

CBS News Poll – September 16–18, 2026

Adults in the U.S.



Sample 2,051 Adults in the U.S.

Margin of Error ± 2.5 points

1. How closely have you been following news recently about A.I. companies and A.I. development?

Very closely	17%
Somewhat closely	44%
Not that closely	26%
Not at all closely	13%

2. Do you think that, in general, A.I. will create more problems than it solves, or do you think A.I. will solve more problems than it creates?

Will create more problems	50%
Will solve more problems	29%
Don't know	21%

3. Do you think that A.I. (Artificial Intelligence) will increase, decrease, or not have any impact on the number of jobs available in the U.S.?

Increase	22%
Decrease	63%
Have no effect	15%

4. In the next ten years or so, what impact, if any, do you think A.I. will have on the way people in your field of work do their jobs? Do you think A.I. will...?

Among those employed full or part-time

Make jobs in your field harder to do	22%
Make jobs in your field easier to do	49%
Not impact that work either way	29%

5. Do you use A.I. for anything?

Yes	60%
No	40%

6. When you use A.I., do you use it...?

Among those who use A.I.

Mostly for work	10%
Mostly for personal use	64%
About equally work/personal	26%

7. Are you generally optimistic or pessimistic about A.I. being used to find new scientific discoveries, including things like new medicines and medical treatments?

Very optimistic	15%
Somewhat optimistic	42%
Somewhat pessimistic	26%
Very pessimistic	17%

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8. Are you generally optimistic or pessimistic about A.I. being used to make some routine tasks easier or more efficient for people?

Very optimistic	15%
Somewhat optimistic	45%
Somewhat pessimistic	24%
Very pessimistic	16%

9. In general, do you think A.I. technology companies will, or will not, make sure that A.I. is used in appropriate ways?

Certainly will	7%
Probably will	32%
Probably will not	42%
Certainly will not	19%

10. Should U.S. government policy with regard to A.I. (Artificial Intelligence) in the United States generally be to promote use and development of A.I., restrict use and development of A.I., or not take a position either way?

Promote use and development of A.I.	28%
Restrict use and development of A.I.	45%
Not take position either way	27%

11. Who do you think has more of the responsibility to make sure A.I. and its development is handled appropriately?

The U.S. government	13%
A.I. companies	20%
Both about equally	67%

12. Do you think the U.S. government does, or does not, have the ability to effectively regulate A.I.'s use and development in the U.S., if it chooses to?

Does have	63%
Does not have	37%

13. What should U.S. A.I. companies do with regard to the speed of A.I. research and development? Do you think they should...

Stop development	12%
Slow down development	43%
Keep the current pace of development as it is now	37%
Speed up development	7%

14. Do you think it is necessary or not necessary for the U.S. to develop A.I. in order to be competitive with other countries?

Necessary	64%
Not necessary	36%

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15. Do you think it is necessary, or not necessary, for the U.S. to develop A.I. technology faster than China does?

Necessary	56%
Not necessary	44%

19. In the near future, do you think A.I. computer models, operating on their own, will do things that bring physical harm to humans, or not?

Certainly will	19%
Probably will	33%
Probably will not	20%
Certainly will not	6%
Not sure	22%

20. In the near future, do you think people or countries will use an A.I. computer model to do something that brings physical harm to other people, or not?

Certainly will	28%
Probably will	40%
Probably will not	11%
Certainly will not	3%
Not sure	17%

* Questions held for future release.

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1. Following News about A.I.

