

Pew Charitable Trusts

National Criminal Justice Survey

1215 Adults Nationwide

Introduction

Strategy

Hello. My name is... We are conducting a public opinion survey and I would like to ask you some questions about your views on public policy issues. We are not selling anything, and I will not ask you for a contribution or a donation.

- Q1. May I please speak to the youngest male/female, 18 years of age or older, who is currently at home?
- Q2. In general, would you say things in the country are generally headed in the right direction, or have they gotten off on the wrong track?

					Law Enf.	Crime
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	HH	Victim HH
Right direction	37	14	36	65	39	36
Wrong track	56	79	59	27	53	58
Don't know	7	7	5	8	8	6

Q3. On a day-to-day basis, using a scale from 0 to 10 where 0 means you do not feel safe at all and 10 means you feel completely safe, how safe do you personally feel in your community? You can choose any number between 0 and 10.

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
0 - Do not feel safe at all	2	1	2	1	2	3
1	0	0	1	0	1	0
2	1	2	1	0	2	1
3	3	2	4	3	2	4
4	5	6	5	2	9	7
5	8	10	9	6	6	9
6	5	6	6	4	4	5
7	15	17	15	14	10	12
8	22	23	23	19	25	22
9	13	13	11	16	10	12
10 - Feel completely safe	25	17	23	34	28	24
Don't know/Refused	1	2	0	0	1	0

Q4. Do you think the American criminal justice system...?

					Law Ent.	Crime
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	НН	Victim HH
Needs a complete overhaul	26	23	29	21	30	30
Needs major reform	38	44	35	36	36	41
Needs minor reform	29	27	29	33	28	23
Doesn't need to change	4	3	4	7	4	4
Don't know	3	3	2	3	2	2

Arrest and Release Attitudes

Q5. Which of the following comes closer to your view?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	HH	Victim HH
People who get arrested are usually guilty, so the justice system should treat them more like criminals than like innocent citizens while they're awaiting trial.	12	11	12	16	8	12
Just because someone is arrested doesn't mean they've done anything wrong, so the justice system should treat them more like innocent citizens than like criminals while they're awaiting trial.	83	86	82	79	87	84
Don't know	5	2	6	4	6	4

Next, I am going to ask you some more specific questions about what should happen to people in the pretrial period, between when someone is accused of a crime and when their case is resolved, such as through a trial.

The pre-trial period begins when someone is accused of a crime. Sometimes the person is arrested and booked into jail, and sometimes the person is released until a future court date to face charges. If the person is arrested, a judge then decides if they should be released while their case is pending, or if they should continue to be held in jail. The judge can also set conditions on their release, such as testing for drug use. The pre-trial period can last anywhere from a few days up to years. People in the pre-trial period are innocent under the law until proven guilty.

Q6. In general, which of the following comes closer to your view about what should happen to people accused of nonviolent crimes?

Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Ent. HH	Victim HH
12	9	12	14	11	8
83	88	83	79	86	86
5	4	5	6	2	6
	12	12 9 83 88	12 9 12 83 88 83	12 9 12 14 83 88 83 79	Total Dem Ind Rep HH 12 9 12 14 11 83 88 83 79 86

Q7 was asked of half the sample

Q7. Sometimes, police come into contact with people who are accused of committing minor crimes driven by addiction or mental illness. Which of the following comes closer to your view about what should happen in these situations?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH*	Crime Victim HH
The police should generally not arrest them for committing a crime, but instead connect them to substance abuse or mental health treatment in order to address the causes of their problem behavior.	66	74	68	51	63	64
The police should generally arrest them for committing a crime, put them in jail and start the process of prosecuting them to keep communities safe from their problem behavior.	27	21	23	43	29	28
Don't know	7	5	8	6	8	8
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^{*} small base size (less than 100 respondents)

Q8 was asked of half the sample

Q8. Which of the following do you agree with more when it comes to people accused of minor crimes, such as trespassing and public drunkenness?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH*	Crime Victim HH
Some people say that these crimes are so minor that people accused of those crimes should not be held in jail while they're awaiting trial.	80	84	85	69	75	82
Other people say that minor crimes are still crimes, and anyone accused of those crimes should be subject to being held in jail while they're awaiting trial.	17	16	13	28	22	15
Don't know	3	0	2	3	3	3

Now, I will read you a few different types of crimes. After each one, please tell me whether you think people accused of this type of crime should generally remain in the community until their trial is complete, or whether they should be locked up in jail until their trial is complete.

