

Politico/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Poll

**Voters and Health Care
in the 2018 Congressional Election**

The survey was conducted for *Politico* and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health via telephone (cell phone and landlines) by SSRS, an independent research company.

Interviews were conducted September 4 – 16, 2018, with 1,201 likely voters (those who said they were registered to vote and were either absolutely certain they would vote in the 2018 congressional election or had already voted). The margin of error for total respondents is +/- 3.3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. For questions asked of half-samples, the margin of error is approximately +/- 4.7 percentage points. More information about SSRS can be obtained by visiting www.ssrs.com

POLQ1. Will one reason for your vote for Congress be to express support for Donald Trump, to express opposition to Donald Trump, or is Trump not a factor in your choice?

	Support for Donald Trump	Opposition to Donald Trump	Trump not a factor	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	28	38	31	3
Reps	68	7	24	1
Dems	3	72	23	2

(Asked of likely voters who said one reason for their vote will be to express support for Donald Trump; n=345)

POLQ2a. Would you say that in this year's election for Congress you are voting to express support for President Trump more because you approve of most of his policies or because you like him personally?

	Total likely voters	Reps	Dems
Approve of his policies	82	84	Not enough cases for analysis (n<50)
Like him personally	5	4	
Both (vol)	12	10	
Neither (vol)	1	1	
Don't know/Refused	*	1	

(Asked of likely voters who said one reason for their vote will be to express opposition Donald Trump; n=478)

POLQ2b. Would you say that in this year's election for Congress you are voting to express opposition to President Trump more because you disapprove of most of his policies or because you dislike him personally?

	Total likely voters	Reps	Dems
Disapprove of his policies	52	Not enough cases for analysis (n<50)	51
Dislike him personally	11		10
Both (vol)	36		39
Neither (vol)	*		-
Don't know/Refused	1		*

POLQ3. Thinking ahead to the November 2018 election, please tell me how important each of the following issues will be when you decide how to vote in this year's election for the US House of Representatives? How about (INSERT ITEM)? Will that be...?

a. The economy and jobs

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	37	45	15	2	1
Reps	47	43	8	1	1
Dems	32	43	22	3	-

b. Health care

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	40	37	16	7	*
Reps	33	31	22	13	1
Dems	55	38	5	2	-

c. Abortion

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	25	27	27	19	2
Reps	29	21	26	22	2
Dems	29	32	25	12	2

(Asked of half-sample A; n=598)

d. Taxes

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	34	40	21	4	1
Reps	41	37	19	3	-
Dems	26	40	27	7	*

(Asked of half-sample A; n=598)

e. Foreign policy

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	29	45	21	4	1
Reps	35	45	16	3	1
Dems	34	40	21	5	*

(Asked of half-sample A; n=598)

f. The environment and climate change

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	23	32	27	18	*
Reps	5	22	40	32	1
Dems	43	40	13	4	*

(Asked of half-sample A; n=598)

g. Supreme Court nominees

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	38	38	16	7	1
Reps	40	43	10	6	1
Dems	47	36	11	5	1

(Asked of half-sample A; n=598)

h. Gun policy

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	39	35	19	7	*
Reps	47	33	12	7	1
Dems	43	28	22	6	1

(Asked of half-sample A; n=598)

i. Opioid and drug abuse

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	25	33	31	10	1
Reps	32	32	27	9	-
Dems	23	36	29	11	1

(Asked of half-sample B; n=603)

j. Trade and tariffs

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	21	36	33	7	3
Reps	28	38	30	3	1
Dems	17	34	36	10	3

(Asked of half-sample B; n=603)

k. Immigration

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	34	36	21	8	1
Reps	43	37	13	6	1
Dems	32	37	22	8	1

(Asked of half-sample B; n=603)

l. The federal budget deficit

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	24	36	31	8	1
Reps	30	33	33	4	*
Dems	19	38	31	9	3

(Asked of half-sample B; n=603)

m. Education

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	37	38	20	5	*
Reps	26	33	28	12	1
Dems	49	39	10	*	2

