

This Washington Post-ABC News poll was conducted by telephone September 18-21, 2017, among a random national sample of 1,002 adults, including landline and cell phone respondents. Results have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. Sampling, data collection and tabulation by Abt Associates of Cambridge, MA.

*= less than 0.5 percent

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
9/21/17	39	26	13	57	9	48	4
8/20/17	37	22	15	58	13	45	5
7/13/17	36	25	11	58	10	48	6
4/20/17	42	27	15	53	10	43	5

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Trump is handling [ITEM]? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

9/21/17 - Summary Table

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	op.
a. the economy	43	27	16	49	13	36	8
b. recent hurricanes in Texas and Florida	56	35	21	31	11	20	13
c. immigration	35	24	11	62	11	51	3

Trend where available:

a. the economy

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
9/21/17	43	27	16	49	13	36	8
7/13/17	43	26	17	41	12	29	16

b. recent hurricanes in Texas and Florida

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
9/21/17	56	35	21	31	11	20	13

Compare to:

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bush is handling the situation caused by Hurricane Katrina?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opin.
3/5/06	36	NA	NA	63	NA	NA	1
9/11/05*	44	24	20	54	15	39	2
9/2/05	46	26	20	47	16	31	8

*9/11/05 and previous, "the way Bush is handling"

c. No trend.

3. What ONE WORD best describes your impression of Trump? Just the one word that best describes him.

	9/21/17
Incompetent/Incompetence	4
Arrogant	3
Strong	3
Idiot/Idiotic	2
Egocentric/Egomaniac/Egotistical	2
Ignorant	2
Racist	2
Unqualified	2
Great/Greatest/Greatness	2
Narcissist/Narcissistic	2
Leader	1
A--/A--hole	1
Good/good leader/good president	1
Determined/Determination	1
Businessman/business	1
Honest/Honesty	1
American	1
Bully	1
Patriot/Patriotic	1
Bad	1
Trying	1
Disappointing/Disappointed	1
Unpredictable	1
Awesome	1
Liar	1
Unique	1
Bigot	1
Unfit	1
Intelligent	1
Unexpected	1
Okay	1
Selfish	1
Joke	1
Buffoon	1
Disgust/Disgusting	1
Horrible	1
Clown	1
Change	1
Immature	1
Bold	1
Other	46
No opinion	6

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way [ITEM] are doing their job? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

9/21/17 - Summary Table

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No op.
	NET	Strongly	Smwht	NET	Smwht	Strongly	
a. the Democrats in Congress	35	12	22	57	25	32	9
b. the Republicans in Congress	22	4	18	69	25	45	8

Trend:

a. the Democrats in Congress

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
9/21/17	35	12	22	57	25	32	9

10/18/15	35	12	23	59	19	39	6
3/29/15	38	11	26	57	24	33	5
10/19/14	30	9	21	67	27	40	3
9/7/14	33	12	21	61	22	39	6
1/12/14	34	11	23	60	19	40	6
12/15/13	34	NA	NA	64	NA	NA	2
3/10/13	34			62			4
1/13/13	37			59			3
12/16/12	39			56			5
3/10/12	34			60			6
1/15/12	33			62			5
12/18/11	27			66			7
4/17/11	36			60			4
10/3/10	36			61			3
7/18/09	47			48			5
4/24/09	45			49			6
2/22/09	50			44			6
7/13/08	35			57			8
2/1/08	39			54			7
12/9/07	40			53			6
11/1/07	36			58			6
9/30/07	38			57			5
7/21/07	46			51			2
6/1/07	44			49			6
4/15/07	54			44			2
10/8/06	48			50			3
5/15/06	39			58			4
11/2/05	41			54			5
6/5/05	42			56			3
6/6/99	51			42			7
3/14/99	51			42			7
7/8/97	45			49			6
4/5/95	36			60			4
10/31/94	39			53			8
10/23/94	36			59			5
9/11/94	41	"	"	53	"	"	6

b. the Republicans in Congress

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
9/21/17	22	4	18	69	25	45	8
10/18/15	24	6	18	71	22	49	6
3/29/15	27	8	19	68	24	44	6
10/19/14	25	6	19	72	27	45	4
9/7/14	21	5	15	72	26	47	7
1/12/14	25	6	18	71	24	46	5
12/15/13	24	NA	NA	73	NA	NA	3
3/10/13	24			72			3
1/13/13	24			71			4
12/16/12	25			70			5
3/10/12	23			71			6
1/15/12	21			75			4
12/18/11	20			72			7
9/1/11	28			68			3
4/17/11	34			63			3
10/3/10	30			67			3
7/18/09	36			58			6
4/24/09	30			64			6
2/22/09	38			56			6
7/13/08	25			69			6
2/1/08	30			63			7
12/9/07	32			63			5

