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# Voter Enthusiasm at Record High in Nationalized Midterm Environment

*Top voting issues: Supreme Court, health care, economy*

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# Voter Enthusiasm at Record High in Nationalized Midterm Environment

*Top voting issues: Supreme Court, health care, economy*

With less than six weeks to go before the elections for Congress, voter enthusiasm is at its highest level during any midterm in more than two decades. And a record share of registered voters – 72% – say the issue of which party controls Congress will be a factor in their vote.

Opinions about Donald Trump also continue to be an important consideration for voters. A 60% majority views their midterm vote as an expression of opposition or support toward Trump – with far more saying their midterm vote will be “against” Trump (37%) than “for” him (23%).

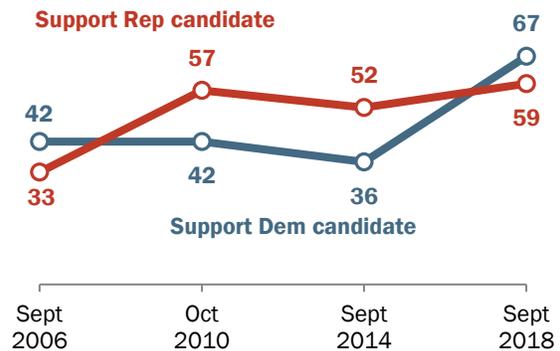
The new national survey by Pew Research Center, conducted among 1,754 adults, including 1,439 registered voters, finds that the Democrats have several advantages at this point in the campaign.

First, Democrats hold a 10-percentage point lead over the Republicans in the generic ballot. About half of registered voters (52%) say if the election were today, they would vote for the Democrat in their district or lean toward the Democratic candidate; 42% say they would support the Republican or lean Republican. [In June](#), the Democrats’ lead in the generic ballot was five percentage points (48% Democratic, 43% Republican).

Second, while voter enthusiasm is relatively high among voters in *both* parties, it is somewhat higher among voters who favor the Democratic over the Republican candidate. Overall, 61% of all registered voters say they are more enthusiastic about voting than in past congressional

## Voter enthusiasm rises – especially among Democrats

*% of registered voters who say they are more enthusiastic than usual about voting ...*



Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

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elections, higher than at any point during midterms in the past two decades, including at later points in those elections.

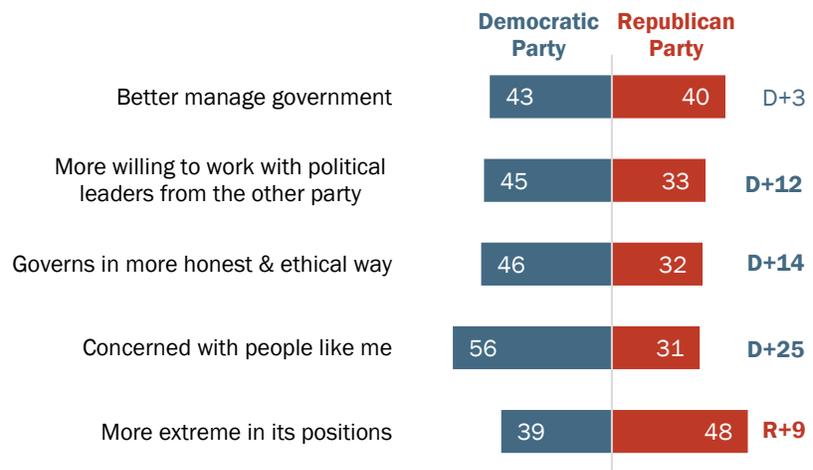
Two-thirds of Democratic voters (67%) say they are more enthusiastic than usual about voting, compared with 59% of Republican voters. The share of Democratic voters who express greater enthusiasm about voting is substantially higher than at comparable points in three prior midterms, while

enthusiasm among GOP voters is slightly higher than in September 2014 (52%) and about the same level as in October 2010 (57%).

Third, more Americans view the Democratic Party than the Republican Party as more concerned with people's needs, more honest and ethical and more willing to work with leaders from the other party.

### Democrats lead the GOP on empathy, honesty and ethics; neither party has edge on managing govt.

*% saying the phrase \_\_\_\_ better describes the ...*



In the past, the Democratic Party has often held advantages on these traits, but in January 2017, shortly before Trump's inauguration, the GOP ran nearly even with the Democrats on honesty and ethics and concern for "people like me."

Notes: Based on general public. Don't know responses not shown. Significant differences at the 95% confidence interval in **bold**.  
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

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As in the past, neither party has an edge on better managing the government (43% say the Democratic Party, 40% the Republican Party). More people continue to regard the Republican than the Democratic Party as "more extreme in its positions" (48% Republican Party, 39% Democratic Party).

In terms of issues, the Democratic Party continues to hold a wide advantage over the Republican Party on dealing with health care (51% to 35%) and modest leads on foreign policy and immigration. While the two parties run about even on dealing with the economy (41% Democratic Party, 40% Republican Party), that represents a change since June, when the GOP held a significant, 9-point edge on handling the economy.

## Top issues for voters: Supreme Court, health care, economy

The survey, conducted amid allegations of sexual misconduct by Brett Kavanaugh, Trump's nominee for the Supreme Court, finds that large majorities of voters in both parties view Supreme Court

appointments as a "very important" voting issue.

Overall, 76% of registered voters – including 81% who support the Democratic candidate and 72% who favor the Republican candidate – say appointments to the court will be very important to their vote this fall.

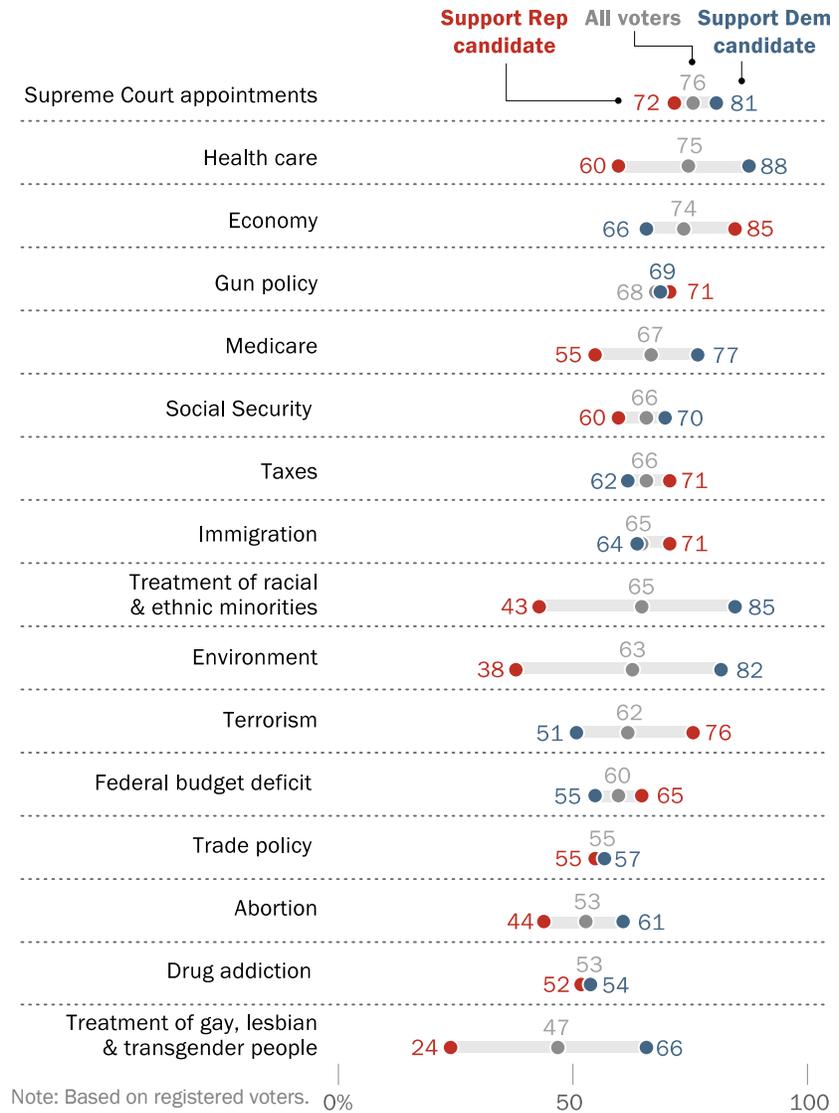
Among all voters, Supreme Court appointments rank with health care (75%) and the economy (74%) among the top voting issues.

While health care and the economy typically rank among the top issues for voters, there is no trend to past midterms on the importance of court appointments.

However, more voters view Supreme Court appointments as a very important issue today than did so in June 2016, during the presidential election. At that time, 65% of voters (70% of Republicans and 62% of Democrats) said court appointments were very important.

### Large shares of voters in both parties view Supreme Court appointments as 'very important' to their votes

% of registered voters saying each is "very important" to their vote in 2018 ...



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There are sizable partisan gaps over the importance of a number of issues. As in the past, Democratic voters (82%) are far more likely than Republicans (38%) to say the environment will be very important.

The gap is about as large over the importance of the treatment of racial and ethnic minorities and the treatment of gay, lesbian and transgender people. Democratic voters are about twice as likely as Republican voters to consider the treatment of racial and ethnic minorities as a very important voting issue (85% vs. 43%). And while two-thirds of Democrats (66%) view the treatment of gay, lesbian and transgender people as very important, just 24% of Republicans do so – the lowest share of Republicans citing any of the 16 issues as very important.

Democrats also are more likely than Republicans to view health care, Medicare and abortion as very important voting issues. More Republicans than Democrats rate the economy, terrorism, the federal budget deficit and taxes as very important.

Comparable shares of voters in both parties rate several issues as very important. For example, 71% of voters who favor the Republican candidate in their district and 69% who support the Democrat say gun policy will be very important. There also are not significant partisan differences on the importance of drug addiction and trade policy.

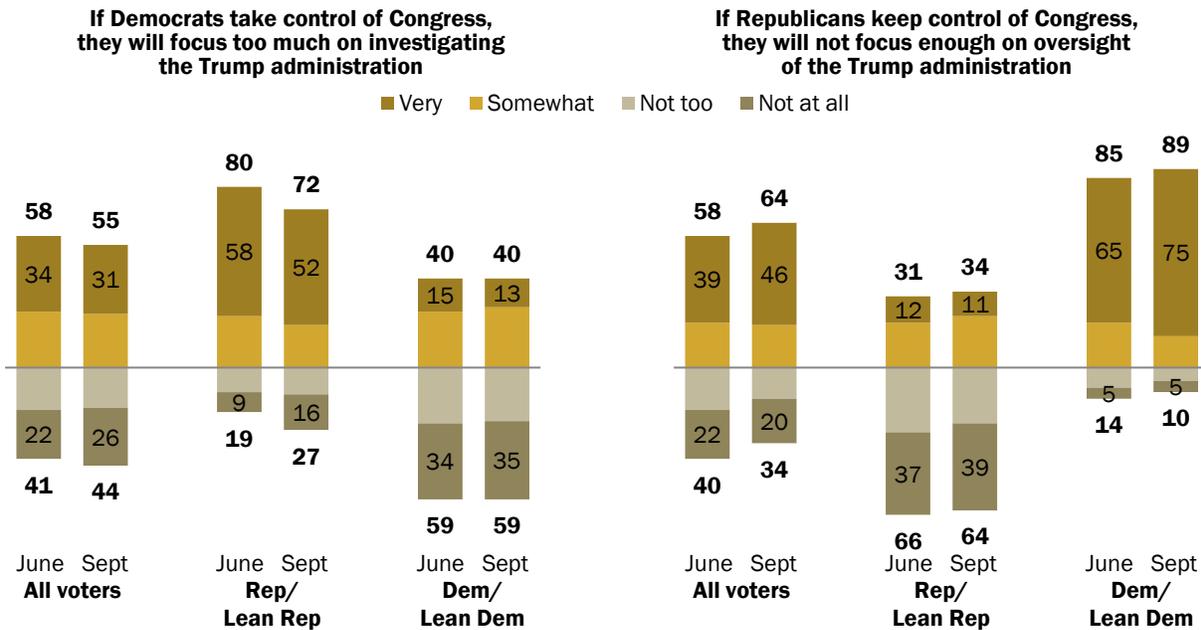
## Looking ahead: Concerns about too little – or too much – oversight of the Trump administration

Voters remain concerned that no matter which party prevails in the midterms, they will not strike the right balance in overseeing the Trump administration. But unlike three months ago, more voters are concerned about what the GOP may fail to do if they retain control of Congress than what the Democrats might do if they gain control of Congress.

