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## **NATIONAL: DEMS +8 ON HOUSE BALLOT**

*McConnell, Schumer, Ryan, Pelosi viewed negatively*

West Long Branch, NJ – Democrats hold an 8 point lead over Republicans in the generic House ballot as public opinion on the new tax reform law continues to be divided. The *Monmouth University Poll* also finds that views of Congress and its four top leaders remain largely negative.

The poll finds that Democrats have maintained their advantage on the generic Congressional ballot test. If the election for the House of Representatives was held today, 49% of registered voters say they would support or lean toward supporting the Democratic candidate in their district compared to 41% who would vote for the Republican. This is similar to the 50% to 41% edge Democrats held in Monmouth’s polling in March.

Public opinion remains divided on the signature legislative achievement of the Trump era. Overall, 40% of the public approve of the tax reform plan passed by Congress last December and 44% disapprove. These results are similar to polls from March (41% - 42%) and January (44% - 44%). However, there is now an 11 point gap between those who *strongly approve* (18%) and *strongly disapprove* (29%), which is somewhat larger than the 6 to 7 point gap in prior polls (20% - 26% in March and 24% - 31% in January).

“The House race outlook has held fairly steady over the past two months. Even though the public has a negative view of both the Republican and Democrat caucuses, the GOP tends to take more of a hit on the ballot test because it is the party in power,” said Patrick Murray, director of the independent Monmouth University Polling Institute.

Just 17% approve of the job Congress is doing while 71% disapprove. This result is pretty much in line with polling over the past twelve months and the disdain continues to be bipartisan. Few Republicans (21%) and Democrats (14%), as well as independents (16%), approve of Congressional job performance.

Public opinion of the four main Congressional leaders individually is also negative and it hasn't budged since Monmouth last asked about these officials in July 2017. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (10% approve and 38% disapprove) and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (17% approve and 44% disapprove) earn the largest net negative ratings at -28 points and -27 points respectively. House Speaker Paul Ryan (-17 points; 23% approve and 40% disapprove) and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (-13 points; 16% approve and 29% disapprove) also register negative views of their job performance on the whole. It should also be noted that just under 4-in-10 Americans have no opinion of the two House leaders and just over half have no opinion of their two Senate counterparts.

McConnell has the distinction of being the only leader who earns a net negative rating from his fellow partisans, at 20% approve and 27% disapprove among Republicans. The GOP base gives Ryan a net positive rating of 47% approve and 21% disapprove. Democrats give net positive ratings to their two leaders – 28% approve and 10% disapprove for Schumer along with 32% approve and 22% disapprove for Pelosi.

Three leaders earn net negative ratings in the 38 to 44 point range from Americans of the opposite party. Among Democrats, McConnell gets a 5% approve to 43% disapprove rating and Ryan gets a 10% approve to 52% disapprove rating. Among Republicans, Schumer gets a 6% approve to 50% disapprove rating. GOP hostility is significantly greater toward Pelosi, though, earning her a net negative 71 point rating of 4% approve to 75% disapprove among Republicans.

“McConnell may be disliked across the partisan spectrum, but Pelosi tends to be much more of a lightning rod for the opposition base,” said Murray.

The *Monmouth University Poll* was conducted by telephone from April 26 to 30, 2018 with 803 adults in the United States. The results in this release have a margin of error of +/- 3.5 percentage points. The poll was conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute in West Long Branch, NJ.

## QUESTIONS AND RESULTS

(\* Some columns may not add to 100% due to rounding.)

[Q1 previously released.]

### 2. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the U.S. Congress is doing?

TREND:	April 2018	March 2018	Jan. 2018	Dec. 2017	Sept. 2017	Aug. 2017	July 2017	May 2017	March 2017	Jan. 2017
Approve	17%	18%	21%	16%	17%	18%	19%	19%	25%	23%
Disapprove	71%	72%	68%	65%	69%	69%	70%	68%	59%	66%
(VOL) No opinion	12%	11%	11%	19%	15%	13%	11%	13%	16%	11%
(n)	(803)	(803)	(806)	(806)	(1,009)	(805)	(800)	(1,002)	(801)	(801)

