

Topline Questionnaire

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
 2023 NATIONAL SURVEY OF BLACK AMERICANS
 September 12-24, 2023
 BLACK AMERICANS TOTAL N=4,736
 GENERAL PUBLIC TOTAL N=7,470

NOTE: "BLACK AMERICANS" REFERS TO U.S. ADULTS WHO ARE BLACK ALONE AND NON-HISPANIC, BLACK IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER RACES AND NON-HISPANIC, AND BLACK AND HISPANIC. ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES. THE PERCENTAGES GREATER THAN ZERO BUT LESS THAN 0.5 ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (*). COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING. THIS TOPLINE SHOWS AGGREGATED DATA FOR RESPONDENTS FROM DIFFERENT SAMPLES. RESPONSES TO SOME QUESTIONS WERE COLLECTED IN PREVIOUS SURVEYS. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE DIFFERENT SAMPLES, REFER TO THE METHODOLOGY. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EXACT QUESTION WORDING, ORDER, AND FILTERING, REFER TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

	Sample size	Margin of error at 95% confidence level
Black adults	4,736	+/- 2.2 % points

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK IF BLACK (XATPBLACK=1 OR XPANEL=1):

IDIMPORTMOD [IF XATPBLACK=1: In a recent survey, IF XPANEL=1: Previously,] you said you consider yourself Black or African American. How important is being Black to how you think about yourself? [RANDOMIZE ORDER OF RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5 OR 5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS PER_SUC1]

Black Americans
 Sept. 12-24, 2023

69	NET Extremely/Very important
47	Extremely important
22	Very important
16	Somewhat important
14	NET A little/Not at all important
5	A little important
8	Not at all important
1	No answer

IDIMPORTMOD TREND FOR COMPARISON:

	Feb. 22-March 5, 2023	Oct. 4-17, 2021
NET Extremely/Very important	67	76
Extremely important	43	54
Very important	24	22
Somewhat important	18	14
NET A little/Not at all important	13	9
A little important	8	3

Not at all important	6	5
No answer	2	2

ASK IF BLACK (XATPBLACK=1 OR XPANEL=1):

BLK_TAX Compared with other groups, how much do you think Black people have to work to achieve success in the U.S.? **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-3 OR 3-1]**

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

75	More than everyone else
19	About the same as everyone else
4	Less than everyone else
1	No answer

ASK IF BLACK (XATPBLACK=1 OR XPANEL=1):

RACESURV20 Thinking about your own experience, have you ever personally experienced discrimination or been treated unfairly because of your race or ethnicity?

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

75	NET Yes
13	Yes, regularly
62	Yes, from time to time
23	No
2	No answer

RACESURV20 TREND FOR COMPARISON¹:

	Oct. 4-17, 2021	June 4-10, 2020	Jan. 22-Feb. 5, 2019
NET Yes	79	83	76
Yes, regularly	15	17	13
Yes, from time to time	64	66	63
No	19	15	23
No answer	2	2	1

ASK IF BLACK AND EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION ((XATPBLACK=1 OR XPANEL=1) AND RACESURV20=1,2):

RAC_FEEL As a result of racial discrimination, have you ever... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS ACROSS TWO SCREENS]**

- a. Felt nervous, anxious, or on edge

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

59	Yes, I have felt this way because of racial discrimination
40	No, I have not felt this way because of racial discrimination
1	No answer
N=3,748	

¹ Oct. 4-17, 2021, results are for all U.S. Black adults. Earlier results are for U.S. non-Hispanic Black adults only.

RAC_FEEL CONTINUED

b. Felt depressed

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

41	Yes, I have felt this way because of racial discrimination
58	No, I have not felt this way because of racial discrimination
1	No answer
N=3,748	

c. Felt isolated

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

52	Yes, I have felt this way because of racial discrimination
46	No, I have not felt this way because of racial discrimination
1	No answer
N=3,748	

d. Felt negative about the future

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

56	Yes, I have felt this way because of racial discrimination
42	No, I have not felt this way because of racial discrimination
1	No answer
N=3,748	

e. Had trouble sleeping

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

25	Yes, I have felt this way because of racial discrimination
74	No, I have not felt this way because of racial discrimination
1	No answer
N=3,748	

f. Felt angry

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

76	Yes, I have felt this way because of racial discrimination
22	No, I have not felt this way because of racial discrimination
1	No answer
N=3,748	

g. Felt like the system was designed to keep you down

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

73	Yes, I have felt this way because of racial discrimination
25	No, I have not felt this way because of racial discrimination
2	No answer
N=3,748	

