2018 Midterm Election Guide

Generational trends and the current political landscape
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Although this guide was designed with the purpose of educating and engaging millennials in their right to vote, the information presented is for any voter looking to understand where we stand at 2018 midterm time. Through an initial survey of college-aged students, the vast majority noted that they do not typically vote because they feel like they don’t know enough about the issues at stake and are not educated on the purpose of midterm elections. They further noted which issues are most important to them, which are the issues that are focused on in this guide: the environment, the economy, immigration, foreign policy, the treatment of minority groups, gun policy, healthcare, and women’s rights. While these issues surfaced as top priorities to millennials, you will see that these topics resonate across generations.

As a student-teacher team, we have created a guide that uses real data from reputable polling institutes in combination with timelines of key events, definitions of key terms, and explanation of important issues that affect us all. We recognize that data of all forms is not ever perfect, but are confident that the information in this guide is presented as accurately as possible.

We invite you to process the information in this guide, become familiar with today’s political landscape and make an informed decision in November as part of your critical right to vote for our elected leaders. Every vote counts and helps determine the direction of our future.

Lastly, we would like to thank Quinnipiac University’s QUIP-RS committee and the entire 2018 QUIP-RS cohort for their support in recognizing the potential of this project and making this collaboration possible.

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Before jumping into the issues at stake, it is important to understand the current demographics of the U.S. and how they have evolved over time. The current population is more diverse and educated than ever, yet the younger the average American is, the less likely they are to vote.
Altruistic
Millennials are more focused on the well-being of all Americans than other generations. They are more likely to support a government that provides more aid to those in need such as through universal healthcare, economic equality, etc.

Passion for equality
Millennials find that prejudice against minority groups is more serious of a problem than other generations.

Open-minded
Millennials are more open to exploring a new perspective. Because they follow less strict traditional ideals, Millennials offer greater support for abortion. As far as foreign affairs, Millennials are more likely to encourage good diplomacy and loyalty to allies over military action.

Diverse
There is more racial diversity among Millennials with an increase of Hispanics, blacks and Asians. Millennials are also more likely to identify as LGBT.

Romantically-independent
Millennials are more likely than any other generation while they were ages 21-36 to never be married. Additionally, the amount of Millennials who still live at their parents’ home ages 25-35 is higher than other generation during that age range.

Liberal-minded
Millennials are more likely to identify as Democrats or lean Democrat because they are more open to the U.S. evolving to address newer societal problems (like climate change, for example), shying away from the traditional ways of older generations.

Educated
Millennials are more educated than any other generation at their age, more than doubling the amount Silents with a bachelor's degree or more in 1964.

Accepting of minority groups
Millenials are generally more open to people of all races and sexual orientations specifically shown with their heightened support for allowing immigration to the U.S. and greater support for same-sex marriage legalization.

Politically disengaged
Although more educated, Millennials are less likely to go out and vote during both Midterm and Presidential elections.
**U.S. Population by generation (per June 2016 National Data)**

Population when the generations were ages 21-36 (in millions)

- **Millennial**: 36.52 (79.41 million)
- **Gen X**: 62.55 (65.72 million)
- **Baby Boomer**: 64.70 (73.61 million)
- **Silent**: 70.15 (28.32 million)

The population size of Millennials has surpassed Baby Boomers, previously the largest generation.


NOTE: Members of the Silent Generation were ages 72 to 89 in 2017. Since the Current Population Survey aggregates those ages 85 and older into one category, outcomes for members of the Silent and Greatest generations cannot be separately shown.

**Marriage rate in 2017 among the generations**

- **Baby Boomers**: 66%
- **Silent/Greatest**: 52%
- **Gen X**: 66%
- **Millennial**: 37%


NOTE: Members of the Silent Generation were ages 72 to 89 in 2017. Since the Current Population Survey aggregates those ages 85 and older into one category, outcomes for members of the Silent and Greatest generations cannot be separately shown.

**Marital status when the generations were ages 21-36**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Generation (2017 age)</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Married</th>
<th>Separated/divorced</th>
<th>Widowed</th>
<th>Never married</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Millennial</strong>: 21-36</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen X (37-52)</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baby Boomer (53-71)</td>
<td>1985</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silent (72-89)</td>
<td>1965</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


NOTE: Ages shown are as of 2017. Members of the Silent Generation were ages 72 to 89 in 2017. Since the Current Population Survey aggregates those ages 85 and older into one category, outcomes for members of the Silent and Greatest generations cannot be separately shown. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding. Shares less than 0.5% not shown.
Young people are more likely to identify as LGBT.


Females in the labor force have more than doubled since 1964.


NOTE: Ages shown are as of 2017. Members of the Silent Generation were ages 72 to 89 in 2017. Since the Current Population Survey aggregates those ages 85 and older into one category, outcomes for members of the Silent and Greatest generations cannot be separately shown. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding. Shares less than 0.5% not shown.
Percentage of those ages 21-36 who have completed at least a bachelor's degree, by sex.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Generation (2017 age)</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Millennial (21-36)</td>
<td></td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen X (37-52)</td>
<td></td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baby Boomer (53-71)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1985</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silent (72-89)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1965</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overall education levels have increased over time, with the amount of females with bachelor's degrees surpassing men in Gen X and Millennial generations.

Percentage of employed 25-to 29-year-olds with a bachelor's degree or more

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Millennial (20-35)</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen X (36-51)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baby Boomer (52-70)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silent (71-88)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Younger generations have a greater likelihood of being employed with a college education.


