



**Survey of Young Americans' Attitudes toward Politics and Public Service
26th Edition: September 26 – October 9, 2014**

**N=2,029 18-29 Year Olds in English and Spanish (with GfK KnowledgePanel¹)
Margin of Error for entire sample: +/- 2.6% at the 95% level**

1. With regard to school, are you currently enrolled at any of the following? Please select all that apply:

High school	4%
Trade/Vocational school	1%
2-year junior college or community college	12%
4-year college or university	22%
Graduate school	4%
Business school or professional school.....	1%
Not enrolled in college/university but taking at least one course	2%
Not currently enrolled in any of these.....	54%

[If currently enrolled in a 4-year college, ask Q2]

2. In which year of college are you?

	(n=456)
First year student/Freshman	23%
Second year student/Sophomore.....	19%
Third year student/Junior	26%
Fourth year student/Senior	24%
Fifth year student or higher.....	8%

3. We understand that plenty of young people are not registered to vote, but we are wondering if you are registered to vote?

Yes	66%
No.....	28%
Don't know	5%
Decline to answer.....	1%

4. In the last few months, have you seen voter registration materials at work, in your community, or in your school?

Yes	36%
No.....	53%
Not sure.....	11%
Decline to answer.....	1%

[If respondent was over 18 in 2012, ask Q5-Q6]

The following are questions about voter registration and voting.

5. Which of the following statements best describes your voter registration status for the last presidential election held on November 6, 2012?

	(n=1,883)
I was registered	59%
I thought about registering, but didn't	4%
I tried to register, but was unable to.....	2%
I was not registered to vote on Nov. 6, 2012 .	27%
Not sure.....	7%
Decline to answer.....	1%

6. Which of the following statements best describes your voting in the last presidential election held on November 6, 2012?

	(n=1,883)
I voted at a polling place.....	37%
I voted early	5%
I voted by absentee ballot	8%
I planned on voting, but wasn't able to.....	4%
I did not vote in this election.....	42%
I went to the polling place, but wasn't allowed to vote.....	1%
Decline to answer.....	2%

[If respondent “Voted” in Q6, ask Q7]

7. For whom did you vote for president in 2012?

	(n=962)
Barack Obama.....	53%
Mitt Romney	33%
Someone else	6%
Don’t remember	2%
Decline to answer.....	7%

8. When it comes to voting, with which party do you consider yourself to be affiliated?

NET: Democrat	33%
Strong Democrat	14%
Not a very strong Democrat.....	19%
NET: Republican	22%
Strong Republican.....	10%
Not a very strong Republican	12%
NET: Independent	42%
Leans Democrat	9%
Leans Republican.....	7%
Does not lean either way.....	26%
Decline to answer.....	2%

9. When it comes to most political issues, do you think of yourself as a...?

NET: Liberal	33%
Liberal	23%
Moderate leaning Liberal.....	10%
Moderate	28%
NET: Conservative.....	35%
Moderate leaning Conservative	11%
Conservative	25%
Decline to answer.....	4%

10. How likely is it that you will vote in the 2014 elections for Congress?

Definitely will be voting	26%
Probably will be voting	16%
50-50	22%
Probably won't be voting	18%
Definitely won't be voting	16%

[If answered “Definitely will be voting” or “Probably will be voting” in Q10, ask Q11]

11. How do you plan to vote in the November election?

	(n=847)
At a polling place	66%
By absentee ballot	18%
At a place set up for early voting	8%
I do not plan on voting	*
Don't know	7%

[If answered “50-50,” “Probably won't be voting” or “Definitely won't be voting” in Q10, ask Q12]

12. What is the main reason that you may not vote in November (open-ended question)? *

	(n=1,101)
Don't know enough about the candidates	12%
Not interested	11%
No time/too busy	10%
Not registered	8%
My vote does not count/make a difference	7%
Don't like/trust the candidates/politicians in general	7%
Don't like/follow politics/government	6%
Not a citizen	3%
Not eligible/permitted to vote (unspecified)	3%
Can't get to the polls to vote	3%
Moved/not living where I am registered to vote	2%
Other	15%
Don't know/Nothing	5%
Decline to answer	23%

*Please note multiple responses were allowed, and therefore the sum of the percentages may not add up to 100%.

13. Do you consider yourself to be politically engaged or politically active?

Yes	18%
No.....	80%
Decline to answer.....	2%

14. Overall, how closely do you follow news about national politics?

NET: Closely..... 38%

Very closely 6%

Somewhat closely 31%

NET: Not closely 60%

Not very closely 35%

Not at all closely 25%

Decline to answer..... 2%

15. All in all, do you think things in the nation are...?

Generally headed in the right direction..... 15%

Off on the wrong track..... 43%

Not sure what direction country is headed in. 40%

Decline to answer..... 2%

16. Do you consider yourself to be a supporter of the Tea Party movement, or are you not a supporter of the Tea Party movement?

