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Public Expects Gridlock, Deeper Divisions With Changed Political Landscape

Congressional Democrats favored over Trump on most issues

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Table of Contents

Public Expects Gridlock, Deeper Divisions With Changed Political Landscape.....	1
1. The public’s post-midterm outlook	9
2. Reactions to the midterm elections	17
3. Confidence in vote count and election administration.....	23
4. Trump, the 2018 election and beyond.....	27
5. Views on whether Trump or Democrats have a better approach to issues	31
Acknowledgements	34
Methodology.....	35

Public Expects Gridlock, Deeper Divisions With Changed Political Landscape

Congressional Democrats favored over Trump on most issues

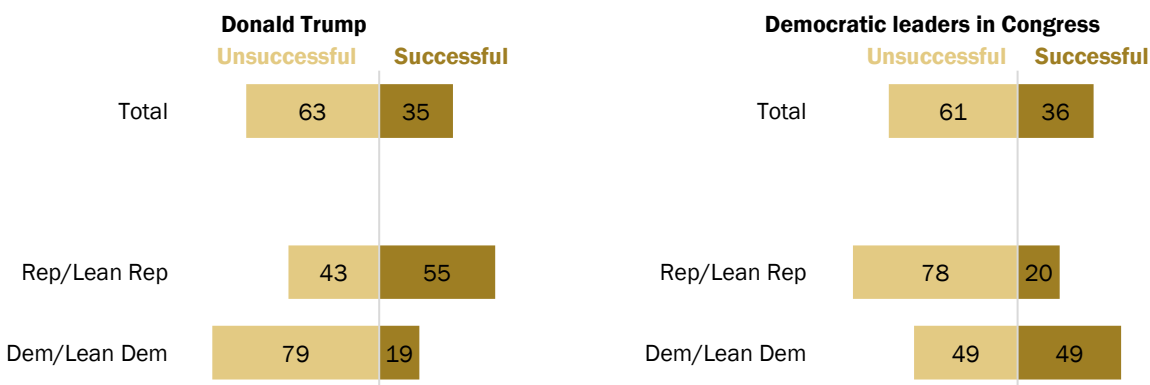
The public is generally positive about the outcome of last week's midterm elections. Yet most Americans think that neither Democratic congressional leaders nor Donald Trump will be successful in getting their policies passed into law during the next two years.

And after years of growing political divisions in Congress and the nation, the public expects little improvement in relations between Republicans and Democrats in Washington in the coming year. Most expect partisan relations will get worse or stay the same. Just 9% expect that partisan relations will improve.

The new national survey from Pew Research Center, conducted Nov. 7-13 among 9,451 adults, finds that 61% say Democratic leaders in Congress will be unsuccessful in getting their programs passed into law – but about as many (63%) say Trump will be unsuccessful in getting *his* programs enacted.

Majorities say both Trump and Democratic leaders will be unsuccessful in getting their programs enacted over the next two years

% who say ____ will be successful or unsuccessful in getting their programs passed into law over the next two years



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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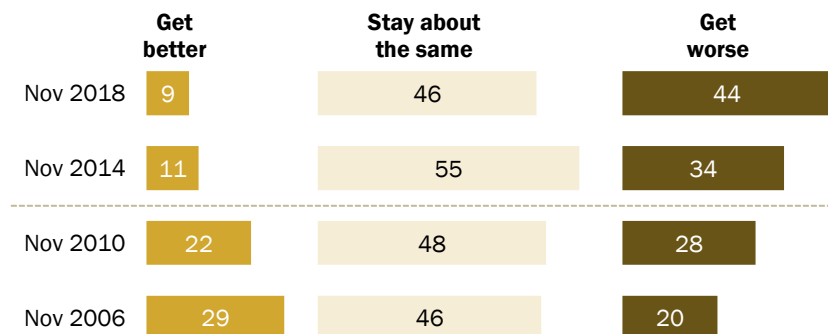
While the Democratic Party gained a majority in the House, but not the Senate, in the Nov. 6 elections, Democrats are divided over the party's legislative prospects: 49% of Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents say Democratic leaders will be successful, while an identical share says they won't. Republicans and Republican leaners are somewhat more positive about Trump's prospects, with 55% saying he will be successful in getting his programs into law.

The public's pessimism about partisan relations in Washington is now higher than it was after the three prior midterm elections.

More than four-in-ten (44%) expect relations between Republicans and Democrats in Washington will get worse in the coming year. In 2014, after the GOP won full control of Congress, 34% said partisan relations would worsen and in 2006, after Democrats won majorities in the House and Senate, just 20% expressed this view.

More Americans expect partisan relations to get worse than did so after three prior midterms

% who say relations between Republicans and Democrats in Washington will ___ in the coming year



Notes: 2018 and 2014 surveys conducted online on the American Trends Panel; 2010 and 2006 polls conducted via telephone. No answer not shown.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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(Note: This is the first time the full post-election survey has been conducted on Pew Research Center's nationally representative American Trends Panel. Prior to 2018, the survey was conducted by telephone. The current survey is comparable to past surveys, though asking questions online can elicit somewhat different response patterns, including lower shares expressing no response on web surveys.)

Trends and mode changes

Results for the 2018 post-election report are based on surveys conducted through Pew Research Center's American Trends Panel – a probability-based, nationally representative panel of U.S. adults administered online. Many of the trends presented in this report, however, draw upon surveys that were conducted by telephone.

Results from self-administered (online) and interviewer-administered (telephone) surveys are sometimes different – even when questions are worded the same. This difference is called a mode effect, which is a difference in responses to a survey question attributable to the mode in which the question is administered.

Though research suggests that mode effects do not usually result in very large differences in responses, they may account for some of the differences in results. A common mode effect is that online surveys, compared with interviewer-administered surveys, tend to find a lower incidence of item nonresponse (e.g., fewer "don't know" responses) when an explicit "don't know" or "no opinion" option is not offered.

Most Pew Research Center surveys do not offer explicit "don't know" or "no opinion" options, and while respondents can volunteer the equivalent of this response, those taking surveys online tend to be less likely to do so (in a self-administered survey, this is equivalent to skipping the question). In addition, interviewer-administered surveys allow the option of substantive volunteered responses (such as "both" or "neither") for some questions, while self-administered surveys are not able to capture these types of responses.

Findings in this report that draw upon trend data from telephone surveys will be clearly labeled in footnotes and the topline. For more information about mode effects, click [here](#).

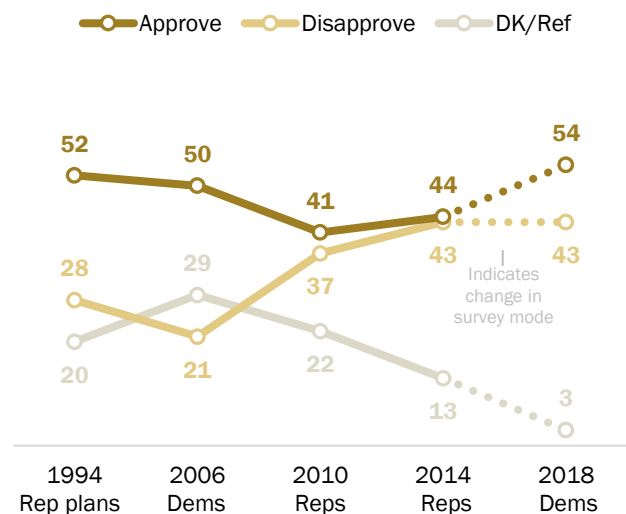
After the Democrats' victory in the House, the public approves of Democratic leaders' plans and policies for the future – and prefers the Democrats' approach to Trump's on most specific issues, including the environment, health care and immigration.

Overall, 54% approve of Democratic congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future, while 43% disapprove. Opinions about GOP leaders' policies were more divided after the 2010 election, when Republicans won the House, and after the 2014 midterm, when Republicans won full control of Congress.

When asked whether Democratic congressional leaders or Trump "should take the lead in solving the nation's problems," more say Democratic leaders should have a lead role. A majority of adults (55%) say Democratic leaders should take the lead in solving the nation's

Majority of Americans approve of Democratic leaders' policies and plans

% who say they approve of ___ congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future



Note: 2018 survey conducted online on the American Trends Panel; polls from 1994-2014 conducted via telephone.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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problems, while 43% say Trump should take the lead.

When a separate group of respondents was given the option of whether *both* Trump and Democrat leaders should take the lead, a 54% majority say they should. Among the remainder, more say Democratic leaders (28%) than Trump (17%) should take the lead in addressing national problems.

Congressional Democrats hold especially wide leads over Trump – of at least 20 percentage points – on their approaches to the environment, ethics in government, Medicare, health care and Social Security. The Democrats are preferred by smaller margins on foreign policy, immigration policy and gun policy.

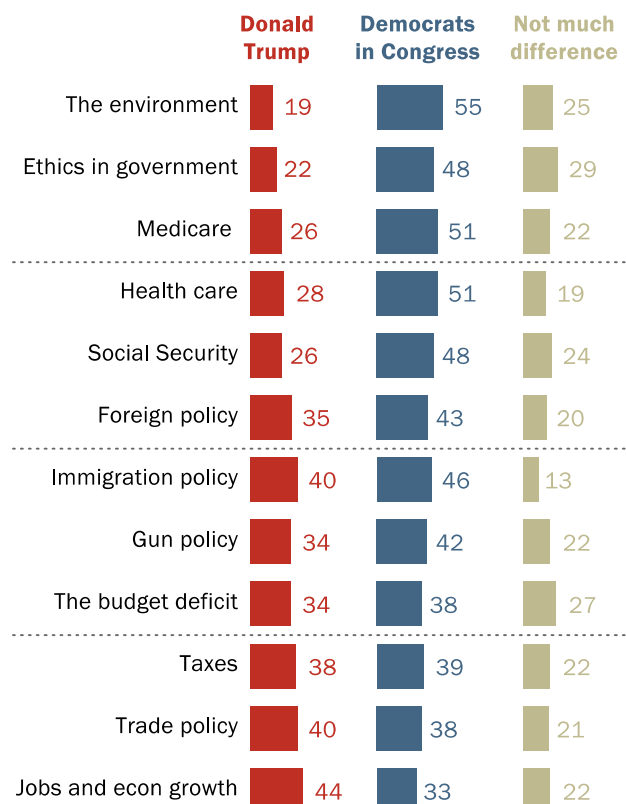
Trump has a significant advantage on only one of the 12 issues: 44% say he will have a better approach to jobs and economic growth, while 33% say congressional Democrats will have a better approach; 22% say there will be little difference.

These opinions are divided along partisan lines, with Republicans generally preferring Trump’s approach and Democrats favoring congressional Democrats.

However, fewer than half of Republicans say Trump has better approaches than congressional Democrats when it comes to the environment (41%) and ethics in government (46%). Among Democrats, majorities say congressional Democrats have the better approach on all 12 issues.

Public prefers Democrats in Congress to Trump on range of issues

% who say ____ will have the better approach to ...



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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Mixed reactions to the 2018 midterms

A majority of Americans – including majorities in both parties – found something to like about the overall results of the congressional elections. Nearly six-in-ten (57%) say they are happy with the results of recent elections across the U.S.; 41% say they are unhappy.

Notably, nearly as many Republicans (55%) as Democrats (60%) say they are happy with the results of the elections.

