



The Associated Press-NORC  
Center for Public Affairs Research

# The October 2019 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: 10/24-28/2019  
1,075 adults*

*Margin of error: +/- 4.1 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
10/24-28/2019 (N=1,075)	39	60	1	1
09/20-23/2019 (N=1,286)	38	60	1	1
8/15-18/2019 (N=1,059)	33	66	*	1
6/13-17/2019 (N=1,116)	36	63	*	1
5/17-20/2019 (N=1,137)	35	62	2	1
4/11-14/2019 (N=1,108)	37	62	*	*
3/14-18/2019 (N=1,063)	35	63	*	1
1/16-20/2019 (N=1,062)	28	70	1	*
12/13-16/2018 (N=1,067)	39	59	*	1
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	<b>Approve NET</b>	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Lean toward approv- ing	<b>Do not lean either way</b>	<b>Dis- approve NET</b>	Lean toward disapp- roving	Some- what dis- approve	Strongly dis- approve	DK	SKP /REF
10/24-28/2019 (N=1,075)	<b>42</b>	25	17	*	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>	*	14	42	-	1
09/20-23/2019 (N=1,286)	<b>40</b>	24	16	*	<b>1</b>	<b>59</b>	*	16	42	-	1
8/15-18/2019 (N=1,058)	<b>36</b>	21	15	*	*	<b>62</b>	-	16	46	*	2
6/13-17/2019 (N=1,116)	<b>38</b>	19	19	*	*	<b>60</b>	*	17	43	-	1
5/17-20/2019 (N=1,137)	<b>38</b>	19	18	*	<b>1</b>	<b>61</b>	1	13	47	*	1
4/11-14/2019 (N=1,108)	<b>39</b>	19	20	*	<b>1</b>	<b>60</b>	*	13	46	-	*
3/14-18/2019 (N=1,063)	<b>40</b>	22	18	*	*	<b>58</b>	1	15	42	-	1
1/16-20/2019	<b>34</b>	18	16	*	*	<b>65</b>	1	11	53	*	*

The October 2019 AP-NORC Poll

(N=1,062)											
12/13-16/2018 (N=1,067)	<b>42</b>	21	21	*	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>	*	14	42	-	<b>1</b>
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	<b>40</b>	21	19	*	<b>1</b>	<b>59</b>	*	14	45	-	<b>1</b>
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	<b>38</b>	18	20	-	<b>1</b>	<b>60</b>	1	17	43		
6/13-18/2018 (N=1,109)	<b>41</b>	21	20	*	<b>1</b>	<b>57</b>	*	16	42	*	*
4/11-16/2018 (N=1,140)	<b>40</b>	19	20	*	<b>1</b>	<b>59</b>	*	15	44	-	<b>1</b>
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	<b>42</b>	20	21	*	<b>1</b>	<b>58</b>	*	14	44	-	*
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	<b>35</b>	19	17	-	<b>1</b>	<b>64</b>	*	17	46	*	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	<b>32</b>	15	17	*	*	<b>67</b>	*	16	51	-	*
9/28- 10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	<b>32</b>	20	12	*	*	<b>67</b>	*	17	50	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	<b>35</b>	16	18	*	<b>1</b>	<b>64</b>	*	17	47	*	<b>1</b>
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	<b>42</b>	20	22	*	*	<b>58</b>	*	14	43	-	<b>1</b>

