



New Republic | U.S. Survey | Toplines | January 2026

2,421 Interviews with base Democratic voters nationwide between January 7-16, 2026.

Modeled margin of error = +/- 2.0%.

Q1. How did you vote in the 2024 election for President, or for some reason were you unable to vote?

- 94% Kamala Harris, the Democrat
- 1 Donald Trump, the Republican
- 2 A third party candidate
- 1 Not registered/Too young/Ineligible
- 2 Did not vote

Q2. Thinking about the past 5 years, how often did you vote in primary elections to choose the Democratic candidate for major offices like President, Senator, U.S. Representative, or Governor?

- 73% Always
- 17 Usually
- 6 Sometimes
- 3 Never

Q3. [SEEN BY BLOCK 1: 1210 respondents] We want to understand where you fall on the political spectrum. Which of these best describes your views?

- 3% Conservative: favor free markets and business; traditional values on social issues
- 12 Moderate: middle-of-the-road on both economic and social issues
- 21 Moderate-to-liberal: mixed views - sometimes support government action on the economy, mixed on social issues
- 31 Liberal: support government action to spur the economy; progressive on social issues
- 32 Progressive: strongly support government action on the economy; very progressive on social issues

Q4. [SEEN BY BLOCK 1: 1210 respondents] Why do you identify with the Democratic party? Please rank the following from most to least important.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
It's the party of civil rights and social justice	22	23	15	14	13	14
It's the party of working people and economic justice	20	17	18	17	14	14
It's the party that believes in facts and science	20	19	18	14	15	15
It's the party that stands for progress, moving forward	17	14	15	18	18	18
It's the party that defends abortion rights	11	15	17	19	20	18
It's the party that's fighting climate change	10	13	17	18	21	21

Polling was conducted online from January 7-16, 2026. Using Dynamic Online Sampling to attain a representative sample, Change Research polled 2421 base Democratic voters nationwide. Post-stratification weighting was performed on age, gender, race/ethnicity, education, and region. You can see a full methodology statement [here](#), which complies with the requirements of AAPOR's Transparency Initiative. Members of the Transparency Initiative disclose all relevant details about our research, with the principle that the public should be able to evaluate and understand research-based findings, in order to instill and restore public confidence in survey results.

Q5. [SEEN BY BLOCK 1: 1210 respondents] A quick yes or no: Could you easily explain to a friend what the Democratic Party stands for, without having to think about it?

83% Yes
17 No

Q6. [SEEN BY BLOCK 1: 1210 respondents] The Democrats are often called ‘the party of government.’ In general, Americans don’t have much faith in government these days. How much do you believe government can make people’s lives better?

35% A great deal
28 A lot
27 A moderate amount
7 A little
3 Not at all

Q7. [SEEN BY BLOCK 1: 1210 respondents] Which of the following best describes your view of the free market and business?

4% The free market works best with no government interference
14 The free market should mostly be left alone, with government only stepping in to fix major problems
31 The free market needs some government oversight to keep it fair, but businesses will mostly follow the rules
51 The free market needs strong government oversight to keep it fair and punish businesses that break the rules

Q8. [SEEN BY BLOCK 1: 1210 respondents] If you had to choose, how do you think society mostly moves forward?

81% Through government programs and solutions like Social Security and civil rights laws
19 Through the free market meeting people’s needs and desires

Q9. [SEEN BY BLOCK 1: 1210 respondents] In general, do you think the Democratic Party’s positions are too conservative, too liberal, or about right on each of the following?

	Too conservative	About right	Too liberal
Economic policy	34	58	8
Domestic policy overall	31	61	7
Social issues	24	63	12

Q10. [SEEN BY BLOCK 1: 1210 respondents] For each of the following issues, do you think the Democratic Party is too timid, too aggressive, or about right?

	Too timid	About right	Too aggressive
Taxing the rich	82	16	2
Making corporations pay their fair share of taxes	82	17	1
Cracking down on corporations that break the law	80	19	1
Regulating the big tech companies	79	20	1
Helping the working class	62	37	1
Helping the poor	60	38	2
Protecting the environment and fighting climate change	54	43	3
Defending abortion rights	48	48	4
Spending on public programs and investments	45	50	5
Managing immigration	44	49	7
Defending LGBTQ rights	37	54	9
Respecting religion in public life	19	76	6

Q11. [SEEN BY BLOCK 1: 1210 respondents] Below are economic positions that various Democrats have proposed. For each one, how important is it to you that the Democratic Party support this?

