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May 7, 2025 May 25 marks five years since George Floyd, an unarmed Black man, was killed by a White police officer in Minneapolis. The officer, Derek Chauvin, was found guilty on charges of murder and manslaughter and sentenced to more than 20 years in prison. Floyd's murder, just months after the killings of Ahmaud Arbery and Breonna Taylor, sparked nationwide protests. Millions of Americans marched in communities across the country, drawing attention to issues of racial inequality, including the treatment of Black people by police. In June 2020, more than eight-in-ten U.S. adults said they were following news about the demonstrations very (42%) or fairly closely (42%). This was similar to the high level of attention Americans had been paying to news about COVID-19. The Black Lives Matter movement, which first rose to prominence in 2013 following George Zimmermann's acquittal in the shooting death of Trayvon Martin, reached a high point in favorability during the 2020 protests, with 67% of U.S. adults expressing support. And a Pew Research Center analysis shows that use of the #BlackLivesMatter hashtag peaked following Floyd's killing. Some called the summer of 2020 a time of racial reckoning in America. But in the years since, Americans have expressed growing skepticism that the events of 2020 produced significant change. In September 2020, 52% of U.S. adults said the increased focus on issues of race and racial inequality would lead to changes that would improve the lives of Black people; 46% said it would not. TerminologyReferences to White, Black and Asian adults include those who are not Hispanic and identify as only one race. Hispanics are of any race. All references to party affiliation include those who lean toward that party. Republicans include those who identify as Republicans and those who say they lean toward the Republican Party. Democrats include those who identify as Democrats and those who say they lean toward the Democratic Party. Five years later, 72% say the increased focus on race and racial inequality after Floyd's killing did not lead to changes that improved the lives of Black people. The share of Americans who express support for the Black Lives Matter movement stands at 52% today, a drop of 15 percentage points compared with June 2020. Commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) has also declined. Companies have pulled back on DEI initiatives, and workers views of them have grown more negative. This was the case even before President Donald Trump signed an executive order eliminating DEI policies in the federal government and urging the private sector to do the same. More broadly, some Americans have grown more pessimistic that Black people will eventually have equal rights with White people. Among those who say the country hasn't made enough progress on racial equality, 49% express doubt that Black people will ever have equal rights with White people, up from 39% in 2020. In this data essay, we'll look back at how Americans were thinking about race, racial inequality and policing in the weeks and months following George Floyd's killing. We'll also explore how views about these issues have changed in the last five years and Americans' expectations for the future. How Americans' views of police conduct have changedPolice officers in San Antonio, Texas. (Robert Alexander/Getty Images)Views of police conduct turned more negative in the weeks following George Floyd's death. In June 2020, most U.S. adults said police around the country were doing an only fair or poor job of: Holding officers accountable for misconduct (69%) Treating racial and ethnic groups equally (65%) Using the right amount of force for each situation (64%) Each of these shares was at least 10 percentage points higher than it had been in 2016. By 2023, views had become more positive, though fewer than half said police were doing an excellent or good job in each of these areas. Views of police have consistently varied by party and by race and ethnicity. Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents have more negative views than Republicans and Republican leaners, and Black adults have more negative views than White and Hispanic adults. (The number of Asian adults in the sample was too small to analyze separately.) In 2023, nearly nine-in-ten Americans said they had personally seen videos of police violence against Black people. Views of the impact of these videos were mixed. 45% of U.S. adults said the wide sharing of these videos in the news or on social media is a very or somewhat good thing. 63% said these videos make it a lot or somewhat easier to hold police officers accountable. 54% said they make it a lot or somewhat harder for police officers to do their jobs. Black adults (65%) and Democrats (68%) were the most likely to say these videos being widely shared is a good thing. There were also wide partisan differences in the shares saying these videos make it easier to hold police officers accountable (76% of Democrats vs. 50% of Republicans). When it comes to the impact on police officers' ability to do their job, 64% of White adults and 74% of Republicans said these videos make it harder. Fewer than half among other groups said the same. Five years after George Floyd's death, we asked Americans how they see the relationship between police and Black people in the United States. More than half of U.S. adults (54%) say things are about the same as before Floyd was killed. A third say things are now worse, while just 11% say things are better. Views differ by party. About four-in-ten Republicans (39%) say the relationship between police and Black people is now worse, compared with 28% of Democrats. Democrats are more likely than Republicans to say things are about the same as they were before Floyd's killing (59% vs. 49%). Notably, these views don't vary much by race and ethnicity. Black Lives Matter Plaza in Washington, D.C., shown after being repainted in May 2021. The section of 16th Street Northwest became a gathering place for thousands of protesters in the wake of George Floyd's killing by Minneapolis police in 2020. The large painted letters were removed in March 2025. (Kevin Dietsch/Getty Images) George Floyd's killing sparked activism on social media on issues of race and racial equality. Social media activity using the #BlackLivesMatter hashtag skyrocketed in the summer of 2020, with over 1.2 million public tweets posted on a single day in June 2020, according to our analysis of publicly available tweets from July 2013 through March 2023. Nearly 10 million distinct users tweeted the hashtag in the five months from May to September 2020. Public support for the Black Lives Matter movement also reached a high mark in June 2020, when 67% of U.S. adults expressed support, according to our surveys. However, support