11/1/07	32			63			6
9/30/07	29			67			4
7/21/07	34			64			2
6/1/07	36			58			6
4/15/07	39			59			2
10/8/06	35			63			2
5/15/06	33			64			3
11/2/05	35			61			4
6/5/05	42			56			2
6/6/99	41			52			7
3/14/99	40			56			4
7/8/97	40			54			6
9/15/96 RV	46			48			6
6/30/96	38			56			6
4/5/95	45			50			5
10/31/94	33			59			7
10/23/94	31			64			5
9/11/94	35	"	"	59	"	"	6

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Paul Ryan is handling his job as Speaker of the House of Representatives? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
9/21/17	31	8	24	51	19	31	18

Compare to:

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
John Boehner:							
4/17/11	43	13	30	40	20	20	17
1/16/11	39	12	28	27	14	14	33
Nancy Pelosi:							
3/26/10	42	20	22	46	9	37	12
1/15/10	40	12	28	48	11	37	12
6/21/09	38	NA	NA	45	NA	NA	16
4/15/07	53			35			12
2/25/07	50			31			18
1/19/07	54			25			21

Newt Gingrich:

11/7/98*	38			58			4
7/12/98	41			44			15
5/12/98	41			44			15
1/19/98	40			52			7
4/24/97	26			62			12
3/9/97	33			61			7
9/15/96 RV	39			54			7
1/7/96	30			61			8
11/19/95	27			65			8
6/8/95	35			50			15
3/19/95	37			48			15
3/5/95	38			51			11
1/29/95	40			48			12
1/4/95	35			37			28
12/20/94**	35	"	"	43	"	"	22

* "has handled"

** "as incoming speaker"

6. Do you think Trump has brought needed change to Washington, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
9/21/17	39	59	2

Compare to:

	Yes	No	No opinion
Obama:			
9/2/10	44	53	2
3/26/10	54	44	1
1/15/10	50	49	1
7/18/09	62	35	3
4/24/09	63	34	2
1/16/09*	76	22	3

*"will bring"

7. Overall do you think Trump has done more to (unite the country), or has done more to (divide the country)?

	Unite	Divide	No opinion
9/21/17	28	66	6
11/14/16*	44	49	6

*Washington Post-Schar School; "will do"

Compare to:

Overall do you think [ITEM] has done more to (unite the country), or has done more to (divide the country)?

	Unite	Divide	No opinion
Obama:			
11/14/16*	50	43	7
9/7/14	38	55	7
5/19/13	47	45	8
Bush:			
6/5/05	43	55	2
9/8/04 RV	48	44	8
8/29/04 RV	47	48	5
4/18/04	50	48	2
3/7/04	48	49	3
12/21/03	58	36	6

*Washington Post-Schar School

8. Do you think Trump is doing too (much), too (little), or about the right amount to compromise with the Democratic leaders in Congress on important issues?

	Too much	Too little	About the right amount	No opinion
9/21/17	8	56	30	5

Compare to:

Do you think Obama is doing too (much), too (little) or about the right amount to compromise with the Republican leaders in Congress on important issues?

	Too much	Too little	About the right amount	No opinion
1/13/13	10	48	38	5
4/17/11	12	48	38	2

12/12/10	11	40	45	4
2/8/10	9	44	45	2

9. Do you think the Democratic leaders in Congress are doing too (much), too (little), or about the right amount to compromise with Trump on important issues?

	Too much	Too little	About the right amount	No opinion
9/21/17	8	60	26	6

Compare to:

Do you think the Republican leaders in Congress are doing too (much), too (little) or about the right amount to compromise with Obama on important issues?

	Too much	Too little	About the right amount	No opinion
1/13/13	10	67	17	5
12/12/10	8	54	32	7
2/8/10	8	58	30	4

10. How would you rate the federal government's overall response to the situation caused by the recent hurricanes in Texas and Florida: excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	--- Excellent/good ---			--- Not so good/poor ---			No opinion
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Not so good	Poor	
9/21/17	70	19	52	24	17	8	5
10/31/12* LV	78	27	51	5	4	1	16
9/11/05**	38	5	32	62	28	34	*
9/2/05***	48	11	37	51	23	28	1

*"hurricane that hit the east coast this week"

**"caused by Hurricane Katrina"

***"caused by the hurricane and flooding"

11. Do you think the severity of recent hurricanes is most likely (the result of global climate change), or is it (just the kind of severe weather events that happen from time to time)?

	Climate change	Just happens	No opinion
9/21/17	55	41	5
8/20/06*	45	49	5
9/27/05	39	54	7
9/7/05**	25	66	9

*"like Katrina"

**Pew Research Center "Hurricane Katrina"

12. Do you support or oppose the agreement by Trump and congressional Democrats to both fund disaster relief and raise the limit on the national debt? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
9/21/17	65	29	36	23	12	11	12

On another topic,

13. Do you think North Korea does or does not pose a threat to the United States? (IF DOES POSE THREAT) Would you say it's a serious threat, or not serious?

