

## Topline questionnaire

**Pew Research Center  
Fall 2020 Survey  
March 31, 2021 Release**

### Methodological notes:

- Survey results are based on national samples. For further details on sample designs, see our [international survey methods database](#).
- 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 in the United States in the survey:

Group	Unweighted sample size	Weighted %	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	1,003		3.7 percentage points
Rep/Lean Rep	426	41	5.6 percentage points
Dem/Lean Dem	492	49	5.3 percentage points

- Due to rounding, percentages may not total 100%. The topline “total” columns show 100%, because they are based on unrounded numbers.
- Not all questions included in the Fall 2020 Survey are presented in this topline. Omitted questions have either been previously released or will be released in future reports.

		Q1. How much do you trust the national government to do what is right for (survey country) – a lot, somewhat, not too much, or not at all?					
		A lot	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Fall, 2020	13	41	22	21	3	100
	Spring, 2017	15	36	24	23	2	100
France	Fall, 2020	21	34	26	18	1	100
	Spring, 2017	3	17	36	42	1	100
Germany	Fall, 2020	47	33	10	9	1	100
	Spring, 2017	26	43	19	10	1	100
United Kingdom	Fall, 2020	21	34	28	16	1	100
	Spring, 2017	14	35	28	20	4	100

		Q2. How satisfied are you with the way democracy is working in our country – very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not too satisfied, or not at all satisfied?					
		Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Not too satisfied	Not at all satisfied	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Fall, 2020	9	36	29	24	2	100
	Spring, 2020	14	29	28	27	2	100
	Spring, 2019	9	30	32	27	2	100
	Spring, 2018	11	29	31	27	2	100
	Spring, 2017	11	35	28	23	3	100
France	Fall, 2020	11	44	29	16	0	100
	Spring, 2019	5	36	29	29	1	100
	Spring, 2018	5	43	29	22	1	100
	Spring, 2017	3	31	37	28	1	100
Germany	Fall, 2020	39	41	11	9	1	100
	Spring, 2019	17	48	21	15	0	100
	Spring, 2018	13	43	27	16	1	100
	Spring, 2017	24	49	19	7	1	100
United Kingdom	Fall, 2020	18	42	23	15	2	100
	Spring, 2019	5	26	32	37	0	100
	Spring, 2018	7	35	32	23	2	100
	Spring, 2017	12	40	31	16	2	100

		Q7a. Now I will read you some statements. For each one, please tell me if it describes (survey country) very well, somewhat well, not too well, or not well at all. a. Elected officials care what ordinary people think					
		Very well	Somewhat well	Not too well	Not well at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Fall, 2020	7	36	26	30	1	100
	Spring, 2018	8	33	29	29	1	100
France	Fall, 2020	7	34	34	24	1	100
	Spring, 2018	6	26	39	29	0	100
Germany	Fall, 2020	15	50	23	9	2	100
	Spring, 2018	6	38	39	15	2	100
United Kingdom	Fall, 2020	10	36	32	20	3	100
	Spring, 2018	9	33	31	24	3	100

		Q7b. Now I will read you some statements. For each one, please tell me if it describes (survey country) very well, somewhat well, not too well, or not well at all. b. Most politicians are corrupt					
		Very well	Somewhat well	Not too well	Not well at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Fall, 2020	30	37	19	12	2	100
	Spring, 2018	30	39	17	11	3	100
France	Fall, 2020	16	30	28	23	3	100
	Spring, 2018	19	29	29	21	1	100
Germany	Fall, 2020	8	21	40	26	4	100
	Spring, 2018	12	21	42	22	2	100
United Kingdom	Fall, 2020	14	31	30	20	6	100
	Spring, 2018	18	29	32	18	3	100

		Q7c. Now I will read you some statements. For each one, please tell me if it describes (survey country) very well, somewhat well, not too well, or not well at all. c. Ordinary people can do a lot to influence the government					
		Very well	Somewhat well	Not too well	Not well at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Fall, 2020	18	35	26	20	1	100
France	Fall, 2020	12	35	27	24	2	100
Germany	Fall, 2020	13	41	30	13	2	100
United Kingdom	Fall, 2020	15	35	28	20	2	100

		Q14a. And, which of the following statements comes closest to your view about the POLITICAL SYSTEM in...? a. (survey country)					
		It needs to be completely reformed	It needs major changes	It needs minor changes	It doesn't need to be changed	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Fall, 2020	18	47	28	7	1	100
France	Fall, 2020	21	47	25	6	1	100
Germany	Fall, 2020	4	35	49	11	1	100
United Kingdom	Fall, 2020	14	33	38	12	2	100

		Q21b. Thinking about (survey country) today, would you say it is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important for the national government to take the following actions? b. Allow citizens, not members of the [insert appropriate local term for elected officials], to vote directly to decide what becomes law for some key issues					
		Very important	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not at all important	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Fall, 2020	42	31	12	13	2	100
France	Fall, 2020	30	38	19	12	2	100
Germany	Fall, 2020	37	33	19	9	1	100
United Kingdom	Fall, 2020	27	36	17	16	4	100

		Q21c. Thinking about (survey country) today, would you say it is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important for the national government to take the following actions? c. Create citizen assemblies where citizens debate issues and make recommendations about national laws					
		Very important	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not at all important	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Fall, 2020	43	36	10	11	1	100
France	Fall, 2020	40	37	13	7	2	100
Germany	Fall, 2020	37	39	20	3	2	100
United Kingdom	Fall, 2020	38	36	12	10	4	100