

# Tracking Public Opinion of Trump's Washington

Trump's approval rating ticks up in wake of Charlie Kirk's assassination



By Eli Yokley & Cameron Easley

Morning Consult is tracking what voters across the country think about how President Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress are governing the United States ahead of the 2026 midterm elections. Each week, we'll update this page with fresh and timely data on all of the major questions facing Washington, including views about the people in charge, the issues dominating the conversation and what is actually breaking through to the electorate.

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## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Trump's approval rating ticks back up:** 46% of voters approve of Trump's job performance, up 1 percentage point from the prior week, while his disapproval rating remains at 52%, unchanged over that time frame.
- **Kirk assassination makes waves:** The assassination of 31-year-old conservative political activist Charlie Kirk is the biggest story of 2025 so far, with 67% of voters saying they have seen, read or heard "a lot" about it. That ranks it comfortably at the top of the list of hundreds of news events tested so far this calendar year. Only two other events have cracked 60%: January's wildfires in Southern California and the deadly crash between an American Airlines passenger jet and an Army helicopter near Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport.
- **Buzz on public safety worsens:** By a 26-point margin, voters are more likely to say they've heard something negative than positive about public safety and crime over the past week, a 10-point drop from the previous survey and the lowest net buzz rating on the topic that we've measured since Trump returned to office in January.
- **A new low for Trump on security:** In the wake of Kirk's assassination, voters are 5 points more likely to approve than disapprove of Trump's handling of national security. While that still ranks it among his best issues, it's also a record low for his second presidency so far.

## People

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Eli Yokley is Morning Consult's U.S. politics analyst. Eli joined Morning Consult in 2016 from Roll Call, where he reported on House and Senate campaigns after five years of covering state-level politics in the Show Me State while studying at the University of Missouri in Columbia, including contributions to The New York Times, Politico and The Daily Beast. Follow him on Twitter [@eyokley](#). Interested in connecting with Eli to discuss his analysis or for a media engagement or speaking opportunity? Email [press@morningconsult.com](mailto:press@morningconsult.com).

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Cameron Easley is Morning Consult's head of U.S. Political Analysis. He has led Morning Consult's coverage of U.S. politics and elections since 2016, and his work has appeared in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, Politico, Axios, FiveThirtyEight and on Fox News, CNN and MSNBC. Cameron joined Morning Consult from Roll Call, where he was managing editor. He graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Follow him on Twitter [@cameron\\_easley](#). Interested in connecting with Cameron to discuss his analysis or for a media engagement or speaking opportunity? Email [press@morningconsult.com](mailto:press@morningconsult.com).