



Cato Institute 2024 4th of July Survey

CATO INSTITUTE/YOUGOV • N=2,000*

MARGIN OF ERROR +/- 2.41%*. COLUMNS MAY NOT ADD UP TO 100% DUE TO ROUNDING.

1. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the founding of the United States of America?

■ <i>Sum-favorable</i>	76%
■ <i>Sum-unfavorable</i>	15%
■ <i>Don't really care</i>	9%
■ Strongly favorable	47%
■ Somewhat favorable	28%
■ Somewhat unfavorable	11%
■ Strongly unfavorable	5%
■ Don't really care	9%
■ Total	100%

3. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the U.S. Constitution?

■ <i>Sum-favorable</i>	85%
■ <i>Sum-unfavorable</i>	9%
■ <i>Don't really care</i>	6%
■ Strongly favorable	53%
■ Somewhat favorable	32%
■ Somewhat unfavorable	7%
■ Strongly unfavorable	2%
■ Don't really care	6%
■ Total	100%

2. Which of the following words best describes how you feel about the Declaration of Independence and the founding of the United States of America?

■ Gratitude	59%
■ Happiness	21%
■ Embarrassment	5%
■ Anger	2%
■ Don't really care	14%
■ Total	100%

4. In your view, how important do you think the U.S. Constitution is to protecting your liberty and freedoms?

■ <i>Sum-extremely/very important</i>	82%
■ <i>Somewhat/not that/at all important</i>	16%
■ Extremely important	56%
■ Very important	26%
■ Somewhat important	12%
■ Not that important	3%
■ Not at all important	1%
■ Don't like the u.S. Constitution	2%
■ Total	100%

5. How important are the following to you personally?

a) Freedom of speech

■ Extremely important	74%
■ Very important	20%
■ Somewhat important	5%
■ Not very important	0%
■ Not at all important	1%
■ Total	100%

b) Freedom to petition the government

■ Extremely important	57%
■ Very important	27%
■ Somewhat important	13%
■ Not very important	2%
■ Not at all important	1%
■ Total	100%

c) Freedom of the press

■ Extremely important	62%
■ Very important	25%
■ Somewhat important	10%
■ Not very important	2%
■ Not at all important	1%
■ Total	100%

d) Freedom for people to assemble peacefully

■ Extremely important	67%
■ Very important	23%
■ Somewhat important	8%
■ Not very important	2%
■ Not at all important	0%
■ Total	100%

e) Freedom of religion

■ Extremely important	68%
■ Very important	20%
■ Somewhat important	7%
■ Not very important	2%
■ Not at all important	3%
■ Total	100%

f) Freedom to keep and bear arms

■ Extremely important	39%
■ Very important	18%
■ Somewhat important	20%
■ Not very important	13%
■ Not at all important	11%
■ Total	100%

g) The right to self-defense

■ Extremely important	61%
■ Very important	26%
■ Somewhat important	10%
■ Not very important	2%
■ Not at all important	1%
■ Total	100%

h) The right to marry

■ Extremely important	61%
■ Very important	23%
■ Somewhat important	11%
■ Not very important	3%
■ Not at all important	3%
■ Total	100%

i) The right to vote

■ Extremely important	75%
■ Very important	16%
■ Somewhat important	6%
■ Not very important	2%
■ Not at all important	1%
■ Total	100%

j) The right for all people to have equal protection under the law

■ Extremely important	77%
■ Very important	18%
■ Somewhat important	4%
■ Not very important	1%
■ Not at all important	0%
■ Total	100%

k) The right to privacy

■ Extremely important	76%
■ Very important	18%
■ Somewhat important	5%
■ Not very important	1%
■ Not at all important	0%
■ Total	100%

p) If accused of a crime, the right to a fair, speedy, and public trial

■ Extremely important	70%
■ Very important	22%
■ Somewhat important	7%
■ Not very important	1%
■ Not at all important	0%
■ Total	100%

l) The right to due process of law

■ Extremely important	71%
■ Very important	21%
■ Somewhat important	7%
■ Not very important	1%
■ Not at all important	0%
■ Total	100%