	<u>Important</u>					Total Important	Total Not Important
	Extremely	Very	Smwt	Not Too	Not At All		
Raising taxes on the rich	77	15	6	1	0	93	2
Lowering prescription drug prices	65	27	7	1	0	93	1
Raising taxes on corporations	70	21	7	1	1	91	1
Building affordable housing	62	28	10	1	1	89	1
Raising the minimum wage	62	23	12	2	1	85	3
Addressing teen and young adult mental health	51	34	14	2	0	84	2
Reducing fossil fuel dependence	49	31	16	2	1	81	3
Lowering taxes on the middle and working classes	53	27	16	4	1	79	5
Helping to pay for childcare	44	33	19	3	1	78	4
Regulating or breaking up big tech companies	47	30	18	4	1	77	5
Making pre-K universal	47	30	17	4	2	77	6
Supporting rural and small-town economic development	38	39	20	2	1	77	3
Building more infrastructure such as highways, high-speed rail, and airports	42	32	19	5	1	75	6
Making the child tax credit permanent	41	33	20	4	2	74	6
Regulating the cryptocurrency industry	48	23	20	7	2	71	9
Lowering the Medicare eligibility age to 55	30	25	28	13	4	55	17

Q12. [SEEN BY BLOCK 1: 1210 respondents] Below are positions on social issues that various Democrats have taken. For each one, how important is it to you that the Democratic Party supports that position?

	<u>Important</u>					Total Important	Total Not Important
	Extremely	Very	Smwt	Not Too	Not At All		
Protecting voting rights	89	8	2	1	0	97	1
Protecting equal rights for all races and genders	84	12	3	1	0	96	1
Protecting the rights of protesters	72	21	6	1	0	93	1
Defending birthright citizenship (that people born in the U.S. are automatically U.S. citizens)	76	16	6	1	1	92	2
Protecting the due process rights of undocumented immigrants	67	24	7	1	1	91	2
Protecting the right to express unpopular opinions	64	24	10	1	0	88	2
Protecting abortion rights up to around 20 weeks	63	24	9	3	1	87	4
Creating a path to citizenship for undocumented people	55	29	12	2	1	84	4
Protecting transgender Americans from discrimination	56	24	13	4	3	80	7
Allowing transgender youth access to gender-affirming care	37	24	21	10	7	62	18
Allowing transgender high school athletes to compete in their gender identity	19	20	25	17	18	39	35

Q13. [SEEN BY BLOCK 1: 1210 respondents] Below are some words that might describe the Democratic Party. For each one, how well does it describe the party?

	<u>Well</u>					Total Well	Total Not Well
	Extremely	Very	Smwt	Not Too	Not At All		
Weak	14	19	36	17	14	33	30
Exciting	8	14	31	34	13	21	47
Bold	6	12	29	34	18	19	52
Unprincipled	6	8	19	31	37	13	67

Q14. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] Below are some prominent Democrats. For each one, what is your overall view?

	<u>Favorable</u>		<u>Unfavorable</u>		Not sure	Total Favorable	Total Unfavorable
	Very	Smwt	Smwt	Very			
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez	60	25	5	2	8	85	7
Kamala Harris	48	34	10	7	2	81	17
Gavin Newsom	50	29	8	5	9	79	13
Pete Buttigieg	53	24	6	4	12	78	10
Joe Biden	34	38	16	10	2	72	26
Gretchen Whitmer	27	35	5	3	31	62	7
Hakeem Jeffries	27	33	11	9	20	60	20
JB Pritzker	33	26	5	2	35	58	7
Josh Shapiro	25	31	7	4	32	57	11
Andy Beshear	22	31	3	1	43	53	5
Chuck Schumer	13	30	22	20	15	43	42
Wes Moore	17	25	4	1	52	42	6

Q15. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] Below are some words that might describe the Democratic Party. For each one, how well does it describe the party?

	<u>Well</u>					Total Well	Total Not Well
	Extremely	Very	Smwt	Not Too	Not At All		
Principled	24	30	28	11	6	55	17
Afraid	16	17	32	19	16	33	35
Strong	12	18	32	26	11	30	38
Boring	8	15	33	25	19	22	44

Q16. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] Who deserves the most blame for Democrats losing the 2024 presidential election?

53% Biden for not announcing earlier that he wouldn't run
 14 Harris for not running a more effective campaign
 32 Democratic insiders for not forcing Biden out sooner

Q17. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] Do you think Kamala Harris should run for president again in 2028, or do you think she had her shot?

34% Should run
 66 Had her shot

Q18. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] Do you think the Democratic nominee in 2028 should be a moderate, a liberal, or a progressive?

32% Moderate
 23 Liberal
 46 Progressive

Q19. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] The Democrats have nominated two women for president. Both lost by small margins. Do you think the Democrats should nominate a man in 2028, or do you think the right woman candidate can still win?

- 36% Nominate a man
- 64 The right woman can win

Q20. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] Zohran Mamdani recently won New York City's mayoral race as a democratic socialist. For Democratic candidates around the country, do you think the label 'socialist' is:

- 31% A plus
- 25 A minus
- 43 Doesn't matter

Q21. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] Now, a few questions about how the party approaches elections. Some people say that groups focused on single issues have too much power over candidates. These groups force candidates to take unpopular positions that hurt them in the general election. Other people say these groups do important work protecting vulnerable people and make sure candidates keep their promises. Which opinion is closer to your view?