RAC_FEEL CONTINUED

h. Felt scared or worried about your personal safety

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

53	Yes, I have felt this way because of racial discrimination
46	No, I have not felt this way because of racial discrimination
1	No answer
N=3,748	

ASK IF BLACK (XATPBLACK=1 OR XPANEL=1):

SYS_BACK How much do you think each of the following U.S. institutions was designed to hold Black people back? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS ACROSS TWO SCREENS; RANDOMIZE ORDER OF RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5 or 5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS CONTROL1]**

a. The economic system

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

65	NET A great deal/A fair amount
39	A great deal
26	A fair amount
23	Some
11	NET Not too much/Not at all
6	Not too much
4	Not at all
2	No answer

b. The health care system

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

51	NET A great deal/A fair amount
27	A great deal
25	A fair amount
28	Some
19	NET Not too much/Not at all
11	Not too much
7	Not at all
2	No answer

c. The political system

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

67	NET A great deal/A fair amount
43	A great deal
25	A fair amount
20	Some
11	NET Not too much/Not at all
6	Not too much
5	Not at all
2	No answer

SYS_BACK CONTINUED

d. Policing

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

68	NET A great deal/A fair amount
48	A great deal
20	A fair amount
19	Some
11	NET Not too much/Not at all
6	Not too much
6	Not at all
2	No answer

e. The courts and judicial process

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

70	NET A great deal/A fair amount
48	A great deal
22	A fair amount
18	Some
10	NET Not too much/Not at all
6	Not too much
4	Not at all
2	No answer

f. The prison system

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

74	NET A great deal/A fair amount
59	A great deal
15	A fair amount
13	Some
10	NET Not too much/Not at all
5	Not too much
5	Not at all
2	No answer

g. The education system

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

59	NET A great deal/A fair amount
32	A great deal
27	A fair amount
24	Some
15	NET Not too much/Not at all
9	Not too much
6	Not at all
2	No answer

SYS_BACK CONTINUED

h. The news media

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

52	NET A great deal/A fair amount
28	A great deal
24	A fair amount
30	Some
16	NET Not too much/Not at all
10	Not too much
7	Not at all
2	No answer

ASK IF BLACK (XATPBLACK=1 OR XPANEL=1):

SOURCETRUACC² How much do you trust the accuracy of the news and information that comes from... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; RANDOMIZE ORDER OF RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5 or 5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS CONTROL1]**

a. National news outlets

Black Americans
Feb. 27-March 5, 2023

44	NET A great deal/A fair amount
11	A great deal
33	A fair amount
35	Some
20	NET Not too much/Not at all
14	Not too much
6	Not at all
1	No answer

b. Local news outlets

Black Americans
Feb. 27-March 5, 2023

48	NET A great deal/A fair amount
12	A great deal
37	A fair amount
35	Some
16	NET Not too much/Not at all
11	Not too much
5	Not at all
1	No answer

² Items a-f were fielded Feb. 27-March 5, 2023, in a prior survey of U.S. Black adults. Items g and h were fielded Sept. 12-24, 2023.

SOURCETRUAACC CONTINUED

c. Political leaders and public officials

Black Americans	
<u>Feb. 27-March 5, 2023</u>	
20	NET A great deal/A fair amount
3	A great deal
16	A fair amount
36	Some
44	NET Not too much/Not at all
30	Not too much
14	Not at all
1	No answer

▪ Friends, family and acquaintances

Black Americans	
<u>Feb. 27-March 5, 2023</u>	
35	NET A great deal/A fair amount
10	A great deal
26	A fair amount
45	Some
19	NET Not too much/Not at all
15	Not too much
4	Not at all
1	No answer

▪ Social media sites (such as on Facebook, Instagram or YouTube)

Black Americans	
<u>Feb. 27-March 5, 2023</u>	
18	NET A great deal/A fair amount
4	A great deal
14	A fair amount
34	Some
47	NET Not too much/Not at all
30	Not too much
17	Not at all
1	No answer

d. Religious leaders

Black Americans	
<u>Feb. 27-March 5, 2023</u>	
27	NET A great deal/A fair amount
6	A great deal
20	A fair amount
34	Some
38	NET Not too much/Not at all
21	Not too much
17	Not at all
1	No answer

