

CBS News Poll – September 1–4, 2026

Adults in the U.S.



Sample 2,373 Adults in the U.S.

Margin of Error ± 2.3 points

1. How well do you personally remember the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon that occurred on September 11, 2001?

Very well	53%
Somewhat well	24%
Not that well	8%
Too young to remember/not born yet	14%

2. Even though you may not personally remember the September 11th attacks, where have you heard or learned the most about those attacks?

Among those who were too young to remember 9/11 or not born yet

From family and friends	35%
From school and teachers	47%
From some other way	18%

3. Do you think the 9/11 attacks...

Changed America forever	68%
Changed America for a while, but not permanently	27%
Did not really change America	5%

4. Do you think there is more or less of each of the following in the U.S. today compared to the time of the 9/11 attacks?

	More	Less	Same
Security	61%	25%	14%
Privacy	17%	69%	14%
Patriotism	34%	40%	25%
Unity	20%	61%	18%

5. If a terror attack from overseas happened today, do you think Americans would be...

More united than they were after 9/11	21%
Not as united as they were after 9/11	40%
About as united as they were after 9/11	31%
Don't remember how it was after 9/11	7%

6. How important is it that Americans remember the events of September 11, 2001?

Very important	74%
Somewhat important	20%
Not too important	4%
Not at all important	2%

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7. Do you generally feel safe from terrorism, feel somewhat uneasy, or feel in danger?

Safe	41%
Uneasy	47%
In danger	12%

8. In general, do you think U.S. actions to try to reduce the threat of terrorism over the last 25 years have generally made the U.S....?

Safer from terrorism now	51%
Less safe from terrorism now	29%
Not affected U.S. safety from terrorism	20%

9. Twenty-five years ago, in response to the attacks of September 11, 2001, the U.S. began what some called the war on terrorism. In the years since 9/11, overall, do you think the U.S. war on terrorism has been...?

Very successful	10%
Somewhat successful	50%
Somewhat unsuccessful	24%
Very unsuccessful	16%

10. Do you think the United States is adequately prepared to deal with a terrorist attack in the U.S., or not?

Prepared	48%
Not prepared	52%

11. Have you ever been to visit a 9/11 memorial or museum, either in New York City or somewhere else?

Yes, have visited	26%
No, have not visited	74%

* Questions held for future release.

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1. Remember 9/11 Attacks

How well do you personally remember the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon that occurred on September 11, 2001?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Very well	53%	56%	50%	9%	48%	70%	76%	53%	51%	63%
Somewhat well	24%	22%	26%	16%	33%	24%	21%	20%	26%	23%
Not that well	8%	8%	9%	13%	13%	5%	3%	6%	10%	6%
Too young to remember/not born yet	14%	14%	15%	62%	6%	0%	0%	21%	13%	8%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,372)	(1,155)	(1,217)	(498)	(598)	(774)	(502)	(612)	(770)	(705)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Very well	53%	54%	52%	61%	58%	47%	41%	55%	63%
Somewhat well	24%	22%	23%	24%	22%	28%	28%	22%	23%
Not that well	8%	8%	8%	7%	7%	10%	10%	8%	5%
Too young to remember/not born yet	14%	16%	17%	8%	12%	15%	20%	14%	9%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	99%	99%	100%
Weighted N	(2,372)	(675)	(812)	(698)	(1,488)	(296)	(381)	(923)	(565)

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2. Where Learned about 9/11 Attacks

Even though you may not personally remember the September 11th attacks, where have you heard or learned the most about those attacks?

Among those who were too young to remember 9/11 or not born yet

	Total	Gender		Under 30	Age			Liberal	Ideology	
		Male	Female		30-44	45-64	65+		Moderate	Conservative
From family and friends	35%	26%	43%	35%	*	*	*	32%	*	*
From school and teachers	47%	46%	47%	46%	*	*	*	50%	*	*
From some other way	18%	28%	10%	19%	*	*	*	18%	*	*
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	*	*	*	100%	*	*
Weighted N	(340)	(163)	(177)	(305)	(35)	(0)	(1)	(126)	(100)	(52)

