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<http://www.uml.edu/polls>

Report on Citizen Opinions about Voting & Elections

Results of 2 surveys
Polls Conducted by YouGov
4/3/15-4/21/15
&
10/1/14-11/3/14

N=1,000 American Adults
Credibility Interval: +/-3.7% (+/- 3% adjusted for weights)
National Internet Panel Survey matched to 2010 ACS

Methodology

YouGov interviewed 1152 respondents who were then matched down to a sample of 1000 to produce the final dataset. The respondents were matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race, education, party identification, ideology, and political interest. The frame was constructed by stratified sampling from the full 2010 American Community Survey (ACS) sample with selection within strata by weighted sampling with replacements (using the person weights on the public use file). Data on voter registration status and turnout were matched to this frame using the November 2010 Current Population Survey. Data on interest in politics and party identification were then matched to this frame from the 2007 Pew Religious Life Survey. The matched cases were weighted to the sampling frame using propensity scores. The matched cases and the frame were combined and a logistic regression was estimated for inclusion in the frame. The propensity score function included age, gender, race/ethnicity, years of education, and ideology. The propensity scores were grouped into deciles of the estimated propensity score in the frame and post-stratified according to these deciles.

Voting and Participation (survey completed in April of 2015)

Q1 When it comes to voting in American elections today, what do you think is a bigger problem?
 51% People who want to vote are not able to
 49 People who should not be allowed to vote are able to

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
People who want to vote are not able to	48	54	43	88	57	60
People who should not be allowed to vote are able to	51	46	57	12	43	40

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
People who want to vote are not able to	57	59	45	48	48	52	50	53
People who should not be allowed to vote are able to	43	41	55	51	52	48	50	47

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
People who want to vote are not able to	65	58	53	46	35	54	50
People who should not be allowed to vote are able to	35	42	48	54	65	46	50

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
People who want to vote are not able to	78	54	25	78	43	24
People who should not be allowed to vote are able to	22	46	75	22	57	76

Q2 Generally speaking, do you think other people can be trusted to make intelligent or informed decisions when voting in elections, or are most people not intelligent or informed enough to be trusted when voting in elections?

- 43% People can be trusted to make intelligent/informed decisions
- 35 People cannot be trusted to make intelligent/informed decisions
- 22 Don't Know/No Answer

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
People can be trusted	43	43	39	60	47	42
People cannot be trusted	39	31	38	16	33	39
Don't know/No Answer	18	26	23	24	19	19

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
People can be trusted	41	52	41	46	41	42	45	44
People cannot be trusted	32	33	39	36	44	31	34	40
Don't know/No Answer	27	15	19	19	16	28	22	16

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
People can be trusted	38	43	43	48	40	41	44
People cannot be trusted	35	33	35	31	45	28	38
Don't know/No Answer	27	24	22	21	15	31	17

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
People can be trusted	44	45	39	51	37	44
People cannot be trusted	41	29	39	35	36	32
Don't know/No Answer	15	26	22	15	27	24

Q3 Do you believe that people who have been convicted of a felony and are currently in prison should be allowed to vote in American elections?

- 16% Yes in every circumstance
- 44 It depends on the crime committed
- 39 In no circumstance should a felon be allowed to vote

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
Every Circumstance	17	16	12	32	25	13
It Depends	43	46	44	49	45	43
No Circumstance	40	39	44	19	30	44

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
Every Circumstance	23	15	13	13	13	17	15	18
It Depends	46	53	37	40	66	43	45	39
No Circumstance	31	32	50	47	21	40	40	43

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
Every Circumstance	22	29	12	12	7	18	15
It Depends	59	45	55	33	38	53	40
No Circumstance	19	26	33	55	55	29	45

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
Every Circumstance	27	15	11	22	15	8
It Depends	49	50	31	51	46	29
No Circumstance	25	35	58	26	39	63

Q4 Do you believe that people who have been convicted of a felony, have served time and prison and since been released should be eligible to vote in American elections?

- 32% Yes in every circumstance
- 51 It depends on the crime committed
- 18 In no circumstance should an ex-felon be allowed to vote

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
Every Circumstance	34	30	30	47	26	34
It Depends	48	54	50	43	60	55
No Circumstance	19	16	20	10	14	11

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
Every Circumstance	34	34	27	34	18	30	28	43
It Depends	49	53	53	41	68	55	53	37
No Circumstance	17	13	20	25	15	15	19	20

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
Every Circumstance	37	38	26	30	27	27	34
It Depends	54	50	57	44	55	57	48
No Circumstance	8	12	17	27	18	16	18

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
Every Circumstance	50	29	21	38	32	20
It Depends	42	54	52	50	52	50
No Circumstance	8	16	26	12	16	30

Campaign Finance (survey completed in October of 2014)

How closely have you followed the debate over campaign finance, or the limits and extent of money in elections?