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

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

**Economy**

AP-NORC All adults	<b>Approve NET</b>	Approve	Lean toward approve	<b>Don't lean either way</b>	<b>Disapprove NET</b>	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
10/24-28/2019 (N=1,075)	-	54	-	-	-	-	44	*	*
09/20-23/2019 (N=1,286)	-	51	-	-	-	-	47	1	1
8/15-18/2019 (N=1,058)	-	46	-	-	-	-	51	1	2
6/13-17/2019 (N=1,116)	-	47	-	-	-	-	51	1	1
1/16-20/2019 (N=1,062)	-	44	-	-	-	-	55	-	1
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	<b>50</b>	50	*	<b>1</b>	<b>49</b>	1	48	*	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	<b>51</b>	51	*	*	<b>49</b>	*	49	*	-
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	<b>47</b>	46	1	<b>1</b>	<b>52</b>	*	51	*	*
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	<b>45</b>	45	-	*	<b>54</b>	*	53	-	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	<b>40</b>	40	*	<b>1</b>	<b>59</b>	*	59	*	-
10/12-16/2017 (N=1,054)	<b>41</b>	41	*	<b>1</b>	<b>58</b>	1	57	*	*
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	<b>42</b>	42	*	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>	1	56	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	<b>43</b>	43	1	<b>1</b>	<b>55</b>	*	55	*	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	<b>50</b>	49	1	<b>1</b>	<b>48</b>	1	47	-	*

**Foreign policy**

AP-NORC All adults	<b>Approve NET</b>	Approve	Lean toward approve	<b>Don't lean either way</b>	<b>Disapprove NET</b>	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
10/24-28/2019 (N=1,075)	-	38	-	-	-	-	59	*	2
09/20-23/2019 (N=1,286)	-	39	-	-	-	-	58	2	1
8/15-18/2019 (N=1,058)	-	36	-	-	-	-	61	1	1
1/16-20/2019 (N=1,062)	-	35	-	-	-	-	63	1	2
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	<b>39</b>	39	*	<b>2</b>	<b>59</b>	*	59	*	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	<b>36</b>	36	1	*	<b>63</b>	1	62	*	*
2/15-19/2018 (N=1,337)	<b>34</b>	34	*	<b>1</b>	<b>64</b>	*	64	*	*
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	<b>30</b>	30	*	<b>1</b>	<b>69</b>	*	68	*	-
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	<b>34</b>	34	*	<b>1</b>	<b>65</b>	*	64	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	<b>35</b>	34	*	<b>1</b>	<b>63</b>	1	63	*	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	<b>40</b>	40	1	<b>1</b>	<b>58</b>	1	57	*	*

**Health care**

AP-NORC All adults	<b>Approve NET</b>	Approve	Lean toward approve	<b>Don't lean either way</b>	<b>Disapprove NET</b>	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
10/24-28/2019 (N=1,075)	-	43	-	-	-	-	55	*	2
8/15-18/2019 (N=1,058)	-	37	-	-	-	-	61	1	2
6/13-17/2019 (N=1,116)	-	35	-	-	-	-	62	*	2
1/16-20/2019 (N=1,062)	-	35	-	-	-	-	62	1	2
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	<b>37</b>	36	*	<b>1</b>	<b>62</b>	*	62	*	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	<b>36</b>	36	*	*	<b>64</b>	*	63	*	-
12/7-11/2017 (N=1,020)	<b>30</b>	29	*	*	<b>70</b>	*	70	*	-
9/28-10/2/2017 (N=1,150)	<b>31</b>	31	*	<b>1</b>	<b>68</b>	*	68	*	*
6/8-11/2017 (N=1,068)	<b>32</b>	32	*	<b>1</b>	<b>66</b>	1	65	*	*
3/23-27/2017 (N=1,110)	<b>36</b>	36	1	<b>1</b>	<b>62</b>	*	62	*	*

**Trade negotiations with other countries**

AP-NORC All adults	<b>Approve NET</b>	Approve	Lean toward approve	<b>Don't lean either way</b>	<b>Disapprove NET</b>	Lean toward disapprove	Disapprove	DK	SKP/ REF
10/24-28/2019 (N=XXX)	-	43	-	-	-	-	55	*	1
6/13-17/2019 (N=1,116)	-	39	-	-	-	-	59	1	2
1/16-20/2019 (N=1,062)	-	39	-	-	-	-	59	1	1
10/11-14/2018 (N=1,152)	<b>41</b>	40	*	*	<b>59</b>	1	57	*	1
8/16-20/2018 (N=1,055)	<b>39</b>	39	*	*	<b>61</b>	1	60	-	-
6/13-18/2018 (N=1,109)	<b>43</b>	42	1	<b>1</b>	<b>55</b>	*	55	*	1
3/14-19/2018 (N=1,122)	<b>41</b>	40	*	<b>1</b>	<b>58</b>	*	57	*	*