NOTE: "Employed" refers to those who were at work in the week prior to survey or who were temporarily absent from their jobs.
U.S. Population by race (per July 1, 2017 Census Data)

Based on a total population of 325,719,178

Ethnicity when the generations were ages 21-36

Millennials are more diverse than any other generation at ages 21-26.
Generalized political party beliefs

**Democrat (Progressive)**
- Big Government
  - stricter gun control
  - government should provide universal healthcare
- Collectivism
  - decreased military spending
  - support raising minimum wage
- Change + diversity
  - science + evolution
  - welcoming immigrants is part of America's identity

**Republican (Traditional)**
- Keep tradition alive
  - marriage is between man and woman
  - pro-life
  - gender is determined by sex at birth
- Freedom + free market
  - oppose raising minimum wage
  - support 2nd Amendment rights
- Individualism
  - flat tax for all regardless of income
  - do not interfere with rights
- Small Government
  - environmental regulations hurt business
  - decide healthcare plan for themselves

**Independent**
- Keep tradition alive
  - marriage is between man and woman
  - pro-life
  - gender is determined by sex at birth
- Support 2nd Amendment rights
- Increased military spending
- Stronger border control

**Equality**
- love is love, including gay marriage
- Black Lives Matter
- environmental regulations are essential to preserving planet

**Collectivism**
- taxes proportionate to income

**Big Government**
- government should provide universal healthcare

**Black Lives Matter**
- love is love, including gay marriage
Key issues

- Immigration
- Treatment of minority groups
- Gun policy
- Environment
- Healthcare
- Abortion + women's rights
- Marijuana
- Economy
- Sexual harassment
- Trump approval
- Congress approval
- Foreign policy
Global warming (climate change): a gradual increase in the overall temperature of the earth’s atmosphere generally attributed to the greenhouse effect caused by increased levels of carbon dioxide, chlorofluorocarbons, and other pollutants.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): an agency of the United States federal government whose mission is to protect human and environmental health.

Paris Agreement (or Paris Climate Accord): an international agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to keep global temperature below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. The US is the only country not currently signed to the agreement.

Clean Power Plan: an Obama-era plan focused on reducing emissions from coal-burning power plants, increasing the use of renewable energy, and energy conservation.

Democrats say that "the best science tells us that without ambitious, immediate action to cut carbon pollution and other greenhouse gases, all of these impacts will be far worse in the future" (democrats.org)

- Defend pollution and efficiency standards, including the Clean Power Plan
- Want corporations held accountable for misleading information on climate change
- Committed to the standards and goals set out in the Paris Agreement
- Support low-cost renewable energy and want to incentivize the production and use of wind, solar, and other renewable energy

Republicans argue that climate change "is far from this nation’s most pressing issue" and hurts businesses. (gop.com)

- Want to do away with the Clean Power Plan altogether
- Demand a stop to US funding of the UN’s Framework on Climate Change
- Reject the Paris Agreement as a global commitment to combat climate change
- Support offshore and Arctic drilling for oil, mining, coal, fossil fuel production on public lands, nuclear power, and oil pipelines as ways to produce energy
Do you think the United States is doing enough to address climate change?

![Graph showing responses to the question about doing enough to address climate change over time.]

How concerned are you about climate change?

![Graph showing concern levels about climate change over time.]

Timeline of Environmental Decisions – 1.25.17 through 8.1.18

1.25.17 Trump administration begins removing all references to climate change and science from the White House and EPA’s website.

2.28.17 An executive order is issued to review the waterways covered under the Clean Water Act that protects the water quality of certain waterways.

3.2.17 An Obama-era request that fossil-fuel producers track methane emissions is halted.

3.24.17 The Keystone XL pipeline is approved, in Texas.

3.28.17 An executive order is signed seeking to dismantle most climate change work enacted by the Obama administration, including the Clean Power Plan.

4.28.17 An executive order is signed to review bans on offshore and Arctic drilling for oil and gas.

5.23.17 Pres. Trump’s 2018 budget proposes massive cuts to scientific research, and environmental programs to protect air and water.

6.1.17 The US pulls out of the Paris Climate Agreement.

Source: National Geographic

NOTE: “Don’t know/not assessed” responses not shown.
Is there solid evidence that the average temperature on Earth has been getting warmer over the past few decades?

**Timeline on Select Environmental Decisions – 1.25.17 through 8.1.18**

8.22.17  The U.S.'s Climate Advisory Panel is disbanded.
8.17.17  An executive order is signed revoking flood standards incorporating rising sea levels predicted by climate change.
12.18.17  Pres. Trump drops climate change from list of national security threats.
1.25.18  The EPA drops a Clinton-era regulation on toxic air pollution.
4.2.18  The EPA starts rollback of car emissions standards.
5.9.18  The NASA Carbon Monitoring System, intended to improve monitoring of global carbon emissions, is cut.
7.5.18  EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt resigns after months of numerous ethics scandals.

**Global Perspective: Top CO2 Contributors**

- **China**: 28%
- **United States**: 15%
- **Russia**: 5%
- **India**: 6%
- **Germany**: 2%
- **Korea**: 2%
- **Mexico**: 1%
- **Japan**: 4%
- **Saudi Arabia**: 2%
- **Canada**: 2%
- **Brazil**: 2%
- **Indo.**: 2%
- **S. Africa**: 1%
- **Aus.**: 1%

**CO2 Emissions**

- **China**: 361,262
- **United States**: 10,291,927

**Source:** The World Bank Group

**Source:** Pew Research Center survey conducted June 8-18, 2017.

*NOTE: “Don't know” responses not shown.*
Economy

**Tariff**: a tax or duty to be paid on a particular class of imports or exports.

**Trade war**: a situation in which countries try to damage each other's trade, typically by the imposition of tariffs or quota restrictions.

