



HARVARD Kennedy School
INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

Survey of Young Americans' Attitudes toward Politics and Public Service
35th Edition: March 8 – March 25, 2018
N=2,631 18- to- 29-Year-Olds in English and Spanish (with GfK KnowledgePanel)
Margin of Error: +/- 2.54% at the 95% Level
Release #4: Embargoed Until April 18, 2018

* New release gun policy questions begin on page 18, question 57
 ** Additional sections of this poll will be released during the month of April. The full questionnaire, with data tables, is available at <http://iop.harvard.edu/spring-2018-poll>.

1. With regard to school, are you currently enrolled at any of the following? Please select all that apply:

	<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
High school	7%	7%	7%
Trade/Vocational school.....	2%	1%	2%
2-year or junior college or community college	8%	9%	7%
4-year college or university	22%	24%	21%
Graduate school.....	4%	5%	3%
Business school or professional school	1%	1%	1%
Not enrolled in college/university, but taking at least one course	1%	2%	1%
Not currently enrolled in any of these	56%	52%	58%
Refused	1%	0%	1%

2. We understand that plenty of young people are not registered to vote, but we are wondering if you are registered to vote?

Yes.....	73%	96%	59%
No	23%	3%	34%
Don't know	4%	1%	6%
Refused	1%	0%	1%

3. When it comes to voting, with which party do you consider yourself to be affiliated?

	<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
Net: Democratic party	40%	55%	31%
Strong Democrat	22%	37%	13%
Not a very strong Democrat.....	18%	18%	18%
Net: Republican party	21%	21%	22%
Strong Republican.....	11%	14%	9%
Not a very strong Republican	10%	7%	13%
Net: Independent/Unaffiliated	37%	24%	45%
Leans Democrat	10%	9%	10%
Leans Republican	5%	4%	5%
Does not lean either way.....	21%	10%	30%
Refused	2%	1%	3%

4. When it comes to most political issues, do you think of yourself as a...?

Liberal.....	32%	42%	25%
Moderate leaning liberal	9%	10%	8%
Moderate	27%	18%	32%
Moderate leaning conservative	8%	6%	10%
Conservative	24%	23%	25%

5. How likely is it that you will vote in the upcoming elections for Congress?

Definitely will be voting.....	37%	100%	0%
Probably will be voting.....	16%	0%	26%
50-50.....	21%	0%	34%
Probably won't be voting.....	13%	0%	20%
Definitely won't be voting.....	12%	0%	18%
Refused	1%	0%	2%

6. Do you consider yourself to be politically engaged or politically active?

Yes.....	29%	53%	15%
No	70%	47%	83%
Refused	1%	0%	2%

7. All in all, do you think that things in the nation are...?

	<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
Generally headed in the right direction	15%	19%	13%
Off on the wrong track.....	53%	61%	49%
Not sure what direction the country is headed in	30%	19%	36%
Refused	1%	0%	2%

In general, do you approve or disapprove of the job performance of:

8. Donald Trump as president

Approve	25%	23%	26%
Disapprove	72%	76%	70%
Refused	3%	1%	4%

9. The Democrats in Congress

Approve	41%	46%	37%
Disapprove	56%	52%	58%
Refused	3%	1%	5%

10. The Republicans in Congress

Approve	24%	18%	27%
Disapprove	73%	81%	68%
Refused	3%	1%	5%

11. What is your preference for the outcome of the 2018 Congressional elections, a Congress controlled by Democrats, or a Congress controlled by Republicans?