quickly dropped. In September 2020, 55% of Americans said they supported the Black Lives Matter movement, a 12 percentage point decrease from a few months prior. And support had declined again by 2023, when about half of Americans said they supported the movement (51%). Today, support seems to have leveled off. Some 52% of Americans say they strongly or somewhat support the movement, and 45% say they oppose it. Over the years, support for the Black Lives Matter movement has remained high among Black adults. Democrats and young adults. That continues to be the case today, with majorities of these groups expressing support: 76% of Black adults vs. 61% each among Hispanic and Asian adults and 45% of White adults 84% of Democrats vs. 22% of Republicans 61% of 18- to 29-year-olds vs. 54% of 30- to 49-year-olds and 47% of those 50 and older White about half of U.S. adults express support for the Black Lives Matter movement, a smaller share (32%) say the movement has been extremely or very effective at bringing attention to racism against Black people.About half of Black adults (48%) and 46% of Asian adults say the movement has been highly effective. This compares with 33% of Hispanic adults and 27% of White adults. From 2022, Black Lives Matter tops list of groups that Black Americans see as helping them the most in recent years How Americans see the impact of 2020 protests The top half of a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee is removed from its pedestal in Richmond, Virginia, in September 2021. The statue and others like it had been focal points of nationwide protests over issues of racial inequality following the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer in 2020. (Ryan M. Kelly/AFP via Getty Images) In 2020, most Americans (77%) believed the increased focus on issues of race and racial inequality represented a change in the way most Americans thought about the issue. But the share saying it represented a major change dropped from 34% in 2020 to 24% today. There's also been a shift in how Americans see the impact the attention on race and racial inequality in summer 2020 has had on the lives of Black people. In September 2020, 52% thought the increased attention to these issues would lead to changes that would improve the lives of Black people. By 2023, 40% said that had happened. That figure stands at just 27% today. About seven-in-ten (72%) now say the increased focus on these issues after Floyd's murder did not lead to changes that improved the lives of Black people. Democrats have become especially skeptical of the impact the increased focus on race and racial inequality has had on the lives of Black people. About a third of Democrats and those who lean Democratic (34%) now say the focus on these issues after Floyd's murder led to changes that improved the lives of Black people roughly half the share (70%) who thought this would happen in September 2020. The change has been more modest among Republicans and Republican leaners (21% today vs. 31% in 2020). Americans across racial and ethnic groups are now less likely than they were in 2020 to say the increased focus on race and racial inequality after Floyd's murder led to changes that improved the lives of Black people. As was the case then, today's answers vary little by race and ethnicity, if at all. Attention to issues of race today Advertising boards above Times Square in New York City on June 24, 2020. (Johannes Eisele/AFP via Getty Images) After George Floyd's killing, individuals went the only ones paying attention to issues of race companies were also engaging in the conversation. Many companies publicly denounced racism following the protests. And their statements were noticed by the public: 80% of U.S. adults said in July 2020 that they had seen or heard companies and organizations making statements about these issues in the months prior to the survey. A majority of Americans who said they had seen or heard public statements about race or racial inequality (69%) said pressure from others to address the issue was a driving reason for companies' actions. A much smaller share (19%) said genuine concerns about the treatment of Black people in the country were a large reason for these statements. Overall, Americans were split about how important it was for companies to make statements about politics or social issues: 52% thought this was very or somewhat important, and 48% said it was not too or not at all important. Today, these shares remain similar, with Americans split down the middle (50% each) on whether or not this is important for companies to do. Views of how much attention is paid to issues of race in our country overall are also virtually unchanged from five years ago. About four-in-ten Americans (41%) say there is too much attention paid to these issues, while 35% say there's too little attention and 23% say it's about right. Black adults continue to be the most likely to say there is too little attention paid to issues of race (69% of Black adults say this, compared with fewer than half among other racial and ethnic groups). And White adults continue to be the most likely to say there is too much attention paid to race and racial issues (49% of White adults say this). There are even wider gaps by party: 56% of Democrats say there's too little attention paid to these issues, compared with 12% of Republicans. 66% of Republicans say there's too much attention on these issues, compared with 17% of Democrats. How Americans are feeling about issues of race Demonstrators gather at Folger Park in Washington, D.C., in July 2024 to hold a candlelight vigil for Sonya Massey, a Black woman fatally shot by a deputy sheriff in Springfield, Illinois. (Probal Rashid/LightRocket via Getty Images) Half of U.S. adults say they feel exhausted extremely or very often when thinking about the state of race and racial issues in the U.S. today. This is larger than the shares who say they often experience other feelings we asked about. Over half of Democrats (54%) and 48% of Republicans say they feel exhausted when they think about these issues. There are larger differences by party when it comes to some other feelings. By 10 percentage points or more, Democrats are more likely than Republicans to say they extremely or very often feel: Angry (47% vs. 19%) Fearful (39% vs. 13%) In turn, by double-digit margins, Republicans are more likely than Democrats to say they frequently feel each of the following when they think about the state of race in the U.S. these days: Uninterested (39% vs. 15%) Hopeful (22% vs. 12%) Satisfied (15% vs. 5%) Views of racial inequality While some thought of the summer of 2020 as a time of racial reckoning, views about the state of racial equality in America changed only slightly between 2019 and 2020. In September 2020, 49% of Americans said the country hadn't gone far enough on