Currently, 64% of voters say if the Republicans keep control of Congress, they are very or somewhat concerned that the GOP *will not focus enough* on oversight of the administration. A smaller majority (55%) expresses concern that if the Democrats take control of Congress, they *will focus too much* on investigating the Trump administration. In June, identical shares of voters (58% each) had concerns over both possible scenarios.

### More voters express concern that GOP will focus too little on oversight of the White House than that Democrats will focus too much on investigations

% of registered voters who say they are \_\_\_ concerned that ...



Notes: Based on registered voters. Don't know responses not shown.  
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

These opinions remain deeply divided along partisan lines, but Democrats are increasingly likely to express a great deal of concern that, if Republicans prevail, they will fail to do enough oversight of the Trump administration. Three-quarters of Democratic voters say they are *very* concerned about this, up from 65% three months ago.

By contrast, only about half of Republican voters (52%) say they are *very* concerned that if Democrats win control of Congress, they will focus too much on investigating the Trump administration. That is lower than the share of Republican voters (58%) expressing a high level of concern over Democratic overreach in June.

## Democrats have edge in 2018 midterm voting preferences

With less than 50 days until the 2018 congressional elections, Democrats hold a 10-percentage-point advantage over Republicans on the generic ballot among all registered voters.

Today, 52% of registered voters say they support or lean toward the Democratic candidate for Congress in their district, while 42% say they prefer the Republican candidate.

The share of voters who say they support or lean toward the Democratic candidate is slightly higher than it was in June (48% then, 52% today), while the share who back GOP candidates is little changed (43% then, 42% now).

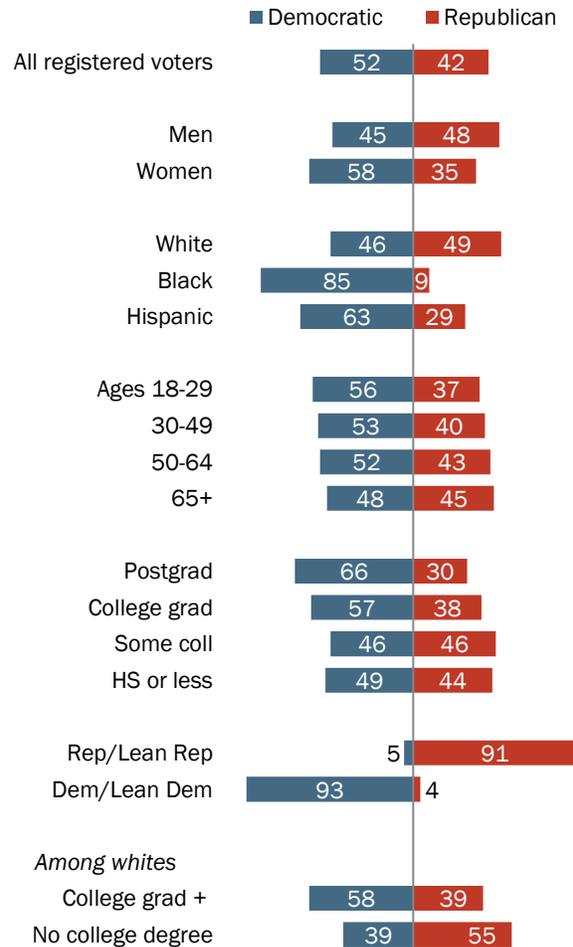
Today, as in earlier surveys, there are wide differences in voting preferences by gender, race, education and age.

Democratic candidates have a 23-point edge over Republican candidates among women voters (58% to 35%). By contrast, men are roughly evenly divided in their preferences: 48% of men support the GOP candidate, 45% say they prefer the Democratic candidate.

White voters are about evenly divided in their preferences (46% favor the Democratic candidate, 49% favor the Republican candidate), while black voters overwhelmingly back Democrats. Hispanic voters continue to favor Democratic candidates by about two-to-one (63% to 29%).

### Large differences in 2018 midterm preferences by gender, education, age

*% of registered voters who say they support or lean toward the \_\_\_ candidate for Congress in their district*



Notes: Based on registered voters. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race. N=89 for black registered voters. Other/Don't know responses not shown. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

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While those ages 50 and older are split in their choice of candidate, Democrats have a significant edge among younger voters.

Education is also associated with voter preferences: Those with a college degree or more favor Democratic candidates by a wide margin (59% to 36%), while those with no college degree are roughly evenly split (45% favor the GOP candidate in their district, while 48% favor the Democratic candidate.)

## Voters express record high levels of enthusiasm for a midterm

As the election approaches, a growing share of voters say they are “more enthusiastic than usual about voting” – and the share expressing this is now substantially higher than in any midterm election since the question was first asked two decades ago.

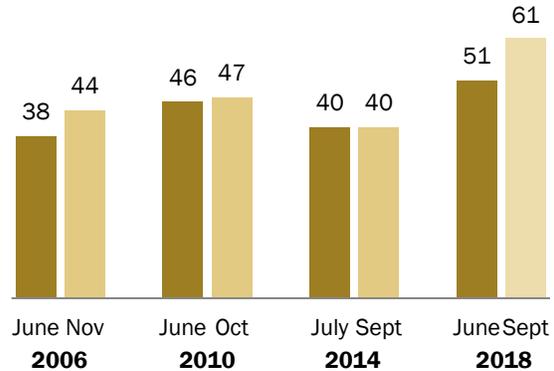
In June, 51% of registered voters said they were more enthusiastic than usual. Three months later, 61% say this, which is 14 points higher than the prior high for this measure (47% in October 2010).

Today, only 22% of voters say they are less enthusiastic about voting than usual – no fewer than three-in-ten said this in prior midterms – while 14% volunteer that they feel about as enthused as in previous congressional elections.

Among those who support Democratic candidates, reported levels of enthusiasm are much higher than in past midterm years: Two-thirds (67%) say they are more enthusiastic than usual; by contrast, fewer than half said this in midterms dating back to 2006. Among GOP voters, 59% say they are more enthusiastic than usual about voting – on par with the share saying this in October 2010 and modestly higher than in 2014.

### Majority of voters say they are more enthusiastic than usual about voting

*% of registered voters who say they are more enthusiastic than usual about voting*



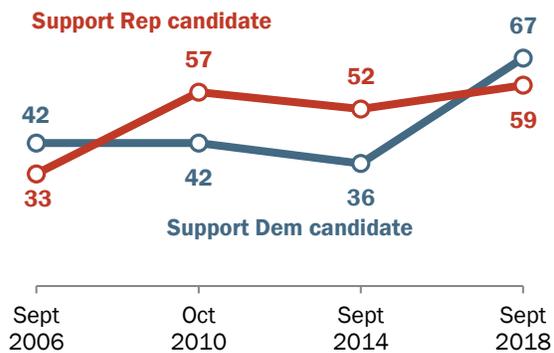
Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

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### Democratic supporters more enthusiastic than in previous midterms

*% of registered voters who say they are more enthusiastic than usual about voting ...*



Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

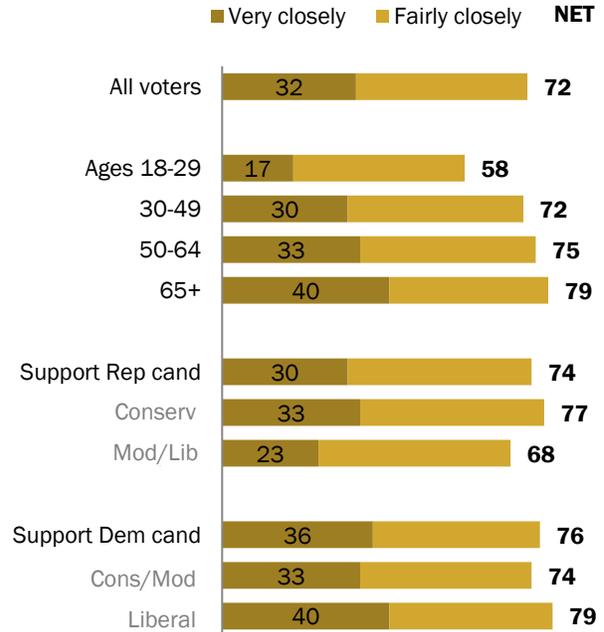
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The share of voters saying they are following news about candidates and election campaigns very or somewhat closely has increased substantially from June. Today, about seven-in-ten voters (72%) say they are following election news at least somewhat closely compared with about six-in-ten (59%) in June.

This increase in attention is most pronounced among those who say they are supporting the Democratic candidate in their district. In June, supporters of Republicans and Democrats were about equally likely to say that they were following election news very closely (24% of Republican voters and 23% of Democratic voters), but today Democratic voters are more likely than Republican voters to be following election news very closely (30% of Republican voters compared with 36% of Democratic voters).

### Democratic voters more likely than GOP voters to report following election news

*% of registered voters who say they are following news about elections very/somewhat closely*



Note: Based on registered voters.  
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

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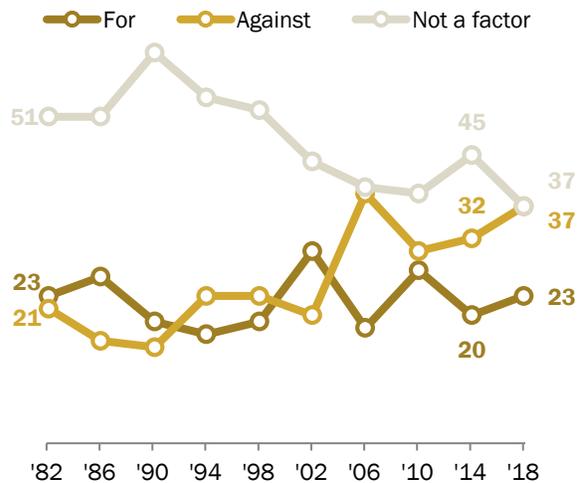
## For most voters, Trump looms large in their congressional vote

Overall, six-in-ten voters (60%) say that Trump will factor into their vote for Congress this fall. This is larger than the share of voters who said Barack Obama would factor into their 2014 congressional vote choice, but similar to the percentage who named Obama in 2010 or George W. Bush in 2006 at similar points in those election years.

More than a third of voters (37%) say they consider their congressional ballot as a vote *against* Trump, while about a quarter (23%) say they consider it a vote *for* Trump.

### Most say Trump is a factor in their congressional vote

% of registered voters who say they think of their vote as \_\_\_ the president



Notes: Based on registered voters.  
 Don't know responses not shown.  
 Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

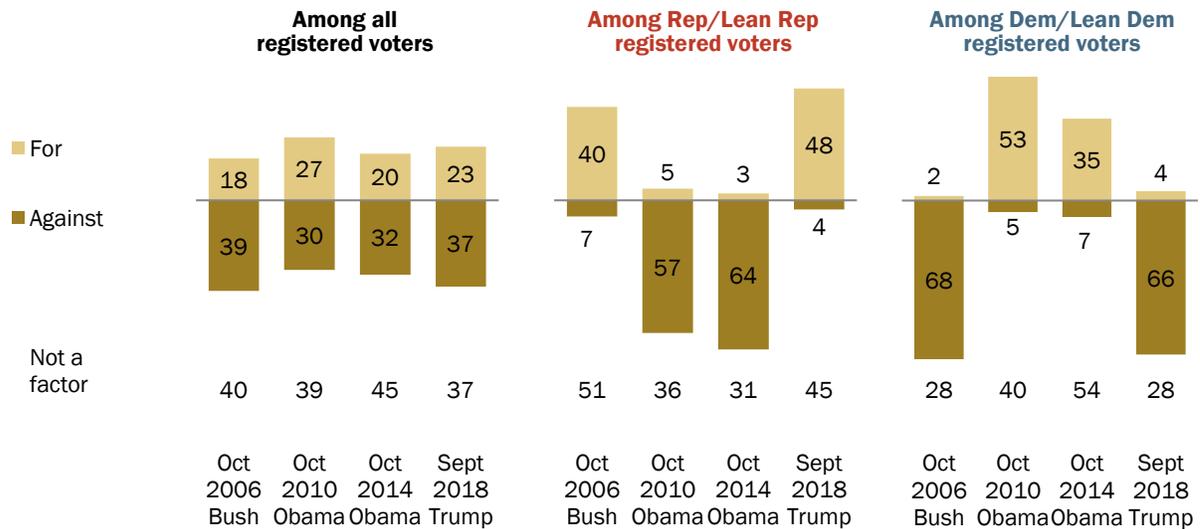
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About two-thirds (66%) of Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters say they think of their vote for Congress as a vote *against* Trump, while about half (48%) of Republican and Republican-leaning voters say they think of their vote as a vote *for* Trump. The share of Republicans and Republican leaners who say their congressional vote is *for* Trump is higher than the share saying this about Bush in October 2006 but roughly on par with the share of Democrats who considered their 2010 congressional vote as a vote in support of Obama.