TREND: Continued	Sept. 2016*	Aug. 2016*	June 2016*	March 2016	Jan. 2016	Dec. 2015	Oct. 2015	Sept. 2015	Aug. 2015	July 2015	June 2015	April 2015	Jan. 2015	Dec. 2014	July 2013
Approve	15%	14%	17%	22%	17%	16%	17%	19%	18%	18%	19%	21%	18%	17%	14%
Disapprove	77%	78%	76%	68%	73%	73%	71%	71%	72%	69%	71%	67%	70%	73%	76%
(VOL) No opinion	8%	9%	7%	10%	10%	10%	12%	11%	11%	12%	10%	12%	11%	11%	10%
(n)	(802)	(803)	(803)	(1,008)	(1,003)	(1,006)	(1,012)	(1,009)	(1,203)	(1,001)	(1,002)	(1,005)	(1,003)	(1,008)	(1,012)

\* Registered voters

[Q3 previously released.]

[REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY, n=681, moe = +/-3.8%.]

4. If the election for U.S. Congress was held today, would you vote for the Republican or the Democratic candidate in your district? [INCLUDING LEANERS. ITEMS WERE ROTATED]

Registered voters	April 2018	March 2018	Jan. 2018	Dec. 2017
Republican	<b>41%</b>	41%	45%	36%
Democratic	<b>49%</b>	50%	47%	51%
(VOL) Other candidate	<b>2%</b>	3%	3%	2%
(VOL) Would not vote	<b>1%</b>	2%	1%	3%
(VOL) Don't know	<b>7%</b>	6%	4%	8%
(n)	<b>(681)</b>	(708)	(711)	(702)

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the tax reform plan passed by Congress in December?

[Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?]

TREND:	April 2018	March 2018	Jan. 2018	Dec. 2017*
Strongly approve	<b>18%</b>	20%	24%	13%
Somewhat approve	<b>22%</b>	21%	20%	13%
Somewhat disapprove	<b>15%</b>	16%	13%	12%
Strongly disapprove	<b>29%</b>	26%	31%	35%
(VOL) Don't know	<b>16%</b>	17%	13%	27%
(n)	<b>(803)</b>	(803)	(806)	(806)

\*Question wording, in December 2017, was "Have you heard that the Senate and the House have passed tax reform bills and are now working on a final version, or haven't you heard about this? If HEARD: Do you approve or disapprove of this tax reform plan? [Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?]"

[QUESTIONS 6-9 WERE ROTATED]

6. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Mitch McConnell is doing as Senate Majority Leader, or do you have no opinion of him?

TREND:	April 2018	July 2017
Approve	<b>10%</b>	12%
Disapprove	<b>38%</b>	38%
No opinion	<b>52%</b>	49%
(n)	<b>(803)</b>	(800)

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Chuck Schumer is doing as Senate Minority Leader, or do you have no opinion of him?

TREND:	April 2018	July 2017
Approve	<b>16%</b>	17%
Disapprove	<b>29%</b>	28%
No opinion	<b>55%</b>	55%
(n)	<b>(803)</b>	(800)

8. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Paul Ryan is doing as Speaker of the House, or do you have no opinion of him?

TREND:	April 2018	July 2017
Approve	<b>23%</b>	23%
Disapprove	<b>40%</b>	43%
No opinion	<b>37%</b>	34%
(n)	<b>(803)</b>	(800)

9. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Nancy Pelosi is doing as House Minority Leader, or do you have no opinion of her?

TREND:	April 2018	July 2017
Approve	17%	17%
Disapprove	44%	42%
No opinion	39%	41%
(n)	(803)	(800)

[Q10-18 previously released.] [Q19-34 held for future release.]

**METHODOLOGY**

The *Monmouth University Poll* was sponsored and conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute from April 26 to 30, 2018 with a national random sample of 803 adults age 18 and older, in English. This includes 401 contacted by a live interviewer on a landline telephone and 402 contacted by a live interviewer on a cell phone. Telephone numbers were selected through random digit dialing and landline respondents were selected with a modified Troidahl-Carter youngest adult household screen. Monmouth is responsible for all aspects of the survey design, data weighting and analysis. Final sample is weighted for region, age, education, gender and race based on US Census information. Data collection support provided by Braun Research (field) and SSI (RDD sample). For results based on this sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling has a maximum margin of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points (unadjusted for sample design). Sampling error can be larger for sub-groups (see table below). In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