**The overall health of the economy is often measured by looking at:**

- **Unemployment rates**: the percentage of the total labor force that is unemployed but actively seeking employment and willing to work.

- **Inflation rates**: the rate at which the general level of prices for goods and services is rising and, consequently, the purchasing power of currency is falling.

- **Interest rates**: the amount charged, expressed as a percentage of principal, by a lender to a borrower for the use of assets. Individuals most commonly borrow for home or car purchases, to start a business, pay college tuition, or larger business purchases such as land, buildings, machinery, trucks, etc.

- **Gross domestic product (GDP)**: the total value of goods produced and services provided in a country during one year.

**key terms**

**key issues**

We notice the overall health of the economy day-to-day through:

- Gas prices
- Job availability (hiring vs. lay-offs)
- Hourly wages, salaries, benefit packages
- Prices of food and everyday products
- Access to social services
- Loan rates (for education, cars, houses, etc.)


### How you describe the state of the nation's economy today?

**Timeline on Tariffs – 1.23.18 through 8.1.18**

- **1.23.18:** The U.S. imposes a 30% tariff on solar panels made outside of the US, with China being the leading manufacturer.
- **6.1.18:** The U.S. imposes a 25% tariff on steel, and 10% tariff on aluminum, on the European Union, Canada, and Mexico.
- **6.5.18:** Mexico implements retaliatory tariffs on about $3 billion worth of US goods.
- **6.22.18:** The European Union’s retaliatory tariffs (in consultation with the World Trade Organization) take effect on 188 types of products, equaling over $3 billion in US goods.
- **7.1.18:** Canada retaliates with matching the U.S. tariff dollar-for-dollar and cover 299 US goods.
- **7.24.18:** Pres. Trump administration announces $12 billion in emergency relief for American farmers slammed by the U.S.’s escalating trade disputes with China and other countries.
- **7.6.18:** The U.S. adds a 25% tariff on more than 800 Chinese products, in which China retaliates and returned a similarly hefty tariffs.

**Source:** Bloomberg.com

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**Source:** Nationwide surveys conducted by the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute. For a typical public opinion survey, a randomly selected sample of about 1,000 registered voters age 18 and over is interviewed over five or six days.

**NOTE:** “Don’t know/not assessed” responses not shown.

### Table: Responses (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-34</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not so good</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-49</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not so good</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-64</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not so good</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not so good</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** European Union, Canada, and Mexico.
interviewed over five or six days. Source: Nationwide surveys conducted by the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute. For a typical public opinion survey, a randomly selected sample of about 1,000 registered voters age 18 and over is interviewed over five or six days.

Although many Americans feel that they are financially stable, most believe that the economic system unfairly favors powerful interests.
Foreign policy

Trans-Pacific Partnership: a 12-country, trade agreement aimed to lower both non-tariff and tariff barriers to trade and establish a mechanism to sue countries for discriminatory practices.

Sanctuary city: a city that limits cooperation with federal immigration enforcement agents in order to protect low-priority immigrants from deportation, while still turning over those who have committed serious crimes.

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA): the world’s largest free trade treaty between Mexico, Canada and the US, that sees the three countries as equals in trade, by eliminating most tariffs between the countries to increase investment opportunities.

Stances on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)

- Largely seen to potentially lead to positive economic outcomes for all countries, though an unorthodox model by two Tufts University economists disagreed with this analysis.
- Supporters of the TPP have argued that the deal would serve for geopolitical gains, reducing dependence on Chinese trade, and bringing countries closer with the US.
- President Trump believed that the agreement would undermine the US economy and its independence.

Stances on the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

- Those against NAFTA argue that too many U.S. manufacturing jobs are sent to lower-cost Mexico, and that workers who kept jobs in those industries had to accept lower wages.
- Those in favor of NAFTA point to the advantages of lower grocery prices and lower gas prices since the US receives numerous goods from Canada and Mexico.

key terms

key issues


Percentage who say good diplomacy, rather than military strength, is the best way to ensure peace.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1994</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Millennial (22-37)</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen X (38-53)</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baby Boomer (54-72)</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silent (73-90)</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year
- 2004
- 2017


Should the U.S. follow own national interests or take into account the interest of allies?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opinion</th>
<th>1994</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Follow own national interests even when allies strongly disagree</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take into account interests of allies even if it means making compromises with them</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


NOTE: “Don’t know” responses not shown.

Timeline on Select Foreign Policy – 1.27.17 through 8.1.18

1.27.17  Pres. Trump signs executive order banning nationals of six Muslim-majority from traveling to the US for 90 days. The same week, two additional executive orders are used to 1) direct funds to the construction of a wall on the Mexican border, and 2) cut off sanctuary cities from receiving federal grants.

5.18.17  The White House announces its intent to revisit the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

6.1.17  Pres. Trump announces the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Climate Accord (aka the Paris Agreement).

6.16.17  Pres. Trump announces that it will reinstate restrictions on travel and trade with Cuba and reduce the U.S. embassy staff in Havana by half.

7.5.17  Pres. Trump meets with Russian President, Vladimir Putin amid ongoing interference in the 2016 US elections.


8.21.17  Pres. Trump announces that he will deploy more U.S. troops to Afghanistan for counter-terrorism efforts.

8.27.17  Pres. Trump announces the DACA program will be ending, leaving around 800,000 people in danger of deportation.

Source: Council on Foreign Relations
NOTE: “Don’t know” responses not shown.


Timeline on Select Foreign Policy – 1.23.18 through 8.1.18

Statement that best describes the opinion of the U.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opinion</th>
<th>Response (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There are other countries that are better than U.S.</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. one of greatest countries, along with others</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. stands above all other countries in the world</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


NOTE: “Don’t know” responses not shown.

