



THE AP-GfK POLL

October, 2015

Conducted by GfK Public Affairs & Corporate Communications

A survey of the American general population (ages 18+)

Interview dates: October 15 -October 19, 2015

Number of interviews, adults: 1,027

Margin of error for the total sample: +/- 3.3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.

Please refer to the exact sample number at the bottom of each table.

**Beginning in October, 2013, AP-GfK polls were conducted online using GfK's nationally representative KnowledgePanel. All prior trend conducted by telephone.*

For more information, see <http://www.ap-gfcpoll.com>.

Some questions held for future release.

AA4./
AA4A/
AA4B/
AA5/
AA5A.

Overall, do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job.

[IF "APPROVE"] Would you say you approve of the way Congress is handling its job strongly or do you approve just somewhat?

[IF "DISAPPROVE"] Would you say you disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job strongly or do you disapprove just somewhat?

[IF "NEITHER" OR REFUSED/NOT ANSWERED] If you had to choose, do you lean more toward approving or disapproving of the way Congress is handling its job? [NOTE: BEGINNING IN DECEMBER, 2013, RESPONDENTS WHO DECLINE TO LEAN ARE SHOWN THIS QUESTION AGAIN INCLUDING A "DO NOT LEAN EITHER WAY" RESPONSE OPTION]

	10/15-19/15	7/9-13/15	4/23-27/15	1/29-2/2/15	12/4-8/14	TOTAL 10/16-20/14	REGISTERED VOTERS 10/16-20/14	LIKELY VOTERS 10/16-20/14	TOTAL 9/25-29/14	REGISTERED VOTERS 9/25-29/14	LIKELY VOTERS 9/25-29/14	7/24-28/14	5/16-19/14	3/20-24/14	1/14-21/14	12/5-9/13	10/3-7/13*	1/10-14/13	11/29-12/3/12	6/14-18/12
Total approve	16	17	19	15	15	13	12	12	12	10	7	13	14	16	14	13	5	17	23	22
Strongly approve	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	*	*	2	2	2	2	3	1	4	4	4
Somewhat approve	3	3	5	3	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	5	5	5	2	10	15	13
Lean approve	12	12	12	11	12	9	8	8	9	8	5	10	10	9	6	6	3	3	4	5
Neither—don't lean	1	1	1	1	1	*	*	-	1	*	*	1	1	1	2	*	11	3	3	2
Total disapprove	83	82	80	83	84	86	88	88	87	89	93	86	85	82	84	86	83	77	74	75
Lean disapprove	19	19	22	21	19	19	18	12	22	19	15	16	20	15	14	13	9	6	7	7
Somewhat disapprove	19	20	18	19	20	20	20	20	18	18	18	20	19	19	21	17	15	21	20	23
Strongly disapprove	45	43	40	43	45	47	51	57	46	52	60	49	47	49	49	57	60	51	47	46
Don't know [VOL.]	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2	1	1
Refused/Not Answered	*	1	*	1	1	1	*	-	*	*	*	*	*	*	1	1	1	*	*	*

Based on: N=1,027 N=1,004 N=1,077 N=1,045 N=1,010 N=1,608 N=1,385 N=968 N=1,845 N=1,541 N=958 N=1,044 N=1,354 N=1,012 N=1,080 N=1,367 N=1,227 N=1,004 =1,002 n=1,007



S1 previously released.

Some questions held for future release.

CUR33. How well would you say that each of the following represent your personal political views?

	Extremely/ very well	Extremely well	Very Well	Moderately Well	Not very/not well at all	Not very well	Not well at all	Refused
Democratic leaders in Congress	17	6	11	29	51	20	31	3
Republican leaders in Congress	10	3	7	29	58	27	31	3

Base: N=1,027

CUR34. Which of the following would you prefer that leaders from your party in Congress do?

	10/15-19/15
Compromise with the other side to pass legislation	60
Stick to their principles even if that makes it more difficult to pass legislation	37
Refused	3

Based on:

N=1,027

FAV1-BZI2 previously released.

Some questions held for future release.

CEIL1. As you may know, in the next few weeks the U.S. government must raise the federal debt limit in order to avoid defaulting on its debt*. In general, do you support, oppose or neither support nor oppose raising the federal debt limit in order to avoid defaulting on U.S. government debts?

[IF "SUPPORT"] Would you say you support raising the federal debt limit in order to avoid defaulting on U.S. government debts strongly or just somewhat?

[IF "OPPOSE"] Would you say you oppose raising the federal debt limit in order to avoid defaulting on U.S. government debts strongly or just somewhat?

