GW POLITICS POLL

2018 MIDTERM ELECTION WAVE 3

The survey was fielded October 17 – 25, 2018 by YouGov with a sample of registered voters. This was the third survey in a four-wave panel design focusing on the 2018 midterm election.

We re-interviewed 2,321 respondents of the original 3,150 who participated in the GW Politics Poll conducted in May 2018. The re-interview rate was 73%.

YouGov recruits individuals in a variety of ways into their panel and then uses sample matching to create a representative sample from this 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 (May 2018) N=3,150, second wave (July – August 2018) N=2,716, third wave (October 2018) N=2,321.

The partial toplines reported below are based on frequencies using a weight variable provided by YouGov for the sample. We provide results from the October, July – August and May survey waves. 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?

	October	July-August	May
Definitely will vote	82%	81%	78%
Probably will vote	11%	14%	15%
Probably will not vote	4%	4%	5%
Definitely will not vote	2%	1%	2%
Unweighted N	2321	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?

	October	July-August	May
The Republican Party candidate	40%	38%	38%
The Democratic Party candidate	48%	45%	45%
Other	2%	2%	2%
Not sure	7%	12%	13%
I would not vote	2%	2%	2%
Unweighted N	2321	2716	3143
Missing			7

[Asked of those who said "other," "not sure," or "would not vote" in previous question:] If you had to choose, would you lean more toward the Republican Party candidate or the Democratic Party candidate?

	October	July-August	May
The Republican Party candidate	19%	22%	25%
The Democratic Party candidate	13%	24%	22%
Not sure	68%	54%	54%
Unweighted N	257	445%	573
Not Asked	2056	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	October	24%	25%	13%	23%	15%	2317
	July-August	23%	27%	12%	22%	17%	2713
	May	23%	26%	12%	21%	17%	3118
Current Senator 1	October	19%	25%	13%	32%	10%	2319
	July-August	19%	26%	14%	29%	11%	2711
	May	18%	26%	15%	28%	14%	3126
Current Senator 2	October	24%	21%	10%	32%	12%	2320
	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 …

October	A great deal	Some	Not much	Not at all	Don't know	N
The country as a whole	29%	28%	15%	11%	16%	2317
His/Her political party's agenda	45%	30%	4%	4%	16%	2317
His/Her campaign donors	43%	26%	5%	5%	20%	2318
People like you	21%	25%	16%	23%	15%	2317
Your local community	23%	29%	17%	15%	15%	2318
His/Her political career	53%	23%	4%	4%	16%	2318
His/Her policy priorities	41%	30%	6%	5%	17%	2318
Your political views	17%	24%	16%	26%	16%	2316

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	21%	25%	15%	24%	16%	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?

	October	July-August	May
Strongly approve	3%	2%	2%
Somewhat approve	19%	17%	16%
Somewhat disapprove	29%	29%	29%
Strongly disapprove	42%	46%	46%
Don't know	8%	7%	8%
Unweighted N	2320	2716	3133
Missing	1		17

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

	October	July-August	May
Strongly approve	28%	28%	28%
Somewhat approve	15%	17%	16%
Somewhat disapprove	6%	7%	7%
Strongly disapprove	47%	46%	46%
Don't know	4%	2%	3%
Unweighted N	2321	2716	3135
Missing			15

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

October	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know	N
Donald Trump	29%	13%	5%	49%	3%	2320
Paul Ryan	8%	22%	18%	40%	12%	2319
Barack Obama	39%	15%	9%	35%	3%	2320
Hillary Clinton	16%	23%	12%	46%	3%	2320
Bernie Sanders	25%	24%	12%	33%	6%	2319
Vladimir Putin	2%	7%	19%	60%	12%	2320
Chuck Schumer	9%	21%	14%	36%	19%	2320
Nancy Pelosi	11%	21%	13%	44%	11%	2319
Robert Mueller	24%	17%	16%	23%	20%	2320
Mitch McConnell	7%	22%	13%	40%	18%	2320
Brett Kavanaugh	27%	13%	8%	42%	10%	2320

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?

	October	July-August	May
Generally headed in the right direction	38%	39%	38%
Off on the wrong track	55%	55%	55%
Don't know	8%	6%	7%
Unweighted N	2321	2716	3131
			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?

