



Punchbowl News' The Canvass Inauguration Special Edition Rapid Poll  
 Powered by LSG  
 January 6-12, 2025  
 N=264 Capitol Hill senior staffers and K Street leaders

**COLUMN KEY:**

**TOTAL:** n=264 total respondents  
**CAP HILL:** n=84 Capitol Hill senior staffers  
**K ST:** n=180 K Street leaders  
**DEM:** n=129 Democratic K Street leaders and Capitol Hill senior staffers  
**GOP:** n=125 Republican K Street leaders and Capitol Hill senior staffers

**QUESTION 1: How surprised or unsurprised were you by the outcome of the 2024 presidential election? (K STREET ONLY)**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
Surprised	37%	0%	37%	44%	33%
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Very surprised	3%	0%	3%	3%	2%
Somewhat surprised	34%	0%	34%	40%	30%
Neither surprised nor unsurprised	14%	0%	14%	16%	10%
Unsurprised	49%	0%	49%	40%	58%
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Somewhat unsurprised	31%	0%	31%	28%	35%
Very unsurprised	18%	0%	18%	13%	23%
I don't know	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**QUESTION 2-4: Who or what do you blame most for key losses in Democratic races? (K STREET ONLY) (COMBINED CHOICE - TOP THREE)**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
The party focusing on the issues that didn't matter most to voters	84%	0%	84%	84%	0%
Joe Biden	69%	0%	69%	69%	0%
An ineffective media strategy	40%	0%	40%	40%	0%
Donald Trump	34%	0%	34%	34%	0%
Weak Democratic voter turnout	33%	0%	33%	33%	0%
Kamala Harris	20%	0%	20%	20%	0%
The selection of Tim Walz as the vice-presidential nominee	5%	0%	5%	5%	0%
Strong/effective Republican candidates	5%	0%	5%	5%	0%
Weak/extreme Democratic congressional candidates	3%	0%	3%	3%	0%
Democratic-aligned SuperPACs	2%	0%	2%	2%	0%
The DCCC and/or DSCC	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%
Weak Democratic fundraising	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
I don't know	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%



**QUESTION 5-7: Who or what do you credit most for winning key Republican races? (K STREET ONLY) (COMBINED CHOICE - TOP THREE)**

	CAP					
	TOTAL	HILL	K	ST	DEM	GOP
The party focusing on the issues that matter most to voters	71%	0%	71%	0%	71%	
Joe Biden's presidency	66%	0%	66%	0%	66%	
Donald Trump	54%	0%	54%	0%	54%	
Weak/extreme Democratic candidates	45%	0%	45%	0%	45%	
Strong Republican voter turnout	20%	0%	20%	0%	20%	
An effective media strategy by Republicans	19%	0%	19%	0%	19%	
Strong/effective Republican candidates	10%	0%	10%	0%	10%	
Republican-aligned Super PACs	5%	0%	5%	0%	5%	
The NRCC and/or NRSC	2%	0%	2%	0%	2%	
Trump's coalition of political outsiders like RFK Jr. and Tulsi Gabbard	2%	0%	2%	0%	2%	
Strong election integrity	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	
The selection of JD Vance as the vice-presidential nominee	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Strong Republican fundraising	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Mike Johnson	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
I don't know	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	

**QUESTION 8: Based on his victory, do you believe that President-elect Donald Trump has a strong mandate to govern? (K STREET ONLY)**

	CAP					
	TOTAL	HILL	K	ST	DEM	GOP
Yes	49%	0%	49%	29%	71%	
No	48%	0%	48%	70%	25%	
I don't know	3%	0%	3%	1%	4%	

**QUESTION 9: How effective or ineffective do you believe Donald Trump will be in his second term as president of the United States? (K STREET ONLY)**

	CAP					
	TOTAL	HILL	K	ST	DEM	GOP
Effective	62%	0%	62%	44%	81%	
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Very effective	11%	0%	11%	6%	17%	
Somewhat effective	52%	0%	52%	38%	64%	
Neither effective nor ineffective	5%	0%	5%	7%	2%	
Ineffective	31%	0%	31%	47%	16%	
-----						
Somewhat ineffective	22%	0%	22%	32%	12%	
Very ineffective	9%	0%	9%	15%	4%	
I don't know	2%	0%	2%	2%	1%	



