

Annual Report on U.S. Attitudes towards Socialism

September 2016



Sample Members of the General Public Age 16+
 Conducted September 30 – October 05, 2016
 Margin of Error ±2.8%

1. Q1: Which of the following is closest to your view of America's current economic system?

America's economic system works against me 52%
 America's economic system works for me 48%

2. Q2: Thinking about income inequality, how serious of an issue are each of the following?

	Not at all serious	Not very serious	Somewhat serious	Very serious	Not serious NET	Serious NET
Divide between the rich and poor	7%	15%	29%	49%	22%	78%
Pay gap between men and women	14%	23%	35%	28%	37%	63%
Income inequality between races	13%	23%	34%	30%	36%	64%

3. Q3: Please tell us how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statement."The highest earners in the United States pay their fair share."

Strongly disagree 38%
 Somewhat disagree 29%
 Somewhat agree 22%
 Strongly agree 12%
Disagree NET 67%
Agree NET 33%

4. Q4: What change would ensure the highest earners pay their fair share?

Increased charitable donations	5%
Increased taxes	46%
Complete change of our economic system	40%
Other	9%

5. Q5: Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of capitalism?

Very unfavorable	12%
Somewhat unfavorable	17%
Somewhat favorable	25%
Very favorable	24%
Not sure	22%
Unfavorable NET	29%
Favorable NET	50%

6. Q6: Do you consider calling someone a capitalist to be a compliment, an insult or a neutral description?

Insult	15%
Neutral	42%
Compliment	22%
Not sure	21%

7. Q7: Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of socialism?

Very unfavorable	30%
Somewhat unfavorable	17%
Somewhat favorable	22%
Very favorable	7%
Not sure	23%
Unfavorable NET	48%
Favorable NET	30%

8. Q8: Do you consider calling someone a socialist to be a compliment, an insult or a neutral description?

Insult	30%
Neutral	37%
Compliment	10%
Not sure	23%

9. Q9: Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of communism?

Very unfavorable	57%
Somewhat unfavorable	18%
Somewhat favorable	7%
Very favorable	3%
Not sure	15%
Unfavorable NET	75%
Favorable NET	10%

10. Q10: Do you consider calling someone a communist to be a compliment, an insult or a neutral description?

Insult	62%
Neutral	21%
Compliment	3%
Not sure	14%

11. Q11: How likely would you be to vote for a presidential candidate who described him or herself as the following?

	Not at all likely	Not very likely	Somewhat likely	Very likely	Not likely NET	Likely NET
Socialist	40%	21%	30%	9%	62%	38%
Fascist	73%	19%	6%	2%	92%	8%
Capitalist	19%	21%	33%	27%	41%	59%
Communist	71%	19%	8%	2%	90%	10%

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12. Q12: People who have a favorable impression of each of the following political figures.

	Very unfavorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Somewhat favorable	Very favorable	I am unfamiliar with them	Unfavorable NET	Favorable NET
George W. Bush	22%	24%	31%	19%	3%	47%	51%
Bernie Sanders	20%	19%	28%	28%	6%	39%	55%
Ronald Reagan	11%	15%	26%	42%	5%	26%	68%
Donald Trump	49%	12%	19%	18%	2%	61%	36%
Hillary Clinton	41%	13%	22%	22%	2%	54%	44%
Mao Zedong	43%	12%	5%	2%	38%	55%	7%
Che Guevara	30%	14%	12%	4%	39%	45%	16%
Karl Marx	43%	18%	12%	4%	24%	61%	16%
Joseph Stalin	65%	14%	5%	2%	14%	79%	7%
Vladimir Lenin	46%	18%	7%	3%	26%	64%	10%
Harry S. Truman	4%	10%	44%	26%	15%	15%	71%
John F. Kennedy	3%	9%	37%	47%	5%	12%	83%
Vladimir Putin	46%	27%	12%	4%	11%	73%	16%

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13. Q12: AMONG THOSE FAMILIAR, What is your overall impression of each of the following political figures?

	Very unfavorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Somewhat favorable	Very favorable	Unfavorable NET	Favorable NET
George W. Bush	23%	25%	32%	20%	48%	52%
Bernie Sanders	21%	20%	30%	29%	41%	59%
Ronald Reagan	12%	16%	27%	45%	28%	72%
Donald Trump	50%	13%	19%	18%	63%	37%
Hillary Clinton	42%	13%	22%	23%	55%	45%
Mao Zedong	69%	20%	8%	3%	89%	11%
Che Guevara	50%	24%	21%	6%	73%	27%
Karl Marx	56%	24%	15%	5%	80%	20%
Joseph Stalin	76%	16%	6%	2%	92%	8%
Vladimir Lenin	63%	24%	10%	4%	86%	14%
Harry S. Truman	5%	12%	52%	31%	17%	83%
John F. Kennedy	3%	9%	39%	49%	12%	88%
Vladimir Putin	52%	30%	14%	4%	82%	18%

14. Q13: True or false: More people were killed under George W. Bush's presidency than Joseph Stalin's leadership.

True 26%
 False 74%

15. Q13A: True or false: More people were killed under Adolf Hitler's reign than Joseph Stalin's leadership.

True 68%
 False 32%

16. Q14: Over the past 100 years, how many people do you think communism has killed?

Less than 1 million	8%
1 million – less than 25 million	28%
25 – less than 50 million	16%
50 – less than 75 million	11%
75 – less than 100 million	11%
100 million or more	25%

17. Q14-Correct vs Incorrect: Q14-Correct vs Incorrect

Correct	25%
Incorrect	75%

18. Q15: Which of the following is closest to your view?

Communism was only a 20th century problem	18%
Communism is only a 21st century problem	5%
Communism was and still is a problem	70%
Communism has never been a problem	7%

19. Q16: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (A) From each according to his abilities, to each according to his need.; (B) A nation will not survive morally or economically when so few have so much, while so many have so little.; (C) A society that puts equality before freedom will get neither. A society that puts freedom before equality will get a high degree of both.; (D) If any would not work, neither should he eat.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	Disagree NET	Agree NET
A	13%	23%	51%	13%	36%	64%
B	8%	21%	36%	35%	29%	71%
C	8%	24%	43%	25%	32%	68%
D	18%	29%	36%	17%	47%	53%

20. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%

21. Education

HS or Less	42%
Some College	31%
College Grad	17%
Post Grad	10%

22. Race

White	66%
Black	12%
Hispanic	15%
Other	8%

23. 5 point Party ID

Democrat	32%
Lean Democrat	8%
Independent	25%
Lean Republican	9%
Republican	24%
Other	2%

24. Voter Registration

Yes	66%
No	30%
Not sure	4%

25. Ideology

Very liberal	7%
Liberal	16%
Moderate	34%
Conservative	30%
Very Conservative	5%
DK	8%

26. Interest in news and public affairs

Most of the time	48%
Some of the time	30%
Only now and then	12%
Hardly at all	8%
Don't know	1%

27. Born Again

Yes	28%
No	72%