**2018 PEW RESEARCH CENTER’S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL**

**WAVE 39 November 2018**

**November 7 – November 16, 2018[[1]](#footnote-1)**

BASE: ASK ALL

**POL1DT [S]**

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

1 Approve

2 Disapprove

BASE: ASK ALL

**VTHPPYUS [S]**

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

1 Happy

2 Unhappy

BASE: ASK U.S. CITIZENS (F\_CITIZEN=1)

**VOTED\_ATP [S]**

Which of the following statements best describes you?

1 I did not vote in the 2018 congressional elections

2 I planned to vote but wasn’t able to

3 I definitely voted in the 2018 congressional elections

Base: VOTED=1

*Scripter: Randomize and record order of responses 1 and 2. Show question text in same order as response*

**CONGPOST [S]**

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]**

1 Republican Party’s candidate

2 Democratic Party’s candidate

3 Another party’s candidate **[anchor]**

Base: (CONGPOST=1 or 2) AND XFORM=1

**VOTEWHY [T]**

What’s the main reason you voted for the **[IF CONGPOST=1:** “Republican Party’s”**, IF CONGPOST=2:** “Democratic Party’s”**]** candidate for Congress?

**RECORD OPEN-END RESPONSE**

Base: VOTED=1 AND XFORM=3

**VOTEFORAGNST [S]**

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

1 A vote FOR Trump

2 A vote AGAINST Trump

3 Trump was not much of a factor in your vote

BASE: ASK ALL

*Scripter: Randomize and record order of items a and b*

*Scripter: Randomize and record order of responses 1-2 with 3 always last, use same order for both items*

**HSKNWLDG [S]**

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?

1 Republican Party

2 Democratic Party

3 Don’t know **[anchor]**

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

1 Republican Party

2 Democratic Party

3 Don’t know **[anchor]**

Base: VOTED=1

*Scripter: Randomize and record order of responses*

**VTPLANPOST [S]**

When did you vote in the elections this November? **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF PUNCHES 1 AND 2]**

1 On Election Day

2 Before Election Day

Base: VOTED=1

**EARLY1 [S]**

How did you vote in the November election?

1 Voted in person

2 Mailed in ballot

Base: EARLY1=1

**HOWVOTE [S]**

How did you cast your ballot in the November election?

1 Paper ballot counted by hand

2 Paper ballot scanned and counted by a computer

3 Electronic or mechanical voting machine

Base: ASK IF VOTED (VOTED=1):

**FIRST [S]**

Is this the first year you have ever voted, or have you voted in elections before this year?

1 First time voting

2 Had voted before

Base: EARLY1=1

*Scripter: for the specify, only allow up to 24 hours. Set up to capture HH:MM format*

*Scripter: Soft prompt if item 5 (more than hour) selected but no response in text box: You did not provide a response in the text box. If you would like to skip, click Next.*

**V7 [S]**

When you went to vote, approximately how long did you have to wait in line to vote?

1 Not at all

2 Less than 10 minutes

3 10-30 minutes

4 31 minutes – 1 hour

5 More than 1 hour (please specify **[N in HH:MM format, only allow range 00:00 to 24:00 – format as numeric entry so keypad will come up on mobile devices]**)

**[PROGRAMMING NOTE: FOR THE SPECIFY CAP AT 24 HOURS AND SET UP AS hh:mm FORMAT]**

Base: (EARLY1=1) AND (XFORM=1 or XFORM=2)

**VTCROWD [S]**

When you went to vote, would you say it was…

1 Very crowded

2 Somewhat crowded

3 Not too crowded

4 Not at all crowded

Base: EARLY1=1 AND (XFORM=3 or XFORM=4)

**KNPOLL [S]**

When you went to vote, did you personally know any of the people working at the polling place?

1 Yes

2 No

Base: VOTED=0

**WISH\_VOTED [S]**

Do you wish that you had voted in the election?