The order of questions Q9 – Q14 was randomized and each question was asked of half the sample

Total	be locked up in jail	Usually be locked up in jail awaiting trial	Usually remain in the community awaiting trial	Always remain in the community awaiting trial		BE _OCKED UP	REMAIN IN COMMUNITY
Q9. Violent crimes	60	34	3	2	2	94	4
Q11. Felonies, which are crimes generally punishable by over a year in prison	24	40	24	5	7	64	29
Q13. Drug possession or use	13	24	39	18	6	37	57
Q12. Misdemeanors, which are crimes generally punishable by less than a year in jail	6	10	56	24	3	16	80
Q10. Nonviolent crimes	3	8	57	30	3	10	87
Q14. Traffic offenses	3	7	44	44	2	10	88

Among Democrats:	Always be locked up in jail awaiting trial	•	Usually remain in the community awaiting trial	Always remain in the community awaiting trial		BE LOCKED UP	REMAIN IN COMMUNITY
Q9. Violent crimes	53	40	2	3	2	93	5
Q11. Felonies, which are crimes generally punishable by over a year in prison	23	42	25	5	4	66	30
Q13. Drug possession or use	10	22	43	19	5	32	62
Q12. Misdemeanors, which are crimes generally punishable by less than a year in jail	5	5	55	33	3	9	88
Q10. Nonviolent crimes	3	4	61	31	1	7	92
Q14. Traffic offenses	4	8	45	42	1	12	87

Among Independents:	be locked up in jail	Usually be locked up in jail awaiting trial	Usually remain in the community awaiting trial	Always remain in the community awaiting trial		BE LOCKED UP	REMAIN IN COMMUNITY
Q9. Violent crimes	54	40	2	2	2	94	4
Q11. Felonies, which are crimes generally punishable by over a year in prison	25	43	26	3	4	67	28
Q13. Drug possession or use	10	24	41	22	4	34	62
Q12. Misdemeanors, which are crimes generally punishable by less than a year in jail	5	15	56	22	1	20	79
Q10. Nonviolent crimes	4	8	62	24	2	11	86
Q14. Traffic offenses	2	9	45	43	2	11	87

Among Republicans:	be locked up in jail	Usually be locked up in jail awaiting trial	Usually remain in the community awaiting trial	Always remain in the community awaiting trial		BE LOCKED UP	REMAIN IN COMMUNITY
Q9. Violent crimes	73	20	4	1	1	94	5
Q11. Felonies, which are crimes generally punishable by over a year in prison	24	40	20	5	11	64	25
Q13. Drug possession or use	24	23	38	9	6	47	47
Q12. Misdemeanors, which are crimes generally punishable by less than a year in jail	8	13	56	17	6	20	73
Q10. Nonviolent crimes	1	16	50	29	4	17	80
Q14. Traffic offenses	2	6	42	47	3	8	89
Among Law Enforcement HH*:	be locked up in jail awaiting trial	awaiting trial	trial	awaiting trial	Don't know	BE LOCKED UP	REMAIN IN COMMUNITY
Q9. Violent crimes	67	27	2	2	2	94	4
Q11. Felonies, which are crimes generally punishable by over a year in prison	32	33	21	8	5	65	29
Q13. Drug possession or use	17	23	34	22	4	40	56
Q12. Misdemeanors, which are crimes generally punishable by less than a year in jail	5	11	59	22	2	16	82
Q10. Nonviolent crimes	0	13	50	36	1	13	87
Q14. Traffic offenses	2	7	39	50	1	9	89
Among Crime Victim HH:	be locked up in	Usually be locked up in	Usually remain in the	Always remain in the		D.F.	DEMAN
	jail awaiting	jail awaiting	community awaiting	community awaiting		BE LOCKED	REMAIN IN
	trial	trial	trial	trial	know	UP	COMMUNITY
Q9. Violent crimes	54	39	4	2	2	92	6
Q11. Felonies, which are crimes generally punishable by over a year in prison	21	43	23	6	8	64	28
Q13. Drug possession or use	11	17	40	23	9	29	62
Q12. Misdemeanors, which are crimes generally punishable by less than a year in jail	5	9	53	29	4	14	82
Q10. Nonviolent crimes	2	6	55	34	3	9	89

Q14. Traffic offenses

I'm going to read you some different things that a person accused of a crime might do if the person is allowed to remain in the community while awaiting trial. For each one, tell me how concerned you would be if someone accused of a crime did this while awaiting trial.

The order of questions Q15 – Q20 was randomized and each question was asked of half the sample