A (very) brief summary of Russian election meddling

Russia has been a complicated issue of national security, foreign policy, and a likely attack on democracy. There are many people, events, and documents involved in the investigation that are unknown to the public at this time. This summary focuses on what we do know.

FBI and the Special Counsel

The FBI’s original Trump-Russia investigation started in the summer before the 2016 campaign, though the public wasn’t really aware of it then.

• In March 2017, then-FBI Director James Comey publicly confirmed the investigation of connections between Trump associates and the Russian government.

• In May 2017, Trump fired Comey, and said a day later that Russia was on his mind when he made the decision. At the time, Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein was overseeing the Russia investigation after Attorney General Jeff Sessions recused himself.

• After Comey’s firing, Rosenstein (a Republican) named Robert Mueller (another Republican) as special counsel, tasked with investigating “any links and/or coordination between the Russian government and individuals associated with the campaign of President Donald Trump,” as well as “any matters that arose or may arise directly from the investigation.” Mueller is a highly-regarded and well-respected figure in Washington.

Indictments for election interference and hacking the DNC

• Mueller’s team has been involved in indicting 32 people and three Russian companies, including four Trump campaign officials: Paul Manafort, Richard Gates, George Papadopoulos and Michael Flynn.

• In February 2018, a federal grand jury indicted 13 Russians charged in a conspiracy to influence the 2016 election through their use of social media, which was a multimillion-dollar operation aimed at conducting “information warfare against the United States of America.”

• A federal grand jury also indicted 12 Russian military intelligence officers for hacking the Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee during the 2016 election. The indictment cited “large-scale cyber operations to interfere with the 2016 U.S. presidential election.” It also said that on the same day that Trump called on Russia to “find” 30,000 Clinton emails, Russians worked “after hours” to try to hack email accounts used by Clinton’s personal office.

Now what? The importance of voting in midterm elections.

• It is unknown what Trump knew about Russian efforts to undermine the 2016 election. Trump has long insisted there was “no collusion” while also routinely rejecting or undercutting the intelligence community and any report that Russia was involved in election interference.

• Mueller’s team has been focused on the question of obstruction for the past several months. The obstruction case focuses on Trump’s attempt to intervene in the Flynn case, firing Comey, and his attempts to get Sessions to reverse his recusal.

• Mueller’s team will eventually probably send a report about the president’s conduct to Congress to potentially be used in impeachment proceedings.

• Congress is not likely to impeach under Republican control.

The makeup of Congress after the midterm election is critical to what happens next and if Mueller submits a report.

**Legal immigration:** Immigrants that have the proper, legal documentation to live and work in the country, and have applied for the appropriate visa. Immigrants arrive legally because they are family of citizens (spouse, minor children), employed, a refugee, or via visa lottery.

**Illegal immigration:** A foreign-born non-citizens who either entered the United States without inspection or were admitted temporarily and stayed past the date they were required to leave. The most common way that immigrants violate the terms of their visa (and thus become ‘illegal’ is by accepting employment.

**Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA):** A federal government program created in 2012 under Barack Obama to allow people brought to the US illegally as children the temporary right to live, study and work in America. It is NOT a pathway to citizenship.

- Those applying are vetted for any criminal history or threat to national security
- If they pass vetting, action to deport them is deferred for two years, with a chance to renew, and they become eligible for basics like a driving license, college enrollment or a work permit.

**Dreamers:** A term for the approximately 800,000 people protected under DACA, all aged 15-36 years old.

- To apply, they must have been younger than 31 on 15 June 2012, when the program began, and "undocumented", lacking legal immigration status. They must have arrived in the US before turning 16 and lived there continuously since June 2007.

**Child separations**

- Between October 1, 2017 and May 31, 2018, at least 2,700 children were split from their parents, before Pres. Trump was forced to respond publicly after increasing public outrage.
- By July 26, the Trump administration said that 1,442 children had been reunited with their parents while 711 remained in government shelters.
Overall, do you believe that legal immigration is good for the country?

Answer choices
- Good
- Bad

Overall, do you believe that legal immigration is good for the country or bad for the country?

Answer choices
- Good
- Bad

Does openness to people from around the world cause America to risk losing its identity or is it essential to who we are as a nation?

Answer choices
- America’s openness to people from all over the world is essential to who we are as a nation
- America is too open to people from around the world, we risk losing our identity as a nation

Timeline on Select Immigration Issues – 2016 through 8.1.18

2016
Then presidential nominee Donald Trump expresses he would like to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, and make Mexico pay for it.

1.27.17
An executive order is signed halting all refugees and temporarily barring people from seven Muslim-majority countries, saying that it would allow time to develop a stricter vetting system.

9.24.17
Trump issued restrictions on travel from Chad, Iran, Libya, North Korea, Somalia, Syria, Venezuela, and Yemen.

4.18
A “zero tolerance” policy is put into place at the southwest border of the U.S., causing separation of families in detention centers, and sparking national outrage.

6.20.18
Pres. Trump signs an executive order to keep migrant families together at the U.S.-Mexico border following a national outcry.

5.5.18 – 6.6.18 alone
2,342 children are separated from their parents at the border.

7.26.18
The court ordered deadline to reunite families, although a reported 900+ families were not reunited by the deadline.

Source: Nationwide surveys conducted by the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute. For a typical public opinion survey, a randomly selected sample of about 1,000 registered voters age 18 and over is interviewed over five or six days.

NOTE: “Don’t know/not assessed” responses not shown.


NOTE: “Don’t know” responses not shown.
The vast majority of Americans believe that immigrants should be allowed to stay here.
Treatment of minority groups

**key terms**
- Black Lives Matter: a movement that formed in 2013 in the wake of several publicly known cases of racial inequality and violence against African Americans, including in the form of police brutality.

