CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

Sample	1,298 Adult Catholics in the U.S.
Margin of Error	±3.8 points

1. Generally speaking, do you feel things in America today are going...

Very well	16%
Somewhat well	34%
Somewhat badly	25%
Very badly	25%

2. Do you feel America's best days are...

In its past	38%
Right now	8%
In its future	54%

3. In general, do you think the Catholic Church is in touch with the needs of Catholics today, or is it out of touch?

In touch	55%
Out of touch	45%

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the direction in which Pope Francis led the Catholic Church?

Approve strongly	35%
Approve somewhat	41%
Disapprove somewhat	15%
Disapprove strongly	9%

8. Did Pope Francis' leadership make you feel...

More connected to the Catholic Church	35%
Less connected to the Catholic Church	17%
Didn't change your connection to the Catholic Church	48%

9. As you may know, the College of Cardinals meets in Rome to select a new Pope (also known as a conclave). Do you plan on following news about the process and selection of a new Pope...?

Very closely	22%
Somewhat closely	41%
Not very closely	27%
Not at all closely	10%

10. How much confidence do you have that the Cardinals will select a Pope that is in touch with the needs of Catholics today?

A great deal	24%
Some	49%
Not much	22%
None at all	5%

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Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

11. What part of the world do you think the next Pope should come from?

Western Europe	11%
Central Europe	14%
Asia	6%
Africa	11%
United States	31%
Mexico	3%
Canada	1%
Central America	4%
South America	5%
Someplace else	14%

12. How important to you is which part of the world the next pope comes from?

Very important	9%
Somewhat important	24%
Not too important	39%
Not important at all	28%

13. Would you like to see the next Pope generally continue the same teachings as Pope Francis, or change to more conservative teachings, or change to more progressive teachings?

Continue Pope Francis' teachings	42%
More conservative teaching	37%
More progressive teachings	21%

14. Should the next pope be someone who prioritizes changing the Church, or keeping Church traditions...

Changing the Church	32%
Keeping Church traditions	68%

17. Any new Pope will be facing a number of issues. For each of the following, do you think the new Pope should be for it, or against it? Should the next Pope be for or against... letting Catholic priests get married?

For it	57%
Against it	43%

18. Should the next Pope be for or against... letting women become ordained as priests?

For it	56%
Against it	44%

19. Should the next Pope be for or against... legalized abortion?

For it	38%
Against it	62%

20. Should the next Pope be for or against... the death penalty?

For it	43%
Against it	57%

21. Should the next Pope be for or against... the use of birth control?

For it	79%
Against it	21%

22. Should the next Pope be for or against... blessing same-sex marriages?

For it	43%
Against it	57%

23. Is it important or not important to you that the next Pope be someone who is...?

	Important	Not important
Younger	44%	56%
Relatable	87%	13%
Outspoken	67%	33%
Compassionate	96%	4%

24. Would you prefer the next Pope to be someone who speaks out on the world's political issues, or not get involved in the world's political issues?

Someone who speaks out	63%
Not get involved	37%

25. On issues of migrants and refugees, would you prefer the next Pope to be someone who encourages countries to be...

More welcoming of migrants and refugees	42%
Less welcoming of migrants and refugees	13%
Not take a stand either way	45%

35. Would you say you attend Mass more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, or never?

More than once a week	6%
Once a week	21%
A few times a month	10%
A few times a year	34%
Never	28%

* Questions held for future release.

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

1. Things in America
Generally speaking, do you feel things in America today are going...

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
Very well	16%	21%	13%	17%	18%	15%	18%	17%	18%
Somewhat well	34%	42%	27%	45%	31%	29%	36%	37%	28%
Somewhat badly	25%	19%	29%	22%	31%	26%	19%	25%	25%
Very badly	25%	18%	31%	15%	20%	30%	27%	21%	29%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,298)	(597)	(701)	(208)	(241)	(482)	(366)	(745)	(431)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