The order of questions Q15	– Q20 was	randomize	ed and eac	h question w	as asked	d of half the sa	ample
Total	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned	Don't know	CONCERNED	NOT CONCERNED
Q18. Assault someone	75	19	4	1	1	94	5
Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution	59	31	6	3	1	90	9
Q17. Shoplift	30	38	19	13	0	68	32
Q19. Accidentally miss one court date	26	38	21	15	1	63	36
Q15. Use marijuana	14	22	24	40	0	36	64
Q16. Loiter in a public area	10	26	32	30	1	37	62
Among Democrats:	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned		Not at all d concerned	Don't know		NOT ED CONCERNED
Q18. Assault someone	75	20	4	2	0	95	5
Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution	62	29	8	1	1	91	9
Q17. Shoplift	22	36	28	14	0	58	42
Q19. Accidentally miss one court date	27	29	23	21	1	56	43
Q15. Use marijuana	12	14	28	45	0	27	73
Q16. Loiter in a public area	10	25	32	32	1	35	64
·							
Among Independents:	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very	Not at all	Don't know	CONCERNED	NOT CONCERNED
·	•	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all			NOT
Among Independents:	concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned	know	CONCERNED	NOT CONCERNED
Among Independents: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from	concerned 73	Somewhat concerned 22	Not very concerned 3	Not at all concerned 0	know 1	CONCERNED 95	NOT CONCERNED 3
Among Independents: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution	concerned 73 55	Somewhat concerned 22 35	Not very concerned 3	Not at all concerned 0	know 1	CONCERNED 95 89	NOT CONCERNED 3
Among Independents: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution Q17. Shoplift Q19. Accidentally miss one	concerned 73 55 25	Somewhat concerned 22 35 42	Not very concerned 3 6	Not at all concerned 0 4	1 1 0	CONCERNED 95 89 67	NOT CONCERNED 3 10 33
Among Independents: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution Q17. Shoplift Q19. Accidentally miss one court date	concerned 73 55 25 20	Somewhat concerned 22 35 42 46	Not very concerned 3 6 19 20	Not at all concerned 0 4 14 12	know 1 1 0 2	CONCERNED 95 89 67 66	NOT CONCERNED 3 10 33 32
Among Independents: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution Q17. Shoplift Q19. Accidentally miss one court date Q15. Use marijuana	concerned 73 55 25 20 13 12 Very	Somewhat concerned 22 35 42 46 20	Not very concerned 3 6 19 20 27 32 Not very	Not at all concerned 0 4 14 12 39 32 Not at all	know 1 1 0 2 0	CONCERNED 95 89 67 66	NOT CONCERNED 3 10 33 32 66 64
Among Independents: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution Q17. Shoplift Q19. Accidentally miss one court date Q15. Use marijuana Q16. Loiter in a public area Among Republicans: Q18. Assault someone	concerned 73 55 25 20 13 12 Very	Somewhat concerned 22 35 42 46 20 24	Not very concerned 3 6 19 20 27 32 Not very	Not at all concerned 0 4 14 12 39 32 Not at all	know 1 1 0 2 0 0 Don't	CONCERNED 95 89 67 66 33 36	NOT CONCERNED 3 10 33 32 66 64
Among Independents: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution Q17. Shoplift Q19. Accidentally miss one court date Q15. Use marijuana Q16. Loiter in a public area Among Republicans: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from	concerned 73 55 25 20 13 12 Very concerned 78	Somewhat concerned 22 35 42 46 20 24 Somewhat concerned 15	Not very concerned 3 6 19 20 27 32 Not very concerned 3	Not at all concerned 0 4 14 12 39 32 Not at all concerned 3	know 1 1 0 2 0 0 Don't know 2	CONCERNED 95 89 67 66 33 36 CONCERNED 93	NOT CONCERNED 3 10 33 32 66 64 NOT CONCERNED 6
Among Independents: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution Q17. Shoplift Q19. Accidentally miss one court date Q15. Use marijuana Q16. Loiter in a public area Among Republicans: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution	concerned 73 55 25 20 13 12 Very concerned 78 65	Somewhat concerned 22 35 42 46 20 24 Somewhat concerned 15 27	Not very concerned 3 6 19 20 27 32 Not very concerned 3 4	Not at all concerned 0 4 14 12 39 32 Not at all concerned 3 3	know 1 1 0 2 0 0 Don't know 2 1	CONCERNED 95 89 67 66 33 36 CONCERNED 93 92	NOT CONCERNED 3 10 33 32 66 64 NOT CONCERNED 6
Among Independents: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution Q17. Shoplift Q19. Accidentally miss one court date Q15. Use marijuana Q16. Loiter in a public area Among Republicans: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution Q17. Shoplift	concerned 73 55 25 20 13 12 Very concerned 78	Somewhat concerned 22 35 42 46 20 24 Somewhat concerned 15	Not very concerned 3 6 19 20 27 32 Not very concerned 3	Not at all concerned 0 4 14 12 39 32 Not at all concerned 3	know 1 1 0 2 0 0 Don't know 2	CONCERNED 95 89 67 66 33 36 CONCERNED 93	NOT CONCERNED 3 10 33 32 66 64 NOT CONCERNED 6
Among Independents: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution Q17. Shoplift Q19. Accidentally miss one court date Q15. Use marijuana Q16. Loiter in a public area Among Republicans: Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution	concerned 73 55 25 20 13 12 Very concerned 78 65	Somewhat concerned 22 35 42 46 20 24 Somewhat concerned 15 27	Not very concerned 3 6 19 20 27 32 Not very concerned 3 4	Not at all concerned 0 4 14 12 39 32 Not at all concerned 3 3	know 1 1 0 2 0 0 Don't know 2 1	CONCERNED 95 89 67 66 33 36 CONCERNED 93 92	NOT CONCERNED 3 10 33 32 66 64 NOT CONCERNED 6

