

Released:  
**Wednesday, October 21, 2015**

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## **NATIONAL: AMERICA TIRED OF CLINTON EMAIL STORY**

*Clinton hasn't cleared the air, but most see Benghazi Committee as partisan*

West Long Branch, NJ – Bernie Sanders was right: America is tired of hearing about Hillary Clinton's emails. While few Americans believe she has been honest about her handling of emails while Secretary of State, few believe she was trying to hide something by using a private account. The *Monmouth University Poll* also found that most Americans believe the special Benghazi Committee, who Clinton will face tomorrow, is more interested in going after the candidate than learning the facts.

The controversy over Hillary Clinton's emails has dogged her campaign since the summer and is at least partially responsible for her drop in the polls. However, over half (52%) of the American public feels that Hillary Clinton's use of a personal email account during her time as Secretary of State was mainly a matter of convenience compared to 33% who say this behavior suggests she has something to hide. These results are largely unchanged from a Monmouth poll taken in August.

On the other hand, Americans are less likely to believe that she has been honest (35%) in her subsequent explanation of how she handled those emails, with nearly half (48%) saying she has not been honest about it. Clinton will get a chance to clear the air tomorrow, when she is expected to be asked about her email use during testimony before the Congressional committee investigating the deaths of American officials in Benghazi, Libya. The American public is predisposed to believe that the committee is looking to discredit Clinton. Specifically, a majority (52%) say the committee is more interested in going after Clinton than it is with learning the facts of the matter (32%).

The *Monmouth University Poll* also found that Bernie Sanders wasn't off the mark when he turned to Clinton during Tuesday night's debate and said "the American people are sick and tired of hearing about your damn emails." Specifically, 59% of the public are tired of hearing about this issue and just 32% say the media should continue to cover it.

"Bernie Sanders was right. America has heard enough. Hillary Clinton's testimony tomorrow can either cement that view or open up a new can of worms. Right now, it looks like the public is more

inclined to side with Clinton when she goes up against the House committee” said Patrick Murray, director of the independent Monmouth University Polling Institute based in West Long Branch, NJ. “The bottom line is that, despite Clinton’s apparent failure to come clean, most Americans see the continuing discussion of her emails as mainly partisan politics.”

The *Monmouth University Poll* also found that Hillary Clinton’s rating with American voters has not changed much since August. It currently stands at 41% favorable to 48% unfavorable, compared to 38% - 48% two months ago. Voter opinion of Bernie Sanders has improved, mainly due to increased name recognition. His favorable rating stands at 35%, which is up from 24% in August, and his unfavorable rating stands at 30%, which is up slightly from 26%. Joe Biden, who has yet to decide on a presidential run, currently holds a 44% favorable and 31% unfavorable rating among registered voters nationwide.

On the Republican side, of six presidential candidates tested in the poll, Ben Carson has the strongest rating among all voters – 40% favorable and 25% unfavorable. Front-runner Donald Trump’s voter rating has remained fairly stable. It currently stands at 32% favorable and 50% unfavorable, compared to 31% - 54% two months ago. Voters are split on Marco Rubio (31% favorable and 30% unfavorable) and Carly Fiorina (30% favorable and 30% unfavorable), and are slightly negative toward Ted Cruz (29% favorable and 36% unfavorable). American voters’ views of Jeb Bush are decidedly negative, at just 27% favorable and 47% unfavorable, which is down slightly from 33% - 43% in August.

The *Monmouth University Poll* was conducted by telephone from October 15 to 18, 2015 with 1,012 adults in the United States. This sample has a margin of error of  $\pm 3.1$  percent. The poll was conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute in West Long Branch, NJ.

## DATA TABLES

*The questions referred to in this release are as follows:*

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

[QUESTION 1 WAS ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY]

1. Please tell me if your general impression of each of the following is favorable or unfavorable, or if you don’t really have an opinion. [NAMES WERE ROTATED]

Vice President Joe Biden

	Registered Voters	PARTY ID		
		Rep	Ind	Dem
Favorable	<b>44%</b>	26%	32%	78%
Unfavorable	<b>31%</b>	59%	30%	8%
No opinion	<b>25%</b>	15%	38%	14%

Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton

	Registered Voters	PARTY ID		
		Rep	Ind	Dem
Favorable	<b>41%</b>	10%	31%	82%
Unfavorable	<b>48%</b>	87%	48%	13%
No opinion	<b>11%</b>	3%	20%	4%

Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders

	Registered Voters	PARTY ID		
		Rep	Ind	Dem
Favorable	<b>35%</b>	14%	35%	57%
Unfavorable	<b>30%</b>	59%	22%	12%
No opinion	<b>35%</b>	27%	43%	30%

Former Florida Governor Jeb Bush

	Registered Voters	PARTY ID		
		Rep	Ind	Dem
Favorable	<b>27%</b>	42%	19%	24%
Unfavorable	<b>47%</b>	42%	45%	54%
No opinion	<b>26%</b>	16%	37%	21%

Commentator and Doctor Ben Carson

	Registered Voters	PARTY ID		
		Rep	Ind	Dem
Favorable	<b>40%</b>	67%	34%	22%
Unfavorable	<b>25%</b>	10%	20%	46%
No opinion	<b>35%</b>	23%	46%	32%

Texas Senator Ted Cruz

	Registered Voters	PARTY ID		
		Rep	Ind	Dem
Favorable	<b>29%</b>	54%	25%	11%
Unfavorable	<b>36%</b>	22%	29%	58%
No opinion	<b>36%</b>	24%	47%	31%

