

This Washington Post-ABC News poll was conducted by telephone September 2-5, 2019, among a random national sample of 1,003 adults, with 65 percent reached on cell phones and 35 percent on landlines. Results have an error margin of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for the full sample, including design effects due to weighting. Sampling, field work and data processing by Abt Associates of Rockville, MD.

*= less than 0.5 percent

(Full methodological details appended at the end.)

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 opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
9/5/19	38	27	11	56	8	48	6
7/1/19	44	32	12	53	8	45	3
4/25/19	39	28	12	54	9	45	6
1/24/19	37	28	9	58	9	49	5
11/1/18	40	28	12	53	9	43	8
10/11/18	41	29	12	54	7	46	6
8/29/18	36	24	12	60	7	53	4
4/11/18	40	25	15	56	10	46	4
1/18/18	36	24	13	58	9	49	5
11/1/17	37	25	12	59	8	50	4
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 the economy?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
9/5/19	46	NA	NA	47	NA	NA	7
7/1/19	51	NA	NA	42	NA	NA	6
10/11/18	49	35	14	46	11	35	5
8/29/18	45	30	15	47	12	36	8
4/11/18	46	30	16	48	12	36	6
9/21/17	43	27	16	49	13	36	8
7/13/17	43	26	17	41	12	29	16

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Trump is handling trade negotiations with China?

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
9/5/19	35	56	9

4. Would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good or poor?

	----- Positive -----			----- Negative -----			No opinion
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Not so good	Poor	
9/5/19	56	16	40	43	30	13	1
11/1/18	65	15	49	34	25	9	1
8/29/18	58	12	46	40	31	9	2
1/18/18	58	14	44	40	28	12	2
1/15/17	51	6	45	48	35	14	1
3/29/15	40	2	38	59	40	19	1

1/15/15	41	3	39	58	40	18	1
10/26/14	27	1	26	72	44	28	1
9/7/14	30	1	29	69	42	27	1
4/27/14	29	1	27	71	40	31	1
3/2/14	27	2	26	72	44	28	*
10/20/13	24	2	23	75	45	30	1
9/29/12	RV 18	2	16	81	42	39	*
8/25/12	15	1	14	84	39	45	1
8/5/12*	13	1	12	87	42	44	*
5/20/12	17	1	16	83	47	36	*
2/4/12	11	*	11	89	46	42	*
11/3/11	10	1	9	89	43	47	*
7/17/11	10	1	9	90	40	50	*
6/5/11	11	1	10	89	46	44	*
1/16/11	13	1	12	87	45	41	*
10/28/10	9	*	9	90	41	49	1
10/3/10	9	1	8	90	40	50	*
9/2/10	8	*	7	92	40	53	0
7/11/10	10	1	9	90	44	46	0
6/6/10	12	*	11	88	43	45	0
1/16/09	5	1	5	94	32	62	*
9/22/08	9	*	9	91	34	57	*
4/13/08	10	1	9	90	39	51	*
2/1/08	19	1	18	81	43	38	0
12/9/07	28	3	25	72	40	32	*
11/1/07	35	3	32	64	39	26	*
4/15/07	42	5	37	57	37	20	*
12/11/06	50	7	42	50	36	14	*
10/22/06	55	10	45	45	28	17	*
10/8/06	47	7	40	53	37	16	*
3/5/06	43	5	38	57	37	19	*
1/26/06	40	5	35	60	37	23	*
12/18/05	45	5	39	55	38	17	*
11/2/05	35	3	32	65	36	29	*
9/11/05	40	3	37	59	37	22	1
6/5/05	44	3	40	56	38	19	*
4/24/05	37	2	35	63	44	20	*
9/26/04	RV 46	3	43	53	38	15	1
8/29/04	RV 45	3	41	55	37	18	*
7/25/04	46	4	42	53	39	14	*
6/20/04	45	4	41	55	38	17	*
4/18/04	43	4	39	57	39	18	*
3/7/04	39	2	37	60	38	22	1
1/18/04	42	3	39	58	42	16	0
12/21/03	42	4	39	57	41	16	1
10/29/03	33	1	32	67	45	23	*
9/13/03	30	2	27	70	45	25	*
8/11/03	32	2	30	68	43	25	*
4/30/03	35	1	34	64	46	19	*
2/9/03	28	1	27	72	49	23	*
1/20/03	25	1	25	74	48	26	1
12/15/02	35	1	33	65	44	21	1
11/4/02	LV 28	1	27	72	55	17	1
11/3/02	LV 27	1	26	72	56	17	1
11/2/02	LV 29	1	28	71	54	17	*
9/26/02	31	2	28	69	50	19	*
7/15/02	39	3	36	61	44	17	1
2/21/02	30	1	29	69	51	18	*
1/27/02	31	1	29	69	50	19	*
9/20/01	38	3	35	60	47	14	2
9/9/01	33	1	32	66	47	19	*
7/30/01	50	3	46	50	39	12	*
4/22/01	50	3	47	50	40	9	*

