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AAPI Data / AP-NORC survey finds deep pessimism and low trust in politics among Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

83% of AAPI adults say misinformation in U.S. elections is a major problem.

Chicago, December 13, 2023 – As the country approaches the first presidential primaries and caucuses, a new AAPI Data/AP-NORC survey, built from NORC’s [Amplify AAPI Panel](#), finds two in three Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AAPI) adults believe the country is heading in the wrong direction. Despite partisan differences, about half disapprove of President Biden and there is a prevailing lack of trust in major institutions.

AAPI communities’ sense of pessimism is less pronounced than the general population, where 75% believe the U.S. is heading in the wrong direction and President Biden’s approval is at 41%. When compared to the general population, AAPI adults give similar marks to both parties on handling the economy and handling immigration. Fifty-two percent of AAPI adults identify as Democrats or lean toward the Democratic Party, compared to 28% who identify or lean toward the Republican Party.

“The survey sheds important light on Asian American and Pacific Islander views on democracy and the electoral process,” says Karthick Ramakrishnan, director of AAPI Data and a professor of public policy. “In addition to views on the President and the major parties, we have critical and timely information about concerns about free speech, misinformation, and the integrity of the electoral process.”

Just 12% of AAPI adults think democracy is working well and concerns about misinformation in the U.S. election are high (83%), surpassing concerns about voter suppression, voter fraud, and free speech limitations. In addition, AAPI adults are generally not optimistic about the future of the Democratic (28%) or Republican (15%) parties.

“The survey reveals Asian American and Pacific Islander communities’ concerns about political parties and our country’s institutions to effectively address major issues,” says Jennifer Benz, deputy director of The AP-NORC Center. “With the data we can disentangle where confidence in government institutions is falling short - only 17% are confident in their state government, but it dips even further when asked about federal institutions - about one in ten are confident in the Supreme Court and the executive branch, while just 4% feel the same about Congress.”

About the Study

The nationwide study was conducted from November 6–15, 2023, using the Amplify AAPI Monthly survey drawing from [Amplify AAPI](#), a national probability panel of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders, built and hosted by NORC at the University of Chicago. Online and telephone interviews were offered in English, the Chinese dialects of Mandarin and Cantonese, Vietnamese, and Korean with 1,113 Asian American and Pacific Islanders aged 18 and older living in the United States. The margin of sampling error is +/- 4.4 percentage points.



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About AAPI Data

AAPI Data's reputation—among journalists, government agencies, community organizations, and scholars—is built on data, research, and narratives that are accurate, compelling, and timely. Since 2018, the program has organized its work along the principles of DNA: Data, Narrative, Action, aiming for meaningful improvements in policies, practices, and investments that serve AAPI communities.

Email press@aapidata.com for more questions.

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