**DJT1. Since Donald Trump took office, would you say you pay more attention to politics, less attention to politics, or about the same amount of attention as you did before?**

**[FIRST TWO OPTIONS RANDOMIZED]**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
More attention	42
Less attention	15
About the same	43
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1

N=

1,075



**DJT2. Please indicate how well each of the following words or phrases describes Donald Trump.**

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

AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019	<b>Extremely /very well NET</b>	Extremely well	Very well	<b>Moderately well</b>	<b>Not very well/Not well at all NET</b>	Not very well	Not well at all	DK	SKP/ REF
Honest	<b>24</b>	12	11	<b>19</b>	<b>56</b>	15	41	*	1
Disciplined	<b>19</b>	8	12	<b>18</b>	<b>61</b>	18	43	*	2
Strongleader	<b>33</b>	17	16	<b>18</b>	<b>46</b>	13	34	*	2
Stands up for what he believes	<b>54</b>	31	24	<b>18</b>	<b>26</b>	8	18	*	1

*N=1,075*

AP-NORC 9/28-10/2/2017	<b>Extremely /very well NET</b>	Extremely well	Very well	<b>Moderately well</b>	<b>Not very well/Not well at all NET</b>	Not very well	Not well at all	DK	SKP/ REF
Honest	<b>23</b>	12	12	<b>18</b>	<b>58</b>	14	45	*	*
Level-headed	<b>16</b>	7	9	<b>15</b>	<b>69</b>	18	51	*	*
Strongleader	<b>26</b>	14	13	<b>18</b>	<b>55</b>	14	41	*	*

*N=1,150*

**DJT3. Do you think that the things Donald Trump is doing as president of the United States have been good, bad, or neither good nor bad for each of the following?**

**[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019	<b>Very/Some- what good NET</b>	Very good	Somewhat good	<b>Neither good nor bad</b>	<b>Somewhat /Very bad NET</b>	Somewhat bad	Very bad	DK	SKP/ REF
Strengthening the U.S. economy	<b>48</b>	30	18	<b>21</b>	<b>30</b>	12	17	*	2
Reducing the amount of corruption in federal government	<b>32</b>	15	17	<b>21</b>	<b>45</b>	10	34	1	1
Promoting U.S. standing in the world	<b>39</b>	21	18	<b>13</b>	<b>46</b>	12	34	*	2
Reducing the threat of terrorism around the world	<b>37</b>	19	18	<b>19</b>	<b>42</b>	14	28	*	2

*N=1,075*

**DJT4. How much respect do you think Donald Trump has for this country's democratic institutions and traditions? Would you say...**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019	AP-NORC 6/8-11/2017
<b>A great deal/a fair amount NET</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>34</b>
A great deal	18	13
A fair amount	20	21
<b>Not too much/none at all NET</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>65</b>
Not too much	26	30
None at all	35	35
DON'T KNOW	*	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,075</i>	<i>1,068</i>

**DJT5. For each of the following, please say if the word does or does not describe how Donald Trump makes you feel.**

**[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019	Does describe	Does <u>not</u> describe	DK	SKP/ REF
Excited	28	70	*	2
Proud	32	66	-	2
Angry	46	52	*	2
Overwhelmed	40	58	*	2

*N = 1,075*

**FP1. In general, do you think the United States uses its military force in foreign conflicts too often, not often enough, or about the right amount?**

**[FIRST TWO OPTIONS RANDOMIZED]**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
Too often	48
Not often enough	9
About the right amount	42
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1

