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538/Ipsos Post-Presidential Debate Poll

Conducted by Ipsos using KnowledgePanel®
A survey of likely voters (ages 18+)

Pre-Debate data (Q1-Q19): Page 1 – Page 15
Post-Debate data (Q20-Q32): Page 16 – Page 32

Pre-Debate Wave:
Interview dates: June 20-25, 2024
Number of likely voter interviews: 5,058
Number of Republican likely voter interviews: 1,776
Number of Democrat likely voter interviews: 1,726
Number of Independent/Something else likely voter interviews: 1,541

Margin of error: +/- 1.55 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for all likely voters
Margin of error: +/- 2.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for all Republican likely voters
Margin of error: +/- 2.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for all Democrat likely voters
Margin of error: +/- 2.6 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for all independent/something else likely voters

Post-Debate Wave:
Interview dates: June 27-28, 2024
Number of likely voter interviews: 2,543
Number of Republican likely voter interviews: 853
Number of Democrat likely voter interviews: 895
Number of Independent/Something else likely voter interviews: 791

Margin of error: +/- 2.1 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for all likely voters
Margin of error: +/- 3.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for all Republican likely voters
Margin of error: +/- 3.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for all Democrat likely voters
Margin of error: +/- 3.7 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for all independent/something else likely voters

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Reduced bases are unweighted values.

*NOTE: * = less than 0.5%, - = no respondents, N/A = not applicable*

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Annotated Questionnaire:

1. Views on current conditions compared to before the debate

   a. Cost of living

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	*	-	-	-	*	-
Down slightly	17%	20%	14%	14%	16%	17%
Unchanged	63%	68%	69%	59%	59%	58%
Up slightly	19%	12%	18%	26%	24%	24%
Up significantly	*	-	-	-	-	*

   b. The U.S. economy

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	*	*	*	-	-	*
Down slightly	22%	22%	20%	27%	22%	23%
Unchanged	61%	63%	66%	56%	59%	58%
Up slightly	17%	15%	14%	16%	18%	19%
Up significantly	*	-	-	-	-	*

   c. How the U.S. is immigration

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	*	-	-	-	*	*
Down slightly	15%	11%	12%	20%	16%	18%
Unchanged	69%	80%	77%	65%	63%	58%
Up slightly	16%	9%	11%	14%	21%	24%
Up significantly	*	*	*	-	*	*

   d. Violent crime rates

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	*	*	1%	-	-	*
Down slightly	20%	21%	25%	38%	18%	18%
Unchanged	58%	60%	56%	50%	62%	56%
Up slightly	21%	19%	18%	13%	19%	26%
Up significantly	*	*	-	-	*	*

   e. The health of American democracy

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	*	*	*	-	-	*
Down slightly	19%	22%	20%	28%	14%	17%
Unchanged	52%	56%	55%	51%	54%	47%
Up slightly	28%	22%	24%	21%	32%	34%
Up significantly	1%	*	-	-	1%	1%

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2. Candidates' change in favorability

a. Joe Biden

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	2%	1%	*	-	3%	3%
Down slightly	11%	5%	6%	11%	16%	15%
Unchanged	77%	89%	84%	80%	65%	69%
Up slightly	10%	5%	9%	9%	16%	12%
Up significantly	1%	1%	1%	-	1%	1%

b. Donald Trump

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	1%	1%	1%	-	*	1%
Down slightly	7%	12%	11%	6%	3%	2%
Unchanged	82%	76%	72%	84%	88%	90%
Up slightly	8%	9%	13%	10%	8%	5%
Up significantly	2%	2%	2%	-	1%	2%

c. Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	1%	1%	1%	-	*	1%
Down slightly	7%	12%	11%	6%	3%	2%
Unchanged	82%	76%	72%	84%	88%	90%
Up slightly	8%	9%	13%	10%	8%	5%
Up significantly	2%	2%	2%	-	1%	2%