	Total	Party ID			White	Race		White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep		Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
From family and friends	35%	*	37%	*	38%	*	*	39%	*
From school and teachers	47%	*	46%	*	42%	*	*	45%	*
From some other way	18%	*	17%	*	20%	*	*	16%	*
Totals	100%	*	100%	*	100%	*	*	100%	*
Weighted N	(340)	(105)	(135)	(55)	(176)	(46)	(78)	(125)	(51)

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3. Impact of 9/11 Attacks

Do you think the 9/11 attacks...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Changed America forever	68%	66%	68%	66%	72%	69%	61%	73%	67%	64%
Changed America for a while, but not permanently	27%	27%	28%	24%	24%	27%	34%	23%	27%	32%
Did not really change America	5%	7%	4%	10%	4%	4%	4%	4%	6%	4%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,366)	(1,152)	(1,214)	(496)	(597)	(770)	(502)	(612)	(769)	(702)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Changed America forever	68%	73%	66%	65%	67%	66%	72%	66%	67%
Changed America for a while, but not permanently	27%	22%	29%	31%	28%	28%	23%	28%	28%
Did not really change America	5%	4%	5%	4%	5%	6%	5%	5%	4%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%
Weighted N	(2,366)	(675)	(811)	(695)	(1,483)	(296)	(381)	(919)	(563)

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4A. Changes Since 9/11 Attacks — Security

Do you think there is more or less of each of the following in the U.S. today compared to the time of the 9/11 attacks?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
More	61%	64%	58%	67%	63%	59%	55%	54%	62%	65%
Less	25%	22%	27%	16%	24%	26%	32%	33%	24%	21%
Same	14%	14%	14%	17%	13%	14%	12%	13%	14%	14%
Totals	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,368)	(1,152)	(1,215)	(497)	(597)	(773)	(500)	(610)	(771)	(702)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
More	61%	58%	58%	66%	60%	61%	66%	60%	59%
Less	25%	29%	28%	20%	25%	26%	22%	25%	27%
Same	14%	13%	14%	14%	15%	13%	12%	15%	14%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,368)	(675)	(811)	(696)	(1,487)	(294)	(381)	(924)	(562)

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4B. Changes Since 9/11 Attacks — Privacy

Do you think there is more or less of each of the following in the U.S. today compared to the time of the 9/11 attacks?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
More	17%	18%	16%	30%	20%	12%	9%	12%	19%	18%
Less	69%	68%	70%	51%	67%	78%	77%	78%	66%	69%
Same	14%	14%	14%	19%	13%	10%	14%	10%	15%	13%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,370)	(1,153)	(1,216)	(497)	(598)	(774)	(501)	(611)	(771)	(704)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
More	17%	14%	15%	21%	14%	25%	26%	15%	13%
Less	69%	74%	73%	63%	73%	64%	56%	70%	78%
Same	14%	12%	12%	16%	13%	11%	18%	15%	9%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,370)	(675)	(813)	(697)	(1,488)	(294)	(380)	(924)	(565)

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4C. Changes Since 9/11 Attacks — Patriotism

Do you think there is more or less of each of the following in the U.S. today compared to the time of the 9/11 attacks?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
More	34%	35%	34%	41%	35%	31%	31%	27%	37%	36%
Less	40%	39%	42%	32%	37%	45%	47%	44%	38%	45%
Same	25%	26%	24%	27%	28%	24%	22%	29%	25%	18%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Weighted N	(2,372)	(1,155)	(1,217)	(497)	(599)	(774)	(502)	(612)	(771)	(705)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
More	34%	30%	32%	40%	33%	34%	40%	39%	22%
Less	40%	42%	41%	42%	43%	37%	34%	40%	49%
Same	25%	28%	27%	18%	24%	29%	26%	21%	28%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Weighted N	(2,372)	(675)	(813)	(698)	(1,489)	(294)	(381)	(924)	(565)

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4D. Changes Since 9/11 Attacks — Unity