(Asked of half-sample B; n=603)

n. Terrorism

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	32	30	26	11	1
Reps	48	27	20	4	1
Dems	18	32	37	11	2

(Asked of half-sample B; n=603)

o. Poverty

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	28	34	29	8	1
Reps	19	23	42	16	*
Dems	36	40	21	2	1

Extremely Important Summary Table (% saying each of the following issues will be “extremely important”)

	Total likely voters	Reps	Dems
Health care	40	33	55
Gun policy ^a	39	47	43
Supreme Court nominees ^a	38	40	47
The economy and jobs	37	47	32
Education ^b	37	26	49
Taxes ^a	34	41	26
Immigration ^b	34	43	32
Terrorism ^b	32	48	18
Foreign policy ^a	29	35	34
Poverty ^b	28	19	36
Opioid and drug abuse ^a	25	32	23
Abortion	25	29	29
The federal budget deficit ^b	24	30	19
The environment and climate change ^a	23	5	43
Trade and tariffs ^b	21	28	17

^a = asked of half-sample A, n=598 likely voters

^b = asked of half-sample B, n=603 likely voters

(Asked of likely voters who said that health care will be an extremely important issue in their decision how to vote; n=487)

POLQ4. Now thinking specifically about health care... Please tell me how important each of the following health care issues will be when you decide how to vote in this year's election for the US House of Representatives. How about (INSERT ITEM)? Will that be...?

- a. The future of the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	54	18	10	17	1
Reps	25	16	15	41	3
Dems	70	20	7	2	1

- b. Laws affecting the availability of abortion services

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	43	24	19	12	2
Reps	33	14	27	24	2
Dems	46	29	16	7	2

- c. Lowering prescription drug prices

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	60	23	15	2	*
Reps	56	21	20	3	*
Dems	61	25	13	1	-

- d. Making sure insurance companies still have to provide health insurance for pre-existing conditions

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	73	20	4	3	*
Reps	60	22	11	6	1
Dems	82	16	2	-	-

e. Lowering the overall cost of health care

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/ Refused
Total likely voters	69	21	7	2	1
Reps	75	18	4	3	-
Dems	66	24	9	1	*

f. Making sure low-income people don't lose their Medicaid coverage

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/ Refused
Total likely voters	63	18	14	4	1
Reps	40	14	33	10	3
Dems	77	16	6	1	-

g. Providing health insurance coverage for everyone through a taxpayer-funded national plan like Medicare for all.

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/ Refused
Total likely voters	45	23	15	15	2
Reps	23	21	15	39	2
Dems	55	26	14	5	*

h. Making sure people don't lose their health insurance coverage

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/ Refused
Total likely voters	67	22	8	3	*
Reps	44	28	20	6	2
Dems	78	19	2	-	1

i Increasing federal efforts to deal with drug abuse and the opioid epidemic

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	39	31	22	8	*
Reps	45	28	16	11	*
Dems	34	36	22	8	*

j. Making sure Medicare benefits are not cut back

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	68	21	8	2	1
Reps	56	22	19	1	2
Dems	77	20	2	1	-

k. Increasing restrictions on coverage for low-income people on Medicaid, such as work requirements

	Extremely important in your vote	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	33	25	22	18	2
Reps	32	28	30	8	2
Dems	33	23	18	24	2

Extremely Summary Table (% saying each of the following health care issues will be “extremely important”)

Based on likely voters who said that health care will be an extremely important issue in their decision how to vote; n=487

	Total likely voters	Reps	Dems
Making sure insurance companies still have to provide health insurance for pre-existing conditions	73	60	82
Lowering the overall cost of health care	69	75	66
Making sure Medicare benefits are not cut back	68	56	77
Making sure people don’t lose their health insurance coverage	67	44	78
Making sure low-income people don’t lose their Medicaid coverage	63	40	77
Lowering prescription drug prices	60	56	61
The future of the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare	54	25	70
Providing health insurance coverage for everyone through a taxpayer-funded national plan like Medicare for all	45	23	55
Laws affecting the availability of abortion services	43	33	46
Increasing federal efforts to deal with drug abuse and the opioid epidemic	39	45	34
Increasing restrictions on coverage for low-income people on Medicaid, such as work requirements	33	32	33

POLQ5. From what you have heard, do you believe that President Trump’s prescription drug plan will lower prescription drug prices in the U.S. or will it not make a difference?