<i>DEMOGRAPHICS (weighted)</i>	
<i>Self-Reported</i>	
26%	<i>Republican</i>
41%	<i>Independent</i>
33%	<i>Democrat</i>
49%	<i>Male</i>
51%	<i>Female</i>
30%	<i>18-34</i>
34%	<i>35-54</i>
36%	<i>55+</i>
65%	<i>White</i>
12%	<i>Black</i>
15%	<i>Hispanic</i>
8%	<i>Asian/Other</i>

MARGIN OF ERROR		unweighted sample	moe (+/-)
TOTAL		803	3.5%
REGISTERED VOTER	Yes	681	3.8%
	No	122	8.9%
SELF-REPORTED PARTY ID	Republican	209	6.8%
	Independent	319	5.5%
	Democrat	258	6.1%
IDEOLOGY	Liberal	183	7.3%
	Moderate	316	5.5%
	Conservative	271	6.0%
GENDER	Male	400	4.9%
	Female	403	4.9%
AGE	18-34	194	7.0%
	35-54	228	6.5%
	55+	379	5.0%
RACE	White non-Hispanic	558	4.2%
	Other	230	6.5%
COLLEGE GRADUATE	No degree	460	4.6%
	4 year degree	333	5.4%
INCOME	<\$50K	294	5.7%
	\$50 to <100K	234	6.4%
	\$100K+	208	6.8%
2016 VOTE BY COUNTY	Trump 10+ pts	307	5.6%
	Swing <10 pts	162	7.7%
	Clinton 10+ pts	334	5.4%

###

Monmouth University Poll -- NATIONAL -- 5/03/18

		TOTAL	REGISTERED TO VOTE		PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Lib	Mod	Con	Male
2. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the U.S. Congress is doing?	Approve	17%	16%	20%	21%	16%	14%	11%	18%	20%	17%
	Disapprove	71%	74%	60%	66%	74%	74%	82%	71%	66%	72%
	[VOL] Dont Know	12%	10%	21%	13%	10%	12%	7%	12%	14%	11%

		GENDER	AGE 3-WAY			COLLEGE GRAD		WHITE		INCOME
		Female	18-34	35-54	55+	No degree	4 yr degree	White non-Hisp	Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	<\$50K
2. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the U.S. Congress is doing?	Approve	17%	18%	20%	13%	19%	11%	18%	15%	18%
	Disapprove	71%	65%	71%	77%	69%	79%	71%	71%	67%
	[VOL] Dont Know	13%	17%	10%	10%	12%	10%	11%	14%	16%

		INCOME		2016 MARGIN by COUNTY		
		\$50-100K	\$100K+	Trump 10+pts	Swing <10pts	Clinton 10+pts
2. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the U.S. Congress is doing?	Approve	12%	20%	17%	19%	16%
	Disapprove	78%	75%	67%	73%	75%
	[VOL] Dont Know	10%	5%	17%	9%	9%

		TOTAL	REGISTERED TO VOTE	PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER
			Yes	Rep	Ind	Dem	Lib	Mod	Con	Male
4. [REG VOTERS ONLY, WITH LEANERS:] If the election for U.S. Congress was held today, would you vote for the Republican or the Democratic candidate in your district? (with leaners)	Republican	41%	41%	91%	40%	4%	11%	37%	68%	47%
	Democrat	49%	49%	6%	40%	95%	79%	52%	23%	40%
	[VOL]Other	2%	2%	1%	4%	1%	1%	3%	2%	4%
	[VOL]Not vote	1%	1%	0%	2%	0%	2%	1%	0%	1%
	[VOL]Dont know	7%	7%	2%	15%	0%	7%	7%	7%	7%

		GENDER	AGE 3-WAY			COLLEGE GRAD		WHITE		INCOME
		Female	18-34	35-54	55+	No degree	4 yr degree	White non-Hisp	Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	<\$50K
4. [REG VOTERS ONLY, WITH LEANERS:] If the election for U.S. Congress was held today, would you vote for the Republican or the Democratic candidate in your district? (with leaners)	Republican	36%	30%	44%	46%	44%	35%	49%	26%	35%
	Democrat	57%	53%	49%	46%	45%	58%	43%	61%	53%
	[VOL]Other	0%	4%	1%	1%	3%	0%	1%	3%	3%
	[VOL]Not vote	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
	[VOL]Dont know	6%	10%	5%	6%	7%	6%	6%	8%	7%