How closely have you been following news recently about A.I. companies and A.I. development?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Very closely	17%	19%	15%	18%	20%	16%	13%	19%	17%	20%
Somewhat closely	44%	47%	41%	43%	41%	43%	50%	53%	47%	41%
Not that closely	26%	24%	29%	25%	26%	27%	28%	21%	26%	28%
Not at all closely	13%	9%	15%	14%	12%	14%	9%	7%	10%	11%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,049)	(1,000)	(1,049)	(424)	(519)	(671)	(435)	(503)	(689)	(624)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Very closely	17%	19%	16%	19%	16%	21%	21%	11%	24%
Somewhat closely	44%	49%	45%	42%	45%	47%	37%	41%	52%
Not that closely	26%	22%	28%	28%	27%	17%	28%	32%	19%
Not at all closely	13%	10%	11%	10%	11%	15%	14%	15%	5%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	99%	100%
Weighted N	(2,049)	(585)	(675)	(617)	(1,288)	(253)	(329)	(798)	(489)

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2. A.I. Will Create or Solve More Problems

Do you think that, in general, A.I. will create more problems than it solves, or do you think A.I. will solve more problems than it creates?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Will create more problems	50%	42%	57%	42%	44%	57%	55%	65%	43%	47%
Will solve more problems	29%	36%	23%	43%	36%	23%	17%	21%	35%	33%
Don't know	21%	22%	20%	15%	20%	20%	27%	14%	22%	20%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,049)	(999)	(1,051)	(426)	(518)	(671)	(435)	(504)	(689)	(623)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Will create more problems	50%	62%	50%	43%	51%	47%	52%	52%	49%
Will solve more problems	29%	23%	28%	37%	28%	32%	30%	24%	35%
Don't know	21%	15%	22%	20%	21%	21%	18%	23%	16%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%
Weighted N	(2,049)	(585)	(676)	(615)	(1,286)	(255)	(329)	(797)	(489)

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3. Impact of A.I. on Number of Jobs Available in the U.S.

Do you think that A.I. (Artificial Intelligence) will increase, decrease, or not have any impact on the number of jobs available in the U.S.?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Increase	22%	24%	19%	26%	23%	21%	19%	16%	22%	25%
Decrease	63%	59%	67%	56%	61%	66%	67%	75%	62%	58%
Have no effect	15%	17%	13%	18%	16%	13%	14%	9%	16%	17%
Totals	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,048)	(999)	(1,049)	(426)	(518)	(671)	(433)	(504)	(687)	(624)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Increase	22%	19%	16%	28%	18%	31%	28%	19%	17%
Decrease	63%	71%	67%	55%	65%	54%	60%	64%	67%
Have no effect	15%	9%	17%	17%	16%	15%	12%	17%	16%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,048)	(583)	(675)	(617)	(1,287)	(254)	(329)	(798)	(489)

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4. Will A.I. Make Jobs Harder or Easier

In the next ten years or so, what impact, if any, do you think A.I. will have on the way people in your field of work do their jobs? Do you think A.I. will...?

Among those employed full or part-time

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Make jobs in your field harder to do	22%	21%	23%	22%	21%	23%	*	29%	17%	20%
Make jobs in your field easier to do	49%	50%	47%	61%	53%	38%	*	44%	52%	51%
Not impact that work either way	29%	29%	30%	17%	26%	39%	*	27%	31%	29%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	*	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(887)	(479)	(408)	(219)	(332)	(271)	(65)	(250)	(307)	(262)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Make jobs in your field harder to do	22%	24%	27%	16%	23%	15%	20%	20%	26%
Make jobs in your field easier to do	49%	48%	42%	56%	46%	55%	59%	40%	51%
Not impact that work either way	29%	27%	31%	28%	31%	30%	21%	39%	23%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%
Weighted N	(887)	(265)	(275)	(300)	(543)	(115)	(159)	(266)	(277)

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5. Personally Use A.I.

Do you use A.I. for anything?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Yes	60%	62%	59%	72%	67%	57%	47%	56%	66%	63%
No	40%	38%	41%	28%	33%	43%	53%	44%	34%	37%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,047)	(997)	(1,050)	(424)	(518)	(670)	(435)	(503)	(688)	(623)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Yes	60%	57%	59%	67%	60%	59%	62%	54%	69%
No	40%	43%	41%	33%	40%	41%	38%	46%	31%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,047)	(583)	(676)	(615)	(1,284)	(254)	(329)	(797)	(488)

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6. A.I. for Work or Personal Use

When you use A.I., do you use it...?

Among those who use A.I.

