



Monmouth University Poll

West Long Branch, NJ 07764 www.monmouth.edu/polling

Follow on Twitter: @MonmouthPoll

Released:

Monday, June 18, 2018

Contact:

PATRICK MURRAY

732-979-6769 (cell); 732-263-5858 (office)

pdmurray@monmouth.edu

Follow on Twitter: @PollsterPatrick

NATIONAL: NO CHANGE IN HOUSE BALLOT

Nation on right track is up, tax reform approval is down

West Long Branch, NJ – Democrats hold a 7 point lead over Republicans in the generic House ballot, which is basically the same as the 8 point lead they held in a **Monmouth University Poll** taken in late April. Opinion that the country is on the right track has increased by 7 points but is still in the minority. On the other hand, approval of the tax reform package passed by Congress at the end of last year has slipped by 6 points. In other poll findings, the public narrowly agrees with continuing the Mueller probe.

If the election for U.S. House of Representatives was held today, 48% 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 49% to 41% edge Democrats held six weeks ago in Monmouth's polling.

The poll also finds that 34% of the public approve of the tax reform plan passed by Congress last December and 41% disapprove. Another 24% are not sure how they feel. These results have shifted in the past six weeks. Approval is down 6 points from 40% in late April and disapproval is down 3 points from 44%. The number who give no opinion on the plan has risen 8 points from 16%. Polls earlier this year had shown a more evenly divided public – 41% approve to 42% disapprove in March and 44% approve to 44% disapprove in January – with a smaller percentage of undecided opinion.

"Public opinion on the Republican lawmakers' signature accomplishment has never been positive, but potentially growing uncertainty about how American taxpayers will be affected does not seem to be helping the GOP's prospects for November," said Patrick Murray, director of the independent Monmouth University Polling Institute.

Just 19% approve of the job Congress is doing overall, while two-thirds (67%) disapprove. This result is pretty much in line with polling over the past year, including a 17% approve to 71% disapprove

rating in April. Republicans (30%) are only somewhat more likely than Democrats (13%) and independents (16%) to give a positive review of Congressional job performance.

One small bright spot in the poll is an increase in opinion that the country is heading in the right direction. Americans holding this opinion are still in the minority at 40%, but this is an increase from 33% who said the same in April. In fact the current result marks the first time that this metric has hit the 40% mark in Monmouth's national polling going back to 2013. On the other hand, a majority (53%) still say that things have gotten off on the wrong track (compared with 58% who said the same in April).

The *Monmouth University Poll* also asked about the special counsel's investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election and possible links to the Trump campaign. More Americans (52%) support continuing the Russia probe than say it should be ended (45%). This result is statistically similar to public opinion in April which stood at 54% for continuing the investigation and 43% for wrapping it up. Just under a year ago, 62% supported continuing the Mueller probe and only 33% said it should end. It is also worth noting that this poll was conducted prior to the release of an internal report on the Justice Department's conduct in the Hillary Clinton email investigation and the revocation of Paul Manafort's bail in charges that arose from the current inquiry, both of which could have an impact on public opinion.

"The differences aren't large from April's results, but this does mark the fourth consecutive poll where the public opinion gap between continuing the Mueller probe and ending it has narrowed," said Murray.

The *Monmouth University Poll* was conducted by telephone from June 12 to 13, 2018 with 806 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:	June	Aprii	iviarch	Jan.	Dec.	Sept.	Aug.	July	iviay	iviarch	Jan.				
IKLND.	2018	2018	2018	2018	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017				
Approve	19%	17%	18%	21%	16%	17%	18%	19%	19%	25%	23%				
Disapprove	67%	71%	72%	68%	65%	69%	69%	70%	68%	59%	66%				
(VOL) No opinion	14%	12%	11%	11%	19%	15%	13%	11%	13%	16%	11%				
(n)	(806)	(803)	(803)	(806)	(806)	(1,009)	(805)	(800)	(1,002)	(801)	(801)				
TREND: Continued	Sept.	Aug.	June	March	Jan.	Dec.	Oct.	Sept.	Aug.	July	June	April	Jan.	Dec.	July
TREND. Continued	2016*	2016*	2016*	2016	2016	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2014	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