q) If accused of a crime, the right to have a trial by a jury

■ Extremely important	70%
■ Very important	22%
■ Somewhat important	7%
■ Not very important	0%
■ Not at all important	1%
■ Total	100%

m) The right to be free from unreasonable search and seizure from the government

■ Extremely important	68%
■ Very important	22%
■ Somewhat important	9%
■ Not very important	1%
■ Not at all important	1%
■ Total	100%

r) If convicted of a crime, the right not to have a cruel and unusual punishment

■ Extremely important	54%
■ Very important	23%
■ Somewhat important	16%
■ Not very important	5%
■ Not at all important	3%
■ Total	100%

n) The right to own private property

■ Extremely important	71%
■ Very important	20%
■ Somewhat important	7%
■ Not very important	2%
■ Not at all important	1%
■ Total	100%

s) The right to travel

■ Extremely important	65%
■ Very important	25%
■ Somewhat important	8%
■ Not very important	2%
■ Not at all important	1%
■ Total	100%

o) If accused of a crime, the right to be informed of the accusation and evidence

■ Extremely important	75%
■ Very important	18%
■ Somewhat important	5%
■ Not very important	1%
■ Not at all important	0%
■ Total	100%

6. Who is your favorite American “Founding Father,” or prominent figure who played a significant role in the American Revolution and the establishment of the United States?

■ George Washington	35%
■ John Adams	5%
■ Thomas Jefferson	16%
■ Benjamin Franklin	22%
■ James Madison	3%
■ Alexander Hamilton	5%
■ John Jay	1%
■ John Hancock	4%
■ Other (Specify)	9%
■ Total	100%

7. Do you think the American “Founding Fathers,” or prominent figures who played significant roles in the American Revolution and the establishment of the United States, were primarily heroes or villains?

■ Heroes	53%
■ Villains	3%
■ Not sure	43%
■ Total	100%

8. Do you think the Declaration of Independence, in which America declared its independence from Great Britain, has been primarily a force for good or bad in the world?

■ Primarily a force for good	94%
■ Primarily a force for bad	6%
■ Total	100%

9. Who was the primary author of the Declaration of Independence?

■ James Madison	7%
■ Thomas Jefferson	57%
■ Abraham Lincoln	4%
■ George Washington	5%
■ Alexander Hamilton	7%
■ Don’t know	20%
■ Total	100%

10. What war did the Declaration of Independence lead to?

■ The American Revolution	72%
■ The American Civil War	10%
■ The French-Indian War	1%
■ The Mexican-American War	1%
■ World War I	3%
■ Don’t know	14%
■ Total	100%

11. How many colonies were there when the American colonists declared their independence from Great Britain?

■ 5	2%
■ 8	3%
■ 13	76%
■ 50	2%
■ Don’t know	17%
■ Total	100%

12. Who rode in a famous midnight ride to warn the American colonists that the British were coming?

■ Paul Revere	81%
■ Alexander Hamilton	2%
■ John Adams	3%
■ Robert Livingston	1%
■ Don’t know	13%
■ Total	100%

13. Who famously crossed the Delaware River to eventually lead the Americans to victory against the British in the American Revolution?

■ George Washington	69%
■ Thomas Jefferson	2%
■ Benedict Arnold	2%
■ Ulysses S. Grant	5%
■ Robert E. Lee	4%
■ Don’t know	17%
■ Total	100%

14. Who famously described the U.S. Constitution as “a republic, if you can keep it”?

■ James Madison	6%
■ Thomas Jefferson	8%
■ Benjamin Franklin	26%
■ George Washington	4%
■ Alexander Hamilton	6%
■ Not sure	51%
■ Total	100%

15. Was preserving slavery one of the primary reasons the American colonists declared their independence from Britain and fought the American Revolutionary War?

