

1. Conditions of US prisons

In your opinion, are living conditions for people serving sentences in US prisons too easy, about right, or too harsh?

	Gender			Age				Party ID			Voter Registration	
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Registered	Not registered
Living conditions are too easy	47%	50%	45%	35%	41%	56%	56%	33%	47%	70%	50%	24%
Living conditions are about right	19%	21%	18%	18%	23%	18%	20%	30%	15%	12%	19%	22%
Living conditions are too harsh	12%	13%	11%	23%	12%	9%	7%	15%	13%	5%	11%	23%
Not sure	21%	17%	25%	24%	25%	18%	17%	21%	25%	14%	20%	31%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (471)	100% (529)	100% (153)	100% (281)	100% (392)	100% (174)	100% (334)	100% (439)	100% (227)	100% (908)	100% (92)

	Total	Race			Education					Region			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Living conditions are too easy	47%	52%	23%	43%	55%	50%	48%	43%	39%	46%	49%	47%	46%
Living conditions are about right	19%	18%	29%	19%	15%	19%	20%	21%	21%	19%	20%	20%	18%
Living conditions are too harsh	12%	10%	20%	16%	11%	12%	12%	12%	17%	10%	11%	10%	19%
Not sure	21%	20%	27%	22%	20%	19%	21%	25%	24%	25%	20%	22%	17%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (791)	100% (106)	100% (103)	100% (34)	100% (330)	100% (359)	100% (180)	100% (97)	100% (192)	100% (250)	100% (358)	100% (200)

	Total	Know anyone who has spent time in prison			
		Yes	No	Prefer not to say	Not sure
Living conditions are too easy	47%	52%	47%	21%	29%
Living conditions are about right	19%	21%	19%	20%	5%
Living conditions are too harsh	12%	12%	12%	32%	3%
Not sure	21%	15%	21%	28%	63%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (474)	100% (445)	100% (24)	100% (57)

2. US imprison too many people

Does the United States imprison too many, too few, or the right number of people who have committed crimes?

	Gender			Age				Party ID			Voter Registration	
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Registered	Not registered
Too many	39%	46%	32%	44%	41%	38%	31%	49%	41%	18%	41%	23%
The right number	17%	19%	14%	19%	15%	16%	19%	18%	15%	19%	15%	28%
Too few	24%	23%	26%	13%	22%	29%	30%	18%	22%	39%	25%	15%
Not sure	20%	12%	28%	23%	22%	17%	20%	16%	22%	24%	19%	34%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (995)	100% (470)	100% (525)	100% (151)	100% (279)	100% (391)	100% (174)	100% (333)	100% (437)	100% (225)	100% (904)	100% (91)

	Race				Education					Region			
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Too many	39%	38%	42%	40%	21%	32%	43%	42%	57%	36%	39%	37%	45%
The right number	17%	14%	26%	22%	23%	19%	16%	15%	12%	16%	22%	17%	12%
Too few	24%	27%	14%	18%	23%	27%	22%	26%	15%	22%	22%	27%	22%
Not sure	20%	21%	18%	20%	32%	22%	19%	17%	16%	26%	18%	19%	20%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (995)	100% (786)	100% (106)	100% (103)	100% (33)	100% (330)	100% (357)	100% (179)	100% (96)	100% (192)	100% (248)	100% (356)	100% (199)

	Know anyone who has spent time in prison				
	Total	Yes	No	Prefer not to say	Not sure
Too many	39%	46%	36%	13%	20%
The right number	17%	14%	19%	31%	12%
Too few	24%	23%	26%	29%	16%
Not sure	20%	16%	20%	27%	51%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (995)	100% (472)	100% (442)	100% (24)	100% (57)

3. Solitary confinement punishment

Do you consider solitary confinement to be an appropriate punishment or is it a form of torture?

	Gender			Age				Party ID			Voter Registration	
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Registered	Not registered
Appropriate punishment	56%	58%	54%	43%	55%	66%	57%	47%	57%	70%	60%	30%
Inappropriate punishment, but not torture	16%	20%	13%	18%	18%	11%	20%	23%	14%	10%	15%	23%
A form of torture	13%	13%	14%	18%	9%	14%	14%	19%	12%	9%	13%	19%
Not sure	14%	9%	19%	21%	19%	9%	9%	12%	17%	11%	12%	27%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (470)	100% (528)	100% (153)	100% (281)	100% (390)	100% (174)	100% (333)	100% (438)	100% (227)	100% (906)	100% (92)

	Total	Race			Education					Region			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Appropriate punishment	56%	61%	43%	41%	47%	59%	52%	58%	60%	59%	55%	58%	53%
Inappropriate punishment, but not torture	16%	16%	16%	19%	10%	15%	17%	16%	20%	17%	18%	13%	19%
A form of torture	13%	12%	23%	15%	23%	11%	14%	14%	13%	14%	11%	14%	16%
Not sure	14%	12%	18%	24%	19%	14%	16%	12%	8%	10%	17%	15%	12%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (790)	100% (105)	100% (103)	100% (34)	100% (330)	100% (358)	100% (179)	100% (97)	100% (192)	100% (248)	100% (358)	100% (200)

	Know anyone who has spent time in prison				
	Total	Yes	No	Prefer not to say	Not sure
Appropriate punishment	56%	62%	58%	17%	22%
Inappropriate punishment, but not torture	16%	14%	18%	29%	11%
A form of torture	13%	15%	11%	32%	9%
Not sure	14%	9%	14%	22%	58%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (473)	100% (445)	100% (24)	100% (56)

4. Appropriate length of time in solitary

What length of time in solitary confinement do you consider to be excessive? Select all that apply.