	10/15-19/15	10/3-7/13*	1/10-14/13	6/15-20/11
Strongly/Somewhat support	24	30	31	38
Strongly support	12	20	13	15
Somewhat support	12	11	18	23
Neither support nor oppose	44	46	19	18
Somewhat/Strongly oppose	29	21	40	41
Somewhat oppose	11	10	16	17
Strongly oppose	18	11	24	25
Don't know	na	na	10	3
Refused/Not Answered	2	3	*	*

Based on:

N=1,027

N=1,227

N=1,004

N=1,001

*In October 2013 ECO8 was asked before CEIL1. The first sentence "as you may know, in the next few weeks the U.S. government must raise the federal debt limit in order to avoid defaulting on its debt," was asked as part of ECO8 and not CEIL1 as it is currently being shown.

ECO8. If the federal debt limit is NOT raised and the U.S. defaults on its debt, how likely is it that the U.S. would face a major economic crisis?

	10/15-19/15	10/3-7/13*	1/10-14/13	6/15-20/11
Extremely/Very likely	41	60	53	53
Extremely likely	14	30	26	30
Very likely	27	30	27	23
Somewhat likely	39	28	27	29
Not too/Not at all likely	17	8	17	16
Not too likely	15	6	9	10
Not likely at all	2	3	8	6
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	na	na	3	3
Refused/Not Answered	3	4	*	*

Based on: N=1,027 N=1,227 N=1,004 N=1,001

*Note: June 2011 wording read "As you may know, by August the U.S. government"...

CEIL2. Which of the following comes closest to your view?

	10/15-19/15	10/3-7/13*	1/10-14/13	6/15-20/11
Congress should increase the debt ceiling first to avoid a default on federal debt, and discuss spending cuts and deficit reduction separately	35	44	30	34
Congress should ONLY increase the debt ceiling if it makes significant spending cuts at the same time, even if that means there will be considerable reductions in government services and programs	50	41	39	43
OR, Congress should NOT increase the debt ceiling under any circumstances, even if that means the U.S. defaults on its debt	11	10	21	18
Don't know	na	na	9	4
Refused/Not Answered	4	6	2	1

Based on: N=1,027 N=1,227 N=1,004 N=1,001

GS1. Is each of the following goals so important that it would be worth shutting down the government to achieve it, or not?

	Yes	No	Refused
Defunding Planned Parenthood	26	69	5
Repealing President Obama's health care law	36	60	4
Reducing government spending	56	40	4
Blocking a nuclear deal with Iran	43	53	5
Half A: As a bargaining chip against President Obama (N=512)	19	75	6
As a bargaining chip to obtain a policy goal (N=515)	21	76	3

Base: N=1,027

GS2. As you may know, the House of Representatives must select a new Speaker of the House after John Boehner recently announced that he will resign at the end of October. If you had to choose, would you prefer that the next Speaker be:

	10/15-19/15
Someone who will compromise with President Obama and Democrats to pass a budget	63
Someone who will stick with conservative principles even if it will lead to a government shutdown	33
Refused	5

Based on:

N=1,027

Some questions held for future release.

TP4. Do you consider yourself a supporter of the Tea Party movement, or are you not a supporter of the Tea Party movement?

	10/15-19/15	4/23-27/15	1/29-2/2/15	12/4-8/14	TOTAL 10/16-20/14	REGISTERED VOTERS 10/16-20/14	LIKELY VOTERS 10/16-20/14	TOTAL 9/25-29/14	REGISTERED VOTERS 9/25-29/14	LIKELY VOTERS 9/25-29/14	7/24-28/14	5/16-19/14	3/20-24/14	1/17-21/14	12/5-9/13	10/3-7/13*
Supporter	18	22	21	20	19	22	27	17	20	26	23	20	22	27	20	17
Not a supporter	77	74	75	76	78	75	71	79	77	72	74	77	73	67	76	78
Don't know [VOL]	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Refused/Not Answered	5	5	5	4	3	2	2	4	3	2	4	4	6	6	4	5

Based on: N=1,027 N=1,077 N=1,045 N=1,010 N=1,608 N=1,385 N=968 N=1,845 N=1,541 N=958 N=1,044 N=1,354 N=1,012 N=1,060 N=1,367 N=1,227

TP4a. [IF TP4=1] Do you support the tea party movement strongly or somewhat...

	10/15-19/15	4/23-27/15	1/29-2/2/15	12/4-8/14	TOTAL 10/16-20/14	REGISTERED VOTERS 10/16-20/14	LIKELY VOTERS 10/16-20/14	TOTAL 9/25-29/14	REGISTERED VOTERS 9/25-29/14	LIKELY VOTERS 9/25-29/14	7/24-28/14	5/16-19/14	3/20-24/14
Strongly	27	28	35	36	36	35	38	31	31	34	35	28	31
Somewhat	73	71	65	63	64	65	62	68	67	65	64	71	67
Refused/Not Answered	-	1	1	1	*	*	-	1	1	1	1	1	2

Based on: Tea Party Supporter N=183 N=213 N=227 N=225 N=332 N=318 N=261 N=361 N=331 N=255 N=259 N=263 N=227

PID1. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an independent or none of these?