	October	July-August	May
Better off financially	25%	26%	25%
About the same as now	53%	51%	51%
Worse off financially	19%	20%	20%
Don't know	3%	3%	3%
Unweighted N	2321	2716	3131
			19

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

	October	July-August	May
Getting better	39%	39%	38%
About the same	37%	33%	37%
Getting worse	19%	24%	20%
Don't know	5%	4%	6%
Unweighted N	2321	2716	3123
			27

ISSUES–TAXES

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

	October	July-August	May
Strongly favor	20%	22%	19%
Somewhat favor	19%	19%	20%
Somewhat oppose	11%	15%	16%
Strongly oppose	36%	33%	32%
Don't know	14%	12%	12%
Unweighted N	2321	2716	3122
			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?

	October	July-August
Very favorable	22%	21%
Somewhat favorable	25%	24%
Somewhat unfavorable	13%	13%
Very unfavorable	31%	34%
Don't know	8%	7%
Unweighted N	2321	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?

	October	July-August	May
Expanded	40%	40%	40%
Kept the same	11%	10%	9%
Repealed	40%	42%	41%
Don't know	9%	9%	9%
Unweighted N	2320	2716	3121
Missing	1		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?

	October	July-August
Strongly favor	27%	26%
Somewhat favor	19%	19%
Somewhat oppose	15%	17%
Strongly oppose	28%	29%
Don't know	11%	9%
Unweighted N	2321	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

	October	July-August
Very important	67%	64%
Somewhat important	17%	20%
Not too important	6%	7%
Not at all important	3%	4%
Don't know	6%	5%
Unweighted N	2320	2716
Missing	1	

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

	October	July-August
Very important	71%	70%
Somewhat important	16%	16%
Not too important	4%	4%
Not at all important	3%	4%
Don't know	6%	5%
Unweighted N	2320	2714
Missing	1	2

ISSUES–IMMIGRATION

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

	October	July-August	May
Mostly make a contribution	41%	40%	41%
Neither	13%	12%	13%
Mostly a drain	39%	41%	40%
Don't know	7%	6%	6%
Unweighted N	2321	2715	3125
		1	25

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

	October	July-August	May
Strongly favor	32%	32%	33%
Somewhat favor	28%	27%	30%
Somewhat oppose	15%	15%	15%
Strongly oppose	18%	21%	17%
Don't know	6%	6%	6%
Unweighted N	2321	2716	3123
			27

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

	October	July-August	May
Much easier	13%	14%	12%
Slightly easier	16%	19%	18%
No change	25%	24%	25%
Slightly harder	16%	17%	19%
Much harder	21%	19%	19%
Don't know	8%	7%	7%
Unweighted N	2321	2714	3123
		2	27

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

	October	July-August	May
Strongly favor	24%	25%	23%
Somewhat favor	16%	17%	20%
Somewhat oppose	16%	16%	16%
Strongly oppose	32%	32%	30%
Don't know	12%	10%	10%
Unweighted N	2320	2711	3119
Missing	1	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?

	October	July-August	May
Strongly favor	39%	39%	40%
Somewhat favor	24%	23%	24%
Somewhat oppose	13%	17%	16%
Strongly oppose	16%	14%	12%
Don't know	8%	7%	8%
Unweighted N	2320	2716	3111
Missing	1		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.

	October	July-August
Strongly agree	17%	19%
Somewhat agree	14%	15%
Somewhat disagree	11%	11%
Strongly disagree	49%	47%
Don't know	8%	8%
Unweighted N	2321	2716

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

	October	July-August
Increased	25%	25%
Kept the same	38%	40%
Decreased	25%	23%
Don't know	12%	12%
Unweighted N	2320	2716
Missing	1	

ISSUE POSITIONS—ABORTION

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?

	October	July-August
Yes	27%	30%
No	60%	57%
Don't know	13%	13%
Unweighted N	2321	2716

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

	October	July-August
Very likely	8%	6%
Somewhat likely	25%	25%
Somewhat unlikely	26%	29%
Very unlikely	23%	24%
Don't Know	18%	16%
Unweighted N	2321	2716

ISSUES—TRADE

Do you favor or oppose increasing trade with other nations?

	October	July-August	May
Favor	68%	67%	67%
Oppose	9%	11%	10%
Don't know	23%	22%	23%
Unweighted N	2320	2716	3118
Missing	1		32

ISSUES—GUN CONTROL

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

	October	July-August	May
Make gun laws more strict	58%	57%	58%
No change	32%	32%	30%
Make gun laws less strict	10%	11%	12%
Unweighted N	2321	2716	3112
Missing			38

KAVANAUGH APPOINTMENT

Do you think Brett Kavanaugh should have been confirmed to the Supreme Court or should not have been confirmed to the Supreme Court?