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Mostly for work	10%	10%	9%	12%	10%	11%	2%	14%	8%	9%
Mostly for personal use	64%	65%	63%	51%	56%	68%	89%	57%	64%	68%
About equally work/personal	26%	25%	27%	37%	33%	21%	9%	28%	28%	23%
Totals	100%	100%	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,236)	(618)	(618)	(304)	(348)	(380)	(203)	(282)	(453)	(389)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Mostly for work	10%	12%	10%	8%	9%	9%	16%	5%	14%
Mostly for personal use	64%	58%	68%	66%	69%	58%	53%	79%	57%
About equally work/personal	26%	30%	22%	26%	22%	33%	31%	16%	29%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,236)	(332)	(401)	(409)	(765)	(151)	(203)	(428)	(337)

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7. Optimistic or Pessimistic about A.I. Being Used to Find New Scientific Discoveries

Are you generally optimistic or pessimistic about A.I. being used to find new scientific discoveries, including things like new medicines and medical treatments?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Very optimistic	15%	17%	13%	16%	14%	16%	13%	13%	15%	17%
Somewhat optimistic	42%	49%	36%	42%	46%	39%	43%	38%	50%	41%
Somewhat pessimistic	26%	19%	32%	26%	22%	26%	30%	23%	25%	26%
Very pessimistic	17%	15%	19%	16%	18%	18%	14%	25%	10%	16%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,045)	(995)	(1,049)	(424)	(519)	(668)	(434)	(504)	(687)	(624)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Very optimistic	15%	15%	14%	15%	13%	18%	19%	13%	13%
Somewhat optimistic	42%	39%	44%	46%	44%	42%	37%	40%	51%
Somewhat pessimistic	26%	27%	25%	25%	26%	22%	25%	29%	22%
Very pessimistic	17%	18%	17%	14%	17%	18%	18%	18%	14%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,045)	(583)	(675)	(615)	(1,285)	(252)	(328)	(796)	(489)

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8. Optimistic or Pessimistic about A.I. Making Routine Tasks More Efficient

Are you generally optimistic or pessimistic about A.I. being used to make some routine tasks easier or more efficient for people?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Very optimistic	15%	17%	13%	17%	17%	15%	12%	12%	16%	17%
Somewhat optimistic	45%	48%	43%	44%	48%	43%	48%	40%	51%	45%
Somewhat pessimistic	24%	20%	27%	22%	18%	27%	27%	24%	23%	24%
Very pessimistic	16%	14%	17%	17%	17%	15%	13%	24%	10%	14%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,043)	(994)	(1,049)	(424)	(516)	(668)	(434)	(504)	(687)	(619)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Very optimistic	15%	14%	15%	17%	14%	19%	17%	13%	15%
Somewhat optimistic	45%	43%	46%	48%	46%	46%	42%	45%	48%
Somewhat pessimistic	24%	25%	22%	23%	24%	23%	23%	24%	23%
Very pessimistic	16%	18%	17%	11%	16%	12%	18%	17%	13%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%
Weighted N	(2,043)	(585)	(674)	(613)	(1,285)	(255)	(328)	(795)	(489)

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9. Will A.I. Companies Make Sure A.I. Is Used Appropriately

In general, do you think A.I. technology companies will, or will not, make sure that A.I. is used in appropriate ways?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Certainly will	7%	7%	7%	13%	11%	4%	1%	7%	7%	8%
Probably will	32%	36%	28%	39%	32%	29%	29%	18%	39%	37%
Probably will not	42%	38%	46%	29%	39%	47%	51%	42%	39%	42%
Certainly will not	19%	19%	19%	19%	18%	20%	19%	33%	15%	13%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,048)	(998)	(1,050)	(425)	(519)	(670)	(433)	(504)	(688)	(622)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Certainly will	7%	7%	5%	9%	5%	9%	14%	5%	6%
Probably will	32%	24%	31%	40%	30%	35%	35%	31%	29%
Probably will not	42%	44%	41%	41%	44%	43%	32%	44%	44%
Certainly will not	19%	25%	23%	10%	20%	13%	19%	20%	21%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,048)	(585)	(676)	(615)	(1,286)	(255)	(327)	(797)	(489)

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10. Should Government Policy Promote or Restrict A.I.