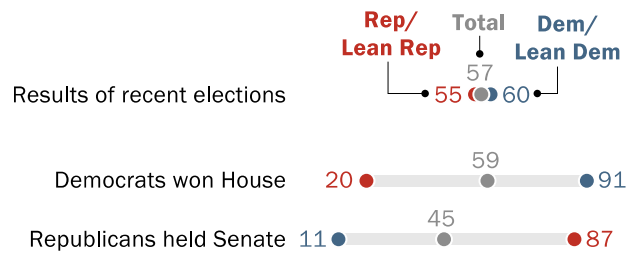
Yet partisans express very different views of results of the elections for the House and Senate. Overall, 59% of Americans are happy

the Democrats won the House, while 38% are unhappy. By contrast, somewhat more are unhappy (52%) than happy (45%) that Republicans maintained control of the Senate.

An overwhelming share of Democrats (91%) say they are happy the Democrats won control of the House; 77% of Republicans are unhappy with this result. And while 87% of Republicans are happy about the GOP retaining its majority in the Senate, 86% of Democrats are unhappy that Republicans still maintain a Senate majority.

Majorities are ‘happy’ with results of midterms - and with Dems’ House win

% who say they are ‘happy’ about ...



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

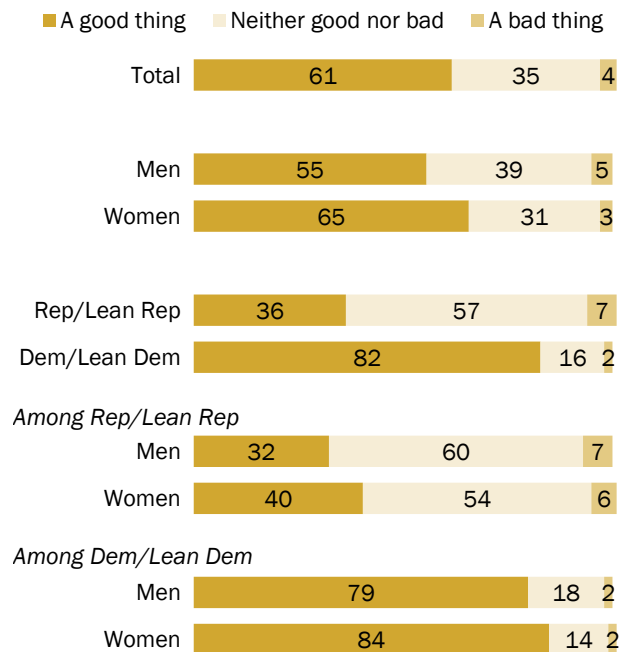
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[A record number of women will serve in the 116th Congress](#) when it convenes early next year, according to the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP), a unit of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University. A majority of Americans (61%) say this will be a good thing; just 4% say it will be a bad thing, while 35% say it will be neither good nor bad.

[As previous Pew Research Center surveys have shown](#), the partisan differences in views of women and leadership are wider than gender differences in these opinions. More than twice as many Democrats (82%) as Republicans (36%) say the record number of women who will serve in the 116th Congress – most of whom are Democrats – is a good thing. The gender gap is much more modest; 65% of women and 55% of men say the highest-ever number of women in Congress is a good thing.

Wide partisan gap in views of the record number of women in the new Congress

% who say it is ___ that a record number of women will be serving in Congress next year



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018

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Other major findings

Democrats divided on how far to go in investigating Trump administration. With the Democratic Party now in control of House committees, Democrats are divided on whether they are more concerned congressional Democrats will focus too much – or not enough – in investigating the Trump administration. About half of Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents (51%) say their bigger concern is that Democrats in Congress will not focus enough on investigating the administration; nearly as many (46%) say their bigger concern is they will focus too much on investigations.

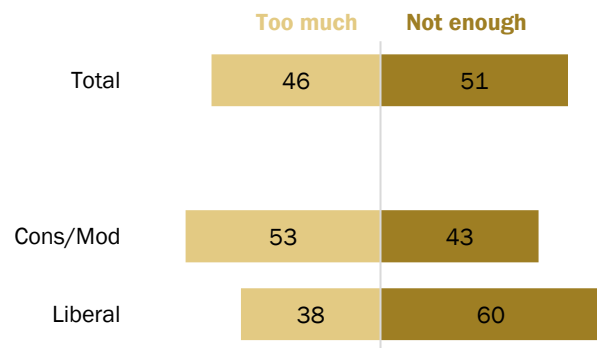
Liberal Democrats (60%) are more likely than conservative and moderate Democrats (43%) to say their greater concern is that congressional Democrats will focus too little on investigations of Trump and his administration.

Trump and the midterms. A majority of Republicans (60%) say Trump mostly helped GOP candidates in the House and Senate elections; just 9% say he mostly hurt Republican candidates, while 30% say he helped about as much as he hurt the party's candidates. While 69% of conservative Republicans – who make up about two-thirds of all Republicans and GOP leaners – say Trump mostly helped Republican candidates, just 45% of moderate and liberal Republicans say the same.

Trump and 2020. Most Republicans and Republican leaners (61%) say they would not like to see other Republican candidates challenge Trump for the party's presidential nomination in 2020, while 37% say they would like to see a challenge to the president. Democrats expressed similar opinions about a possible Democratic challenge to Barack Obama in 2012, after the Democrats lost their House majority in the 2010 midterm.

Democrats are split in concerns over investigations of Trump administration

% of Dem/Lean Dem who are more concerned congressional Democrats will focus ___ on investigating the Trump administration



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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1. The public's post-midterm outlook

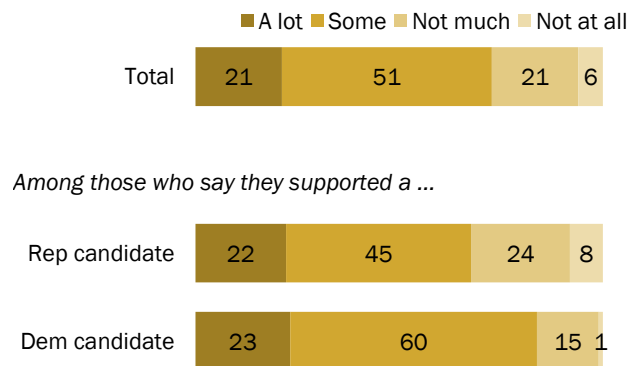
About seven-in-ten (72%) expect that Democratic control of the House of Representatives will lead to a lot (21%) or some (51%) change to the way things are going in the country today. Smaller shares say the Democratic House majority will lead to not much (21%) or no change at all (6%).

Expectations for change are somewhat higher than they were in November 2014. Four years ago, a telephone survey found that 58% of the public expected at least some change to the way things were going in the country, following the GOP winning control of the Senate and expanding their majority in the House.

Among those who say they voted in the midterm election and supported a Democratic candidate, 84% say they expect at least some change as a result of the Democrats gaining a House majority (though just 23% expect a lot of change). Among voters who supported a Republican candidate, 67% expect at least some change to the country following the results of the midterm elections.

Most expect Democratic House victory to lead to at least some change in U.S.

% who say Democratic control of the House will change the country ...



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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The public has low expectations for the legislative agendas of both Donald Trump and Democratic leaders in Congress. By 63% to 35%, more say Trump will be unsuccessful than successful in getting his programs passed into law over the next two years. Opinions about whether Democratic congressional leaders will be successful are similar: 61% think they will be unsuccessful, while 36% say they will be successful.

Public doubts about Democratic leaders' chances of passing legislation are greater today than they were for Republican leaders in 2010, shortly after the GOP won a majority in the House. A

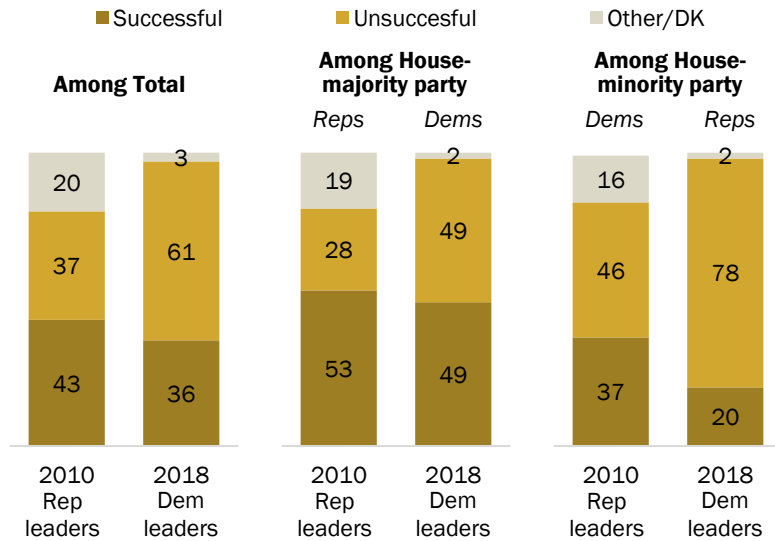
telephone survey in November 2010 found that 43% thought Republican leaders in Congress would be successful getting their programs passed into law, compared with slightly fewer (37%) who thought they would be unsuccessful; 20% volunteered that they did not know if they would be successful or that they would have mixed success.

Currently, Democrats are divided over whether the new House majority will have legislative success (49% say Democrats will be successful, while as many say they will be unsuccessful). Republicans overwhelmingly say House Democrats will be unsuccessful (78% say this).

After the GOP's House victory in 2010, more Republicans said their party's House majority would be successful than unsuccessful (53% vs. 28%). At that time, 37% of Democrats expected the GOP would be successful, while 46% said they would be unsuccessful.

Broader doubts about Democratic legislative prospects today than for GOP in 2010

% who say leaders of majority party in House will be ___ in getting their programs passed into law



Notes: 2018 survey conducted online on the American Trends Panel; 2010 poll conducted via telephone. Partisans include those who lean to the party
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

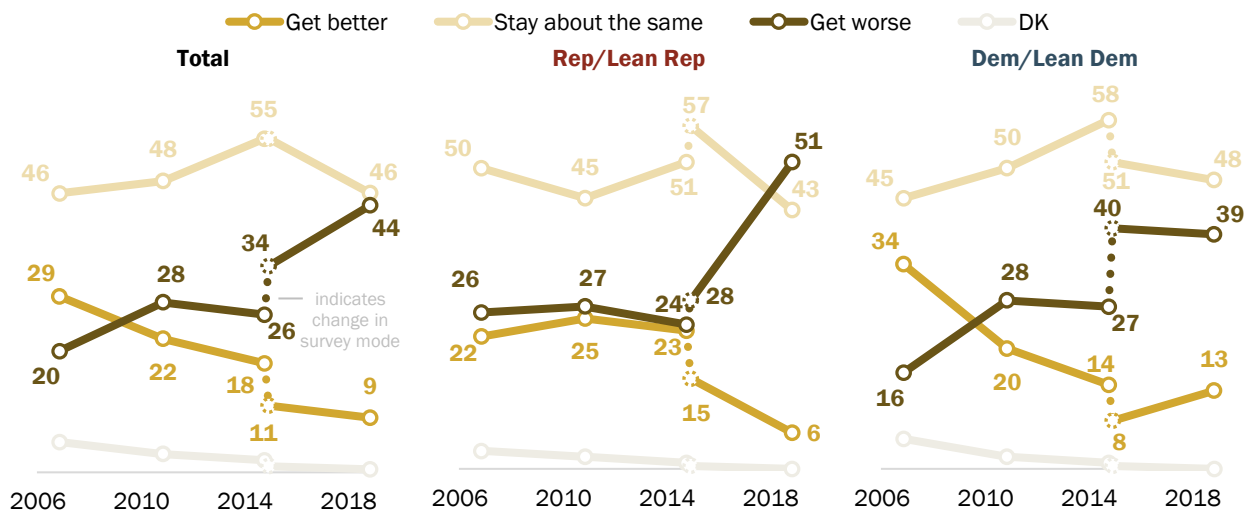
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Very few expect partisan relations in Washington to improve

The public is skeptical about the future of relations between Republicans and Democrats in Washington: More than four-in-ten (44%) expect relations between the two parties to worsen in the coming year, while 46% say they will stay about the same; just 9% expect bipartisan relations to improve. This is the most pessimistic public outlook for partisan relations in midterm post-election surveys dating back to 2006.