1/15/01	70	10	59	29	24	6	1
10/27/00 LV	86	24	61	14	11	3	*
10/26/00 LV	86	24	61	14	11	3	*
6/11/00	74	17	57	26	19	6	*
2/27/00	80	25	55	20	14	5	*
10/31/99	74	18	56	26	18	7	1
9/2/99	76	19	57	23	16	6	1
3/14/99	80	22	58	19	15	4	1
11/1/98	73	12	61	26	21	5	1
11/1/98 LV	78	13	65	22	19	3	*
10/13/97	61	12	49	39	27	11	*

*Washington Post-Kaiser Family Foundation

5. As you may know, periods of economic growth are followed by periods of recession. Do you think a recession over the next year is very likely, somewhat likely, somewhat unlikely or very unlikely?

	----- Likely -----			----- Unlikely -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	opinion
9/5/19	60	22	38	35	19	17	5
11/1/07	69	23	46	28	20	8	2
2/14/99	49	14	35	46	26	20	4

6. Do you think Trump's trade and economic policies have (decreased) the chance of a recession in the next year, (increased) the chance of a recession, or have they made no difference in this?

	Decreased	Increased	Made no difference	No opinion
9/5/19	16	43	34	7

7. How concerned are you that the current trade dispute with China will raise the price of things you and your family buy? Are you very concerned about this, somewhat concerned, not so concerned or not concerned at all?

	-- More concerned --			---- Less concerned ----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
9/5/19	60	33	27	38	14	24	2

8. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) Now I'll read a list of candidates for the Democratic nomination for president in 2020. After I've read the full list, please tell me whom you'd vote for in the primary or caucus in your state. (IF NONE OR DK/REF) Which candidate would you lean towards?

	---- 9/5/19 ----		---- 7/1/19 ----	
	All	Reg voters	All	Reg voters
Joe Biden	27	29	29	30
Bernie Sanders	19	19	23	19
Elizabeth Warren	17	18	11	12
Kamala Harris	7	7	11	13
Pete Buttigieg	4	4	4	4
Beto O'Rourke	3	3	2	2
Andrew Yang	3	3	1	*
Tulsi Gabbard	1	2	1	1
Amy Klobuchar	1	2	2	2
Cory Booker	1	1	1	1
Bill de Blasio	1	1	0	0
John Delaney	1	*	0	0
Tom Steyer	*	1	NA	NA

Michael Bennet	*	*	1	1
Steve Bullock	*	*	*	*
Julián Castro	*	*	4	3
Tim Ryan	*	*	*	*
Marianne Williamson	*	*	1	1
John Hickenlooper	NA	NA	1	1
Jay Inslee	NA	NA	1	1
Kirsten Gillibrand	NA	NA	*	*
Seth Moulton	NA	NA	0	0
Eric Swalwell	NA	NA	0	0
Other	*	*	*	*
None of these	3	3	1	1
Would not vote	3	2	*	1
No opinion	6	6	6	6

9. (ASK IF NAMED ANY CANDIDATE) (Would you consider supporting another candidate) to be the Democratic Party's nominee, or (are you definitely supporting [NAMED CANDIDATE] as long as s/he is in the race)?

