UMassAmherst UMass Poll

Toplines University of Massachusetts Amherst December 2021 National Poll

Field Dates: December 14 – December 20, 2021

Sample: 1,000 Respondents

Margin of Error: 3.1%

YouGov interviewed 1036 respondents who were then matched down to a sample of 1,000 to produce the final dataset. The respondents were matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race, and education. The frame was constructed by stratified sampling from the full 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year sample with selection within strata by weighted sampling with replacements (using the person weights on the public use file).

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 2016 and 2020 Presidential vote choice, and a four-way stratification of gender, age (4-categories), race (4-categories), and education (4-categories), to produce the final weight.

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Emphasis on Racial Inequality (N=1,000)

How much should public schools teach about racial inequality?

A lot 34% Some 28% A little 13% None 25%

CRT Interest (N=1,000)

How much have you read, seen, or heard about Critical Race Theory (CRT)?

A Lot 31% Some 33% Not Much 15% I have not heard of Critical Race Theory. 20%

CRT Definition (N=815)

Asked only of respondents who indicated that they have read, seen, or heard about Critical Race Theory.

In as few words as possible, please describe what you think Critical Race Theory (CRT) is.



CRT Beliefs (N=1,000)

Do you believe students should learn the following in public middle or high schools?

	Definitely	Probably	Probably Not	Definitely Not
Racism is an enduring part of American	J	,		
society.	30%	28%	19%	22%
White people enjoy certain privileges based on				
their race.	34%	23%	16%	27%
Racist decisions made in the past continue to				
affect the opportunities available to people of				
color.	34%	28%	16%	22%
Decisions that are not made with a racist intent	_	-		
can still harm people of color.	32%	33%	17%	17%
White people have a responsibility to try to	_			
address racial inequality today.	34%	30%	14%	23%
Racism is systemic in America.	34%	24%	16%	26%
Race is just a distinction made up by society.	28%	25%	22%	25%
The American Civil War was fought over the				
issue of slavery.	49%	28%	13%	10%
The growth of the United States involved the				
extermination of many native or indigenous				
groups.	44%	28%	16%	12%
Free labor provided by slavery helped produce				
wealth that still benefits white Americans				
today.	33%	24%	18%	25%
Any gaps between whites and blacks are				
caused by racism.	20%	30%	24%	26%
Due to white privilege and power, blacks	_0,0	2070		_0,0
cannot be racist.	8%	12%	23%	57%
Government housing and loan policies, like	0,70	12.0	2070	2,70
redlining, helped to create racial segregation in				
America.	33%	36%	18%	14%
Racist policies and practices made it harder for	22.3	2070	10,0	1170
Black Americans to buy homes, and this				
continues to put them and their descendants at				
a financial disadvantage today.	35%	24%	17%	25%
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Tracking and Race (N=1,000)

Schools have sometimes separated more advanced and less advanced students, especially in science, technology, and mathematics, in order to teach things that match the current level of different students. Some say public schools should stop doing this, because it makes existing racial gaps larger. Others say it is important for students to learn things that match their level even if that makes racial gaps larger.

What do you think? Do you favor or oppose public schools separating more advanced and less advanced students?

Strongly favor	26%
Somewhat favor	25%
Neither favor nor oppose	30%
Somewhat oppose	10%
Strongly oppose	9%

Systemic Racism (N=1,000)

Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each statement.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
White people in the U.S. have certain advantages because of the color of					_
their skin.	32%	21%	17%	9%	21%
Racial problems in the U.S. are rare,					
isolated situations.	12%	16%	16%	19%	37%
I am angry that racism exists.	46%	23%	25%	4%	3%

Great Replacement Theory (N=1,000)

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The growth in the number of immigrants in the country means that America is in danger of losing its culture and identity.					
	22%	13%	23%	13%	29%
The Democratic Party is trying to replace the current electorate, the voters now casting ballots, with voters from poorer countries around the world.					
	23%	12%	27%	7%	32%
The growth in the size of minority communities in the country will likely result in the declining influence of white Americans.					
	17%	26%	39%	10%	8%

White Guilt (N=662)

Only asked of white respondents.

	Extremely Guilty	Very Guilty	Moderately Guilty	A Little Guilty	Not Guilty At All
How guilty do you feel about the					
privileges and benefits you receive	201	- 0.	100/	4.607	6207
as a white American?	3%	7%	12%	16%	63%
How guilty do you feel about social					
inequality between white and black	407	100/	120/	1.60/	570/
Americans?	4%	10%	13%	16%	57%

White Guilt 2 (N=663)

Only asked of white respondents.

When you learn about racism, how much guilt do you feel due to your association with the white race?

A Great Deal	4%
A Lot	8%
A Moderate Amount	16%
A Little	15%
None	57%

Reparations (N=1,000)

Do you think the federal government should or should not . . .

	Definitely Should	Probably Should	Probably Should Not	Definitely Should Not
Make cash payments to the				
descendants of slaves.	18%	20%	18%	43%
Apologize to the descendants of				
slaves.	32%	20%	15%	33%
Provide free college tuition to the				
descendants of slaves.	21%	22%	18%	40%
Provide housing assistance to the				
descendants of slaves.	19%	24%	18%	39%