Public more pessimistic about improved partisan relations than after prior midterms

% who say relations between Republicans and Democrats in Washington will ___ in the coming year



Note: 2018 survey conducted online on the American Trends Panel; 2014 survey conducted online and via telephone. Prior surveys conducted via telephone.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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Republicans, in particular, have a negative outlook about partisan relations in the year ahead, with 51% saying relations will get worse, 43% expecting them to stay the same, and just 6% saying they will improve. Following the prior three midterms – even after 2006, when Democrats won the House and Senate – fewer than a third of Republicans expected relations to worsen.

Among Democrats, predictions for bipartisan relations over the next year are little different than they were following the 2014 election: 39% expect relations to worsen, 48% expect little change, while 13% say they will improve.

Who should take the lead in Washington?

When asked whether Trump or Democratic congressional leaders should take the lead in solving the nation's problems, 55% of Americans say Democrats, while 43% say Trump.

In 2006, when Democrats gained control of both chambers of Congress for the first time in more than a decade, more said

Democrats (51%), rather than George W. Bush (29%), should take the lead.

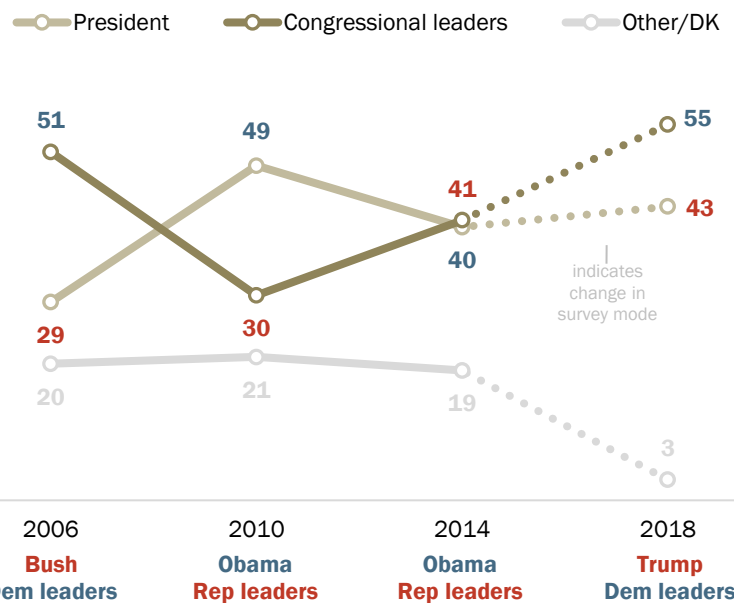
Four years later, after Republicans gained control of the House, 49% said Obama should take the lead, while 30% said GOP leaders. After the previous midterm election in 2014, when the GOP regained control of the Senate and held the House, the public was split over who should take the lead (41% GOP leaders, 40% Obama).

Trends from 2014 and earlier are from telephone surveys, and roughly 20% in these years volunteered another response (such as both, neither, or don't know). The current survey has a new version of the question that asks whether Democratic leaders, Trump, or both, should take the

lead in solving the nation's problems. In this version of the question, just over half of Americans (54%) say both the president and Democratic leaders should take the lead; among the remainder, more say Democrats (28%) should take the lead than Trump (17%).

More want Democratic congressional leaders than Trump to take lead in solving the nation's problems

% who say they would like ___ to take the lead in solving the nation's problems



Note: 2018 survey conducted online on the American Trends Panel; prior surveys conducted via telephone.

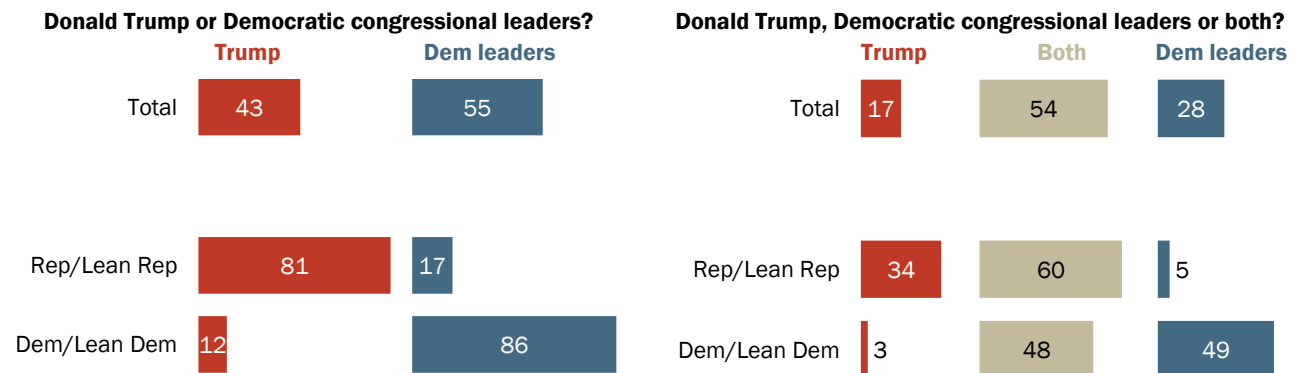
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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In both versions of the question, Democrats are more likely to say Democratic leaders should take the lead than Republicans are to say Trump should. And when offered the option of saying both Trump and Democratic leaders should take the lead, more Republicans (60%) than Democrats (48%) say both sides should solve problems.

Partisan divide over who should 'take the lead,' but when given the option, a majority says it should be *both* Trump and Democratic leaders

Who in Washington do you think should take the lead in solving the nation's problems? (%)



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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Majority wants Trump to cooperate with Democratic leaders in Congress

Majorities want to see efforts at cooperation from Trump and Democratic leaders in Congress. But a larger majority says Trump should cooperate with Democratic leaders than says they should cooperate with Trump.

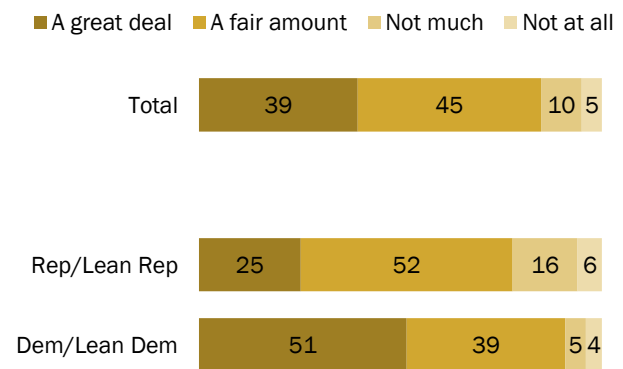
Overall, 84% say that Trump should cooperate either a great deal (39%) or a fair amount (45%) with Democratic leaders in Congress over the next two years. A smaller majority (65%) says Democratic leaders should cooperate with Trump at least a fair amount.

Nine-in-ten Democrats and Democratic leaners think that Trump should cooperate with congressional Democrats at least a fair amount – including 51% who say he should do a great deal to cooperate. Most Republicans and Republican leaners (77%) also favor at least some cooperation from Trump, though just 25% say he should cooperate a great deal.

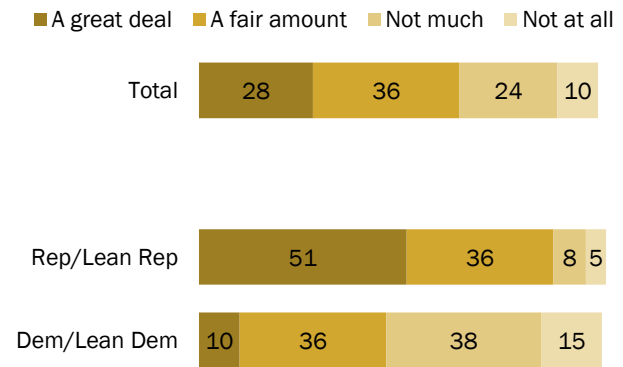
While Republicans support Trump cooperating with Democratic leaders in Congress, Democrats are divided over whether their congressional leaders should cooperate with Trump. Overall, 46% of Democrats say Democratic leaders in Congress should cooperate with Trump at least a fair amount over the next two years; a slightly greater share (53%) says they should cooperate not much or not at all. A broad majority of Republicans (87%) say Democratic leaders in Congress should cooperate with Trump over the next two years.

Democrats divided over whether party leaders should cooperate with Trump

% who say Trump should cooperate with Democratic leaders in Congress ___ over the next two years



% who say Democratic leaders in Congress should cooperate with Trump ___ over the next two years



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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Democrats divided in concerns about investigating Trump

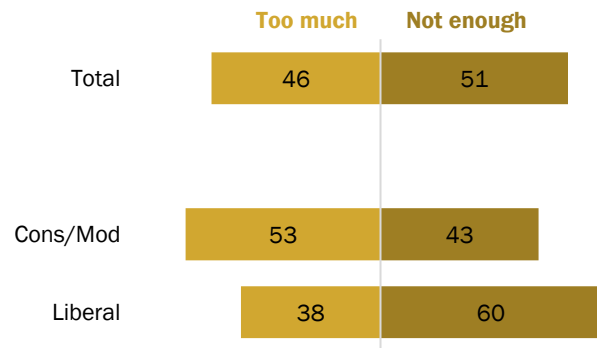
Having won a majority in the House, Democrats are divided in concerns about how congressional Democrats will investigate the Trump administration. About half of Democrats and Democratic leaners (51%) say they are more concerned that Democrats in Congress will not focus enough on investigating the Trump administration, while 46% say they are more concerned Democratic leaders will focus too much on investigations.

A majority of liberal Democrats (60%) say they are more concerned that Democrats in Congress will not focus enough on investigating the Trump administration; far fewer (38%) say their greater concern is that congressional Democrats will focus too much on investigations.

By contrast, 53% of conservative and moderate Democrats say their greater concern is that congressional Democrats will focus too much on investigating the Trump administration; 43% say they are more concerned that Democrats in Congress will not focus enough on investigating the administration.

Democrats are split in concerns over investigations of Trump administration

% of Dem/Lean Dem who are more concerned congressional Democrats will focus ___ on investigating the Trump administration



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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2. Reactions to the midterm elections

In the wake of last week's election, 57% of Americans say that – all in all – they are happy with the results; 41% say they are unhappy.

This is similar to the 59% majority who say they are happy the Democratic Party won control of the House of Representatives (38% say they are unhappy). But when it comes to the GOP maintaining control of the Senate, somewhat more say they are unhappy than happy (52% vs. 45%).

There is only a modest partisan gap in overall reactions to the outcome of the election: 60% of Democrats and 55% of Republicans say they are happy with the overall outcome.

But conservative Republicans offer somewhat less positive overall evaluations of the election than other partisan and ideological groups: 51% are happy, while a similar share (48%) are unhappy.

Majority is happy with outcome of elections across the U.S.

% who say they are ___ with ...

