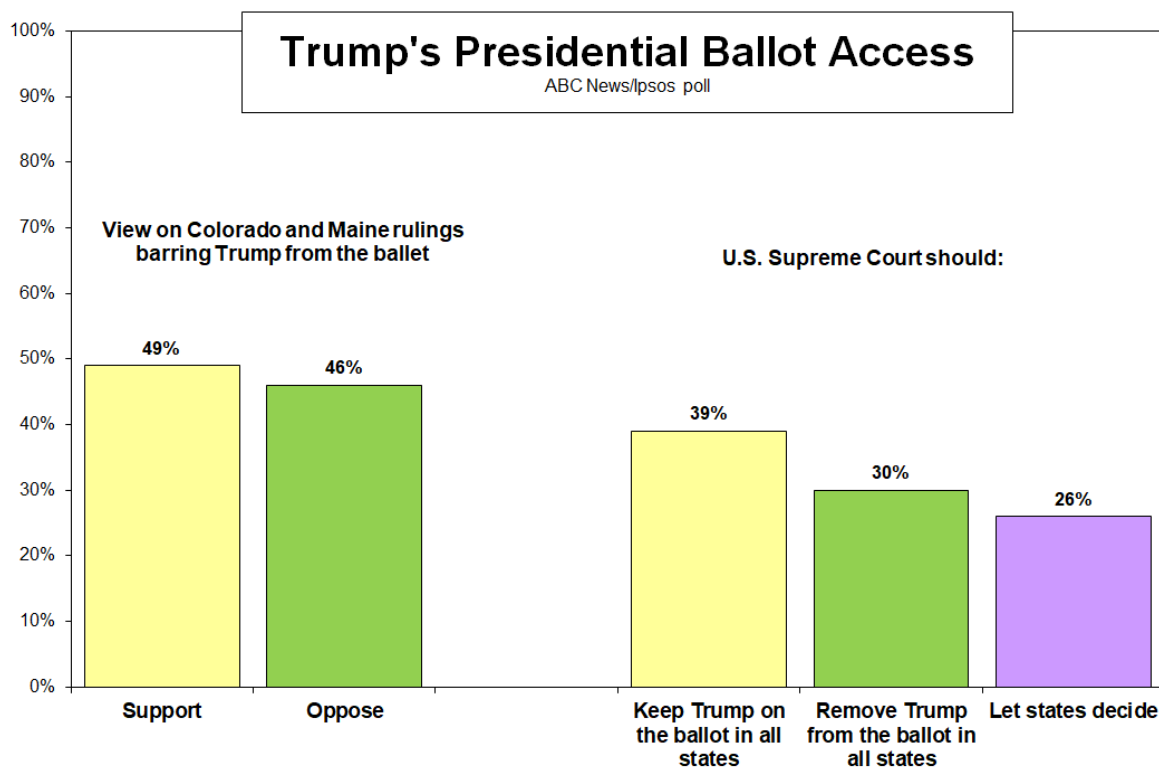


56% Say Supreme Court Should Bar Trump or Let States Decide

Americans divide on how the U.S. Supreme Court should handle Donald Trump’s ballot access, but a majority in a new ABC News/Ipsos poll say they would support the court either barring Trump from presidential ballots nationally or letting states take that step individually.

The national poll finds a close division on state-level rulings barring Trump from the ballot in Colorado and Maine, 49-46 percent, support-oppose. On next steps, 56 percent are willing to see him disqualified in all or some states, including 30 percent who say the high court should bar him in all states and 26 percent who say it should let each state decide.

Thirty-nine percent back a third option, saying the court should keep Trump on the ballot in all states.