SOURCETRUAACC CONTINUED**ASK IF INTERNET USER (XTABLET=2):**

e. Podcasts

Black Americans

Sept. 12-24, 2023

15	NET A great deal/A fair amount
4	A great deal
10	A fair amount
37	Some
46	NET Not too much/Not at all
29	Not too much
18	Not at all
2	No answer
N=4,400	

ASK IF INTERNET USER (XTABLET=2):

f. Online videos

Black Americans

Sept. 12-24, 2023

14	NET A great deal/A fair amount
5	A great deal
9	A fair amount
39	Some
44	NET Not too much/Not at all
31	Not too much
14	Not at all
2	No answer
N=4,400	

ASK IF BLACK (XATPBLACK=1 OR XPANEL=1):

BLK_MADEUP1 How often do you come across news and information about Black people that you think is inaccurate? **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5 or 5-1]**

Black Americans

Sept. 12-24, 2023

42	NET Extremely often/Often
15	Extremely often
27	Often
46	Sometimes
9	NET Rarely/Never
7	Rarely
2	Never
3	No answer

ASK IF BLACK AND AT LEAST SOMETIMES COME ACROSS NEWS AND INFORMATION ABOUT BLACK PEOPLE THEY THINK IS INACCURATE ((XATPBLACK=1 OR XPANEL=1) AND BLK_MADEUP1=1-3):

BLK_MADEUP2 When you have come across inaccurate news and information about Black people, have you ever... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

- a. Reduced the amount of news and information you get overall

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

52	Yes, I have
46	No, I have not
2	No answer

N=4,265

- b. Reduced the amount of news and information you get from social media

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

66	Yes, I have
32	No, I have not
2	No answer

N=4,265

- c. Reduced the amount of news and information you get from friends or family

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

44	Yes, I have
54	No, I have not
2	No answer

N=4,265

- d. Checked the facts for yourself before believing a story

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

85	Yes, I have
14	No, I have not
1	No answer

N=4,265

ASK IF BLACK AND AT LEAST SOMETIMES COME ACROSS NEWS AND INFORMATION ABOUT BLACK PEOPLE THEY THINK IS INACCURATE ((XATPBLACK=1 OR XPANEL=1) AND BLK_MADEUP1=1-3):

BLK_INFOWHY Which of the following statements comes closest to your view, even if neither is exactly right? **[RANDOMIZE]**

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

73	Inaccurate news and information about Black people is usually created on purpose
24	Inaccurate news and information about Black people is usually the result of normal human error
3	No answer
N=4,265	

SHOW IF BLACK (XATPBLACK=1 OR XPANEL=1):

Next we're going to ask about several ideas that some people believe may or may not be true.

ASK IF BLACK (XATPBLACK=1 OR XPANEL=1):

BLK_SUSP How much if anything, have you ever heard about each of the following, regardless of whether you think it is true or not... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS ACROSS TWO SCREENS]**

- a. Big businesses market luxury items to Black people to keep them in debt

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

30	A lot
39	A little
27	Nothing at all
3	No answer

- b. Police do very little to stop guns and drugs from flooding Black communities

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

47	A lot
36	A little
14	Nothing at all
3	No answer

- c. Black people are more likely to be put in jail than White people because prisons want to make money on the backs of Black people

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

53	A lot
29	A little
15	Nothing at all
3	No answer

BLK_SUSP CONTINUED

- d. Black officials are singled out to be discredited in a way that doesn't happen with White officials

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

45	A lot
38	A little
15	Nothing at all
3	No answer

- e. The large number of single Black mothers is encouraged by the government to eliminate the need for Black men

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

31	A lot
30	A little
35	Nothing at all
3	No answer

- f. Medical researchers experiment on Black people without their knowledge or consent

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

38	A lot
40	A little
19	Nothing at all
3	No answer

- g. The government promotes birth control and/or abortion in order to keep the Black population small

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

25	A lot
34	A little
39	Nothing at all
3	No answer

ASK IF BLACK (XATPBLACK=1 OR XPANEL=1):

BLK_SUSPTRUE When it comes to each of the following, do you think that... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS ACROSS TWO SCREENS, USING SAME ORDER AS BLK_SUSP; RANDOMIZE ORDER OF RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4 OR 4-1]**