3. Would you say things in the country are going in the right direction, or have they gotten off on the wrong track?

TREND:	June	April	March	Jan.	Dec.	Aug.	May	March	Jan.
IREND.	2018	2018	2018	2018	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017
Right direction	40%	33%	31%	37%	24%	32%	31%	35%	29%
Wrong track	53%	58%	61%	57%	66%	58%	61%	56%	65%
(VOL) Depends	3%	5%	6%	3%	7%	4%	5%	4%	4%
(VOL) Don't know	3%	4%	1%	3%	3%	5%	3%	5%	2%
(n)	(806)	(803)	(803)	(806)	(806)	(805)	(1,002)	(801)	(801)

TREND: Continued	Aug. 2016*	Oct. 2015	July 2015	June 2015	April 2015	Dec. 2014	July 2013
Right direction	30%	24%	28%	23%	27%	23%	28%
Wrong track	65%	66%	63%	68%	66%	69%	63%
(VOL) Depends	2%	6%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
(VOL) Don't know	3%	4%	3%	3%	2%	3%	4%
(n)	(803)	(1,012)	(1,001)	(1,002)	(1,005)	(1,008)	(1,012)

^{*} Registered voters

[REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY, n=711, moe = +/-3.7%:]

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	June	April	March	Jan.	Dec.
Registered voters	2018	2018	2018	2018	2017
Republican	41%	41%	41%	45%	36%
Democratic	48%	49%	50%	47%	51%
(VOL) Other candidate	3%	2%	3%	3%	2%
(VOL) Would not vote	2%	1%	2%	1%	3%
(VOL) Don't know	6%	7%	6%	4%	8%
(n)	(711)	(681)	(708)	(711)	(702)

[Q5-26 previously released.]

27. Do you approve or disapprove of the tax reform plan passed by Congress in December? [Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?]

TREND:	June	April	March	Jan.	Dec.
IKLIND.	2018	2018	2018	2018	2017*
Strongly approve	18%	18%	20%	24%	13%
Somewhat approve	16%	22%	21%	20%	13%
Somewhat disapprove	14%	15%	16%	13%	12%
Strongly disapprove	27%	29%	26%	31%	35%
(VOL) Don't know	24%	16%	17%	13%	27%
(n)	(806)	(803)	(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?"]

28. A special counsel is currently conducting an investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election and possible links with the Trump campaign. Should the Russia investigation continue or should it end?

TREND:	June	April	March	July	May
IKEND.	2018	2018	2018	2017	2017*
Continue	52%	54%	60%	62%	73%
End	45%	43%	37%	33%	24%
(VOL) Don't know	3%	3%	3%	5%	3%
(n)	(806)	(803)	(803)	(800)	(1,002)

^{[*} May'17 question was asked about the then-ongoing FBI investigation.]

METHODOLOGY

The *Monmouth University Poll* was sponsored and conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute from June 12 to 13, 2018 with a national random sample of 806 adults age 18 and older, in English. This includes 403 contacted by a live interviewer on a landline telephone and 403 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 Troldahl-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 subgroups (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.

DEMOGRAPHICS (weighted)
Self-Reported
28% Republican
40% Independent
32% Democrat
400/ Mala
49% Male
51% Female
32% 18-34
34% 35-54
34% 55+
3470 334
64% White
12% Black
16% Hispanic
8% Asian/Other
700/ No. do
70% No degree
30% 4 year degree

MARGIN OF ERROR			
WWW.Com or Entron		unweighted	moe
		sample	(+/-)
TOTAL		806 [°]	3.5%
REGISTERED VOTER	Yes	711	3.7%
	No	95	10.1%
SELF-REPORTED	Republican	227	6.5%
PARTY ID	Independent	312	5.6%
	Democrat	257	6.1%
IDEOLOGY	Liberal	199	7.0%
	Moderate	293	5.7%
	Conservative	275	5.9%
GENDER	Male	391	5.0%
	Female	415	4.8%
AGE	18-34	177	7.4%
	35-54	223	6.6%
	<i>55</i> +	401	4.9%
RACE	White non-Hispanic	598	4.0%
	Other	184	7.2%
COLLEGE GRADUATE	No degree	411	4.8%
	4 year degree	388	5.0%
INCOME	<\$50K	280	5.9%
	\$50 to <100K	238	6.4%
	\$100K+	211	6.8%
2016 VOTE BY	Trump 10+ pts	303	5.6%
COUNTY	Swing <10 pts	166	7.6%
	Clinton 10+ pts	337	5.3%