The percentage of Democratic voters who consider their vote for Congress as a vote against the president (66%) is comparable to the percentage of Democrats who considered their 2006 vote as a vote against Bush. It is also similar to the share of Republican voters in 2014 who considered their vote for Congress as a vote against Obama.

### Most Democrats view their midterm vote as being ‘against’ Trump; fewer Republicans say their vote is ‘for’ him

*Do you think of your vote for Congress as a vote FOR the president, AGAINST the president or isn't the president much of a factor in your vote? (%)*

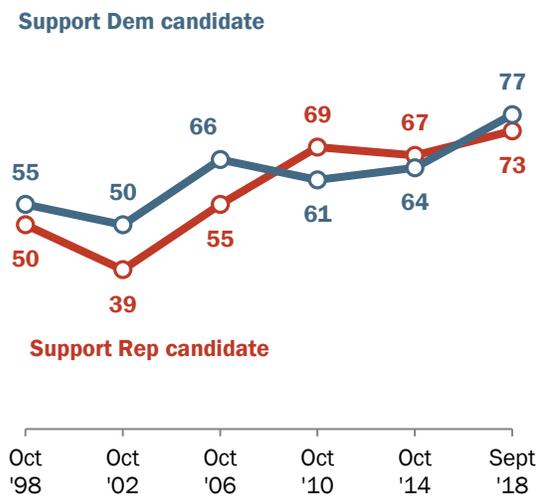


Notes: Based on registered voters. Don't know responses not shown.  
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

About seven-in-ten voters (72%) say that which party will be in control of Congress is a factor in their vote in November, the highest share saying this in any election over the past two decades. While the share of Republican supporters who say this is only modestly higher than the share saying this in 2010 and 2014, among Democratic supporters, the share who say party control is a factor in their vote is substantially higher than in any prior midterm election dating back two decades.

## Large shares of voters say control of Congress will be factor in their vote

*% of registered voters who say which party controls Congress will be a factor in their vote ...*



Note: Based on registered voters.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

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## Wide partisan differences on importance of many issues

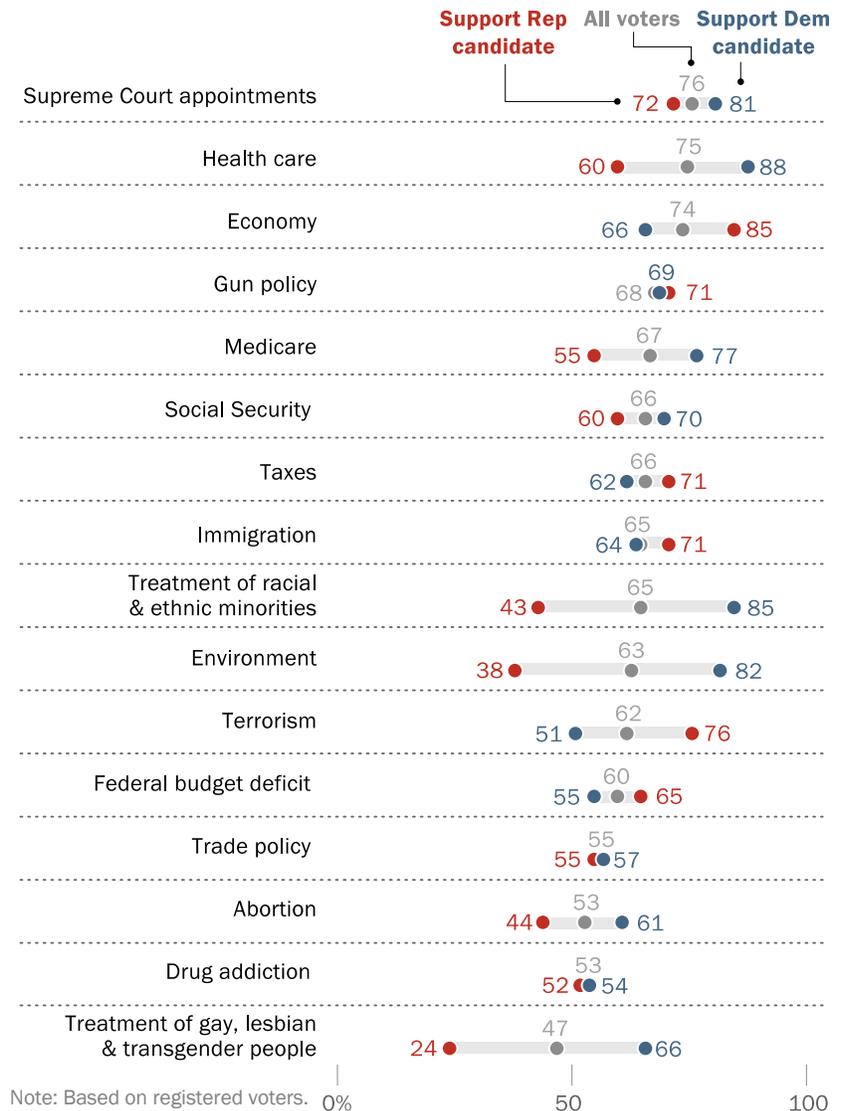
Voters who plan to support Republican or Democratic candidates this November differ over the importance of many issues to their 2018 votes, but one issue that ranks high across the political spectrum is Supreme Court appointments: 81% of Democratic voters and 72% of GOP voters consider this to be very important to their vote this year.

Large majorities of Democratic voters also view health care (88%), the treatment of racial and ethnic minorities (85%) and the environment (82%) as very important voting issues. These issues rank far lower among Republican voters. Six-in-ten Republicans say health care is very important to their vote this year, and only about four-in-ten say the same about the treatment of racial and ethnic minorities (43%) and the environment (38%).

The economy tops the list of important issues in the upcoming election among supporters of GOP

### Views of 2018 issue importance among Republican and Democratic supporters

% of registered voters saying each is "very important" to their vote in 2018 ...



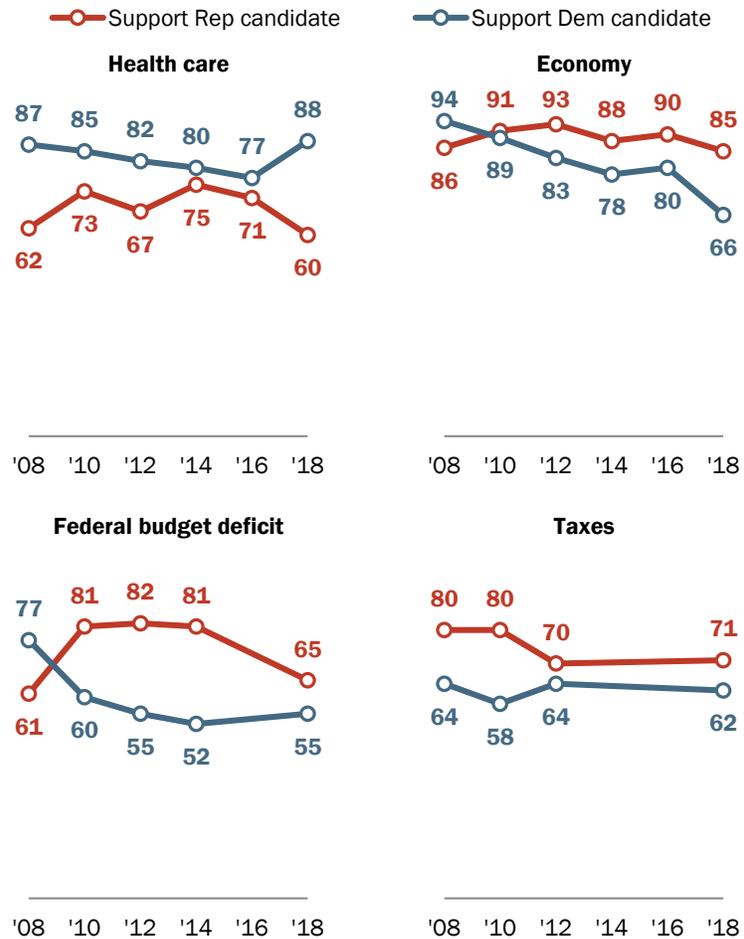
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candidates, with 85% saying it is very important – a view shared by a smaller majority (66%) of those backing Democratic candidates. And while 76% of GOP voters say terrorism is very important to their 2018 vote, just 51% of Democratic voters say the same.

Republican voters are somewhat more likely than Democrats to name taxes (71% vs. 62%), immigration (71% vs. 62%) and the federal deficit (65% vs. 55%) as very important to their vote. And Democratic supporters are more likely than Republican backers to name the treatment of gay, lesbian and transgender people (66% vs. 24%), Medicare (77% vs. 55%), abortion (61% vs. 44%) and Social Security (70% vs. 60%) as very important.

### Bigger divide between Republican and Democratic voters on importance of health care

% of registered voters saying each is “very important” to their vote in 2018 ...



Notes: Based on registered voters. Trends from comparable points in previous election cycles. Congressional election years based on generic ballot; presidential years based on presidential vote.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

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Health care is a more important issue to Democratic voters this year than in 2016 or 2014, while its importance has fallen among voters supporting Republicans. Before the 2014 midterm elections, there was a 5-percentage-point gap between Republican and Democratic voters; this fall the gap is 28 points.

Democratic voters are less likely to rate the economy as a very important voting issue than in past years. Currently, 66% say the economy is very important, the lowest share saying this in a decade. Republican voters continue to rank the economy as a top voting issue (85% very important).

The federal budget deficit has been more important to Republicans than to Democrats since 2010, but the share of Republicans saying this is down by double digits (65% say this today, down from 81% in 2014 and 82% in 2012). Among voters in both parties, the importance of taxes is little changed from 2012.

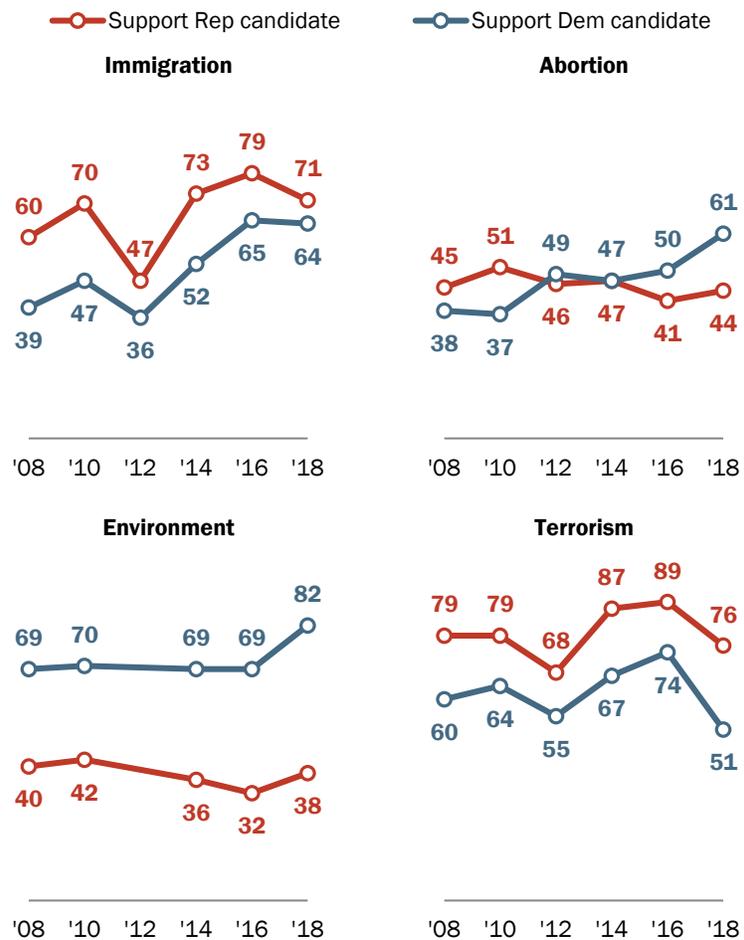
Over much of the last decade, Republican voters have been more likely than Democratic voters to say immigration is a very important issue in their vote. But the gap is narrower than in the past. Today, the gap between Republicans and Democrats is just seven points (71% to 64%).

About six-in-ten (61%) supporters of Democratic candidates now say they consider abortion to be a very important issue to their vote; this is the first time in the past decade a majority of Democratic voters have said this. The share of Democratic voters who rate abortion as very important has increased 14 percentage points since 2014 and 23 points since 2008. Republicans are about as likely today as in the past to say abortion is very important to their vote.