32

33

25

Q16. Loiter in a public area

41

58

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Among Law Enforcement HH*:	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned	Don't know	CONCERNED	NOT CONCERNED
Q18. Assault someone	79	17	1	2	1	96	3
Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution	63	31	4	1	0	94	6
Q17. Shoplift	32	43	10	14	0	75	25
Q19. Accidentally miss one court date	27	38	21	13	0	65	34
Q15. Use marijuana	16	17	24	42	0	33	66
Q16. Loiter in a public area	8	28	38	26	0	35	65
Among Crime Victim HH:	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned	Don't know	CONCERNED	NOT CONCERNED
Among Crime Victim HH: Q18. Assault someone			very	at all		CONCERNED 94	
-	concerned	concerned	very concerned	at all concerned	know		CONCERNED
Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from	concerned 77	concerned 17	very concerned	at all concerned	know 1	94	CONCERNED 5
Q18. Assault someone Q20. Intentionally flee from prosecution	concerned 77 53	concerned 17 35	very concerned 3	at all concerned 2	know 1	94 88	CONCERNED 5 12

Q16. Loiter in a public area

Now, I'm going to read you some different statements that people make about the pre-trial justice system. After I read each one, please tell me if you agree or disagree with that statement.

The order of questions 21 – 25 was randomized. Q21 – Q23 were asked of a third of the sample and Q24-Q25 were asked of half the sample.

Total:	Agree,	Agree, not so strongly	Disagree, not so strongly	Disagree,	Don't know	AGREE	DISAGREE
Q23. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than 60 days in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	70	19	3	5	2	90	8
Q22. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than 30 days in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	67	19	6	8	1	86	13
Q25. We have limited resources to spend on public safety. We should spend less money on jailing people who are accused of crimes and pose little threat to public safety, and use some of that money instead to fund services for people who need substance abuse or mental health treatment.	63	19	9	7	2	82	16
Q24. We have limited resources to spend on public safety. We should spend less money on jailing people who are accused of crimes and pose little threat to public safety, and use some of that money instead to fund services for victims of crimes, such as counseling or safe housing.	57	28	7	5	3	85	13
Q21. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than a week in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	57	24	8	9	2	81	17

Among Democrats:	Agree, strongly	Agree, not so strongly	Disagree, not so strongly	Disagree, strongly	Don't know	AGREE I	DISAGREE
Q23. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than 60 days in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	69	18	2	9	2	87	10
Q22. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than 30 days in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	71	10	6	12	2	81	18
Q25. We have limited resources to spend on public safety. We should spend less money on jailing people who are accused of crimes and pose little threat to public safety, and use some of that money instead to fund services for people who need substance abuse or mental health treatment.	69	19	7	4	1	88	11
Q24. We have limited resources to spend on public safety. We should spend less money on jailing people who are accused of crimes and pose little threat to public safety, and use some of that money instead to fund services for victims of crimes, such as counseling or safe housing.	71	18	4	3	4	89	7
Q21. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than a week in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	55	29	10	3	4	84	13

Among Independents:	Agree,	Agree, not so strongly	Disagree, not so strongly	Disagree, strongly	Don't know	AGREE D	DISAGREE
Q23. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than 60 days in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	73	20	4	1	2	93	5
Q22. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than 30 days in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	69	20	6	4	2	89	10
Q25. We have limited resources to spend on public safety. We should spend less money on jailing people who are accused of crimes and pose little threat to public safety, and use some of that money instead to fund services for people who need substance abuse or mental health treatment.	66	19	8	6	1	85	14
Q24. We have limited resources to spend on public safety. We should spend less money on jailing people who are accused of crimes and pose little threat to public safety, and use some of that money instead to fund services for victims of crimes, such as counseling or safe housing.	55	29	9	5	2	84	14
Q21. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than a week in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	59	19	5	16	1	78	21

Among Republicans:	Agree, strongly	Agree, not so strongly	Disagree, not so strongly	Disagree, strongly	Don't know	AGREE	DISAGREE
Q23. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than 60 days in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	63	25	6	5	2	88	11
Q22. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than 30 days in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	58	29	7	5	1	87	12
Q25. We have limited resources to spend on public safety. We should spend less money on jailing people who are accused of crimes and pose little threat to public safety, and use some of that money instead to fund services for people who need substance abuse or mental health treatment.	48	20	16	14	2	68	29
Q24. We have limited resources to spend on public safety. We should spend less money on jailing people who are accused of crimes and pose little threat to public safety, and use some of that money instead to fund services for victims of crimes, such as counseling or safe housing.	46	34	7	10	3	80	17
Q21. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than a week in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	55	29	6	8	2	84	13

Among Law Enforcement HH*:	Agree, strongly	Agree, not so strongly	Disagree, not so strongly	Disagree, strongly	Don't know	AGREE	DISAGREE
Q25. We have limited resources to spend on public safety. We should spend less money on jailing people who are accused of crimes and pose little threat to public safety, and use some of that money instead to fund services for people who need substance abuse or mental health treatment.	63	24	7	1	5	87	9
Q24. We have limited resources to spend on public safety. We should spend less money on jailing people who are accused of crimes and pose little threat to public safety, and use some of that money instead to fund services for victims of crimes, such as counseling or safe housing.	58	26	4	10	1	84	15