- 13% very closely
- 31 somewhat closely
- 35 not too closely
- 22 not closely at all

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
Very Closely	18	7	13	15	8	10
Somewhat Closely	32	30	30	33	26	33
Not Too Closely	31	39	37	35	39	15
Not Closely At All	19	24	20	18	27	41

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
Very Closely	6	16	10	26	11	6	13	21
Somewhat Closely	30	29	28	35	31	23	29	41
Not Too Closely	33	30	41	30	23	43	35	29
Not Closely At All	30	26	21	9	35	28	23	9

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
Very Closely	4	16	12	16	13	2	15
Somewhat Closely	30	22	25	33	39	19	34
Not Too Closely	28	39	39	34	37	30	36
Not Closely At All	37	23	24	16	11	49	15

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
Very Closely	17	11	12	14	13	10
Somewhat Closely	34	23	37	30	27	36
Not Too Closely	30	36	37	38	31	37
Not Closely At All	18	30	14	18	29	17

Consider the following statements. For each, tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree.

Donors to political campaigns have too much power.

52% Strongly Agree
 35 Somewhat Agree
 10 Somewhat Disagree
 3 Strongly Disagree

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
Strongly Agree	52	52	54	47	44	46
Somewhat Agree	33	38	34	38	48	33
Somewhat Disagree	12	8	9	14	5	10
Strongly Disagree	4	2	3	*	2	3

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
Strongly Agree	52	57	54	52	71	50	46	56
Somewhat Agree	38	31	35	26	29	39	38	29
Somewhat Disagree	8	11	8	16	*	9	13	11
Strongly Disagree	2	1	4	6	0	2	3	5

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
Strongly Agree	47	49	49	52	62	44	54
Somewhat Agree	36	34	33	37	34	40	34
Somewhat Disagree	16	8	14	9	3	12	9
Strongly Disagree	1	9	3	2	1	4	3

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly Agree	67	53	40	59	55	38
Somewhat Agree	26	33	44	32	34	42
Somewhat Disagree	6	11	12	8	8	17
Strongly Disagree	2	3	4	2	4	4

No one should be able to tell us how much money we can give to a political candidate if we want to.

25% Strongly Agree
 29 Somewhat Agree
 23 Somewhat Disagree
 22 Strongly Disagree

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
Strongly Agree	29	22	24	27	30	25
Somewhat Agree	25	32	31	20	26	29
Somewhat Disagree	23	24	23	26	22	23
Strongly Disagree	23	22	22	27	22	22

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
Strongly Agree	32	31	21	20	43	21	24	27
Somewhat Agree	26	24	33	29	27	34	28	24
Somewhat Disagree	20	23	24	28	13	22	23	28
Strongly Disagree	22	22	22	23	17	24	24	21

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
Strongly Agree	27	30	31	23	20	28	25
Somewhat Agree	35	17	34	28	30	37	27
Somewhat Disagree	25	29	18	23	21	23	24
Strongly Disagree	13	24	17	26	29	13	25

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly Agree	17	21	36	20	25	35
Somewhat Agree	21	30	33	21	28	41
Somewhat Disagree	27	24	20	26	25	17
Strongly Disagree	36	24	11	32	23	8

Wealthy Americans have more of a chance to influence elections than other citizens.

62% Strongly Agree
 29 Somewhat Agree
 6 Somewhat Disagree
 2 Strongly Disagree

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
Strongly Agree	62	62	62	63	73	50
Somewhat Agree	26	32	30	24	18	40
Somewhat Disagree	9	4	7	5	7	8
Strongly Disagree	3	2	1	8	2	2

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
Strongly Agree	70	60	60	60	58	64	61	63
Somewhat Agree	19	35	28	33	24	29	31	28
Somewhat Disagree	8	4	9	5	16	3	7	7
Strongly Disagree	3	1	3	2	1	4	1	2

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
Strongly Agree	48	64	67	64	70	55	64
Somewhat Agree	41	26	26	26	25	32	28
Somewhat Disagree	9	5	5	7	4	11	5
Strongly Disagree	1	5	2	3	1	2	2

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly Agree	83	61	49	77	62	42
Somewhat Agree	12	31	38	16	29	47
Somewhat Disagree	3	6	9	2	8	10
Strongly Disagree	1	2	4	4	1	1

Donating money to a political campaign is a protected right.

26% Strongly Agree
 45 Somewhat Agree
 21 Somewhat Disagree
 9 Strongly Disagree

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
Strongly Agree	32	19	25	21	21	38
Somewhat Agree	41	49	46	41	33	48
Somewhat Disagree	19	22	19	27	37	10
Strongly Disagree	8	11	10	11	9	4

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
Strongly Agree	24	22	28	32	31	22	26	28
Somewhat Agree	42	42	45	40	52	49	41	42
Somewhat Disagree	26	29	16	20	7	23	22	20
Strongly Disagree	8	8	12	9	11	7	11	10

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
Strongly Agree	26	26	28	26	21	20	27
Somewhat Agree	46	47	47	44	40	50	43
Somewhat Disagree	20	18	21	18	28	25	19
Strongly Disagree	8	8	5	12	11	5	11

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly Agree	21	17	38	16	25	40
Somewhat Agree	39	51	40	47	42	45
Somewhat Disagree	22	23	16	24	24	11
Strongly Disagree	17	8	5	13	10	4

Which of these two statements comes closer to your point of view about money in elections:

- 33% Contributing money to political candidates is a form of free speech that must be protected.
- 67 Contributing money to political candidates can be a form of corruption that should be limited in order to maintain fair elections.