2. America's Best Days
Do you feel America's best days are...

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
In its past	38%	27%	47%	29%	40%	41%	37%	38%	37%
Right now	8%	8%	7%	16%	9%	8%	3%	7%	11%
In its future	54%	65%	46%	55%	51%	51%	60%	55%	52%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,289)	(591)	(698)	(208)	(241)	(474)	(365)	(743)	(424)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

3. Catholic Church in Touch with Catholics

In general, do you think the Catholic Church is in touch with the needs of Catholics today, or is it out of touch?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
In touch	55%	56%	53%	72%	64%	46%	49%	52%	56%
Out of touch	45%	44%	47%	28%	36%	54%	51%	48%	44%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,295)	(596)	(699)	(208)	(241)	(482)	(364)	(743)	(431)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

7. Pope Francis Approval

Do you approve or disapprove of the direction in which Pope Francis led the Catholic Church?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
Approve strongly	35%	30%	38%	37%	42%	33%	30%	29%	43%
Approve somewhat	41%	40%	42%	48%	46%	41%	35%	44%	35%
Disapprove somewhat	15%	18%	13%	11%	7%	17%	21%	17%	16%
Disapprove strongly	9%	12%	6%	4%	5%	9%	13%	10%	6%
Totals	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,296)	(596)	(700)	(208)	(241)	(482)	(365)	(745)	(430)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

8. Pope Francis' Leadership and Connection to Catholic Church
Did Pope Francis' leadership make you feel...

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
More connected to the Catholic Church	35%	32%	37%	40%	41%	33%	29%	29%	42%
Less connected to the Catholic Church	17%	22%	14%	11%	16%	15%	24%	19%	16%
Didn't change your connection to the Catholic Church	48%	46%	49%	48%	43%	51%	47%	52%	42%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,286)	(597)	(689)	(208)	(235)	(476)	(366)	(744)	(423)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

9. Follow Selection of New Pope

As you may know, the College of Cardinals meets in Rome to select a new Pope (also known as a conclave). Do you plan on following news about the process and selection of a new Pope...?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
Very closely	22%	24%	20%	29%	23%	19%	20%	20%	27%
Somewhat closely	41%	40%	42%	32%	41%	42%	45%	42%	36%
Not very closely	27%	28%	26%	26%	27%	28%	26%	28%	25%
Not at all closely	10%	8%	12%	12%	9%	10%	9%	10%	12%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,287)	(597)	(690)	(208)	(235)	(478)	(366)	(745)	(420)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

10. Confident Cardinals Will Select A Pope in Touch with Catholics

How much confidence do you have that the Cardinals will select a Pope that is in touch with the needs of Catholics today?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
A great deal	24%	26%	22%	29%	31%	21%	21%	21%	30%
Some	49%	48%	51%	43%	49%	49%	53%	54%	44%
Not much	22%	21%	23%	27%	14%	23%	23%	21%	20%
None at all	5%	5%	4%	1%	6%	7%	3%	4%	6%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,296)	(597)	(699)	(208)	(240)	(482)	(366)	(744)	(430)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

11. Origin of New Pope
What part of the world do you think the next Pope should come from?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
Western Europe	11%	12%	9%	12%	6%	11%	11%	12%	9%
Central Europe	14%	13%	15%	18%	17%	12%	12%	15%	12%
Asia	6%	6%	6%	6%	8%	6%	6%	5%	5%
Africa	11%	11%	10%	15%	5%	10%	13%	9%	12%
United States	31%	34%	30%	18%	32%	32%	38%	37%	23%
Mexico	3%	2%	4%	6%	7%	2%	1%	1%	8%
Canada	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%
Central America	4%	3%	4%	5%	7%	3%	1%	3%	6%
South America	5%	6%	4%	5%	8%	6%	1%	2%	11%
Someplace else	14%	12%	16%	15%	9%	15%	14%	14%	12%
Totals	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	98%	99%	100%	99%
Weighted N	(1,267)	(580)	(687)	(197)	(237)	(477)	(356)	(729)	(424)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