racial equality for Black people, up from 45% in 2019. Today, that figure stands at 43%. As was true in 2019 and 2020, views on the country's progress on racial equality still vary by race and by political party: 82% of Black Americans say the nation has not gone far enough when it comes to Black people having equal rights with White people. About half or fewer among White, Hispanic and Asian Americans say this. 71% of Democrats and Democratic leaners say the country hasn't gone far enough, compared with just 14% of Republicans and Republican leaners. Among those who say the country hasn't gone far enough, many cited Donald Trump or specific ways in which Black people are treated unfairly when asked about this in an open-ended question. Open-ended responses have been lightly edited for spelling, punctuation and style. Among those who think the country has gone too far, many say there is too much emphasis on race in the country these days. Some cite affirmative action or diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) programs in the workplace when asked in what ways they think the country has gone too far. The future of racial equality President Donald Trump signs a memorandum ordering that hiring by the federal government prioritize merit over diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in the White House Oval Office on Jan. 30, 2025. (Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images) In recent years, Americans have become less optimistic about the future of racial equality for Black people. Among those who say the U.S. still has work to do in this area, 51% now say it is very or somewhat likely that Black people will eventually have equal rights with White people. This is down from 60% in September 2020. As was the case five years ago, most White adults (61%) who say the country still has work to do say it's likely that Black people will eventually have equal rights with White people. This is much larger than the shares of Black (32%), Hispanic (50%) and Asian adults (41%) who say the same. Two-thirds of Black adults who think the country hasn't made enough progress on racial equality say that eventual equality with White people is not too or not at all likely. About six-in-ten Asian adults (59%) and 49% of Hispanic adults say the same. When asked about their expectations for Donald Trump's handling of issues related to race in his second term, more say the president will make things worse (48%) than say he will make things better (28%). About a quarter (24%) say Trump won't make much difference on these issues. Expectations of Trump's handling of issues related to race differ widely by party: 82% of Democrats but just 14% of Republicans think he'll make things worse. 53% of Republicans say Trump will make things better, compared with just 5% of Democrats. Pew Research Center compiled this data to explore how Americans' views about race, racial inequality and policing have changed in the five years since George Floyd, an unarmed Black man, was killed by Derek Chauvin, a White police officer, in Minneapolis. Floyd's murder sparked nationwide protests in the summer of 2020, drawing attention to issues of race and racial inequality. This essay draws mostly on surveys conducted in the weeks, months and years following Floyd's killing. These surveys are part of our long-standing body of work on race and ethnicity, which includes research on the public's attitudes about race and the breadth of experiences of and within different racial and ethnic groups in the U.S. In this essay, findings for 2025 come from a Pew Research Center survey of 5,097 adults conducted Feb. 10-17, 2025. Everyone who took part is a member of the Centers American Trends Panel (ATP), a group of people recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses who have agreed to take surveys regularly. Interviews were conducted either online or by telephone with a live interviewer. The survey is weighted to be representative of the U.S. adult population by gender, race, ethnicity, partisan affiliation, education and other factors. Read more about the ATP's methodology. Here are the questions from the 2025 survey used for this essay, the topline and the survey methodology. The methodology and topline for surveys conducted before 2025 can be found in the links to previous publications throughout this essay. This essay is a collaborative effort based on the input and analysis of the following individuals. Find related reports online at: Mark Hugo Lopez, Director of Race and Ethnicity Research; Kim Parker, Director of Social Trends Research; Juliana Horowitz, Senior Associate Director, Research; Sahana Mukherjee, Associate Director, Research; Kiana Cox, Senior Researcher; Khadijah Edwards, Research Associate; Kiley Hurst, Research Analyst; Alexandra Cahn, Research Assistant; Gracie Martinez, Research Assistant; Eugene Park, Research Assistant; Reem Nadeem, Digital Producer; John Carlo Mandapat, Information Graphics Designer; David Kent, Senior Copy Editor; Jens Manuel Krogstad, Senior Writer/Editor; Tanya Ardti, Senior Communications Manager; Editorial guidance on the essay was provided by Monica Anderson, Director, Internet and Technology Research; Jocelyn Kiley, Director, Politics Research; Rachel Drihan, Associate Director, Communications; John Gramlich, Associate Director, Short Reads; and Michael Dimock, President. In addition, the project benefited greatly from the guidance of the Pew Research Center methodology team: Courtney Kennedy, Andrew Mercer, Ashley Amaya, Dorene Asare-Marfo, Dana Popky, Anna Brown, Arnold Lau and Thomas May. About six-in-ten U.S. adults say food costs are extremely or very important to them when deciding what to buy. About half of Americans (48%) say they have emergency or rainy day funds that would cover their expenses for three months. Americans are most skeptical about U.S. trade with China: 10% say it benefits the U.S. more than China, while 46% take the opposite view. Among blue-collar workers, 43% say they feel extremely or very satisfied with their jobs; by comparison, 53% of other workers express this level of satisfaction. All Economy & Work RESEARCH > Christians remain the largest religious group, and Muslims grew the fastest from 2010 to 2020. Read how the global share of Buddhists, Hindus, Jews and the religiously unaffiliated changed. Most who use astrology (or a horoscope), tarot cards or a fortune teller say they do so just for fun rather than for insights about life. From 2010 to 2020, the number of Muslims increased by 347 million people to 2.0 billion people. Majorities want the church to allow use of birth control and IVF, and to permit priests to bless same-sex couples. But views differ by Mass attendance. Most X users say their recent experiences using the platform have been mostly positive or neutral. The share of news influencers in