Supporters of Democratic candidates have consistently been more likely than GOP backers to consider the environment to be very important to their vote choice, but the share of Democratic voters saying this has increased from past years. About eight-in-ten (82%) now say this is very important, up from 69% in both the 2016 and 2014 elections. There is little change in the importance of this issue among Republican supporters.

**More Democrats view abortion and the environment as very important, while fewer say this about terrorism**

*% of registered voters saying each is "very important" to their vote in 2018 ...*



Notes: Based on registered voters. Trends from comparable points in previous election cycles. Congressional election years based on generic ballot; presidential years based on presidential vote.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

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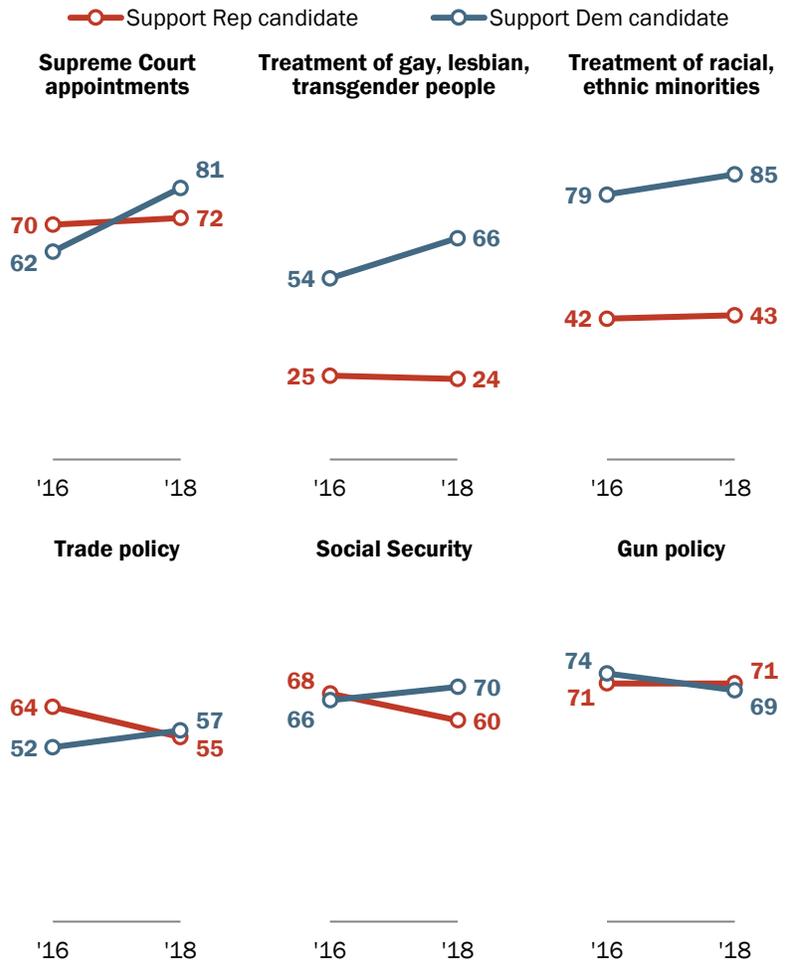
While several issues have become more important priorities for Democratic voters, terrorism has fallen sharply in importance. About half of Democratic voters say terrorism will be very important, down 23 percentage points from 2016. The partisan gap over the importance of terrorism, which has been evident for a decade, now stands at 25 points (76% of Republicans, 51% of Democrats).

As Congress considers Brett Kavanaugh’s nomination to the Supreme Court, appointments to the high court rank among the top issues for both Democratic and Republican voters this year. But, in contrast to 2016, Democratic voters are now more likely than Republican voters to say this is very important to their vote. The share saying this among Republican voters is largely unchanged from 2016 (about seven-in-ten both years), but the share of Democrats saying the court is very important for their vote is 19 points higher than it was in 2016 (81% now, 62% then).

The share of voters saying the treatment of gay, lesbian and transgender people is very important is up this fall among Democratic supporters (66% now from 54% in 2016) but little changed among Republican backers (24% now; 25% in 2016).

### Democrats now more likely than Republicans to say Supreme Court appointments are very important

% of registered voters saying each is “very important” to their vote in 2018 ...



Notes: Based on registered voters. Trends from comparable points in previous election cycles. 2018 based on generic ballot; 2016 based on presidential vote. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

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The pattern since 2016 is similar for the importance of the treatment of racial and ethnic minorities. Currently, about twice as many Democrats (85%) as Republicans (43%) rate this issue as very important.

## Public now divided over which party could better handle the economy

As the midterms approach, the two parties run about even on the issue of the economy, while the Democratic Party holds a wide advantage on health care and modest leads on foreign policy and immigration.

Overall, 41% of the public says they think the Democratic Party could do a better job dealing with the economy; about as many (40%) say the Republican Party could do the better job.

The Democratic Party holds a narrow 7-point edge over the Republican Party as the party seen as better able to handle the issue of immigration (46%-39%) and a similar 8-point advantage (45%-37%) on which party could better handle foreign policy.

The Democratic Party holds a sizable advantage on health care: 51% say the Democratic Party could do the better job on this issue compared with just 35% who name the Republican Party.

### Democratic Party holds wide advantage on issue of health care

% saying the \_\_\_ could do a better job dealing with ...

	Democratic Party	Republican Party	Both/Neither/DK	
Health care	51	35	14	<b>D+16</b>
Foreign policy	45	37	18	<b>D+8</b>
Immigration	46	39	15	<b>D+7</b>
Economy	41	40	18	D+1

Notes: Don't know responses not shown. Significant differences at the 95% confidence interval in **bold**.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

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The two parties currently run even on the economy (40% say the Republican Party could do a better job, 41% say the Democratic Party). This represents a shift from three months ago, when more said the GOP (45%) than the Democratic Party (36%) could do the better job on the economy.

At the same time, the Democratic Party's edge on the issue of immigration has narrowed since the summer. In June, the Democratic Party was favored by 14 points on this issue, compared with a 7-point edge today.

Public views on which party could better handle foreign policy and health care are little changed over the last year.

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## Parties now even on the economy

*% saying each party could do a better job dealing with ...*

	<b>Rep Party</b>	<b>Dem Party</b>	<b>Both/Neither/DK</b>	<b>Diff</b>
	%	%	%	
<b>Economy</b>				
September 2018	40	41	18=100	D+1
June 2018	45	36	19=100	<b>R+9</b>
October 2017	38	41	22=100	D+3
October 2014	41	39	20=100	<b>R+2</b>
September 2010	38	37	25=100	<b>R+1</b>
September 2006	32	46	22=100	<b>D+14</b>
<b>Foreign policy</b>				
September 2018	37	45	18=100	<b>D+8</b>
June 2018	36	44	21=100	<b>D+8</b>
October 2017	34	44	22=100	<b>D+10</b>
October 2014	40	39	21=100	<b>R+1</b>
<b>Immigration</b>				
September 2018	39	46	15=100	<b>D+7</b>
June 2018	34	48	18=100	<b>D+14</b>
October 2017	38	44	18=100	D+6
October 2014	41	40	19=100	<b>R+1</b>
October 2010	35	28	37=100	<b>R+7</b>
September 2006	32	37	32=100	D+5
<b>Health care</b>				
September 2018	35	51	14=100	<b>D+16</b>
June 2018	32	48	19=100	<b>D+16</b>
October 2017	32	50	18=100	<b>D+18</b>
October 2014	38	46	17=100	<b>D+8</b>
September 2010	36	46	18=100	<b>D+10</b>

Notes: Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.  
Significant differences at the 95% confidence interval in **bold**.  
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

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## Democratic Party favorability rises ahead of midterms

The public now holds a more favorable view of the Democratic than Republican Party – marking a shift from earlier this year when the two parties were rated about the same.

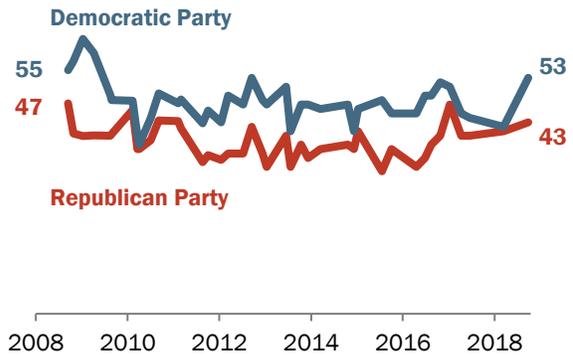
Overall, 53% have a favorable view of the Democratic Party compared with 42% who have an unfavorable view. Favorable ratings are up 11 points from 42% in March.

By contrast, more hold an unfavorable (52%) than favorable (43%) view of the Republican Party. GOP ratings are about the same as they were in the spring. Over the past 10 years, the Democratic Party has often held a favorability advantage over the GOP, with last spring being one of several exceptions.

Among independents who lean Democratic, ratings of the Democratic Party have rebounded from recent years. In March, just 53% of Democratic leaners said they had a favorable view of the party, 81% now say this. Ratings among Democrats have seen a more modest movement in the positive direction (82% favorable in March; 92% favorable today).

### Democratic Party regains favorability advantage over GOP

*% who have a favorable view of the ...*



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Sept. 18-24, 2018.

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## Methodology

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted September 18-24, 2018 among a national sample of 1,754 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (439 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 1,315 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 829 who had no landline telephone).<sup>1</sup> The survey was conducted by interviewers under the direction of Abt Associates. A combination of landline and cell phone random digit dial samples were used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International, LLC. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see <http://www.pewresearch.org/methodology/u-s-survey-research/>.

The combined landline and cell phone sample is weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and nativity and region to parameters from the 2016 Census Bureau's American Community Survey one-year estimates and population density to parameters from the Decennial Census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status (landline only, cell phone only, or both landline and cell phone), based on extrapolations from the 2016 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size among respondents with a landline phone. The margins of error reported and statistical tests of significance are adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, a measure of how much efficiency is lost from the weighting procedures.

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<sup>1</sup> Due to a programming error, 37 respondents who were interviewed on a landline phone were not asked about the presence of a cell phone in their household. To account for this error, these cases were imputed as having both a landline and a cell phone, which is the most common status for landline respondents.

The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

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*Survey conducted September 18-24, 2018*

<b>Group</b>	<b>Unweighted sample size</b>	<b>Plus or minus ...</b>
Total sample	1,754	2.7 percentage points
Rep/Lean Rep	755	4.2 percentage points
Dem/Lean Dem	843	3.9 percentage points
Registered voters	1,439	3.0 percentage points
Rep/Lean Rep	660	4.4 percentage points
Dem/Lean Dem	699	4.3 percentage points
Support/Lean Rep	647	4.5 percentage points
Support/Lean Dem	707	4.3 percentage points

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Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Pew Research Center undertakes all polling activity, including calls to mobile telephone numbers, in compliance with the Telephone Consumer Protection Act and other applicable laws.

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**PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
SEPTEMBER 2018 POLITICAL SURVEY  
FINAL TOPLINE  
SEPTEMBER 18-24, 2018  
N=1,754**

