

About

[1792 Exchange](#) is a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization protecting freedom by developing policy and resources to protect and equip non-profits, businesses and philanthropy from “woke” corporations, educating Congress and stakeholder organizations about the dangers of ESG (environmental, social, and governance) policies, and helping steer public companies back to neutral on ideological issues so they can best serve their shareholders and customers with excellence and integrity.

[The Manuel H. Johnson Center for Political Economy](#) at Troy University provides a dynamic and rigorous education program focused on the moral imperatives of free markets and individual liberty, as well as relevant policy research on current and local issues.

The survey was conducted by [WestGroup Research](#).

Workplace Politics Survey Results, August 2024

Methodology & Research Objectives

Research Objective:

- To provide insight into the perceptions of the impact large corporations on American society overall as well as the perceived presence and impact of political and cultural conversations in the US workplace.

Target Audience:

- US citizens ages 18 and older.
- Regional and demographic representative quotas.

Methodology:

- Web survey via an online panel.
- 1008 total responses; Margin of error +/-3.1% at the 95% level of confidence.
- All responses were collected between August 2 and 9, 2024.

Profile of Respondents:

- The panel was balanced to mirror nationwide census data by region, age, and gender.
- Respondents include only US Citizens and 91% of respondents were registered to vote.

Summary of Findings

Small Business Preference/ Large Corporation Perceptions:

The survey research study reveals a strong preference among Americans for small, local companies, both as consumers and employees. While most Americans feel neutral about the societal impact of large corporations, those with an opinion lean more toward viewing their influence as positive rather than negative.

Notably, there are significant differences across demographics, with men, conservatives, and older individuals more likely to perceive large corporations as having a positive impact, while women and liberals are more inclined to see their impact as neutral or negative.

Societal Issues:

When it comes to specific societal issues, respondents indicate that large corporations have the most positive impact on freedom of speech, while their influence is seen as more negative regarding national unity and political correctness.

Additionally, a significant portion of Americans believes that large corporations have become too political, with most respondents urging CEOs to step back from politics and cultural issues. Among various industries, Big Media and Big Pharma receive the most negative evaluations over the past five years, while opinions about Big Banks and Big Tech are more divided.

Comfort in the Workplace:

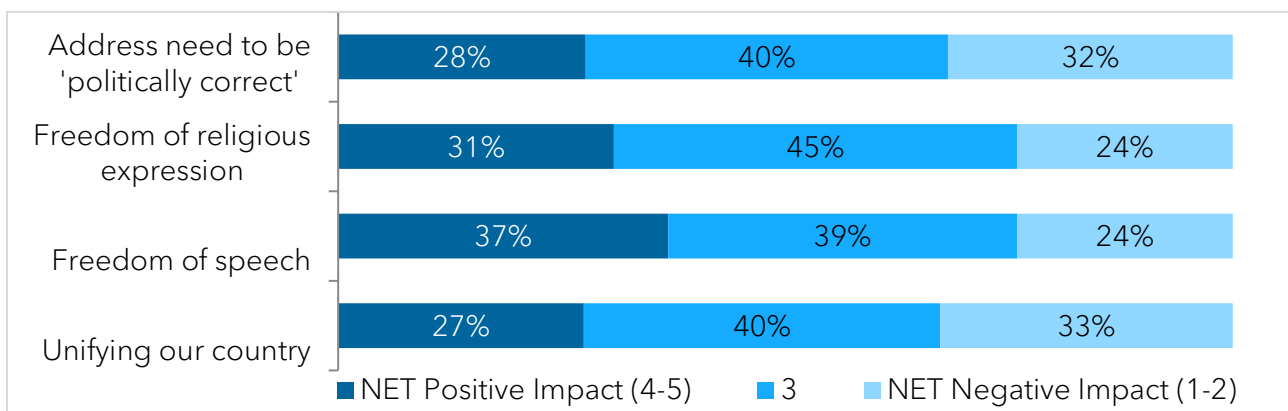
The study reveals that employees generally feel comfortable discussing current national or global events in the workplace, but less so when it comes to politics. Medium-sized companies provide a slightly more comfortable environment for political and faith-based discussions. However, pressure to be politically correct is a prevalent issue, especially in larger companies, where over half of the employees reported feeling this pressure.

Many workers also believe that political orientations within an organization can influence hiring and advancement decisions, highlighting the intersection of politics and workplace dynamics.