**QUESTION 10: How united or divided do you believe the Democratic Party is? (K STREET ONLY)**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
United	40%	0%	40%	40%	0%
-----					
Very united	2%	0%	2%	2%	0%
Somewhat united	38%	0%	38%	38%	0%
Neither united nor divided	9%	0%	9%	9%	0%
Divided	51%	0%	51%	51%	0%
-----					
Somewhat divided	38%	0%	38%	38%	0%
Very divided	13%	0%	13%	13%	0%
I don't know	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**QUESTION 11: How united or divided do you believe the Republican Party is? (K STREET ONLY)**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
United	55%	0%	55%	0%	55%
-----					
Very united	12%	0%	12%	0%	12%
Somewhat united	43%	0%	43%	0%	43%
Neither united nor divided	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%
Divided	43%	0%	43%	0%	43%
-----					
Somewhat divided	35%	0%	35%	0%	35%
Very divided	8%	0%	8%	0%	8%
I don't know	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**QUESTION 12: Do you believe the incoming Congress will be more or less productive than the last one? (K STREET ONLY)**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
More productive	61%	0%	61%	47%	73%
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Much more productive	12%	0%	12%	7%	18%
Somewhat more productive	49%	0%	49%	40%	55%
Neither more productive nor less productive	16%	0%	16%	18%	14%
Less productive	22%	0%	22%	33%	11%
-----					
Somewhat less productive	12%	0%	12%	18%	6%
Much less productive	9%	0%	9%	15%	5%
I don't know	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%



**QUESTION 13: How effective or ineffective do you believe John Thune will be as Senate Majority Leader?**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
Effective	87%	88%	86%	81%	92%
-----					
Very effective	26%	21%	29%	10%	43%
Somewhat effective	60%	67%	57%	71%	48%
Neither effective nor ineffective	5%	4%	5%	7%	3%
Ineffective	7%	6%	7%	8%	5%
-----					
Somewhat ineffective	5%	5%	4%	5%	4%
Very ineffective	2%	1%	2%	3%	1%
I don't know	2%	1%	2%	4%	0%

**QUESTION 14-16: What do you believe will be the TOP priorities for the 119th Congress to address? (COMBINED CHOICE - TOP THREE)**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
Taxes	84%	76%	87%	84%	83%
Immigration	82%	82%	82%	79%	84%
Trade and tariff policies	25%	17%	28%	28%	22%
The economy	24%	28%	22%	19%	30%
Energy	23%	22%	23%	20%	25%
Downsizing government	18%	20%	17%	17%	17%
Inflation and rising cost of living	17%	23%	14%	18%	18%
National security/foreign policy	9%	8%	9%	8%	10%
Judges and the judiciary	5%	7%	4%	6%	3%
Crime and public safety	5%	4%	5%	5%	4%
Health care	3%	5%	2%	3%	3%
Affordable housing	3%	5%	2%	5%	1%
Abortion	1%	2%	1%	3%	0%
The environment	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Gun policy	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%
Financial regulation	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%
Online safety/social media regulation	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%
Education	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Voting rights/protecting democracy	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Vaccination policy	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%



**QUESTION 17-19: What do you believe will be the TOP priorities for President-elect Trump to address in the first 100 days of his administration? (COMBINED CHOICE - TOP THREE)**

	CAP					
	TOTAL	HILL	K	ST	DEM	GOP
Immigration	88%	90%	88%	87%	90%	
Trade and tariff policies	59%	50%	63%	65%	53%	
Taxes	50%	47%	52%	57%	43%	
Energy	24%	22%	24%	22%	26%	
The economy	22%	29%	19%	15%	28%	
Downsizing government	22%	21%	22%	24%	20%	
National security/foreign policy	16%	18%	15%	10%	23%	
Inflation and rising cost of living	10%	12%	9%	10%	11%	
Crime and public safety	5%	6%	4%	5%	4%	
Judges and the judiciary	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	
The environment	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	
Abortion	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	
Online safety/social media regulation	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	
Affordable housing	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	
Health care	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Gun policy	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Education	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Financial regulation	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Voting rights/protecting democracy	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Vaccination policy	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	

**QUESTION 20: Many of the provisions in President-elect Donald Trump's 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will expire at the end of 2025. How likely or unlikely do you believe it is that the next Congress will enact legislation to address these expiring tax cuts before Dec. 31, 2025?**

	CAP					
	TOTAL	HILL	K	ST	DEM	GOP
Likely	93%	91%	94%	91%	94%	
-----						
Very likely	65%	67%	65%	59%	72%	
Somewhat likely	28%	25%	29%	33%	22%	
Neither likely nor unlikely	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	
Unlikely	5%	8%	4%	7%	3%	
-----						
Somewhat unlikely	5%	8%	3%	7%	3%	
Very unlikely	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	
I don't know	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	