	Would consider another candidate	Definitely supporting named candidate	No opinion
9/5/19	55	43	2

10. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) Regardless of who you may support, which of the Democratic candidates do you think has the best chance to defeat Donald Trump in the general election?

	9/5/19	7/1/19
Joe Biden	42	45
Bernie Sanders	14	18
Elizabeth Warren	12	7
Kamala Harris	2	9
Beto O'Rourke	2	1
Pete Buttigieg	1	1
Bill de Blasio	1	*
Amy Klobuchar	1	*
Andrew Yang	1	0
Michael Bennet	*	0
Cory Booker	*	*
Tulsi Gabbard	*	*
Tom Steyer	*	NA
Marianne Williamson	*	0
Steve Bullock	0	*
Julián Castro	0	2
John Delaney	0	*
Tim Ryan	0	*
Kirsten Gillibrand	NA	0
John Hickenlooper	NA	*
Jay Inslee	NA	0
Seth Moulton	NA	0
Eric Swalwell	NA	0
Other	*	*
All of them	3	1
Any 2 or more	2	1
None	4	1
No opinion	14	12

11. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) Regardless of which candidate has the best chance of defeating Trump, which candidate do you think would be the best president for the country?

	9/5/19
Joe Biden	23
Elizabeth Warren	19
Bernie Sanders	16
Kamala Harris	5
Pete Buttigieg	4
Beto O'Rourke	2
Andrew Yang	2
John Delaney	1
Tulsi Gabbard	1
Amy Klobuchar	1
Michael Bennet	*
Cory Booker	*
Steve Bullock	*
Julián Castro	*
Bill de Blasio	*
Tim Ryan	*
Tom Steyer	*
Marianne Williamson	*
Other	1
All of them	1
Any 2 or more	*
None	6
No opinion	16

12. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) What's more important to you - that Democrats nominate the presidential candidate (whose positions on the issues come closest to yours), or the candidate (who seems most likely to defeat Donald Trump in November 2020)?

	Closest on issues	Most likely to win	Same person (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	Both (vol.)	No opinion
9/5/19	41	50	2	1	3	3
4/25/19	47	39	1	1	5	7
1/24/19	47	43	*	1	3	6

13. (ASK IF LEANED DEMOCRAT) What kind of candidate do you think would be more likely to defeat Trump in November 2020 [ITEM], or doesn't it matter?

a. (a man) or (a woman)

	Man	Woman	Doesn't matter	No opinion
9/5/19	23	7	69	1

b. (someone who is over 70 years old) or (someone who is younger than age 70)

	Over 70	Younger than 70	Doesn't matter	No opinion
9/5/19	3	40	58	*

c. (a moderate) or (a liberal)

	Moderate	Liberal	Doesn't matter	No opinion
9/5/19	38	13	45	4

d. (someone who is white) or (someone who is a racial or ethnic minority)

	White	Minority	Doesn't matter	No opinion

9/5/19 15 6 78 1

e. (someone who is gay) or (someone who is straight)

	Gay	Straight	Doesn't matter	No opinion
9/5/19	1	29	69	1

Question 14 held for release.

15. Overall, do you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of [ITEM]? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

9/5/19 - Summary Table among Leaned Democrats

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
a. Donald Trump	8	3	6	89	9	80	3
b. Joe Biden	79	41	38	14	10	4	7
c. Bernie Sanders	82	46	36	12	6	6	6
d. Elizabeth Warren	74	43	30	11	7	4	16
e. Kamala Harris	63	27	36	16	9	7	21
f. Pete Buttigieg	53	24	29	12	6	6	35

Thinking about gun issues...

16. Would you support or oppose a nationwide ban on the sale of assault weapons?

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
9/5/19	56	46	10	41	8	33	4
4/11/18	62	51	12	35	8	26	3
2/18/18	50	38	12	46	11	36	4
6/23/16*	51	41	10	48	10	37	2
12/13/15	45	34	10	53	12	41	3
4/14/13	56	45	11	42	12	30	2
3/10/13	57	46	11	41	11	30	2
1/13/13	58	50	9	39	12	26	3
1/19/11**	63	NA	NA	34	NA	NA	3
4/26/09**	54	"	"	41	"	"	5
4/22/07***	67	54	13	30	10	21	3
5/10/00	71	60	11	27	11	16	2
9/2/99	77	68	9	22	8	14	1
5/16/99	79	67	12	19	7	12	2
6/14/94	80	NA	NA	18	NA	NA	2

*June 2016 and prior "Would you support or oppose a law requiring a nationwide ban on the sale of assault weapons?"