**RANDOMIZE Q.1 AND Q.2 BLOCK****ASK ALL:**

Q.1 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>		<u>DK/Ref</u>		
				Jun 7-17, 2012	28	68	5
Sep 18-24, 2018	33	61	6	May 9-Jun 3, 2012	29	64	7
Jun 5-12, 2018	34	61	6	Apr 4-15, 2012	24	69	6
Apr 25-May 1, 2018	33	62	6	Feb 8-12, 2012	28	66	6
Mar 7-14, 2018	30	66	4	Jan 11-16, 2012	21	75	4
Jan 10-15, 2018	32	62	6	Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	17	78	5
Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	27	68	6	Aug 17-21, 2011	17	79	4
Oct 25-30, 2017	26	70	5	Jul 20-24, 2011	17	79	4
Jun 27-Jul 9, 2017	28	67	5	Jun 15-19, 2011	23	73	4
Apr 5-11, 2017	30	66	4	May 5-8, 2011	30	62	8
Feb 7-12, 2017	30	65	5	May 2, 2011	32	60	8
Jan 4-9, 2017	28	68	4	Mar 8-14, 2011	22	73	5
Nov 30-Dec 5, 2016	30	65	5	Feb 2-7, 2011	26	68	5
Oct 20-25, 2016	33	63	4	Jan 5-9, 2011	23	71	6
Aug 9-16, 2016	31	66	3	Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7
Jun 15-26, 2016	24	71	5	Nov 4-7, 2010	23	69	8
Apr 12-19, 2016	26	70	3	Sep 23-26, 2010	30	63	7
Mar 17-26, 2016	31	65	4	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	25	71	5
Jan 7-14, 2016	25	70	5	Jun 24-27, 2010	27	64	9
Dec 8-13, 2015	25	72	3	May 13-16, 2010	28	64	7
Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	27	67	5	Apr 21-26, 2010	29	66	5
Sep 22-27, 2015	27	69	4	Apr 1-5, 2010	31	63	6
Jul 14-20, 2015	31	64	4	Mar 11-21, 2010	25	69	5
May 12-18, 2015	29	67	4	Mar 10-14, 2010	23	71	7
Mar 25-29, 2015	31	64	5	Feb 3-9, 2010	23	71	6
Feb 18-22, 2015	33	62	5	Jan 6-10, 2010	27	69	4
Jan 7-11, 2015	31	66	4	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	25	67	7
Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	26	71	3	Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	25	67	7
Nov 6-9, 2014	27	68	4	Sep 10-15, 2009 <sup>2</sup>	30	64	7
Oct 15-20, 2014	29	65	6	Aug 20-27, 2009	28	65	7
Sep 2-9, 2014	25	71	4	Aug 11-17, 2009	28	65	7
Aug 20-24, 2014	24	72	4	Jul 22-26, 2009	28	66	6
Jul 8-14, 2014	29	68	4	Jun 10-14, 2009	30	64	5
Apr 23-27, 2014	29	65	6	Apr 28-May 12, 2009	34	58	8
Feb 12-26, 2014	28	66	6	Apr 14-21, 2009	23	70	7
Jan 15-19, 2014	26	69	5	Jan 7-11, 2009	20	73	7
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	21	75	3	December, 2008	13	83	4
Oct 9-13, 2013	14	81	5	Early October, 2008	11	86	3
Jul 17-21, 2013	27	67	6	Mid-September, 2008	25	69	6
May 1-5, 2013	30	65	5	August, 2008	21	74	5
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	31	64	5	July, 2008	19	74	7
Jan 9-13, 2013	30	66	4	June, 2008	19	76	5
Dec 17-19, 2012	25	68	7	Late May, 2008	18	76	6
Dec 5-9, 2012	33	62	5	March, 2008	22	72	6
Oct 18-21, 2012	32	61	8	Early February, 2008	24	70	6
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	31	64	5				

<sup>2</sup> In September 10-15, 2009 and other surveys noted with an asterisk, the question was worded "Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in our country today?"

**Q.1 CONTINUED...**

	Satis- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref		Satis- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Late December, 2007	27	66	7	March, 2001	47	45	8
October, 2007	28	66	6	February, 2001	46	43	11
February, 2007	30	61	9	January, 2001	55	41	4
Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7	October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7
Early January, 2007	30	63	7	September, 2000	51	41	8
December, 2006	28	65	7	June, 2000	47	45	8
Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8	April, 2000	48	43	9
Early October, 2006	30	63	7	August, 1999	56	39	5
July, 2006	30	65	5	January, 1999	53	41	6
May, 2006*	29	65	6	November, 1998	46	44	10
March, 2006	32	63	5	Early September, 1998	54	42	4
January, 2006	34	61	5	Late August, 1998	55	41	4
Late November, 2005	34	59	7	Early August, 1998	50	44	6
Early October, 2005	29	65	6	February, 1998	59	37	4
July, 2005	35	58	7	January, 1998	46	50	4
Late May, 2005*	39	57	4	September, 1997	45	49	6
February, 2005	38	56	6	August, 1997	49	46	5
January, 2005	40	54	6	January, 1997	38	58	4
December, 2004	39	54	7	July, 1996	29	67	4
Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6	March, 1996	28	70	2
July, 2004	38	55	7	October, 1995	23	73	4
May, 2004	33	61	6	June, 1995	25	73	2
Late February, 2004*	39	55	6	April, 1995	23	74	3
Early January, 2004	45	48	7	July, 1994	24	73	3
December, 2003	44	47	9	March, 1994	24	71	5
October, 2003	38	56	6	October, 1993	22	73	5
August, 2003	40	53	7	September, 1993	20	75	5
April, 2003	50	41	9	May, 1993	22	71	7
January, 2003	44	50	6	January, 1993	39	50	11
November, 2002	41	48	11	January, 1992	28	68	4
September, 2002	41	55	4	November, 1991	34	61	5
Late August, 2002	47	44	9	Gallup: Late Feb, 1991	66	31	3
May, 2002	44	44	12	August, 1990	47	48	5
March, 2002	50	40	10	May, 1990	41	54	5
Late September, 2001	57	34	9	January, 1989	45	50	5
Early September, 2001	41	53	6	September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5
June, 2001	43	52	5				

**RANDOMIZE Q.1 AND Q.2 BLOCK****ASK ALL:**

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as President? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as President? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	Approve	Disapprove	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Sep 18-24, 2018	38	55	7
Jun 5-12, 2018	40	54	6
Apr 25-May 1, 2018	39	54	6
Mar 7-14, 2018	39	54	7
Jan 10-15, 2018	37	56	7
Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	32	63	5
Oct 25-30, 2017	34	59	7
Jun 8-18, 2017	39	55	7
Apr 5-11, 2017	39	54	6
Feb 7-12, 2017	39	56	6

**See past presidents' approval trends:** [Barack Obama](#), [George W. Bush](#), [Bill Clinton](#)

**NO QUESTIONS 3-6**

**ASK ALL:**

The Congressional elections will be coming up later this year.

CAMPNII How closely have you followed news about candidates and election campaigns in your state and district ... very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
<b>2018 Election</b>					
Sep 18-24, 2018	26	35	21	17	1
Jun 5-12, 2018 <sup>3</sup>	20	31	28	21	1
Apr 25-May 1, 2018	19	32	26	23	*
<b>2014 Election</b>					
Oct 15-20, 2014	22	34	21	22	1
Jul 8-14, 2014	14	30	31	24	1
<b>2010 Election</b>					
Oct 27-30, 2010	27	35	17	20	1
Oct 13-18, 2010	24	34	22	19	1
Jun 16-20, 2010	15	33	31	20	*
<b>2006 Election</b>					
Early November, 2006	27	37	18	17	1
Late October, 2006 (RVs)	27	45	17	11	*
Early October, 2006	21	38	25	15	1
Early September, 2006	16	32	28	23	1
August, 2006	20	29	28	22	1
June, 2006	18	30	29	21	2
May, 2006	18	28	30	23	1
<b>2002 Election</b>					
Early November, 2002 (RVs)	27	46	18	9	*
Late October, 2002 (RVs)	28	34	24	13	1
Early October, 2002 (RVs)	21	46	22	10	1
Early September, 2002	17	29	29	24	1
<b>1998 Election</b>					
Late October, 1998 (RVs)	26	45	20	9	*
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	21	43	24	11	1
Early September, 1998	17	32	28	23	*
Early August, 1998	13	30	28	23	1
June, 1998	9	27	33	30	1
April, 1998	16	33	24	27	*
<b>1994 Election</b>					
November, 1994	18	42	25	15	*
Late October, 1994	14	38	31	16	1
Early October, 1994	23	34	23	19	1
September, 1994	19	34	29	18	*
<b>1990 Election</b>					
November, 1990	38	34	17	11	*
October, 1990	18	32	28	22	*

<sup>3</sup> In May 2018 and calendar dates before September, question was worded "How closely have you been following news..."

**ASK ALL:**

Q.7 If the elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for **[RANDOMIZE: "the Republican Party's candidate" OR "the Democratic Party's candidate"]** for Congress in your district?

**ASK IF 'OTHER' 'DON'T KNOW/REFUSED' (Q.7=3,9):**

Q.8 As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the **[READ IN SAME ORDER AS Q.7; IF NECESSARY: "for U.S. Congress in your district"]**?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,439]:**

	Rep/ <u>Lean Rep</u>	Dem/ <u>Lean Dem</u>	(VOL.) Other/ <u>DK/Ref</u>
<b>2018 Election</b>			
Sep 18-24, 2018	42	52	6
Jun 5-12, 2018	43	48	8
Apr 25-May 1, 2018	43	48	9
Jan 10-15, 2018	39	53	8
Jun 27-Jul 9, 2017	40	53	7
<b>2014 Election</b>			
Oct 15-20, 2014	42	48	10
Sep 2-9, 2014	42	47	11
Aug 20-24, 2014 (U)	42	47	11
Jul 8-14, 2014	45	47	9
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	47	43	9
Feb 12-26, 2014	44	46	10
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	44	48	8
Oct 9-13, 2013	43	49	8
<b>2012 Election</b>			
Jun 7-17, 2012	43	47	10
Aug 17-21, 2011	44	48	8
<b>2010 Election</b>			
Oct 27-30, 2010	43	44	12
Oct 13-18, 2010	46	42	12
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	44	47	9
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	44	45	11
Jun 16-20, 2010	45	45	10
Mar 11-21, 2010	44	44	12
Feb 3-9, 2010	42	45	13
Jan 6-10, 2010	44	46	10
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	42	47	11
Aug 20-27, 2009	44	45	10
<b>2008 Election</b>			
June, 2008	37	52	11
<b>2006 Election</b>			
November, 2006	40	48	12
Late October, 2006	38	49	13
Early October, 2006	38	51	11
September, 2006	39	50	11
August, 2006	41	50	9
June, 2006	39	51	10
April, 2006	41	51	8
February, 2006	41	50	9
Mid-September, 2005	40	52	8
<b>2004 Election</b>			
June, 2004	41	48	11
<b>2002 Election</b>			
Early November, 2002	42	46	12
Early October, 2002	44	46	10
Early September, 2002	44	46	10

**Q.7/Q.8 CONTINUED...**

	Rep/ <u>Lean Rep</u>	Dem/ <u>Lean Dem</u>	(VOL.) Other/ <u>DK/Ref</u>
June, 2002	44	46	10
February, 2002	46	45	9
Early November, 2001	44	44	12
<b>2000 Election</b>			
Early November, 2000	42	48	10
Early October, 2000	43	47	10
July, 2000	43	47	10
February, 2000	44	47	9
October, 1999	43	49	8
June, 1999	40	50	10
<b>1998 Election</b>			
Late October, 1998	40	47	13
Early October, 1998	43	44	13
Early September, 1998	45	46	9
Late August, 1998	44	45	11
Early August, 1998	42	49	9
June, 1998	44	46	10
March, 1998	40	52	8
February, 1998	41	50	9
January, 1998	41	51	8
August, 1997	45	48	7
<b>1996 Election</b>			
November, 1996	41	48	11
October, 1996	42	49	9
Late September, 1996	43	49	8
Early September, 1996	43	51	6
July, 1996	46	47	7
June, 1996	44	50	6
March, 1996	44	49	7
January, 1996	46	47	7
October, 1995	48	48	4
August, 1995	50	43	7
<b>1994 Election</b>			
November, 1994	45	43	12
Late October, 1994	47	44	9
Early October, 1994	52	40	8
September, 1994	48	46	6
July, 1994	45	47	8

**NO QUESTIONS 9-10****ASK ALL:**

Q.11 Compared to previous congressional elections, are you more enthusiastic about voting than usual, or less enthusiastic?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,439]:**

	<u>More</u>	<u>Less</u>	(VOL.) <u>Same</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
<b>2018 Election</b>				
Sep 18-24, 2018	61	22	14	2
Jun 5-12, 2018	51	34	13	2
<b>2014 Election</b>				
Sep 2-9, 2014	40	41	15	4
Jul 8-14, 2014	40	45	13	3

**Q.11 CONTINUED...**

	<u>More</u>	<u>Less</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>Same</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/ReF</u>
<b>2010 Election</b>				
Oct 27-30, 2010	47	34	15	3
Oct 13-18, 2010	47	31	19	3
Jun 16-20, 2010	46	36	16	2
<b>2006 Election</b>				
November, 2006	44	35	19	2
Late October, 2006	41	34	23	2
Early October, 2006	39	36	21	4
September, 2006	37	40	20	3
June, 2006	38	40	18	4
<b>2002 Election</b>				
June, 2002	41	33	23	3
<b>1998 Election</b>				
June, 1998	38	45	15	2
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>				
<b>1994 Election</b>				
Gallup: October, 1994 <sup>4</sup>	34	44	20	2

**ASK ALL:**

Q.12 Will the issue of which party controls Congress, the Republicans or the Democrats, be a factor in your vote for Congress this year, or not?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,439]:**

	<u>Yes, will be a factor</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
<b>2018 Election</b>			
Sep 18-24, 2018	72	25	3
Jun 5-12, 2018	68	29	2
Jan 10-15, 2018	63	32	5
<b>2014 Election</b>			
Oct 15-20, 2014	62	34	4
Jul 8-14, 2014	58	39	3
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	53	43	4
<b>2012 Election</b>			
Jun 7-17, 2012	49	48	3
<b>2010 Election</b>			
Oct 27-30, 2010	62	34	4
Oct 13-18, 2010	61	36	3
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	56	41	3
Jun 16-20, 2010	58	39	3
Feb 3-9, 2010	48	45	6
<b>2008 Election</b>			
June, 2008	44	51	5
<b>2006 Election</b>			
November, 2006	61	36	3
Late October, 2006	61	36	3
Early October, 2006	57	40	3
September, 2006	55	41	4
June, 2006	58	39	3
April, 2006	56	39	5
<b>2004 Election</b>			
June, 2004	43	51	6

<sup>4</sup> In October, 1994 Gallup asked "Compared to previous elections..." and did not specify congressional elections.