**key issues**
- Confederate monuments
  - Protests and debates have been ongoing over the removal of confederate statues because they are seen as overt symbols of racism and white supremacy. Many say that it is time to see them go since they do not represent today’s values.
  - Others argue that the statues are an important part of history that must be preserved.
- LGBT rights
  - The Trump Administration has stopped and rolled back regulations meant to protect LGBT workers and patients and removed LGBT-friendly language from documents.
  - A new religious liberty division of the health department has been designed to defend health workers who have religious objections to treating LGBT patients.
- Muslim discrimination
  - In the wake of Pres. Trump’s travel ban, American Muslims have expressed issues of discrimination and misconception of Islam.


How serious a problem do you think that prejudice against minority groups is in the United States today?

- Very serious
- Somewhat serious
- Not so serious
- Not at all

Percentage who say our country needs to continue making changes to give blacks equal rights with whites.

Americans agree that prejudices and racism exist and are a serious problem in today's society.
Percentage who say racial discrimination is the main reason why many black people can’t get ahead these days.

Timeline on Select Treatment of Minority Groups – 1.27.17 through 8.1.18

- **2.22.17** Landmark 2016 guidance explaining how schools must protect transgender students under the federal Title IX law is withdrawn.
- **5.2.17** A plan to roll back regulations interpreting the Affordable Care Act’s nondiscrimination provisions to protect transgender people is announced.
- **8.12.17** After a white nationalist attending a rally drove a car into a crowd of protestors, Trump condemns “this egregious display of hatred, bigotry and violence, on many sides.”
- **9.22.17** Pres. Trump said NFL owners should fire “son of a bitch” players who kneel during the National Anthem to protest police brutality against people of color.
- **9.30.17** In the aftermath of two hurricanes, Pres. Trump characterizes Puerto Ricans as “wanting everything done for them,” adding that their leaders are “not able to get their workers to help.”
- **1.11.18** Pres. Trump reportedly wonders why the US was admitting people from Haiti and Africa, referring to “shithole countries” and suggesting more immigration from places like Norway.
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Percentage who favor allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally.

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Do you think more acceptance of transgender people would be a good thing for the country?

How accepting do you think the U.S. is of transgender people today?

Source: Nationwide surveys conducted by the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute. For a typical public opinion survey, a randomly selected sample of about 1,000 registered voters age 18 and over is interviewed over five or six days. NOTE: “Don’t know/not assessed” responses not shown.
Gun policy

key terms

National Rifle Association (NRA): An American nonprofit organization that advocates for gun rights, founded in 1871 as a recreational group designed to “promote and encourage rifle shooting on a scientific basis”.

- Now among the most powerful special interest lobby groups in the US, with a substantial budget to influence members of Congress on gun policy.
- The NRA spends about $250 million per year, far more than all the country’s gun control advocacy groups put together.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF): A law enforcement agency in the United States’ Department of Justice that protects our communities from violent criminals, criminal organizations, the illegal use and trafficking of firearms, the illegal use and storage of explosives, acts of arson and bombings, acts of terrorism, and the illegal diversion of alcohol and tobacco products.

Mass shootings

- A dangerous increase in mass shootings in the United States in the 2010s, including several school schools, has prompted discussion on reforming gun control laws and other initiatives to prevent gun-related deaths.
- Since 2011, there has been a mass shooting on average every 64 days in the United States.

Gun control vs. The Second Amendment

- Gun control initiatives up for debate include background checks, a waiting period after gun purchase, a ban on assault rifles, tighter security in schools, and repealing the Second Amendment.
- The United States is one of the few countries with the right to bear arms as a constitutional right.

key issues


If more people carried guns, do you think the United States would be more safe?

Do you think it is too easy to buy a gun in the U.S. today?

Timeline of Select Gun Policy and Events – 1.27.17 through 8.1.18

2.17
Pres. Trump overturned Obama-era rule that added people with mental illnesses and unable to handle their own finances to the FBI’s National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

3.2.17
A ban on using lead ammunition on wildlife refuges was revoked, a ban that prevents plants and animals from being poisoned by lead left on the ground or in their water.

2.17
Pres. Trump’s Justice Department sided with the ATF and removed about 500,000 people previously labeled “fugitives” from the background-check system.

10.1.17
A Las Vegas shooting on a crowd of concert-goers kills 59 people. The gun used functioned like an illegal automatic weapon thanks to the use of a “bump stock.”

11.5.17
A Texas church shooting results in 26 deaths.

2.12.18
Pres. Trump’s fiscal year 2019 budget calls for reducing funding to improve reporting to the national background-check database.

11.17.17
The Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act was passed, allowing people granted a concealed-carry license in their state to conceal a weapon anywhere in the country, overruling other states’ gun laws.

Source: Nationwide surveys conducted by the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute. For a typical public opinion survey, a randomly selected sample of about 1,000 registered voters age 18 and over is interviewed over five or six days.

NOTE: “Don’t know/not assessed” responses not shown.
Is being the victim of a mass shooting something you personally worry about?

![Bar chart showing responses to the question over time](chart.png)

**Millennials and Gen Xers are more likely to fear being a victim of a mass shooting, rising from November 2017 to February 2018.**

Source: Nationwide surveys conducted by the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute. For a typical public opinion survey, a randomly selected sample of about 1,000 registered voters age 18 and over is interviewed over five or six days.

**NOTE:** "Don’t know/not assessed" responses not shown.

Timeline of Select Gun Policy and Events – 1.27.17 through 8.1.18

- **2.14.18**
  - 17 people killed at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

- **5.18.18**
  - 10 people killed at Santa Fe High School in Santa Fe, Texas.