Supporter..... 9%

Not a supporter..... 45%

Not sure..... 43%

Decline to answer..... 2%

17. Thinking about national issues for a moment, which issue concerns you the most? (Open-ended question)

NET: Economy	31%
General	18%
Jobs	8%
Money issues/financial stability	2%
Budget/government spending	1%
Economic equality/inequality	1%
Taxes	1%
NET: Foreign Affairs/National Security....	19%
War/military	7%
Terrorism.....	4%
National Security	3%
ISIS/ISIL/Islamic State	3%
Foreign Affairs.....	2%
Health care, general	7%
Education	6%
Immigration.....	6%
National debt.....	3%
Environment.....	2%
President Obama/lack of leadership.....	1%
Abortion	1%
Government/political corruption.....	1%
Moral and religious issues	1%
Other issues.....	12%
Don't know/No answer	10%

In general, do you approve or disapprove of the job performance of:

18. Barack Obama as President.

Approve.....	43%
Disapprove	53%
Decline to answer.....	4%

19. The Democrats in Congress.

Approve.....	35%
Disapprove	60%
Decline to answer.....	5%

20. The Republicans in Congress.

Approve.....	23%
Disapprove	72%
Decline to answer.....	5%

21. What is your preference for the outcome of the Congressional elections, a Congress controlled by Democrats, or a Congress controlled by Republicans?

		<u>Definite Voters</u>
		(n=530)
Controlled by Democrats	50%	47%
Controlled by Republicans.....	43%	51%
Decline to answer.....	7%	2%

Now thinking specifically about Barack Obama, do you approve or disapprove of the way he is handling:

22. The economy.

Approve.....	36%
Disapprove	60%
Decline to answer.....	4%

23. Health care.

Approve.....	37%
Disapprove	59%
Decline to answer.....	4%

24. Federal budget deficit.

Approve.....	31%
Disapprove	65%
Decline to answer.....	4%

25. Foreign policy.

Approve.....	35%
Disapprove	60%
Decline to answer.....	4%

26. Immigration.

Approve.....	35%
Disapprove	61%
Decline to answer.....	4%

27. Race relations.

Approve.....	47%
Disapprove	49%
Decline to answer.....	4%

28. Do you approve or disapprove of the Affordable Care Act, the comprehensive health reform package that the President signed into law in 2010?
- | | |
|------------------------|-----|
| Approve..... | 39% |
| Disapprove | 57% |
| Decline to answer..... | 4% |
29. How important is the economy in determining which candidate you support in November?
- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| NET: Important | 77% |
| Very important..... | 39% |
| Somewhat important..... | 38% |
| NET: Not important | 20% |
| Not very important..... | 10% |
| Not at all important..... | 10% |
| Decline to answer..... | 3% |
30. Which party do you trust more to handle the economy, the Democratic party or the Republican party?
- | | |
|------------------------|-----|
| Democratic party..... | 30% |
| Republican party..... | 26% |
| Not sure..... | 40% |
| Decline to answer..... | 3% |
-

31. How important is foreign policy in determining which candidate you support in November?

NET: Important	66%
Very important	24%
Somewhat important	41%
NET: Not important	31%
Not very important	18%
Not at all important	12%
Decline to answer.....	4%

32. Which party do you trust more to handle foreign policy, the Democratic party or the Republican party?

Democratic party.....	29%
Republican party	24%
Not sure.....	44%
Decline to answer.....	3%

33. How important is immigration policy in determining which candidate you support in November?

NET: Important	65%
Very important	30%
Somewhat important	35%
NET: Not important	31%
Not very important	20%
Not at all important	12%
Decline to answer.....	4%

34. Which party do you trust more to handle immigration policy, the Democratic party or the Republican party?

Democratic party.....	32%
Republican party	26%
Not sure.....	40%
Decline to answer.....	3%

35. How important is race relations in determining which candidate you support in November?

NET: Important	51%
Very important	20%
Somewhat important	31%
NET: Not important	45%
Not very important	26%
Not at all important	19%
Decline to answer.....	4%

36. Which party do you trust more to handle race relations, the Democratic party or the Republican party?

Democratic party.....	34%
Republican party	16%
Not sure.....	46%
Decline to answer.....	4%