**CBS/NYT "Do you favor or oppose a nationwide ban on assault weapons"

***ABC News

17. Would you support or oppose [ITEM]?

9/5/19 - Summary Table

	Support	Oppose	No opinion
a. requiring background checks on all potential gun buyers, including private sales and gun shows	89	9	1
b. a nationwide ban on high capacity ammunition clips, meaning those containing more than 10 bullets	60	36	4
c. a law allowing the police to take guns away from			

people who have been found by a judge to be a danger to themselves or others	86	12	2
d. a mandatory buy back program in which the federal government would require assault weapon owners to turn in those weapons in exchange for payment	52	44	4

a. No trend.

Compare to:

Would you support or oppose a law requiring background checks on people buying guns at gun shows or online? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	Support			Oppose			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
4/14/13*	86	76	10	13	3	9	1
3/10/13	91	82	9	8	2	6	1
1/13/13	88	76	12	11	3	8	1
5/10/00	92	82	10	6	3	3	2
9/2/99	90	80	10	9	7	3	1
5/16/99	89	77	12	11	7	4	*

*"or online" added

b. a nationwide ban on high-capacity ammunition clips, meaning those containing more than 10 bullets

	Support			Oppose			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
9/5/19	60	NA	NA	36	NA	NA	4
4/14/13	56	44	12	41	10	31	3
1/13/13	65	53	12	32	11	21	3
12/16/12	59	47	12	38	9	29	2
1/16/11	57	46	11	39	10	29	3

c. a law allowing the police to take guns away from people who have been found by a judge to be a danger to themselves or others

	Support			Oppose			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
9/5/19	86	NA	NA	12	NA	NA	2
4/11/18	85	72	13	12	5	7	3

d. No trend.

18. Who do you trust more to handle gun laws in this country - (Trump) or (the Democrats in Congress)?

	Trump	Democrats in Congress	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
9/5/19	36	51	1	9	4

19. How confident are you that [ITEM] would reduce mass shootings in this country - very confident, somewhat confident, not so confident or not confident at all?

9/5/19 - Summary Table

	-- More confident --			----- Less confident -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	op.
a. improving mental health							

monitoring and treatment	76	41	35	22	11	11	2
b. passing stricter gun control laws	58	31	27	41	12	29	2

20. How worried are you, if at all, that a mass shooting could happen in your community - is that something that worries you a great deal, somewhat, not so much or not at all?

	----- Worried -----			----- Not worried -----			No opinion
	NET	Great deal	Somewhat	NET	Not so much	Not at all	
9/5/19	60	27	34	39	19	19	1
1/13/13	55	24	31	45	24	21	*

21. Do you or does anyone in your house own a gun, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
9/5/19	46	53	*
4/11/18	47	52	1
5/19/13	44	55	1
4/14/13	43	55	2
3/10/13	42	57	1
1/13/13	44	56	1
1/16/11	44	55	*
4/24/09	41	58	*
6/15/08	42	58	*
4/22/07	45	55	0
10/8/06	42	58	*
10/20/02	41	59	*
5/10/00	45	55	*
4/2/00	43	56	*
9/2/99	44	56	*
5/16/99	46	53	*

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
9/5/19	28	24	37	7	5
7/1/19	29	23	37	5	5
4/25/19	29	26	36	5	5
1/24/19	32	24	37	4	3
11/1/18	32	25	35	4	4
10/11/18	33	26	35	4	2
8/29/18	33	25	37	3	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 parentheticals 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 652 interviews completed via cellular phones, including 430 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.

All error margins have been adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, which is 1.4 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.

Group	Unweighted sample size	Error margin
All adults	1,003	+/- 3.5 points
Registered voters	877	4
Leaned Democrats	437	5.5
Leaned Democratic voters	391	6

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