	Unhappy	Happy
Results of recent elections	41	57

% who say they are ___ that ...

Democrats won House	38	59
Republicans held Senate	52	45

Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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Modest partisan gap in overall happiness about the election results

% who say they are ___ with the results of the recent elections

	Unhappy	Happy
Total	41	57
Rep/Lean Rep	43	55
Conserv	48	51
Mod/Lib	36	62
Dem/Lean Dem	38	60
Cons/Mod	38	59
Liberal	39	60

Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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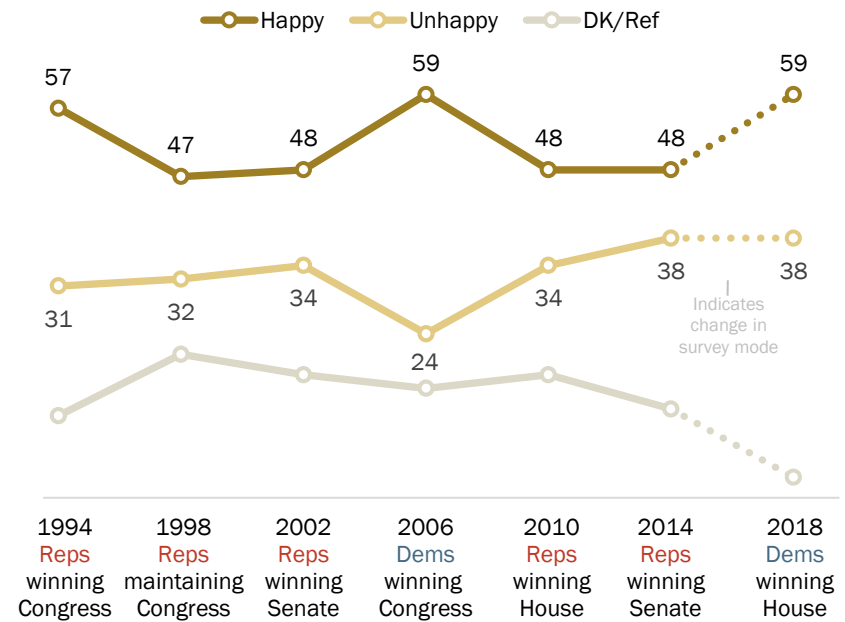
In evaluations of midterms since 1994, the public has generally been more happy than unhappy about a change of power in a congressional chamber. This pattern holds true for the 2018 election.

As in the past, an overwhelming majority of those who back the party that has regained control of a chamber express happiness about this: 91% of Democrats and Democratic leaners say they are happy about their party winning the House. About three-quarters of Republicans and Republican leaners (77%) are unhappy about this change.

Conversely, while 87% of Republicans and Republican leaners are happy the GOP maintained control of the Senate, almost the same share of Democrats (86%) are unhappy about this.

Public generally has more positive than negative reactions to shifts in congressional control

How do you feel about the _____ ? (%)



Note: See topline for full question wording and trends.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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Overall, 40% of Americans say they are relieved about the Democratic Party gaining control of the House; slightly fewer 34% say they are disappointed. And while about two-in-ten (19%) say they are excited, just 5% say they are angry about this outcome.

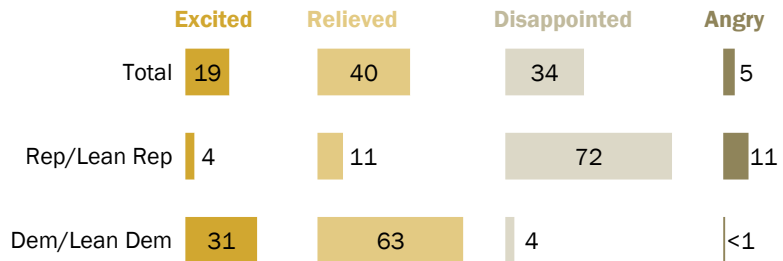
Most Republicans and Republican leaners (72%) say they are disappointed about Democrats gaining control of the House, while just 11% say they are angry; 11% say they are relieved about this outcome (4% are excited).

A 63% majority of Democrats and Democratic leaners say they are relieved by their party's victory in congressional races; about a third (31%) express excitement that their party is back in the majority in the House. And few Democrats say they are disappointed (4%) or angry (less than 1%) about this development.

These reactions are very similar to how Republicans and Democrats expected to feel about this outcome before the election. For instance, in October, 61% of Democrats said they would be relieved if the Democratic Party regained control of the House and 68% of Republicans said they would be disappointed if this happened.

Among Republicans, more disappointment than anger over Democrats winning House majority

% who say they are ___ about the Democratic Party gaining control of the U.S. House of Representatives



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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Most Americans know Democrats will have House majority

About seven-in-ten Americans (69%) know that the Democratic Party won the most seats nationwide in this month's elections for the House of Representatives, while 22% say they don't know which party won more seats. There is far less certainty about which party won the most votes nationwide for the House: About four-in-ten (41%) say they do not know, while about half (51%) know more votes for Congress were cast for Democratic candidates than for Republican candidates.

Republicans (68%) and Democrats (72%) are about equally likely to know who will control the House in January, while Democrats (58%) are more likely than Republicans to know Democratic candidates received more votes nationwide (44%).

Most aware Dems won House majority; fewer know which party won most votes

Do you know which party ___ nationwide in contests for the U.S. House? (%)

	Dem Party	Rep Party	Don't know
Won most seats	69	9	22
Received most votes	51	8	41
<i>Among Rep/Lean Rep</i>			
Won most seats	68	10	21
Received most votes	44	11	44
<i>Among Dem/Lean Dem</i>			
Won most seats	72	8	20
Received most votes	58	6	35

Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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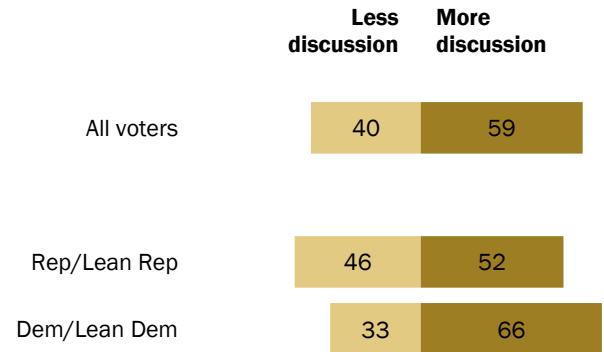
Majority says 2018 was more about issues compared with past elections

About six-in-ten (59%) say there was more discussion of issues this campaign compared to past elections. Four-in-ten (40%) say there was less discussion of issues this year than in the past.

Democrats are more likely than Republicans to say the campaign was more substantive than in the past: Roughly two-thirds of Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents (66%) say there was more discussion of issues; just 33% say there was less. Republicans and Republican-leaning independents are more divided in their evaluations: 52% say there was more focus on issues than in the past, 46% say less.

Dems more likely than Reps to say more discussion of issues this year than past

% of voters who say that, compared to past elections, there was ___ of issues in this campaign



Notes: Based on those who voted in the election.

No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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3. Confidence in vote count and election administration

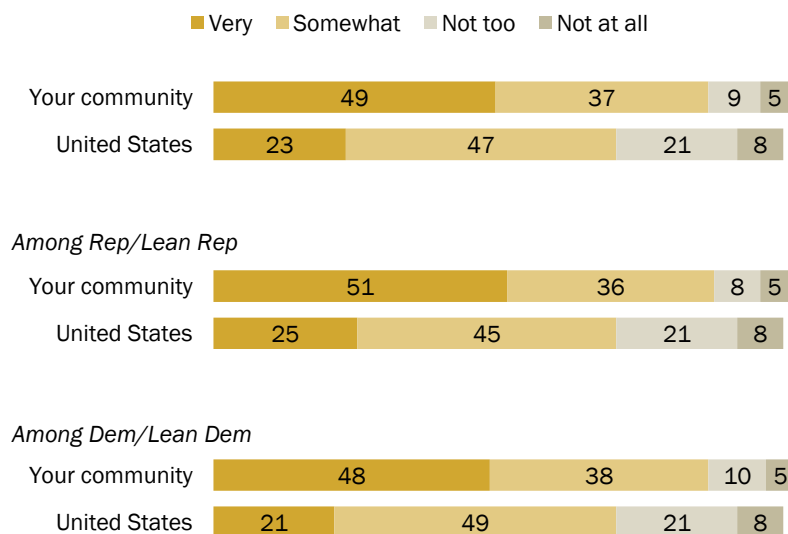
Most Americans are at least somewhat confident that votes were counted as voters intended in the midterm elections both in their local communities and across the United States. More than eight-in-ten (86%) say that they are at least somewhat confident that votes in their local community were counted accurately and seven-in-ten (70%) say the same about votes across the country.

Overall, there are no partisan differences in confidence about the vote count: 87% of Republicans and Republican leaners, and a similar share of Democrats and Democratic leaners (86%) say they are at least somewhat confident that votes in their local communities were counted accurately. Views of elections across the country also differ little by party.

Overall confidence that votes *were* counted as intended are similar to confidence that votes *would* be counted as intended in [a survey conducted about a month before the election](#).

Overall, no partisan differences in confidence about how votes were counted in the midterms

How confident are you that votes in _____ were counted as voters intended in the elections? (%)



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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A majority of Republicans and Republican leaners (70%) are very or somewhat confident that votes across the U.S. were counted as intended. That is slightly lower than the share of Republicans who expressed confidence in an accurate vote count before the election (77%).

Democrats' confidence in the vote count across the country is little different than before the election. As a result, while Republicans had expressed slightly more confidence than Democrats before the election, there is now no partisan divide in these views.

When it comes to confidence in the vote count in their local communities, Democrats are now slightly more confident than they were before the election (86% at least somewhat confident, up from 81% in October).

Post-election confidence in accurate vote count is little changed from before the election

How confident are you that votes _____ were counted as voters intended in the elections? (%)

	In your community			Across the United States		
	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Total	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Total
Post-election	49	37	86	23	47	70
Pre-election	42	40	82	25	47	72
<i>Among Rep/Lean Rep</i>						
Post-election	51	36	87	25	45	70
Pre-election	48	37	86	30	47	77
<i>Among Dem/Lean Dem</i>						
Post-election	48	38	86	21	49	70
Pre-election	38	43	81	21	49	69

Note: The pre-election survey asked confidence that votes "will be counted as voters intend."
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

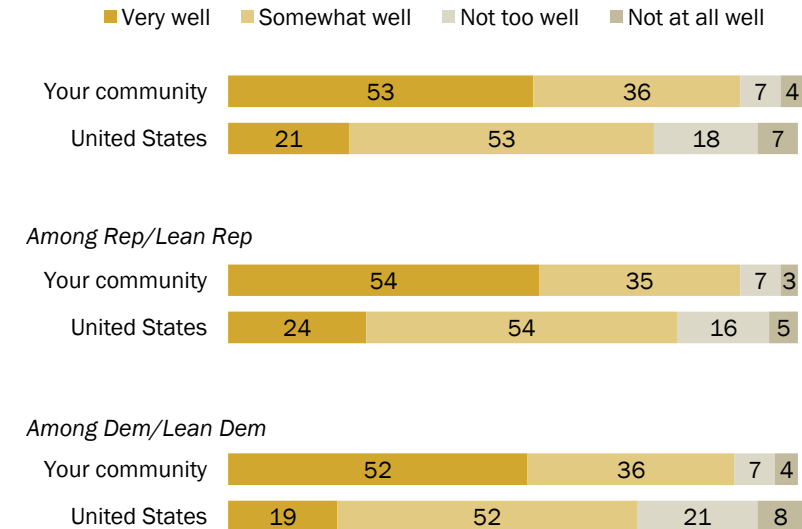
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Views about election administration follow a similar pattern: 89% say elections were run at least somewhat well in their communities (53% say very well), while 74% say elections across the country were run and administered at least somewhat well (21% very well).

