                                                                                                   | 576,780    | 16,922    | 593,702    | 10.8%                              | 13.5% | 10.8% |
| Nevada                                                                                                                                     | 459,447    | 71,247    | 530,694    | 21.1%                              | 15.2% | 20.2% |
| Arizona                                                                                                                                    | 472,632    | 51,417    | 524,049    | 25.3%                              | 17.1% | 24.4% |
| Michigan                                                                                                                                   | 498,499    | 14,364    | 512,863    | 19.2%                              | 15.5% | 19.1% |
| Ohio                                                                                                                                       | 467,222    | 20,677    | 487,899    | 21.6%                              | 22.5% | 21.7% |
| Minnesota                                                                                                                                  | 416,105    | 13,136    | 429,241    | 14.1%                              | 25.4% | 14.5% |
| Colorado                                                                                                                                   | 365,531    | 32,912    | 398,443    | 22.4%                              | 18.1% | 22.1% |
| Oregon                                                                                                                                     | 331,691    | 48,964    | 380,655    | 15.8%                              | 12.9% | 15.4% |
| Indiana                                                                                                                                    | 275,325    | 14,298    | 289,623    | 26.0%                              | 24.7% | 26.0% |
| Wisconsin                                                                                                                                  | 258,743    | 9,992     | 268,735    | 17.3%                              | 18.3% | 17.4% |
| Connecticut                                                                                                                                | 244,961    | 9,170     | 254,131    | 14.8%                              | 17.0% | 14.8% |
| Tennessee                                                                                                                                  | 233,051    | 16,029    | 249,080    | 25.8%                              | 24.2% | 25.7% |
| Utah                                                                                                                                       | 169,242    | 73,479    | 242,721    | 28.3%                              | 16.8% | 24.6% |
| Missouri                                                                                                                                   | 216,785    | 24,021    | 240,806    | 18.3%                              | 25.5% | 19.0% |
| South Carolina                                                                                                                             | 168,426    | 12,800    | 181,226    | 30.6%                              | 26.6% | 30.4% |
| Oklahoma                                                                                                                                   | 159,207    | 20,409    | 179,616    | 24.0%                              | 23.0% | 23.9% |
| Kentucky                                                                                                                                   | 129,969    | 11,300    | 141,269    | 28.2%                              | 31.6% | 28.4% |
| Kansas                                                                                                                                     | 130,641    | 10,527    | 141,168    | 13.2%                              | 22.4% | 13.8% |
| Alabama                                                                                                                                    | 125,075    | 11,114    | 136,189    | 17.7%                              | 25.5% | 18.3% |
| Louisiana                                                                                                                                  | 128,511    | 7,608     | 136,119    | 10.6%                              | 8.8%  | 10.5% |
| Iowa                                                                                                                                       | 112,784    | 15,839    | 128,623    | 14.3%                              | 64.4% | 18.8% |
| Arkansas                                                                                                                                   | 89,265     | 23,081    | 112,346    | 24.3%                              | 22.2% | 23.9% |
| Source: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2025 |            |           |            |                                    |       |       |
| U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division (June 2026)                                                                                        |            |           |            |                                    |       |       |

Overall, [the South grew by 6.0% between April 1, 2020 and July 1, 2025](#), nearly double the nation's 3.1% population growth. In addition, all age groups, covering childhood (0-17), young adulthood (18-24), early work and family-building years (25-44), midlife (45-64), and retirement (65 and older), grew faster in the South than in any other region. With respect to AANHPIs, those 65 and older are by far the fastest growing segment of the population, 34% increase between April 1, 2020 and July 1, 2025.