- **2.22.18**
  - Trump suggests arming up to 20% of teachers to stop "maniacs" from attacking students.

- **2.22.18**
  - Defense Distributed makes complete plans to print guns at home with a 3D printer available raising new challenges for US officials and lawmakers.

Global Context:

**Homicides by Firearms per 1 million People in 2012**

- **United States**
  - 29.7%

- **Switzerland**
  - 7.7%

- **Sweden**
  - 4.1%

- **New Zealand**
  - 1.6%

- **Finland**
  - 4.5%

- **Netherlands**
  - 3.3%

- **Denmark**
  - 2.7%

- **Canada**
  - 5.1%

- **Australia**
  - 1.4%

- **Austria**
  - 2.2%

- **Ireland**
  - 4.8%

- **Belgium**
  - 6.8%

- **Luxembourg**
  - 6.2%

- **Germany**
  - 1.9%

Source: UNODC, Small Arms Survey, via The Guardian.
Global Context: Population vs. Civilian Gun Ownership

Population of the world: 7.13 billion
Population of U.S.: 4.43%

Civilian-owned in the world: 644 million
Guns owned in the U.S.: 42%

American citizens have an astonishing number of guns in comparison to the rest of the world.

Support or opposition for requiring background checks for all gun buyers, stricter gun laws in the United States and nationwide ban on the sale of assault weapons?

Of all gun issues, better background checks is supported by almost all Americans. The majority would also like to see stricter gun laws in general.

Source: UNODC, Small Arms Survey, via The Guardian.

Source: Nationwide surveys conducted by the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute. For a typical public opinion survey, a randomly selected sample of about 1,000 registered voters age 18 and over is interviewed over five or six days. The data portrayed in this visualization was averaged from polls taken in 2016-2018.

NOTE: "Don't know/not assessed" responses not shown.
Affordable Care Act (also known as "Obamacare"): The comprehensive health care reform law enacted in March 2010 under Barack Obama. Most notably, it:
• Slows the rise of healthcare cost by providing insurance for million and making preventative care free (people receive treatment before expensive emergency room services)
• Requires all insurance plans to cover 10 essential health benefits including mental health, addiction, and chronic diseases to reduce the need for emergency services
• Does not allow insurance companies to deny coverage for pre-existing conditions
• Allows children to stay on parents’ health insurance until the age of 26.
• Grants a tax credit to the middle class on their premiums
• Requires businesses with more than 50 employees to offer health insurance, and grants those businesses tax credit to help with the costs.

Although President Trump has not been able to successfully repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), he has been able to weaken it considerably in the following ways:
• If you’re healthy, his actions could lower your costs by not having to pay a penalty for being uninsured, or by purchasing a short-term plan that does not offer all benefits
• If you BECOME sick, you risk exceeding your cheaper plan’s annual or lifetime limit, causing you to pay much more to buy into Obamacare
• If you have chronic illness, your costs rise because as healthy people leave ACA plans, companies will raise prices (often over 30%) on the remaining plans to stay profitable.
• National healthcare costs will rise faster, and contribute to national debt. As insurance rates climb, so do subsidies that increase the deficit.
How important is it to you that health insurance be affordable for all Americans?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Importance level</th>
<th>18-34</th>
<th>35-49</th>
<th>50-64</th>
<th>65+</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very important</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat important</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>68</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not so important</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not important at all</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Timeline of Select Healthcare Policy – 1.20.17 through 8.1.18

1.20.17
Pres. Trump issues an executive order to “minimize the unwarranted economic and regulatory burdens” of the Affordable Care Act.

3.7.17

6.22.17
Senate leaders release their version of an ACA overhaul, the Better Care Reconciliation Act (BCRA).

7.28.17
After months of drafts and failed votes, a ‘skinny repeal’ bill is the last option. Like the versions before it, it is also voted down.

10.12.17
An executive order is signed pushing officials to ease the purchase insurance that does not meet the regulatory standards of the ACA.

12.22.17
Pres. Trump signs the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, repealing the Obamacare tax on those who don't get health insurance.

5.11.18
Pres. Trump reveals the “American Patients First” Plan to lower drug costs.

8.1.18
It is announced that people who don’t get insurance through their jobs can buy short-term policies that are cheaper than ACA coverage. The plans do not have to meet any of the ACA coverage requirements.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Life Expectancy</th>
<th>Cost per Capita</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>78.11</td>
<td>$7,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>81.23</td>
<td>$3,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>79.01</td>
<td>$2,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>80.05</td>
<td>$2,671</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>79.26</td>
<td>$3,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>82.12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>79.95</td>
<td>$4,763</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>76.06</td>
<td>$823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>81.63</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td>78.72</td>
<td>$1,688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>71.96</td>
<td>$618</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Abortion + women’s rights

key terms

**Planned Parenthood**: a trusted health care provider, an informed educator, a passionate advocate, and a global partner helping similar organizations around the world. Planned Parenthood delivers vital reproductive health care, sex education, and information to millions of people worldwide.

**Roe v. Wade**: A landmark decision by the U.S. Supreme Court on January 22, 1973, that affirmed the constitutional right to access safe, legal abortion.

key issues

**Pro-life vs. Pro-choice**

- Pro-life advocates disagree with Planned Parenthood’s offering of abortion services.
- Pro-choice advocates believe that each individual has the right to choose if they get an abortion for a range of reasons including: rape or incest, mother having health problems, possible fetal health problems, unready for responsibility, can’t afford raising a child, and avoiding single parenthood, among others.