		INCOME		2016 MARGIN by COUNTY		
		\$50-100K	\$100K+	Trump 10+pts	Swing <10pts	Clinton 10+pts
4. [REG VOTERS ONLY, WITH LEANERS:] If the election for U.S. Congress was held today, would you vote for the Republican or the Democratic candidate in your district? (with leaners)	Republican	44%	45%	53%	47%	28%
	Democrat	45%	51%	41%	34%	64%
	[VOL]Other	3%	0%	1%	2%	3%
	[VOL]Not vote	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%
	[VOL]Dont know	7%	4%	4%	16%	5%

Monmouth University Poll -- NATIONAL -- 5/03/18

		TOTAL	REGISTERED TO VOTE		PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY		
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Lib	Mod	Con
5. Do you approve or disapprove of the tax reform plan passed by Congress in December? [PROBE: Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or somewhat?]	Strongly approve	18%	19%	14%	38%	18%	4%	8%	14%	32%
	Somewhat approve	22%	23%	18%	32%	23%	14%	13%	25%	25%
	Somewhat disapprove	15%	14%	19%	9%	14%	19%	15%	18%	10%
	Strongly disapprove	29%	30%	22%	8%	29%	45%	54%	25%	17%
[VOL] Dont Know		16%	14%	27%	13%	16%	18%	10%	17%	16%

		GENDER		AGE 3-WAY			COLLEGE GRAD		WHITE
		Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	No degree	4 yr degree	White non-Hisp
5. Do you approve or disapprove of the tax reform plan passed by Congress in December? [PROBE: Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or somewhat?]	Strongly approve	22%	15%	14%	21%	20%	19%	18%	20%
	Somewhat approve	25%	19%	23%	21%	22%	23%	19%	24%
	Somewhat disapprove	12%	17%	17%	16%	11%	14%	15%	13%
	Strongly disapprove	25%	32%	23%	31%	31%	25%	39%	28%
[VOL] Dont Know		15%	18%	23%	12%	16%	19%	9%	15%

		WHITE	INCOME			2016 MARGIN by COUNTY		
		Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Trump 10+pts	Swing <10pts	Clinton 10+pts
5. Do you approve or disapprove of the tax reform plan passed by Congress in December? [PROBE: Do you (approve/disapprove) strongly or somewhat?]	Strongly approve	15%	12%	21%	27%	22%	21%	14%
	Somewhat approve	19%	23%	23%	20%	24%	28%	17%
	Somewhat disapprove	19%	15%	14%	13%	14%	12%	17%
	Strongly disapprove	29%	26%	31%	31%	25%	21%	37%
[VOL] Dont Know		19%	24%	11%	8%	17%	18%	16%

		TOTAL	REGISTERED TO VOTE		PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Lib	Mod	Con	Male
6. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Mitch McConnell is doing as Senate Majority Leader, or do you have no opinion of him?	Approve	10%	10%	8%	20%	8%	5%	3%	8%	17%	10%
	Disapprove	38%	41%	23%	27%	41%	43%	54%	40%	27%	43%
	No opinion	52%	49%	68%	53%	51%	52%	42%	52%	56%	47%

		GENDER	AGE 3-WAY			COLLEGE GRAD		WHITE		INCOME
		Female	18-34	35-54	55+	No degree	4 yr degree	White non-Hisp	Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	<\$50K
6. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Mitch McConnell is doing as Senate Majority Leader, or do you have no opinion of him?	Approve	10%	7%	10%	12%	10%	10%	10%	11%	8%
	Disapprove	33%	28%	39%	44%	31%	54%	40%	31%	29%
	No opinion	57%	65%	51%	44%	59%	36%	50%	58%	63%

		INCOME		2016 MARGIN by COUNTY		
		\$50-100K	\$100K+	Trump 10+pts	Swing <10pts	Clinton 10+pts
6. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Mitch McConnell is doing as Senate Majority Leader, or do you have no opinion of him?	Approve	9%	13%	12%	8%	10%
	Disapprove	47%	44%	35%	33%	44%
	No opinion	44%	43%	54%	60%	47%

