

This Washington Post-Schar School poll was conducted October 7-10, 2022, among a random national sample of 1,238 adults. The sample was drawn through SSRS's Opinion Panel, an ongoing survey panel recruited through random sampling of U.S. households; the survey includes oversamples Asian, Black and Hispanic adults; all racial/ethnic groups were weighted back to Census population estimates for adults. Overall results have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points, including design effects due to weighting.

(Full methodological details and sampling error margins for subgroups appended at the end.)

*= less than 0.5 percent

1. Would you support or oppose the Supreme Court banning colleges and universities from considering a student's race and ethnicity when making decisions about student admissions? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	Support			Oppose			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
10/10/22	63	45	19	36	13	23	*

2. In general, do you think programs designed to increase the racial diversity of students on college campuses are a (good thing) or a (bad thing)?

	Good thing	Bad thing	No opinion
10/10/22	64	36	*

Compare to:

In general, do you think affirmative action programs designed to increase the number of black and minority students on college campuses are a good thing or a bad thing?

	Good thing	Bad thing	Don't know/Refused
8/21/17*	71	22	7
3/16/14	63	30	8
5/03	60	30	10

*Pew Research Center

3. How important, if at all, is it that state universities try to enroll a student body that has a similar racial and ethnic makeup as their state?

	Important			Less important			No opinion
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	
10/10/22	40	14	27	60	28	32	0

4. Do you think students from each of the following backgrounds have a fair chance of getting into a good college, (an unfair advantage), or (an unfair disadvantage)?

10/10/22 - Summary table

	Have a fair chance	Have an unfair advantage	Have an unfair disadvantage	No opinion
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a. White students	62	27	11	*
b. Black students	43	17	40	*
c. Hispanic and Latino students	44	14	42	*
d. Asian students	66	16	18	*
e. Students from low-income families	27	10	62	*
f. Students from high-income families	35	60	5	*

5. Do you think it is appropriate or inappropriate for universities to give preferential treatment in admissions to students whose parents went to the same university?

	Appropriate	Inappropriate	No opinion
10/10/22	25	75	*

Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as...?

	A Democrat	A Republican	An independent	Other	No opinion
10/10/22	30	30	28	12	*
7/24/22	28	26	34	12	0
3/18/21	31	25	34	10	*

*** END ***

METHODOLOGICAL DETAILS

This poll was sponsored and funded by The Washington Post and George Mason University's Schar School of Policy and Government and was conducted of a random sample of U.S. adults living in the United States. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish.

The questionnaire was administered with the exact questions in the exact order as they appear in this document. Demographic questions are not shown. If a question was asked of a reduced base of the sample, a parenthetical preceding the question identifies the group asked. Phrases surrounded by parentheticals within questions indicate clauses that were randomly rotated for respondents.

SSRS conducted sampling, interviewing and tabulation for the survey. The survey was conducted online among a sample from the SSRS Opinion Panel, an ongoing survey panel recruited through random sampling of U.S. households through both address-based sampling and random digit dialing of cell/landline phones.

This survey uses statistical weighting procedures to account for differential probability of selection based on phone type or geographic strata. The sample was also weighted to match the demographic makeup U.S. adults age 18 or older by age, race/ethnicity, gender, education, region, population density, voter registration, civic engagement, internet usage, religious affiliation and party identification.

Sources of weighting benchmarks are listed below:

U.S. Census Bureau's 2021 Current Population Survey: Age, gender, education, race/ethnicity, region
U.S. Census Bureau's 2019 Current Population Survey: Civic engagement (volunteering and talking to neighbors),
Census Planning Database 2020: Population density
Pew Research Center NPORS survey: Religious affiliation and internet usage
Washington Post-ABC News polls: Party affiliation

The margin of sampling error for the overall sample including the design effect is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. For results based on subgroups, the margin of sampling error may be higher. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

All error margins have been adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, which is 1.5. The design effect is a factor representing the survey's deviation from a simple random sample and takes into account decreases in precision due to sample design and weighting procedures. Surveys that do not incorporate a design effect overstate their precision.

The Washington Post is a charter member of AAPOR's Transparency Initiative, which recognizes organizations that disclose key methodological details on the research they produce.

Contact polls@washpost.com for further information about how The Washington Post conducts polls.

Group	Sample size	Error margin
U.S. adults	1,238	+/- 3.5 points
Asian/Pacific Islander	184	9
Black	160	9.5
Hispanic	187	8.5
White	667	4.5