While there are no partisan differences in overall views of election administration in their communities, Democrats remain somewhat less likely than Republicans to say elections across the country were run and administered at least somewhat well (71% vs. 78%).

Far more say elections were run ‘very well’ locally than nationally

Do you think the elections in _____ were run and administered ... (%)



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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While about half of Americans overall say that they are very confident votes in their community were counted accurately, that figure is somewhat lower among those living in states with gubernatorial or senatorial races where the outcome had not yet been determined when the survey was in the field.

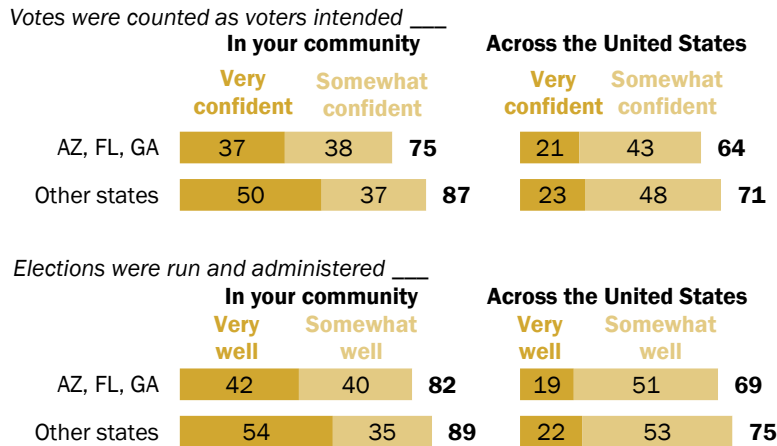
Residents of Arizona, Florida and Georgia express less confidence in the way votes were counted in their communities compared with those in other states: 75% say they are at least somewhat confident votes in their community were counted accurately, including 37% who say they are “very confident.

By comparison, 87% of those in other states say they are at least somewhat confident in

vote counts in their community, including 50% who say they are very confident. The pattern is similar, though less pronounced, in views of election administration in their states and in views about elections across the country. *Note: The sampling design and sample sizes at the state level does not allow for reporting within individual states; however, in a model (also controlling for key demographics), confidence is lower in these individual states than in other states.*

Those in Arizona, Florida, and Georgia less confident in vote accuracy than those living in other states

% who say ...



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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4. Trump, the 2018 election and beyond

Nearly two-thirds of those who say they voted in the midterm elections (64%) say Trump was a consideration in their vote, while 35% say the president was not much of a factor. Overall, 39% say their vote was a vote against Trump, while fewer (25%) say their choice was a vote for Trump.

These views are similar to those expressed in a survey conducted before the election:

In September, 60% of registered voters said they

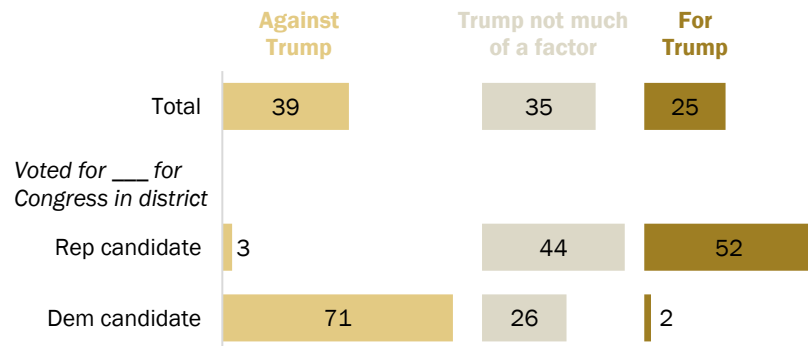
viewed their vote as either a vote against Trump (37%) or for him (23%).

Among those who reported voting for Democratic candidates, 71% characterize their vote as a vote against Trump, while about a quarter (26%) say he was not a factor.

Among those who voted for GOP congressional candidates, about half (52%) say their vote for Congress was a vote in support of Trump, while 44% say he was not a factor.

Large majority of Democratic voters say their midterm vote was 'against' Trump

% of voters who say their vote for Congress in their district was ...



Notes: Based on those who voted in the election. No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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Republicans say Trump ‘mostly helped’ GOP congressional candidates

A majority of Republicans and Republican leaners (60%) say Trump mostly helped Republican candidates in the House and Senate around the country. Three-in-ten said Trump helped about as much as he hurt, while 9% say he mostly hurt GOP candidates.

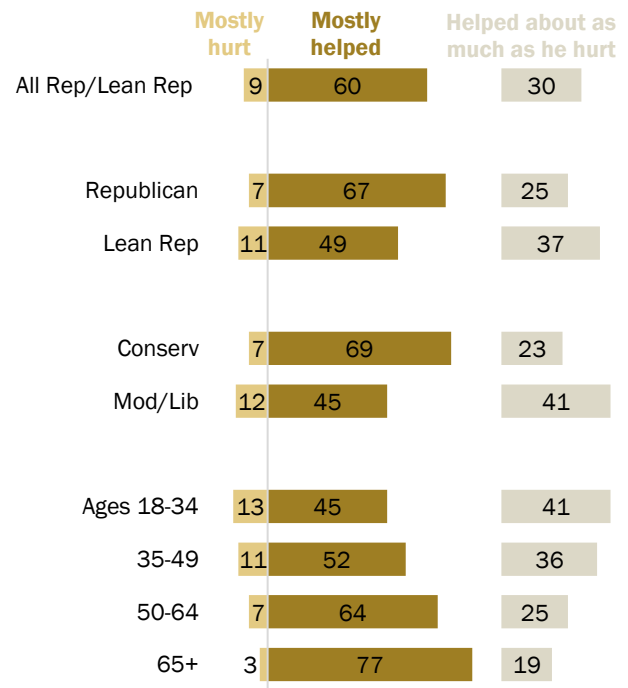
Independents who lean toward the Republican Party are less likely than GOP identifiers to say Trump boosted the electoral prospects of Republican candidates. About half of Republican-leaning independents (49%) say Trump mostly helped Republican candidates, compared with two-thirds (67%) of those who identify as Republicans.

Older Republicans are significantly more likely than younger Republicans to see Trump’s impact on GOP candidates as beneficial. Majorities of Republicans ages 65 and older (77%) and 50 to 64 (64%) say Trump mostly helped Republican candidates. About half of those ages 35 to 49 (52%) say he mostly helped, while 36% say he helped as much as he hurt.

Republicans under 35 (45%) are far less likely to say Trump’s impact on candidates was mostly helpful. About four-in-ten say Trump had a mixed (41%) effect, and 13% say he did more to hurt Republican congressional candidates around the country.

Older and younger Republicans differ on Trump’s impact on GOP candidates

% of Rep/Lean Rep who say Trump ___ Republican candidates in the House and Senate around the country



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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Majority of Republicans oppose GOP challenge to Trump in 2020

A majority of Republicans and Republican leaners (61%) say they would not like to see other Republican candidates challenge Trump for the party's nomination for president in 2020. Four-in-ten Republicans (37%) said they would like to see a GOP challenger.

This is roughly on par with views of Obama among Democrats after the 2010 midterm elections, when the party lost its majority in the House of Representatives.

Following the 2010 election, 38% of Democrats and Democratic leaners said they would like to see other Democratic candidates challenge Barack Obama for the Party's nomination in 2012. A majority (58%) said they would not like to see another Democrat challenge Obama.

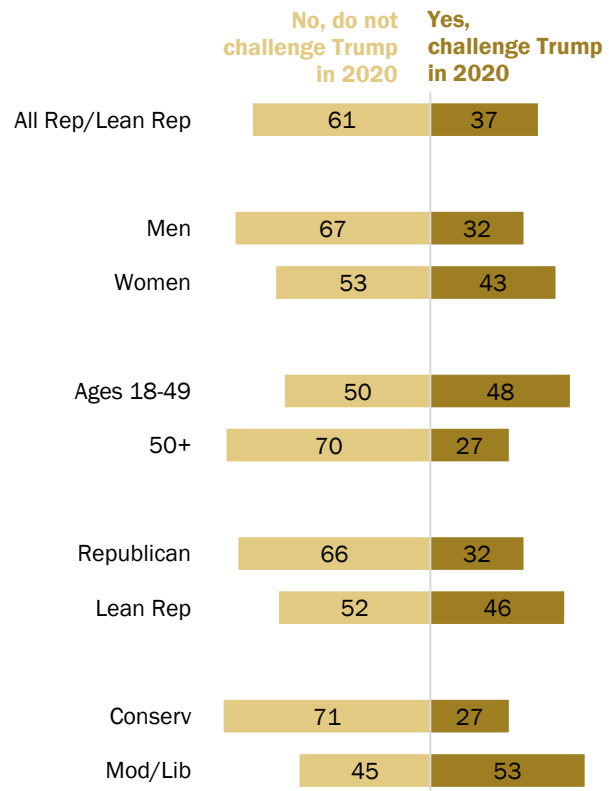
Currently, there are large differences among Republicans by gender and age when it comes to a potential GOP challenger to Trump in 2020.

Two-thirds of GOP men (67%) say they would not like a Republican candidate to challenge Trump for their party's nomination. In contrast, 53% of Republican women say they would not like a GOP candidate to challenge Trump, while 43% say they would like another GOP candidate to challenge Trump in 2020.

Republicans ages 50 and older are considerably more likely than those under 50 to say Trump should not be challenged in 2020. Seven-in-ten of those over 50 say this, compared with just half of Republicans under 50.

Republicans divided by age and gender on 2020 nomination challenge to Trump

Would you like to see other Republican candidates challenge Trump for the 2020 nomination? (%)



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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And while a majority of conservative Republicans (71%) say they would *not* like a candidate to challenge Trump, far fewer moderate and liberal Republicans (45%) say the same.

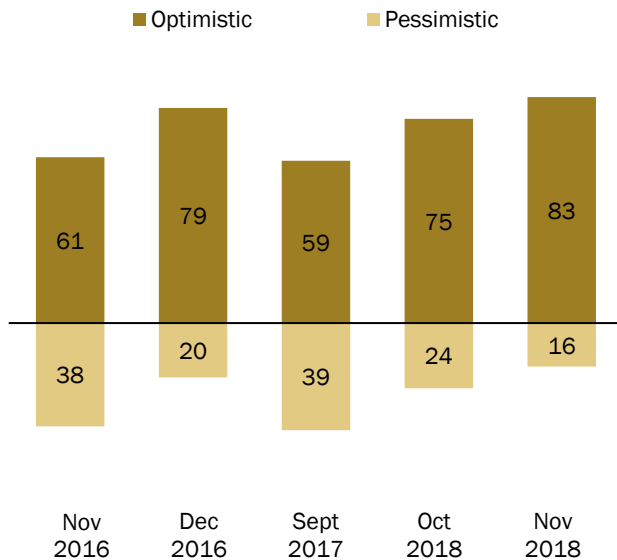
Both Republicans and Democrats continue to be optimistic about the future of their parties

The results of the midterm election had little effect on partisans’ feelings about the future of their parties. Most Republicans and Republican leaners (83%) are optimistic about the future of the GOP, while a comparable share of Democrats and Democratic leaners (81%) are optimistic about the future of the Democratic Party.