###

Monmouth University Poll -- NATIONAL -- 6/18/18

		TOTAL	TOTAL REGISTERED TO VOTE			PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Lib	Mod	Con	Male	
2. Do you approve or disapprove	Approve	19%	19%	19%	30%	16%	13%	7%	22%	25%	19%	
of the job the U.S. Congress is doing?	Disapprove	67%	69%	56%	54%	68%	78%	80%	66%	60%	69%	
ŭ	[VOL] Dont Know	14%	12%	26%	16%	16%	9%	13%	12%	14%	12%	

			GENDER AGE 3		AGE 3-WAY COLLEC		GE GRAD	WHITE		INCOME
		Female	18-34	35-54	55+	No degree	4 yr degree	White non-Hisp	Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	<\$50K
	Approve	19%	22%	22%	13%	21%	14%	20%	19%	20%
of the job the U.S. Congress is doing?	Disapprove	65%	58%	66%	76%	64%	74%	66%	69%	66%
J. Company of the com	[VOL] Dont Know	16%	20%	11%	10%	15%	11%	15%	13%	15%

				2016	MARGIN by COU	NTY
		\$50-100K	\$100K+	Trump 10+pts	Swing <10pts	Clinton 10+pts
2. Do you approve or disapprove	Approve	17%	19%	20%	14%	21%
of the job the U.S. Congress is doing?	Disapprove	70%	73%	65%	66%	69%
	[VOL] Dont Know	13%	8%	15%	20%	10%

		TOTAL	REGISTERE	D TO VOTE		PARTY ID		POLI	TICAL IDEOL	OGY	GENDER
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Lib	Mod	Con	Male
3. Would you say things in the	Right direction	40%	39%	48%	80%	38%	10%	13%	30%	71%	44%
country are going in the right direction, or have they gotten off	Wrong track	53%	54%	48%	15%	54%	84%	80%	62%	25%	49%
on the wrong track?	(VOL) Depends	3%	4%	2%	3%	4%	3%	3%	5%	3%	4%
	[VOL] Dont Know	3%	4%	2%	2%	5%	3%	4%	3%	2%	4%

		GENDER	NDER 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
	Right direction	37%	36%	43%	43%	43%	35%	49%	26%	32%
country are going in the right direction, or have they gotten off	Wrong track	57%	56%	52%	51%	50%	59%	44%	67%	60%
on the wrong track?	(VOL) Depends	3%	4%	2%	4%	4%	2%	4%	3%	4%
	[VOL] Dont Know	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%

		INCO	OME	2016	MARGIN by COUNTY			
		\$50-100K	\$100K+	Trump 10+pts	Swing <10pts	Clinton 10+pts		
3. Would you say things in the country are going in the right direction, or have they gotten off on the wrong track?	Right direction	47%	44%	53%	37%	31%		
	Wrong track	47%	52%	41%	55%	63%		
	(VOL) Depends	4%	2%	4%	5%	2%		
	[VOL] Dont Know	2%	3%	2%	3%	4%		

Monmouth University Poll -- NATIONAL -- 6/18/18

		TOTAL	REGISTERED TO VOTE				POLI	GENDER		
			Yes	Rep	Ind	Dem	Lib	Mod	Con	Male
LEANERS: 1 If the election for U.S.	Republican	41%	41%	93%	38%	1%	8%	30%	73%	44%
	Democrat	48%	48%	5%	38%	94%	79%	53%	23%	43%
you vote for the Republican or the	[VOL]Other	3%	3%	0%	8%	0%	6%	3%	0%	3%
Democratic candidate in your	[VOL]Not vote	2%	2%	0%	3%	2%	4%	1%	2%	3%
	[VOL]Dont know	6%	6%	2%	13%	2%	2%	13%	2%	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	Republican	39%	34%	45%	42%	44%	36%	50%	23%	32%
LEANERS:] If the election for U.S. Congress was held today, would	Democrat	52%	50%	43%	51%	45%	53%	41%	63%	54%
you vote for the Republican or the	[VOL]Other	2%	4%	4%	1%	3%	2%	3%	2%	5%
Democratic candidate in your district? (with leaners)	[VOL]Not vote	1%	4%	3%	0%	2%	1%	2%	3%	3%
	[VOL]Dont know	5%	8%	5%	6%	6%	8%	5%	9%	6%

