

CASE

Aviation Bill Toplines

Sample Online sample of 1,000 likely voters fielded from July 16 to July 20, 2026.
Margin of Error $\pm 3.8\%$

1. Generally speaking, do you think the country [is headed in the right direction, or has it gotten off on the wrong track]?

Right direction	36%
Wrong track	59%
Not sure	6%
Totals	101%
N	1,000

2. Do you [approve or disapprove] of the job Congress is doing?

Strongly approve	6%
Somewhat approve	21%
Somewhat disapprove	24%
Strongly disapprove	42%
Not sure	6%
Totals	99%
N	1,000

3. If the 2026 election for Congress were held today, would you be more likely to vote for [the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate]?

Democratic candidate	49%
Republican candidate	42%
Neither / third party	2%
Not sure / undecided	7%
Totals	100%
N	1,000

4. Congress is considering aviation safety legislation in response to the deadly mid-air collision between American Airlines Flight 5342 and a Black Hawk helicopter that killed 67 people in Washington, D.C. One provision would limit whether state and local governments, airports, and other public entities can use aircraft location data to assess or collect certain taxes, fees, or enforcement actions involving private aircraft. Based on this description, do you [favor or oppose] including this provision in the aviation safety bill?

Strongly favor	13%
Somewhat favor	23%

Somewhat oppose	13%
Strongly oppose	12%
Not sure	39%
Totals	100%
N	1,000

5. Critics say the provision would give private jet owners a special exemption from taxes and fees that ordinary taxpayers still have to pay, and that it should not be added to a safety bill responding to a deadly helicopter crash. Supporters say that transponder data should be used only for safety purposes, not for tax enforcement. Now that you've heard this argument, do you [favor or oppose] including this provision?

Strongly favor	12%
Somewhat favor	16%
Somewhat oppose	22%
Strongly oppose	27%
Not sure	23%
Totals	100%
N	1,000

6. Please say whether you [agree or disagree] with each of the following statements.

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure
Giving a tax break to private jet owners — who are primarily wealthy individuals — while middle-class families pay full taxes is fundamentally unfair	60%	17%	6%	9%	7%
It is wrong to bury a tax break for the wealthy inside a safety bill written in honor of the victims of a deadly helicopter crash	64%	20%	5%	3%	8%
This bill would blow a hole in our state and local budgets, and could force politicians to raise our taxes to fill the gap	26%	25%	13%	11%	25%

The Pilot and Aircraft Privacy Act would hurt airports' ability to collect landing fees from private jet owners. Airports use those fees to fund safety upgrades and maintain equipment that protects passengers and families. Cutting off that revenue makes flying less safe

33% 32% 6% 7% 22%

Private jet tax breaks inserted into legislation without a public hearing or separate vote are exactly the kind of backroom dealing that has destroyed public trust in Congress

55% 23% 6% 5% 11%

7. Thinking about everything you just heard, how would you describe your overall view of the Pilot and Aircraft Privacy Act — the provision giving private jet owners a tax break?

Very favorable 4%
Somewhat favorable 12%
Somewhat unfavorable 22%
Very unfavorable 50%
No opinion 13%
Totals 101%
N **1,000**

8. If a member of Congress voted in favor of legislation that included this tax break for private jet owners, would that make you [more likely or less likely] to vote for them?

Much more likely to vote for them 3%
Somewhat more likely to vote for them 3%
No difference 29%
Somewhat less likely to vote for them 28%
Much less likely to vote for them 37%
Totals 100%
N **1,000**

9. Of the following reasons to oppose the private jet tax break, which ONE is most compelling to you personally?

It's unfair — wealthy jet owners get a tax break while regular families pay full taxes 45%
It disrespects the victims of the Black Hawk crash by burying a giveaway in their memorial legislation 7%

It creates a budget hole that could increase our taxes	8%
It prevents airports from funding safety upgrades that protect passengers	12%
It was inserted in secret, without a hearing or a vote	14%
None of these are compelling	14%
Totals	100%
N	1,000

10. If a Republican member of Congress voted to keep this provision in the aviation safety bill, would that make you [more favorable or less favorable] toward that Republican?

Much more favorable	2%
Somewhat more favorable	5%
No difference	28%
Somewhat less favorable	20%
Much less favorable	38%
Not sure	7%
Totals	100%
N	1,000

This survey is based on 1,000 interviews conducted by YouGov on the internet of registered voters who are likely voters in the 2026 midterm election, according to screening criteria developed with the client. The sampling process for this survey involved sampling a universe of nationally-representative registered voters, capturing responses on key demographic variables to ensure we had a representative sample. Then, respondents who indicated they probably would not vote in 2026 midterm elections, were screened out. For respondents who screened out, their demographic data was kept for weighting. All respondents were weighted according to gender, age, race/ethnicity, and education, based on voter registration lists, the U.S. Census American Community Survey, and the U.S. Census Current Population Survey, as well as 2020 Presidential vote, 2022 midterm turnout, and approximate 2024 Presidential vote based on available results. Then, the respondents who did not meet the sample's qualification were dropped and weights were recentered. Respondents were selected from YouGov to be representative of registered voters. The weights range from 0.11 to 6.1 with a mean of 1 and a standard deviation of 0.71.

The margin of error (a 95% confidence interval) for a sample percentage p based upon the subsetting sample is approximately 3.8%. It is calculated using the formula:

$$\hat{p} \pm 100 \times \sqrt{\frac{1 + CV^2}{n}}$$

where CV is the coefficient of variation of the sample weights and n is the sample size used to compute the proportion. This is a measure of sampling error (the average of all estimates obtained using the same sample selection and weighting procedures repeatedly). The sample estimate should differ from its expected value by less than margin of error in 95 percent of all samples. It does not reflect non-sampling errors, including potential selection bias in panel participation or in response to a particular survey.