



The October 2018 AP-NORC Center Poll

Conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research
With funding from The Associated Press and NORC at the University of Chicago

Interviews: 10/11-14/2018

1,152 adults

Margin of error: +/- 4.0 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.

CUR1. Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the...

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP-NORC All adults	Right direction	Wrong direction	DON'T KNOW	SKIPPED ON WEB/ REFUSED
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	39	60	*	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	38	62	*	*
6/13-18/2018 (N=1,109)	40	58	1	1
4/11-16/2018 (N=1,140)	39	60	*	*
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,222)	37	62	1	1
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	32	68	*	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	30	69	1	*
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	24	74	1	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	34	65	2	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	37	62	1	*

CUR2. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

If don't know, skipped, or refused in CUR2

CUR3. If you had to choose, do you lean more toward approving or disapproving of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

If approve in CUR2

CUR3A. Would you say you approve of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president strongly or do you approve just somewhat?

If disapprove in CUR2

CUR3B. Would you say you disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president strongly or do you disapprove just somewhat?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Lean toward approv- ing	Do not lean either way	Dis- approve NET	Lean toward disapp- roving	Some- what dis- approve	Strongly dis- approve	DK	SKP /REF
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	40	21	19	*	1	59	*	14	45	-	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	38	18	20	-	1	60	1	17	43		
6/13-18/2018 (N=1,109)	41	21	20	*	1	57	*	16	42	*	*
4/11-16/2018 (N=1,140)	40	19	20	*	1	59	*	15	44	-	1
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	42	20	21	*	1	58	*	14	44	-	*
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	35	19	17	-	1	64	*	17	46	*	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	32	15	17	*	*	67	*	16	51	-	*
9/28- 10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	32	20	12	*	*	67	*	17	50	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	35	16	18	*	1	64	*	17	47	*	1
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	42	20	22	*	*	58	*	14	43	-	1

CURY2. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling...?

If Don't know, skipped, or refused in CURY2

CURYX. If you had to choose, do you lean more toward approving or disapproving of the way Donald Trump is handling ...?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

Economy

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	50	50	*	1	49	1	48	*	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	51	51	*	*	49	*	49	*	-
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	47	46	1	1	52	*	51	*	*
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	45	45	-	*	54	*	53	-	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	40	40	*	1	59	*	59	*	-
10/12-16/2017 (N=1,054)	41	41	*	1	58	1	57	*	*
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	42	42	*	1	56	1	56	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	43	43	1	1	55	*	55	*	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	50	49	1	1	48	1	47	-	*

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Trade negotiations with other countries

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	41	40	*	*	59	1	57	*	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	39	39	*	*	61	1	60	-	-
6/13-18/2018 (N=1,109)	43	42	1	1	55	*	55	*	1
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	41	40	*	1	58	*	57	*	*

Foreign policy

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	39	39	*	2	59	*	59	*	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	36	36	1	*	63	1	62	*	*
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	34	34	*	1	64	*	64	*	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	30	30	*	1	69	*	68	*	-
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	34	34	*	1	65	*	64	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	35	34	*	1	63	1	63	*	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	40	40	1	1	58	1	57	*	*

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Immigration

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	41	41	-	*	58	*	58	*	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	38	38	*	*	61	*	61	-	-
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	37	37	*	*	62	*	62	*	*
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	35	35	*	1	64	*	64	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	39	39	*	*	60	*	60	*	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	45	45	*	1	54	*	54	-	*

Health care

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	37	36	*	1	62	*	62	*	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	36	36	*	*	64	*	63	*	-
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	30	29	*	*	70	*	70	*	-
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	31	31	*	1	68	*	68	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	32	32	*	1	66	1	65	*	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	36	36	1	1	62	*	62	*	*

Supreme Court nominations

AP-NORC All adults	Approve NET	Approve	Lean toward approve	Don't lean either way	Disapprove NET	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	40	39	*	1	59	*	59	*	1
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	50	49	1	1	49	1	48	-	*

REG. Are you currently registered to vote at your address, or not?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018	AP-NORC 8/16-20/2018
Yes	85	81
No	15	18
DON'T KNOW	-	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1	1
N=	1,152	1,055