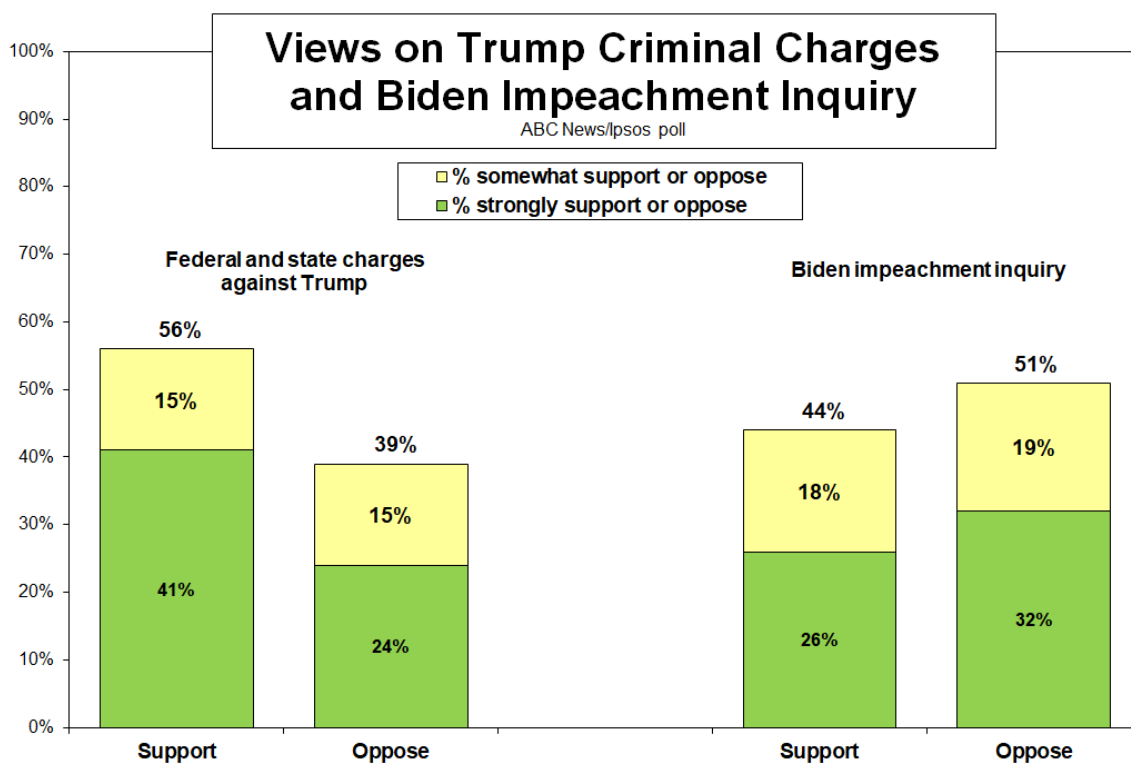


The survey, produced by [Langer Research Associates](#) with fieldwork by [Ipsos](#), also finds substantial support for the leveling of criminal charges against Trump, 56-39 percent. That contrasts with views on the impeachment inquiry of Joe Biden initiated last month by House Republicans, a step supported by 44 percent and opposed by 51 percent.

A conviction, were it to happen, looks unlikely to shake Trump’s base: Among people with a favorable opinion of him, just 10 percent say a conviction would lower their opinion of Trump, while 12 percent say it would raise it.

At the same time, among all adults, 21 percent say a conviction would lower their opinion of the former president, including 15 percent of Republicans and 23 percent of independents (as well as 28 percent of Democrats). Independents often, albeit not always, are swing voters in presidential elections.

Strength of sentiment in the Trump and Biden cases is notable. Forty-one percent of Americans strongly support criminal charges against Trump, while many fewer, 24 percent, strongly oppose them. In Biden’s case, intensity is more closely distributed: Twenty-six percent strongly support the impeachment inquiry, while 32 percent strongly oppose it.