Questions & Results

Perceived Impact of Large Corporations

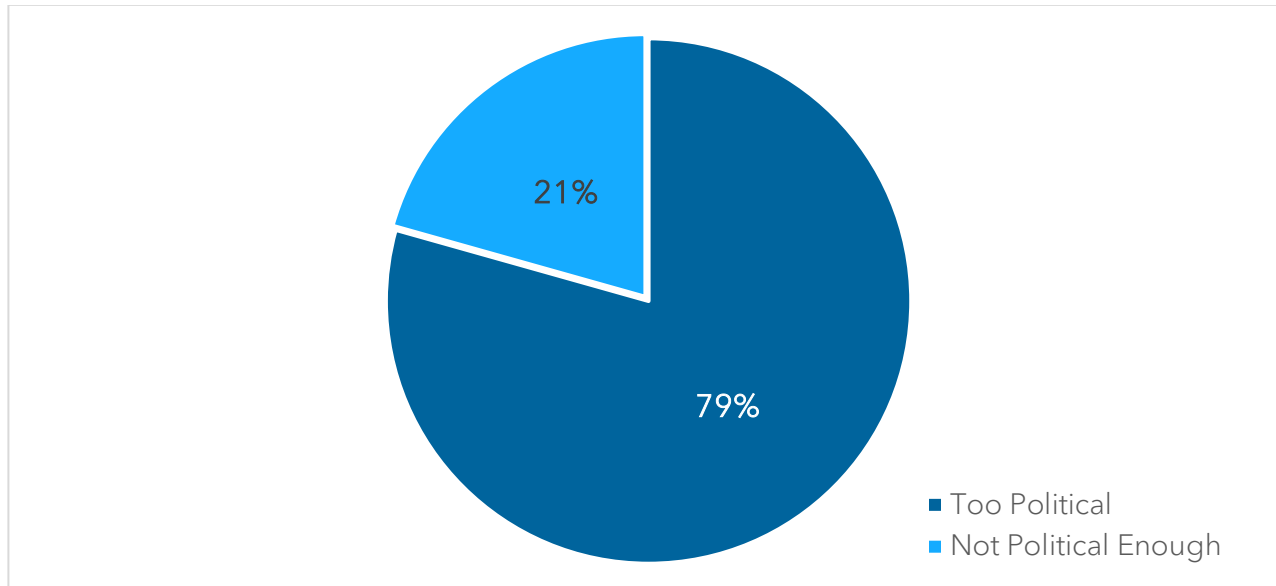
- In keeping with overall impact, Americans feel similarly about specific areas that may be impacted by the actions of large corporations. Americans were most likely to indicate the highest net positive impact of large corporations was for **Freedom of Speech** (37%).
- The greatest negative impacts of larger corporations were cited on the unification of our country (33% neg/27% pos) and addressing the need to be “politically correct” (32% neg/28% pos).



Please rate the impact large corporations have had on the following aspects of American society over the past 5 years:
Total n=1008

Perceived Political Activity of Large Corporations

- Almost 80% of Americans find that large corporations have become *too political* in comparison to being *not political enough*.



In general, would you say large corporations have become too political or not political enough in the past five years?
Total n=1008

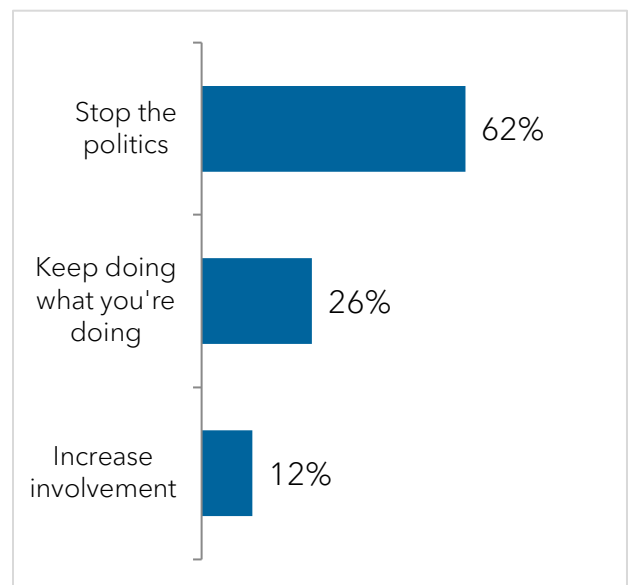
Advice to CEOs

- In keeping with the idea that large corporations may be too political, most Americans also indicated that CEOs should *stop the politics and involvement in cultural issues*, when compared to the other options of “advice” they would give to a CEO of a large corporation (62%).

Which of the statements below comes closest to what you would want to say if you could give one piece of advice to CEOs of large corporations:

- Stop the politics and involvement in cultural issues and get back to running your business.
- Keep doing what you’re doing; you’ve got the right balance of business and political /cultural involvement
- Increase your involvement in politics and cultural issues.

