GW POLITICS POLL

2018 MIDTERM ELECTION WAVE 2

The survey was fielded July 23 – August 9, 2018, by YouGov with a sample of registered voters. This was the second survey in a four-wave panel design focusing on the 2018 midterm election.

We re-interviewed 2,716 respondents of the original 3,150 who participated in the GW Politics Poll conducted in May 2018. The re-interview rate was 77%.

YouGov recruits individuals into their panels in a variety of ways and then uses sample matching to create a representative sample from a non-randomly selected pool.

YouGov has constructed a sampling frame of U.S. Citizens from the 2012 American Community Survey, including data on age, race, gender, education, marital status, number of children under 18, family income, employment status, citizenship, state and metropolitan area. First wave N = 3,150, second wave N = 2,716.

The partial toplines reported below are based on frequencies using weight variable provided by YouGov for the sample. The margin of error for the full sample is +/- 2%.

MIDTERM 2018 VOTING

How likely are you to vote in the upcoming general election in November?

	July-August	May
Definitely will vote	81%	78%
Probably will vote	14%	15%
Probably will not vote	4%	5%
Definitely will not vote	1%	2%
Unweighted N	2716	3150
Missing		4

If an election for U.S. Congress were being held today, who would you vote for in the district where you live?

	July-August	May
The Republican Party candidate	38%	38%
The Democratic Party candidate	45%	45%
Other	2%	2%
Not sure	12%	13%
I would not vote	2%	2%
Unweighted N	2716	3143
Missing		7

[If "other," "not sure," or "would not vote":] If you had to choose, would you lean more toward the Republican Party candidate or the Democratic Party candidate?

	July-August	May
The Republican Party candidate	22	25%
The Democratic Party candidate	24	22%
Not sure	54	54%
Unweighted N	445	573
Missing	2271	2577

VIEWS OF INCUMBENTS

We'd now like to ask you some questions about the people who represent you in Washington DC. Do you approve or disapprove of how each is handling their job? (Respondents were prompted with names of current representative and senators.)

		Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	Don't know	N
Current House Member	July-August	23%	27%	12%	22%	17%	2713
	May	23%	26%	12%	21%	17%	3118
Current Senator 1	July-August	19%	26%	14%	29%	11%	2711
	May	18%	26%	15%	28%	14%	3126
Current Senator 2	July-August	22%	24%	12%	31%	11%	2713
	May	22%	24%	13%	29%	13%	3121

How much does your US Representative <Current House Member Name> care about …

July - August	A great deal	Some	Not much	Not at all	Don't know	N
The country as a whole	30%	27%	15%	11%	17%	2716
His/Her political party's agenda	43%	32%	6%	4%	16%	2715
His/Her campaign donors	40%	28%	6%	4%	22%	2716
People like you	40%	28%	6%	4%	22%	2715
Your local community	25%	27%	17%	14%	17%	2716
His/Her political career	53%	22%	5%	3%	17%	2716
His/Her policy priorities	40%	30%	6%	5%	18%	2711
Your political views	18%	26%	15%	25%	16%	2716

May	A great deal	Some	Not much	Not at all	Don't know	N
The country as a whole	30%	26%	14%	11%	19%	3104
His/Her political party's agenda	42%	29%	6%	4%	19%	3103
His/Her campaign donors	39%	24%	6%	4%	26%	3097
People like you	20%	24%	16%	23%	18%	3099
Your local community	25%	26%	16%	14%	18%	3102
His/Her political career	52%	20%	5%	3%	19%	3096
His/Her policy priorities	40%	26%	8%	5%	20%	3101
Your political views	17%	24%	16%	24%	18%	3099

Do you approve or disapprove of the way the United States Congress is handling its job?

