

## The Public's Views on the Value of Federal Statistics

### \* TOPLINE RESULTS \*

Interviews for this study were conducted on the SSRS Opinion Panel Omnibus, **June 6 – 10, 2025**, among a nationally representative sample of **1,029 adults**. The margin of error for total respondents is +/- 3.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. The design effect is 1.29.

The SSRS Opinion Panel Omnibus is a multi-client probability-based survey that fields twice a month. It delivers a nationally representative sample of 1000+ adults age 18 or older in English with a Spanish-language option. Data collection is conducted online and via phone (for non-internet and web-reluctant respondents) using the SSRS Opinion Panel. More information about SSRS is available at [www.ssrs.com](http://www.ssrs.com).

**FEDS1. How much confidence do you have in each of the following? A great deal, quite a lot, some very little, none at all?**

**a. The mass media, such as newspapers, radio, and television**

	%
<b>A great deal/quite a lot (NET)</b>	<b>18</b>
A great deal	3
Quite a lot	15
<b>Some</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Very little/none at all (NET)</b>	<b>48</b>
Very little	31
None at all	17
Refused/web blank	-

**b. Influencers on social media**

	%
<b>A great deal/quite a lot (NET)</b>	<b>6</b>
A great deal	2
Quite a lot	4
<b>Some</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Very little/none at all (NET)</b>	<b>71</b>
Very little	36
None at all	35
Refused/web blank	*

**c. The Federal government**

	%
<b>A great deal/quite a lot (NET)</b>	<b>14</b>
A great deal	3
Quite a lot	11
<b>Some</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Very little/none at all (NET)</b>	<b>49</b>
Very little	33
None at all	16
Refused/web blank	*

**d. Federal statistics, such as the unemployment rate, the population count, or obesity statistics**

	%
<b>A great deal/quite a lot (NET)</b>	<b>27</b>
A great deal	6
Quite a lot	22
<b>Some</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Very little/none at all (NET)</b>	<b>29</b>
Very little	22
None at all	7
Refused/web blank	*

**e. Your state government**

	%
<b>A great deal/quite a lot (NET)</b>	<b>21</b>
A great deal	4
Quite a lot	16
<b>Some</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Very little/none at all (NET)</b>	<b>39</b>
Very little	27
None at all	12
Refused/web blank	*

**Combo Table: FEDS1a-e**

*Ranked by % A great deal + Quite a lot of confidence*

	A great deal/ quite a lot %	Some %	Very little/ none at all %
Federal statistics, such as the unemployment rate, the population count, or obesity statistics	27	43	29
Your state government	21	40	39
The mass media, such as newspapers, radio, and television	18	35	48
The Federal government	14	37	49
Influencers on social media	6	23	71

**FEDS2. Numbers like the unemployment rate, the population count and obesity statistics are statistics produced by agencies of the federal government. These are called “federal statistics.” Have you used or talked about federal statistics for school, work, or for any other purpose?**

	%
Yes, have used or talked about federal statistics	40
No	60
Refused/web blank	-

**FEDS3. Personally, how much trust do you have in federal statistics in the United States?**

	%
Tend to trust federal statistics	53
Tend not to trust federal statistics	47
Refused/web blank	*

**FEDS4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about federal statistics on topics like unemployment, population and health?**

**a. Federal statistics are important for understanding our society.**

	%
<b>Strongly/somewhat agree (NET)</b>	<b>68</b>
Strongly agree	27
Somewhat agree	42
<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Strongly/somewhat disagree (NET)</b>	<b>9</b>
Somewhat disagree	7
Strongly disagree	2
Refused/web blank	-

**b. Public officials need federal statistics to make good decisions about things like funding and where to locate hospitals and schools.**

	%
<b>Strongly/somewhat agree (NET)</b>	<b>71</b>
Strongly agree	29
Somewhat agree	42
<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Strongly/somewhat disagree (NET)</b>	<b>8</b>
Somewhat disagree	6
Strongly disagree	2
Refused/web blank	-

**c. Statistics provided by the federal agencies are generally accurate.**

	%
<b>Strongly/somewhat agree (NET)</b>	<b>46</b>
Strongly agree	11
Somewhat agree	35
<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Strongly/somewhat disagree (NET)</b>	<b>23</b>
Somewhat disagree	18
Strongly disagree	5
Refused/web blank	-

**d. The collection of federal statistics should continue regardless of politics.**

	%
<b>Strongly/somewhat agree (NET)</b>	<b>71</b>
Strongly agree	35
Somewhat agree	36
<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Strongly/somewhat disagree (NET)</b>	<b>7</b>
Somewhat disagree	6
Strongly disagree	2
Refused/web blank	-

**e. The people who work for federal statistical agencies are honest and professional.**

	%
<b>Strongly/somewhat agree (NET)</b>	<b>38</b>
Strongly agree	12
Somewhat agree	26
<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Strongly/somewhat disagree (NET)</b>	<b>21</b>
Somewhat disagree	15
Strongly disagree	6
Refused/web blank	-

**FEDS5. (If web) Which of the following is your main source of news? (Select one)**  
**(If CATI) What is your main source of news?**

	%
Social media or podcasts	14
Online news, news aggregators, or newsletters	12
Your local TV news or newspaper	12
Fox News	12
CNN	6
Friends or family	6
NPR or PBS	5
ABC News	4
The New York Times	3
NBC News	3
CBS News	3
MSNBC	2
Conservative media	2
The Associated Press or Reuters	2
Wall Street Journal	1
USA Today	1
News talk radio	1
Washington Post	*
None of these	1
Other	9
Refused/web blank	-