| <b>Estimates of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians &amp; Other Pacific Islanders by Age Group for the United States</b> (Race alone or in combination) (as of July 1, 2025) |              |             |              |                                           |             |              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>Age Group</b>                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Asian</b> | <b>NHPI</b> | <b>Total</b> | <b>Percent Change Since April 1, 2020</b> |             |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                            |              |             |              | <b>Asian</b>                              | <b>NHPI</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| 0 - 17                                                                                                                                                                     | 6,759,480    | 631,972     | 7,391,452    | 6.3%                                      | 2.9%        | 6.0%         |
| 18 - 24                                                                                                                                                                    | 2,875,503    | 242,118     | 3,117,621    | 7.9%                                      | 9.0%        | 8.0%         |
| 25 - 44                                                                                                                                                                    | 9,096,748    | 592,734     | 9,689,482    | 18.7%                                     | 12.6%       | 18.3%        |
| 45 - 64                                                                                                                                                                    | 6,409,314    | 373,190     | 6,782,504    | 13.7%                                     | 14.3%       | 13.7%        |
| 65+                                                                                                                                                                        | 3,655,565    | 179,719     | 3,835,284    | 33.9%                                     | 40.7%       | 34.2%        |
| Total                                                                                                                                                                      | 28,796,610   | 2,019,733   | 30,816,343   | 15.0%                                     | 11.1%       | 14.7%        |
| Source: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Age, Race Alone or in Combination, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: April 1, 2020 - July 1, 2025     |              |             |              |                                           |             |              |
| U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division (June 2026)                                                                                                                        |              |             |              |                                           |             |              |

## Recent Releases

### [How Americans Are Engaged With News, Politics, Religion and Civic Life](#)

Pew Research Center (July 16, 2026)

This Pew study from the Pew-Knight Initiative examines Americans' engagement with others across a range of behaviors: political activity, civic involvement, religious attendance, and attention to news. The study finds that rather than falling along a single spectrum, U.S. adults sort into four distinct groups that reflect different patterns of participation: Mobilizers (9% of U.S. adults), connectors (28%), spectators (31%), and outsiders (31%). Among non-Hispanic Asian Americans, they are 4% mobilizers, 21% connectors, 41% spectators, and 35% outsiders.

### [New Poll: Nearly Half of Americans Don't Know What America's 250<sup>th</sup> Is Celebrating](#)

Cato Institute (July 2, 2026)

This national survey conducted ahead of July 4<sup>th</sup> finds nearly half (46%) of Americans, two-thirds of Gen Z, don't know what America's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorates. However, most have an overwhelmingly positive view of the country and of what the Declaration of Independence made possible. Majorities of Americans say they are proud (79%) and grateful (86%) to be Americans; however, far fewer believe in the idea of American exceptionalism.

### [As childcare costs skyrocket, states need a new approach to help working families](#)

Brookings Institution (July 2, 2026)

On May 12 of this year, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services issued revised policies governing the administration of its Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), the federal government's leading source of investment in childcare for low-income families with

children. The policy shift comes at a time when childcare costs are skyrocketing at a rate faster than inflation. This report, the second entry in Brookings' [States of Affordability](#) series, examines the impact of childcare costs on the economic well-being of American families, aiming to support policymakers at all levels of government in developing urgently needed strategies for addressing this crisis. The Brookings affordability database provides useful data on household affordability characteristics by state and by race & Hispanic origin.

#### [Reducing Poverty Among Older Adults](#)

Brookings Institution (June 17, 2026)

Approximately 6% of elderly adults have insufficient resources to meet their basic needs. This policy brief explains the problem of poverty among older adults and why action is needed. It also suggests potential policy recommendations for reducing elderly poverty by making changes to current social insurance programs, focusing on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicare, alongside Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), housing, and Social Security reforms.

#### [Welfare Use by Non-Citizens Across States in the U.S.](#)

Center for Immigration Studies (June 11, 2026)

This report examines welfare use (means-tested anti-poverty programs including TANF, SSI, SNAP, WIC, free/subsidized school meals, Medicaid, and public/subsidized housing) for households headed by non-citizens by state using the 2021 to 2025 Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS ASEC). Of households headed by non-citizens, 47 percent use one or more traditional welfare programs, 19 percentage points higher than the 28 percent for U.S.-born households. The non-citizen rate rises to 57 percent when eligibility for the EITC or ACTC is added, compared to 34 percent for the U.S.-born.

#### [One Year In: Public Views of A Changing Public Health Landscape](#)

De Beaumont Foundation / Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (June 9, 2026)

This national poll by Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and the de Beaumont Foundation's Public Health Listening Lab was conducted March 19 – April 1, 2026 among 2205 U.S. adults ages 18 and older to better understand people's views about the changing public health landscape one year into the new federal administration. Trust in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other federal health institutions has dropped dramatically. Only 50% of the public says they now trust health recommendations from the CDC, compared to 77% in spring 2025. A slim majority disapproved of federal public health agency actions in the past year, with a high level of concern about the influence of leaders' personal beliefs, misplaced priorities, and budget cuts.

#### **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](http://www.aaipp.org)  
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