our sample with a Bluesky account roughly doubled in the four months after Election Day 2024, from 21% beforehand to 43% by March. One month of web browsing data shows most respondents visited a search page with an AI-generated summary, but visits to in-depth content about AI were much more rare. As people are exposed to more information from more sources than ever before, how they define and feel about news has become less clear-cut. Parents are more worried than teens about teen mental health. Both groups especially parents partly blame social media. But teens also see benefits. All internet & technology Research > How we did thisPew Research Center conducted this study to understand how Americans' views of artificial intelligence compare with the views of those who have expertise in the field. This report includes findings from a survey of U.S. adults, a survey of AI experts and a series of in-depth interviews with experts. To understand the views of the American public, we surveyed 5,410 adults from Aug. 12 to Aug. 18, 2024. Everyone who took part in this survey is a member of the Centers American Trends Panel (ATP), a group of people recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses who have agreed to take surveys regularly. This kind of recruitment gives nearly all U.S. adults a chance of selection. Interviews were conducted either online or by telephone with a live interviewer. The survey is weighted to be representative of the U.S. adult population by gender, race, ethnicity, partisan affiliation, education and other factors. Read more about the ATP's methodology. To understand the views of AI experts, we surveyed 1,013 AI experts living in the United States from Aug. 14 to Oct. 31, 2024. To create the sample, Center researchers compiled a list of authors and presenters at 21 AI-related conferences held in 2023 and 2024. Surveys were conducted online, and experts were asked to confirm that they live in the U.S. and that their work or research relates to AI before proceeding. Because there is no definitive source of population benchmarks for this group, responses from the expert survey are unweighted. They are only representative of the views of experts who responded to the survey. To further explore expert views, we conducted 30 in-depth interviews with AI experts from Oct. 18 to Nov. 26, 2024. The interviews were designed to give AI experts across a range of different demographic dimensions, including race, ethnicity and gender, a chance to elaborate on their views. However, the in-depth interviews are not representative of any demographic group or AI experts as a whole. Quotes have been lightly edited for grammar and clarity. Here are the questions used for this report, the topline and the methodology. With artificial intelligence no longer the stuff of science fiction, its benefits and risks are being debated by everyone from casual observers to scholars. A new Pew Research Center report examines the views of two key groups: the American public and experts in the field of AI. These surveys reveal both deep divides and common ground on AI. AI experts are far more positive than the public about AI's potential, including on jobs. Yet both groups want more personal control of AI and worry about lax government oversight. Still, opinions among experts vary, with men more optimistic about AI than women. Here are the key findings from surveys of U.S. adults and AI experts conducted in 2024, and in-depth interviews with experts. Experts are far more positive and enthusiastic about AI than the public. For example, the AI experts we surveyed are far more likely than Americans overall to believe AI will have a very or somewhat positive impact on the United States over the next 20 years (56% vs. 17%). And while 47% of experts surveyed say they are more excited than concerned about the increased use of AI in daily life, that share drops to 11% among the public. By contrast, U.S. adults as a whole whose concerns over AI have grown since 2021 are more inclined than experts to say they're more concerned than excited (51% vs. 15% among experts). Jump to: Who did we define as AI experts and how did we identify them? Larger shares of experts than of U.S. adults see AI as personally beneficial. Far more of the experts we surveyed believe these technologies will benefit (76%) rather than harm (15%) them personally. The public is far more likely to think AI will harm them (43%) than benefit them (24%). Still, one-third say they're unsure. Public optimism is low regarding AI's impact on work. While 73% of AI experts surveyed say AI will have a very or somewhat positive impact on how people do their jobs over the next 20 years, that share drops to 23% among U.S. adults. Large gaps are also present in views about AI's effect on the economy, medical care, education and art. Both groups are skeptical of AI's role in news and elections. Only about one-in-ten U.S. adults and experts think AI will have a positive impact on elections. Small shares in each group say the same for news. Similar shares of the public and experts want more control and regulation of AI. More than half of U.S. adults (55%) and a similar share of AI experts (57%) say they want more control over how it is used in their lives. And those in both groups worry more that government regulation of AI will be too lax than overly excessive. There are notable gender differences in the way people view AI, but these gaps are more pronounced among experts we surveyed. Our previous surveys of U.S. adults have shown that women are often more wary than men about AI. This is true in the current survey. For example, 22% of men think AI will positively impact the U.S., compared with 12% of women. These differences are even wider among the experts surveyed: 63% of men say AI's impact on the U.S. over the next two decades will be very or somewhat positive, compared with 36% of women. Among experts, men are also more likely than women to say they're more excited than concerned about AI (53% vs. 30%) or think AI will personally benefit them (81% vs. 64%). Views also vary based on the type of sector experts work in, particularly on AI and corporate responsibility. Six-in-ten experts at colleges or universities have little to no confidence in U.S. companies to responsibly develop and use AI, versus 39% of those at private companies or businesses who say this. These are the key findings from a survey of 5,410 U.S. adults, conducted Aug. 12-18, 2024, and a separate survey of 1,013 AI experts conducted Aug. 14-Oct. 31, 2024. Below, we dive deeper into a few key areas from our findings: AI and jobs; concerns, bias and representation; and regulation and responsible AI. For this project, we defined AI experts as individuals who demonstrate expertise via their work or research in artificial intelligence or related fields. We focused only on those who