**QUESTION 21: If Congress is able to enact legislation addressing expiring provisions from the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which is the MOST likely outcome for the corporate income tax rate?**

		CAP					
		TOTAL	HILL	K	ST	DEM	GOP
It will keep the current corporate tax rate of 21%		61%	56%	64%	56%	66%	
It will lower the corporate tax rate below 21%		27%	36%	22%	36%	19%	
It will raise the corporate tax rate above 21%		6%	5%	7%	4%	9%	
I don't know		6%	4%	7%	5%	6%	



**QUESTION 22: Do you believe Donald Trump's mass deportation plans will help or harm the economy?**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
Help	13%	16%	12%	1%	26%
----					
Significantly help	4%	4%	4%	1%	7%
Somewhat help	9%	12%	8%	0%	18%
Neither help nor harm	14%	18%	13%	2%	28%
Harm	70%	64%	72%	97%	42%
----					
Somewhat harm	30%	22%	34%	32%	31%
Significantly harm	39%	42%	38%	65%	11%
I don't know	3%	3%	3%	1%	5%

**QUESTION 23: How likely or unlikely do you believe it is that Donald Trump will try to overturn the TikTok ban?**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
Likely	73%	76%	71%	79%	67%
-----					
Very likely	24%	26%	23%	34%	14%
Somewhat likely	49%	50%	48%	45%	53%
Neither likely nor unlikely	7%	5%	8%	4%	9%
Unlikely	13%	10%	15%	12%	16%
-----					
Somewhat unlikely	10%	7%	11%	8%	12%
Very unlikely	4%	3%	4%	4%	4%
I don't know	7%	9%	6%	6%	7%



**QUESTION 24: Which of the following Trump appointees do you believe will NOT be confirmed by the Senate? Please select all that apply.**

	CAP					
	TOTAL	HILL	K	ST	DEM	GOP
Tulsi Gabbard as Director of National Intelligence	62%	55%	65%	78%	46%	
Pete Hegseth as Secretary of Defense	34%	31%	35%	40%	25%	
Kash Patel as FBI director	33%	28%	36%	40%	26%	
Robert F. Kennedy Jr as Secretary of Health and Human Services	25%	20%	28%	31%	20%	
Mehmet Oz as administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services	5%	9%	3%	6%	5%	
Lori Chavez-DeRemer as Labor Secretary	5%	7%	4%	3%	7%	
Kristi Noem as Secretary of Homeland Security	2%	0%	3%	2%	2%	
Linda McMahon as Secretary of Education	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	
Pam Bondi as Attorney General	1%	2%	0%	1%	0%	
Janette Nesheiwat as Surgeon General	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	
Marco Rubio as Secretary of State	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	
Dave Weldon as CDC director	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	
Scott Bessent as Secretary of the Treasury	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Doug Burgum as Secretary of the Interior	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Brooke Rollins as Secretary of Agriculture	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Howard Lutnick as Secretary of Commerce	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Scott Turner as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Sean Duffy as Secretary of Transportation	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Chris Wright as Secretary of Energy	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Doug Collins as Secretary of Veterans Affairs	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
John Ratcliffe as CIA director	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Lee Zeldin as EPA administrator	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Elise Stefanik as U.N. ambassador	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Kelly Loeffler as Small Business Administrator	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Martin A. Makary as FDA commissioner	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Paul Atkins as chair of the SEC	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
They will all be confirmed	26%	26%	26%	13%	38%	

**QUESTION 25: Which of the following foreign policy challenges do you believe will be MOST difficult for the Trump administration to address?**

	CAP					
	TOTAL	HILL	K	ST	DEM	GOP
China's influence and Taiwan	36%	24%	41%	31%	41%	
Conflicts in the Middle East	28%	30%	27%	35%	19%	
The war in Ukraine	24%	31%	21%	22%	26%	
Tensions with the EU	6%	9%	5%	8%	5%	
None of the above	2%	1%	3%	1%	4%	
I don't know	4%	5%	4%	4%	5%	