	Gender			Age				Party ID			Voter Registration	
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Registered	Not registered
Any amount of time	5%	4%	6%	8%	3%	6%	4%	6%	5%	4%	5%	4%
Less than a day	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	—	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%
One day	2%	2%	3%	5%	3%	1%	2%	4%	2%	2%	2%	3%
More than one day, but less than a week	8%	7%	8%	9%	7%	7%	8%	10%	8%	3%	8%	5%
A week	11%	10%	12%	17%	13%	9%	7%	18%	9%	7%	11%	15%
Several weeks	14%	13%	14%	22%	10%	10%	15%	18%	12%	10%	14%	14%
A month	14%	12%	15%	18%	16%	10%	13%	16%	14%	10%	13%	17%
Several months	17%	17%	17%	21%	16%	17%	13%	16%	19%	14%	17%	16%
A year	14%	12%	15%	19%	14%	13%	8%	17%	14%	9%	14%	14%
Longer than a year	24%	25%	24%	25%	27%	23%	20%	21%	24%	31%	25%	19%
Not sure	25%	24%	26%	28%	24%	26%	19%	16%	30%	27%	23%	40%
Totals	(1,000)	(471)	(529)	(153)	(281)	(392)	(174)	(334)	(439)	(227)	(908)	(92)

	Race			Education					Region				
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Any amount of time	5%	5%	4%	5%	2%	6%	5%	6%	4%	5%	4%	4%	9%
Less than a day	1%	1%	0%	1%	—	—	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%
One day	2%	2%	8%	3%	4%	2%	3%	1%	1%	2%	2%	3%	3%
More than one day, but less than a week	8%	8%	9%	7%	12%	6%	7%	10%	7%	9%	9%	6%	7%
A week	11%	12%	12%	10%	15%	10%	13%	9%	13%	17%	11%	9%	10%
Several weeks	14%	14%	14%	10%	24%	9%	18%	13%	13%	14%	21%	12%	8%
A month	14%	14%	12%	15%	24%	12%	14%	14%	15%	14%	13%	14%	14%
Several months	17%	16%	13%	25%	13%	17%	18%	17%	16%	18%	18%	19%	11%
A year	14%	12%	20%	16%	13%	12%	16%	13%	16%	16%	15%	13%	11%
Longer than a year	24%	27%	20%	16%	18%	22%	27%	26%	24%	28%	25%	22%	24%
Not sure	25%	25%	24%	25%	29%	25%	24%	23%	26%	23%	21%	28%	25%

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	Race			Education					Region				
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Totals	(1,000)	(791)	(106)	(103)	(34)	(330)	(359)	(180)	(97)	(192)	(250)	(358)	(200)

	Know anyone who has spent time in prison				
	Total	Yes	No	Prefer not to say	Not sure
Any amount of time	5%	6%	3%	11%	4%
Less than a day	1%	1%	1%	—	—
One day	2%	2%	3%	—	—
More than one day, but less than a week	8%	8%	7%	2%	6%
A week	11%	12%	10%	27%	14%
Several weeks	14%	12%	15%	23%	11%
A month	14%	14%	14%	20%	10%
Several months	17%	18%	16%	19%	10%
A year	14%	13%	15%	11%	10%
Longer than a year	24%	25%	26%	15%	16%
Not sure	25%	22%	22%	46%	54%
Totals	(1,000)	(474)	(445)	(24)	(57)

5. Purpose of prison

What do you feel IS the main purpose of sending people who have committed a crime to prison?

	Gender			Age				Party ID			Voter Registration	
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Registered	Not registered
Punish the criminal and teach him or her a lesson	31%	33%	28%	35%	26%	31%	31%	33%	30%	29%	32%	21%
Get violent criminals off the streets	37%	36%	39%	31%	35%	42%	40%	38%	35%	42%	39%	26%
Rehabilitate the morals and skills of criminals	8%	10%	6%	8%	12%	6%	6%	10%	7%	6%	7%	11%
Act as a deterrent to crime	13%	14%	13%	12%	11%	12%	21%	13%	14%	13%	14%	9%
Not sure	11%	7%	14%	15%	15%	9%	2%	7%	14%	9%	8%	33%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (470)	100% (528)	100% (153)	100% (280)	100% (391)	100% (174)	100% (334)	100% (437)	100% (227)	100% (906)	100% (92)