MT1. Thinking about the election for U.S. House of Representatives that's being held on November 6, for who will you vote in your congressional district?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
The Democratic candidate	39
The Republican candidate	29
Other candidate	1
Undecided	22
None/Will not vote	9
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
N=	1,152

MT2. Thinking about the midterm elections coming up on November 6th, do you think campaigns in your state are focusing too much, about the right amount, or too little on:

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018	A lot/Some what too much NET	A lot too much	Somewhat too much	About the right amount	Somewhat/ A lot too little NET	Somewhat too little	A lot too little	DK	SKP /REF
The candidates' personal qualities and characteristics	35	15	20	39	24	18	6	*	2
The candidates' experience and qualifications for the job	14	7	7	46	38	26	12	1	2
Policies and issues that matter most for you personally	9	3	6	41	48	30	18	1	1

N=1,152

MT3. How important are each of the following issues to you personally?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED; EACH RESPONDENT SHOWN 10 ITEMS]

AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018	Extremely/ very imp. NET	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not imp. at all/not very imp. NET	Not very important	Not important at all	DK	SKP/REF
The national debt (N=556)	58	20	38	31	10	7	3	*	*
The environment and climate change (N=575)	59	31	29	26	14	10	4	-	*
Gun policy (N=608)	65	36	29	22	11	8	3	*	1
Health care (N=584)	83	45	37	14	3	2	1	-	*
Immigration (N=589)	63	29	33	29	7	5	2	-	1
Poverty (N=568)	67	28	39	22	9	8	1	-	2
Unemployment (N=571)	60	24	37	29	10	7	3	-	1
Economic growth (N=555)	78	27	51	18	3	3	1	-	1
Taxes (N=556)	67	33	34	26	7	5	1	-	1
Education (N=591)	79	41	39	16	4	3	1	-	*
Terrorism and homeland security (N=560)	67	31	36	19	12	11	1	*	1
Income inequality (N=562)	56	29	27	25	18	14	4	*	1
Racism (N=577)	60	30	30	25	15	8	6	-	*
Social security (N=578)	77	38	38	16	7	6	1	-	1
Crime (N=592)	75	37	38	19	4	4	1	-	2
Foreign policy (N=588)	56	20	35	35	8	6	2	*	1

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Supreme Court appointments (N=563)	59	29	31	26	13	9	4	*	1
International trade agreements (N=583)	55	17	38	32	11	8	3	*	1
Abortion (N=586)	52	27	25	28	18	11	7	*	2
Sexual misconduct (N=578)	62	27	35	25	12	8	4	-	1

MT4. Which statement comes closer to your own view?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018	AP-NORC 6/23-27/2016
Americans are united and in agreement about the most important values	15	19
Americans are greatly divided when it comes to the most important values	84	80
DON'T KNOW	*	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1	1

N= 1,152 1,008

MT5. And thinking about five years from now, do you think the country will become more divided on the most important values, less divided on the most important values, or be about as divided as it is now?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018	AP-NORC 6/23-27/2016
More divided	39	38
Less divided	20	20
About as divided as now	39	41
DON'T KNOW	1	1
SKIP/REFUSED	1	*

N= 1,152 1,008

MT6. The United States has a diverse population, with people of many different races, ethnicities, religions, and backgrounds. Do you think this diversity makes the country:

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018	AP-NORC 6/23-27/2016
Much/Moderately stronger NET	53	56
Much stronger	30	29
Moderately stronger	24	27
Neither stronger nor weaker	28	28
Much/Moderately weaker NET	17	16
Moderately weaker	12	12
Much weaker	5	4
DON'T KNOW	1	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1	*
N=	1,152	1,008

MT7. Are you satisfied, dissatisfied, or neither satisfied nor dissatisfied about each of the following?