Among Crime Victim HH:	Agree, strongly	Agree, not so strongly	Disagree, not so strongly	Disagree,	Don't know	AGREE D	ISAGREE
Q23. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than 60 days in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	74	18	3	3	2	92	6
Q22. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than 30 days in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	64	21	3	10	2	85	14
Q25. We have limited resources to spend on public safety. We should spend less money on jailing people who are accused of crimes and pose little threat to public safety, and use some of that money instead to fund services for people who need substance abuse or mental health treatment.	68	17	6	8	1	85	13
Q24. We have limited resources to spend on public safety. We should spend less money on jailing people who are accused of crimes and pose little threat to public safety, and use some of that money instead to fund services for victims of crimes, such as counseling or safe housing.	61	23	8	6	2	84	15
Q21. If someone accused of a crime is detained before their trial, they shouldn't have to wait more than a week in a jail cell for their trial to start except in special circumstances.	58	23	9	8	2	82	16

Release Conditions

As you may or may not know, judges can set different kinds of conditions when deciding whether to release people accused of crimes while they await trial.

One condition that judges sometimes set for people accused of crimes is requiring them to post a certain amount of money for bail, which they will lose if they don't show up for their court dates. The amount of bail money they must put up generally depends on the severity of the crime they are accused of. Those who can afford to pay the bail amount are released from jail, while those who cannot afford to pay the amount are held in jail until their case is resolved, which can take anywhere from a few days up to years.

Q26. Which of the following do you agree with more?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
Some people say money bail does not keep our communities safe because with money bail, whether someone stays in jail depends on how much money they have, not whether they pose a danger to the public.	59	64	60	49	63	62
Other people say money bail keeps our communities safe because with money bail, accused criminals have to put their own money at stake so they have an incentive to stay out of trouble.	35	29	35	46	34	33
Don't know	5	7	5	4	3	5

Next you will hear some descriptions of people accused of different types of crimes, along with some different conditions under which they could be released while their cases are pending, instead of being held in jail.

After you hear each description, please tell me whether you would support or oppose judges generally releasing people accused of that type of crime, under those conditions.

The order of questions Q27 - Q33 was randomized. Q27 - Q30 were asked of half the sample and Q31-Q33 were asked of a third of the sample.

Total:	0,	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose			SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Q27. For people accused of non-violent crimes, releasing them with an order to appear at their next court date.	63	30	3	2	2	93	5
Q28. For people accused of non-violent crimes, releasing them and setting up a series of phone calls or text messages to remind them to appear at their court date.	58	31	6	4	1	89	10
Q29. For people accused of low-level violent crimes, like a bar fight, releasing them and ordering them to stay away from the victim and not contact them.	52	32	8	6	1	85	14
Q30. For people accused of low-level violent crimes, like a bar fight, releasing them and ordering them to participate in pre-trial supervision, such as check-ins with a supervision officer, until their court date.	51	34	7	7	1	85	14
Q33. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering electronic monitoring to make sure they stay away from the victim.	42	27	12	17	1	70	29
Q31. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering them to stay away from the victim and not contact them.	30	18	21	29	1	49	50
Q32. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering them to participate in pre-trial supervision until their court date.	27	31	17	22	4	58	38

Among Democrats:		Somewhat support				SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Q27. For people accused of non-violent crimes, releasing them with an order to appear at their next court date.	64	30	1	2	3	94	3
Q28. For people accused of non-violent crimes, releasing them and setting up a series of phone calls or text messages to remind them to appear at their court date.	63	29	3	4	0	93	7
Q29. For people accused of low-level violent crimes, like a bar fight, releasing them and ordering them to stay away from the victim and not contact them.	54	33	7	5	2	87	12
Q30. For people accused of low-level violent crimes, like a bar fight, releasing them and ordering them to participate in pre-trial supervision, such as check-ins with a supervision officer, until their court date.	48	40	8	4	1	88	11
Q33. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering electronic monitoring to make sure they stay away from the victim.	50	20	13	15	1	70	28
Q31. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering them to stay away from the victim and not contact them.	29	17	24	29	1	46	53
Q32. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering them to participate in pre-trial supervision until their court date.	28	31	17	18	5	60	35

Among Independents:		Somewhat support				SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Q27. For people accused of non-violent crimes, releasing them with an order to appear at their next court date.	63	30	5	1	1	93	6
Q28. For people accused of non-violent crimes, releasing them and setting up a series of phone calls or text messages to remind them to appear at their court date.	61	30	7	2	0	91	9
Q29. For people accused of low-level violent crimes, like a bar fight, releasing them and ordering them to stay away from the victim and not contact them.	49	33	9	8	2	82	16
Q30. For people accused of low-level violent crimes, like a bar fight, releasing them and ordering them to participate in pre-trial supervision, such as check-ins with a supervision officer, until their court date.	58	26	8	8	1	83	16
Q33. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering electronic monitoring to make sure they stay away from the victim.	32	30	11	25	2	62	36
Q31. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering them to stay away from the victim and not contact them.	29	25	18	28	1	54	46
Q32. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering them to participate in pre-trial supervision until their court date.	26	29	21	22	3	55	42