**Q.12 CONTINUED...**

	Yes, will be <u>a factor</u>	No, <u>will not</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
<b>2002 Election</b>			
Early November, 2002	48	49	3
Early October, 2002	42	55	3
Early September, 2002	44	51	5
June, 2002	47	50	3
February, 2002	46	49	5
<b>2000 Election</b>			
Early October, 2000	46	50	4
July, 2000	46	49	5
<b>1998 Election</b>			
Late October, 1998	46	50	4
Early October, 1998	47	49	4
Early September, 1998	41	56	3
Early August, 1998	44	53	3
June, 1998	45	51	4

**ASK ALL:**

Q.13 Do you think of your vote for Congress as a vote FOR Donald Trump, as a vote AGAINST Donald Trump, or isn't Donald Trump much of a factor in your vote?

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,439]:**

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Not a factor</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
<b>2018 Election (Trump)</b>				
Sep 18-24, 2018	23	37	37	2
Jun 5-12, 2018	26	34	39	2
Jan 10-15, 2018	21	33	42	3
<b>2014 Election (Obama)</b>				
Oct 15-20, 2014	20	32	45	3
Jul 8-14, 2014	19	29	49	3
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	16	26	54	4
<b>2010 Election (Obama)</b>				
Oct 27-30, 2010	26	28	42	4
Oct 13-18, 2010	27	30	39	4
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	25	30	42	3
Jun 16-20, 2010	23	28	47	2
Feb 3-9, 2010	24	20	51	5
<b>2006 Election (Bush)</b>				
November, 2006	21	35	41	3
Late October, 2006	20	37	38	5
Early October, 2006	18	39	40	3
September, 2006	20	36	40	4
August, 2006	17	35	43	5
June, 2006	15	38	44	3
April, 2006	17	34	46	3
February, 2006	18	31	47	4
<b>2002 Election (Bush)</b>				
Early November, 2002	29	16	49	6
Early October, 2002	30	20	44	6
Early September, 2002	29	15	51	5
February, 2002	34	9	50	7
<b>1998 Election (Clinton)</b>				
Late October, 1998	20	17	58	5
Early October, 1998	19	23	52	6
Early September, 1998	18	16	63	3

**Q.13 CONTINUED...**

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Not a factor</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Late August, 1998	20	17	61	2
Early August, 1998	21	18	57	4
June, 1998	20	18	57	5
March, 1998	21	15	59	5
<b>1996 Election (Clinton)</b>				
Early September, 1996	24	18	51	7
<b>1994 Election (Clinton)</b>				
November, 1994	17	21	55	7
Late October, 1994	17	21	57	5
Early October, 1994	17	23	54	6
<b>1990 Election (GHW Bush)</b>				
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : October 28-31, 1990	19	15	61	6
<b>1986 Election (Reagan)</b>				
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : October 24-28, 1986	26	12	55	7
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : Sep 28-Oct 1, 1986	26	16	51	7
<b>1982 Election (Reagan)</b>				
<i>CBS/NYT</i> : October 23-28, 1982	23	21	51	5

**NO QUESTIONS 14-27**

**ASK ALL:**

Q.28 As you think about the elections for Congress this November, how important are each of the following issues to you. Is the issue of **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important? How about **[SECOND ITEM]**? As you think about the elections for Congress this November, is the issue of **[SECOND ITEM]** very, somewhat, not too, or not at all important to you? And, how about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: As you think about the elections for Congress this November, is the issue of [ITEM] very, somewhat, not too, or not at all important to you?] [INTERVIEWER: PLEASE RE-READ RESPONSE OPTIONS AS NECESSARY TO REMIND RESPONDENTS OF OPTIONS. IF RESPONDENT VOICES THEIR SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION TO AN ISSUE, CLARIFY: "this question is not about your position on each issue, just how important each issue will be to your vote."]**

**BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1,439]:**

	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not too important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. The economy					
Sep 18-24, 2018	74	23	2	1	*
Jun 15-26, 2016 <sup>5</sup>	84	13	1	1	*
Sep 22-27, 2015	83	15	1	1	*
Sep 2-9, 2014	83	15	1	1	*
Sep 12-16, 2012 <sup>6</sup>	87	11	1	1	*
Apr 4-15, 2012	86	11	1	1	1
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	90	9	1	*	*
Mid-October, 2008	91	7	2	*	*
August, 2008	87	12	1	*	*
Late May, 2008	88	9	1	1	1
October, 2007	79	18	1	1	1

5 In 2016 and 2015, the question read "In making your decision about who to vote for in the 2016 presidential election, will the issue of **[INSERT ITEM]** be very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: How important will the issue of [ITEM] be to you in making your decision about who to vote for in the 2016 presidential election?]**"

6 In all 2012 and 2008 trends, the question read "In making your decision about who to vote for this fall, will the issue of **[INSERT ITEM]** be very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: How important will the issue of [ITEM] be to you in making your decision about who to vote for this fall?]**"

**Q.28 CONTINUED...**

	Very <u>important</u>	Somewhat <u>important</u>	Not too <u>important</u>	Not at all <u>important</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
June, 2007	74	22	2	1	1
Mid-October, 2004	78	18	3	1	*
August, 2004	76	22	1	1	*
<b>b. Health care</b>					
Sep 18-24, 2018	75	19	3	2	*
Jun 15-26, 2016	74	20	4	2	*
Sep 22-27, 2015	73	22	3	1	*
Sep 2-9, 2014	77	18	3	2	1
Sep 12-16, 2012	74	20	3	2	1
Apr 4-15, 2012	74	19	5	2	*
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	78	17	3	1	*
Mid-October, 2008	77	19	2	1	1
August, 2008	73	21	5	1	*
Late May, 2008	78	17	3	2	*
October, 2007	76	18	4	1	1
June, 2007	71	23	4	2	*
Mid-October, 2004	73	22	4	1	*
August, 2004	72	21	5	2	*
<b>c. Immigration</b>					
Sep 18-24, 2018	65	25	6	3	1
Jun 15-26, 2016	70	21	6	2	1
Sep 22-27, 2015	59	31	6	3	*
Sep 2-9, 2014	62	28	5	5	1
Sep 12-16, 2012	41	37	13	6	2
Apr 4-15, 2012	42	35	15	6	1
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	58	29	8	4	1
Mid-October, 2008	49	32	13	5	1
August, 2008	52	33	10	4	1
Late May, 2008	54	32	9	3	2
October, 2007	56	31	7	4	2
June, 2007	54	34	7	3	2
<b>BASED ON FORM 1 REGISTERED VOTERS [N=697]:</b>					
<b>d.F1 Abortion</b>					
Sep 18-24, 2018	53	23	11	11	2
Jun 15-26, 2016	45	26	17	9	3
Sep 22-27, 2015	41	31	13	12	2
Sep 2-9, 2014	46	24	11	16	3
Sep 12-16, 2012	46	24	13	14	3
Apr 4-15, 2012	39	25	14	18	4
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	43	24	13	17	3
Mid-October, 2008	41	29	16	12	2
August, 2008	39	26	17	15	3
Late May, 2008	40	27	15	15	3
October, 2007	39	26	17	13	5
June, 2007	40	30	13	14	3
Mid-October, 2004	47	27	12	11	3
August, 2004	45	25	13	14	3
<b>e.F1 Terrorism</b>					
Sep 18-24, 2018	62	24	9	4	1
Jun 15-26, 2016	80	14	3	3	1
Sep 22-27, 2015	71	20	6	2	1
Sep 2-9, 2014	75	17	4	3	1

**Q.28 CONTINUED...**

		Very <u>important</u>	Somewhat <u>important</u>	Not too <u>important</u>	Not at all <u>important</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
	Sep 12-16, 2012	60	27	7	4	2
	Apr 4-15, 2012	59	25	9	5	1
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	71	18	6	3	1
	Mid-October, 2008	69	20	7	3	1
	August, 2008	72	20	5	2	1
	Late May, 2008	68	23	6	2	1
	October, 2007	69	22	5	3	1
	June, 2007	69	24	4	2	1
	Mid-October, 2004	77	17	3	2	1
	August, 2004	75	19	3	2	1
f.F1	The federal budget deficit					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	60	26	8	5	2
	Sep 22-27, 2015	68	23	5	3	1
	Sep 2-9, 2014	65	25	5	3	2
	Sep 12-16, 2012	68	23	6	2	1
	Apr 4-15, 2012	74	19	4	2	1
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	69	22	5	2	2
	Late May, 2008	69	21	4	3	3
	October, 2007	61	28	8	1	2
	Mid-October, 2004	57	32	7	3	1
	August, 2004	55	35	7	3	*
g.F1	Medicare					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	67	24	6	4	*
	Sep 12-16, 2012	65	26	6	2	*
	Apr 4-15, 2012	66	24	7	2	*
h.F1	How gay, lesbian and transgender people are treated					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	47	26	11	14	2
	Jun 15-26, 2016	40	30	15	13	2
i.F1.	The environment					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	63	25	8	4	*
	Jun 15-26, 2016	52	30	11	7	*
	Sep 22-27, 2015	55	31	10	4	1
	Sep 2-9, 2014	54	32	9	5	1
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	57	33	7	3	1
	Mid-October, 2008	57	31	8	3	1
	August, 2008	59	31	6	3	1
	Late May, 2008	62	27	8	3	*
	October, 2007	58	31	8	2	1
	June, 2007	55	36	6	3	*
	Mid-October, 2004	53	37	7	2	1
	August, 2004	55	35	7	3	*
<b>BASED ON FORM 2 REGISTERED VOTERS [N=742]:</b>						
j.F2	Taxes					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	66	27	5	1	1
	Sep 12-16, 2012	66	26	5	2	1
	Apr 4-15, 2012	61	28	8	2	1
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	68	24	6	2	1
	Mid-October, 2008	71	24	3	1	1
	Late May, 2008	68	24	5	2	1
	October, 2007	63	28	6	1	2
	June, 2007	62	29	7	2	*

**Q.28 CONTINUED...**

		Very <u>important</u>	Somewhat <u>important</u>	Not too <u>important</u>	Not at all <u>important</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
	Mid-October, 2004	59	31	7	2	1
k.F2	Supreme Court Appointments					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	76	17	4	3	1
	Jun 15-26, 2016	65	22	8	3	2
l.F2	How racial and ethnic minorities are treated					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	65	22	4	7	2
	Jun 15-26, 2016	63	22	6	7	2
m.F2.	Gun policy					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	68	20	7	4	1
	Jun 15-26, 2016	72	18	5	4	1
	<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
	<i>Gun control</i>					
	Apr 4-15, 2012	47	23	15	13	1
	Mid-October, 2004	45	31	14	8	2
n.F1.	Social Security					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	66	26	5	2	*
	Jun 15-26, 2016	67	21	10	2	*
	Late May, 2008	75	19	4	1	1
	October, 2007	68	25	5	2	*
	Mid-October, 2004	65	27	6	2	*
o.F2.	Trade policy					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	55	36	5	2	1
	Jun 15-26, 2016	57	31	7	3	2
	August, 2008	49	38	8	2	3
	Late May, 2008	51	38	6	1	4
p.F2	Drug addiction					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	53	27	12	8	*

**NO QUESTIONS 29-32, 34-43, 47-49**

**QUESTIONS 33, 44-46 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

Thinking about the political parties ...

Q.50 Please tell me if you think each phrase I read better describes the REPUBLICAN Party and its leaders or the DEMOCRATIC Party and its leaders. (First,) which party do you think is better described by the phrase... **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]** Which party **[NEXT ITEM]**?

		Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
<b>ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=867]:</b>						
a.F1	Is more extreme in its positions					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	48	39	5	1	7
	Jan 4-9, 2017	58	33	4	1	4
	Jul 14-20, 2015	52	35	5	2	5
	Oct 15-20, 2014	51	35	5	2	7
	Jan 15-19, 2014	54	35	5	2	5
	Oct 9-13, 2013	55	34	5	1	5
	Dec 5-9, 2012	53	33	4	1	9
	Mar 7-11, 2012	50	35	5	1	9

**Q.50 CONTINUED...**

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Jul 20-24, 2011	50	35	4	2	9
Dec 7-11, 2011	53	33	4	1	9
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	50	38	3	1	7
<b>b.F1</b>	<b>Is more concerned with the needs of people like me</b>				
Sep 18-24, 2018	31	56	2	5	7
Jan 4-9, 2017	44	45	1	7	3
Jul 14-20, 2015	31	53	2	10	4
Oct 15-20, 2014	31	53	2	9	5
Jan 15-19, 2014	32	52	3	9	5
Oct 9-13, 2013	34	54	1	7	4
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	35	51	1	6	7
Jul 20-24, 2011	30	51	2	11	6
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	32	54	2	5	8
Oct 13-18, 2010	36	46	2	8	9
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	33	53	2	7	5
Jun 16-20, 2010	34	50	2	9	5
Feb 3-9, 2010	31	51	3	8	7
Aug 27-30, 2009	27	51	4	10	7
October, 2007	25	54	4	8	9
March, 2007	26	55	2	7	10
Early October, 2006	27	55	3	8	7
April, 2006 <sup>7</sup>	28	52	3	10	7
Early October, 2005	30	52	5	7	6
July, 2004	30	50	5	8	7
Early September, 1998	31	46	5	9	9
March, 1998	30	51	4	8	7
August, 1997	31	49	3	10	7
July, 1996	35	50	2	7	6
April, 1995	39	49	2	7	3
July, 1994	35	49	4	8	4
May, 1990	21	42	12	18	7
May, 1988	23	51	8	11	7
January, 1988	22	47	11	13	7
<b>c.F1</b>	<b>Governs in a more honest and ethical way</b>				
Sep 18-24, 2018	32	46	3	12	6
Jan 4-9, 2017	37	41	2	17	3
Jul 14-20, 2015	29	45	3	19	5
Oct 15-20, 2014	31	42	3	16	8
Jan 15-19, 2014	31	41	3	19	7
Dec 7-11, 2011	28	45	2	16	9
Jul 20-24, 2011	30	42	2	20	7
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	33	42	3	14	8
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	35	4	16	9
Jun 16-20, 2010	31	41	4	18	6
August 27-30, 2009	26	42	4	20	9
October, 2007	26	40	6	19	9
March, 2007	25	43	4	18	10
Early October, 2006	27	41	4	18	10
April, 2006 <sup>8</sup>	28	36	4	23	9
January, 2006	30	37	4	19	10
Early October, 2005	30	40	6	18	6

<sup>7</sup> In April 2006 and earlier, the item was worded: "Is concerned with the needs of people like me."

<sup>8</sup> In April 2006 and earlier, the item was worded: "Governs in an honest and ethical way."

**Q.50 CONTINUED...**

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
July, 2004	34	37	5	15	9
Early September, 1998	31	28	6	23	12
March, 1998	28	32	7	24	9
August, 1997	28	33	5	26	8
July, 1996	38	37	2	18	5
April, 1995	35	36	4	19	6
July, 1994	32	35	6	21	6

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=887]:**

d.F2 Is more willing to work with political leaders from the other party

Sep 18-24, 2018	33	45	1	14	8
Oct 15-20, 2014	28	51	2	13	7
Jan 15-19, 2014	27	52	1	13	7
Jan 15-19, 2014	27	52	1	13	7
Oct 9-13, 2013	32	50	2	11	6
Dec 5-9, 2012	27	53	2	10	8
Dec 7-11, 2011	25	51	3	12	10
Jul 20-24, 2011	26	51	1	12	9
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	32	49	2	10	6

e.F2 Can better manage the federal government

Sep 18-24, 2018	40	43	2	8	7
Jan 4-9, 2017	43	43	3	7	5
Jul 14-20, 2015	40	41	3	12	5
Oct 15-20, 2014	38	40	2	12	8
Jan 15-19, 2014	40	41	2	11	6
Oct 9-13, 2013	42	39	3	10	6
Dec 5-9, 2012	36	45	2	10	7
Mar 7-11, 2012	39	42	1	9	9
Dec 7-11, 2011	35	41	3	13	9
Jul 20-24, 2011	40	38	2	14	7
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	41	39	2	8	9
Oct 13-18, 2010	43	36	2	11	8
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	41	41	3	8	7
Jun 16-20, 2010	41	37	3	12	7
Feb 3-9, 2010	40	40	4	9	8
Aug 27-30, 2009	34	38	4	14	10
October, 2007	32	44	5	9	10
March, 2007	31	47	3	8	11
Early October, 2006	34	44	3	9	10
April, 2006 <sup>9</sup>	35	39	3	15	8
January, 2006	34	40	4	12	10
Early October, 2005	35	41	3	13	8
Early September, 1998	37	32	8	12	11
August, 1997	39	33	4	16	8
July, 1996	45	32	4	12	7
April, 1995	49	30	3	13	5
July, 1994	43	31	4	17	5
May, 1993	36	32	2	17	13
July, 1992	30	36	1	23	10
May, 1990	28	20	12	31	9
May, 1988	33	30	10	17	10
January, 1988	30	28	12	20	10

<sup>9</sup> In April 2006 and earlier, the item was worded: "Able to manage the federal government well."

## Q.50 CONTINUED...

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
May, 1987	24	25	13	28	10

## ASK ALL:

- Q.51 Which party could do a better job of **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Which party could do a better job of ITEM?][IF NECESSARY READ CATEGORIES: The Republican Party or the Democratic Party]**

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	
<b>ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=867]:</b>						
a.F1	Dealing with the economy					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	40	41	6	5	7
	Jun 5-12, 2018	45	36	8	6	5
	Oct 25-30, 2017	38	41	11	7	3
	Apr 5-11, 2017	46	43	5	5	2
	Apr 12-19, 2016	45	41	4	6	4
	Dec 8-13, 2015	42	37	4	9	7
	Jul 14-20, 2015	41	44	4	8	4
	Feb 18-22, 2015	44	41	7	6	3
	Oct 15-20, 2014	41	39	6	8	6
	Jul 8-14, 2014	47	39	4	6	4
	Jan 15-19, 2014	42	38	10	7	3
	Oct 9-13, 2013	44	37	5	9	5
	May 1-5, 2013	42	38	6	8	6
	May 25-30, 2011	38	40	5	8	8
	Sep 16-19, 2010	38	37	8	10	8
	May 20-23, 2010	33	34	9	14	10
	Feb 3-9, 2010	38	41	7	6	7
	Aug 27-30, 2009	32	42	6	12	9
	February, 2008	34	53	2	5	6
	October, 2006	32	45	4	5	14
	September, 2006	32	46	5	5	12
	February, 2006	36	46	5	5	8
	Mid-September, 2005	38	44	5	7	6
	July, 2004	34	46	5	5	10
	Late October, 2002 (RVs)	37	40	5	6	12
	Early October, 2002 (RVs)	37	41	4	5	13
	Early September, 2002	36	36	9	6	13
	January, 2002	43	34	--	5	18
	May, 2001 <sup>10</sup>	33	44	8	5	10
	June, 1999	37	43	8	3	9
	March, 1999	39	44	5	3	9
	Early September, 1998	40	38	8	4	10
	March, 1998	40	40	12	3	5
	October, 1994	45	33	5	7	10
	Gallup: October, 1992 (RVs)	36	45	10	--	9
	Gallup: October, 1990	37	35	--	--	28
b.F1	Making wise decisions about foreign policy					
	Sep 18-24, 2018	37	45	6	5	7
	Jun 5-12, 2018	36	44	8	6	7
	Oct 25-30, 2017	34	44	7	9	6

<sup>10</sup> In May 2001 and earlier, the item was worded: "... keeping the country prosperous."

**Q.51 CONTINUED...**

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) <u>Both equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Apr 5-11, 2017	36	49	5	6	4
Apr 12-19, 2016	46	38	4	8	5
Jul 14-20, 2015	38	41	5	8	8
Feb 18-22, 2015	48	35	6	6	5
Oct 15-20, 2014	40	39	6	9	7
Jul 8-14, 2014	43	39	5	7	6
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	40	38	10	4	7
Apr 21-26, 2010	39	34	8	8	11
August 27-30, 2009	31	44	7	8	9
February, 2008	40	45	4	4	7
July, 2004	38	40	4	4	14
Early September, 2002	40	30	10	6	14
May, 2001	39	34	11	3	13
June, 1999	37	36	7	6	14
March, 1999	42	37	6	4	11
Early September, 1998	40	31	11	5	13
March, 1998	41	33	12	4	10
October, 1994	47	30	7	5	11
July, 1994 <sup>11</sup>	51	31	4	6	8
December, 1993	49	23	--	10	18
May, 1990	39	28	--	17	16

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=887]:**

## c.F2 Dealing with immigration

Sep 18-24, 2018	39	46	4	5	6
Jun 5-12, 2018	34	48	6	6	6
Oct 25-30, 2017	38	44	6	7	5
Apr 5-11, 2017	39	50	2	6	3
Apr 12-19, 2016	42	44	3	7	4
Dec 8-13, 2015	42	40	3	9	7
Jul 14-20, 2015	40	42	4	9	6
Feb 18-22, 2015	43	45	4	4	3
Oct 15-20, 2014	41	40	5	7	7
Jul 8-14, 2014	42	40	4	7	6
Jan 15-19, 2014	38	39	8	8	7
Oct 9-13, 2013	40	39	4	8	9
May 1-5, 2013	38	38	7	8	9
Dec 5-9, 2012	35	44	5	6	10
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	45	37	3	6	9
May 25-30, 2011	39	37	4	9	11
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	28	9	12	16
May 20-23, 2010	35	27	10	14	14
Apr 21-26, 2010	36	35	7	11	12
Aug 27-30, 2009	31	36	6	13	13
February, 2008	38	43	4	6	9
October, 2006	35	33	6	8	18
September, 2006	32	37	5	10	16
April, 2006	27	43	6	11	13
February, 2006	34	38	8	9	11

## d.F2 Dealing with health care

Sep 18-24, 2018	35	51	3	5	6
Jun 5-12, 2018	32	48	8	7	5

<sup>11</sup> In July 1994 and May 1990, the item was worded "Making wise decisions about the country's defense policies."

**Q.51 CONTINUED...**

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Oct 25-30, 2017	32	50	6	9	3
Apr 5-11, 2017	35	54	2	6	3
Jul 14-20, 2015	36	46	4	9	5
Feb 18-22, 2015	40	47	4	7	2
Oct 15-20, 2014	38	46	3	7	6
Jul 8-14, 2014	40	45	4	6	5
Jan 15-19, 2014	37	45	3	6	8
Sep 4-8, 2013 (U)	40	39	6	9	5
Dec 5-9, 2012	38	48	4	4	6
Mar 7-11, 2012	35	49	1	7	8
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	38	49	3	4	6
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	40	42	6	5	7
Oct 13-18, 2010	32	39	5	11	13
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	36	46	5	7	6
<b>TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:</b>					
<i>Reforming the U.S. health care system</i>					
Feb 3-9, 2010	32	45	6	10	7
Aug 27-30, 2009	27	46	4	14	9
February, 2008	26	56	3	8	7
October, 2006	25	46	4	8	17
September, 2006	24	48	5	10	13
February, 2006	27	49	6	9	9
Mid-September, 2005	28	51	4	10	7
July, 2004	23	50	4	10	13
Early July, 2003	31	38	6	10	15
<i>Regulating health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and managed health care plans</i>					
January, 2001	30	47	--	7	16
January, 1999	25	46	--	7	22
<i>Reforming the U.S. health care system</i>					
Early September, 1998	31	43	7	7	12
March, 1998	25	53	6	8	8
October, 1994	34	41	5	10	10
July, 1994	34	48	2	8	8
<i>Reforming health care</i>					
December, 1993	25	47	--	10	18
<i>Improving health care in the U.S.</i>					
January, 1992	21	56	--	8	15
May, 1990	20	50	--	16	14

**NO QUESTIONS 52-57**

Now, thinking about the outcome of the Congressional elections...