- 50% Have too much power
- 50 Do important work

Q22. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] Sometimes politicians have to compromise to win over voters who haven't decided yet. Would you rather see Democratic candidates stick to their beliefs even if they might lose, or make compromises to help them win?

- 57% Stick to their beliefs
- 43 Make compromises to win

Q23. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] Every election, there's a debate about how Democrats can best win. Should they focus on energizing voters who already support them, or on winning over voters who haven't decided? Both matter, but which do you think is more important?

- 34% Energize supporters
- 66 Win over undecided voters

Q24. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] In general, when Democrats talk about Republicans, which approach do you think is better?

- 75% Be more aggressive in calling out Republicans
- 25 Focus more on working with Republicans

Q25. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] In general, when Democrats talk about corporations and big business, which approach do you think is better?

- 62% Focus more on calling out corporate wrongdoing
- 38 Focus more on supporting businesses and economic growth

Q26. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] When it comes to Israel and Palestine, which of these best describes your view?

- 6% The U.S. should strongly support Israel, including military aid when Israel is attacked
- 58 The U.S. should support Israel's right to exist but should be more balanced between supporting Israel and supporting Palestinian rights
- 36 The U.S. should prioritize Palestinian rights and limit support for Israel

Q27. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] If China invades Taiwan, what should the Democratic Party support?

- 22% Stay out of it but criticize China
- 37 Impose strict sanctions on China
- 30 Send military aid to Taiwan
- 10 Send U.S. troops to defend Taiwan

Q28. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] If Russia attacks a NATO country in Eastern Europe, what should the Democratic Party support?

- 9% Stay out of it but criticize Russia
- 23 Impose strict sanctions on Russia
- 35 Send military aid to the country
- 32 Send U.S. troops to defend the country

Q29. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] Which position should the Democratic Party take on Iran?

- 62% Engage with Iran diplomatically, including making a deal so Iran can have peaceful nuclear energy
- 38 Maintain maximum pressure and threat of military force to prevent Iran from getting nuclear weapons

Q30. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] When thinking about the economy, which of the following comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

- 71% The system is rigged against people like me
- 29 People like me can get ahead if they work hard and make good choices

Q30b. [IF SYSTEM IS RIGGED] Who do you think is most to blame for rigging the economy against people like you?

- 21% Corporations
- 11 Government
- 13 Politicians
- 43 The wealthy
- 12 Someone else (please tell us who)

Q31. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] Below are some major institutions and industries in American society. For each one, what is your overall view?

	<u>Favorable</u>		<u>Unfavorable</u>		Not sure	Total Favorable	Total Unfavorable
	Very	Smwt	Smwt	Very			
Labor unions in general	48	39	8	2	3	87	10
The U.S. military	17	37	24	18	3	55	42
The mainstream media	6	28	36	28	2	34	63
Big tech companies (Facebook, Google, Amazon, Apple)	4	14	31	49	2	18	80
Pharmaceutical companies	3	14	29	53	2	16	82
Corporate America in general	2	13	30	53	3	15	82
The U.S. government	3	12	27	56	2	14	83
Oil companies	3	9	24	60	4	12	84

Q32. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] Please rate the United States today on each of the following

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor	Total Excellent/Good	Total Poor/Very Poor
The availability of economic opportunities	2	9	27	39	23	11	62
How well our democracy functions	1	5	19	39	36	7	75

Q33. [SEEN BY BLOCK 2: 1209 respondents] How likely do you think it is that in 20 years, the United States will be...?

	<u>Likely</u>					Total Likely	Total Not Likely
	Extremely	Very	Smwt	Not Too	Not At All		
A democracy	7	17	40	26	11	24	36
A land of economic opportunity	3	11	33	36	17	14	53

D1. Are you:

39% A man
59 A woman
2 Another identity

D2. Age

26% 18 to 34
25 35 to 49
23 50 to 64
26 65+

D3. What is your race?

55% White / Caucasian
20 Black or African American
14 Hispanic or Latino/a
9 Asian / Pacific Islander
1 American Indian or Alaska Native
2 Other

D4. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

10% High school diploma or less
20 Some college, but no degree
12 Associate's degree, or two-year college degree
33 Bachelor's degree, or four-year college degree
25 Graduate degree

D5. What is your annual household income?

7%	Less than \$20,000
10	\$20,000 to \$34,999
9	\$35,000 to \$49,999
16	\$50,000 to \$74,999
15	\$75,000 to \$99,999
18	\$100,000 to \$149,999
9	\$150,000 to \$199,999
9	\$200,000 or more
8	Prefer not to say

D6. 2024 Presidential Vote

94%	2024 Harris voter
1	2024 Trump voter
2	2024 Third Party voter
1	2024 Too young/ ineligible/ not registered
2	2024 Did not vote

D7. Dem identity

62%	Strong Democrat
16	Not so strong Democrat
21	Dem-leaning Independent