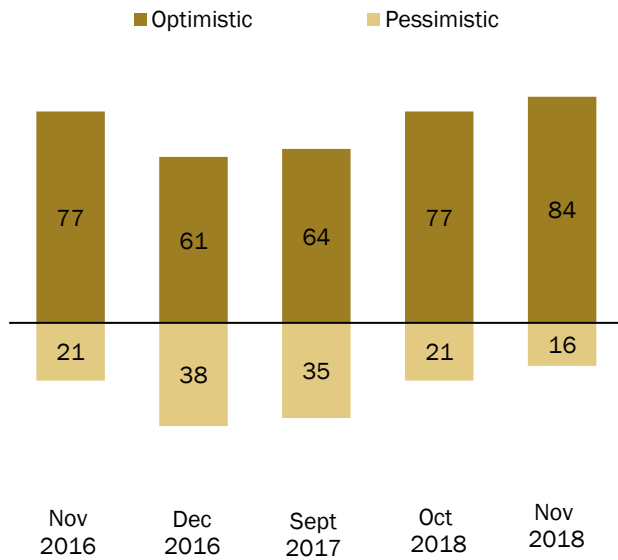
Republicans are slightly more positive about their party’s future than they were just prior to the midterm election (83% today vs. 75% in October). Democrats are about as optimistic about their party’s future as they were in October (77% then vs. 81% now).

After midterms, partisans continue to be optimistic about the future of their parties

% of Republicans and Republican leaners who are ____ about the future of Republican Party



% of Democrats and Democratic leaners who are ____ about the future of Democratic Party



Note: No answer not shown.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

5. Views on whether Trump or Democrats have a better approach on issues

When asked if Donald Trump or Democrats in Congress will have the better approach to a range of specific issues – or whether there’s not much difference between the two – the public prefers the approach of Democrats in many areas.

For example, 55% of the public says Democrats will have a better approach to the environment, while 19% think Trump’s approach will be better. A quarter says there won’t be much difference between the two.

On ethics in government, about half (48%) say Democrats will have a better approach, compared with just 22% who say Trump will have a better approach. Nearly three-in-ten (29%) say there’s not much difference between the respective approaches.

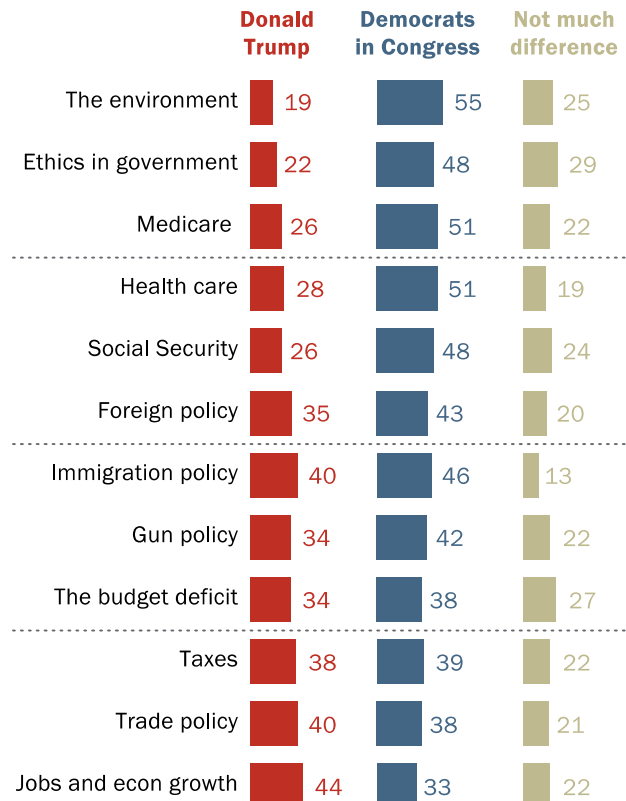
The pattern of opinion is similar in attitudes toward Medicare, health care, and Social Security, with pluralities favoring the approach of Democrats over Trump.

When asked about immigration policy, 46% say the Democrats in Congress have the better approach, compared with 40% who say Trump has the better approach. A relatively smaller share (13%) says there’s not much difference between the two.

Neither Trump nor Democrats in Congress receive a plurality of support for their approach toward the budget deficit – 34% say Trump’s approach will be better, 38% say Democrats’ approach will be better, and 27% say there will not be much difference. The pattern is similar in Americans’ views of taxes and trade.

Public prefers Democrats in Congress to Trump on range of issues

% who say ____ will have the better approach to ...



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

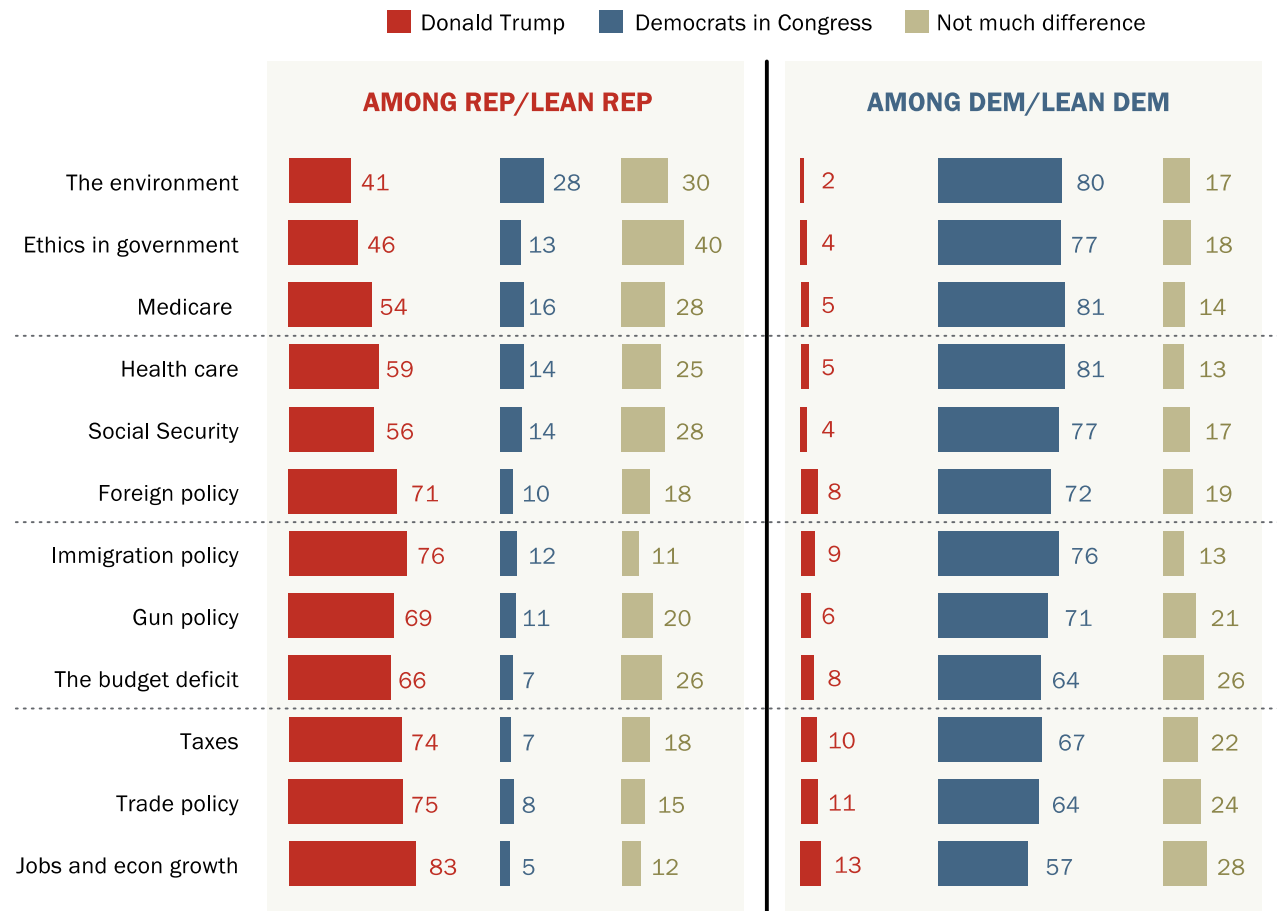
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Jobs and economic growth is the one area where more Americans prefer Trump’s approach to that of Democrats (44% to 33%). Still, 22% say there’s not much difference between the two.

While Republicans and Democrats generally prefer the approach of actors from their own political party, there are some issues for which in-party support is more modest than others.

Republicans divided on whether Trump’s approach to ethics in government is better than congressional Democrats’

% who say ___ will have the better approach to ...



Note: No answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Nov. 7-13, 2018.

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About eight-in-ten Republicans and Republican leaners (83%) say Trump will have the better approach to jobs and economic growth, while 5% say Democrats' approach will be better and 12% say neither approach will be better. Large shares of Republicans also prefer Trump's approach to immigration, taxes, trade policy, foreign policy and gun policy.

However, when Republicans are asked who will have the better approach to ethics in government, fewer than half (46%) say Trump. About one-in-ten (13%) say Democrats will have the better approach, while fully 40% of Republicans say there will be no difference between the two.

And on the environment, just 41% of Republicans think Trump will have a better approach than Democrats. About three-in-ten (28%) think Democrats will have a better approach and another 30% say there won't be much difference between the two.

Majorities of Democrats and Democratic leaners prefer the approach of congressional Democrats across all 12 issues included in the survey. However, the size of this majority opinion does vary by issue.

On health care (81%), the environment (80%) and ethics in government (77%) large shares of Democrats say Democrats in Congress will have a better approach than Trump.

When it comes to jobs and economic growth, Democrats are somewhat less confident that Democrats in congress have the better approach: 57% say this, while 13% say Trump will have the better approach and nearly three-in-ten (28%) say neither approach is better than the other.

Acknowledgements

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Methodology

The American Trends Panel survey methodology

The American Trends Panel (ATP), created by Pew Research Center, is a nationally representative panel of randomly selected U.S. adults. Panelists participate via self-administered web surveys. Panelists who do not have internet access at home are provided with a tablet and wireless internet connection. The panel is being managed by Ipsos.

Data in this report are drawn from the panel wave conducted November 7-13, 2018.¹ A total of 9,451 panelists responded out of 13,570 who were sampled, for a response rate of 70%. The cumulative response rate

accounting for nonresponse to the recruitment surveys and attrition is 3.3%. The margin of sampling error for the full sample of 9,451 respondents is plus or minus 1.7 percentage points.

The ATP was created in 2014, with the first cohort of panelists invited to join the panel at the end of a large, national, landline and cellphone random-digit-dial

survey that was conducted in both English and Spanish. Two additional recruitments were conducted using the same method in 2015 and 2017, respectively. Across these three surveys, a total of 19,718 adults were invited to join the ATP, of which 9,942 agreed to participate.