live in the United States. Expert responses are unweighted and only representative of the views of those who responded. To identify these individuals, we created a list of authors and presenters at 21 AI-focused conferences from 2023 and 2024. This list was developed in consultation with project advisers. We aimed to capture a broad range of perspectives and expertise related to AI. The conferences covered topics including research and development, application, business, policy, social science, identity and ethics. Center researchers used public information and an email finder service to identify authors and presenters who lived in the U.S. and collect email addresses. To be eligible for the survey, experts had to confirm 1) their work or research relates to AI, machine learning or related topics and 2) that they live in the U.S. The study was not designed to estimate the demographics of the AI workforce, and responses received may reflect choices in sample design as well as nonresponse. Refer to Appendix A for the demographic breakdown of responses received. We did not receive enough responses from Hispanic or Black experts to be able to report expert views by race and ethnicity; this reflects the racial and ethnic makeup of the field. These groups' responses are incorporated into the general figures throughout. We also did not receive enough responses from experts working at nonprofits, in government or self-employed to break out these groups separately. Their responses, too, are included in general figures. To help make sure we heard from a range of voices, we also conducted 30 in-depth interviews with experts who responded to the survey. Please refer to the methodology for more information, including a list of which conferences were included and detail on the steps taken to select and survey these experts. How AI will impact jobs has sparked debate and disagreement as well as worry among workers. AI is already automating many jobs and threatening others. Others see it as creating new opportunities. Throughout our prior work, the public has been wary about AI's role in job loss. In our current survey, 64% of the public thinks AI will lead to fewer jobs over the next 20 years. Far fewer experts surveyed say the same (39%). When we ask about specific jobs, though, we find some common ground. Some jobs like cashiers are widely viewed as at risk. About three-quarters of U.S. adults and AI experts alike say that over the next 20 years, AI will lead to fewer jobs of this kind in the U.S. About half or more also say this for journalists, software engineers and factory workers. On the other hand, while 62% of experts expect fewer jobs for truck drivers, this drops to 33% among the public. And the public is more likely than the experts we surveyed to expect AI-related job loss for occupations like musicians, teachers and medical doctors. Fewer than half of U.S. adults and experts alike say there will be job loss in each of these areas, though. Public uncertainty is a factor. The shares of U.S. adults who say they're unsure range from 13% to 26%, depending on the job. We also asked about some specific concerns people might have about AI. Continuing the theme on jobs, we find the public more anxious than experts about job loss (56% vs. 25% are extremely or very concerned). We also find: Inaccurate information, impersonation and data misuse are common worries for both experts and the public. For example, 66% of adults overall and 70% of experts are highly concerned about people getting inaccurate information from AI. The public is more worried about loss of human connection. While 57% of the public is highly concerned about AI leading to less connection between people, this drops to 37% among the experts we surveyed. Bias in decisions made by AI is also a concern for experts and the public (55% each say they're highly concerned). Race, ethnicity and gender often dominate discussions on AI, bias and discrimination from hiring algorithms to medical decision-making. One way AI companies are dealing with potential racial and gender biases in their models is by improving how models are trained. There are also growing calls for more diverse workforces to counteract bias. These efforts, though, have been met with pushback as companies scale back these initiatives. We first asked the public how they view the representation of various groups in AI design in 2021. In this survey, we explored how public and expert views compare on these same questions. Both experts and the public see men's views as better represented in AI design than the views of women. For example, 75% of experts say the people who design AI take men's perspectives into account at least somewhat well but 44% say this about women's views. The public also sees men's views as better represented than women's, even as about four-in-ten are unsure. White adults views are seen as well-represented in AI design relative to other racial and ethnic groups. About three-quarters of experts say the perspectives of White adults are well-accounted for. Half say this about Asian adults' perspectives, and even smaller shares say this about views of Black or Hispanic adults. Among the public, four-in-ten say the perspectives of White adults are well-represented. A quarter or fewer think this about the perspectives of Asian, Black or Hispanic adults. The public is far more unsure than the experts we surveyed on this topic, with about four-in-ten or more U.S. adults expressing uncertainty. Still, some experts surveyed are also unsure. I think women, Black women, women of color [are] definitely very underrepresented. People with disabilities are underrepresented its mainly straight White men or men of color who are really investing and excited about these technologies, but [when] people start to get replaced by technology, its always going to affect those underrepresented groups first. Black expert We do not have any African Americans in the department at all we need to bring these people in so they have a seat at the table. If its the same person over and over again that is very narrow-minded I wish that there were more representation, and they would put more focus on that. But I do see basically the same kind of people over and over again. Hispanic expert Questions of who should regulate AI and how much are on the minds of lawmakers amid an evolving political climate. When we asked experts and the public about this topic, we found common ground in their views. Both the public and experts largely worry the U.S. government will not go far enough in regulating AI. About six-in-ten U.S. adults and 56% of experts surveyed say they're more concerned about this than about the government going too far. Majorities in both parties are more concerned about insufficient regulation, though Democrats are more likely than Republicans to say so (64% vs. 55%). (Both groups include those who lean toward the respective party.) Experts and the public aren't confident that the government will regulate AI effectively: 62% of U.S. adults and 53% of the experts we surveyed say they have not too much or no confidence. They are also largely skeptical of industry efforts around responsible AI: 59% of the public and 55% of surveyed experts have not too much or no confidence in U.S. companies to develop and use AI responsibly. And experts at colleges and universities are far less confident in companies efforts than their industry peers: 60% of experts at colleges or universities have little to no confidence that companies will develop and use AI responsibly. 