AP-NORC 10/11- 14/2018	Very/ Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat/ Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	DK	SKP /REF
The way things are going in the United States	25	4	21	16	58	29	30	*	1
The way things are going in your own state	33	6	27	21	45	27	18	*	1
The way things are going in your local community	43	10	33	28	28	18	10	*	1
The state of politics in this country	9	2	6	13	77	29	48	*	1
The state of morals and ethics in this country	9	2	7	16	74	28	46	*	1
The gap between rich and poor	8	3	5	25	65	24	41	*	1

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Race relations in the United States	11	2	9	23	64	32	32	*	1
The condition of the environment in the United States	15	3	12	27	56	27	30	1	1
The state of the news media in the United States	19	5	14	22	58	24	34	*	1
The status of religion in the United States	22	6	16	41	35	20	15	1	*
The state of homeland security	36	6	29	31	31	21	10	*	2
The state of rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in the United States	21	5	15	41	36	19	16	1	2
The state of individual rights and freedoms in the United States	34	9	25	23	42	26	17	*	1

N=1,152

SC1. The Senate has voted to confirm Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court. Do you agree, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of Brett Kavanaugh’s confirmation to the Supreme Court?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Strongly/Somewhat approve NET	35
Strongly approve	24
Somewhat approve	11
Neither approve nor disapprove	20
Somewhat/Strongly disapprove	43
Somewhat disapprove	12
Strongly disapprove	32
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N=

1,152

**SC2. When the Senate votes on a Supreme Court nominee, how important is it that it considers each of the following?
[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

AP-NORC 10/11- 14/2018	Extremely/ Very important NET	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very/Not important at all	Not very important	Not important at all	DK	SKP/ REF
The nominee’s qualifications and legal background	85	55	30	9	4	2	1	*	2
The nominee’s personal views on major issues that the Supreme Court decides	70	36	33	21	7	5	2	*	2
The nominee’s personal history and character	70	37	33	22	6	4	2	1	2
The nominee’s political views	51	26	26	31	15	8	7	*	2

N=1,152

SC3. For each of the following, please tell me whether you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way they handled their role in the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court.

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

AP-NORC 10/11- 14/2018	Strongly/ Somewhat approve NET	Strongly Approve	Somewhat approve	Neither approve nor disapprove	Strongly/ Somewhat disapprove	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	DK	SKP /REF
Senate Democrats	24	8	17	25	48	18	30	1	2
Senate Republicans	29	11	18	22	47	14	33	1	1
President Trump	32	18	14	15	51	11	39	1	1

N=1,152

SC4. Since Brett Kavanaugh’s confirmation to the Supreme Court, how much confidence do you have in the Supreme Court?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
A great deal of confidence	32
Only some confidence	40
Hardly any confidence	27
DON’T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2

N=

1,152

SC5. Do you think that in the hearings on the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court and the charges of sexual assault by Christine Blasey Ford, the Senate Judiciary Committee has treated Brett Kavanaugh fairly, unfairly, or neither fairly nor unfairly?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Fairly/Somewhat fairly NET	35
Fairly	20
Somewhat fairly	16
Neither fairly nor unfairly	27
Unfairly/Somewhat unfairly NET	33
Somewhat unfairly	15
Unfairly	19
DON’T KNOW	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	3

N=

1,152

SC6. Do you think that in the hearings on the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court and the charges of sexual assault by Christine Blasey Ford, the Senate Judiciary Committee has treated Christine Blasey Ford fairly, unfairly, or neither fairly nor unfairly?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Fairly/Somewhat fairly NET	30
Fairly	20
Somewhat fairly	10
Neither fairly nor unfairly	25
Unfairly/Somewhat unfairly NET	42
Somewhat unfairly	17
Unfairly	25
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2

N= 1,152

SC7. Do you think the F.B.I. did a good job, a poor job, or neither a good nor poor job of investigating the accusations of sexual assault against Brett Kavanaugh?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Very/Moderately good NET	30
Very good	15
Moderately good	15
Neither good nor poor	27
Very/Moderately poor NET	40
Moderately poor	17
Very poor	23
DON'T KNOW	2
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2

N= 1,152

SC8. In his testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee do you think Brett Kavanaugh told the entire truth, was he mostly telling the truth but also hiding something, or do you think he was mostly lying?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Entire truth	25
Mostly telling the truth but hiding something	39
Mostly lying	31
DON'T KNOW	2
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2

N= 1,152

SC9. Do you think the confirmation hearings for Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court will make people more willing to report incidents of sexual misconduct, less willing, or not have much effect?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
A lot more/Somewhat more willing NET	30
A lot more willing	10
Somewhat more willing	20
No effect	34
A lot less/Somewhat less willing NET	34
Somewhat less willing	19
A lot less willing	15
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2