Among Republicans:		Somewhat support				SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Q27. For people accused of non-violent crimes, releasing them with an order to appear at their next court date.	60	31	5	4	0	91	9
Q28. For people accused of non-violent crimes, releasing them and setting up a series of phone calls or text messages to remind them to appear at their court date.	47	36	10	6	1	83	16
Q29. For people accused of low-level violent crimes, like a bar fight, releasing them and ordering them to stay away from the victim and not contact them.	54	31	7	6	0	86	14
Q30. For people accused of low-level violent crimes, like a bar fight, releasing them and ordering them to participate in pre-trial supervision, such as check-ins with a supervision officer, until their court date.	48	37	8	6	2	84	13
Q33. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering electronic monitoring to make sure they stay away from the victim.	49	29	8	12		79	19
Q31. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering them to stay away from the victim and not contact them.	33	15	20	30	2	48	38
Q32. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering them to participate in pre-trial supervision until their court date.	26	34	12	26	2	60	38

Among Law Enforcement HH*:	• • •	Somewhat support		٠.		SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Q27. For people accused of non-violent crimes, releasing them with an order to appear at their next court date.	66	29	0	4	0	95	5
Q28. For people accused of non-violent crimes, releasing them and setting up a series of phone calls or text messages to remind them to appear at their court date.	45	32	14	7	1	78	21
Q29. For people accused of low-level violent crimes, like a bar fight, releasing them and ordering them to stay away from the victim and not contact them.	51	37	6	4	2	88	10
Q30. For people accused of low-level violent crimes, like a bar fight, releasing them and ordering them to participate in pre-trial supervision, such as check-ins with a supervision officer, until their court date.	48	34	4	13	0	83	17

Among Crime Victim HH:		Somewhat support				SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Q27. For people accused of non-violent crimes, releasing them with an order to appear at their next court date.	68	26	4	1	1	94	5
Q28. For people accused of non-violent crimes, releasing them and setting up a series of phone calls or text messages to remind them to appear at their court date.	63	27	5	4	0	91	9
Q29. For people accused of low-level violent crimes, like a bar fight, releasing them and ordering them to stay away from the victim and not contact them.	53	33	10	3	1	86	13
Q30. For people accused of low-level violent crimes, like a bar fight, releasing them and ordering them to participate in pre-trial supervision, such as check-ins with a supervision officer, until their court date.	47	34	8	9	2	81	17
Q33. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering electronic monitoring to make sure they stay away from the victim.	33	25	16	24	2	58	40
Q31. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering them to stay away from the victim and not contact them.	33	19	20	28	1	51	48
Q32. For people accused of violent crimes, who do not have serious criminal histories, releasing them and ordering them to participate in pre-trial supervision until their court date.	22	32	18	25	4	54	43

As you may or may not know, some courts use risk assessment tools to help make decisions about which people who've been accused of crimes should be released while their cases are pending.

This involves using court records and other information to estimate the likelihood that they will miss court dates or be re-arrested before their cases are resolved. These tools rely on information about what has happened in other cases with similar characteristics. I'm going to ask you a few questions about situations involving risk assessment tools.

Q34 – Q36 were each asked of a third of the sample

Q34. Based on what you know, if a risk assessment tool shows that a certain category of people has a 90% likelihood of success - meaning 9 out of 10 will make it through their pre-trial period without being re-arrested for a crime - which of the following comes closer to your view about what should happen to them?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Crime Victim HH
They should be held in jail while their cases are pending, because the risk that they will commit a crime if they're released is too high.	17	16	14	21	15
They should be released while their cases are pending, because they are presumed innocent and are likely to obey the law.	79	80	81	74	80
Don't know	4	4	5	5	5

Q35. Based on what you know, if a risk assessment tool shows that a certain category of people has a 70% likelihood of success - meaning 7 out of 10 will make it through their pre-trial period without being re-arrested for a crime - which of the following comes closer to your view about what should happen to them?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Victim HH
They should be held in jail while their cases are pending, because the risk that they will commit a crime if they're released is too high.	27	29	27	28	24
They should be released while their cases are pending, because they are presumed innocent and are likely to obey the law.	66	60	66	68	70
Don't know	7	11	6	4	6

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Q36. Based on what you know, if a risk assessment tool shows that a certain category of people has a 90% likelihood of success - meaning 9 out of 10 will make it through their pre-trial period without being arrested for a violent crime - which of the following comes closer to your view about what should happen to them?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Crime Victim HH
They should be held in jail while their cases are pending, because the risk that they will commit a violent crime if they're released is too high.	28	26	31	25	27
They should be released while their cases are pending, because we can set conditions like pre-trial supervision or electronic monitoring instead to help prevent them from committing a violent crime.	69	73	67	73	69
Don't know	3	1	2	2	4

Convicted Populations and Community Corrections

Switching topics slightly... I want to ask you some questions about people who have gone through the justice system and been **convicted** of a crime. Some people who have been convicted of a crime are put on probation or parole. They live in the community but are under the supervision of a government officer for some period of time, who monitors whether they comply with certain rules, like following a curfew, taking drug tests or going to counseling. They can be sent back to jail or prison for not following those rules.