Monmouth University Poll -- NATIONAL -- 5/03/18

		TOTAL	REGISTERED TO VOTE		PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Lib	Mod	Con	Male
7. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Chuck Schumer is doing as Senate Minority Leader, or do you have no opinion of him?	Approve	16%	16%	12%	6%	12%	28%	31%	15%	9%	15%
	Disapprove	29%	32%	16%	50%	32%	10%	17%	25%	45%	37%
	No opinion	55%	51%	72%	44%	56%	62%	53%	60%	46%	48%

		GENDER	AGE 3-WAY			COLLEGE GRAD		WHITE		INCOME
		Female	18-34	35-54	55+	No degree	4 yr degree	White non-Hisp	Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	<\$50K
7. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Chuck Schumer is doing as Senate Minority Leader, or do you have no opinion of him?	Approve	16%	10%	18%	19%	13%	24%	14%	18%	14%
	Disapprove	22%	22%	33%	31%	27%	33%	32%	24%	21%
	No opinion	61%	68%	49%	50%	60%	43%	54%	58%	65%

		INCOME		2016 MARGIN by COUNTY		
		\$50-100K	\$100K+	Trump 10+pts	Swing <10pts	Clinton 10+pts
7. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Chuck Schumer is doing as Senate Minority Leader, or do you have no opinion of him?	Approve	15%	21%	9%	16%	22%
	Disapprove	34%	36%	35%	30%	24%
	No opinion	51%	42%	56%	54%	55%

		TOTAL	REGISTERED TO VOTE		PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Lib	Mod	Con	Male
8. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Paul Ryan is doing as Speaker of the House, or do you have no opinion of him?	Approve	23%	25%	15%	47%	19%	10%	8%	24%	34%	26%
	Disapprove	40%	41%	32%	21%	42%	52%	60%	44%	26%	41%
	No opinion	37%	34%	54%	32%	39%	38%	33%	32%	40%	32%

		GENDER	AGE 3-WAY			COLLEGE GRAD		WHITE		INCOME
		Female	18-34	35-54	55+	No degree	4 yr degree	White non-Hisp	Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	<\$50K
8. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Paul Ryan is doing as Speaker of the House, or do you have no opinion of him?	Approve	20%	21%	21%	27%	24%	20%	26%	18%	22%
	Disapprove	38%	39%	41%	40%	34%	56%	40%	38%	35%
	No opinion	42%	41%	38%	33%	43%	24%	34%	44%	44%

		INCOME		2016 MARGIN by COUNTY		
		\$50-100K	\$100K+	Trump 10+pts	Swing <10pts	Clinton 10+pts
8. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Paul Ryan is doing as Speaker of the House, or do you have no opinion of him?	Approve	22%	25%	26%	29%	17%
	Disapprove	49%	43%	35%	33%	48%
	No opinion	29%	32%	40%	38%	35%



Monmouth University Poll -- NATIONAL -- 5/03/18

		TOTAL	REGISTERED TO VOTE		PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Lib	Mod	Con	Male
9. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Nancy Pelosi is doing as House Minority Leader, or do you have no opinion of her?	Approve	17%	18%	14%	4%	14%	32%	33%	17%	8%	14%
	Disapprove	44%	46%	34%	75%	44%	22%	26%	40%	63%	52%
	No opinion	39%	36%	52%	21%	42%	46%	42%	43%	29%	35%

		GENDER	AGE 3-WAY			COLLEGE GRAD		WHITE		INCOME
		Female	18-34	35-54	55+	No degree	4 yr degree	White non-Hisp	Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	<\$50K
9. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Nancy Pelosi is doing as House Minority Leader, or do you have no opinion of her?	Approve	20%	15%	17%	20%	14%	26%	14%	23%	18%
	Disapprove	38%	33%	49%	49%	43%	47%	50%	33%	38%
	No opinion	42%	52%	35%	31%	43%	28%	36%	45%	44%

		INCOME		2016 MARGIN by COUNTY		
		\$50-100K	\$100K+	Trump 10+pts	Swing <10pts	Clinton 10+pts
9. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Nancy Pelosi is doing as House Minority Leader, or do you have no opinion of her?	Approve	17%	19%	10%	13%	26%
	Disapprove	47%	52%	54%	43%	35%
	No opinion	36%	29%	35%	44%	39%