37. How important is health care in determining which candidate you support in November?

NET: Important	76%
Very important	39%
Somewhat important	37%
NET: Not important	20%
Not very important.....	11%
Not at all important	9%
Decline to answer.....	4%

38. Which party do you trust more to handle health care, the Democratic party or the Republican party?

Democratic party.....	33%
Republican party	25%
Not sure.....	39%
Decline to answer.....	3%

39. Imagine that a friend or peer suggests attending a political rally or demonstration. Assuming you have some free time and you agree with the issue, how likely would you be to agree to attend?
- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| NET: Likely | 39% |
| Very likely | 9% |
| Somewhat likely..... | 30% |
| NET: Not likely | 57% |
| Not very likely | 30% |
| Not at all likely..... | 27% |
40. Again, imagine that a friend or peer suggests volunteering on a political campaign. Assuming you have some free time and you agree with the issue, how likely would you be to agree to volunteer?
- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| NET: Likely | 33% |
| Very likely | 6% |
| Somewhat likely..... | 27% |
| NET: Not likely | 64% |
| Not very likely | 33% |
| Not at all likely..... | 31% |
41. Now, imagine a friend or peer suggests volunteering for community service. Assuming that you consider it to be a worthy cause, how likely would you be to agree to volunteer for community service?
- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| NET: Likely | 67% |
| Very likely | 25% |
| Somewhat likely..... | 42% |
| NET: Not likely | 29% |
| Not very likely | 16% |
| Not at all likely..... | 12% |
42. In general, which do you think is the better way to solve important issues facing the country – through political engagement or through community volunteerism?
- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Community volunteerism..... | 42% |
| Political engagement..... | 18% |
| Not sure..... | 37% |
| Decline to answer..... | 3% |
-

43. Generally speaking, with whom do you place the most blame regarding the political gridlock in Washington, D.C.?

All of them	56%
Republicans in Congress.....	22%
President Obama	13%
Democrats in Congress	5%
Decline to answer.....	4%

If you could choose to recall and replace various elected officials today, would you recall:

44. Your member of Congress?

Yes	42%
No.....	48%
Decline to answer.....	10%

45. All members of Congress?

Yes	53%
No.....	41%
Decline to answer.....	6%

46. Whom do you think your member of Congress represents the most in Washington?

Themselves	33%
Their campaign donors	27%
Their party.....	25%
Their constituents.....	10%
Decline to answer.....	5%

47. How concerned are you about the possibility there will be a major terrorist attack in the United States? Is that something that worries you a great deal, somewhat, not too much, or not at all?

A great deal.....	23%
Somewhat.....	38%
Not too much.....	23%
Not at all.....	12%
Decline to answer.....	3%

48. Do you favor or oppose President Obama’s plan to expand the U.S. air campaign against ISIS, which includes lifting restrictions on American strikes in Iraq and authorizing direct attacks against the militant group in Syria?

Favor	39%
Oppose	20%
Don’t know	38%
Decline to answer.....	3%

49. Do you have health insurance?

Yes, my employer provides it	26%
Yes, I am under 26 and covered by my parents’ plan.....	32%
Yes, I have an individual plan or plan for my family	19%
No, I am not enrolled in health insurance	19%
Decline to answer.....	3%

On which of the following platforms do you have an account?

50. Facebook.

Yes 80%
No 20%

51. Google+.

Yes 45%
No 55%

52. Instagram.

Yes 39%
No 61%

53. Twitter.

Yes 38%
No 62%

54. Pinterest.

Yes 30%
No 70%

55. Snapchat.

Yes 28%
No 72%

56. Tumblr.

Yes 13%
No 87%

57. Foursquare.

Yes	5%
No	95%

58. Which one of these best describes your religious preference?

Catholic	21%
Fundamentalist/Evangelical Christian	13%
Protestant.....	12%
LDS/Mormon.....	2%
Jewish.....	1%
Muslim	*
Another religion.....	10%
No religious preference.....	23%
Decline to answer.....	12%
Not sure.....	4%

[If NOT “No Religious Preference” in Q58, ask Q59]

59. How important is religion in your own life?

	(n=1,297)
Very important	44%
Somewhat important	36%
Not very important	16%
Not sure.....	4%
Decline to answer.....	*

[If “Catholic, Fundamentalist/Evangelical, LDS/Mormon, Protestant, or another religion, or not sure” in Q58 ask Q60]

60. Do you consider yourself a born-again Christian?

	(n=1,260)
Yes	33%
No.....	50%
Not sure.....	12%
Decline to answer.....	5%

61. Switching topics, which of these best describes your phone service at this time?

Cell phone	88%
Landline phone service	16%
VOIP phone service	3%
None of these	4%
Decline to answer.....	3%