In August 2018, the ATP switched from telephone to address-based recruitment. Invitations were sent to a random, address-based sample (ABS) of households selected from the U.S. Postal Service's Delivery Sequence File. In each household, the adult with the next birthday was asked to go online to complete a survey, at the end of which they were invited to join the panel. For a random half-sample of invitations, households without internet access were instructed to return a postcard. These households were contacted by telephone and sent a tablet if they agreed to

American Trends Panel recruitment surveys

Recruitment Dates	Mode	Invited	Joined	Active panelists remaining
Jan. 23 to March 16, 2014	Landline/ cell RDD	9,809	5,338	2,515
Aug. 27 to Oct. 4, 2015	Landline/ cell RDD	6,004	2,976	1,471
April 25 to June 4, 2017	Landline/ cell RDD	3,905	1,628	806
Aug. 8, 2018–Oct. 31, 2018	ABS/web	9,396	8,778	8,778
	Total	29,114	18,720	13,570

Note: Approximately once per year, panelists who have not participated in multiple consecutive waves or who did not complete an annual profiling survey are removed from the panel. Panelists also become inactive if they ask to be removed from the panel.

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¹ 72 surveys were completed on Nov. 13, 2018 before 8:30 am EST.

participate. A total of 9,396 were invited to join the panel, and 8,778 agreed to join the panel and completed an initial profile survey.

Of the 18,720 individuals who have ever joined the ATP, 13,570 remain active panelists and continue to receive survey invitations.

Weighting

The ATP data were weighted in a multistep process that begins with a base weight incorporating the respondents' original survey selection probability and the fact that in 2014 and 2017 some respondents were subsampled for invitation to the panel. For panelists recruited prior to 2018, an adjustment was made for the fact that the propensity to join the panel and remain an active panelist varied across different groups in the sample. No adjustment was made for new panelists from the 2018 recruitment. The final step in the weighting uses an iterative technique that aligns the sample to population benchmarks on the dimensions listed in the accompanying table.

Sampling errors and statistical-significance tests take into account the effect of weighting. Interviews are conducted in both English and Spanish, but the American Trends Panel's Hispanic sample is predominantly U.S. born and English speaking.

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.

Weighting dimensions

Variable	Benchmark source
Gender	2017 American Community Survey
Age	
Education	
Race/Hispanic origin	
Region x Metropolitan status	2018 CPS March Supplement
Volunteerism	2015 CPS Volunteer Supplement
Voter registration	2016 CPS Voting and Registration Supplement
Party affiliation	Average of the three most recent Pew Research Center telephone surveys.
Internet access	2018 Pew Research Center internet core trends telephone survey
Generic congressional ballot	Cook Political Report tally of national House vote (as of Nov. 13, 2018)

Note: Estimates from the ACS are based on non-institutionalized adults. Voter registration is calculated using procedures from Hur, Achen (2013) and rescaled to include the total US adult population.

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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:

Group	Unweighted sample size	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	9,451	1.7 percentage points
Midterm voters	7,703	1.8 percentage points
Half form	At least 4,717	2.4 percentage points
Quarter form	At least 2,347	3.4 percentage points
Republican/Lean Republican	3,851	2.5 percentage points
Democrat/Lean Democrat	5,277	2.4 percentage points

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

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**2018 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 39 NOVEMBER
FINAL TOPLINE
NOVEMBER 7-13, 2018
TOTAL N=9,451**

Note: In some cases, trends to prior years are to surveys conducted by telephone. This is noted throughout this topline.

ASK ALL:

POL1DT Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>		Sep 24- Oct 7, <u>2018</u>	Jul 30- Aug 12, <u>2018</u>	Jan 29- Feb 13, <u>2018</u>	Aug 8-21, <u>2017</u>	Apr 4-18, <u>2017</u>	Feb 28- Mar 12, <u>2017</u> ²
41	Approve	38	40	38	36	39	44
58	Disapprove	61	59	60	63	61	56
1	No Answer	2	2	2	1	1	1

ASK ALL:

VTHPPYUS All in all, are you happy or unhappy with the results of the recent elections that took place across the United States?

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>	
57	Happy
41	Unhappy
2	No Answer

ASK ALL:

VOTED_ATP Which of the following statements best describes you:

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=7,903]:

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>		Nov 29- Dec 12, <u>2016</u> ³
5	I did not vote in the 2018 congressional elections	5
8	I planned to vote but wasn't able to	4
87	I definitely voted in the 2018 congressional elections	90
*	No Answer	1

² The W24.5 Mode Study survey was administered by web and phone. Results reported here are from web mode only.

³ In 2016, the question asked about the 2016 presidential election.

ASK IF VOTED (VOTED_ATP=3):

CONGPOST In the elections this November for the U.S. House of Representatives, did you vote for **[Show in order of response: "the Republican Party's candidate" OR "the Democratic Party's candidate"]** for Congress in your district? **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]**

BASED ON VOTERS [N=7,703]:

Note: The survey was weighted to approximately reflect the margin of the election results. See methodology for more details.

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u> ⁴	
45	Republican Party's candidate
52	Democratic Party's candidate
2	Another party's candidate
1	No Answer

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK FORM 3 IF VOTED (FORM=3 AND VOTED_ATP=3):**

VOTEFORAGNST Would you say that your vote for Congress in your district was more...

BASED ON FORM 3 VOTERS [N=1,901]:

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>	
25	A vote FOR Trump
39	A vote AGAINST Trump
35	Trump was not much of a factor in your vote
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

HSKNWLDG Do you happen to know which party in the 2018 congressional elections... **[RANDOMIZE]**

- a. Received the most votes nationwide in contests for the U.S. House of Representatives?

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>	
8	Republican Party
51	Democratic Party
41	Don't know
1	No answer

- b. Won the most seats in the U.S. House of Representatives?

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>	
9	Republican Party
69	Democratic Party
22	Don't know
1	No answer

⁴ This survey was weighted to approximately reflect the margin of the election results.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**

HOUSEDRCT As you may know, the Democratic Party won control of the U.S. House of Representatives as a result of the midterm elections. How much do you think Democratic control of the House will change the way things are going in this country?

Nov 7-13,
2018

21	A lot
51	Some
21	Not much
6	Not at all
1	No answer

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

As you may know, the Republican Party won control of the Senate as a result of the midterm elections. Do you think Republican control of the Senate will change the way things are going in this country **[READ]**?

Nov 6-9,
2014

21	A lot
37	Some
19	Not much
20	Not at all
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK FORMS 1 AND 2 ONLY [N=4,717]:

DEM2YR Over the next two years, do you think Democratic leaders in Congress will be successful or unsuccessful in getting their programs passed into law?

Nov 7-13,
2018

36	Successful
61	Unsuccessful
3	No answer

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Generally, do you think Republican leaders in Congress will be successful or unsuccessful in getting their programs passed into law?

		-----Democratic leaders-----									
Jan 7-11, <u>2014</u>		Nov 6-9, <u>2014</u>	Nov <u>2010</u>	July <u>2007</u>	Mar <u>2007</u>	Jan <u>2007</u>	Nov <u>2006</u>	Sept <u>1995</u>	Apr <u>1995</u>	Feb <u>1995</u>	Dec <u>1994</u>
45	Successful	49	43	43	54	57	59	54	63	61	62
46	Unsuccessful	40	37	42	32	25	22	31	28	20	24
3	Mixed/Get some passed (VOL.)	5	5	6	4	5	6	--	3	5	4
6	Don't Know/ Refused (VOL.)	6	15	9	10	13	13	15	6	14	10

ASK FORMS 3 AND 4 ONLY [N=4,734]:

TRUMP2YR Over the next two years, do you think Donald Trump will be successful or unsuccessful in getting his programs passed into law?

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>	
35	Successful
63	Unsuccessful
2	No answer

ASK ALL:

ISSUCMPGN Compared to past elections, would you say there was more discussion of issues in this campaign or less discussion of issues?

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>	
58	More
40	Less
2	No answer

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Compared to past elections, would you say there was more discussion of issues in this campaign or less discussion of issues?

BASED ON VOTERS:

Nov 6-9, <u>2014</u>		Nov <u>2012</u> ⁵	Nov <u>2010</u>	Nov <u>2008</u>	Nov <u>2006</u>	Nov <u>2004</u>	Nov <u>2000</u>	Nov <u>1998</u>	Nov <u>1996</u>	Nov <u>1992</u>
29	More	38	35	57	40	47	46	30	25	59
60	Less	51	55	34	49	42	36	61	65	34
6	Same (VOL.)	6	5	6	7	7	13	7	6	4
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	4	3	4	4	5	2	4	3

ASK FORMS 1 AND 3 ONLY [N=4,724]:

EMTCONGDEM How do you feel about the Democratic Party gaining control of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>		Sep 24- Oct 7, <u>2018</u> ⁶
19	Excited	17
40	Relieved	38
34	Disappointed	34
5	Angry	7
2	No answer	4

⁵ In November 2012, 2008, 2004, 2000, 1996 and 1992, question was asked about "past presidential elections."

⁶ The pre-election question asked how respondents *would* feel if the Democrats took control of the House.

[ROTATE HOUSEMAJ AND SNTMAJ BY FORM. FORM 2 GETS SNTMAJ FIRST, HOUSEMAJ SECOND. FORM 4 GETS HOUSEMAJ FIRST, SNTMAJ SECOND]

ASK FORMS 2 AND 4 ONLY [N=4,727]:

HOUSEMAJ Are you happy or unhappy that the Democratic Party won control of the U.S. House of Representatives?

Nov 7-13,
2018

59	Happy
38	Unhappy
3	No answer

PHONE TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

Are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party maintained control of the U.S. Congress?

	Happy	Unhappy	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Among all			
Nov 10-14, 2016	52	45	3
Among voters			
Nov 8-11, 2012 ("Reps maintained control of House")	52	42	6
Nov 8-11, 2012 ("Dems maintained control of Senate")	56	40	4
November 2008 ("Dems maintained control of Congress")	53	41	6
November 2004 ("Reps maintained control of Congress")	51	44	5
November 2000 ("Reps maintained control of Congress")	48	39	13
November 1996 ("Reps maintained control of Congress")	65	27	8
Among Registered Voters			
Nov 6-9, 2014 ("Reps won control of Senate")	51	38	11
Nov 4-7, 2010 ("Reps won the House of Representatives")	50	34	16
November 2006 ("Dems won control of Congress")	61	25	14
December 2002 ("Reps won control of Senate")	49	37	14
November 1998 ("Reps maintained control of Congress")	48	33	19
December 1994 ("Reps won control of Congress")	58	32	10

ASK FORMS 2 AND 4 ONLY [N=4,727]:

SNTMAJ Are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party maintained control of the U.S. Senate?

Nov 7-13,
2018

45	Happy
52	Unhappy
3	No answer

ASK FORMS 1, 2 AND 3 ONLY [N=7,071]:

TAKLEAD Who in Washington do you think should take the lead in solving the nation's problems?
[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF RESPONSES]

Nov 7-13,
2018

43	Donald Trump
55	Democratic congressional leaders
3	No answer

ASK FORM 4 ONLY [N=2,380]:

TAKLEAD2 Who in Washington do you think should take the lead in solving the nation's problems?
[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF RESPONSES, "Both" ALWAYS SHOWN LAST]

Nov 7-13,
2018

17	Donald Trump
28	Democratic congressional leaders
54	Both
1	No answer

PHONE TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

Who in Washington do you think should take the lead in solving the nation's problems — President Obama, or the Republican congressional leaders?

	President <u>Obama</u>	Rep <u>leaders</u>	(VOL.) Both/Neither/ <u>Work together</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Feb 18-22, 2015	40	38	17	5
Nov 6-9, 2014	40	41	16	3
November 2010	49	30	16	5

	President <u>Bush</u>	Dem <u>leaders</u>	(VOL.) Both/Neither/ <u>Work together</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
November 2006	29	51	14	6

	President <u>Clinton</u>	Rep <u>leaders</u>	(VOL.) Both/Neither/ <u>Work together</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
November 1998	49	26	16	9
September 1998	47	32	12	9
February 1997	48	29	14	9
November 1996	45	30	19	6
March 1996	47	36	9	8
April 1995	48	36	12	4
March 1995	40	40	10	10
February 1995	40	38	16	6
December 1994	39	43	10	8

ASK ALL:

DEMPLAN As best you can tell, do you approve or disapprove of Democratic congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future?