	10/15-19/15	7/9-13/15	4/23-27/15	1/29-2/2/15	12/4-8/14	TOTAL 10/16-20/14	REGISTERED VOTERS 10/16-20/14	LIKELY VOTERS 10/16-20/14	TOTAL 9/25-29/14	REGISTERED VOTERS 9/25-29/14	LIKELY VOTERS 9/25-29/14	7/24-28/14	5/16-19/14	3/20-24/14	1/17-21/14	12/5-9/13	10/3-7/13*
Democrat	30	29	32	31	31	30	34	34	31	36	35	29	32	30	33	29	31
Independent	26	26	27	27	24	23	23	23	24	25	25	24	21	24	23	28	27
Republican	23	25	21	23	24	26	29	35	24	27	32	28	26	27	25	23	23
None of these	18	17	19	17	18	19	12	8	19	11	7	17	19	16	18	17	15
Don't know [VOL]	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Refused/Not Answered	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	1	2	1	1	3	3	3	2	2	3

Based on: N=1,027 N=1,004 N=1,077 N=1,045 N=1,010 N=1,608 N=1,385 N=968 N=1,845 N=1,541 N=958 N=1,044 N=1,354 N=1,012 N=1,060 N=1,367 N=1,227

PID1/i. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an independent or none of these? IF "INDEPENDENT" OR "NONE," OR REFUSAL, ASK: Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

	10/15-19/15	7/9-13/15	4/23-27/15	1/29-2/2/15	12/4-8/14	TOTAL 10/16-20/14	REGISTERED VOTERS 10/16-20/14	LIKELY VOTERS 10/16-20/14	TOTAL 9/25-29/14	REGISTERED VOTERS 9/25-29/14	LIKELY VOTERS 9/25-29/14	7/24-28/14	5/16-19/14	3/20-24/14	1/17-21/14
Total Democrat	41	42	44	42	41	41	44	42	43	47	45	40	43	41	44
Democrat	30	29	32	31	31	30	34	34	31	36	35	29	32	30	33
Independent – lean Democratic	8	10	9	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	9	8	9	8	9
None – lean Democratic	2	4	3	3	2	4	3	1	4	2	2	4	3	3	2
Total Republican	37	37	34	35	38	37	41	47	34	38	45	38	34	39	35
Republican	23	25	21	23	24	26	29	35	24	27	32	28	26	27	25
Independent – lean Republican	10	10	10	10	9	8	9	10	8	9	10	8	6	10	8
None – lean Republican	4	2	3	3	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2
Independent – don't lean	9	7	8	10	8	7	7	6	8	8	7	8	7	6	5
None – don't lean	14	14	14	14	14	14	8	5	15	8	4	14	16	14	16
Refused/Not answered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Based on: N=1,027 N=1,004 N=1,077 N=1,045 N=1,010 N=1,608 N=1,385 N=968 N=1,845 N=1,541 N=958 N=1,044 N=1,354 N=1,012 N=1,060

G11b. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a...?

	10/15-19/15	7/9-13/15	4/23-27/15	1/29-2/2/15	12/4-8/14	TOTAL 10/16-20/14	REGISTERED VOTERS 10/16-20/14	LIKELY VOTERS 10/16-20/14	TOTAL 9/25-29/14	REGISTERED VOTERS 9/25-29/14	LIKELY VOTERS 9/25-29/14	7/24-28/14	5/16-19/14	3/20-24/14	1/17-21/14	12/5-9/13
Liberal	18	20	21	19	20	21	21	20	20	20	19	16	22	18	20	20
Conservative	35	34	33	33	35	33	36	41	31	35	40	34	33	38	38	35
Moderate	44	43	43	45	40	42	42	39	45	43	40	45	42	40	38	42
Refused/Not answered	3	3	3	3	5	3	2	1	4	2	1	4	4	4	5	4

Based on: N=1,027 N=1,004 N=1,077 N=1,045 N=1,010 N=1,608 N=1,385 N=968 N=1,224 N=1,016 N=643 N=1,044 N=1,354 N=1,012 N=1,060 N=1,367

DM5. Which one of the following best describes where you live?

Urban area	26
Suburban area	47
Rural area	25
Refused/Not Answered	3

Based on: N=1,027

INS1. The next questions are about your personal health insurance. Please include health insurance obtained through employment or purchased directly as well as government programs like Medicare and Medicaid that provide medical care or help pay medical bills.