Do you think there is more or less of each of the following in the U.S. today compared to the time of the 9/11 attacks?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
More	20%	23%	18%	30%	22%	16%	17%	13%	23%	24%
Less	61%	59%	64%	44%	59%	69%	68%	75%	58%	60%
Same	18%	18%	18%	26%	19%	15%	15%	12%	19%	16%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,368)	(1,155)	(1,213)	(497)	(598)	(771)	(502)	(612)	(771)	(701)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
More	20%	17%	17%	27%	17%	26%	30%	20%	12%
Less	61%	67%	64%	56%	66%	58%	47%	60%	74%
Same	18%	16%	19%	17%	17%	16%	23%	19%	13%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%
Weighted N	(2,368)	(675)	(813)	(695)	(1,487)	(293)	(381)	(922)	(565)

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5. Americans United if Terror Attack Happened Today

If a terror attack from overseas happened today, do you think Americans would be...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
More united than they were after 9/11	21%	23%	19%	23%	23%	19%	20%	14%	23%	23%
Not as united as they were after 9/11	40%	40%	40%	35%	40%	43%	40%	56%	36%	39%
About as united as they were after 9/11	31%	30%	33%	18%	31%	35%	39%	22%	36%	35%
Don't remember how it was after 9/11	7%	7%	8%	24%	6%	2%	1%	8%	5%	3%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,369)	(1,155)	(1,214)	(497)	(597)	(773)	(502)	(611)	(769)	(703)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
More united than they were after 9/11	21%	17%	17%	28%	18%	26%	30%	22%	12%
Not as united as they were after 9/11	40%	47%	43%	35%	44%	33%	32%	39%	53%
About as united as they were after 9/11	31%	29%	33%	33%	32%	30%	30%	32%	31%
Don't remember how it was after 9/11	7%	7%	7%	4%	6%	11%	7%	7%	4%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,369)	(675)	(813)	(695)	(1,488)	(295)	(380)	(924)	(564)

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6. Importance of Remembering 9/11

How important is it that Americans remember the events of September 11, 2001?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Very important	74%	71%	77%	58%	65%	82%	87%	66%	72%	87%
Somewhat important	20%	21%	20%	31%	26%	14%	12%	25%	22%	11%
Not too important	4%	6%	2%	8%	6%	3%	1%	6%	5%	2%
Not at all important	2%	2%	1%	3%	3%	1%	0%	2%	1%	0%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,372)	(1,155)	(1,217)	(497)	(599)	(774)	(502)	(612)	(770)	(705)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Very important	74%	72%	69%	86%	76%	70%	71%	78%	73%
Somewhat important	20%	22%	22%	12%	18%	22%	23%	16%	22%
Not too important	4%	4%	7%	2%	4%	7%	4%	3%	4%
Not at all important	2%	2%	2%	0%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%
Weighted N	(2,372)	(675)	(812)	(698)	(1,489)	(294)	(381)	(924)	(565)

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7. Feel Safe from Terrorism

Do you generally feel safe from terrorism, feel somewhat uneasy, or feel in danger?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Safe	41%	49%	34%	49%	43%	41%	33%	48%	41%	39%
Uneasy	47%	42%	52%	40%	46%	47%	56%	42%	49%	47%
In danger	12%	9%	14%	11%	11%	12%	11%	10%	10%	14%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,368)	(1,151)	(1,217)	(496)	(597)	(774)	(501)	(610)	(768)	(705)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Safe	41%	42%	44%	39%	43%	35%	40%	38%	51%
Uneasy	47%	48%	46%	47%	47%	48%	46%	51%	42%
In danger	12%	10%	10%	13%	10%	17%	14%	11%	7%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,368)	(675)	(810)	(698)	(1,487)	(293)	(381)	(922)	(565)

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8. Threat of Terrorism

In general, do you think U.S. actions to try to reduce the threat of terrorism over the last 25 years have generally made the U.S....?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Safer from terrorism now	51%	53%	48%	57%	52%	47%	48%	36%	52%	61%
Less safe from terrorism now	29%	27%	31%	26%	29%	30%	31%	39%	29%	21%
Not affected U.S. safety from terrorism	20%	20%	21%	17%	19%	23%	20%	24%	19%	18%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,371)	(1,155)	(1,216)	(498)	(598)	(773)	(502)	(612)	(771)	(705)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Safer from terrorism now	51%	42%	45%	67%	51%	48%	53%	51%	50%
Less safe from terrorism now	29%	35%	32%	19%	27%	35%	32%	26%	28%
Not affected U.S. safety from terrorism	20%	23%	23%	14%	22%	17%	15%	22%	21%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%
Weighted N	(2,371)	(675)	(813)	(698)	(1,487)	(296)	(381)	(923)	(565)

