

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

**QUESTIONS 1-2, 7-8, 11-13, 28, 33, 44-46, 50-51, 58-59, 64-66, 74-78, 83-84, 93, 96-97
PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

NO QUESTIONS 3-6, 9-10, 14-27, 29-32, 34-43, 47-49, 52-57, 60-63, 67-72, 80-82, 85-92, 94-95

QUESTION 73, 79 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=887]:

Thinking about Afghanistan...

Q.98F2 Do you think the United States' initial decision to use military force in Afghanistan in 2001 was the right decision or the wrong decision?

	<u>Right decision</u>	<u>Wrong decision</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Sep 18-24, 2018	45	39	16
Jan 15-19, 2014 (U) ¹	51	41	8
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	56	37	8
Jun 15-19, 2011	57	35	8
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	52	38	10
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009 ²	56	34	10
Jan 7-11, 2009	64	25	11
Feb, 2008	65	24	11
Dec, 2006	61	29	10
Jan, 2006	69	20	11

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=887]:

Q.99F2 Overall, do you think the United States has mostly succeeded or mostly failed in achieving its goals in Afghanistan?

Sep 18-24 <u>2018</u>		May 12-18 <u>2015</u>	(U) Jan 15-19 <u>2014</u>
35	Mostly succeeded	36	38
49	Mostly failed	56	52
16	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	7	10

Q.99F2 TREND FOR COMPARISON...

Regardless of what you think about the original decision to use military force in Afghanistan, do you now believe that the United States will definitely succeed, probably succeed, probably fail, or definitely fail in achieving its goals in Afghanistan?³

	<u>Definitely/ Probably succeed</u>	<u>Definitely/ Probably fail</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Jun 15-19, 2011	58	34	8
May 5-8, 2011	62	24	13
May 2, 2011	63	26	10
Dec 1-5, 2010	49	39	11
Jun 16-20, 2010	59	33	8
Mar 10-14, 2010	58	29	12

¹ In all previous surveys except October 2009, the question was worded: "Do you think the United States' made the right decision or the wrong decision in using military force in Afghanistan?"

² In October 2009, question was worded "Do you think the United States' initial decision to use force in Afghanistan was the right decision or the wrong decision?"

³ Trend for comparison shows the net of answers "Definitely succeed" and "Probably succeed" and the net of answers "Definitely fail" and "Probably fail." See June 2011 topline for full trend.

Q99F2 TREND FOR COMPARISON CONTINUED...

	Definitely/ Probably succeed	Definitely/ Probably fail	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Dec 9-13, 2009	59	32	10
Jan 7-11, 2009	62	29	9

QUESTIONS 100-101 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?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) No <u>preference</u>	(VOL.) Other <u>party</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean <u>Rep</u>	Lean <u>Dem</u>
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
Yearly Totals								
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	--	--	--	--	--

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

(U)

Pew Research Center/USA Today polls