

NATIONWIDE POLL: AMERICAN HISTORY

A Survey of American Adults

September 18, 2018

Sample Size Total: 1,000

Gender	Total
Men	48%
Women	51%

7. Thinking about the time you spent in school, at what education level did you last study American history?

	Total
Primary or middle school	3%
High school	60%
Bachelor's degree program in college	27%
Graduate school	5%
Other (please specify)	2%
Unsure	3%

8. Using just one word, which word best describes how you feel about learning American history?

Tabulating

9. And in general, on a scale of 0 to 10 where a zero means it was your least favorite subject, and a 10 means it was your favorite subject, where would you rank American History?

Mean Score	Total
	6.39
Favorite subject (8-10)	40%
Somewhere in the middle (5-7)	39%
Least favorite subject (0-4)	21%

Methodology: 1,000 interviews among adults nationwide were conducted from September 11-17, 2018 and were weighted to ensure proportional results. The Bayesian confidence interval for 1,000 interviews is 3.5, which is roughly equivalent to a margin of error of ± 3.1 at the 95% confidence level.

You will now be asked a series of questions that are similar to those asked on the tests for American Citizenship. Please answer the questions to the best of your knowledge, and please do NOT use outside sources for your answers. You will have 5 minutes to answer all 20 questions; anyone using more than the allotted time will be terminated to prevent cheating.

10. Who is not a writer of the Federalist Papers?

	Total
Publius	49%
Thomas Jefferson	9%
James Madison	7%
Alexander Hamilton	7%
Unsure	28%

11. When was the Constitution written?

	Total
1776	64%
1787	13%
1789	9%
1790	2%
Unsure	12%

12. How many amendments does the U.S. Constitution have?

	Total
26	23%
27	20%
24	15%
30	8%
Unsure	33%

13. Why did the colonists fight the British?

	Total
Because of financial crisis	32%
Because the British Army stayed in their houses	24%
To help native Indians to get freedom	12%
To free the African slaves	8%
Unsure	24%

14. What is one thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for?

	Total
Invented the light bulb	37%
He was a U.S. Diplomat	24%
Published the code of the U.S. Constitution	22%
Started the first universities	4%
Unsure	13%

15. There were 13 original states. Please select the option that names 3 of them.

	Total
Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine	35%
New Jersey, New York, New Hampshire	28%
New Hampshire, West Virginia, Virginia	21%
Rhode Island, Florida, Georgia	4%
Unsure	12%

16. Who was President during World War I?

	Total
Woodrow Wilson	39%
Franklin Roosevelt	23%
Herbert Hoover	14%
Abraham Lincoln	7%
Unsure	17%

17. How many Justices are on the U.S. Supreme Court?

	Total
9	43%
12	27%
11	7%
10	5%
Unsure	18%

18. Who did the United States fight in World War II?

	Total
Japan, Germany, and Italy	50%
Japan, China, and Vietnam	15%
The Soviet Union, Germany, and Italy	13%
Austria-Hungary, Japan, and Germany	10%
Unsure	12%

19. Who said, "Give me liberty or give me death?"

	Total
Patrick Henry	51%
Thomas Jefferson	18%
George Washington	11%
Benjamin Franklin	5%
Unsure	14%

20. What did Susan B. Anthony do?

	Total
Fought for women's rights	56%
Made the first flag of the United States	18%
Founded the Red Cross	8%
Was the first woman elected to the House of Representatives	6%
Unsure	12%

21. Which of the following is a U.S. territory?

	Total
Guam	56%
Cayman Islands	11%
Bermuda	9%
Haiti	6%
Unsure	18%

22. Before he became President, Dwight Eisenhower was a general. What war did he fight in?

	Total
World War II	59%
Civil War	12%
Spanish-American War	7%
Vietnam War	6%
Unsure	16%

23. Which of the following wars was fought by the United States in the 1800's?

	Total
Mexican-American War	60%
World War I	14%
World War II	6%
Korean War	5%
Unsure	16%

24. During the Cold War, what was the main concern of the United States?

	Total
Communism	63%
The Great Depression	18%
Slavery	8%
Climate change	2%
Unsure	9%

25. What territory did the United States buy from France in 1803?

	Total
Louisiana	64%
Alaska	7%
Puerto Rico	7%
Hawaii	5%
Unsure	17%

26. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?