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
Money is Free Speech/Protect	36	30	32	38	27	36
Money is Corruption/Limit	64	70	68	62	73	64

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
Money is Free Speech/Protect	26	35	37	33	52	27	33	36
Money is Corruption/Limit	74	65	63	67	58	73	67	64

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
Money is Free Speech/Protect	31	35	39	34	25	29	34
Money is Corruption/Limit	69	65	61	66	75	71	66

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
Money is Free Speech/Protect	17	31	46	22	31	50
Money is Corruption/Limit	83	69	54	78	69	50

Which one of the following two positions on campaign finance do you favor more:

- 69% The amount of money individuals can contribute to political campaigns should be limited.
- 31 Individuals should be allowed to contribute as much money to political campaigns as they would like.

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
Limit Campaign Donations	65	72	70	69	64	62
No Campaign Donation Limits	35	28	30	31	36	38

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
Limit Campaign Donations	69	67	69	69	38	79	68	66
No Campaign Donation Limits	31	33	31	31	62	21	32	34

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
Limit Campaign Donations	68	67	59	69	78	67	69
No Campaign Donation Limits	32	33	41	31	22	33	31

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
Limit Campaign Donations	84	70	56	78	68	57
No Campaign Donation Limits	16	30	44	22	32	43

Current campaign finance laws limit individual donations to \$2,600 per candidate for each election (\$5,200 for the primary and general election combined). Should individual donors be allowed to give [ROTATED] more, the current amount, less?

19% More
 55 Current Amount
 26 Less

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
More	21	17	21	13	12	19
Current Amount	51	58	54	55	68	49
Less	28	25	25	32	19	33

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
More	11	17	18	33	14	12	23	23
Current Amount	54	60	58	48	59	59	49	55
Less	35	23	24	19	27	29	28	22

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
More	16	23	24	20	14	16	20
Current Amount	58	55	44	53	62	60	53
Less	26	22	32	27	24	24	27

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
More	10	13	32	9	17	36
Current Amount	61	60	45	64	52	46
Less	29	27	24	27	31	18

Would you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose a new campaign finance system where federal campaigns are funded by the government rather than funded by contributions from individuals and private groups?

15% strongly favor
 29 somewhat favor
 25 somewhat oppose
 31 strongly oppose

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
Strongly Favor	17	14	15	24	10	7
Somewhat Favor	31	28	28	40	28	25
Somewhat Oppose	21	28	24	23	30	28
Strongly Oppose	31	30	32	13	32	40

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
Strongly Favor	11	18	15	26	21	11	15	20
Somewhat Favor	24	33	24	29	19	33	30	27
Somewhat Oppose	31	24	31	17	40	26	22	21
Strongly Oppose	35	25	30	28	20	30	33	32

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
Strongly Favor	11	23	13	16	15	5	18
Somewhat Favor	44	22	25	26	29	37	27
Somewhat Oppose	32	28	18	21	25	33	22
Strongly Oppose	13	28	44	37	31	25	32

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly Favor	30	15	6	24	15	4
Somewhat Favor	35	30	25	33	31	23
Somewhat Oppose	22	27	24	27	23	25
Strongly Oppose	12	28	46	17	32	48

Do you think imposing limits on campaign donations help to prevent corruption, has no effect, or increases corruption?

52% Imposing limits prevents corruption
 37 Imposing limits has no impact
 11 Imposing limits increases corruption

	Gender		Race/Ethnicity			
	Male	Female	White	Black	Latino	Other
Prevents Corruption	54	50	52	56	52	43
No Impact	35	39	38	34	28	37
Increases Corruption	11	11	9	10	20	20

	Income				Education			
	Less than \$30K	\$30K-\$50K	\$50K-\$100K	\$100K +	No Degree	High School	Some College	College Degree +
Prevents Corruption	51	56	51	51	41	54	51	53
No Impact	37	34	36	39	55	32	38	37
Increases Corruption	12	11	13	10	4	14	10	11

	Age					Registered Voter?	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	No	Yes
Prevents Corruption	51	50	57	50	52	53	52
No Impact	38	37	30	40	35	33	38
Increases Corruption	10	13	12	10	12	14	10

	Ideology			Party ID		
	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Dem	Ind	Rep
Prevents Corruption	66	58	35	65	50	36
No Impact	25	33	50	30	37	48
Increases Corruption	9	9	15	6	13	16