■ Yes	16%
■ No	56%
■ Not sure	29%
■ Total	100%

16. In your view, does the United States reside on stolen land?

■ Yes	45%
■ No	42%
■ Not sure	13%
■ Total	100%

17. a) Would you favor or oppose removing monuments in Washington D.C. dedicated to...George Washington?

■ <i>Sum-favor</i>	18%
■ <i>Sum-oppose</i>	82%
■ Strongly favor	6%
■ Somewhat favor	12%
■ Somewhat oppose	27%
■ Strongly oppose	56%
■ Total	100%

17. b) Would you favor or oppose removing monuments in Washington D.C. dedicated to...Thomas Jefferson?

■ <i>Sum-favor</i>	18%
■ <i>Sum-oppose</i>	82%
■ Strongly favor	5%
■ Somewhat favor	13%
■ Somewhat oppose	28%
■ Strongly oppose	54%
■ Total	100%

17. c) Would you favor or oppose removing monuments in Washington D.C. dedicated to...Abraham Lincoln?

■ <i>Sum-favorable</i>	14%
■ <i>Sum-unfavorable</i>	86%
■ Strongly favor	5%
■ Somewhat favor	9%
■ Somewhat oppose	21%
■ Strongly oppose	65%
■ Total	100%

18. Would you favor or oppose writing a new American constitution to reflect our diversity as a people?

■ <i>Sum-favorable</i>	40%
■ <i>Sum-oppose</i>	60%
■ Strongly favor	13%
■ Somewhat favor	27%
■ Somewhat oppose	19%
■ Strongly oppose	41%
■ Total	100%

19. Would you favor or oppose designing a new American flag to reflect our diversity as a people?

■ <i>Sum-favorable</i>	21%
■ <i>Sum-oppose</i>	79%
■ Strongly favor	7%
■ Somewhat favor	15%
■ Somewhat oppose	23%
■ Strongly oppose	55%
■ Total	100%

20. Do you agree or disagree that eternal vigilance is the price of liberty?

■ <i>Sum-agree</i>	57%
■ <i>Sum-disagree</i>	11%
■ <i>Not sure</i>	31%
■ Strongly agree	29%
■ Somewhat agree	28%
■ Somewhat disagree	8%
■ Strongly disagree	4%
■ Not sure	31%
■ Total	100%

21. If the signers of the Declaration of Independence were alive today, do you think they would generally agree or disagree with the way in which the Constitution is being followed in the United States today?

■ Agree	30%
■ Disagree	70%
■ Total	100%

22. How patriotic are you? Would you say...

■ <i>Sum-patriotic</i>	77%
■ <i>Sum-unpatriotic</i>	23%
■ Very patriotic	41%
■ Somewhat patriotic	37%
■ Not very patriotic	15%
■ Not at all patriotic	7%
■ Total	100%

23. Some believe that if we're not careful we could lose our freedoms in this country, while others believe our freedoms in this country will remain protected into the future, which comes closer to your own view?

■ Worried we could lose our liberty	74%
■ Believe our liberty will remain protected into the future	26%
■ Total	100%

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The survey was conducted June 26–July 1, 2024 by the Cato Institute and YouGov who interviewed 2447 respondents who were then matched down to a sample of 2000 to produce the final dataset. The margin of error of the survey is +/- 2.41 percentage points. The respondents were matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race, and education. The sampling frame is a politically representative “modeled frame” of US adults, based upon the American Community Survey (ACS) public use microdata file, public voter file records, the 2020 Current Population Survey (CPS) Voting and Registration supplements, the 2020 National Election Pool (NEP) exit poll, and the 2020 CES surveys, including demographics and 2020 presidential

vote. The matched cases were weighted to the sampling frame using propensity scores. The matched cases and the frame were combined and a logistic regression was estimated for inclusion in the frame. The propensity score function included age, gender, race/ethnicity, years of education, and region. The propensity scores were grouped into deciles of the estimated propensity score in the frame and post-stratified according to these deciles.

The weights were then post-stratified on 2020 presidential vote choice as well as a four-way stratification of gender, age (4-categories), race (4-categories), and education (4-categories), to produce the final weight.