Democrats control	58%	69%	51%
Republicans control.....	36%	28%	41%
Refused	6%	3%	8%

Now thinking specifically about Donald Trump, do you approve or disapprove of the way he is handling:

12.	Climate change			
		<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
	Approve	22%	22%	21%
	Disapprove	75%	77%	74%
	Refused	3%	1%	5%
13.	The economy			
	Approve	34%	30%	36%
	Disapprove	63%	68%	60%
	Refused	3%	1%	5%
14.	Health care			
	Approve	27%	24%	28%
	Disapprove	70%	75%	67%
	Refused	3%	2%	5%
15.	The Islamic State / ISIS / ISIL			
	Approve	31%	29%	32%
	Disapprove	65%	69%	63%
	Refused	4%	2%	5%
16.	Race relations			
	Approve	21%	20%	23%
	Disapprove	75%	79%	73%
	Refused	4%	2%	5%
17.	North Korea			
	Approve	27%	27%	28%
	Disapprove	69%	72%	68%
	Refused	4%	2%	5%

18.	Tax reform			
		<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
	Approve	31%	31%	31%
	Disapprove	65%	67%	63%
	Refused	4%	2%	5%
19.	Gun violence			
	Approve	24%	24%	24%
	Disapprove	72%	74%	71%
	Refused	4%	2%	5%
20.	A. At this moment, would you say that you are more hopeful or fearful about the future of America? (n=1,301)			
	Hopeful	33%	35%	31%
	Fearful.....	64%	65%	64%
	Refused	3%	1%	5%
	B. At this moment, would you say that you are more hopeful or fearful about the future of democracy in America? (n=1,330)			
	Hopeful	34%	31%	36%
	Fearful.....	64%	68%	61%
	Refused	2%	1%	2%

How often do you trust each of the following to do the right thing?

21.	The President			
		<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
	Net: All/Most	22%	22%	22%
	All of the time	4%	5%	3%
	Most of the time	18%	17%	18%
	Net: Some/Never	75%	77%	74%
	Some of the time	39%	39%	39%
	Never	36%	38%	35%
	Refused	3%	2%	4%
22.	The United States military			
	Net: All/Most	51%	54%	50%
	All of the time	13%	13%	12%
	Most of the time	38%	41%	37%
	Net: Some/Never	46%	45%	46%
	Some of the time	34%	35%	33%
	Never	12%	9%	13%
	Refused	3%	1%	4%
23.	The Supreme Court			
	Net: All/Most	43%	47%	41%
	All of the time	6%	6%	6%
	Most of the time	37%	41%	34%
	Net: Some/Never	54%	52%	55%
	Some of the time	41%	42%	41%
	Never	13%	10%	15%
	Refused	3%	1%	4%

24.	The United Nations			
		<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
	Net: All/Most	40%	45%	38%
	All of the time	6%	7%	6%
	Most of the time	34%	38%	32%
	Net: Some/Never	56%	54%	58%
	Some of the time	39%	38%	40%
	Never	17%	16%	18%
	Refused	3%	1%	4%
25.	The Congress			
	Net: All/Most	17%	14%	19%
	All of the time	2%	2%	2%
	Most of the time	15%	12%	17%
	Net: Some/Never	79%	84%	77%
	Some of the time	56%	61%	54%
	Never	23%	24%	23%
	Refused	3%	1%	4%
26.	The federal government			
	Net: All/Most	21%	20%	22%
	All of the time	3%	3%	4%
	Most of the time	18%	17%	18%
	Net: Some/Never	75%	78%	74%
	Some of the time	55%	61%	51%
	Never	21%	17%	22%
	Refused	3%	1%	4%
27.	Your state government			
	Net: All/Most	34%	38%	32%
	All of the time	3%	3%	2%
	Most of the time	31%	35%	30%
	Net: Some/Never	63%	61%	64%
	Some of the time	45%	47%	44%
	Never	18%	14%	20%
	Refused	3%	1%	4%