Are you currently covered by any kind of health insurance or some other kind of health care plan or not?

	10/15-19/15	7/9-13/15	4/23-27/15	1/29-2/2/15	12/4-8/14	TOTAL 10/16-20/14	5/16-19/14	3/20-24/14	1/17-21/14	12/5-9/13	10/3-7/13*
Yes	88	88	88	87	86	86	82	85	83	82	83
No	10	10	9	10	11	12	15	12	16	16	14
Refused/Not answered	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	3

Based on: N=1,027 N=1,004 N=1,077 N=1,045 N=1,010 N=1,608 N=1,354 N=1,012 N=1,060 N=1,367 N=1,227

DM12. Do you consider yourself a born-again or evangelical Christian, or not?

Yes, born-again/evangelical	31
No	66
Refused/Not Answered	3

Based on:

N=1,027

DM13. What is your religious preference?

Protestant	26
Catholic	23
Mormon	2
Jewish	2
Muslim	*
Other religion	15
Don't belong to religious denomination	29
Refused/Not Answered	3

Based on:

N=1,027

DM14. [IF "OTHER RELIGION" IN DM13] Do you consider yourself a Christian, or not?

Yes, a Christian	88
No, not a Christian	11
Refused/Not Answered	1

Based on:

N=140

GUNS4. Does anyone in your household own a gun, or not?

	10/15-19/15	12/5-9/13
Yes	37	35
No	59	61
Refused/Not answered	4	4

Based on:

N=1,027

N=1,367

DMCELL. How many different landline telephone numbers, if any, are there in your home? This includes listed or unlisted numbers. Please don't count cell phones or landlines used ONLY for faxes or modems.

0	45
1	44
2	4
3	2
4	*
5 or more	1
Refused/Not Answered	4

Based on:

N=1,027

PPEDUCAT. (4 category)

Less than high school	10
High school	32
Some college	29
Bachelor's degree or higher	29

Based on:

N=1,027

PPETHM

White, Non-Hispanic	66
Black, Non-Hispanic	11
Other, Non-Hispanic	5
Hispanic	15
2+ Races, Non-Hispanic	4

Based on:

N=1,027

PPGENDER

Male	48
Female	52

Based on:

N=1,027

PPWORK

Working – as a paid employee	52
Working – self-employed	6
Not working – on temporary layoff from a job	1
Not working – looking for work	7
Not working – retired	17
Not working – disabled	6
Not working - other	11

Based on:

N=1,027

PPAGE

Age group:

18-29	22
30-49	34
50-64	26
65+	19

Based on:

N=1,027

DM20. And in which group does your total household [IF SINGLE: "PERSONAL"] income fall?
[READ LIST]

Under \$10,000	6
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	7
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	9
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	11
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	7
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	21
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	12
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	21
\$150,000 or more	8

Based on:

N=1,027

CENSUS REGION:

Northeast	18
Midwest	21
South	37
West	23

Based on:

N=1,027

AP-GfK Poll Methodology

The **Associated Press-GfK Poll** was conducted October 15 to October 19, 2015 by GfK Public Affairs & Corporate Communications – a division of GfK Custom Research North America. This poll is based on a nationally-representative probability sample of 1,027 general population adults age 18 or older.

The survey was conducted using the web-enabled KnowledgePanel®, a probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. population. At inception participants were chosen scientifically by a random selection of telephone numbers and since 2009 through Address-based sampling using the post office's delivery sequence file. Persons in these households are then invited to join and participate in the web-enabled KnowledgePanel®. For those who agree to participate, but do not already have Internet access, GfK provides at no cost a laptop and ISP connection. People who already have computers and Internet services are permitted to participate using their own equipment. Panelists then receive unique log-in information for accessing surveys online, and then are sent emails throughout each month inviting them to participate in research.

The data were weighted to account for probabilities of selection, as well as age within sex, education, race, and phone type. The phone type targets came from the fall, 2012 MRI Consumer Survey. The other targets came from the March, 2012 Supplement of the Current Population Survey.

The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level, for results based on the entire sample of adults. The margin of sampling error is higher and varies for results based on sub-samples. In our reporting of the findings, percentage points are rounded off to the nearest whole number. As a result, percentages in a given table column may total slightly higher or lower than 100%. In questions that permit multiple responses, columns may total significantly more than 100%, depending on the number of different responses offered by each respondent. The cooperation rate for this poll was 48%.

Trend data are displayed for selected questions from previous AP-GfK Polls that were conducted using telephone interviews with nationally-representative probability samples of adults age 18 or older. Details about all AP-GfK Polls are available at <http://www.ap-gfkipoll.com>.