- a. Big businesses market luxury items to Black people to keep them in debt

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

55	Happened in the past and still happens today
10	Happened in the past but no longer happens today
12	Did not happen in the past but happens today
17	Did not happen in the past and does not happen today
6	No answer

BLK_SUSPTRUE CONTINUED

- b. Police do very little to stop guns and drugs from flooding Black communities

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

69	Happened in the past and still happens today
10	Happened in the past but no longer happens today
7	Did not happen in the past but happens today
8	Did not happen in the past and does not happen today
5	No answer

- c. Black people are more likely to be put in jail than White people because prisons want to make money on the backs of Black people

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

69	Happened in the past and still happens today
11	Happened in the past but no longer happens today
5	Did not happen in the past but happens today
8	Did not happen in the past and does not happen today
6	No answer

- d. Black officials are singled out to be discredited in a way that doesn't happen with White officials

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

69	Happened in the past and still happens today
12	Happened in the past but no longer happens today
7	Did not happen in the past but happens today
6	Did not happen in the past and does not happen today
6	No answer

- e. The large number of single Black mothers is encouraged by the government to eliminate the need for Black men

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

46	Happened in the past and still happens today
15	Happened in the past but no longer happens today
9	Did not happen in the past but happens today
23	Did not happen in the past and does not happen today
7	No answer

- f. Medical researchers experiment on Black people without their knowledge or consent

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

50	Happened in the past and still happens today
30	Happened in the past but no longer happens today
5	Did not happen in the past but happens today
10	Did not happen in the past and does not happen today
6	No answer

BLK_SUSPTRUE CONTINUED

g. The government promotes birth control and abortion in order to keep the Black population small

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

43	Happened in the past and still happens today
21	Happened in the past but no longer happens today
8	Did not happen in the past but happens today
21	Did not happen in the past and does not happen today
7	No answer

DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES³**ASK ALL:**

F_HISP Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, or Cuban?

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

5	Yes
95	No
*	No answer

ASK ALL:

F_EDUCCAT What is the highest degree or level of school that you have completed?

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

25	College graduate +
34	Some college
40	HS graduate or less
*	No answer

ASK ALL:

F_USR_SELFID How would you describe the community where you currently live? **[RANDOMLY DISPLAY ITEMS 1-3 OR 3-1]**

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

37	Urban
42	Suburban
19	Rural
2	No answer

³ The following questions were asked of all respondents. The American Trends Panel Black American sample was asked Aug. 7-27, 2023, and the KnowledgePanel Black American sample was asked Sept. 12-24, 2023.

ASK ALL:

F_OWNRENTMOD Which of the following describes the house, apartment, or mobile home where you live?

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

31	Owned by you or someone in your household with a mortgage or loan (include home equity loans)
16	Owned by you or someone in your household free and clear (without a mortgage or loan)
47	Rented
4	Occupied without payment of rent
2	No answer

ASK ALL:

F_BIRTHPLACE Where were you born?

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

87	U.S. - 50 states, District of Columbia
1	U.S. - Puerto Rico
3	U.S. - other territory
8	Another country
2	No answer

ASK IF CITIZEN (CITIZEN = 1):

F_REG Which of these statements best describes you?

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

72	You are ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN that you are registered to vote at your current address
10	You are PROBABLY registered, but there is a chance your registration has lapsed
18	You are NOT registered to vote at your current address
1	No answer
N=4,647	

ASK ALL:

F_PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a...

ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE OR REFUSED (PARTY=3,4,99):

F_PARTYSUM As of today do you lean more to...

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

14	Republican/lean Republican
77	Democrat/lean Democrat
8	Independent/other/no answer

ASK ALL:

F_INC_SDT1

Last year, that is in 2022, what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes?

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

35	Less than \$30,000
13	\$30,000 to less than \$40,000
8	\$40,000 to less than \$50,000
8	\$50,000 to less than \$60,000
7	\$60,000 to less than \$70,000
5	\$70,000 to less than \$80,000
4	\$80,000 to less than \$90,000
4	\$90,000 to less than \$100,000
11	\$100,000 or more
6	No answer

ASK ALL:

F_GENDER

Do you describe yourself as a man, a woman, or in some other way?

Black Americans
Sept. 12-24, 2023

43	A man
55	A woman
1	In some other way
1	No answer