28.	Your local government			
		<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
	Net: All/Most	38%	39%	37%
	All of the time	5%	5%	5%
	Most of the time	33%	35%	31%
	Net: Some/Never	60%	59%	60%
	Some of the time	46%	48%	46%
	Never	13%	12%	14%
	Refused	3%	1%	3%
29.	Wall Street			
	Net: All/Most	12%	11%	13%
	All of the time	2%	1%	2%
	Most of the time	10%	9%	11%
	Net: Some/Never	85%	88%	83%
	Some of the time	47%	48%	47%
	Never	38%	40%	36%
	Refused	3%	1%	4%
30.	The media			
	Net: All/Most	16%	24%	12%
	All of the time	2%	3%	2%
	Most of the time	14%	21%	10%
	Net: Some/Never	80%	74%	84%
	Some of the time	47%	45%	48%
	Never	33%	29%	36%
	Refused	3%	2%	4%
31.	Your college or university administration (n=485 College students only)			
	Net: All/Most	61%	65%	58%
	All of the time	9%	10%	9%
	Most of the time	52%	54%	50%
	Net: Some/Never	37%	34%	38%
	Some of the time	30%	30%	30%
	Never	7%	5%	8%
	Refused	3%	1%	4%

32.	Your local police department			
		<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
	Net: All/Most	52%	57%	49%
	All of the time	9%	10%	8%
	Most of the time	43%	47%	41%
	Net: Some/Never	45%	41%	47%
	Some of the time	33%	33%	33%
	Never	12%	9%	14%
	Refused	3%	2%	4%
33.	FBI			
	Net: All/Most	42%	42%	41%
	All of the time	7%	6%	7%
	Most of the time	35%	37%	34%
	Net: Some/Never	55%	56%	55%
	Some of the time	41%	44%	38%
	Never	15%	11%	16%
	Refused	3%	2%	4%
34.	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)			
	Net: All/Most	38%	43%	35%
	All of the time	6%	7%	6%
	Most of the time	31%	36%	29%
	Net: Some/Never	59%	56%	61%
	Some of the time	42%	41%	43%
	Never	17%	15%	18%
	Refused	3%	2%	4%
35.	U.S. Department of Justice			
	Net: All/Most	35%	36%	35%
	All of the time	5%	4%	6%
	Most of the time	30%	32%	30%
	Net: Some/Never	62%	63%	61%
	Some of the time	46%	49%	44%
	Never	16%	14%	17%
	Refused	3%	2%	4%

36. U.S Department of Education

	<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
Net: All/Most	29%	26%	31%
All of the time	5%	4%	6%
Most of the time	24%	23%	25%
Net: All/Most	68%	72%	65%
Some of the time	50%	55%	48%
Never	17%	18%	17%
Refused	3%	2%	4%

37. U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

Net: All/Most	25%	25%	25%
All of the time.....	4%	4%	4%
Most of the time.....	21%	21%	21%
Net: Some/Never	72%	73%	71%
Some of the time.....	47%	46%	48%
Never.....	25%	28%	23%
Refused	3%	1%	4%

How often do you trust each of the following companies to do the right thing?

38.	Amazon			
		All	Likely Voters	All Others
	Net: All/Most	45%	45%	44%
	All of the time	10%	8%	11%
	Most of the time	35%	37%	33%
	Net: Some/Never	53%	53%	52%
	Some of the time	38%	40%	37%
	Never	14%	13%	15%
	Refused	3%	2%	3%
39.	Google			
	Net: All/Most	44%	44%	45%
	All of the time	8%	7%	9%
	Most of the time	36%	37%	35%
	Net: Some/Never	53%	54%	52%
	Some of the time	38%	41%	36%
	Never	15%	14%	16%
	Refused	3%	2%	3%
40.	Uber			
	Net: All/Most	28%	28%	28%
	All of the time	4%	3%	4%
	Most of the time	24%	25%	24%
	Net: Some/Never	69%	70%	68%
	Some of the time	45%	46%	45%
	Never	24%	24%	24%
	Refused	3%	2%	4%

41. Facebook

	<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
Net: All/Most	27%	25%	27%
All of the time	4%	3%	5%
Most of the time	22%	22%	22%
Net: Some/Never	71%	73%	69%
Some of the time	48%	50%	47%
Never	23%	23%	23%
Refused	3%	1%	3%

42. Twitter

Net: All/Most	27%	27%	26%
All of the time	4%	3%	4%
Most of the time	23%	24%	22%
Net: Some/Never	70%	71%	70%
Some of the time	48%	50%	47%
Never	22%	21%	23%
Refused	3%	2%	4%