	July-August	May
Strongly approve	2%	2%
Somewhat approve	17%	16%
Somewhat disapprove	29%	29%
Strongly disapprove	46%	46%
Don't know	7%	8%
Unweighted N	2716	3133
Missing		17

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

	July-August	May
Strongly approve	28%	28%
Somewhat approve	17%	16%
Somewhat disapprove	7%	7%
Strongly disapprove	46%	46%
Don't know	2%	3%
Unweighted N	2716	3135
Missing		15

Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

July-August

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know	N
Donald Trump	29%	15%	6%	48%	2%	2716
Paul Ryan	7%	21%	23%	40%	9%	2716
Barack Obama	38%	14%	10%	36%	2%	2716
Hillary Clinton	17%	21%	12%	48%	2%	2716
Bernie Sanders	24%	23%	14%	33%	5%	2716
Vladimir Putin	2%	9%	20%	60%	9%	2716
Chuck Schumer	9%	21%	16%	37%	18%	2716
Nancy Pelosi	9%	23%	13%	46%	9%	2716
Robert Mueller	24%	16%	13%	28%	19%	2716
Mitch McConnell	3%	18%	22%	41%	17%	2715

May

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know	N
Donald Trump	29%	14%	7%	48%	2%	3110
Paul Ryan	7%	20%	21%	41%	10%	3105
Barack Obama	40%	14%	8%	36%	2%	3114
Hillary Clinton	17%	22%	12%	47%	3%	3120
Bernie Sanders	24%	26%	14%	32%	5%	3110
Vladimir Putin	2%	7%	19%	60%	11%	3106
Chuck Schumer	10%	20%	15%	34%	20%	3105
Nancy Pelosi	10%	22%	12%	44%	11%	3111
Robert Mueller	24%	15%	11%	28%	22%	3106
Mitch McConnell	2%	15%	22%	42%	19%	3109

VIEWS OF THE COUNTRY

Would you say things in this country today are: Generally headed in the right direction or Off on the wrong track?

	July-August	May
Generally headed in the right direction	39%	38%
Off on the wrong track	55%	55%
Don't know	6%	7%
Unweighted N	2716	3131
Missing		19

Would you say that you and your family are better off financially than you were a year ago, about the same financially as you were a year ago, worse off financially than you were a year ago?

	July-August	May
Better off financially	26%	25%
About the same as now	51%	51%
Worse off financially	20%	20%
Don't know	3%	3%
Unweighted N	2716	3131
Missing		19

Overall, do you think the economy is getting better or worse?

	July-August	May
Getting better	39%	38%
About the same	33%	37%
Getting worse	24%	20%
Don't know	4%	6%
Unweighted N	2716	3123
Missing		27

ISSUES–TAXES

Do you favor or oppose the tax plan that was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Trump?

	July-August	May
Strongly favor	22%	19%
Somewhat favor	19%	20%
Somewhat oppose	15%	16%
Strongly oppose	33%	32%
Don't know	12%	12%
Unweighted N	2716	3122
Missing		28

ISSUES–HEALTH CARE

As you may know, a health reform bill was signed into law in 2010, known commonly as the Affordable Care Act or Obamacare. Given what you know about the health reform law, do you have a generally favorable or generally unfavorable opinion of it?

	July-August
Very favorable	21%
Somewhat favorable	24%
Somewhat unfavorable	13%
Very unfavorable	34%
Don't know	7%
Unweighted N	2716

Do you think the health care reform bill that passed in 2010–the Affordable Care Act–should be expanded, kept the same, or repealed?

	July-August	May
Expanded	40%	40%
Kept the same	10%	9%
Repealed	42%	41%
Don't know	9%	9%
Unweighted N	2716	3121
Missing		29

As you may know, the Affordable Care Act required nearly all Americans to have health insurance, or else pay a fine. Congress passed a law repealing this requirement starting in January 2019. Do you favor or oppose requiring all Americans have health insurance?

	July-August
Strongly favor	26%
Somewhat favor	19%
Somewhat oppose	17%
Strongly oppose	29%
Don't know	9%
Unweighted N	2716

The 2010 health care law provided protections for people with pre-existing health conditions. How important is it to you that the following provisions remain the law?

