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The Political Values of Harris and Trump Supporters

*Wide differences over cultural issues, role of government and
foreign policy*

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How we did this

This spring, Pew Research Center conducted a [major study](#) of American [political values](#). This survey examined the public's views of topics including immigration, race and ethnicity, government, family, gender identity, religious values, and foreign policy. Reports released earlier this year looked at these attitudes among supporters of President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump – then the likely major-party nominees for president.

Because the Pew Research Center interviews the same adults over time using the online American Trends Panel, for this analysis we are able to link respondents' voter preferences across multiple surveys. As a result, we can analyze results from the spring survey by vote preferences collected in a more recent August survey – when we asked voters about their preference in the presidential contest between Donald Trump, Kamala Harris and Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

This analysis uses responses from 4,527 registered voters who took both surveys. The values survey was conducted April 8-14, 2024. The vote preference survey (support if the presidential election were held today) was conducted Aug. 5-11, 2024.

Everyone who took part in these surveys is a member of the Center's American Trends Panel (ATP), a group of people recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses who have agreed to take surveys regularly. This kind of recruitment gives nearly all U.S. adults a chance of selection. Surveys were conducted either online or by telephone with a live interviewer. The results are weighted to be representative of the U.S. adult population by gender, race, ethnicity, partisan affiliation, education and other factors. [Read more about the ATP's methodology](#).

Refer to the original reports (linked in the text of this report) for the full toplines. Here is the survey [methodology](#) for this analysis.

The Political Values of Harris and Trump Supporters

Wide differences over cultural issues, role of government and foreign policy

The 2024 presidential campaign has [changed dramatically](#) since Kamala Harris replaced Joe Biden as the Democratic Party's nominee.

What has not changed is the vast differences in political values between voters who support Harris and those who back Republican nominee Donald Trump.

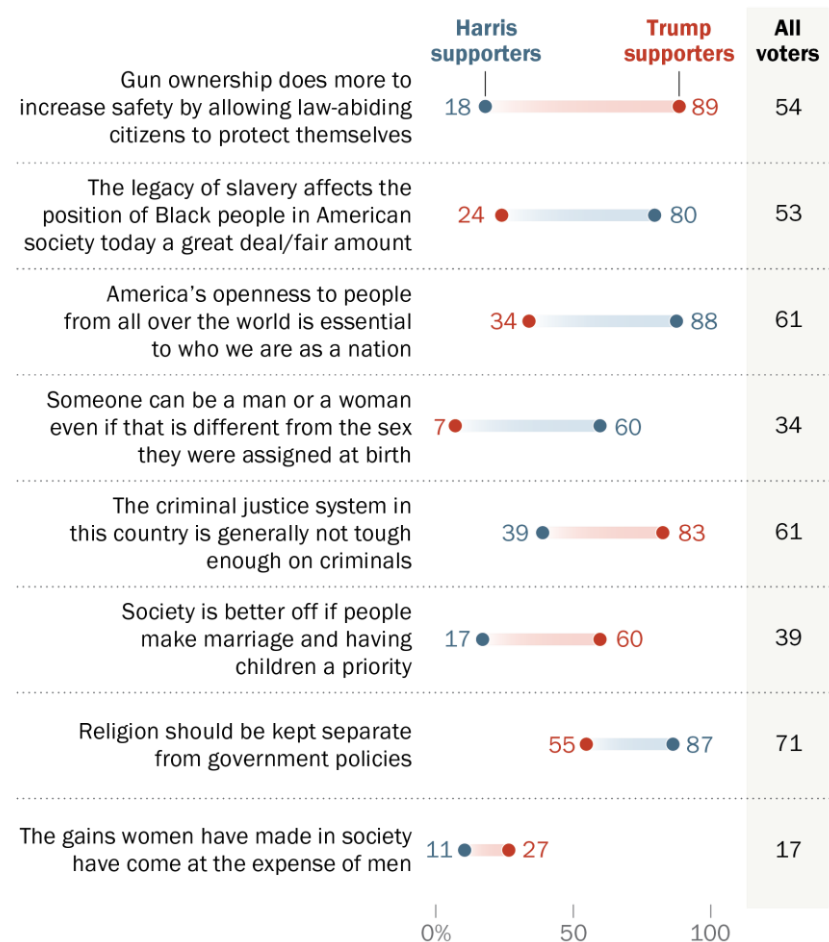
Following Harris's extraordinary ascension to the top of the Democratic ticket, this publication and the accompanying [detailed tables](#) serve to update Pew Research Center data on political values that we released earlier this year, when Biden was still in the race.