39% of those at private companies or businesses say the same. Expert confidence in government is similar across these two groups. It seems like when you look at these congressional hearings, they don't understand it at all. I don't know that I have faith that they would be able to bring on enough experts to understand it enough to regulate it, but I think its very important. Expert working at a college or university I think [companies] have a ton of responsibility. Unfortunately, I don't think necessarily that responsibility plays as high of a role in their decision-making of what they're going to pursue and how quickly they're going to release something. Expert working at a private company or business The chapters of this report go into more detail on public and expert views. Jump to each to learn more about: Main ListA-Z ListCondensed View ABCDEFGHIJKLMNPOQRSTUVWXYZ

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The Black Lives Matter movement, which first rose to prominence in 2013 following George Zimmermann's acquittal in the shooting death of Trayvon Martin, reached a high point in favorability during the 2020 protests, with 67% of U.S. adults expressing support. And a Pew Research Center analysis shows that use of the #BlackLivesMatter hashtag peaked following Floyd's killing. Some called the summer of 2020 a time of racial reckoning in America. But in the years since, Americans have expressed growing skepticism that the events of 2020 produced significant change. In September 2020, 52% of U.S. adults said the increased focus on issues of race and racial inequality would lead to changes that would improve the lives of Black people; 46% said it would not. TerminologyReferences to White, Black and Asian adults include those who are not Hispanic and identify as only one race. Hispanics are of any race. All references to party affiliation include those who lean toward that party. Republicans include those who identify as Republicans and those who say they lean toward the Republican Party. Democrats include those who identify as Democrats and those who say they lean toward the Democratic Party. Five years later, 72% say the increased focus on race and racial inequality after Floyd's killing did not lead to changes that improved the lives of Black people. The share of Americans who express support for the Black Lives Matter movement stands at 52% today, a drop of 15 percentage points compared with June 2020. Commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) has also declined. Companies have pulled back on DEI initiatives, and workers views of them have grown more negative. This was the case even before President Donald Trump signed an executive order eliminating DEI policies in the federal government and urging the private sector to do the same. More broadly, some Americans have grown more pessimistic that Black people will eventually have equal rights with White people. Among those who say the country hasn't made enough progress on racial equality, 49% express doubt that Black people will ever have equal rights with White people, up from 39% in 2020. In this data essay, we'll look back at how Americans were thinking about race, racial inequality and policing in the weeks and months following George Floyd's killing. We'll also explore how views about these issues have changed in the last five years and Americans' expectations for the future. How Americans' views of police conduct have changedPolice officers in San Antonio, Texas. (Robert Alexander/Getty Images)Views of police conduct turned more negative in the weeks following George Floyd's death. In June 2020, most U.S. adults said police around the country were doing an only fair or poor job of: Holding officers accountable for misconduct (69%) Treating racial and ethnic groups equally (65%) Using the right amount of force for each situation (64%) Each of these shares was at least 10 percentage points higher than it had been in 2016. By 2023, views had become more positive, though fewer than half said police were doing an excellent or good job in each of these areas. Views of police have consistently varied by party and by race and ethnicity. Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents have more negative views than Republicans and Republican leaners, and Black adults have more negative views than White and Hispanic adults. (The number of Asian adults in the sample was too small to analyze separately.) In 2023, nearly nine-in-ten Americans said they had personally seen videos of police violence against Black people. Views of the impact of these videos were mixed. 45% of U.S. adults said the wide sharing of these videos in the news or on social media is a very or somewhat good thing. 63% said these videos make it a lot or somewhat easier to hold police officers accountable. 54% said they make it a lot or somewhat harder for police officers to do their jobs. Black adults (65%) and Democrats (68%) were the most likely to say these videos being widely shared is a good thing. There were also wide partisan differences in the shares saying these videos make it easier to hold police officers accountable (76% of Democrats vs. 50% of Republicans). When it comes to the impact on police officers' ability to do their job, 64% of White adults and 74% of Republicans said these videos make it harder. Fewer than half among other groups said the same. Five years after George Floyd's death, we asked Americans how they see the relationship between police and Black people in the United States. More than half of U.S. adults (54%) say things are about the same as before Floyd was killed. A third say things are now worse, while just 11% say things are better. Views differ by party. About four-in-ten Republicans (39%) say the relationship between police and Black people is now worse, compared with 28% of Democrats. Democrats are more likely than Republicans to say things are about the same as they were before Floyd's killing (59% vs. 49%). Notably, these views don't vary much by race and ethnicity. Black Lives Matter Plaza in Washington, D.C., shown after being repainted in May 2021. The section of 16th Street Northwest became a gathering place for