Provision that prohibits health insurance companies from charging sick people more

	July-August
Very important	64%
Somewhat important	20%
Not too important	7%
Not at all important	4%
Don't know	5%
Unweighted N	2716

Provision that prohibits health insurance companies from denying coverage because of a person's medical history

	July-August
Very important	70%
Somewhat important	16%
Not too important	4%
Not at all important	4%
Don't know	5%
Unweighted N	2714
Missing	2

ISSUES–IMMIGRATION

Overall, do you think illegal immigrants make a contribution to American society or are a drain?

	July-August	May
Mostly make a contribution	40%	41%
Neither	12%	13%
Mostly a drain	41%	40%
Don't know	6%	6%
Unweighted N	2715	3125
Missing	1	25

Do you favor or oppose providing a legal way for illegal immigrants already in the United States to become U.S. citizens?

	July-August	May
Strongly favor	32%	33%
Somewhat favor	27%	30%
Somewhat oppose	15%	15%
Strongly oppose	21%	17%
Don't know	6%	6%
Unweighted N	2716	3123
Missing		27

Do you think it should be easier or harder for foreigners to immigrate to the US legally than it is currently?

	July-August	May
Much easier	14%	12%
Slightly easier	19%	18%
No change	24%	25%
Slightly harder	17%	19%
Much harder	19%	19%
Don't know	7%	7%
Unweighted N	2714	3123
Missing	2	27

Do you favor or oppose temporarily banning Muslims from other countries from entering the United States?

	July-August	May
Strongly favor	25%	23%
Somewhat favor	17%	20%
Somewhat oppose	16%	16%
Strongly oppose	32%	30%
Don't know	10%	10%
Unweighted N	2711	3119
Missing	5	31

Do you favor or oppose allowing young adults who were brought to the United States illegally as children to stay and work here legally?

	July-August	May
Strongly favor	39%	40%
Somewhat favor	23%	24%
Somewhat oppose	17%	16%
Strongly oppose	14%	12%
Don't know	7%	8%
Unweighted N	2716	3111
Missing		39

Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the statement: It is appropriate to separate undocumented immigrant parents from their children when they cross the border in order to discourage others from crossing the border illegally.

	July-August
Strongly agree	19%
Somewhat agree	15%
Somewhat disagree	11%
Strongly disagree	47%
Don't know	8%
Unweighted N	2716

Should LEGAL immigration into the United States be kept at its present level, increased or decreased?

	July-August
Increased	25%
Kept the same	40%
Decreased	23%
Don't know	12%
Unweighted N	2716

Thinking about immigrants who come to the United States today compared with immigrants from 100 years ago, are TODAY'S immigrants better, worse or about the same as previous generations of immigrants in terms of the following:

July-August 2018

	Much or somewhat better	Same as previous generations	Much or somewhat worse	Don't Know	N
Reasons for immigrating to the US	15%	41%	34%	11%	2714
Education Levels	27%	29%	32%	12%	2715
Wealth	19%	33%	35%	13%	2715
Likelihood to commit crime	17%	37%	33%	13%	2716
Ability to assimilate	19%	27%	42%	13%	2716

ISSUE POSITIONS–ABORTION

Should it be possible for a pregnant woman to obtain a legal abortion if:

	Yes, should be possible	No, should not be possible	Don't know	N
There is a strong chance of a serious defect in the baby	64%	22%	14%	2714
She is married and does not want more children	45%	46%	9%	2714
The women's own health is seriously engagered by the pregnancy	81%	10%	9%	2714
The family has a very low income and cannot afford any more children	48%	40%	12%	2714
She became pregnant as a result of rape	78%	14%	9%	2714
She is not married and does not want to marry the man	48%	46%	9%	2714
The woman wants it for any reason	42%	47%	11%	2714

The 1973 Supreme Court Case Roe v. Wade established a women's constitutional right to have an abortion. Would you like to see the Supreme Court overturn its Roe v. Wade decision, or not?