Total n=1008

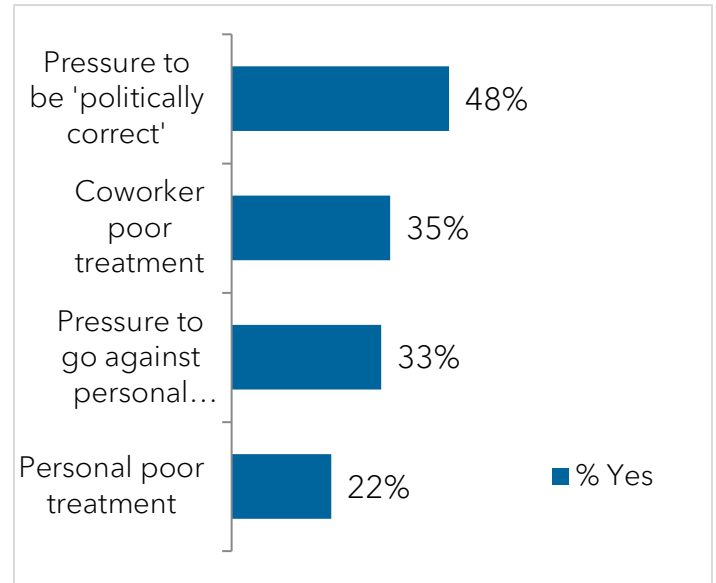


Personal Experiences in Workplace

- Almost half of employees feel pressure to be politically correct at work (48%).
- 35% have seen a coworker receive poor treatment at work due to their beliefs.

Please provide a Yes or No answer to each of the following statements:

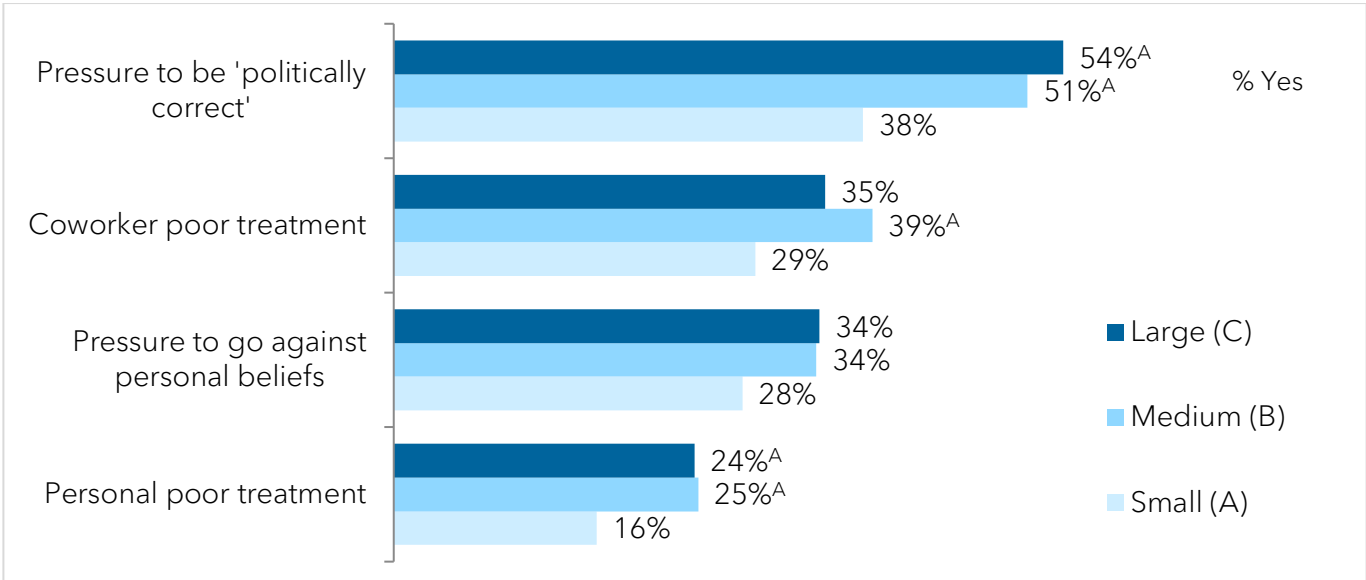
- I have felt an increased pressure to be “politically correct” in the workplace in the past five years
- I have seen coworkers receive poor treatment at work due to their views on politics or other social issues in the past five years
- I have felt pressure at work to do something or put up with something that goes against my personal beliefs in the past five years
- I have personally experienced poor treatment at work due to my views on politics or other social issues in the past five years



Total n=622

Personal Experiences in Workplace by Company Size

- Employees working for large or medium-sized companies feel more pressure to be politically correct (54% and 51% versus 38%).



^{ABC} Indicates a statistically significant difference at a 95% confidence interval.