	--- Does pose threat --				
	NET	Serious	Not serious	Does not pose threat	No opinion
9/21/17	84	70	13	14	3
7/13/17	81	66	14	15	4
3/13/05	74	54	20	23	3
4/16/03	79	55	24	18	3

14. How much do you trust [ITEM] to act responsibly in handling the situation involving North Korea: a great deal, a good amount, just some, or not at all?

9/21/17 - Summary Table

	---- Trust more ----			---- Trust less ---			No opinion
	NET	Great deal	Good amount	NET	Just some	Not at all	
a. Donald Trump	37	23	14	62	20	42	1
b. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un	8	4	3	89	13	76	3
c. U.S. military leaders	72	43	29	27	20	7	2

Trend:

a. Donald Trump

Compare to:

How much do you trust Trump to handle the situation involving North Korea? Do you trust him a great deal, a good amount, just some or not at all in terms of handling this situation?

	---- Trust more ----			---- Trust less ---			No opinion
	NET	Great deal	Good amount	NET	Just some	Not at all	
7/13/17	36	22	14	63	22	40	1

b-c. No trend.

15. To try to get North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons, would you support or oppose the U.S. [ITEM]?

9/21/17 - Summary Table

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
a. offering North Korea financial incentives such as aid money, or more trade	32	61	6
b. placing tougher economic sanctions on North Korea	76	19	5
c. bombing North Korean military targets	39	54	7
d. agreeing to stop conducting U.S. military exercises with South Korea	43	47	9

*Half sample asked items a-b, other half asked c-d.

Trend:

a. offering North Korea financial incentives such as aid money, or more trade

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
9/21/17	32	61	6
3/13/05	51	47	2

b. No trend

c. bombing North Korean military targets

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
9/21/17	39	54	7
3/13/05	20	77	3

d. No trend

16. In general, should the U.S. (launch a military strike on North Korea first, before it can attack America or U.S. allies) or should the U.S. (only attack North Korea if it attacks America or U.S. allies)?

	U.S. should strike first	U.S. should only attack if North Korea attacks	No opinion
9/21/17	23	67	10

17. If the U.S. launched a military strike on North Korea first, do you think it would or would not risk starting a larger war in East Asia? (IF RISK) Do you think that would be a major risk; or a risk, but not major?

	NET	Major	Not major	Not a risk	No opinion
9/21/17	82	69	13	13	5

18. On another subject, given what you've heard or read about it, do you support or oppose Trump's tax plan? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	NET	Support Strongly	Support Somewhat	NET	Oppose Somewhat	Oppose Strongly	No opinion
9/21/17	28	15	14	44	11	32	28

19. Do you think the current U.S. tax system favors the (middle class), favors the (wealthy), or treats both groups about equally? Do you think it favors the middle class/wealthy strongly or somewhat?

	NET	Favors middle class Strongly	Favors middle class Somewhat	NET	Favors wealthy Somewhat	Favors wealthy Strongly	Treats both equally	No opin.
9/21/17	5	3	2	73	18	55	17	5
2/4/12	9	5	4	68	12	56	19	4

20. How about Trump's tax plan? Do you think it mainly will reduce taxes more for the (middle class), mainly reduce taxes more for the (wealthy), or treat both groups about equally?

	Reduce taxes on the middle class	Reduce taxes on the wealthy	Treat both equally	No opinion
9/21/17	10	51	24	15

21. Overall, do you think large business corporations pay their fair share in taxes, pay too (little), or pay too (much)?

	Pay fair share	Pay too little	Pay too much	No opinion
9/21/17	17	65	11	7
1/15/15	19	65	9	7

22. Do you support or oppose reducing income taxes paid by [ITEM]? How about income taxes paid by [NEXT ITEM]?

9/21/17 - Summary Table

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
a. businesses	45	48	7
b. middle and lower-income people	78	19	3
c. higher-income people	33	62	5

Trend:

a. businesses

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
9/21/17	45	48	7
1/15/17	48	45	7

b. middle and lower-income people

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
9/21/17	78	19	3
1/15/17	75	22	3

c. higher-income people

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
9/21/17	33	62	5
1/15/17	36	61	3

23. Do you support or oppose a program that allows undocumented immigrants to stay in the United States if they arrived here as a child, completed high school or military service and have not been convicted of a serious crime? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	Support			Oppose			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
9/21/17	86	69	18	11	3	9	2

23a. Would you support or oppose a law that combined this proposal for undocumented immigrants with increased funding for border security programs?