*N=*

*1,075*

**HALL1. How safe do you think it is for children to go trick or treating by themselves on Halloween? Do you think it is very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
<b>Very/Somewhat safe NET</b>	<b>29</b>
Very safe	4
Somewhat safe	25
<b>Somewhat/Very unsafe NET</b>	<b>70</b>
Somewhat unsafe	36
Very unsafe	34
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N= 1,075

**HALL2. Please indicate whether you plan to do each of the following to celebrate Halloween, or not?**

**Please select all that apply.**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
Wear a costume	25
Dress your children in costumes	22
Display Halloween decorations in your home or yard	36
Take children trick or treating	25
Attend a Halloween party	25
Pass out candy to children trick-o-treating at your house	42
Pass out healthy snacks instead of candy to children trick-or-treating at your house	7
Carve a pumpkin	28
Watch a scary movie	32
Dress up a pet in costume	11
None of the above	24
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N= 1,075

**FP2. Do you approve, disapprove or neither approve nor disapprove of the decision to remove most U.S. troops from Syria?**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
<b>Strongly/Somewhat approve NET</b>	<b>38</b>
Strongly approve	16
Somewhat approve	21
<b>Neither approve nor disapprove</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Somewhat/Strongly disapprove NET</b>	<b>34</b>
Somewhat disapprove	17
Strongly disapprove	17
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIP/REFUSED	2
N=	1,075

**FP3. Regardless of whether you approve of the decision to remove most troops from Syria, how concerned are you that it will lead to instability in the region?**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
<b>Extremely/Very concerned NET</b>	<b>39</b>
Extremely concerned	16
Very concerned	23
<b>Moderately concerned</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Not too concerned/Not at all concerned NET</b>	<b>24</b>
Not too concerned	16
Not at all concerned	8
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	2
N=	1,075

**FP4. Overall, would you say the U.S. military campaign against Islamic militants in Syria has been worth fighting or not worth fighting?**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
Worth fighting	60
Not worth fighting	37
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIP/REFUSED	2
N=	1,075

**PID. Combines PID1, PIDI, PIDA, and PIDB.**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
<b>Democrat NET</b>	<b>44</b>
Strong Democrat	14
Moderate Democrat	16
Lean Democrat	14
<b>Independent/None – Don't lean</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Republican NET</b>	<b>37</b>
Lean Republican	11
Moderate Republican	14
Strong Republican	13
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,075</i>

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

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
Liberal	20
Conservative	47
Moderate	30
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	2
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,075</i>

**DM5. How would you describe the community you live in now?**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
Urban	24
Suburban	41
Rural	34
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,075</i>

**AGE**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
18-24	12
25-34	19
35-44	16
45-54	15
55-64	17
65-74	14
75+	7
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,075</i>

**GENDER**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
Male	48
Female	52
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,075</i>

**RACE/ETHNICITY**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
White	63
Black or African American	12
Hispanic	16
Other	9
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,075</i>

**MARITAL STATUS**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
Married	47
Widowed	6
Divorced	9
Separated	1
Never married	26
Living with partner	10
<i>N=</i>	1,075

**EMPLOYMENT STATUS**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
Employed	60
Not employed	40
<i>N=</i>	1,075

**EDUCATION**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
Less than a high school diploma	11
High school graduate or equivalent	28
Some college	28
College graduate or above	33
<i>N=</i>	1,075

**INCOME**

	AP-NORC 10/24-28/2019
Under \$10,000	5
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	9
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	15
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	11
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	7
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	18
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	15
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	12
\$150,000 or more	9

*N*=

1,075



### **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 percent 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 24 and 28, 2019, with adults age 18 and over representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 1,075 completed the survey—970 via the web and 105 via telephone. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish, depending on respondent preference. The final stage completion rate is 18 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 24.1 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 85.6 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 3.7 percent. The overall margin of sampling error is +/-4.1 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](mailto:info@apnorc.org).

### **About the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research**

The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research taps into the power of social science research and the highest-quality journalism to bring key information to people across the nation and throughout the world.

- The Associated Press (AP) is the world's essential news organization, bringing fast, unbiased news to all media platforms and formats.
- 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 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.