Should U.S. government policy with regard to A.I. (Artificial Intelligence) in the United States generally be to promote use and development of A.I., restrict use and development of A.I., or not take a position either way?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Promote use and development of A.I.	28%	35%	21%	39%	30%	23%	22%	20%	32%	35%
Restrict use and development of A.I.	45%	40%	50%	36%	42%	50%	50%	65%	38%	38%
Not take position either way	27%	25%	29%	25%	28%	27%	28%	15%	30%	27%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,045)	(998)	(1,047)	(426)	(518)	(668)	(432)	(501)	(688)	(622)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Promote use and development of A.I.	28%	23%	26%	37%	27%	27%	34%	24%	31%
Restrict use and development of A.I.	45%	60%	45%	34%	46%	42%	42%	43%	50%
Not take position either way	27%	17%	29%	29%	27%	31%	23%	33%	19%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,045)	(582)	(676)	(614)	(1,283)	(254)	(329)	(796)	(487)

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11. Who Has More Responsibility to Make Sure A.I. is Handled Appropriately

Who do you think has more of the responsibility to make sure A.I. and its development is handled appropriately?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
The U.S. government	13%	16%	9%	15%	17%	11%	8%	18%	12%	11%
A.I. companies	20%	23%	17%	23%	20%	18%	18%	13%	22%	23%
Both about equally	67%	61%	74%	62%	63%	71%	74%	69%	66%	66%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,046)	(999)	(1,047)	(426)	(516)	(670)	(434)	(504)	(689)	(621)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
The U.S. government	13%	16%	11%	12%	12%	15%	14%	11%	13%
A.I. companies	20%	14%	21%	23%	22%	15%	18%	23%	19%
Both about equally	67%	69%	68%	65%	66%	70%	68%	66%	68%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,046)	(585)	(676)	(614)	(1,285)	(255)	(327)	(796)	(488)

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12. Does U.S. Government Have the Ability to Effectively Regulate A.I.

Do you think the U.S. government does, or does not, have the ability to effectively regulate A.I.'s use and development in the U.S., if it chooses to?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Does have	63%	63%	62%	79%	70%	56%	48%	70%	64%	59%
Does not have	37%	37%	38%	21%	30%	44%	52%	30%	36%	41%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,044)	(998)	(1,046)	(424)	(516)	(670)	(434)	(503)	(684)	(624)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Does have	63%	69%	60%	62%	58%	68%	76%	57%	59%
Does not have	37%	31%	40%	38%	42%	32%	24%	43%	41%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,044)	(583)	(675)	(614)	(1,281)	(255)	(329)	(796)	(485)

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13. Speed of A.I. Research and Development

What should U.S. A.I. companies do with regard to the speed of A.I. research and development? Do you think they should...

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Stop development	12%	10%	14%	14%	16%	11%	7%	16%	10%	8%
Slow down development	43%	38%	48%	31%	38%	48%	54%	59%	40%	37%
Keep the current pace of development as it is now	37%	43%	32%	44%	36%	36%	35%	22%	41%	45%
Speed up development	7%	9%	5%	11%	10%	5%	4%	3%	9%	10%
Totals	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,044)	(1,000)	(1,044)	(426)	(517)	(667)	(435)	(504)	(686)	(621)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Stop development	12%	13%	14%	7%	11%	10%	15%	13%	9%
Slow down development	43%	55%	44%	34%	46%	46%	36%	44%	48%
Keep the current pace of development as it is now	37%	26%	37%	48%	37%	36%	38%	38%	37%
Speed up development	7%	5%	5%	10%	6%	8%	11%	5%	6%
Totals	99%	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,044)	(582)	(675)	(614)	(1,285)	(253)	(327)	(798)	(487)

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14. Is It Necessary for the U.S. to Develop A.I. to Be Competitive