Businesswoman Carly Fiorina

	Registered Voters	PARTY ID		
		Rep	Ind	Dem
Favorable	<b>30%</b>	45%	30%	18%
Unfavorable	<b>30%</b>	26%	22%	46%
No opinion	<b>40%</b>	29%	48%	37%

Florida Senator Marco Rubio

	Registered Voters	PARTY ID		
		Rep	Ind	Dem
Favorable	<b>31%</b>	51%	26%	18%
Unfavorable	<b>30%</b>	18%	24%	49%
No opinion	<b>39%</b>	31%	50%	32%

Businessman Donald Trump

	Registered Voters	PARTY ID		
		Rep	Ind	Dem
Favorable	<b>32%</b>	54%	29%	14%
Unfavorable	<b>50%</b>	34%	43%	74%
No opinion	<b>18%</b>	12%	29%	12%

TREND: <i>Registered Voters</i>	Favorable	Unfavorable	No opinion
Vice President Joe Biden	<b>44%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>25%</b>
--Prior polls	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton	<b>41%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>11%</b>
--August 2015	38	48	14
--June 2015	41	44	14
Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders	<b>35%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>35%</b>
--August 2015	24	26	50
--June 2015	15	24	61
Former Florida Governor Jeb Bush	<b>27%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>26%</b>
--August 2015	33	43	24
--June 2015	26	46	28
Commentator and Doctor Ben Carson	<b>40%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>35%</b>
--Prior polls	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Texas Senator Ted Cruz	<b>29%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>36%</b>
--August 2015	27	33	40
--June 2015	25	34	41
Businesswoman Carly Fiorina	<b>30%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>40%</b>
--Prior polls	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Florida Senator Marco Rubio	<b>31%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>39%</b>
--August 2015	30	26	44
--June 2015	31	27	42
Businessman Donald Trump	<b>32%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>18%</b>
--August 2015	31	54	14
--June 2015	18	57	25

[ASKED OF EVERYONE]

2. How much have you seen or heard about Hillary Clinton using a personal email account during her time as Secretary of State?

	TOTAL	REGISTERED VOTER		PARTY ID		
		Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
A lot	<b>59%</b>	67%	32%	73%	55%	57%
A little	<b>23%</b>	20%	31%	22%	25%	22%
Nothing at all	<b>19%</b>	13%	37%	6%	21%	21%

TREND: <i>Registered Voters</i>	October 2015	August 2015
A lot	67%	61%
A little	20%	24%
Nothing at all	13%	15%
<i>Unwtd N</i>	836	1,033

3. Do you think Hillary Clinton using a personal email account for official business suggests she has something to hide or was more a matter of convenience?

	TOTAL	REGISTERED VOTER		PARTY ID		
		Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
Has something to hide	<b>33%</b>	36%	24%	61%	33%	12%
A matter of convenience	<b>52%</b>	53%	52%	33%	50%	77%
(VOL) Don't know	<b>14%</b>	11%	24%	7%	18%	11%

TREND: <i>Registered Voters</i>	October 2015	August 2015
Has something to hide	36%	38%
A matter of convenience	53%	51%
Nothing at all	11%	11%
<i>Unwtd N</i>	836	1,033

4. Do you believe Hillary Clinton has been or has not been honest about how she handled her emails?

	TOTAL	REGISTERED VOTER		PARTY ID		
		Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
Has been	<b>35%</b>	36%	30%	13%	34%	60%
Has not been	<b>48%</b>	52%	37%	80%	47%	23%
(VOL) Don't know	<b>17%</b>	12%	33%	7%	19%	17%

5. Clinton will testify to a special Congressional committee investigating the deaths of American officials in Benghazi and is expected to be asked about her email use while Secretary of State. Do you think the committee is more interested in learning the facts of the matter or more interested in going after Clinton?

	TOTAL	REGISTERED VOTER		PARTY ID		
		Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
Learning the facts	<b>32%</b>	33%	31%	57%	32%	10%
Going after Clinton	<b>52%</b>	54%	46%	27%	52%	77%
(VOL) Both	<b>5%</b>	5%	5%	9%	4%	2%
(VOL) Don't know	<b>12%</b>	9%	19%	7%	12%	10%

6. Are you tired of hearing about Clinton's emails or do you think this is something the media should continue to cover?

	TOTAL	REGISTERED VOTER		PARTY ID		
		Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
Tired of hearing	<b>59%</b>	61%	52%	42%	56%	79%
Should continue to cover	<b>32%</b>	34%	26%	55%	32%	14%
(VOL) Don't know	<b>10%</b>	5%	22%	3%	12%	7%

The *Monmouth University Poll* was sponsored and conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute from October 15 to 18, 2015 with a national random sample of 1,012 adults age 18 and older. This includes 712 contacted by a live interviewer on a landline telephone and 300 contacted by a live interviewer on a cell phone, in English. 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 3.1 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.

POLL DEMOGRAPHICS (weighted) FULL SAMPLE - ALL ADULTS			
28% Rep	49% Male	32% 18-34	66% White
42% Ind	51% Female	37% 35-54	12% Black
30% Dem		32% 55+	15% Hispanic
			7% Asian/Other

POLL DEMOGRAPHICS (weighted) REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY			
30% Rep	49% Male	22% 18-34	72% White
39% Ind	52% Female	40% 35-54	12% Black
31% Dem		38% 55+	11% Hispanic
			5% Asian/Other

	MARGIN OF ERROR REGISTERED VOTER					
	TOTAL	Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
Unweighted N	1,012	836	176	292	378	303
moe	3.1%	3.4%	7.4%	5.7%	5.1%	5.6%

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