	Total
Thomas Jefferson	67%
George Washington	11%
James Madison	8%
Abraham Lincoln	6%
Unsure	8%

27. Who was President during the Great Depression and World War II?

	Total
Franklin Roosevelt	67%
Woodrow Wilson	13%
Abraham Lincoln	6%
George W. Bush	3%
Unsure	11%

28. What is one right or freedom given by the First Amendment?

	Total
Speech	72%
Bear arms	12%
Life	9%
Landownership	2%
Unsure	6%

29. There are four amendments to the Constitution on who is able to vote in U.S. elections. Which of the following describes one of these amendments?

	Total
Citizens 18 years of age and older can vote	80%
Citizens by birth only can vote	7%
Only citizens with a job can vote	2%
Citizens 17 years of age and older can vote	2%
Unsure	9%

If this had been an actual test the graded scores would have been as follows:

	Total
A (90% and above)	3%
B (80-89%)	10%
C (70-79%)	11%
D (60-69%)	12%
F (59% and below)	64%

30. Thank you for answering these questions. If this were the actual citizen test, how would you describe the test?

	Total
Too easy	5%
About right	58%
Too hard	25%
Unsure	11%

The last few questions are for statistical purposes only.

1. Starting out, we want to make sure we are talking to a lot of different kinds of people. Please indicate in which state you live.

	Total
Border States	11%
Mid Atlantic	13%
Midwest	22%
Mountain States	5%
National Capitol	5%
Northeast	5%
South	23%
West	16%

2. How do you identify yourself?

	Total
Male	48%
Female	51%
Transgender	0.5%
Nonbinary	0.5%

3. Please indicate in what year you were born.

	Total
Under 45	47%
45-64	36%
65+	17%

4. Could you please indicate which race/ethnicity you use to describe yourself?

	Total
White	65%
Black	13%
Hispanic (Puerto Rican, Mexican, etc.)	14%
Asian	5%
Native American	1%
Other	2%

5. For statistical purposes only, which of the following best describes your residency status?

	Total
Natural-born citizen (born in the US and currently a US citizen)	91%
Naturalized citizen (born in another country and now a citizen of the US)	5%
Green card holder	2%
Work visa holder	1%
Student visa holder	0%
Other	1%
Unsure	1%

6. What is the last year of schooling that you have completed?

	Total
1 – 11 th grade	4%
High school graduate	26%
Non-college post H.S.	2%
Some college	37%
College graduate	22%
Post-graduate school	8%

31. Switching gears a bit, when it comes to your own political ideology, on a scale of 1 to 9 where a nine means very conservative, a one means very liberal and a five means moderate, where would you place yourself when it comes to your political ideology? You can use any number between 1 and 9.

Mean Score	Total
	5.25
Liberal (1-3)	19%
Moderate (4-6)	40%
Conservative (7-9)	29%
(Don't know/refused)	11%

32. Are you married, unmarried living with partner, single, separated, divorced or widowed?

	Total
Married	47%
Unmarried with partner	11%
Single	28%
Separated/divorced	11%
Widowed	4%

33. Which of the following best describes the type of area you currently live in?

	Total
Urban	29%
Suburban	47%
Rural	22%
Unsure	2%

34. What was your approximate annual income before taxes last year?

	Total
Less than \$20,000	19%
\$20,000-\$39,999	24%
\$40,000-\$59,999	17%
\$60,000-\$79,999	13%
\$80,000-\$99,999	8%
\$100,000-\$119,999	7%
\$120,000-\$149,999	5%
\$150,000-\$199,999	3%
\$200,000-\$249,999	1%
\$250,000 or more	1%
Not currently employed	1%
Prefer not to say	1%

35. Do you have any children 18 years of age or younger living in your household?

	Total
Yes	33%
No	67%