

# New Poll Finds Federal Workers More Popular Than Elon Musk

*Survey finds that Musk is unpopular and Americans have serious concerns about his conflicts of interest and lack of accountability*

**EMBARGOED FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 25 AT 5 A.M. ET.**

**WASHINGTON** – Tuesday, March 25, 2025 – Most American voters disapprove of Elon Musk, have a favorable view of federal workers, and think Musk is making major changes to the government without being accountable to voters. This is according to a new poll commissioned by Defending Democracy Together of 1,000 registered voters, conducted March 13 - 17. You can find topline [here](#).

The findings point to one clear conclusion: The American people don't like Elon Musk. Just two months into the second Trump administration, respondents believe Musk is making major changes to the government without being held accountable. And a majority said he bought his way into the administration.

You can find a memo from pollster Whit Ayres—President of North Star Opinion Research, which conducted the poll—detailing the full findings [here](#). You can find the full crosstabs [here](#). The major findings include the following:

- **Federal employees are popular.** Fifty-five percent of American voters hold favorable views of federal government employees, compared to 23 percent with unfavorable views.
- **More Americans view Musk unfavorably than favorably, and people are split on DOGE.** Forty percent hold a favorable view of Musk, while 50 percent view him unfavorably. DOGE is evenly split at 42 percent favorable versus 42 unfavorable.
- **A plurality oppose Musk's actions and want him out of the government.** Forty-six percent say they disagree with Musk's conduct in the administration and want him removed. Thirty-three percent approve, and 16 percent say they agree with his goals but are concerned he may go too far.
- **Most are concerned that DOGE could use their personal information to hurt them.** Fifty-seven percent are somewhat or very concerned that Social Security and IRS tax data could be leaked to hurt them. Forty-one percent say they are not too concerned.

- **A substantial majority of Americans, including about a quarter of Trump voters, agree with statements critical of Musk.** These include the statement that Musk is making major changes without being accountable to voters; that he has major conflicts of interest; and that he bought his way into his position.

“Elon Musk is not popular with the American people, and the federal workforce that he’s gutting is,” said **Sarah Longwell**, Executive Director of Defending Democracy Together. “His massive conflicts of interest, pay-to-play approach to politics, and careless disregard for millions of Americans’ personal data are a huge red flag for people.”

**To be connected with spokespeople for comment, please contact Communications Director Tony Franquiz at [franquiz@defendingdemocracytogether.org](mailto:franquiz@defendingdemocracytogether.org).**

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*Note on Methodology: This national survey was commissioned by Defending Democracy Together and conducted by North Star Opinion Research from March 13 - 17, 2025, and consists of interviews with 1,000 registered voters, with a base of 800 interviews nationally, plus an oversample of 200 respondents who voted for Donald Trump in 2024, weighted to their appropriate proportion in the national electorate.*

*The survey used a mixed-mode methodology, with 20 percent live calls to landlines, 50 percent live calls to cell phones, and 30 percent text-to-web interviews. Calling quotas were set for gender, race, age, education, and state. The margin of error is ±3.10 percentage points.*