thousands of protesters in the wake of George Floyd's killing by Minneapolis police in 2020. The large painted letters were removed in March 2025. (Kevin Dietsch/Getty Images) George Floyd's killing sparked activism on social media on issues of race and racial equality. Social media activity using the #BlackLivesMatter hashtag skyrocketed in the summer of 2020, with over 1.2 million public tweets posted on a single day in June 2020, according to our analysis of publicly available tweets from July 2013 through March 2023. Nearly 10 million distinct users tweeted the hashtag in the five months from May to September 2020. Public support for the Black Lives Matter movement also reached a high mark in June 2020, when 67% of U.S. adults expressed support, according to our surveys. However, support quickly dropped. In September 2020, 55% of Americans said they supported the Black Lives Matter movement, a 12 percentage point decrease from a few months prior. And support had declined again by 2023, when about half of Americans said they supported the movement (51%). Today, support seems to have leveled off. Some 52% of Americans say they strongly or somewhat support the movement, and 45% say they oppose it. Over the years, support for the Black Lives Matter movement has remained high among Black adults. Democrats and young adults. That continues to be the case today, with majorities of these groups expressing support: 76% of Black adults vs. 61% each among Hispanic and Asian adults and 45% of White adults 84% of Democrats vs. 22% of Republicans 61% of 18- to 29-year-olds vs. 54% of 30- to 49-year-olds and 47% of those 50 and older White about half of U.S. adults express support for the Black Lives Matter movement, a smaller share (32%) say the movement has been extremely or very effective at bringing attention to racism against Black people.About half of Black adults (48%) and 46% of Asian adults say the movement has been highly effective. This compares with 33% of Hispanic adults and 27% of White adults. From 2022, Black Lives Matter tops list of groups that Black Americans see as helping them the most in recent years How Americans see the impact of 2020 protests The top half of a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee is removed from its pedestal in Richmond, Virginia, in September 2021. The statue and others like it had been focal points of nationwide protests over issues of racial inequality following the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer in 2020. (Ryan M. Kelly/AFP via Getty Images) In 2020, most Americans (77%) believed the increased focus on issues of race and racial inequality represented a change in the way most Americans thought about the issue. But the share saying it represented a major change dropped from 34% in 2020 to 24% today. There's also been a shift in how Americans see the impact the attention on race and racial inequality in summer 2020 has had on the lives of Black people. In September 2020, 52% thought the increased attention to these issues would lead to changes that would improve the lives of Black people. By 2023, 40% said that had happened. That figure stands at just 27% today. About seven-in-ten (72%) now say the increased focus on these issues after Floyd's murder did not lead to changes that improved the lives of Black people. Democrats have become especially skeptical of the impact the increased focus on race and racial inequality has had on the lives of Black people. About a third of Democrats and those who lean Democratic (34%) now say the focus on these issues after Floyd's murder led to changes that improved the lives of Black people roughly half the share (70%) who thought this would happen in September 2020. The change has been more modest among Republicans and Republican leaners (21% today vs. 31% in 2020). Americans across racial and ethnic groups are now less likely than they were in 2020 to say the increased focus on race and racial inequality after Floyd's murder led to changes that improved the lives of Black people. As was the case then, today's answers vary little by race and ethnicity, if at all. Attention to issues of race today Advertising boards above Times Square in New York City on June 24, 2020. (Johannes Eisele/AFP via Getty Images) After George Floyd's killing, individuals went the only ones paying attention to issues of race companies were also engaging in the conversation. Many companies publicly denounced racism following the protests. And their statements were noticed by the public: 80% of U.S. adults said in July 2020 that they had seen or heard companies and organizations making statements about these issues in the months prior to the survey. A majority of Americans who said they had seen or heard public statements about race or racial inequality (69%) said pressure from others to address the issue was a driving reason for companies' actions. A much smaller share (19%) said genuine concerns about the treatment of Black people in the country were a large reason for these statements. Overall, Americans were split about how important it was for companies to make statements about politics or social issues: 52% thought this was very or somewhat important, and 48% said it was not too or not at all important. Today, these shares remain similar, with Americans split down the middle (50% each) on whether or not this is important for companies to do. Views of how much attention is paid to issues of race in our country overall are also virtually unchanged from five years ago. About four-in-ten Americans (41%) say there is too much attention paid to these issues, while 35% say there's too little attention and 23% say it's about right. Black adults continue to be the most likely to say there is too little attention paid to issues of race (69% of Black adults say this, compared with fewer than half among other racial and ethnic groups). And White adults continue to be the most likely to say there is too much attention paid to race and racial issues (49% of White adults say this). There are even wider gaps by party: 56% of Democrats say there's too little attention paid to these issues, compared with 12% of Republicans. 