Registered Voter Omnibus
RV Omni 2026 October B2 - Vera Institute Toplines

YouGov Blue

Sample	Online sample of 1,000 voters fielded from October 22 to October 26, 2026.
Margin of Error	±3.5%

1. Which of the following statements comes closer to your own point of view, even if neither is exactly right?

We should fully fund things to create safe communities and improve people's quality of life, like good schools, a living wage, affordable housing, and do more to prevent crime by increasing treatment for mental health and drug addiction and getting illegal guns off the street	61%
We should do more to get tough on crime, like having tougher sentences for people convicted of violent crimes, maintaining strong bail laws to keep dangerous people in jail, and providing police more support and resources	39%
Totals	100%
N	**1,000**

2. Based on the following statements, which candidate for office would you trust more?

Asked of those in Party-tagged Split A

The Republican candidate says, "I stand on the side of law and order. That means having longer sentences for people convicted of violent crimes, maintaining strong bail laws to keep dangerous people behind bars, and providing police with more support and resources"	47%
The Democratic candidate says, "I'm serious about safety. That means fully funding proven strategies that create safe communities, like good schools, jobs, and affordable housing; supporting police to solve serious cases; removing illegal guns; and preventing crime by increasing treatment for mental health and addiction"	53%
Totals	100%
N	**510**

3. Based on the following statements, which candidate for office would you trust more?

Asked of those in Party-tagged Split B

The Republican candidate says, "I stand on the side of law and order. That means having longer sentences for people convicted of violent crimes, maintaining strong bail laws to keep dangerous people behind bars, and providing police with more support and resources."	51%
The Democratic candidate says, "I am tough on crime. That means more cops on the beat and tough action against hardened criminals and gang members. I believe we should increase police funding and invest in new technologies like predictive policing, not defunding the police."	49%
Totals	100%
N	**490**

4. Based on what you just read, please indicate how well each of the following words or phrases describes each candidate:

Asked of those in Party-tagged Split A

	Authentic	Will say whatever it takes to win	Weak
The Republican who gave the statement in the previous question	44%	48%	8%
The Democrat who gave the statement in the previous question	43%	44%	12%

5. Based on what you just read, please indicate how well each of the following words or phrases describes each candidate:

Asked of those in Party-tagged Split B

	Authentic	Will say whatever it takes to win	Weak
The Republican who gave the statement in the previous question	43%	48%	9%
The Democrat who gave the statement in the previous question	37%	50%	13%

6. Which of the following statements comes closer to your own point of view, even if neither is exactly right?

To make communities safe, people who break the law must be held accountable. This means seeing the harm they've done, accepting the consequences, learning from mistakes, and changing their behavior. Harsh punishment and long sentences alone lead to more violence. We need to provide people with programs that work to turn their lives around and prevent future crime	54%
We need to make sure that people who break the law are held accountable by enforcing strict punishment. If you do the crime, you should do the time, and that means serving the full sentence. Offenders shouldn't be able to get out of jail or prison early simply because they complete programs or have a good track record behind bars	46%
Totals	100%
N	**1,000**

7. Which of the following statements comes closer to your own point of view, even if neither is exactly right?

"The Left has allowed a culture built on hating the police to drive decisions surrounding law enforcement. The Defund the Police movement is without a doubt one of the greatest dangers to public safety in our nation's history, and Democrats are responsible for it. The hostile climate for police has discouraged proactive police work. We can't expect the police to keep us safe if we aren't willing to keep them safe."	38%
"I'm not about scare tactics or slogans, and I'm not afraid to have an honest conversation. We keep expecting police to solve every social problem, from kids skipping school to mental illness to homelessness to gun violence. No one profession can do that. We're spending over $130 billion a year and putting too much on police departments. It's time to try out some promising new solutions to lift the burden. It's time for support and change, not blame."	62%
Totals	100%
N	**1,000**

8. Even if none of them is exactly right, which of the following is closest to your personal view? The best way to improve public safety in our communities would be to...

Support the police who put their lives on the line for us and hold them accountable when they use excessive force or abuse their power	33%
Build strong bonds and trust between police and the community	20%
Take the burden off police officers to solve every social problem so they can focus on serious crime	23%
Put more police on the streets	6%
Increase funding for police	7%
Support officer recruitment, retention, and wellness	5%
Not sure	6%
Totals	100%
N	**1,000**

9. Even if neither is exactly right, which of the following statements comes closest to your view?

All people who commit a crime—no matter how minor—should receive a strong police response, be arrested, and face punishment. We need to take back our streets from the mentally ill and the drug addicted. Allowing soft-on-crime responses weakens the rule of law, excuses criminal behavior, and erodes public order	35%
When people are experiencing a mental health crisis or struggling with addiction, they should be met by trained mental health professionals—not police—who can connect them to treatment and services. Addressing the root causes of these crises helps prevent future crime, disorder, and repeat offenses	65%
Totals	100%
N	**1,000**