Cultural values and the 2024 election

Some of the widest gaps between Harris and Trump supporters are on issues that have divided Americans for decades, such as the role of guns in society, race and the legacy of slavery.

How Harris, Trump supporters view key cultural issues

% of registered voters who say ...



Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Surveys of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14 and Aug. 5-11, 2024.

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In addition, voters who back Harris and Trump have sharply different views on immigration, gender identity, and whether society should prioritize marriage and having children.

Here's the [original report on cultural issues](#), released June 6, 2024.

And here is updated data on Harris and Trump supporters' views about: [Race and racial diversity](#) | [Immigration and language](#) | [American history](#) | [Gender, family, reproductive issues](#) | [Gender identity and sexual orientation](#) | [Religion](#) | [Crime and policing](#) | [Guns](#)

Views of government and the 2024 election

For decades, Republicans have mostly expressed a preference for smaller government, while most Democrats favor a larger government that provides more services.

This remains the case today, with Trump supporters over three times more likely than Harris supporters to favor smaller government.

Other attitudes about government – including its role in providing health care coverage – show similar patterns.

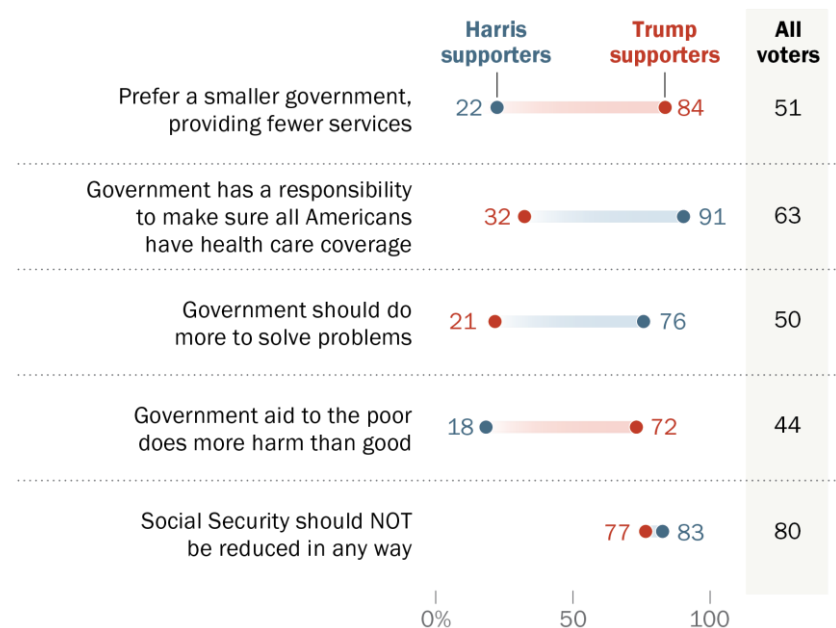
However, large majorities of both candidates' supporters oppose any reductions in Social Security benefits.

Here's the [original report on views of government](#), released June 24, 2024.

And here is updated data on Harris and Trump supporters' views about: [Government's scope and role](#)

Harris and Trump supporters have sharp differences over preferred size and scope of government

% of registered voters who say (they) ...



Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Surveys of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14 and Aug. 5-11, 2024.

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Foreign policy values and the 2024 election

Supporters of Harris and Trump also have fundamental differences on America's place in the world.

Harris supporters are more likely than Trump supporters to say the United States should take into account the interests of its allies, and that is at least very important for the U.S. to have an active role in world affairs.