[If currently enrolled in a 4-year college, ask Q62-Q66]

62. Is your college/university...?

	(n=456)
Public	70%
Private	26%
Decline to answer.....	4%

63. Is the college/university that you currently attend...?

	(n=456)
In an urban or city area	51%
In a suburban area next to a city	27%
In small town or rural area	18%
Decline to answer.....	4%

64. How many undergraduate students are enrolled in your college/university? Your best estimate is fine.

	(n=456)
Less than 1,000	4%
1,000 - 4,999	24%
5,000 - 9,999	20%
10,000 - 19,999	24%
20,000 or more	24%
Decline to answer.....	3%

65. Where do you live while attending college?

(n=456)

In an on-campus dormitory	31%
In fraternity/sorority housing	*
In a campus-owned apartment	7%
In an apartment/house that is not campus-owned (not with parents)	30%
At home, with my parents	25%
Somewhere else	3%
Decline to answer.....	4%

66. Are you a...?

(n=456)

Full-time student	86%
Part-time student	12%
Decline to answer.....	3%

67. What is your gender?

Male	50%
Female.....	50%

68. What is your race and ethnicity?

White, Non-Hispanic	56%
Hispanic	21%
Black, Non-Hispanic.....	14%
Other, Non-Hispanic	7%
Two or more races, Non-Hispanic	2%

69. What is your current education level?

Less than high school.....	14%
High school	28%
Some college.....	38%
Bachelor or higher.....	20%

70. What is your income?

Less than \$5,000	4%
\$5,000 - \$7,499	3%
\$7,500 - \$9,999	1%
\$10,000 - \$12,499	2%
\$12,500 - \$14,999	2%
\$15,000 - \$19,999	2%
\$20,000 - \$24,999	3%
\$25,000 - \$29,999	6%
\$30,000 - \$34,999	5%
\$35,000 - \$39,999	5%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	7%
\$50,000 - \$59,999	9%
\$60,000 - \$74,999	10%
\$75,000 - \$84,999	9%
\$85,000 - \$99,999	8%
\$100,000 - \$124,999	11%
\$125,000 - \$149,000	5%
\$150,000 - \$174,999	3%
\$175,000 or more	3%

71. Are you now married, widowed, divorced, separated, never married, or living with a partner?

Never married	61%
Married.....	21%
Living with partner	15%
Divorced.....	1%
Separated.....	1%
Widowed.....	*

72. Age:

18.....	8%
19.....	8%
20.....	7%
21.....	7%
22.....	8%
23.....	9%
24.....	11%
25.....	8%
26.....	7%
27.....	9%
28.....	9%
29.....	9%

73. Are you the head of your household?

Yes	43%
No	57%

74. Including yourself, how many people currently live in your household at least 50% of the time? Please remember to include babies, or small children, include unrelated individuals (such as roommates), and also include those now away traveling or in a hospital.

1	9%
2	24%
3	25%
4	22%
5	12%
6	6%
7	2%
8	1%
9	1%
10	*

75. How many members are there in each age group in your household? (Average number)

0 – 12 months old	0.09
2 – 5 years old	0.19
6 – 12 years old	0.21
13 – 17 years old	0.24
18 years or older	2.67

76. Which statement best describes your current employment status?

NET: Working..... 64%

As a paid employee 60%

Self-employed 4%

NET: Not Working 37%

On temporary layoff from a job 1%

Looking for work 18%

Disabled 2%

Retired *

Other 15%

77. Are your living quarters...?

Owned or being bought by you or
someone in your household 56%

Rented for cash 39%

Occupied without payment of cash rent 5%

78. Which best describes the building where you live?

A one-family house detached from any
other house 61%

A one-family house attached to one or
more houses 10%

A building with two or more apartments 25%

A mobile home 4%

Boat, RV, van, etc. *

79. Do you have Internet access in your home?

Yes 94%

No..... 6%

80. What region do you live in?

Northeast 18%

Midwest 21%

South 36%

West 24%

81. Do you live in a metro or non-metro area?

Non-metro (rural).....	14%
Metro.....	86%

82. What region do you live in? (Based on state of residence)

New England	5%
Mid-Atlantic	13%
East-North Central	13%
West-North Central.....	8%
South Atlantic	20%
East-South Central	5%
West-South Central	12%
Mountain	7%
Pacific	17%

¹A complete Field Report from GfK (Knowledge Networks) is available upon request. Included in the report are details on cooperation rates, KN methodology, survey administration, survey sampling and sample weighting.