**QUESTION 26: How concerned or unconcerned are the clients or industries you represent, work with, or conduct research for about the incoming Trump administration's plan to impose a host of new tariffs? (K STREET ONLY)**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
Concerned	81%	0%	81%	78%	82%
-----					
Very concerned	42%	0%	42%	49%	35%
Somewhat concerned	38%	0%	38%	29%	47%
Neither concerned nor unconcerned	7%	0%	7%	6%	8%
Unconcerned	10%	0%	10%	13%	8%
-----					
Somewhat unconcerned	7%	0%	7%	9%	5%
Very unconcerned	3%	0%	3%	3%	4%
I don't know	2%	0%	2%	3%	1%

**QUESTION 27: How concerned or unconcerned is the member of Congress you work for about the incoming Trump administration's plan to impose a host of new tariffs? (CAPITOL HILL ONLY)**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
Concerned	67%	67%	0%	93%	41%
-----					
Very concerned	32%	32%	0%	57%	8%
Somewhat concerned	35%	35%	0%	36%	33%
Neither concerned nor unconcerned	10%	10%	0%	0%	21%
Unconcerned	15%	15%	0%	4%	25%
-----					
Somewhat unconcerned	11%	11%	0%	2%	20%
Very unconcerned	4%	4%	0%	2%	5%
I don't know	8%	8%	0%	2%	14%

**QUESTION 28-30: Which of the following industries do you expect to be impacted MOST by Trump's proposed tariffs? (COMBINED CHOICE - TOP THREE)**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
Technology/Electronics	48%	47%	49%	46%	51%
Agriculture	45%	52%	42%	43%	48%
Automotive	42%	37%	44%	42%	39%
Retail	34%	32%	34%	41%	29%
Steel and Aluminum	26%	26%	26%	16%	34%
Consumer Packaged Goods	26%	29%	24%	28%	25%
Construction	18%	22%	17%	23%	14%
Mining and Raw Materials	16%	15%	17%	17%	15%
Pharmaceuticals	14%	11%	15%	12%	17%
Energy	11%	10%	11%	15%	7%
Food and Beverage	9%	10%	9%	12%	7%
Aerospace	4%	4%	3%	2%	4%
Other	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%
None of the above	2%	1%	2%	1%	3%





**QUESTION 31: Do you believe the proposed Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) will have a positive or negative effect on how the federal government functions?**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
Positive	27%	24%	28%	5%	49%
-----					
Very positive	7%	6%	8%	1%	14%
Somewhat positive	19%	18%	20%	5%	34%
Neither positive nor negative/No impact at all	34%	38%	33%	34%	35%
Negative	37%	36%	38%	59%	15%
-----					
Somewhat negative	19%	20%	18%	29%	8%
Very negative	18%	15%	19%	30%	7%
I don't know	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%

**QUESTION 32: Do you believe the economy will improve, worsen, or stay the same in 2025?**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
Improve	41%	46%	39%	23%	61%
-----					
Significantly improve	5%	6%	5%	0%	12%
Somewhat improve	36%	39%	34%	23%	50%
Stay the same/Neither improve nor worsen	21%	16%	23%	20%	20%
Worsen	38%	38%	38%	57%	19%
-----					
Somewhat worsen	33%	35%	32%	48%	17%
Significantly worsen	5%	3%	6%	9%	2%

**QUESTION 33-35: Who do you believe is MOST likely to emerge as the leader of the Democratic Party during the second Trump administration? (COMBINED CHOICE - TOP THREE)**

	CAP				
	TOTAL	HILL	K ST	DEM	GOP
Hakeem Jeffries	55%	55%	56%	58%	53%
Josh Shapiro	51%	58%	47%	44%	57%
Gavin Newsom	40%	40%	41%	40%	41%
Wes Moore	29%	33%	27%	31%	28%
Gretchen Whitmer	29%	21%	33%	35%	22%
Pete Buttigieg	22%	21%	23%	33%	12%
Andy Beshear	15%	11%	16%	11%	20%
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez	11%	12%	11%	15%	7%
Roy Cooper	8%	8%	8%	7%	9%
Kamala Harris	7%	11%	5%	8%	6%
J.B. Pritzker	6%	6%	7%	4%	8%
Jared Polis	5%	4%	5%	0%	8%
Mark Kelly	4%	1%	6%	2%	7%
Cory Booker	4%	5%	4%	1%	7%
Ruben Gallego	3%	5%	2%	3%	3%
Amy Klobuchar	2%	0%	2%	2%	2%
Jon Ossoff	1%	3%	1%	1%	2%
Tim Walz	1%	0%	1%	0%	2%
Jasmine Crockett	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%
Other	6%	6%	6%	7%	6%