	Total	Race			Education					Region			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Punish the criminal and teach him or her a lesson	31%	31%	23%	36%	12%	31%	32%	34%	28%	25%	30%	30%	37%
Get violent criminals off the streets	37%	38%	37%	35%	34%	39%	34%	38%	42%	39%	41%	36%	36%
Rehabilitate the morals and skills of criminals	8%	7%	11%	13%	9%	11%	7%	6%	1%	10%	7%	8%	7%
Act as a deterrent to crime	13%	15%	11%	6%	18%	8%	15%	14%	25%	18%	13%	13%	9%
Not sure	11%	9%	18%	11%	27%	11%	12%	7%	4%	8%	10%	13%	10%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (790)	100% (105)	100% (103)	100% (34)	100% (330)	100% (358)	100% (180)	100% (96)	100% (192)	100% (249)	100% (358)	100% (199)

	Total	Know anyone who has spent time in prison			
		Yes	No	Prefer not to say	Not sure
Punish the criminal and teach him or her a lesson	31%	35%	29%	9%	15%
Get violent criminals off the streets	37%	39%	39%	27%	18%
Rehabilitate the morals and skills of criminals	8%	6%	10%	16%	1%
Act as a deterrent to crime	13%	13%	15%	9%	9%
Not sure	11%	6%	7%	39%	57%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (474)	100% (443)	100% (24)	100% (57)

6. Purpose of prison

What do you think SHOULD be the main purpose of sending people who have committed a crime to prison?

	Gender			Age				Party ID			Voter Registration	
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Registered	Not registered
Punish the criminal and teach him or her a lesson	19%	19%	18%	13%	17%	24%	19%	17%	18%	25%	20%	8%
Get violent criminals off the streets	41%	40%	42%	33%	45%	41%	44%	42%	38%	46%	43%	25%
Rehabilitate the morals and skills of criminals	21%	22%	20%	30%	19%	16%	21%	29%	20%	9%	20%	25%
Act as a deterrent to crime	12%	13%	11%	7%	9%	16%	13%	10%	11%	17%	12%	8%
Not sure	8%	5%	10%	16%	10%	3%	2%	2%	13%	4%	4%	35%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (469)	100% (529)	100% (153)	100% (280)	100% (391)	100% (174)	100% (333)	100% (438)	100% (227)	100% (906)	100% (92)

	Total	Race			Education					Region			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Punish the criminal and teach him or her a lesson	19%	19%	23%	16%	27%	22%	18%	17%	8%	18%	18%	21%	16%
Get violent criminals off the streets	41%	42%	33%	44%	33%	42%	41%	39%	45%	37%	38%	45%	41%
Rehabilitate the morals and skills of criminals	21%	21%	22%	19%	19%	20%	21%	21%	25%	24%	25%	15%	24%
Act as a deterrent to crime	12%	13%	13%	6%	5%	8%	12%	18%	20%	15%	11%	11%	11%
Not sure	8%	6%	9%	16%	16%	9%	8%	5%	3%	6%	8%	7%	9%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (789)	100% (106)	100% (103)	100% (34)	100% (330)	100% (357)	100% (180)	100% (97)	100% (192)	100% (250)	100% (358)	100% (198)

	Total	Know anyone who has spent time in prison			
		Yes	No	Prefer not to say	Not sure
Punish the criminal and teach him or her a lesson	19%	23%	18%	4%	6%
Get violent criminals off the streets	41%	40%	44%	42%	22%
Rehabilitate the morals and skills of criminals	21%	23%	19%	24%	22%
Act as a deterrent to crime	12%	12%	13%	6%	8%
Not sure	8%	3%	7%	23%	43%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (472)	100% (445)	100% (24)	100% (57)

7. Know anyone who has spent time in prison

Do you personally know anyone who has ever served time in a US prison?

	Gender			Age				Party ID			Voter Registration	
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Registered	Not registered
Yes	46%	51%	42%	32%	49%	53%	49%	48%	46%	45%	49%	25%
No	45%	41%	48%	52%	41%	42%	46%	46%	42%	47%	45%	46%
Prefer not to say	3%	4%	2%	5%	4%	2%	1%	1%	4%	4%	2%	13%
Not sure	6%	4%	8%	10%	6%	3%	4%	4%	8%	3%	4%	16%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (471)	100% (529)	100% (153)	100% (281)	100% (392)	100% (174)	100% (334)	100% (439)	100% (227)	100% (908)	100% (92)

	Total	Race			Education					Region			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Yes	46%	45%	58%	44%	42%	50%	48%	40%	41%	38%	44%	48%	54%
No	45%	47%	31%	45%	35%	42%	43%	52%	56%	57%	46%	42%	37%
Prefer not to say	3%	2%	7%	4%	10%	4%	2%	2%	2%	1%	3%	5%	2%
Not sure	6%	6%	3%	7%	14%	4%	8%	6%	—	4%	7%	5%	6%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (791)	100% (106)	100% (103)	100% (34)	100% (330)	100% (359)	100% (180)	100% (97)	100% (192)	100% (250)	100% (358)	100% (200)

	Know anyone who has spent time in prison				
	Total	Yes	No	Prefer not to say	Not sure
Yes	46%	100%	—	—	—
No	45%	—	100%	—	—
Prefer not to say	3%	—	—	100%	—
Not sure	6%	—	—	—	100%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (474)	100% (445)	100% (24)	100% (57)