For each of the following, please rank how much you see them as responsible for existing problems in American politics and society today:

43. The Media

	<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
Net: Responsible	63%	66%	62%
Very responsible.....	32%	33%	32%
Somewhat responsible	31%	33%	30%
Neither	22%	19%	24%
Net: Not Responsible	11%	12%	10%
Not very responsible.....	7%	8%	6%
Not at all responsible	4%	4%	4%
Refused	3%	2%	4%

44. Politicians

Net: Responsible	72%	81%	67%
Very responsible.....	40%	47%	36%
Somewhat responsible	32%	34%	31%
Neither	17%	12%	21%
Net: Not Responsible	7%	5%	9%
Not very responsible.....	4%	3%	5%
Not at all responsible	3%	2%	4%
Refused	3%	2%	4%

45. Money in politics

Net: Responsible	68%	77%	63%
Very responsible.....	42%	52%	36%
Somewhat responsible	26%	25%	27%
Neither	21%	14%	25%
Net: Not Responsible	8%	7%	9%
Not very responsible.....	4%	4%	4%
Not at all responsible	4%	3%	4%
Refused	3%	2%	4%

46. The 1%

	<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
Net: Responsible	48%	57%	42%
Very responsible.....	24%	33%	18%
Somewhat responsible	24%	24%	24%
Neither	33%	26%	37%
Net: Not Responsible	16%	14%	17%
Not very responsible.....	9%	7%	10%
Not at all responsible	7%	7%	6%
Refused	4%	2%	5%

47. Foreign actors

Net: Responsible	23%	30%	19%
Very responsible.....	5%	6%	5%
Somewhat responsible	17%	24%	14%
Neither	36%	30%	40%
Net: Not Responsible	37%	38%	37%
Not very responsible.....	19%	19%	19%
Not at all responsible	18%	19%	18%
Refused	4%	2%	4%

48. Immigrants

Net: Responsible	26%	24%	28%
Very responsible.....	7%	7%	6%
Somewhat responsible	20%	16%	22%
Neither	31%	26%	33%
Net: Not Responsible	40%	48%	35%
Not very responsible.....	23%	25%	21%
Not at all responsible	17%	23%	14%
Refused	3%	2 %	4%

49.	Political correctness			
		<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
	Net: Responsible	47%	46%	47%
	Very responsible.....	19%	21%	17%
	Somewhat responsible	28%	25%	30%
	Neither	28%	23%	31%
	Net: Not Responsible	21%	29%	17%
	Not very responsible.....	11%	12%	10%
	Not at all responsible	10%	16%	7%
	Refused	3%	2%	4%
50.	Structural racism			
	Net: Responsible	57%	61%	54%
	Very responsible.....	29%	37%	24%
	Somewhat responsible	28%	24%	30%
	Neither	26%	23%	28%
	Net: Not Responsible	14%	14%	14%
	Not very responsible.....	8%	8%	8%
	Not at all responsible	6%	6%	6%
	Refused	3%	2%	4%
51.	Lack of access to higher education			
	Net: Responsible	51%	56%	48%
	Very responsible.....	21%	27%	17%
	Somewhat responsible	30%	29%	31%
	Neither	27%	21%	31%
	Net: Not Responsible	18%	20%	17%
	Not very responsible.....	12%	14%	11%
	Not at all responsible	6%	7%	6%
	Refused	3%	2%	4%

52. Other Americans

	<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
Net: Responsible	50%	54%	48%
Very responsible.....	16%	20%	14%
Somewhat responsible	34%	34%	33%
Neither	34%	30%	36%
Net: Not Responsible	12%	14%	11%
Not very responsible.....	7%	9%	6%
Not at all responsible	5%	5%	4%
Refused	4%	2%	5%

53. Donald Trump

Net: Responsible	56%	64%	52%
Very responsible.....	35%	44%	29%
Somewhat responsible	22%	20%	23%
Neither	22%	14%	26%
Net: Not Responsible	19%	21%	18%
Not very responsible.....	9%	9%	9%
Not at all responsible	10%	12%	9%
Refused	3%	2%	4%

54. Have you, a close friend or family member been affected by the opioid crisis?

	<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
Yes	12%	14%	11%
No	85%	86%	85%
Refused	3%	1%	4%

55. Do you support or oppose expanding the use of medical marijuana as a substitute for chronic pain patients who are currently being prescribed opioids?