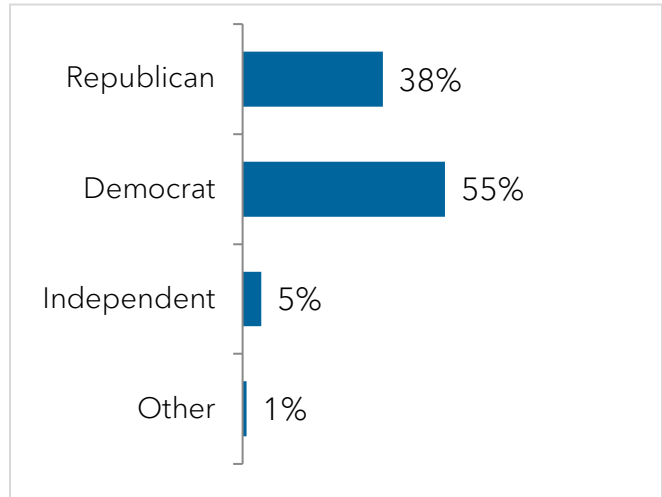
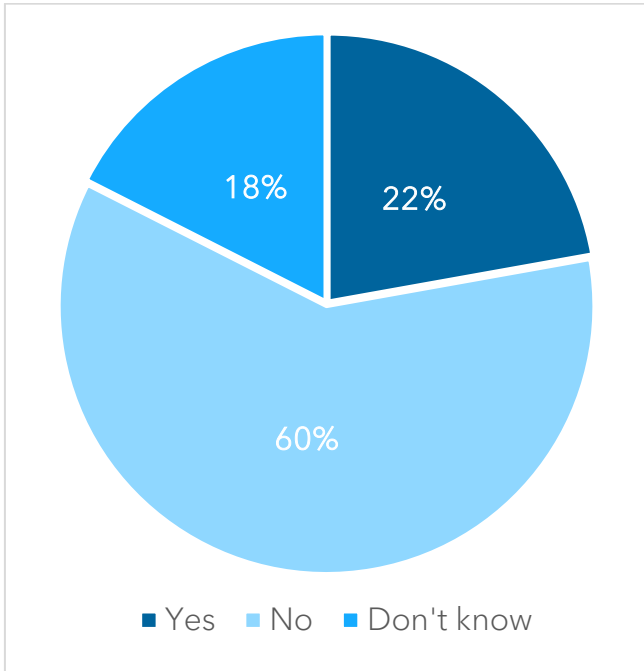
Small n=196

Medium n=200

Large n=219

Political Party Preference in the Workplace

- About 22% of Americans indicated that their company shows a preference for one political party over another, and this is most often prevalent among “Democratic leaning” organizations.

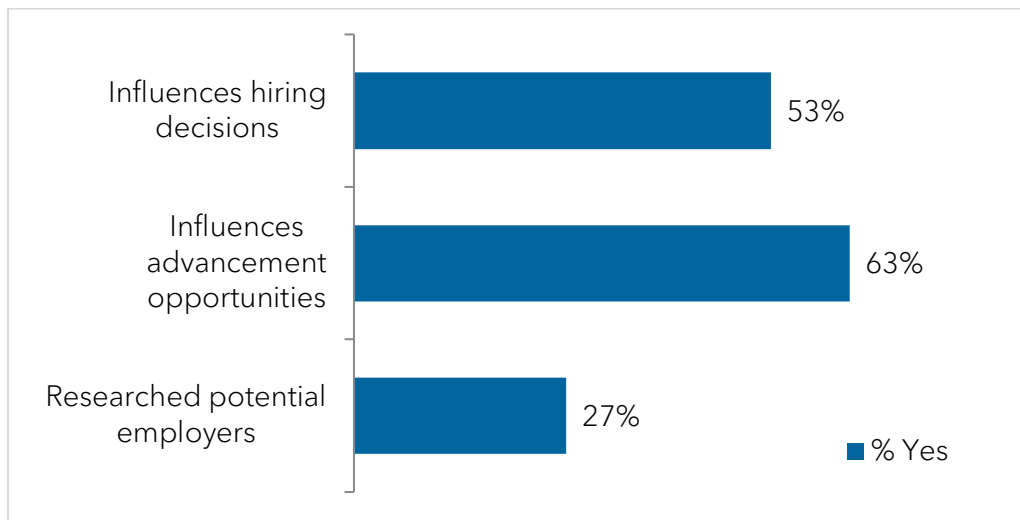


Does the company you work for show a preference for one political party over another? IF yes, please indicate the preference (Republican, Democrat, Independent, Other).

Total: n=622

Impact of Workplace Political Orientations

- About half of employees feel that an organization's political orientations influence *hiring decisions* (53%).
- However, more employees feel that an organization's political orientations do influence *advancement opportunities* (63%).
- About one quarter of employed respondents have researched an employer's stance on specific political or cultural issues before applying for or accepting a position (27%).



IF YES: Do you feel this preference influences the hiring decisions made by the organization? n=138

IF YES: Do you feel this preference influences the opportunities for advancement within the organization? n=138

Have you researched potential employers regarding their stance on specific political or cultural issues that are important to you before applying for or accepting a position n=622