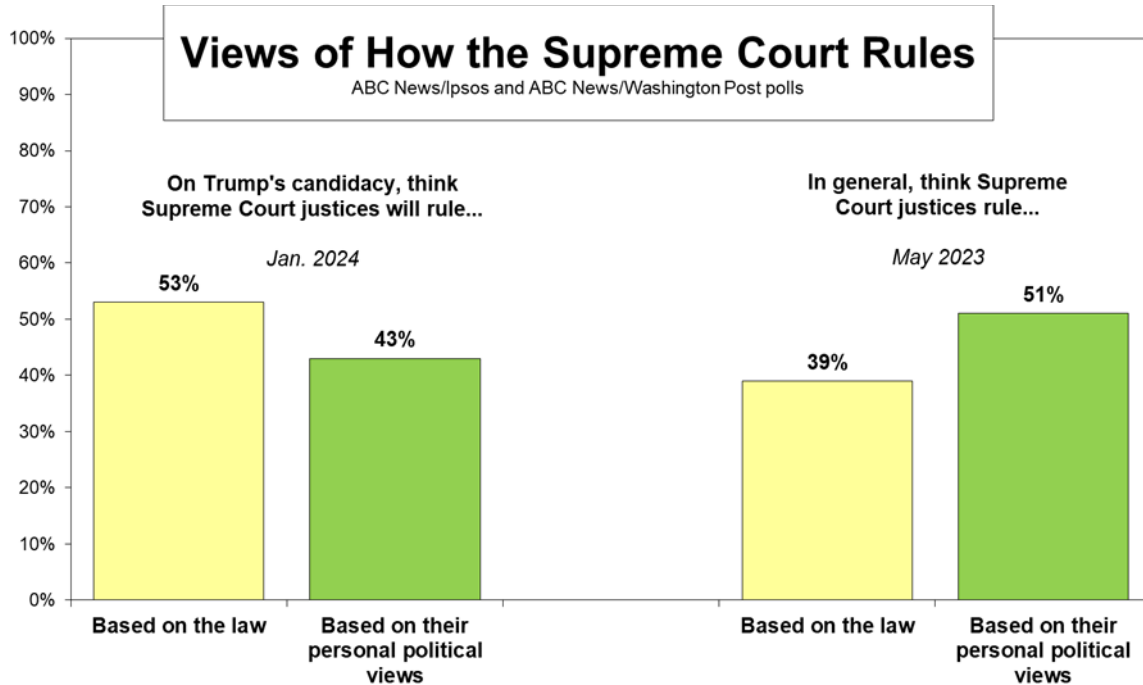


Strength of sentiment doesn’t differentiate views of the Colorado and Maine rulings on Trump’s ballot access. In this case, 35 percent are strongly in support, while essentially as many, 34 percent, are strongly opposed.

SCOTUS – The U.S. Supreme Court will hear ballot access arguments Feb. 8. The Colorado Supreme Court and Maine’s secretary of state have ruled that Trump’s role in the Jan. 6, 2021, protest at the U.S. Capitol makes him ineligible for the presidency under the 14th Amendment.

The case marks a potential turn for the court after its unpopular June 2022 ruling eliminating the constitutional right to an abortion. Last spring, just 39 percent of Americans thought the court’s

justices, in general, base their rulings on the law; 51 percent instead said they rule based on their personal political views. Today, more think the justices will rule on the basis of the law in the Trump ballot access case, 53 percent, while fewer, albeit still 43 percent, think they'll rule based on their political views.



GROUPS – Partisanship weighs heavily in these results. The Biden impeachment inquiry is supported by 81 percent of Republicans vs. 14 percent of Democrats; the criminal charges against Trump, by 89 percent of Democrats vs. 21 percent of Republicans. The main difference is independents: While 43 percent support the Biden inquiry, many more, 61 percent, support the Trump charges.

% Support for Each Item				
<i>ABC News/Ipsos poll</i>				
	All	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Biden inquiry	44%	14%	81%	43%
Trump charges	56	89	21	61
Colorado/Maine rulings	49	85	15	52

Ideological preferences differentiate as well, with three-quarters of conservatives supporting the Biden inquiry while 92 percent of liberals back the Trump charges. Here the main difference in overall outcomes is moderates – 39 percent support the Biden inquiry, compared with 65 percent who support the Trump charges.