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
9/21/17	65	27	8

24. Do you support or oppose [ITEM]? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

9/21/17 - Summary Table

	Support			Oppose			No opin.
	NET	Strong	Smwht	NET	Smwht	Strong	
a. requiring employers to verify that all new hires are living in the U.S. legally	79	61	18	19	9	10	2
b. building a wall along the U.S. border with Mexico	37	27	10	62	9	53	1
c. reducing the number of legal immigrants allowed into the U.S. by half	39	24	15	55	19	36	6

Trend:

a. requiring employers to verify that all new hires are living in the U.S. legally

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
9/21/17	79	61	18	19	9	10	2

Compare to:

Would you support or oppose each of the following items. First is, requiring all businesses to check on the immigration status of potential employees

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
4/14/13	83	66	17	15	6	9	2

b. building a wall along the U.S. border with Mexico

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
9/21/17	37	27	10	62	9	53	1
1/15/17	37	25	12	60	13	47	3
9/8/16*	34	24	10	63	11	52	3

*Do you support or oppose building a wall across the entire U.S. border with Mexico? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

c. No trend.

25. Before Trump became president, do you think the U.S. was (too tough) in enforcing immigration laws, (not tough enough) or was enforcement about right?

	Too tough	Not tough enough	About right	No opinion
9/21/17	6	49	44	1

26. How about now, under Trump, do you think the U.S. is (too tough) in enforcing immigration laws, (not tough enough) or is enforcement about right?

	Too tough	Not tough enough	About right	No opinion
9/21/17	45	22	30	4

27. Is it your impression that undocumented immigrants commit (more violent crimes) than other people in this country, (fewer violent crimes), or about the same amount?

	Commit more violent crimes	Commit fewer violent crimes	About the same amount	No opinion
9/21/17	12	19	64	5

28. There's a new Republican proposal to replace the current federal health care law, known as Obamacare. It would (end the national requirement for nearly all Americans to have health insurance), (phase out the use of federal funds to help lower and moderate-income people buy health insurance), and (let states replace federal rules on health care coverage with their own rules). What do you prefer: the current federal health care law, or this Republican plan to replace it?

	---- Current law ----			-- Republican plan --			Something else (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No op.
	NET	Strngly	Smwht	NET	Smwht	Strngly			

9/21/17 56 42 14 33 11 22 1 5 5

Compare to:

What do you prefer: the current federal health care law, known as Obamacare, or the Republican plan to replace it? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	---- Current law ----			-- Republican plan --			Something	Neither	No
	NET	Strngly	Smwht	NET	Smwht	Strngly	else (vol.)	(vol.)	op.
7/13/17	50	37	13	24	7	17	4	13	9

Party ID. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as (a Democrat), (a Republican), an independent or what?

	Democrat	Republican	Independent	Other (vol.)	No opinion
9/21/17	31	23	36	6	3
7/13/17	35	23	35	6	2
4/20/17	31	24	36	6	4
1/15/17	31	23	37	5	4
10/13/16	33	25	33	5	4
9/22/16	33	23	36	6	3
9/8/16	34	24	33	5	3

*** END ***

METHODOLOGICAL DETAILS

This poll was jointly sponsored and funded by The Washington Post and ABC News. The poll is a random sample of adults in the United States, with interviews in English and Spanish.

This questionnaire was administered with the exact questions in the exact order as they appear in this document. Demographic questions are not shown. If a question was asked of a reduced base of the sample, a parenthetical preceding the question identifies the group asked. Phrases surrounded by parentheses within questions indicate clauses that were randomly rotated for respondents.

A dual frame landline and cell phone telephone sample was generated using Random Digit Dialing procedures by Survey Sampling International (SSI). Interviewers called landlines and cellular phone numbers, first requesting to speak with the youngest adult male or female at home. The final sample included 351 interviews completed on landlines and 651 interviews completed via cellular phones, including 405 interviews with adults in cell phone-only households.

This survey uses statistical weighting procedures to account for deviations in the survey sample from known population characteristics, which helps correct for differential survey participation and random variation in samples. The overall adult sample is weighted to correct for differential probabilities of selection among individuals who are landline-only, cell phone-only or dual users. Results are also weighted match the demographic makeup of the population by sex, region, age, education and race/ethnicity according to the latest Current Population Survey Social and Economic Supplement. The sample is also weighted to match the average of party identification in the previous three waves of Post-ABC surveys and the current survey.

All error margins have been adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, which is 1.2 for this survey. The design effect is a factor representing the survey's deviation from a simple random sample, and takes into account decreases in precision due to sample design and weighting procedures. Surveys that do not incorporate a design effect overstate their precision.

Unweighted

Group	sample size	Error margin
All adults	1,002	+/- 3.5 points
Half sample	484-518	5

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Contact polls@washpost.com for further information about how The Washington Post conducts polls.