	July-August
Yes	30%
No	57%
Don't know	13%
Unweighted N	2716

How likely do you think it is that Roe v. Wade will be overturned?

	July-August
Very likely	6%
Somewhat likely	25%
Somewhat unlikely	29%
Very unlikely	24%
Don't Know	16%
Unweighted N	2716

ISSUES–TRADE

Do you favor or oppose increasing trade with other nations?

	July-August	May
Favor	67%	67%
Oppose	11%	10%
Don't know	22%	23%
Unweighted N	2716	3118
Missing		32

Do you support or oppose of Donald Trump's decision to impose new tariffs on steel and aluminum imports?

	July-August	May
Strongly support	19%	17%
Somewhat support	19%	22%
Somewhat oppose	14%	16%
Strongly oppose	35%	29%
Don't know	12%	16%
Unweighted N	2716	3120
Missing		30

ISSUES—GUN CONTROL

In general, do you feel the laws covering the sale of handguns should be made more strict than they are now?

	July-August	May
Make gun laws more strict	57%	58%
No change	32%	30%
Make gun laws less strict	11%	12%
Unweighted N	2716	3112
Missing		38

ISSUES—FOREIGN POLICY

Do you support or oppose the following foreign policy decision by President Trump?

July-August	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know	N
Holding a summit with North Korea's leader Kim Jong-un	31%	24%	13%	22%	10%	2716
Holding a summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin	27%	20%	11%	33%	10%	2716
Pulling the United States out of the Paris Climate Agreement	28%	10%	9%	41%	12%	2716
Pulling out of the Iran Nuclear Deal	32%	10%	10%	34%	15%	2716
Pulling out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)	24%	23%	14%	33%	5%	2716
Imposing steel and aluminum tariffs on Canada based on national security concerns	17%	17%	13%	39%	14%	2716
Imposing new tariffs on goods from China	26%	19%	16%	26%	13%	2716
Moving the U.S. Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem	31%	11%	12%	26%	19%	2715

How confident are you that the government is doing enough to prevent foreign countries from influencing future elections?

	July-August
Very confident	11%
Somewhat confident	26%
Not too confident	30%
Not at all confident	33%
Unweighted N	2716

How confident are you that big data companies like Facebook, Google and Twitter are doing enough to prevent foreign countries from influencing future elections?

	July-August
Very confident	3%
Somewhat confident	18%
Not too confident	39%
Not at all confident	39%
Unweighted N	2716

How confident are you that Donald Trump is doing enough to prevent foreign countries from influencing future elections?

	July-August	May
Very confident	16%	20%
Somewhat confident	23%	23%
Not too confident	18%	15%
Not at all confident	43%	42%
Unweighted N	2716	3098
Missing		52

RUSSIA INVESTIGATION

Do you think members of the Trump campaign did or did not have improper contact with Russia during the 2016 presidential campaign?

	July-August	May
Definitely did	33%	34%
Probably did	17%	18%
Probably did not	16%	14%
Definitely did not	24%	25%
Don't know	10%	10%
Unweighted N	2716	3118
Missing		32

How confident are you that the special counsel Robert Mueller is conducting a fair investigation into Russian involvement in the 2016 election?

	July-August	May
Very confident	32%	31%
Somewhat confident	15%	15%
Not too confident	14%	12%
Not at all confident	27%	29%
Don't know	13%	13%
Unweighted N	2716	3110
Missing		40

If President Trump decides to remove Robert Mueller as special counsel, would this be appropriate or inappropriate?

	July-August	May
Very appropriate	17%	16%
Somewhat appropriate	10%	11%
Somewhat inappropriate	11%	11%
Very inappropriate	45%	44%
Don't know	17%	17%
Unweighted N	2716	3113
Missing		37

If President Trump decides to pardon senior members of his administration over charges connected to the Russian involvement in the 2016 election, would this be appropriate or inappropriate?