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9. War on Terrorism

Twenty-five years ago, in response to the attacks of September 11, 2001, the U.S. began what some called the war on terrorism. In the years since 9/11, overall, do you think the U.S. war on terrorism has been...?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Very successful	10%	11%	8%	15%	11%	8%	6%	6%	10%	14%
Somewhat successful	50%	48%	53%	49%	49%	49%	55%	34%	54%	58%
Somewhat unsuccessful	24%	23%	25%	17%	23%	27%	27%	28%	25%	19%
Very unsuccessful	16%	18%	14%	19%	17%	16%	12%	32%	11%	9%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,365)	(1,154)	(1,210)	(498)	(597)	(772)	(498)	(612)	(769)	(701)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Very successful	10%	9%	7%	15%	8%	16%	12%	9%	7%
Somewhat successful	50%	45%	45%	60%	50%	48%	52%	51%	50%
Somewhat unsuccessful	24%	25%	28%	18%	24%	24%	20%	25%	23%
Very unsuccessful	16%	21%	20%	7%	17%	12%	15%	15%	20%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,365)	(675)	(811)	(695)	(1,483)	(296)	(379)	(920)	(563)

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10. U.S. Prepared to Deal with a Terrorist Attack

Do you think the United States is adequately prepared to deal with a terrorist attack in the U.S., or not?

	Total	Gender			Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female		Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Prepared	48%	54%	44%	63%	56%	40%	38%	32%	50%	60%	
Not prepared	52%	46%	56%	37%	44%	60%	62%	68%	50%	40%	
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Weighted N	(2,370)	(1,154)	(1,216)	(498)	(597)	(772)	(502)	(611)	(770)	(705)	
	Total	Party ID				Race			White by Education		
		Dem	Ind	Rep		White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+	
Prepared	48%	39%	43%	65%	46%	51%	57%	49%	41%		
Not prepared	52%	61%	57%	35%	54%	49%	43%	51%	59%		
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%		
Weighted N	(2,370)	(675)	(811)	(698)	(1,487)	(296)	(380)	(923)	(564)		

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11. Visited 9/11 Memorial

Have you ever been to visit a 9/11 memorial or museum, either in New York City or somewhere else?

	Total	Gender			Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female		Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Yes, have visited	26%	25%	27%	27%	28%	25%	24%	30%	26%	27%	
No, have not visited	74%	75%	73%	73%	72%	75%	76%	70%	74%	73%	
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Weighted N	(2,372)	(1,155)	(1,218)	(498)	(599)	(773)	(502)	(611)	(771)	(705)	
	Total	Party ID				Race			White by Education		
		Dem	Ind	Rep		White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+	
Yes, have visited	26%	28%	26%	27%	27%	24%	19%	20%	40%		
No, have not visited	74%	72%	74%	73%	73%	76%	81%	80%	60%		
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%		
Weighted N	(2,372)	(675)	(813)	(698)	(1,488)	(296)	(381)	(924)	(564)		

HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED AND THE MARGIN OF ERROR CALCULATED

The CBS News/YouGov survey of 2,373 adults in the U.S. was conducted between September 1–4, 2026.

This sample was weighted according to gender, age, race, and education based on the U.S. Census American Community Survey, and the U.S. Census Current Population Survey, and 2024 presidential vote. Respondents were selected to be representative of adults nationwide. The weights range from 0.0 to 5.0, with a mean of 1 and a standard deviation of 0.6.

The *margin of error* (a 95% confidence interval) for a sample percentage p based upon the entire sample is approximately ± 2.3 points. It is calculated using the formula

$$\hat{p} \pm 100 \times \sqrt{\frac{1 + CV^2}{n}}$$

where CV is the coefficient of variation of the sample weights and n is the sample size used to compute the proportion. This is a measure of sampling error (the average of all estimates obtained using the same sample selection and weighting procedures repeatedly). The sample estimate should differ from its expected value by less than margin of error in 95 percent of all samples. It does not reflect non-sampling errors, including potential selection bias in panel participation or in response to a particular survey.