

**2020 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 71 JULY 2020
FINAL TOPLINE
JULY 27-AUGUST 2, 2020
N=11,001**

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK ALL:**

COREUSDEM Thinking about the fundamental design and structure of American government, which comes closer to your view? **[RANDOMIZE]**

July 27- Aug 2 2020		Jan 29- Feb 13 2018
62	Significant changes to the design and structure are needed to make it work for current times	61
37	The design and structure serves the country well and does not need significant changes	38
2	No Answer	2

ASK ALL:

IMPTUS Now we're going to ask you about the importance of a number of things for the United States.

For each of the following, HOW IMPORTANT is it for the country that... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not too important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>	<u>No Answer</u>
No item a					
ASK FORM 1 [N=5,500]					
b. The government conducts its work openly and transparently					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	76	20	2	1	*
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	74	22	2	2	*
ASK FORM 2 [N=5,501]					
c. The executive, legislative and judicial branches of government each keep the others from having too much power					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	75	21	3	1	*
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	76	18	3	2	1

IMPTUSc PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

That there is a system of checks and balances dividing power between the President, Congress, and the courts					
Feb 7-12, 2017 ¹	83	11	2	2	2

¹ Question for phone trend was worded: "How important are each of the following to the United States maintaining a strong democracy. Is this very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important to maintaining a strong democracy?"

IMPACT CONTINUED...

	Very <u>important</u>	Somewhat <u>important</u>	Not too <u>important</u>	Not at all <u>important</u>	<u>No Answer</u>
ASK FORM 1 [N=5,500]					
d. People who give a lot of money to elected officials do not have more political influence than other people					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	73	17	6	3	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	74	16	5	5	1
ASK FORM 2 [N=5,501]					
e. The tone of debate among political leaders is respectful					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	54	34	10	3	*
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	61	29	7	3	*
No item f					
ASK FORM 2 [N=5,501]					
g. Elected officials face serious consequences if they engage in misconduct					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	85	13	2	*	*
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	83	12	3	2	*
ASK FORM 1 [N=5,500]					
h. Judges are not influenced by political parties or elected officials					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	83	13	2	1	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018 ²	82	13	3	2	*
No item i					
ASK FORM 1 [N=5,500]					
j. The rights and freedoms of all people are respected					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	85	11	2	1	*
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	84	11	2	2	*
ASK FORM 2 [N=5,501]					
k. Everyone has an equal opportunity to succeed					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	81	16	2	1	*
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	82	13	2	2	*
No item l-m					
ASK FORM 2 [N=5,501]					
n. People are free to peacefully protest					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	68	23	6	2	*
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	74	20	3	3	*

² In February 2018, item did not mention elected officials

IMPTUSn CONTINUED ...

	Very <u>important</u>	Somewhat <u>important</u>	Not too <u>important</u>	Not at all <u>important</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
IMPTUSn PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
That people have the right to non-violent protest					
Feb 7-12, 2017 ³	79	12	4	3	2
Oct 20-25, 2016 (RVs)	78	17	2	2	1

No item o**ASK FORM 1 [N=5,500]**

p. People agree on basic facts even if they disagree politically					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	66	28	4	1	*
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	60	32	5	2	1

ASK ALL:

WELLUS Now thinking about how things actually are in the U.S. today, HOW WELL does each of the following describe the country? [**RANDOMIZE ITEMS IN SAME ORDER AS IMPTUS**]

	Very <u>well</u>	Somewhat <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at all <u>well</u>	<u>No Answer</u>
No item a					
ASK FORM 1 [N=5,500]					
b. The government conducts its work openly and transparently					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	7	23	40	30	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	7	23	40	29	1
ASK FORM 2 [N=5,501]					
c. The executive, legislative and judicial branches of government each keep the others from having too much power					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	13	40	32	14	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	11	44	28	15	1
ASK FORM 1 [N=5,500]					
d. People who give a lot of money to elected officials do not have more political influence than other people					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	9	17	30	43	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	11	15	29	43	1
ASK FORM 2 [N=5,501]					
e. The tone of debate among political leaders is respectful					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	8	20	39	32	*
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	6	19	37	37	1

³ Question for phone trend was worded: "How important are each of the following to the United States maintaining a strong democracy. Is this very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important to maintaining a strong democracy?"

WELLUS CONTINUED...

	Very <u>well</u>	Somewhat <u>well</u>	Not too <u>well</u>	Not at all <u>well</u>	No <u>Answer</u>
No item f					
ASK FORM 2 [N=5,501]					
g. Elected officials face serious consequences if they engage in misconduct					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	10	17	37	35	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	11	18	37	32	1
ASK FORM 1 [N=5,500]					
h. Judges are not influenced by political parties or elected officials					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	9	31	38	21	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018 ⁴	11	31	34	22	1
No item i					
ASK FORM 1 [N=5,500]					
j. The rights and freedoms of all people are respected					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	10	30	35	24	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	14	33	33	19	*
ASK FORM 2 [N=5,501]					
k. Everyone has an equal opportunity to succeed					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	21	30	29	19	*
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	20	32	29	18	1
No item l-m					
ASK FORM 2 [N=5,501]					
n. People are free to peacefully protest					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	25	36	26	13	*
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	30	43	18	8	1
No item o					
ASK FORM 1 [N=5,500]					
p. People agree on basic facts even if they disagree politically					
July 27-Aug 2, 2020	8	20	38	34	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	9	24	41	25	1

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

⁴ In 2018, item did not mention elected officials

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING:PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to...⁵

<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Something else</u>	<u>No answer</u>	<u>Lean Rep</u>	<u>Lean Dem</u>
28	29	27	14	1	17	21

⁵ Party and PartyIn asked in a prior survey.