	July-August	May
Very appropriate	14%	14%
Somewhat appropriate	14%	13%
Somewhat inappropriate	12%	12%
Very inappropriate	45%	46%
Don't know	16%	16%
Unweighted N	2716	3111
Missing		39

POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Types of political participation respondents engaged in during past three months.

	July-August	May
Talked to people and tried to show them why they should vote for or against one of the parties or candidates	38%	36%
Went to political meetings or rallies focused on political issue	13%	13%
Went to political meetings, rallies, speeches or fundraisers in support of a particular candidate	12%	10%
Worked for one of the parties or candidates	8%	7%
Wore a campaign button, put a sticker on their car or placed a sign in their window or in front of their house	13%	14%
Gave money to an individual candidate	16%	16%
Used social media to express their opinion or share someone else's opinion about a candidate, issue or party	40%	40%
Signed a petition	42%	n/a
Was contacted by one of the parties	26%	24%
Unweighted Ns (range across questions)	2707- 2716	3081-3116

BELIEFS ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN

How much influence will the following types of campaign activity have on voters in the 2018 midterm elections this November?

July-August	A great deal of influence	Some influence	Not much influence	No influence at all	Don't know	N
Misinformation on Facebook or other social media	17%	36%	17%	18%	12%	2712
Efforts by Russia to spread disinformation	13%	22%	20%	29%	16%	2712
Candidate Advertisements on television	13%	45%	20%	14%	9%	2712
Candidate Advertisements on Facebook and other social media	9%	37%	23%	19%	12%	2712
Local news stories about the candidates	17%	50%	14%	10%	9%	2712
Tweets and other commentary from President Trump about the candidates	17%	36%	18%	18%	11%	2712
Phone calls and in-person conversations initiated by supports of the candidates	9%	34%	27%	19%	11%	2712

[Asked of those who identify as Democrats or lean toward the Democratic Party] Which of the following is the best strategy for Democrats to take in the upcoming election?

Take more liberal positions on issues to motivate the party's base.	21%
Take more moderate positions on issues to appeal to independent and swing voters.	26%
Allow individual candidates to take whatever positions they believe will help them win in their district or state.	37%
Don't know	15%
Unweighted N	1268
Missing (Not Asked)	1448

[Asked of those who identify as Republicans or lean toward the Republican Party] Which of the following is the best strategy for Republicans to take in the upcoming election?

Support President Trump's positions on issues to motivate the party's base.	59%
Be willing to break with President Trump's positions to appeal to independent and swing voters.	8%
Allow individual candidates to take whatever positions they believe will help them win in their district or state.	21%
Don't know	12%
Total	1044
Missing (Not Asked)	1672

DEMOGRAPHICS July-August Survey Wave

Male	47%
Female	53%
Unweighted N	2716

White	73%
Black	12%
Hispanic	10%
Asian	1%
Native American	1%
Middle Eastern	0%
Mixed	3%
Other	1%
Unweighted N	2716

Education	
No HS	4%
High school graduate	29%
Some college	20%
2-year	11%
4-year	23%
Post-grad	13%
Unweighted N	2716

Age	
18-30	19%
31-40	15%
41-50	14%
51-60	19%
61-70	20%
Over 70	13%
Unweighted N	2716

Marital status	
Married	49%
Separated	1%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	6%
Never married	31%
Domestic / civil partnership	3%
Unweighted N	2716

Have children under 18

Yes	22%
No	78%
Unweighted N	2716

Employment status

Full-time	37%
Part-time	10%
Temporarily laid off	1%
Unemployed	6%
Retired	24%
Permanently disabled	8%
Homemaker	7%
Student	5%
Other	1%
Unweighted N	2716

Party identification

Strong Democrat	27%
Not very strong Democrat	10%
Lean Democrat	9%
Independent	14%
Lean Republican	11%
Not very strong Republican	10%
Strong Republican	17%
Not sure	1%
Unweighted N	2716

* numbers don't always add to 100% due to rounding