Q.58F1 If Republicans keep control of Congress this fall, how concerned are you, if at all, that they will not focus enough on oversight of the Trump administration? **[READ]**

**BASED ON FORM 1 REGISTERED VOTERS [N=697]:**

Sep 18-24 <u>2018</u>		Jun 5-12 <u>2018</u> <sup>12</sup>
46	Very concerned	39
19	Somewhat concerned	20
14	Not too concerned [OR]	19
20	Not at all concerned	22
2	Don't know/Refused <b>[VOL.]</b>	1

Q.59F2 If Democrats take control of Congress this fall, how concerned are you, if at all, that they will focus too much on investigating the Trump administration? **[READ]**

**BASED ON FORM 2 REGISTERED VOTERS [N=742]:**

Sep 18-24 <u>2018</u>		Jun 5-12 <u>2018</u> <sup>13</sup>
31	Very concerned	34
24	Somewhat concerned	25
18	Not too concerned [OR]	19
26	Not at all concerned	22
1	Don't know/Refused <b>[VOL.]</b>	1

**TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:**

*How concerned are you, if at all, that Republicans controlling Congress will lead to them spending too much time investigating the Obama administration and the Democrats in Congress?* **[READ]**

Nov 6-9 <u>2014</u>	
27	Very concerned
30	Fairly concerned
26	Not too concerned
15	Not at all concerned
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

*How concerned are you, if at all, that if the Democrats take control of the Congress this fall they will spend too much time investigating the Bush administration and the Republicans in Congress?*

October <u>2006</u>	
26	Very concerned
26	Fairly concerned
26	Not too concerned
18	Not at all concerned
4	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**NO QUESTIONS 60-63, 67-72, 80-82**

**QUESTIONS 64-66, 73-79 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

<sup>12</sup> In June 2018, the order of Q.58 and Q.59 were randomized by form. Results shown are for only those who got Q.58 first.

<sup>13</sup> In June 2018, the order of Q.58 and Q.59 were randomized by form. Results shown are for only those who got Q.59 first.

**ASK ALL:**

Q.83 Next, would you say your overall opinion of **[INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE]** is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? How about **[NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: Just in general, is your overall opinion of [ITEM] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?] [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]**

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	Never heard of	Can't rate/ Ref
a. The Republican Party								
Sep 18-24, 2018	43	10	33	52	26	27	*	4
Mar 7-14, 2018	41	10	31	55	25	30	*	4
Jun 8-18, 2017	40	10	31	54	27	26	*	5
Apr 5-11, 2017	40	10	30	57	27	30	0	3
Jan 4-9, 2017	47	12	35	49	20	29	*	5
Oct 20-25, 2016	40	10	31	55	23	33	*	5
Aug 9-16, 2016	38	9	29	56	26	31	0	6
Jun 15-26, 2016	35	9	26	60	30	29	*	5
Apr 12-19, 2016	33	9	24	62	32	30	*	5
Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	37	6	31	58	26	32	*	5
Jul 14-20, 2015	32	7	26	60	28	32	*	7
Jan 7-11, 2015	41	9	32	53	24	29	*	6
Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	37	9	28	57	26	32	*	6
Oct 14-20, 2014	38	7	31	54	25	29	*	8
Jan 23-Mar 16, 2014	37	7	30	55	24	31	*	7
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	35	8	27	59	28	31	0	6
Oct 9-13, 2013	38	5	32	58	26	32	*	4
Jul 17-21, 2013	33	7	25	58	25	34	*	9
Jun 12-16, 2013	40	8	32	55	23	33	*	5
Jan 9-13, 2013	33	6	28	58	27	31	1	8
Dec 5-9, 2012	36	7	28	59	23	36	*	5
Sep 12-16, 2012	42	12	30	50	25	26	*	8
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	36	9	27	56	28	28	*	8
Mar 7-11, 2012	36	7	30	56	27	29	*	8
Jan 11-16, 2012	35	7	27	58	28	30	*	7
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	36	7	29	55	27	28	*	9
Aug 17-21, 2011	34	5	29	59	27	32	*	7
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	42	9	32	51	22	28	1	7
Feb 2-7, 2011	43	8	35	48	19	29	*	9
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	43	8	35	49	21	28	*	8
July 1-5, 2010	39	10	29	49	24	25	*	12
April 1-5, 2010	37	8	29	53	26	27	*	9
Mar 18-21, 2010	37	5	32	51	20	31	*	12
Feb 3-9, 2010	46	5	41	46	14	32	0	8
Aug 20-27, 2009	40	6	34	50	19	31	*	10
Aug 11-17, 2009	40	7	33	50	18	32	*	10
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	40	7	33	51	17	34	0	9
Jan 7-11, 2009	40	5	35	55	21	34	*	5
Late October, 2008	40	10	30	50	23	27	*	10
Mid-September, 2008	47	11	36	46	22	24	*	7
August, 2008	43	9	34	49	18	31	1	7
Late May, 2008	39	7	32	53	20	33	*	8
July, 2007	39	7	32	53	22	31	0	8
Early January, 2007	41	9	32	48	21	27	1	10
Late October, 2006	41	9	32	50	20	30	*	9
July, 2006	40	10	30	52	23	29	1	7
April, 2006	40	10	30	50	21	29	*	10
February, 2006	44	11	33	50	24	26	*	6
Late October, 2005	42	12	30	49	24	25	*	9

## Q.83 CONTINUED...

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't rate/
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	heard of	Ref
July, 2005	48	13	35	43	18	25	*	9
June, 2005	48	11	37	44	20	24	0	8
December, 2004	52	15	37	42	17	25	0	6
June, 2004	51	12	39	40	14	26	0	9
Early February, 2004	52	14	38	42	16	26	*	6
June, 2003	58	14	44	33	10	23	0	9
April, 2003	63	14	49	31	10	21	*	6
December, 2002	59	18	41	33	11	22	*	8
July, 2001	48	11	37	42	15	27	*	10
January, 2001	56	13	43	35	13	22	*	9
September, 2000 (RVs)	53	11	42	40	12	28	0	7
August, 1999	53	8	45	43	12	31	*	4
February, 1999	44	7	37	51	15	36	0	5
January, 1999	44	10	34	50	23	27	0	6
Early December, 1998	46	11	35	47	20	27	*	7
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	52	9	43	42	14	28	0	6
Early September, 1998	56	9	47	37	11	26	*	7
March, 1998	50	10	40	43	12	31	*	7
August, 1997	47	9	38	47	11	36	*	6
June, 1997	51	8	43	42	11	31	1	6
January, 1997	52	8	44	43	10	33	*	5
October, 1995	52	10	42	44	16	28	*	4
December, 1994	67	21	46	27	8	19	*	6
July, 1994	63	12	51	33	8	25	*	4
May, 1993	54	12	42	35	10	25	0	11
July, 1992	46	9	37	48	17	31	*	6
b. The Democratic Party								
Sep 18-24, 2018	53	13	40	42	20	22	*	4
Mar 7-14, 2018	42	8	35	54	24	30	*	4
Jun 8-18, 2017	44	12	32	50	24	26	*	5
Apr 5-11, 2017	45	11	34	51	26	25	*	4
Jan 4-9, 2017	51	13	38	45	18	26	*	4
Oct 20-25, 2016	52	15	37	45	22	22	*	4
Aug 9-16, 2016	49	15	35	46	22	24	*	5
Jun 15-26, 2016	49	17	33	46	23	23	*	5
Apr 12-19, 2016	45	14	31	50	27	23	*	4
Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	45	10	35	50	24	26	*	5
Jul 14-20, 2015	48	12	36	47	22	25	0	5
Jan 7-11, 2015	46	12	34	48	21	28	*	6
Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	41	11	30	54	26	28	*	5
Oct 15-20, 2014	47	11	35	46	21	25	*	7
Jan 23-Mar 16, 2014	46	12	34	47	23	24	*	7
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	47	15	32	48	24	24	*	5
Oct 9-13, 2013	47	9	39	48	22	27	0	4
Jul 17-21, 2013	41	10	31	50	23	28	*	9
Jun 12-16, 2013	51	14	37	45	19	26	0	5
Jan 9-13, 2013	47	13	34	46	18	28	*	7
Dec 5-9, 2012	48	11	37	47	23	25	1	4
Sep 12-16, 2012	53	21	32	40	18	22	*	7
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	47	14	33	45	21	24	*	8
Mar 7-11, 2012	49	14	36	43	18	25	*	7
Jan 11-16, 2012	43	13	29	51	23	28	*	7
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	46	13	32	45	19	26	*	9
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	9	34	50	21	29	*	

## Q.83 CONTINUED...

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly	Never heard of	Can't rate/Ref
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	48	14	34	45	18	27	*	6
Feb 2-7, 2011	47	13	35	46	17	29	*	6
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	50	13	36	44	20	24	*	7
July 1-5, 2010	44	12	31	45	22	23	*	11
April 1-5, 2010	38	9	29	52	27	25	*	9
Mar 18-21, 2010	40	8	32	49	25	24	*	11
Feb 3-9, 2010	48	9	39	44	17	27	*	8
Aug 20-27, 2009	48	11	37	43	19	24	*	10
Aug 11-17, 2009	49	12	37	40	16	25	*	10
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	59	15	44	34	13	21	*	7
Jan 7-11, 2009	62	19	43	32	12	20	*	6
Late October, 2008	57	19	38	33	15	18	*	10
Mid-September, 2008	55	18	37	39	14	25	*	6
August, 2008	57	16	41	37	13	24	*	6
Late May, 2008	57	14	43	37	14	23	*	6
July, 2007	51	13	38	41	14	27	0	8
Early January, 2007	54	15	39	35	12	23	*	11
Late October, 2006	53	13	40	36	11	25	*	11
July, 2006	47	13	34	44	13	31	2	7
April, 2006	47	12	35	42	14	28	*	11
February, 2006	48	14	34	44	17	27	0	8
Late October, 2005	49	14	35	41	15	26	*	10
July, 2005	50	15	35	41	14	27	*	9
June, 2005	52	12	40	39	13	26	*	9
December, 2004	53	13	40	41	14	27	*	6
June, 2004	54	12	42	36	11	25	0	10
Early February, 2004	58	14	44	37	9	28	*	5
June, 2003	54	11	43	38	10	28	0	8
April, 2003	57	13	44	36	11	25	*	7
December, 2002	54	15	39	37	10	27	*	9
July, 2001	58	18	40	34	10	24	*	8
January, 2001	60	18	42	30	9	21	1	9
September, 2000 (RVs)	60	16	44	35	12	23	*	5
August, 1999	59	14	45	37	9	28	*	4
February, 1999	58	11	47	37	11	26	0	5
January, 1999	55	14	41	38	12	26	0	7
Early December, 1998	59	18	41	34	10	24	0	7
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	56	11	45	38	9	29	*	6
Early September, 1998	60	13	47	33	8	25	*	7
March, 1998	58	15	43	36	10	26	*	6
August, 1997	52	11	41	42	10	32	0	6
June, 1997	61	10	51	33	8	25	*	6
January, 1997	60	13	47	35	7	28	*	5
October, 1995	49	9	40	48	11	37	0	3
December, 1994	50	13	37	44	13	31	*	6
July, 1994	62	13	49	34	7	27	*	4
May, 1993	57	14	43	34	9	25	0	9
July, 1992	61	17	44	33	9	24	*	6

**QUESTIONS 84, 98-100 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**NO QUESTIONS 85-92, 94-95**

**QUESTIONS 93, 96-97 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**ASK ALL:**

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?

**ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):**

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
Sep 18-24, 2018	25	32	37	3	1	2	15	18
Jun 5-12, 2018	25	31	38	3	1	2	15	18
Apr 25-May 1, 2018	27	28	38	4	1	2	14	19
Mar 7-14, 2018	26	28	41	3	*	1	17	18
Jan 10-15, 2018	26	33	34	3	1	3	12	18
Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	20	32	40	4	1	3	13	19
Oct 25-30, 2017	22	32	41	3	1	2	17	19
Jun 8-Jul 9, 2017	25	31	39	3	1	2	16	18
<b>Yearly Totals</b>								
2017	23.6	31.4	39.4	3.3	.6	1.7	15.8	18.7
2016	25.4	32.0	36.5	3.4	.5	2.2	14.6	17.0
2015	23.7	30.4	40.1	3.6	.4	1.8	16.4	17.3
2014	23.2	31.5	39.5	3.1	.7	2.0	16.2	16.5
2013	23.9	32.1	38.3	2.9	.5	2.2	16.0	16.0
2012	24.7	32.6	36.4	3.1	.5	2.7	14.4	16.1
2011	24.3	32.3	37.4	3.1	.4	2.5	15.7	15.6
2010	25.2	32.7	35.2	3.6	.4	2.8	14.5	14.1
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.7	36.0	31.5	3.6	.3	3.0	10.6	15.2
2007	25.3	32.9	34.1	4.3	.4	2.9	10.9	17.0
2006	27.8	33.1	30.9	4.4	.3	3.4	10.5	15.1
2005	29.3	32.8	30.2	4.5	.3	2.8	10.3	14.9
2004	30.0	33.5	29.5	3.8	.4	3.0	11.7	13.4
2003	30.3	31.5	30.5	4.8	.5	2.5	12.0	12.6
2002	30.4	31.4	29.8	5.0	.7	2.7	12.4	11.6
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3	--	3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--

**QUESTION 101 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:**

(U) Pew Research Center/USA Today polls