

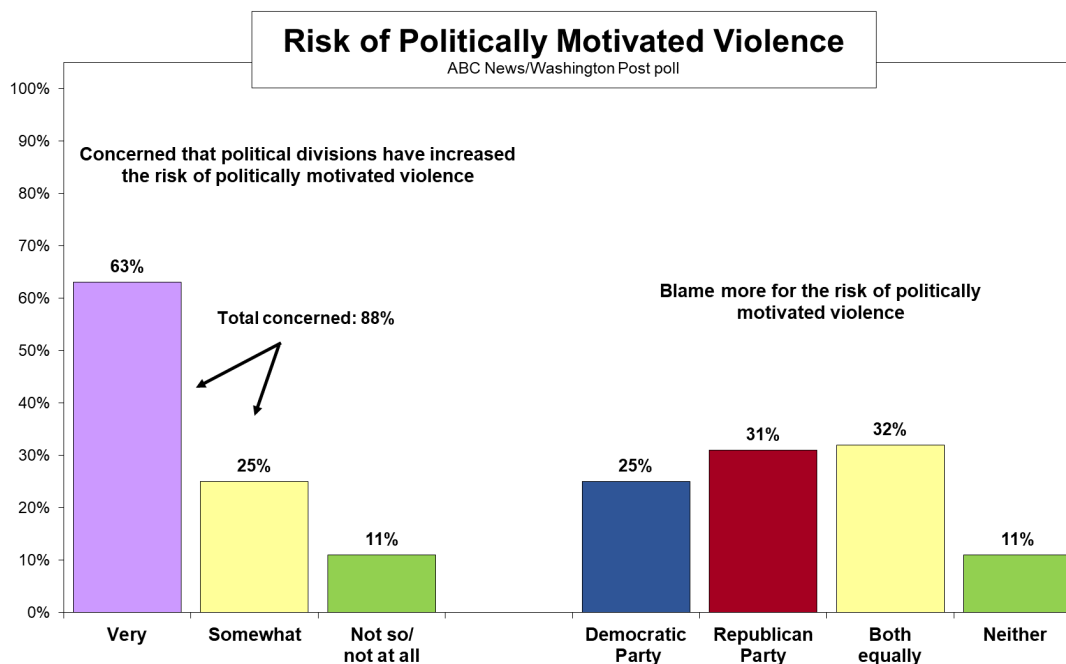
Americans Express Broad Concerns About the Risk of Political Violence

Broad and bipartisan numbers of Americans are concerned that political divisions are increasing the risk of politically motivated violence in this country, with majorities across the board in a new ABC News/Washington Post poll highly concerned about it.

Who gets the blame, however, differs sharply among partisan and ideological groups.

A week after the attack on Paul Pelosi, husband of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, a vast 88 percent of adults express concern that political divisions have gotten to the point that there's an increased risk of politically motivated violence in this country. Sixty-three percent in this poll, produced for ABC by [Langer Research Associates](#), are "very" concerned.

Asking which political party is more to blame for this risk, by contrast, produces a closely divided result: Thirty-one percent blame the Republican Party, 25 percent blame the Democratic Party and 32 percent blame both parties equally. (Just 11 percent don't blame either or both.) Those results are strongly partisan.



GROUPS/CONCERN – Overall concern is striking for how it crosses political lines, with rare levels of partisan agreement. Ninety-five percent of Democrats, 87 percent of Republicans and

86 percent of independents are concerned about the risk of political violence. So are 95 percent of liberals, 89 percent of moderates and 84 percent of conservatives.

That said, there are gaps as to the degree. About three-quarters of Democrats and liberals are very concerned about the risk, dropping to 58 percent of conservatives and 56 percent of Republicans – albeit still majorities in all cases.

In another political measure, 93 percent of 2020 Joe Biden voters and 83 percent of Donald Trump voters are concerned about the risk of violence, although again with a difference in intensity. Seventy-eight percent of Biden’s voters are very concerned, vs. 55 percent of Trump’s.

There are other differences among groups. Women are 10 percentage points more apt than men to be very concerned about the risk of politically motivated violence, 68 vs. 58 percent. Just among Democrats, this includes a 13-point gap in strong concern between women and men.

Additionally, older people are much more apt to be very concerned, declining linearly with age from 75 percent of those age 65+ to 47 percent of 18- to 29-year-olds.

	Concerned about politically motivated violence	
	Concerned (NET)	Very concerned
All	88%	63%
Democrats	95	75
Independents	86	61
Republicans	87	56
Liberals	95	73
Moderates	89	64
Conservatives	84	58
Biden voters	93	78
Trump voters	83	55
Women	92	68
Men	83	58
Age 65+	93	75
50-64	87	69
40-49	85	62
30-39	87	56
18-29	85	47

GROUPS/BLAME – As noted, blame reverts to partisan predispositions. Sixty-six percent of Democrats blame the Republican Party for the risk of violence; 56 percent of Republicans blame the Democratic Party. Political independents, for their part, are likeliest to blame both parties equally.

There’s also a sharp difference between men and women, reflecting political preferences between the sexes. Women blame the Republican Party more than the Democratic Party by a

broad 38-18 percent. Men blame the Democratic Party over the GOP, albeit by a narrower 32-24 percent.

	Blame more for the risk of violence			
	Democratic Party	Republican Party	Both equally	Neither
Democrats	4	66	24	5
Independents	20	24	39	14
Republicans	56	5	28	11
Women	18	38	33	8
Men	32	24	30	13

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by landline and cellular telephone Oct. 30-Nov. 2, 2022, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 1,005 adults. Results have a margin of [sampling error](#) of 4.0 percentage points, including the design effect. Partisan divisions in the full sample are 27-27-39 percent, Democrats-Republicans-independents.

The survey was produced for ABC News by [Langer Research Associates](#), with sampling and data collection by Abt Associates of Rockville, Md. See details on the survey’s methodology [here](#).

Analysis by Gary Langer.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com. Join our [mailing list](#) to get updates on all new poll releases.

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Full results follow.

1-13, 16 held for release.

14. How concerned are you that political divisions have gotten to the point that there’s an increased risk of politically motivated violence in this country - very concerned, somewhat concerned, not so concerned or not concerned at all?

	--- More concerned --			----- Less concerned ----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
11/2/22	88	63	25	11	7	5	1

15. Who do you blame more for the risk of politically motivated violence in this country - the (Democratic) Party, the (Republican) Party, both equally, or neither?

	Democratic Party	Republican Party	Both	Neither	No opinion
11/2/22	25	31	32	11	2

*** END ***