1. Yes
2. No

Base: VOTED=0

*Scripter: Randomize and record order of responses 1 and 2. Show question text in same order as responses.*

**POL5MOD [S]**

If you had voted in the elections this November for the U.S. House of Representatives, would you have voted for **[Show in same order as 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 TO MATCH ORDER IN STEM]**

1 Republican Party’s candidate

2 Democratic Party’s candidate

3 Another party’s candidate **[anchor]**

4 Not sure **[anchor]**

Base: VOTED=0

*Scripter: Randomize and recorde order of items a-f*

*Scripter: Show across 2 screens*

NOVOTERSN2 [S]

There are lots of different reasons why many people don’t vote. For you personally, how much of a reason, if at all, is each of the following for why you did not vote? [RANDOMIZE]

a. I didn’t think my vote would make a difference

1 Major reason

2 Minor reason

3 Not a reason

b. I didn’t care who won the congressional election in my area

1 Major reason

2 Minor reason

3 Not a reason

c. I’m not registered or not eligible to vote

1 Major reason

2 Minor reason

3 Not a reason

d. It was too inconvenient for me to vote

1 Major reason

2 Minor reason

3 Not a reason

e. I don’t like politics

1 Major reason

2 Minor reason

3 Not a reason

f. I forgot to vote

1 Major reason

2 Minor reason

3 Not a reason

BASE: ASK ALL

**HOUSEDRCT [S]**

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?

1 A lot

2 Some

3 Not much

4 Not at all

Base: XFORM=1 or XFORM=2

**DEM2YR [S]**

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

1 Successful

2 Unsuccessful

Base: XFORM=3 or XFORM=4

**TRUMP2YR [S]**

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

1 Successful

2 Unsuccessful

Base: ASK ALL

**ISSUCMPGN [S]**

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

1 More

2 Less

Base: XFORM=1 or XFORM=3

*Scripter: Randomly assign respondents to order 1-4 or 4-1. Record order.*

**EMTCONGDEM [S]**

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

**[ROTATE ORDER 1-4 FOR HALF, 4-1 FOR OTHER HALF. RECORD IF RESPONDENT WAS SHOWN 1-4 OR 4-1]**

1 Excited

2 Relieved

3 Disappointed

4 Angry

*SHOW HOUSEMAJ and SNTMAJ in ORDER BY FORM. IF XFORM=2, SHOW SNTMAJ FIRST. IF XFORM=4, SHOW HOUSEMAJ FIRST, RECORD ORDER*

Base: XFORM=2 or XFORM=4

**HOUSEMAJ [S]**

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

1 Happy

2 Unhappy

Base: XFORM=2 or XFORM=4

**SNTMAJ [S]**

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

1 Happy

2 Unhappy

Base: XFORM=1 or XFORM=2 or XFORM=3

*Scripter: Randomize and record order of responses*

**TAKLEAD [S]**

Who in Washington do you think should take the lead in solving the nation’s problems?

1 Donald Trump

2 Democratic congressional leaders

Base: XFORM=4

*Scripter: Randomize order of responses 1-2 with 3 always last, record order of responses*

**TAKLEAD2 [S]**

Who in Washington do you think should take the lead in solving the nation’s problems?

1 Donald Trump

2 Democratic congressional leaders

3 Both **[anchor]**

BASE: ASK ALL

**DEMPLAN [S]**

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

1 Approve

2 Disapprove

BASE: ASK ALL

**POL12 [S]**

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?

1 Get better

2 Get worse

3 Stay about the same

BASE: ASK ALL

*Scripter: Randomize and record order of items shown. Show across 2 screens.*

*Scripter: Randomize order of responses 1-2 with 3 always last, record order of responses, use same order for all items shown*