		INCO	OME	2016	MARGIN by COU	NTY
		\$50-100K	\$100K+	Trump 10+pts	Swing <10pts	Clinton 10+pts
4. [REG VOTERS ONLY, WITH	Republican	49%	45%	53%	40%	31%
LEANERS:] If the election for U.S. Congress was held today, would	Democrat	45%	46%	34%	53%	57%
you vote for the Republican or the	[VOL]Other	1%	2%	3%	2%	3%
Democratic candidate in your district? (with leaners)	[VOL]Not vote	1%	1%	3%	0%	2%
	[VOL]Dont know	5%	6%	7%	4%	7%

		TOTAL	TOTAL REGISTERED TO VOTE			PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY		
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Lib	Mod	Con	
27. Do you approve or disapprove	Strongly approve	18%	20%	9%	32%	19%	4%	7%	13%	31%	
of the tax reform plan passed by Congress in December? [Do you	Somewhat approve	16%	16%	18%	28%	14%	9%	7%	16%	23%	
(approve_disapprove) strongly or	Somewhat disapprove	14%	14%	16%	10%	14%	19%	20%	19%	8%	
somewhat?] Strong	Strongly disapprove	27%	29%	18%	7%	24%	50%	50%	24%	16%	
	[VOL] Dont Know	24%	21%	39%	23%	29%	18%	17%	29%	21%	

		GENDER			AGE 3-WAY		COLLEG	WHITE	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	No degree	4 yr degree	White non-Hisp
27. Do you approve or disapprove of the tax reform plan passed by Congress in December? [Do you (approve_disapprove) strongly or somewhat?]	Strongly approve	20%	16%	12%	23%	19%	18%	19%	23%
	Somewhat approve	17%	16%	13%	18%	18%	16%	18%	18%
	Somewhat disapprove	13%	16%	21%	12%	11%	15%	14%	12%
	Strongly disapprove	28%	27%	19%	31%	31%	24%	35%	24%
	[VOL] Dont Know	22%	26%	35%	16%	21%	28%	13%	23%

Monmouth University Poll -- NATIONAL -- 6/18/18

		WHITE INCOME				2016 MARGIN by COUNTY			
		Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	<\$50K	\$50-100K	\$100K+	Trump 10+pts	Swing <10pts	Clinton 10+pts	
of the tax reform plan passed by	Strongly approve	9%	12%	25%	21%	24%	18%	13%	
	Somewhat approve	15%	13%	21%	19%	17%	16%	15%	
(approve_disapprove) strongly or	Somewhat disapprove	19%	17%	14%	12%	16%	12%	14%	
somewhat?] Strongly disa	Strongly disapprove	32%	27%	26%	32%	19%	30%	33%	
	[VOL] Dont Know	25%	31%	15%	15%	25%	23%	24%	

		TOTAL	TOTAL REGISTERED TO VOTE		PARTY ID			POLITICAL IDEOLOGY			GENDER
			Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem	Lib	Mod	Con	Male
28. A special counsel is currently conducting an investigation into	Continue	52%	52%	49%	18%	52%	80%	76%	61%	27%	52%
Russian interference in the 2016 election and possible links with	End	45%	44%	47%	78%	45%	16%	21%	36%	71%	46%
the Trump campaign. Should the Russia investigation continue or should it end?	[VOL] Dont Know	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	4%	4%	3%	2%	2%

		GENDER	AGE 3-WAY			COLLEG	COLLEGE GRAD		WHITE	
		Female	18-34	35-54	55+	No degree	4 yr degree	White non-Hisp	Hsp-Blk-Asn-Oth	<\$50K
28. A special counsel is currently conducting an investigation into	Continue	51%	55%	53%	48%	47%	63%	45%	63%	53%
Russian interference in the 2016 election and possible links with	End	44%	43%	42%	50%	50%	35%	51%	33%	43%
the Trump campaign. Should the Russia investigation continue or should it end?	[VOL] Dont Know	4%	3%	5%	2%	4%	2%	3%	4%	4%

		INCO	OME	2016	MARGIN by COU	NTY
		\$50-100K	\$100K+	Trump 10+pts	Swing <10pts	Clinton 10+pts
28. A special counsel is currently conducting an investigation into	Continue	51%	54%	36%	58%	63%
Russian interference in the 2016 election and possible links with	End	46%	45%	60%	38%	35%
the Trump campaign. Should the Russia investigation continue or should it end?	[VOL] Dont Know	3%	1%	4%	4%	3%