N= 1,152

SC10. Do you think the confirmation hearings for Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court will make people more willing to serve in high profile government positions that require Senate confirmation, less willing, or not have much effect?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
A lot more/Somewhat more willing NET	13
A lot more willing	5
Somewhat more willing	9
No effect	47
A lot less/Somewhat less willing NET	37
Somewhat less willing	25
A lot less willing	12
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2

N= 1,152

PID1. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an independent or none of these?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Democrat	32
Republican	27
Independent	23
None of these	16
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,152</i>

If Democrat in PID1

PIDa. Do you consider yourself a strong Democrat or a moderate Democrat?

If Republican in PID1

PIDb. Do you consider yourself a strong Republican or a moderate Republican?

If Independent, None of these, or Don't Know/SKIPPED ON WEB/Refused in PID1

PIDi. Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

[PID1, PIDA, PIDB, AND PIDI COMBINED]

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Democrat NET	44
Strong Democrat	15
Moderate Democrat	18
Lean Democrat	11
Independent/None – Don't lean	19
Republican NET	36
Lean Republican	9
Moderate Republican	16
Strong Republican	11
Unknown	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,152</i>

G11B. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a...?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Liberal	20
Conservative	37
Moderate	38
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	3
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,152</i>

DM5. Which one of the following best describes where you live?

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Urban area	27
Suburban area	47
Rural area	25
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,152</i>

AGE

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
18-24	12
25-34	19
35-44	16
45-54	17
55-64	17
65-74	14
75+	7
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,152</i>

GENDER

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Male	48
Female	52
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,152</i>

RACE/ETHNICITY

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
White	63
Black or African American	12
Hispanic	16
Other	8

N= 1,152

MARITAL STATUS

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Married	47
Widowed	4
Divorced	11
Separated	2
Never married	27
Living with partner	9

N= 1,152

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Employed	58
Not employed	42

N= 1152

EDUCATION

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Less than a high school diploma	11
High school graduate or equivalent	29
Some college	28
College graduate or above	32

N= 1,152

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INCOME

	AP-NORC 10/11-14/2018
Under \$10,000	6
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	10
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	13
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	10
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	9
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	20
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	12
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	12
\$150,000 or more	10

N=

1,152

Study Methodology

This survey was conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and with funding from The Associated Press and NORC at the University of Chicago. Data were collected using the AmeriSpeak Omnibus®, a monthly multi-client survey using NORC’s probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. The survey was part of a larger study that included questions about other topics not included in this report. During the initial recruitment phase of the panel, randomly selected U.S. households were sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame and then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, and field interviewers (face-to-face). The panel provides sample coverage of approximately 97% of the U.S. household population. Those excluded from the sample include people with P.O. Box only addresses, some addresses not listed in the USPS Delivery Sequence File, and some newly constructed dwellings.

Interviews for this survey were conducted between October 10 and 14, 2018, with adults age 18 and over representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 1,152 completed the survey—1,008 via the web and 144 via telephone. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish, depending on respondent preference. The final stage completion rate is 20.1 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 28.6 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 86.0 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 4.9 percent. The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 3.99 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups.

Once the sample has been selected and fielded, and all the study data have been collected and made final, a poststratification process is used to adjust for any survey nonresponse as well as any noncoverage or under and oversampling resulting from the study specific sample design. Poststratification variables included age, gender, census division, race/ethnicity, and education. Weighting variables were obtained from the 2018 Current Population Survey. The weighted data reflect the U.S. population of adults age 18 and over.

For more information, email info@apnorc.org.

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- NORC at the University of Chicago is one of the oldest and most respected, independent research institutions in the world.

The two organizations have established The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals.

The founding principles of The AP-NORC Center include a mandate to carefully preserve and protect the scientific integrity and objectivity of NORC and the journalistic independence of AP. All work conducted by the Center conforms to the highest levels of scientific integrity to prevent any real or perceived bias in the research. All of the work of the Center is subject to review by its advisory committee to help

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ensure it meets these standards. The Center will publicize the results of all studies and make all datasets and study documentation available to scholars and the public.