There's a difference by race/ethnicity as well. Roughly equal numbers of white people, about half in each case, support both the Biden inquiry and the Trump charges. The Biden inquiry is

supported by 44 percent of Hispanic people, dropping to 24 percent of Black people. The Trump charges, by contrast, are supported by more than six in 10 Black and Hispanic people alike.

All these also differentiate views on Supreme Court action. For example, 58 percent of Democrats say the court should order Trump removed in all states; 77 percent of Republicans say it should order him to be maintained on all ballots. Here independents are more apt to say he should remain (36 percent) than be removed (27 percent). But an additional 32 percent of independents favor letting each state decide.

Trump’s Presidential Ballot Access				
<i>ABC News/Ipsos poll</i>				
	All	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Remove Trump from the ballot in all states	30%	58%	9%	27%
Keep Trump on the ballot in all states	39	10	77	36
Let states decide	26	30	12	32

At the same time, the shift in views on the court’s adherence to the law crosses party lines. Compared with general views last May, the view that the justices in this particular case will base their ruling on the law is 10 percentage points higher among Democrats, 15 points higher among independents and 18 points higher among Republicans.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Ipsos poll was conducted online via the probability-based Ipsos KnowledgePanel® Jan. 4-8, 2024, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 2,228 adults. Partisan divisions are 25-25-41 percent, Democrats-Republicans-independents. Results have a margin of [sampling error](#) of 2.5 percentage points, including the design effect, for the full sample. Sampling error is not the only source of differences in polls.

The survey was produced by [Langer Research Associates](#), with sampling and data collection by Ipsos. See details on ABC News survey 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. Media contacts: [Van Scott](#) (212-456-7243) or [Brooks Lancaster](#).

Full results follow.

Q1-15, 22-27 held for release.

16. The U.S. House of Representatives has voted along party lines to authorize an investigation into whether Biden should be impeached and removed from office. Do you support or oppose this impeachment inquiry?

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	Skip
1/8/24	44	26	18	51	19	32	5

17. Trump has been indicted on federal and state charges that he conspired to illegally overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election and that he illegally retained classified documents after leaving office. Do you support or oppose these criminal charges having been brought against Trump?

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	Skip
1/8/24	56	41	15	39	15	24	5

18. If Trump were convicted of a felony on any of the charges he faces, would that give you a higher opinion of him, a lower opinion of him, or would your opinion of him stay the same as it is now?

	Higher opinion	Lower opinion	Same as now	Skip
1/8/24	5	21	70	3

19. The state Supreme Court in Colorado and the secretary of state in Maine have each ruled that Trump cannot appear on the ballot as a candidate for president in their state because he engaged in insurrection against the U.S. government in connection with the storming of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. Do you support or oppose these rulings ordering Trump off the ballot?

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	Skip
1/8/24	49	35	14	46	12	34	5

20. It's expected that the U.S. Supreme Court will review the rulings in Colorado and Maine that ordered Trump off the ballot. What do you think the U.S. Supreme Court should do?

	1/8/24
Order that Trump should be removed from the ballot in all states	30
Order that Trump should remain on the ballot in all states	39
Allow election officials in each state to decide whether or not to include Trump on their state's ballot	26
Skip	5

(First two response options randomized)

21. Do you think justices on the U.S. Supreme Court will decide whether Trump can be a candidate for president based on the law or based on their personal political views?

	The law	Political views	Skip
1/8/24	53	43	5

(Response options randomized)

Compare to:

Do you think justices on the U.S. Supreme Court mainly decide cases based on the law or based on their personal political views?

	The law	Political views	No opinion
5/3/23	39	51	10
2/24/22	46	45	9

(Response options randomized)

*** END ***