10. Even if neither is exactly right, which of the following statements comes closest to your view?

Asked of those in Immigration Split A

Open-border policies have made our country less safe. It's time to put Americans first. Immigrants who came here illegally are dangerous to our communities and need to leave the country. It is more important than ever that ICE has the resources and funding it needs to keep criminals off our streets	45%
The big business of ICE enforcement pours billions of taxpayer dollars into private prisons and big tech companies that profit off detention and surveillance. Instead, we should prioritize funding things that are proven to create safe communities and improve Americans' quality of life, like good schools, healthcare, and making housing affordable	55%
Totals	100%
N	**513**

11. Even if neither is exactly right, which of the following statements comes closest to your view?

Asked of those in Immigration Split B

Open-border policies have made our country less safe. It's time to put Americans first. Immigrants who came here illegally are dangerous to our communities and need to leave the country. It is more important than ever that ICE has the resources and funding it needs to keep criminals off our streets	42%
We all deserve safety and stability. But ICE has gone too far, and their tactics and violations of our laws have made us less safe. Instead, we should work together to build a more fair and humane immigration system that makes life safer, more stable, and secure for all of us	58%
Totals	100%
N	**487**

12. Overall, how much confidence, if any, do you have in...

	A great deal	Some	Only a little	None at all	Not sure
The police departments and sheriff's offices in the United States today	28%	45%	16%	10%	1%
The jails and prisons in the United States today	10%	36%	31%	20%	3%
The Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in the United States today	28%	21%	11%	38%	2%
The health programs that work on mental health issues and drug abuse in the United States today	12%	37%	35%	15%	2%

13. Some evidence suggests that violent crime has declined in recent years. Which of the following, if any, do you believe have contributed to that decline? Please select up to three.

Mental health and drug addiction treatment	29%
Community violence intervention programs	22%
End of pandemic-era disruptions to schools and the economy	15%
More accountable law enforcement practices	17%
Stricter enforcement of law and order	22%
Deployment of federal agencies into major cities	17%
Freeing police officers from "woke" policies	13%
Mass deportation of illegal immigrants	26%
More focus on preventing crime before it happens	28%
I do not believe violent crime has declined in recent years	24%
N	**1,000**

14. Which of the following approaches to lowering the crime rate in the United States comes closer to your own view?

More money and effort should go to addressing social and economic problems such as drug addiction, homelessness, and mental health	61%
More money and effort should go to strengthening law enforcement and keeping people behind bars for longer	31%
Not sure	8%
Totals	100%
N	**1,000**

15. Even if it isn't exactly right, which of the following is closer to your view?

Mass incarceration causes many of the problems that lead to unsafe communities such as homelessness, poverty, and drug or mental health challenges	54%
We have safer communities when we invest in jails and prisons that keep addicts, the homeless, and criminals off our streets	46%
Totals	100%
N	**1,000**

16. Which of the following would you say is true of the following:

	Their policies on crime are too extreme	Their policies on crime are just right	They have not articulated any policies on crime
The Democratic Party	14%	40%	47%
The Republican Party	41%	43%	16%

17. Which of the following would you say is true of the following:

	They don't talk enough about crime and public safety	They talk a lot about their plans for crime and public safety
The Democratic Party	57%	43%
The Republican Party	27%	73%

18. Next, you will see policies some have proposed lately. For each of those, please say if that idea sounds [too liberal, too conservative,] or sounds just right.

	Too liberal	Too conservative	Just right	Not sure
Increasing access to mental health care	11%	7%	71%	11%
Building trust between police and the community	9%	7%	75%	9%
Making sure public safety, not wealth, determines who stays in jail pending trial	7%	8%	74%	11%
Addressing underlying economic conditions of crime	19%	9%	55%	16%
Putting 100,000 more police on the ground to improve safety	7%	31%	42%	20%
Longer sentences and mandatory minimums to keep people in prison	7%	35%	43%	16%

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This survey is based on 1,000 interviews conducted by YouGov on the internet of registered voters. The sample was weighted according to gender, age, race/ethnicity, education, and U.S. Census region based on voter registration lists, the U.S. Census American Community Survey, and the U.S. Census Current Population Survey, as well as 2020 Presidential vote and approximate 2024 Presidential vote based on available results, and party identification estimates based on Pew Research Center's National Public Opinion Reference Survey. Respondents were selected from YouGov to be representative of registered voters. The weights range from 0.15 to 6.03 with a mean of 1 and a standard deviation of 0.55.

The margin of error (a 95% confidence interval) for a sample percentage p based upon the subsetted sample is approximately 3.5%. It is calculated using the formula:

$$\hat{p} \pm 100 \times \sqrt{\frac{1 + \text{CV}^2}{n}}$$

where CV is the coefficient of variation of the sample weights and n is the sample size used to compute the proportion. This is a measure of sampling error (the average of all estimates obtained using the same sample selection and weighting procedures repeatedly). The sample estimate should differ from its expected value by less than margin of error in 95 percent of all samples. It does not reflect non-sampling errors, including potential selection bias in panel participation or in response to a particular survey.