Q37. Which of the following do you believe should be a higher priority when it comes to people on probation or parole supervision?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
Enforcing the conditions of supervision and imposing penalties for violations.	35	26	35	49	35	32
Helping people on supervision succeed by addressing the problems underlying their criminal behavior.	61	70	61	48	63	64
Don't know	4	4	4	3	3	5

Q38. As you may or may not know, more than 4 million Americans, or 1 in every 53 American adults, are on probation or parole. Which of the following do you agree with more?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
Some people say these Americans spend years under government supervision with restrictions on their freedom, while facing the constant threat of incarceration for any misstep. This is too many people under too much surveillance.	37	46	37	28	32	37
Other people say that may be a lot of people, but these people are criminals and this is part of their sentence. They need to be tracked and monitored in order to keep us safe.	56	48	57	67	64	57
Don't know	6	6	6	6	4	6

Q39. I'm going to read you a statement that someone could make, and then ask if you agree or disagree with that statement.

Questions Q40 – Q42 were each asked of a third of the sample

Total:	Agree, strongly			Disagree, strongly			DISAGREE
Q40. Returning citizens deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	66	23	4	5	2	89	9
Q42. Formerly incarcerated people deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	64	25	5	3	2	90	8
Q41. Offenders deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	52	28	6	7	7	80	13

Among Democrats:	Agree, strongly	not so	Disagree, not so strongly				DISAGREE
Q40. Returning citizens deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	71	26	1	1	1	98	2
Q42. Formerly incarcerated people deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	68	19	9	1	2	87	11
Q41. Offenders deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	52	28	5	10	5	80	15

Among Independents:	Agree, strongly	not so		Disagree,			DISAGREE
Q40. Returning citizens deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	71	20	5	3	1	91	8
Q42. Formerly incarcerated people deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	65	28	4	3	0	93	6
Q41. Offenders deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	50	29	4	6	10	80	10

Among Republicans:	Agree, strongly	not so	Disagree, not so strongly	•			DISAGREE
Q40. Returning citizens deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	55	25	9	10	0	81	19
Q42. Formerly incarcerated people deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	56	34	2	5	3	90	7
Q41. Offenders deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	45	32	10	6	7	77	16

Among Crime Victim HH:	Agree, strongly	not so		Disagree,			DISAGREE
Q40. Returning citizens deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	69	22	5	5	0	90	10
Q42. Formerly incarcerated people deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	69	23	5	2	0	92	8
Q41. Offenders deserve a second chance, because they've already paid their debt to society.	56	26	6	5	7	82	11

Q43. As you may or may not know, people convicted of crimes are often required to pay fees, fines, and restitution to courts, victims, and various government agencies. Which of these comes closer to your point of view?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
The amount of money people are ordered to pay should be based on their income and resources, to make sure that they are held accountable without driving them into debt that could destabilize their lives and make it more likely they will commit crimes in the future.	63	74	62	52	64	64
The amount of money people are ordered to pay should be based only on the circumstances of the crime, regardless of their assets and income, because we shouldn't let them off the hook just because they can't afford it.	33	24	33	45	34	31
Don't know	4	2	4	3	1	5

Demographics

Thank you. The few remaining questions are for statistical purposes only.

QD1B. What is your age?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
18-24	14	19	15	5	10	10
25-34	16	13	17	15	21	16
35-44	17	18	19	10	21	20
45-54	15	14	15	21	15	18
55-64	18	14	19	20	14	20
65 Plus	18	20	14	26	17	15
REFUSED	2	2	1	1	2	2

QD2. What was the last level of schooling you completed?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
Less than high school graduate	6	7	4	5	5	6
High school graduate	29	27	29	29	25	27
Some college	30	26	31	37	31	33
College graduate	25	27	25	22	31	24
Post-graduate	10	12	11	7	7	10
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0

QD3. What is your current marital status?

					Law Enf.	Crime
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	НН	Victim HH
Single	35	42	36	19	31	30
Married or living-as-married	45	38	45	56	49	49
Divorced or separated	12	11	15	13	12	15
Widowed	8	10	4	12	8	6
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0

QD4. Do you have any children, 18 years old or younger, living at home? IF YES, ASK: Is one or more of those children between the ages of 13 and 18?

					Law Enf.	Crime
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	HH	Victim HH
Yes, parent of a teenager	16	16	14	18	17	18
Yes, not parent of a teenager	11	12	13	9	13	13
No	73	72	73	73	69	69
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0

QV1. Are you registered to vote in the state where you live?

					Law Em.	Crime
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	НН	Victim HH
Yes	85	92	84	91	87	84
No	14	7	15	9	11	15
Don't know	1	0	1	0	1	1

QV2. This November, there will be a general election for U.S. Congress. I know it's a long way off, but how likely are you to vote in the November Congressional midterm election?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
Absolutely certain	54	60	47	58	61	53
Very likely	29	28	36	25	21	31
Possibly will vote	11	9	12	12	13	10
Not likely	2	2	2	2	2	2
Will not vote	2	1	3	3	3	2
Don't know	1	0	1	1	0	1

QD5. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an independent or something else?