	October
Should have been confirmed	43%
Should not have been confirmed	47%
Don't know	9%
Unweighted N	2321

ISSUES—MARIJUANA

Do you think the use of marijuana should be made legal or not?

	October
Yes, legal	58%
No, illegal	29%
Don't know	13%
Unweighted N	2321

ISSUES—ELECTION INFLUENCE

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

	October	July-August
Very confident	9%	11%
Somewhat confident	29%	26%
Not too confident	33%	30%
Not at all confident	28%	33%
Unweighted N	2319	2716
Missing	2	

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

	October	July-August
Very confident	3%	3%
Somewhat confident	17%	18%
Not too confident	43%	39%
Not at all confident	37%	39%
Unweighted N	2321	2716

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

	October	July-August	May
Very confident	16%	16%	20%
Somewhat confident	23%	23%	23%
Not too confident	16%	18%	15%
Not at all confident	45%	43%	42%
Unweighted N	2319	2716	3098
Missing	2		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?

	October	July-August	May
Definitely did	35%	33%	34%
Probably did	17%	17%	18%
Probably did not	14%	16%	14%
Definitely did not	25%	24%	25%
Don't know	10%	10%	10%
Unweighted N	2321	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?

	October	July-August	May
Very confident	31%	32%	31%
Somewhat confident	19%	15%	15%
Not too confident	15%	14%	12%
Not at all confident	24%	27%	29%
Don't know	12%	13%	13%
Unweighted N	2321	2716	3110
Missing			40

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

	October	July-August	May
Very appropriate	14%	17%	16%
Somewhat appropriate	10%	10%	11%
Somewhat inappropriate	12%	11%	11%
Very inappropriate	45%	45%	44%
Don't know	18%	17%	17%
Unweighted N	2321	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?

	October	July-August	May
Very appropriate	11%	14%	14%
Somewhat appropriate	12%	14%	13%
Somewhat inappropriate	13%	12%	12%
Very inappropriate	47%	45%	46%
Don't know	17%	16%	16%
Unweighted N	2321	2716	3111
Missing			39

POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

In the past three months have you done any of the following?
(Table indicates the proportion who said "yes")

	October	July-August	May
Talked to people and tried to show them why they should vote for or against one of the parties or candidates	42%	38%	36%
Went to political meetings or rallies focused on political issue	11%	13%	13%
Went to political meetings, rallies, speeches or fundraisers in support of a particular candidate	11%	12%	10%
Worked for one of the parties or candidates	8%	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	17%	13%	14%
Gave money to an individual candidate	17%	16%	16%
Used social media to express their opinion or share someone else's opinion about a candidate, issue or party	39%	40%	40%
Signed a petition	39%	42%	n/a
Wrote a letter	7%	n/a	n/a
Was contacted by one of the parties	33%	26%	24%
Unweighted Ns (range across questions)	2312-2317	2707- 2716	3081 - 3116

PREFERENCES ABOUT POLITICAL COMPROMISE

Which statement comes closest to your own views, even if neither is exactly right?

	October
I like elected officials who make compromises with people they disagree with	55%
I like elected officials who stick to their positions	45%
Unweighted N	2319
Missing	2

DEMOGRAPHICS July-August Survey Wave

Male	47%
Female	53%
Unweighted N	2321

White	73%
Black	12%
Hispanic	9%
Asian	1%
Native American	<1%
Middle Eastern	<1%
Mixed	2%
Other	1%
Unweighted N	232 1

Education	
No HS	4%
High school graduate	29%
Some college	20%
2-year	11%
4-year	23%
Post-grad	13%
Unweighted N	271 6

Age	
18-30	19%
31-40	15%
41-50	15%
51-60	18%
61-70	21%
Over 70	13%
Unweighted N	2321

Marital status	
Married	48%
Separated	<1%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	6%
Never married	31%

Domestic / civil partnership	3%
Unweighted N	2321

Have children under 18

Yes	20%
No	80%
Unweighted N	2321

Employment status

Full-time	37%
Part-time	10%
Temporarily laid off	<1%
Unemployed	5%
Retired	25%
Permanently disabled	8%
Homemaker	7%
Student	5%
Other	1%
Unweighted N	2321

Party identification

Strong Democrat	26%
Not very strong Democrat	11%
Lean Democrat	9%
Independent	15%
Lean Republican	11%
Not very strong Republican	10%
Strong Republican	17%
Not sure	1%
Unweighted N	2321

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