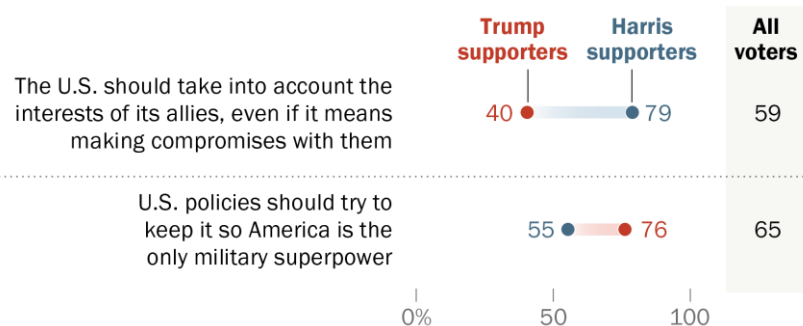
Trump supporters are more likely to support policies aimed at maintaining America's role as the world's lone military superpower.

Here's the [original report on foreign policy](#), released Aug. 2, 2024.

And here is updated data on Harris and Trump supporters views about: [Foreign policy, U.S. military strength](#)

Harris and Trump supporters on the importance of working with U.S. allies, America's superpower role

% of registered voters who say ...



Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Surveys of U.S. adults conducted April 8-14 and Aug. 5-11, 2024.

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Related: [War in Ukraine: Wide Partisan Differences on U.S. Responsibility and Support](#)

Acknowledgments

This report is a collaborative effort based on the input and analysis of the following individuals:

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Methodology

The American Trends Panel survey methodology

The analysis in this report is based on 4,527 registered voters who responded to two different American Trends Panel (ATP) surveys. Wave 146 was conducted April 8-14, 2024, and Wave 151 was conducted Aug. 5-11, 2024. The full methodology for Wave 146 can be found [here](#). The full methodology for Wave 151 can be found [here](#).

Weighting

The data for the analysis in this report was weighted following the same procedure as for the full Wave 151 sample but applied to only those respondents who also completed Wave 146.

First, each panelist begins with a base weight that reflects their probability of recruitment into the panel. Because only a subsample of panelists was invited to participate in Wave 146, these weights were adjusted to account for differential probabilities of selection.

This weight was then calibrated to align with the population benchmarks identified in the accompanying table and trimmed at the 1st and 99th percentiles to reduce the loss in precision stemming from variance in the weights.

Sampling errors and tests of statistical significance take into account the effect of weighting.

The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups among respondents to both Wave 146 and Wave 151.

American Trends Panel weighting dimensions

Variable	Benchmark source
Age (detailed)	2022 American Community Survey (ACS)
Age x Gender	
Education x Gender	
Education x Age	
Race/Ethnicity x Education	
Race/Ethnicity x Gender	
Black (alone or in combination) x Hispanic	
Born inside vs. outside the U.S. among Hispanics and Asian Americans	
Years lived in the U.S.	
Census region x Metropolitan status	
Volunteerism	2021 CPS Volunteering & Civic Life Supplement
Party affiliation x Voter registration	2020 CPS Voting and Registration Supplement
Party affiliation x Race/Ethnicity	2024 National Public Opinion Reference Survey (NPORS)
Frequency of internet use	
Religious affiliation	

Note: Estimates from the ACS are based on noninstitutionalized adults. Voter registration is calculated using procedures from Hur, Achen (2013) and rescaled to include the total U.S. adult population.

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Sample sizes and margins of error

Group	Unweighted sample size	Weighted %	Plus or minus ...
All registered voters	4,527		1.9 percentage points
Half form	At least 2,263		2.6 percentage points
Among registered voters...			
Harris supporters	2,273		2.6 percentage points
Half form	At least 1,135		3.8 percentage points
Trump supporters	1,930		2.8 percentage points
Half form	At least 960		4.0 percentage points
All adults	5,511		1.7 percentage points
Rep/Lean Rep	2,484	46	2.5 percentage points
Dem/Lean Dem	2,813	49	2.5 percentage points

Note: Unweighted sample sizes do not account for the sample design or weighting and do not describe a group's contribution to weighted estimates. Refer to the Weighting section above for details.

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Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request. In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

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