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3. Candidate performance post-debate compared to how they were expected to perform pre-debate

a. Joe Biden

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Much worse than expected	4%	1%	-	5%	10%	7%
Slightly worse than expected	48%	38%	43%	39%	55%	58%
As expected	40%	52%	47%	37%	27%	27%
Slightly better than expected	9%	9%	11%	19%	9%	8%
Much better than expected	*	*	-	-	-	-

b. Donald Trump

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Much worse than expected	*	*	*	-	-	*
Slightly worse than expected	24%	24%	30%	13%	23%	20%
As expected	51%	57%	42%	67%	46%	49%
Slightly better than expected	24%	17%	27%	20%	29%	29%
Much better than expected	1%	*	*	-	2%	1%

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4. Donald Trump fitness to be president post-debate compared to pre-debate

a. Mental fitness

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	1%	-	1%	-	*	1%
Down slightly	12%	13%	12%	25%	13%	10%
Unchanged	63%	67%	60%	58%	60%	62%
Up slightly	23%	19%	26%	17%	25%	25%
Up significantly	1%	1%	1%	-	2%	1%

b. Physical fitness

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	*	-	1%	-	*	*
Down slightly	15%	16%	18%	15%	16%	13%
Unchanged	57%	64%	53%	68%	54%	51%
Up slightly	27%	19%	27%	17%	28%	34%
Up significantly	1%	1%	1%	-	1%	2%

c. Emotional fitness

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	1%	*	1%	-	1%	1%
Down slightly	12%	17%	16%	7%	11%	7%
Unchanged	67%	62%	58%	69%	71%	73%
Up slightly	20%	20%	25%	24%	17%	18%
Up significantly	1%	1%	1%	-	1%	1%

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5. Joe Biden fitness to be president post-debate compared to pre-debate

a. Mental fitness

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	1%	*	*	-	2%	2%
Down slightly	23%	10%	11%	8%	36%	37%
Unchanged	63%	77%	71%	73%	51%	50%
Up slightly	13%	13%	18%	19%	11%	11%
Up significantly	*	*	*	-	*	-

b. Physical fitness

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	1%	*	1%	-	1%	1%
Down slightly	24%	12%	12%	12%	33%	37%
Unchanged	59%	68%	69%	59%	52%	49%
Up slightly	17%	19%	18%	29%	14%	14%
Up significantly	*	*	*	-	-	-

c. Emotional fitness

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Down significantly	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Down slightly	22%	13%	16%	7%	27%	31%
Unchanged	58%	63%	57%	59%	55%	54%
Up slightly	19%	23%	25%	32%	16%	14%
Up significantly	1%	1%	2%	-	-	*

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6. Change in those considering voting for each candidate in the upcoming presidential election

a. Joe Biden, of the Democratic Party

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Less consideration	4%	2%	1%	10%	6%	4%
Unchanged	94%	98%	95%	90%	88%	94%
More consideration	2%	1%	4%	-	6%	1%

b. Donald Trump, of the Republican Party

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Less consideration	2%	2%	6%	2%	2%	1%
Unchanged	95%	96%	87%	98%	94%	97%
More consideration	3%	2%	6%	-	3%	2%

c. Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., an independent candidate

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Less consideration	5%	6%	8%	3%	2%	3%
Unchanged	90%	88%	81%	94%	92%	94%
More consideration	6%	6%	11%	3%	6%	3%

d. Chase Oliver, of the Libertarian Party

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Less consideration	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%
Unchanged	97%	97%	97%	89%	96%	97%
More consideration	2%	2%	1%	9%	3%	2%

e. Jill Stein, of the Green Party

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Less consideration	1%	*	-	-	2%	1%
Unchanged	97%	99%	97%	93%	96%	97%
More consideration	2%	1%	3%	7%	2%	2%

f. Randall Terry, of the Constitution Party

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Less consideration	1%	*	1%	-	*	1%
Unchanged	98%	99%	97%	95%	97%	99%
More consideration	1%	1%	2%	5%	2%	1%

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6. Change in those considering voting for each candidate in the upcoming presidential election. *(Continued)*

g. Cornel West, an independent candidate

	All Americans	Republican	Lean Republican	No Lean	Lean Democrat	Democrat
Less consideration	1%	1%	2%	3%	2%	1%
Unchanged	97%	98%	96%	87%	96%	97%
More consideration	2%	1%	3%	10%	3%	3%