Nov 7-13,
2018

54	Approve
43	Disapprove
3	No answer

DEMPLAN PHONE TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:

As best you can tell, do you approve or disapprove of Republican congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future?

Jan 7-11, <u>2015</u>		Nov 6-9, <u>2014</u>	Nov <u>2010</u>	<i>Dem leaders</i> Nov <u>2006</u>	Dec <u>1994</u>
40	Approve	44	41	50	52
49	Disapprove	43	37	21	28
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	13	22	29	20

ASK ALL:

POL12

Do you think relations between Republicans and Democrats in Washington will get better in the coming year, get worse, or stay about the same as they are now?

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>		Nov 17- Dec 15, <u>2014</u>
9	Get better	11
44	Get worse	34
46	Stay the same	55
*	No answer	1

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Do you think relations between Republicans and Democrats in Washington will get better in the coming year, get worse, or stay about the same as they are now?

(RVs) Nov 10-14 <u>2016</u>		(GP) Nov 6-9 <u>2014</u>	(GP) Jan 15-19 <u>2014</u>	(RV) Nov 8-11 <u>2012</u>	(RVs) Nov 4-7 <u>2010</u>	(RVs) Nov <u>2008</u>	(GP) Jan <u>2007</u>	(GP) Nov <u>2006</u>
27	Get better	18	15	31	22	37	28	29
27	Get worse	26	22	14	28	18	19	20
45	Stay about the same	55	59	52	48	42	49	46
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	4	3	3	3	4	5

ASK ALL:

PRZCNG

Who do you think will have the better approach to each of the following issues?

[RANDOMIZE, SPLIT OVER TWO SCREENS]

	Donald <u>Trump</u>	Democrats <u>in Congress</u>	Not much difference between <u>the two</u>	No <u>answer</u>
ASK FORMS 1 AND 3 ONLY [N=4,724]:				
a.F13 Jobs and economic growth				
Nov 7-13, 2018	44	33	22	1
PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:				
<i>Obama</i>				
Nov 6-9, 2014	29	35	32	3
Nov 4-7, 2010	27	37	30	6
<i>Clinton</i>				
NBC/WSJ: Dec 1996	44	28	22	6
NBC/WSJ: Jan 1996	32	29	27	12
NBC/WSJ: Jan 1995	36	34	25	5
NBC/WSJ: Nov 1994 (RVs)	30	44	22	4

PRZCNG CONTINUED...

	Donald <u>Trump</u>	Democrats <u>in Congress</u>	Not much difference <u>between</u> <u>the two</u>	No <u>answer</u>
b.F13 The budget deficit Nov 7-13, 2018	34	38	27	2
PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:				
<i>Obama</i>				
Nov 6-9, 2014	22	35	39	4
Nov 4-7, 2010	24	35	33	8
<i>Clinton</i>				
NBC/WSJ: Dec 1996	29	31	34	6
NBC/WSJ: Jan 1996	28	34	29	9
NBC/WSJ: Oct 1995	25	40	27	8
NBC/WSJ: Sep 1995	30	35	25	10
NBC/WSJ: Jul 1995	27	39	24	10
NBC/WSJ: Jan 1995	25	37	29	9
NBC/WSJ: Nov 1994 (RVs)	23	46	27	4
c.F13 Foreign policy Nov 7-13, 2018	35	43	20	1
PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:				
<i>Obama</i>				
Nov 6-9, 2014	26	31	38	5
Nov 4-7, 2010	32	26	34	8
<i>Clinton</i>				
NBC/WSJ: Jan 1996	31	25	29	15
NBC/WSJ: Oct 1995	30	36	25	9
NBC/WSJ: Sep 1995	26	38	23	13
NBC/WSJ: Jul 1995	27	34	26	13
NBC/WSJ: Nov 1994 (RVs) ⁷	36	37	22	5
d.F13 Health care Nov 7-13, 2018	28	51	19	2
PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:				
<i>Obama</i>				
Nov 6-9, 2014	34	35	29	2
Nov 4-7, 2010	35	36	24	5
<i>Clinton</i>				
NBC/WSJ: Jan 1995	42	27	23	8
NBC/WSJ: Nov 1994 (RVs)	36	39	20	5
e.F13 Social Security Nov 7-13, 2018	26	48	24	2
PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:				
<i>Obama</i>				
Nov 6-9, 2014	27	28	40	5
Nov 4-7, 2010	27	29	35	9
<i>Clinton</i>				
NBC/WSJ: Dec 1996	38	27	25	10
NBC/WSJ: Nov 1994 (RVs)	29	42	24	5
f.F13 Ethics in government Nov 7-13, 2018	22	48	29	2

⁷ Item was worded "foreign affairs."

PRZCNG CONTINUED...

		Donald <u>Trump</u>	Democrats <u>in Congress</u>	Not much difference <u>between</u> <u>the two</u>	No <u>answer</u>
ASK FORMS 2 AND 4 ONLY [N=4,727]:					
g.F24	Taxes				
	Nov 7-13, 2018	38	39	22	1
	PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:				
	<i>Obama</i>				
	Nov 6-9, 2014	25	34	37	4
	Nov 4-7, 2010	25	37	31	7
	<i>Clinton</i>				
	NBC/WSJ: Dec 1996	34	39	20	7
	NBC/WSJ: Jan 1996	34	31	25	10
	NBC/WSJ: Oct 1995	34	36	23	7
	NBC/WSJ: Jul 1995	24	35	30	11
	NBC/WSJ: Jan 1995	24	37	30	9
	NBC/WSJ: Nov 1994 (RVs)	17	55	23	5
h.F24	Immigration policy				
	Nov 7-13, 2018	40	46	13	1
	PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:				
	<i>Obama</i>				
	Nov 6-9, 2014	28	34	33	5
	<i>Clinton</i>				
	NBC/WSJ: Dec 1996	28	33	20	19
i.F24	The environment				
	Nov 7-13, 2018	19	55	25	1
	PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:				
	<i>Obama</i>				
	Nov 6-9, 2014	35	20	41	4
	<i>Clinton</i>				
	NBC/WSJ: Dec 1996	46	19	25	10
j.F24	Gun policy				
	Nov 7-13, 2018	34	42	22	1
k.F24	Trade policy				
	Nov 7-13, 2018	40	38	21	1
l.F24	Medicare				
	Nov 7-13, 2018	26	51	22	1

ASK ALL:

COMPDT How much do you think Donald Trump should cooperate with the Democratic leaders in Congress over the next two years?

Nov 7-13,
2018

39	A great deal
45	A fair amount
10	Not much
5	Not at all
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

COMPDEM How much do you think Democratic leaders in Congress should cooperate with Donald Trump over the next two years?

Nov 7-13,
2018

28	A great deal
36	A fair amount
24	Not much
10	Not at all
1	No answer

[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF BLOCKS VTCONF_COM/VTCONF_US AND VTADMIN_COM/VTADMIN_US]**ASK ALL:**

VTCONF_COM How confident are you that votes in YOUR COMMUNITY were counted as voters intended in the elections?

Nov 7-13,
2018

49	Very confident
37	Somewhat confident
9	Not too confident
5	Not at all confident
*	No answer

Sep 24-

Oct 7,
2018

42
40
13
4
1

ASK ALL:

VTCONF_US How confident are you that votes across the UNITED STATES were counted as voters intended in the elections?

Nov 7-13,
2018

23	Very confident
47	Somewhat confident
21	Not too confident
8	Not at all confident
*	No answer

Sep 24-

Oct 7,
2018

25
47
21
6
1

ASK ALL:

VTADMIN_COM Do you think the elections this November in YOUR COMMUNITY were run and administered...

Nov 7-13,
2018

53	Very well
36	Somewhat well
7	Not too well
4	Not at all well
1	No answer

Sep 24-

Oct 7,
2018

41
46
9
3
1

ASK ALL:

VTADMIN_US Do you think the elections this November in the UNITED STATES were run and administered ...

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>		Sep 24- Oct 7, <u>2018</u>
21	Very well	20
53	Somewhat well	57
18	Not too well	18
7	Not at all well	4
1	No answer	1

ASK DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS (F_PARTYSUM_FINAL=2):DEMOVRSGHT Thinking about Democratic control of the House of Representatives next year, which concerns you more? **[RANDOMIZE]****BASED ON DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS [N=5,277]:**

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>		
46	That Democrats in Congress will FOCUS TOO MUCH on investigating the Trump administration	
51	That Democrats in Congress will NOT FOCUS ENOUGH on investigating the Trump administration	
3	No answer	

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK FORM 2 ONLY:****ASK ALL REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS (F_PARTYSUM_FINAL=1) [N=971]:**

GOPDIRCT Thinking about the future of the Republican Party, would you say that you are...

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>		Sep 24- Oct 7, <u>2018</u>	Sept 14- Sept 28, <u>2017</u>	Nov 29- Dec 12, <u>2016</u>	Oct 25- Nov 8, <u>2016</u>
27	Very optimistic	23	12	28	12
56	Somewhat optimistic	51	47	51	49
13	Somewhat pessimistic	19	29	16	29
3	Very pessimistic	5	10	4	9
1	No answer	2	2	2	1

ASK FORM 2 ONLY:**ASK ALL DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS (F_PARTYSUM_FINAL=2) [N=1,339]:**

DEMDIRCT Thinking about the future of the Democratic Party, would you say that you are...

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>		Sep 24- Oct 7, <u>2018</u>	Sept 14- Sept 28, <u>2017</u>	Nov 29- Dec 12, <u>2016</u>	Oct 25- Nov 8, <u>2016</u>
24	Very optimistic	19	13	14	22
57	Somewhat optimistic	58	51	47	55
14	Somewhat pessimistic	16	28	29	15
3	Very pessimistic	5	6	10	6
1	No answer	2	1	1	2

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=2,370]:

PRMRCHLNG And thinking about the 2020 Republican nomination, would you like to see other Republican candidates challenge Donald Trump for the Party's nomination for president in 2020?

BASED ON REPUBLICAN/LEAN REPUBLICAN [N=997]:**PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:***Based on Democrat/Lean Democrat only:*

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>		Aug 4-7, <u>2011</u>	Nov 4-7, <u>2010</u>	Dec <u>1994</u>
37	Yes	32	38	66
61	No	59	58	29
2	No answer	9	3	5

ASK FORM 3 AND 4 ONLY [N=4,734]:

TRUMPMT What do you think Donald Trump's impact was on Republican candidates in House and Senate elections around the country?

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>	40	Trump mostly helped Republican candidates
	18	Trump mostly hurt Republican candidates
	40	Trump helped about as much as he hurt Republican candidates
	2	No answer

ASK ALL:

MORWMN1POST As you may know, a record number of women will be serving in Congress next year. Do you think this will be...

Nov 7-13, <u>2018</u>		Jun 19- Jul 2, <u>2018</u> ⁸
61	A good thing	61
4	A bad thing	5
35	Neither a good nor a bad thing	33
*	No answer	1

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

⁸ In June, the question read, "As you may know, more women are running for U.S. Congress this year than in the past. Do you think this is..."