12. Importance of Origin of New Pope
How important to you is which part of the world the next pope comes from?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
Very important	9%	10%	8%	9%	22%	6%	5%	6%	17%
Somewhat important	24%	26%	23%	22%	30%	23%	24%	23%	25%
Not too important	39%	39%	38%	44%	34%	42%	36%	40%	34%
Not important at all	28%	24%	31%	25%	14%	29%	35%	31%	23%
Totals	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Weighted N	(1,298)	(597)	(701)	(208)	(241)	(482)	(366)	(745)	(431)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

13. Ideology of the New Pope

Would you like to see the next Pope generally continue the same teachings as Pope Francis, or change to more conservative teachings, or change to more progressive teachings?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
Continue Pope Francis' teachings	42%	38%	45%	47%	47%	41%	36%	39%	41%
More conservative teaching	37%	44%	31%	28%	28%	40%	45%	42%	34%
More progressive teachings	21%	18%	24%	25%	25%	19%	19%	19%	24%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Weighted N	(1,294)	(595)	(699)	(208)	(241)	(480)	(366)	(745)	(427)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

14. Catholic Church Changes V. Traditions

Should the next pope be someone who prioritizes changing the Church, or keeping Church traditions...

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
Changing the Church	32%	32%	33%	20%	36%	35%	33%	29%	39%
Keeping Church traditions	68%	68%	67%	80%	64%	65%	67%	71%	61%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,293)	(596)	(698)	(208)	(240)	(482)	(364)	(742)	(430)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

17. New Pope Should be For or Against - Marriage for Priests

Any new Pope will be facing a number of issues. For each of the following, do you think the new Pope should be for it, or against it? Should the next Pope be for or against... letting Catholic priests get married?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
For it	57%	52%	61%	45%	58%	61%	58%	58%	58%
Against it	43%	48%	39%	55%	42%	39%	42%	42%	42%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,285)	(591)	(694)	(204)	(241)	(481)	(359)	(735)	(430)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

18. New Pope Should be For or Against - Women Becoming Priests

Should the next Pope be for or against... letting women become ordained as priests?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
For it	56%	48%	62%	44%	57%	60%	56%	54%	59%
Against it	44%	52%	38%	56%	43%	40%	44%	46%	41%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,289)	(594)	(695)	(208)	(240)	(479)	(363)	(742)	(427)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

19. New Pope Should be For or Against - Legalized abortion
Should the next Pope be for or against... legalized abortion?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
For it	38%	35%	41%	37%	45%	42%	28%	32%	47%
Against it	62%	65%	59%	63%	55%	58%	72%	68%	53%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,283)	(595)	(688)	(208)	(241)	(475)	(358)	(738)	(430)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

20. New Pope Should be For or Against - Death Penalty
Should the next Pope be for or against... the death penalty?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
For it	43%	44%	43%	37%	39%	45%	48%	42%	46%
Against it	57%	56%	57%	63%	61%	55%	52%	58%	54%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,271)	(591)	(680)	(207)	(240)	(468)	(356)	(729)	(423)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

21. New Pope Should be For or Against - Birth Control
Should the next Pope be for or against... the use of birth control?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
For it	79%	74%	84%	69%	76%	82%	82%	77%	81%
Against it	21%	26%	16%	31%	24%	18%	18%	23%	19%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,290)	(596)	(694)	(205)	(241)	(480)	(364)	(743)	(425)

22. New Pope Should be For or Against - Blessing same-sex marriages

Should the next Pope be for or against... blessing same-sex marriages?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
For it	43%	35%	49%	23%	46%	51%	41%	42%	47%
Against it	57%	65%	51%	77%	54%	49%	59%	58%	53%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,287)	(595)	(692)	(205)	(241)	(481)	(361)	(741)	(428)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

23A. Traits of New Pope — Younger

Is it important or not important to you that the next Pope be someone who is...?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
Important	44%	44%	44%	41%	45%	43%	47%	44%	44%
Not important	56%	56%	56%	59%	55%	57%	53%	56%	56%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,291)	(593)	(698)	(208)	(240)	(480)	(364)	(742)	(427)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