Reproductive rights

- In April 2017, Pres. Trump and Congress overturned a regulation that protected Planned Parenthood and other family planning clinics from funding discrimination by states.
- On October 6, 2017, the Department of Health and Human Services issued a regulation allowing employers and insurers to deny coverage for birth control, as long as they can cite religious reasons for doing so.

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Do you think abortion should be legal or illegal?

Most Americans support Planned Parenthood. Of those who do not, access to abortions is the main reason for not supporting them.
Marijuana

key issues

“Harmful drug” vs. “safer than alcohol”

- The federal government currently classifies marijuana as a schedule 1 drug alongside heroin as it is perceived to offer no medical value and has a high potential for abuse.
- Concern for legalization include increased usage and possible addiction as well as becoming a “gateway drug” to involvement in more severe drug-use.
- Traffic deaths and arrests from DUIs have decreased an average of 11% in states that have legalized use, because marijuana users tend to be more cautious and take fewer risks.
- The amount of crime and violence caused by alcohol use is ten times higher than by marijuana use and alcohol is a factor in around 40% of violent crimes.

Legalization for recreational use

- 13 states have decriminalized possession, though it is still illegal.
- Marijuana legalization could potentially help fight the opioid epidemic by providing a safer and legal alternative for pain relief.
- Tax revenues in legal marijuana states provide funding to the police, drug treatment and mental health centers, housing programs, and school programs such as anti-bullying campaigns, youth mentoring, and public school grants.

Legalization for medical uses

- 30 states have legalized for medical use, which has an overwhelming support of the public.
- Medical marijuana has been proven to help with pain, nausea, anxiety, depression, muscle spasticity, and inflammatory bowel diseases such as Crohn’s disease, while causing minimal side effects.

Do you support or oppose allowing adults to legally use marijuana for medical purposes?

Most Americans believe marijuana should be legal for medical purposes, but even those who use marijuana recreationally don’t always think it should be legal.
Sexual harassment

key terms

MeToo: a movement founded in 2006 by Tarana Burke to help survivors of sexual violence find pathways to healing through resources and a community of advocates.

• The #metoo hashtag went viral after Harvey Weinstein was accused of decades worth of sexual misconduct allegations in October 2017, encouraging women worldwide to come out and share their stories.
• 17,700,000 women have reported a sexual assault since 1998.
• Public figures of all backgrounds have faced accusations of misconduct including actors, journalists, politicians, doctors, and entertainers.
• The MeToo Movement is criticized for the questionable validity of some reported cases of sexual harassment and punishment of the accused even if there is not substantial evidence of the crime.

key issues

The Trump Administration has quietly:

• Reversed the Department of Education’s initiative to address college sexual assault.
• Proposed gutting the State Department office that works to end gender-based violence abroad.
• Removed research on sexual violence from the White House website.

Democracy Forward (2018). Trump and Sexual Assault. [online] Available at: https://democracyforward.org/sidebar/sexual_assault_and_the_trump_administration
You Are Not Alone. [online] Available at: https://metoomvmt.org/ [Accessed 5 Aug. 2018].
Generally, do you support or oppose the #MeToo movement?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Women 18-34</th>
<th>Women 35+</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Do you think it is an acceptable byproduct of the #MeToo movement for some men to lose their jobs over allegations of sexual misconduct, even if those allegations are not backed up by concrete evidence?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Women 18-34</th>
<th>Women 35+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>63</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

As a result of #MeToo, how likely do you think it is that women will experience lower rates of sexual assault and harassment?

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<tr>
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<td>67</td>
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<td>50</td>
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As a result of #MeToo, how likely do you think it is that men will become more conscious of inappropriate behavior?

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<th>Women 35+</th>
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<td>70</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women of all ages agree that MeToo is a positive discussion to have as a society, but also believe women should have concrete evidence of their case.

Source: Vox/Morning Consult. The poll was conducted from March 2-8, 2018, among a national sample of 2,511 women 18 years and older. The interviews were conducted online and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of women based on age, race/ethnicity, gender, educational attainment and region.

NOTE: “No opinion” responses not shown.

Timeline of Select Sexual Harassment News – 9.7.17 through 8.1.18

9.7.17 Education Secretary Betsy DeVos announces she will withdraw guidance on schools’ responsibilities to address sexual assault and sexual harassment.

10.7.17 Actress Alyssa Milano tweets “If you’ve been sexually harassed or assaulted write ‘me too’ as a reply to this tweet,” and it quickly turned into a movement.

10.18.17 McKayla Maroney tweets that she was sexually assaulted by former team doctor Larry Nassar. He is accused of molesting over 250 young women, and has since been sentenced to 60 years in prison.

11.9.17 The Washington Post first publishes investigative piece about Republican Senate nominee Roy Moore’s alleged history of preying upon underage girls.

12.17.17 At the urging his party, U.S. Sen. Al Franken, D-Minn., says he’ll resign from Congress amid sexual misconduct allegations.

4.16.18 The New York Times and The New Yorker win the Pulitzer Prize for public service for their reporting of the #MeToo movement and bringing worldwide awareness to sexual misconduct in the workplace.

5.25.18 Harvey Weinstein turns himself in to New York authorities after being charged with rape and criminal sexual acts against two women in 2013 and 2004.

Source: Chicago Tribune
Leadership Approval

The World's View of U.S. Leadership:

- According to a Gallup survey conducted between March and November of 2017, the approval of U.S. leadership fell sharply from 48% (last year of Pres. Obama), to a historic low of 30%.
- The U.S.’s image of leadership now trails Germany, China, and Russia, and has fallen by double digits in almost half of the 134 countries and areas surveyed. The biggest declines were in countries that have long been trade partners and allies, including falling from 60% approval in Canada to just 20%.
- Leadership increased by 10 points or more in Liberia, Macedonia, Israel, and Belarus.