	T-1-1	D	land.	D	Law Enf.	Crime
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	НН	Victim HH
Strong Republican	14	0	0	60	16	12
Not So Strong Republican	9	0	0	40	10	8
Independent Leans Republican	9	0	26	0	12	10
Independent	17	0	48	0	17	22
Independent Leans Democratic	9	0	26	0	6	10
Not So Strong Democrat	12	39	0	0	5	10
Strong Democrat	18	61	0	0	19	14
Don't know	12	0	0	0	15	13

QD6. Do you consider yourself very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative or very conservative? IF MODERATE, ASK: Do you tend to lean toward the liberal or conservative side?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
Very liberal	12	26	8	3	6	10
Somewhat liberal	19	31	18	6	15	20
Moderate leans liberal	7	10	8	2	8	6
Moderate	18	14	23	14	23	21
Moderate leans conservative	7	2	11	9	6	8
Somewhat conservative	18	9	21	30	15	18
Very conservative	13	4	7	33	21	10
Don't know	7	4	4	4	6	7

QD7. Are you Latino, Hispanic, or of Spanish or Mexican descent?

,	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
Yes	16	18	16	12	21	15
No	83	82	83	87	78	84
Don't know	1	0	1	1	1	1

QD8. Are you black, white, Asian, Native American or some other race?

					Law Ent.	Crime
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	HH	Victim HH
Black	13	24	12	3	17	14
White	72	60	76	83	61	72
Asian	2	3	3	1	1	2
Native American	4	2	6	5	5	6
Other:	5	6	2	6	10	3
Don't know	4	5	2	3	6	2

QD9. Do you think of yourself as a Christian or not?

,					Law Enf.	Crime
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	НН	Victim HH
Yes	68	61	69	86	71	67
No	30	37	31	13	27	31
Don't know	2	2	1	0	2	2

QD10. Would you describe yourself as a 'born again' or evangelical Christian, or not? Asked of those who identify as Christian

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
Yes, born again or evangelical Christian	41	40	36	52	43	43
No, not born again or evangelical Christian	53	57	60	41	46	51
Don't know	6	2	3	7	11	6

QD11. In which of the following ranges does your family income fall?

					Law Ent.	Crime
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	НН	Victim HH
Below \$20,000	15	14	15	15	13	16
Between 20 thousand and 30 thousand	15	15	15	17	15	16
Between 30 and 40 thousand	11	8	12	11	13	13
Between 40 and 50 thousand	7	6	7	9	6	6
Between 50 and 60 thousand	7	6	8	7	9	7
Between 60 and 70 thousand	6	5	8	6	5	4
Between 70 and 80 thousand	6	9	5	6	4	6
Between 80 and 100 thousand	8	11	8	7	9	9
Between 100 and 150 thousand	8	9	6	9	11	9
Above 150 thousand	7	10	8	6	8	7
Don't know	9	8	8	7	8	7

QD13. Have you or a member of your immediate family been a victim of a crime? IF YES, ASK: And does that apply to you, to someone else in your immediate family, or both?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
Yes, You	14	10	17	13	17	31
Yes, Someone else in your immediate family	12	12	13	13	15	27
Yes, Both	18	14	24	12	23	42
No	55	63	46	61	45	0
Don't know	2	2	1	0	0	0

QD14. Are you or someone in your immediate family active in law enforcement? IF YES, ASK: And does that apply to you, to someone else in your immediate family, or both?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
Yes, You	1	1	1	2	8	1
Yes, Someone else in your immediate family	12	10	12	13	82	15
Yes, Both	1	1	1	0	9	2
No	84	88	85	84	0	82
Don't know	1	1	0	0	0	0

QD15. Have you or someone in your immediate family ever been arrested? IF YES, ASK: And does that apply to you, to someone else in your immediate family, or both?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
Yes, You	12	6	14	14	12	16
Yes, Someone else in your immediate family	23	26	24	18	28	28
Yes, Both	10	10	12	6	17	18
No	53	57	47	61	42	37
Don't know	2	1	2	1	1	1

QD16. Have you or someone in your immediate family ever been in a jail, prison, juvenile correctional facility or on probation or parole? IF YES, ASK: And does that apply to you, to someone else in your immediate family, or both?

	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	Law Enf. HH	Crime Victim HH
Yes, You	11	5	14	13	14	15
Yes, Someone else in your immediate family	22	22	24	20	25	29
Yes, Both	7	8	6	4	13	11
No	58	64	55	61	47	43
Don't know	2	1	2	2	1	1

QD17. Do you have a family member or close friend who is or has been addicted to drugs, or not?

					Law En	f. Crime
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	HH	Victim HH
Yes	49	47	51	46	68	64
No	49	51	47	53	32	35
Don't know	2	2	2	1	1	1

QD18. Gender

					Law Enf.	. Crime
	Total	Dem	Ind	Rep	HH	Victim HH
Male	50	42	57	48	53	53
Female	50	58	43	52	47	47

Subgroup Unweighted Base Sizes

Total: 1215 respondents **Democrats:** 339 respondents **Independents:** 416 respondents **Republicans:** 336 respondents

Law Enforcement Households: 177 respondents Crime Victim Households: 520 respondents

^{*} denotes small base size (less than 100 respondents)