**PRZCNG [S]**

Who do you think will have the better approach to each of the following issues? **[RANDOMIZE, SPLIT OVER TWO SCREENS]**

a. **[show xform=1 or xform=3]** Jobs and economic growth

1 Donald Trump

2 Democrats in Congress

3 Not much difference between the two **[anchor]**

b. **[show xform=1 or xform=3]** The budget deficit

1 Donald Trump

2 Democrats in Congress

3 Not much difference between the two **[anchor]**

c. **[show xform=1 or xform=3]** Foreign policy

1 Donald Trump

2 Democrats in Congress

3 Not much difference between the two **[anchor]**

d. **[show xform=1 or xform=3]** Health care

1 Donald Trump

2 Democrats in Congress

3 Not much difference between the two **[anchor]**

e. **[show xform=1 or xform=3]** Social Security

1 Donald Trump

2 Democrats in Congress

3 Not much difference between the two **[anchor]**

f. **[show xform=1 or xform=3]** Ethics in government

1 Donald Trump

2 Democrats in Congress

3 Not much difference between the two **[anchor]**

g. **[show xform=2 or xform=4]** Taxes

1 Donald Trump

2 Democrats in Congress

3 Not much difference between the two **[anchor]**

h. **[show xform=2 or xform=4]** Immigration policy

1 Donald Trump

2 Democrats in Congress

3 Not much difference between the two **[anchor]**

i. **[show xform=2 or xform=4]** The environment

1 Donald Trump

2 Democrats in Congress

3 Not much difference between the two **[anchor]**

j. **[show xform=2 or xform=4]** Gun policy

1 Donald Trump

2 Democrats in Congress

3 Not much difference between the two **[anchor]**

k. **[show xform=2 or xform=4]** Trade policy

1 Donald Trump

2 Democrats in Congress

3 Not much difference between the two **[anchor]**

l. **[show xform=2 or xform=4]** Medicare

1 Donald Trump

2 Democrats in Congress

3 Not much difference between the two **[anchor]**

RANDOMIZE AND RECORDER ORDER OF COMPDT AND COMPDEM

BASE: ASK ALL

**COMPDT**

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

1 A great deal

2 A fair amount

3 Not much

4 Not at all

BASE: ASK ALL

**COMPDEM**

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

1 A great deal

2 A fair amount

3 Not much

4 Not at all

*RANDOMIZE AND RECORD ORDER OF BLOCKS VTCONF\_COM/VTCONF\_US AND VTADMIN\_COM/VTADMIN\_US*

*SHOW ORDER OF VTCONF BY FORM. IF XFORM=1 or 2, SHOW VTCONF\_COM FIRST. IF XFORM=3 or 4, SHOW VTCONF\_US FIRST*

BASE: ASK ALL

*Show on same screen as VTCONF\_US*

**VTCONF\_COM [S]**

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

1 Very confident

2 Somewhat confident

3 Not too confident

4 Not at all confident

BASE: ASK ALL

*Show on same screen as VTCONF\_COM*

**VTCONF\_US [S]**

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

1 Very confident

2 Somewhat confident

3 Not too confident

4 Not at all confident

*RANDOMIZE AND RECORD ORDER OF BLOCKS VTCONF\_COM/VTCONF\_US AND VTADMIN\_COM/VTADMIN\_US*

*[SHOW ORDER OF VTCONF BY FORM. IF XFORM=1 or 2, SHOW VTADMIN\_COM FIRST. IF XFORM=3 or 4, SHOW VTADMIN\_US FIRST*

BASE: ASK ALL

*Show on same screen as VTADMIN\_US*

**VTADMIN\_COM [S]**

Do you think the elections in YOUR COMMUNITY were run and administered…

1 Very well

2 Somewhat well

3 Not too well

4 Not at all well

BASE: ASK ALL

*Show on same screen as VTADMIN\_COM*

**VTADMIN\_US [S]**

Do you think the elections in the UNITED STATES were run and administered…

1 Very well

2 Somewhat well

3 Not too well

4 Not at all well

ASK F\_PARTYSUM\_FINAL=2

Randomize order of response options

**DEMOVRSGHT [S]**

Thinking about Democratic control of the House of Representatives next year, which concerns you more?