66% of Republicans say there's too much attention on these issues, compared with 17% of Democrats. How Americans are feeling about issues of race Demonstrators gather at Folger Park in Washington, D.C., in July 2024 to hold a candlelight vigil for Sonya Massey, a Black woman fatally shot by a deputy sheriff in Springfield, Illinois. (Probal Rashid/LightRocket via Getty Images) Half of U.S. adults say they feel exhausted extremely or very often when thinking about the state of race and racial issues in the U.S. today. This is larger than the shares who say they often experience other feelings we asked about. Over half of Democrats (54%) and 48% of Republicans say they feel exhausted when they think about these issues. There are larger differences by party when it comes to some other feelings. By 10 percentage points or more, Democrats are more likely than Republicans to say they extremely or very often feel: Angry (47% vs. 19%) Fearful (39% vs. 13%) In turn, by double-digit margins, Republicans are more likely than Democrats to say they frequently feel each of the following when they think about the state of race in the U.S. these days: Uninterested (39% vs. 15%) Hopeful (22% vs. 12%) Satisfied (15% vs. 5%) Views of racial inequality While some thought of the summer of 2020 as a time of racial reckoning, views about the state of racial equality in America changed only slightly between 2019 and 2020. In September 2020, 49% of Americans said the country hadn't gone far enough on racial equality for Black people, up from 45% in 2019. Today, that figure stands at 43%. As was true in 2019 and 2020, views on the country's progress on racial equality still vary by race and by political party: 82% of Black Americans say the nation has not gone far enough when it comes to Black people having equal rights with White people. About half or fewer among White, Hispanic and Asian Americans say this. 71% of Democrats and Democratic leaners say the country hasn't gone far enough, compared with just 14% of Republicans and Republican leaners. Among those who say the country hasn't gone far enough, many cited Donald Trump or specific ways in which Black people are treated unfairly when asked about this in an open-ended question. Open-ended responses have been lightly edited for spelling, punctuation and style. Among those who think the country has gone too far, many say there is too much emphasis on race in the country these days. Some cite affirmative action or diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) programs in the workplace when asked in what ways they think the country has gone too far. The future of racial equality President Donald Trump signs a memorandum ordering that hiring by the federal government prioritize merit over diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in the White House Oval Office on Jan. 30, 2025. (Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images) In recent years, Americans have become less optimistic about the future of racial equality for Black people. Among those who say the U.S. still has work to do in this area, 51% now say it is very or somewhat likely that Black people will eventually have equal rights with White people. This is down from 60% in September 2020. As was the case five years ago, most White adults (61%) who say the country still has work to do say it's likely that Black people will eventually have equal rights with White people. This is much larger than the shares of Black (32%), Hispanic (50%) and Asian adults (41%) who say the same. Two-thirds of Black adults who think the country hasn't made enough progress on racial equality say that eventual equality with White people is not too or not at all likely. About six-in-ten Asian adults (59%) and 49% of Hispanic adults say the same. When asked about their expectations for Donald Trump's handling of issues related to race in his second term, more say the president will make things worse (48%) than say he will make things better (28%). About a quarter (24%) say Trump won't make much difference on these issues. Expectations of Trump's handling of issues related to race differ widely by party: 82% of Democrats but just 14% of Republicans think he'll make things worse. 53% of Republicans say Trump will make things better, compared with just 5% of Democrats. Pew Research Center compiled this data to explore how Americans' views about race, racial inequality and policing have changed in the five years since George Floyd, an unarmed Black man, was killed by Derek Chauvin, a White police officer, in Minneapolis. Floyd's murder sparked nationwide protests in the summer of 2020, drawing attention to issues of race and racial inequality. This essay draws mostly on surveys conducted in the weeks, months and years following Floyd's killing. These surveys are part of our long-standing body of work on race and ethnicity, which includes research on the public's attitudes about race and the breadth of experiences of and within different racial and ethnic groups in the U.S. In this essay, findings for 2025 come from a Pew Research Center survey of 5,097 adults conducted Feb. 10-17, 2025. Everyone who took part is a member of the Centers American Trends Panel (ATP), a group of people recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses who have agreed to take surveys regularly. Interviews were conducted either online or by telephone with a live interviewer. The survey is weighted to be representative of the U.S. adult population by gender, race, ethnicity, partisan affiliation, education and other factors. Read more about the ATP's methodology. Here are the questions from the 2025 survey used for this essay, the topline and the survey methodology. The methodology and topline for surveys conducted before 2025 can be found in the links to previous publications throughout this essay. This essay is a collaborative effort based on the input and analysis of the following individuals. Find related reports online at: Mark Hugo Lopez, Director of Race and Ethnicity Research; Kim Parker, Director of Social Trends Research; Juliana Horowitz, Senior Associate Director, Research; Sahana Mukherjee, Associate Director, Research; Kiana Cox, Senior Researcher; Khadijah Edwards, Research Associate; Kiley Hurst, Research Analyst; Alexandra Cahn, Research Assistant; Gracie Martinez, Research Assistant; Eugene Park, Research Assistant; Reem Nadeem, Digital Producer; John Carlo Mandapat, Information Graphics Designer; David Kent, Senior Copy Editor; Jens Manuel Krogstad, Senior Writer/Editor; Tanya Ardti, Senior Communications Manager; Editorial guidance on the essay was provided by Monica Anderson, Director, Internet and Technology Research; Jocelyn Kiley, Director, Politics Research; Rachel Drihan, Associate Director, Communications; John Gramlich, Associate Director, Short Reads; and Michael Dimock, President. In addition, the project benefited greatly from the guidance of the Pew Research Center methodology team: Courtney Kennedy, Andrew Mercer, Ashley Amaya, Dorene Asare-Marfo, Dana Popky, Anna Brown, Arnold Lau and Thomas May. About six-in-ten U.S. adults say food costs are extremely or very important to them when deciding what to buy. About half of Americans (48%) say they have emergency or rainy day funds that would cover their expenses for three months. Americans are most skeptical about U.S. trade with China: 10% say it benefits the U.S. more than China, while 46% take the opposite view. Among blue-collar workers, 43% say they feel extremely or very satisfied with their jobs; by comparison, 53%