23B. Traits of New Pope — Relatable

Is it important or not important to you that the next Pope be someone who is...?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
Important	87%	83%	90%	81%	85%	88%	91%	86%	88%
Not important	13%	17%	10%	19%	15%	12%	9%	14%	12%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,292)	(596)	(697)	(208)	(240)	(478)	(366)	(741)	(429)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

23C. Traits of New Pope — Outspoken

Is it important or not important to you that the next Pope be someone who is...?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
Important	67%	67%	67%	81%	78%	62%	59%	60%	79%
Not important	33%	33%	33%	19%	22%	38%	41%	40%	21%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,292)	(593)	(699)	(208)	(240)	(480)	(363)	(743)	(427)

CBS News Poll – April 30-May 5, 2025
Adult Catholics in the U.S.

YouGov

23D. Traits of New Pope — Compassionate

Is it important or not important to you that the next Pope be someone who is...?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
Important	96%	93%	98%	95%	92%	97%	98%	94%	98%
Not important	4%	7%	2%	5%	8%	3%	2%	6%	2%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,291)	(591)	(700)	(208)	(240)	(480)	(363)	(742)	(427)

24. Pope and World Affairs

Would you prefer the next Pope to be someone who speaks out on the world's political issues, or not get involved in the world's political issues?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
Someone who speaks out	63%	64%	62%	67%	73%	65%	51%	59%	67%
Not get involved	37%	36%	38%	33%	27%	35%	49%	41%	33%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,296)	(597)	(699)	(208)	(241)	(481)	(366)	(745)	(430)

25. Pope and Immigration

On issues of migrants and refugees, would you prefer the next Pope to be someone who encourages countries to be...

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
More welcoming of migrants and refugees	42%	38%	45%	46%	57%	38%	34%	31%	59%
Less welcoming of migrants and refugees	13%	15%	11%	13%	15%	12%	12%	15%	9%
Not take a stand either way	45%	47%	44%	41%	28%	49%	54%	54%	32%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,297)	(597)	(700)	(208)	(241)	(482)	(366)	(745)	(430)

35. Attend Mass

Would you say you attend Mass more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, or never?

		Gender		Age				Race	
	Total	Male	Female	Under 30	30-44	45-64	65+	White	Hispanic
More than once a week	6%	7%	6%	7%	11%	5%	5%	5%	10%
Once a week	21%	26%	18%	31%	20%	17%	23%	22%	19%
A few times a month	10%	11%	10%	19%	18%	8%	3%	9%	11%
A few times a year	34%	30%	36%	32%	36%	35%	31%	29%	41%
Never	28%	26%	30%	10%	15%	35%	38%	35%	19%
Totals	99%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Weighted N	(1,298)	(597)	(701)	(208)	(241)	(482)	(366)	(745)	(431)

HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED AND THE MARGIN OF ERROR CALCULATED

The CBS News/YouGov survey of 1,298 adult Catholics living in the U.S. was conducted between April 30-May 5, 2025.

This sample was weighted according to gender, age, race, education, and Mass attendance according to the 2023-24 Pew Religious Landscape Study. Respondents were selected to be representative of adult Catholics living in the U.S. Of the 1,298 respondents, 1205 were selected from YouGov's online panel, 82 were selected from ThinkNow's online panel, 8 were selected from Offerwise's online panel, and 3 were selected from Dynata's online panel. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. The weights range from 0.1 to 6.5, with a mean of 1 and a standard deviation of 1.0.

The *margin of error* (a 95% confidence interval) for a sample percentage p based upon the entire sample is approximately $\pm$3.8 points. It is calculated using the formula

$$\hat{p} \pm 100 \times \sqrt{\frac{1 + \mathsf{CV}^2}{n}}$$

where CV is the coefficient of variation of the sample weights and n is the sample size used to compute the proportion. This is a measure of sampling error (the average of all estimates obtained using the same sample selection and weighting procedures repeatedly). The sample estimate should differ from its expected value by less than margin of error in 95 percent of all samples. It does not reflect non-sampling errors, including potential selection bias in panel participation or in response to a particular survey.