1 That Democrats in Congress will FOCUS TOO MUCH on investigating the Trump administration

2 That Democrats in Congress will NOT FOCUS ENOUGH on investigating the Trump administration

BASE: ASK ALL

*Scripter: Randomize and record item order. Show across two screens.*

**LRNGFP [S]**

Thinking about long-range foreign policy goals, how much priority, if any, do you think each of the following should be given? **[RANDOMIZE, SPLIT OVER TWO SCREENS]:**

a. **[show if xform=1]** Preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

b. **[show if xform=1]** Protecting the jobs of American workers

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

c. **[show if xform=1]** Strengthening the United Nations

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

d. **[show if xform=1]** Reducing U.S. military commitments overseas

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

e. **[show if xform=1]** Attracting skilled workers from other countries

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

f. **[show if xform=1]** Limiting the power and influence of Russia

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

g. **[show if xform=2]** Taking measures to seek out and destroy terrorist groups in other countries

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

h. **[show if xform=2]** Helping improve living standards in developing nations

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

i. **[show if xform=2]** Promoting democracy in other nations

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

j. **[show if xform=2]** Reducing illegal immigration into the U.S.

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

k. **[show if xform=2]** Finding a solution to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

l. **[show if xform=2]** Limiting the power and influence of China

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

m. **[show if xform=3]** Maintaining the U.S. military advantage over all other countries

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

n. **[show if xform=3]** Protecting groups or nations that are threatened with genocide

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

o. **[show if xform=3]** Dealing with global climate change

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

p. **[show if xform=3]** Reducing our trade deficit with foreign countries

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

q. **[show if xform=3]** Promoting and defending human rights in other countries

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

r. **[show if xform=3]** Reducing the spread of infectious diseases, such as AIDS and Ebola

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

s. **[show if xform=3]** Limiting the power and influence of Iran

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

t. **[show if xform=4]** Improving relationships with our allies

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

u. **[show if xform=4]** Taking measures to protect the U.S. from terrorist attacks

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

v. **[show if xform=4]** Getting other countries to assume more of the costs of maintaining world order

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

w. **[show if xform=4]** Promoting U.S. business and economic interests

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

x. **[show if xform=4]** Aiding refugees fleeing violence around the world

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

y. **[show if xform=4]** Reducing legal immigration into the U.S.

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

z. **[show if xform=4]** Limiting the power and influence of North Korea

1 Top priority

2 Some priority

3 No priority

Base: IF XFORM=1 or XFORM=2

**ECON1 [S]**

Thinking about the nation’s economy…

How would you rate economic conditions in this country today?

1 Excellent

2 Good

3 Only fair

4 Poor

Base: IF XFORM=3 OR XFORM=4

**ECONALT [S]**

Thinking about the nation’s economy…

How would you rate economic conditions in this country today?

1 Very good

2 Somewhat good

3 Somewhat bad

4 Very bad

BASE: ASK ALL

**FAMTLKPOL [S]**

Thinking about when you get together with family members other than those who you live with...

In general, would you say that your family tries to avoid talking about politics, or is your family generally okay with talking about politics?

1 Tries to avoid talking about politics

2 Okay with talking about politics

BASE: ASK ALL

*Scripter: Randomly show response in order 1-4 or 4-1. Record order.*

**FAMVIEWS [S]**

Still thinking about when you get together with family members other than those who you live with...

What best describes your family members’ political positions? **[REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF SAMPLE]**

1 Almost everyone in my family shares my political views

2 Most of my family members share my political views, but a few people have different opinions

3 A few of my family members share my political views, but most have different opinions

4 Almost no one in my family shares my political views

Base: (IF XFORM=2 or XFORM=3) AND (VOTED=1)

*Scripter: Show in same order as VTEASY\_W38. IF VTEASY\_W38=1, show in order 1-4. IF VTEASY\_W38=2, show in order 4-1. If VTEASY=0, randomly assign an order of 1-4 or 4-1*

**VTEASY [S]**

Overall, was voting in the elections this November for you personally... **[MATCH ORDER OF RESPONSE OPTIONS TO WHAT RESPONDENTS RECEIVED IN W38]**

1 Very easy

2 Somewhat easy

3 Somewhat difficult

4 Very difficult

Base: VOTED=1

**VTPPL\_POST [S]**

How well did **[if xform=1 show:** poll workers in your community **/ if xform=2 and NOT IN DC show:** officials who run elections in your state **/ if xform=2 and STATE=DC show:** officials who run elections in the District of Columbia **/ if xform=3 show:** officials who run elections in your local area  **/ if xform=4 show:** officials who run elections across the United States**]** do their job during the elections this November?