Net: Support	66%	76%	60%
Strongly support.....	41%	51%	36%
Somewhat support.....	24%	25%	24%
Net: Oppose	16%	13%	17%
Somewhat oppose.....	7%	6%	8%
Strongly oppose.....	8%	6%	9%
Don't know	16%	10%	20%
Refused	3%	1%	3%

56. Do you support or oppose creating supervised injection sites in your city or town for those addicted to opioids?

Net: Support	32%	39%	28%
Strongly support.....	12%	16%	9%
Somewhat support.....	20%	23%	19%
Net: Oppose	36%	36%	35%
Somewhat oppose.....	14%	15%	13%
Strongly oppose.....	22%	21%	23%
Don't know	30%	24%	33%
Refused	3%	1%	4%

Questions for Release #4: April 18, 2018

57. In general, do you think gun control laws should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?

	<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
More strict.....	64%	70%	61%
Less strict.....	10%	10%	11%
Kept as they are now.....	22%	19%	25%
Refused.....	3%	1%	4%

58. How important a factor is gun control in determining your vote in 2018?
(n=1,007 who say they will “definitely vote”)

Net: Important.....	77%	77%	-
Most important.....	25%	25%	-
Important.....	52%	52%	-
Net: Not Important.....	22%	22%	-
Not very important.....	17%	17%	-
Not at all important.....	4%	4%	-
Refused.....	1%	1%	-

59. Do you believe the student-led protests and organizing related to the Parkland School Shooting will have lasting impact on gun laws in the U.S.?

Yes.....	47%	54%	42%
No.....	50%	44%	54%
Refused.....	3%	2%	4%

60. Do you support or oppose amending the Second Amendment (the right to keep and bear arms) in response to recent mass shootings?

Net: Support.....	47%	55%	42%
Strongly support.....	28%	36%	23%
Somewhat support.....	19%	19%	19%
Net: Oppose.....	35%	36%	34%
Somewhat oppose.....	14%	12%	15%
Strongly oppose.....	21%	24%	19%
Don't know.....	16%	7%	20%
Refused.....	3%	2%	3%

61. Do you support or oppose an assault weapons ban?

	<u>All</u>	<u>Likely Voters</u>	<u>All Others</u>
Net: Support	58%	67%	52%
Strongly support.....	41%	53%	34%
Somewhat support.....	17%	14%	18%
Net: Oppose	27%	26%	27%
Somewhat oppose.....	11%	8%	13%
Strongly oppose.....	15%	18%	14%
Don't know	13%	6%	17%
Refused	3%	1%	4%

62. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of the National Rifle Association?

Net: Favorable	31%	30%	32%
Very favorable.....	12%	15%	10%
Somewhat favorable	19%	15%	22%
Net: Unfavorable	53%	63%	46%
Somewhat unfavorable	19%	16%	21%
Very unfavorable.....	34%	47%	25%
Never heard of it.....	16%	7%	22%

63. Do you or an immediate family member own a gun? (multiple responses)

Yes, I do.....	17%	81%	84%
Yes, family member does	36%	36%	37%
No	49%	48%	49%

Demographics:

64. Race / Ethnicity

White, Non-Hispanic	55%	59%	53%
Hispanic	22%	17%	24%
Black, Non-Hispanic	14%	17%	12%
Other, Non-Hispanic.....	7%	5%	9%
2+ Races, Non-Hispanic	2%	3%	2%

65. Gender

Male	49%	52%	48%
Female	51%	48%	52%

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