	Will lower prescription drug prices in the U.S.	Will not make a difference	Don’t know/ Refused
Total likely voters	24	52	24
Reps	48	23	29
Dems	6	76	18

POLQ6. 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?

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Don’t know/ Refused
Total likely voters	51	45	4
Reps	14	82	4
Dems	87	9	4

POLQ7. In terms of how well the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare, has been working, do you think over the past year it has been working better, worse, or about the same?

	Better	Worse	About the same	Don't know/Refused
Total likely voters	12	33	50	5
Reps	7	43	43	7
Dems	15	24	55	6

(Asked of likely voters who think the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare has been working better/worse over the past year)

POLQ8. Who do you think is most responsible for this? (President Trump and the Republicans), (the Democrats), or someone else?

POLQ7/POLQ8 Combo Table I

Based on likely voters who believe the ACA has been working better; n=150

	Total likely voters	Reps	Dems
President Trump and the Republicans are most responsible	21	Not enough cases for analysis (n<50)	10
The Democrats are most responsible	59		77
Someone else is most responsible	20		12
Don't know/Refused	*		1

POLQ7/POLQ8 Combo Table II

Based on likely voters who believe the ACA has been working worse; n=396

	Total likely voters	Reps	Dems
President Trump and the Republicans are most responsible	32	11	78
The Democrats are most responsible	51	78	7
Someone else is most responsible	15	10	14
Don't know/Refused	2	1	1

POLQ9. The Trump administration is expanding the availability of health plans that cover fewer benefits and offer fewer protections for people with pre-existing conditions compared to the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare. These plans are typically less expensive for younger and healthier people but may result in higher premiums for older and sicker people. Do you favor or oppose allowing insurers to sell these plans?

	Favor	Oppose	Don't know/ Refused
Total likely voters	29	62	9
Reps	48	39	13
Dems	13	83	4

POLQ10. Do you think the federal government should play a major role, a minor role, or no role in trying to make the health care system in the US work better?

	Major role	Minor role	No role	Don't know/ Refused
Total likely voters	59	24	16	1
Reps	37	35	27	1
Dems	83	12	4	1

POLQ11. Do you think it is the responsibility of the federal government to make sure all Americans have health care coverage, or is that not the responsibility of the federal government?

	It is the responsibility of the federal government	It is NOT the responsibility of the federal government	Don't know/ Refused
Total likely voters	54	44	2
Reps	21	77	2
Dems	88	10	2

POLQ12. Do you think abortion should be...?

	Legal in all cases	Legal in most cases	Illegal in most cases	Illegal in all cases	Don't know/ Refused
Total likely voters	27	31	27	10	5
Reps	11	20	47	19	3
Dems	40	42	10	4	4

POLQ13. Would you favor or oppose replacing the current health insurance system in the United States with an insurance program in which all Americans would get their health insurance from one government insurance plan like Medicare that is financed by taxpayers?

	Favor	Oppose	Don't know/ Refused
Total likely voters	46	49	5
Reps	21	76	3
Dems	70	24	6

(Asked of likely voters who would favor replacing the current health insurance system in the U.S. with an insurance program in which all Americans would get their health insurance from one government insurance plan that is financed by taxpayers; n=557)

POLQ14. Would you still favor this if it meant your own taxes would increase, or would you oppose it if it meant your own taxes would increase?

POLQ13/POLQ14 Combo Table
Based on total likely voters; n=1,201

	Total likely voters	Reps	Dems
Still favor	39	13	63
Oppose	55	82	30
Opposed originally	49	76	24
Oppose if it meant your own taxes would increase	6	6	6
Don't know/Refused	6	5	7