1 Very well

2 Somewhat well

3 Not too well

4 Not at all well

Base: IF XFORM=1 or XFORM=2

**VTSYSSEC\_ST [S]**

How confident are you that election systems in **[NOT IN DC:** “YOUR STATE”**; IF IN DC:** “the DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA”**]** were secure from hacking and other technological threats during the elections?

1 Very confident

2 Somewhat confident

3 Not too confident

4 Not at all confident

Base: XFORM=4

**VTSYSSEC\_US [S]**

How confident are you that election systems in the UNITED STATES were secure from hacking and other technological threats during the elections?

1 Very confident

2 Somewhat confident

3 Not too confident

4 Not at all confident

Base: XFORM=3

**FRGNINFL\_POST2 [S]**

Do you think Russia or other foreign governments influenced the U.S. congressional elections, or not?

1 Definitely influenced

2 Probably influenced

3 Probably did NOT influence

4 Definitely did NOT influence

Base: XFORM=2 AND F\_PARTYSUM\_FINAL=1

**GOPDIRCT [S]**

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

1 Very optimistic

2 Somewhat optimistic

3 Somewhat pessimistic

4 Very pessimistic

Base: XFORM=4 AND F\_PARTYSUM\_FINAL=2

**DEMDIRCT [S]**

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

1 Very optimistic

2 Somewhat optimistic

3 Somewhat pessimistic

4 Very pessimistic

Base: XFORM=1

**PRMRCHLNG [S]**

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?

1 Yes

2 No

Base: XFORM=3 OR XFORM=4

*Scripter: Randomize and record order of responses 1 and 2.*

**TRUMPMT [S]**

What do you think Donald Trump’s impact was on Republican candidates in House and Senate elections around the country? **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

1 Trump mostly helped Republican candidates

2 Trump mostly hurt Republican candidates

3 Trump helped about as much as he hurt Republican candidates **[anchor]**

Base: ASK ALL

Scripter: Randomize and record responses 1 and 2. Anchor 3 last.

**MOREWMN1POST**

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

1 A good thing

2 A bad thing

3 Neither a good thing nor a bad thing **[anchor]**

BASE: ASK ALL

**TWITTER [S]**

Do you use Twitter?

1 Yes

2 No

Base: TWITTER=1

**TWITTER\_USE [S]**

About how often do you use or visit Twitter?

1          Several times a day

2          Once a day

3          A few times a week

4          Once a week

5          A few times a month

6 Once a month or less

BASE: ASK ALL

*Scripter: Randomly show responses in order 1-5 or 5-1. Record order*

**TALKREL** **[S]**

How often do you talk about religion with people outside your family? **[REVERSE ORDER OF RESPONSE OPTIONS]**

1          At least once a week

2          Once or twice a month

3          Several times a year

4          Seldom

5          Never

BASE: ASK ALL

**QCEN1 [S]**

Have you ever heard of the United States Census, or have you not heard of this?

1. Yes, have heard
2. No, have not heard

Base: QCEN1=2 or refused

**QCEN1a [S]**

The Census is the count of all people who live in the United States. Have you ever heard of that before, or have you not heard of that?

1. Yes, have heard
2. No, have not heard

BASE: ASK ALL

**QCEN5 [S]**

How important do you think the Census is for the United States?

1. Very important
2. Somewhat important
3. Not too important
4. Not at all important

BASE: ASK ALL

**QCEN6 [S]**

Do you believe that responding to the Census form would…

1. Benefit you personally
2. Harm you personally
3. Neither benefit nor harm you

BASE: ASK ALL

**QCEN7 [S]**

Do you believe that responding to the Census form would…

1. Benefit your community
2. Harm your community
3. Neither benefit nor harm your community

1. Open-end responses are excluded from public datasets to protect the confidentiality of ATP panelists [↑](#footnote-ref-1)