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About the Study

This 538/Washington Post/Ipsos post-debate poll was conducted June 27 to June 28, 2024, by Ipsos using the probability-based KnowledgePanel®. The pre-debate wave of this poll was based on a nationally-representative probability sample of adults age 18 or older fielded June 20 to June 25, 2024, screened to those that indicated they are likely to vote in the November Presidential election (N=5,058). This post-debate wave, which this topline reports, was administered to the same sample of respondents who took part in the pre-debate wave. Of those, 2,543 responded to the post-wave survey and 1,700 reported watching all or part of the debate.

The margin of sampling error among all those that responded to the post debate poll is 2.1 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. The margin of sampling error among those who watched all or part of the debate is plus or minus 2.5 percentage points. The margin of sampling error takes into account the design effect, which was 1.14 for all respondents and 1.13 for debate watchers. The margin of sampling error is higher and varies for results based on sub-samples. Sampling error is only one potential source of error. There may be other unmeasured non-sampling error in this or any poll. In our reporting of the findings, percentage points are rounded off to the nearest whole number. As a result, percentages in a given table column may total slightly higher or lower than 100%. In questions that permit multiple responses, columns may total substantially more than 100%, depending on the number of different responses offered by each respondent.

The post-debate survey weight factors are the same as those from the pre-debate. As such, the weighted total for post-debate respondents and debate watchers do not match their respective sample sizes.

The weights for the post-debate respondents were not adjusted to account for the nonresponding pre-debate sample.

The survey was conducted using KnowledgePanel, the largest and most well-established online probability-based panel that is representative of the adult U.S. population. Our recruitment process employs a scientifically developed addressed-based sampling methodology using the latest Delivery Sequence File of the USPS – a database with full coverage of all delivery points in the U.S. Households invited to join the panel are randomly selected from all available households in the U.S. Persons in the sampled households are invited to join and participate in the panel. Those selected who do not already have internet access are provided a tablet and internet connection at no cost to the panel member. Those who join the panel and who are selected to participate in a survey are sent a unique password-protected log-in used to complete surveys online. As a result of our recruitment and sampling methodologies, samples from KnowledgePanel cover all households regardless of their phone or internet status and findings can be reported with a margin of sampling error and projected to the general population. KnowledgePanel members receive a per survey incentive, usually the equivalent of $1 (though for some it is $2) in points, that can be redeemed for cash or prizes. No prenotification email for this study was sent prior to field. Panelists receive a unique login to the survey and are only able to complete it one time. Non-responders were sent reminders to increase participation.

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The study was conducted in both English and Spanish. The data were weighted to adjust for gender by age, race/ethnicity, education, Census region, metropolitan status, household income, and party identification. The demographic benchmarks came from 2023 Current Population Survey (CPS) from the US Census Bureau. Party ID benchmarks are from the 2023 National Public Opinion Reference Survey (NPORS) from Pew Research Center. The weighting categories were as follows:

- Gender (Male, Female) by Age (18–29, 30–44, 45–59, and 60+)
- Race/Hispanic Ethnicity (White Non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Other or 2+ Races Non-Hispanic, Hispanic)
- Education (High School graduate or less, Some College, Bachelor, Masters and beyond)
- Census Region (Northeast, Midwest, South, West)
- Metropolitan status (Metro, non-Metro)
- Household Income (Under $25,000, $25,000-$49,999, $50,000-$74,999, $75,000-$99,999, $100,000-$149,999, $150,000+)
- Party ID (Republican, Lean Republican, Independent/Something else, Lean Democrat, Democrat)

No respondents were removed from the final data for refusing all of the survey items.

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About Ipsos

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Our passionately curious research professionals, analysts and scientists have built unique multi-specialist capabilities that provide true understanding and powerful insights into the actions, opinions and motivations of citizens, consumers, patients, customers or employees. Our 75 solutions are based on primary data from our surveys, social media monitoring, and qualitative or observational techniques.

Our tagline "Game Changers" sums up our ambition to help our 5,000 customers move confidently through a rapidly changing world.

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