Do you think it is necessary or not necessary for the U.S. to develop A.I. in order to be competitive with other countries?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Necessary	64%	70%	58%	60%	55%	66%	75%	52%	69%	77%
Not necessary	36%	30%	42%	40%	45%	34%	25%	48%	31%	23%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,045)	(998)	(1,047)	(426)	(518)	(667)	(435)	(504)	(688)	(621)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Necessary	64%	58%	61%	77%	67%	57%	59%	63%	74%
Not necessary	36%	42%	39%	23%	33%	43%	41%	37%	26%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,045)	(583)	(675)	(614)	(1,284)	(254)	(327)	(796)	(488)

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15. Is It Necessary for the U.S. to Develop A.I. Faster than China

Do you think it is necessary, or not necessary, for the U.S. to develop A.I. technology faster than China does?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Necessary	56%	64%	49%	51%	49%	59%	64%	36%	60%	74%
Not necessary	44%	36%	51%	49%	51%	41%	36%	64%	40%	26%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,040)	(995)	(1,045)	(424)	(518)	(666)	(432)	(502)	(684)	(623)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Necessary	56%	45%	54%	74%	60%	44%	50%	59%	63%
Not necessary	44%	55%	46%	26%	40%	56%	50%	41%	37%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,040)	(581)	(675)	(614)	(1,283)	(254)	(325)	(795)	(487)

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19. Will A.I. Harm People on Its Own

In the near future, do you think A.I. computer models, operating on their own, will do things that bring physical harm to humans, or not?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Certainly will	19%	17%	21%	17%	16%	20%	20%	26%	16%	16%
Probably will	33%	31%	36%	30%	35%	34%	33%	38%	33%	31%
Probably will not	20%	25%	16%	29%	19%	18%	17%	17%	22%	23%
Certainly will not	6%	6%	5%	6%	8%	6%	4%	3%	6%	8%
Not sure	22%	21%	22%	18%	22%	21%	26%	16%	23%	22%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,048)	(999)	(1,049)	(426)	(518)	(670)	(435)	(504)	(689)	(623)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Certainly will	19%	25%	18%	16%	17%	24%	22%	19%	15%
Probably will	33%	39%	32%	31%	33%	34%	31%	30%	39%
Probably will not	20%	17%	19%	24%	21%	17%	20%	20%	23%
Certainly will not	6%	3%	7%	8%	6%	5%	5%	6%	7%
Not sure	22%	16%	24%	21%	22%	20%	22%	25%	16%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,048)	(584)	(676)	(617)	(1,286)	(254)	(329)	(798)	(488)

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20. Will People or Countries Use A.I. to Harm People

In the near future, do you think people or countries will use an A.I. computer model to do something that brings physical harm to other people, or not?

	Total	Gender		Age				Ideology		
		Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Certainly will	28%	27%	30%	24%	25%	33%	29%	39%	25%	25%
Probably will	40%	43%	37%	40%	41%	38%	41%	39%	40%	44%
Probably will not	11%	12%	10%	16%	10%	10%	9%	10%	14%	10%
Certainly will not	3%	3%	3%	5%	6%	3%	0%	2%	3%	4%
Not sure	17%	15%	19%	15%	18%	16%	20%	10%	18%	17%
Totals	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,049)	(999)	(1,050)	(425)	(519)	(670)	(435)	(504)	(688)	(624)

	Total	Party ID			Race			White by Education	
		Dem	Ind	Rep	White	Black	Hispanic	No Degree	4yr Degree+
Certainly will	28%	34%	30%	24%	29%	31%	27%	29%	29%
Probably will	40%	39%	39%	42%	39%	36%	40%	36%	45%
Probably will not	11%	11%	11%	13%	12%	7%	11%	13%	11%
Certainly will not	3%	2%	3%	5%	3%	3%	4%	3%	4%
Not sure	17%	14%	17%	16%	16%	23%	18%	19%	11%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(2,049)	(585)	(676)	(616)	(1,286)	(255)	(329)	(797)	(489)

HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED AND THE MARGIN OF ERROR CALCULATED

The CBS News/YouGov survey of 2,051 adults in the U.S. was conducted between September 16–18, 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 0.1 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 ± 2.5 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 the 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.