Domestic View of U.S. Leadership:

- As of the last week for July 2018, Congressional job approval averaged a mere 15% from surveys done by Economist, Reuters, Gallup, Quinnipiac, and Monmouth.
- As of the last week for July 2018, Pres. Trump’s job approval averaged about 43% from surveys done by Rasmussen Reports, Economist, Reuters, Gallup, Harvard-Harris, and Marist.
Younger generations tend to have a higher approval rate for Congress.
2018 Midterm Election Landscape

**key terms**
- **redistricting:** a legally required process that occurs every 10 years in which districts for the U.S. House and state legislatures are redrawn. Once the U.S. Census Bureau releases new population figures for each of the 50 states, seats in the U.S. House are handed out accordingly.
- **wave election:** a large shift from one party to another. A ‘blue wave’ refers to a large number of Democratic wins, while a ‘red wave’ refers to a large number of Republican won seats.

**key issues**
- Midterm elections are held at the halfway point of a presidential term. At that time:
  - All 435 seats in the House of Representatives are up for election.
  - 33 or 34 of the 100 seats of Senate are up for election
  - 34 out of 50 of the U.S. states elect governors during midterms
  - Midterm elections typically generate only about 40% voter turnout, while presidential elections have a turnout about 50-60%.

For a change of power, there would need to be a “blue wave”
- In the House, Democrats need to maintain their 194 seats plus flip 24 Republican seats.
- In the Senate, they need to maintain 25 seats and gain at least two new seats.
- While it is widely seen that it is possible for Democrats to win the House, the Senate would be much more difficult to win. This is because Democrats must defend 25 seats as opposed to the Republicans’ 8, and 10 of those seats are in states that votes for Trump in 2016.
- Also of note is redistricting in the aftermath of the 2010 census that could make even the House difficult to win for Democrats.

Average voter turnout in midterm elections when the generations were in each age range

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age range</th>
<th>18-24</th>
<th>25-29</th>
<th>30-34</th>
<th>35-39</th>
<th>40-44</th>
<th>45-49</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-34</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-39</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-44</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Generation (2018 age)  
- Millennial (22-37)  
- Gen X (38-53)  
- Baby Boomer (54-72)  
- Silent (73-90)

Though voter turnout increases with age, Millennials are still the generation with the lowest voter turnout.

Voting rates of Congressional and Presidential elections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Election</th>
<th>18-29</th>
<th>30-44</th>
<th>45-64</th>
<th>65+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presidential</td>
<td>51.1</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>58.7</td>
<td>59.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>39.6</td>
<td>40.3</td>
<td>56.9</td>
<td>61.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Though voter turnout increases with age, Millennials are still the generation with the lowest voter turnout.

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<th>Election</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presidential</td>
<td>56.6</td>
<td>61.1</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>67.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>41.6</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td>40.6</td>
<td>41.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Millennials are more than half as likely to vote in Midterm elections than Baby Boomers and Silents.
How motivated to vote are you in the 2018 election?

Motivation level
- Very motivated
- Somewhat motivated
- Not so motivated
- Not motivated at all

What is the most important issue to you in deciding how to vote in this year's midterm election?

Younger generations are more concerned with gun policy, older generations more concerned with immigration.

Percentage of registered voters who say they support or lean toward the ___ candidate for Congress in their district

Source: Nationwide surveys conducted by the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute. For a typical public opinion survey, a randomly selected sample of about 1,000 registered voters age 18 and over is interviewed over five or six days.

NOTE: “Don’t know/not assessed” responses not shown.
A majority of the seats up for election are currently held by Democrats. To regain control of Senate, Democrats must win at least two NEW seats.

### 2018 Senate Midterm Elections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Democratic Incumbents</th>
<th>Republican Incumbents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### 26 Democratic Incumbents

- FL Bill Nelson
- IN Joe Donnelly
- MO Claire McCaskill
- ND Heidi Heitkamp
- MT Jon Tester
- WV Joe Manchin III
- MI Debbie Stabenow
- MN Tina Smith
- NJ Robert Menendez
- OH Sherrod Brown
- PA Bob Casey
- WI Tammy Baldwin
- CA Dianne Feinstein
- CT Christopher S. Murphy
- DE Thomas R. Carper
- HI Mazie K. Hirono
- MA Elizabeth Warren
- MD Benjamin L. Cardin
- ME Angus King
- MN Amy Klobuchar
- NM Martin Heinrich
- NY Kirsten Gillibrand
- RI Sheldon Whitehouse
- VA Tim Kaine
- VT Bernie Sanders
- WA Maria Cantwell

#### 9 Republican Incumbents

- AZ Open (replacing Jeff Flake)
- NV Dean Heller
- TN Open (replacing Bob Corker)
- MS Cindy Hyde-Smith
- TX Ted Cruz
- MS Roger Wicker
- NE Deb Fischer
- UT Open (replacing Orrin G. Hatch)
- WY John Barrasso

#### Perceived Likelihood of Winning Each Seat

- Solid Democrat
- Likely Democrat
- Lean Democrat
- Tossup
- Likely Republican
- Lean Republican

Source: New York Times
2018 House of Representative Races to Watch

There are a total of 435 seats, and 218 necessary to control the chamber. There are 184 solidly Democratic seats and 156 solidly Republican seats. Democrats will need to flip 24 seats to capture the majority.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts currently represented by Democrats</th>
<th>Districts currently represented by Republicans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More Trump voters</td>
<td>R + 25% pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presidential vote margin in each district</td>
<td>D + 25% pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More Clinton voters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018 House of Representative Races (all seats up for election)

17 Races Lean Democrat

| Arizona 1 | California 10 |
| Arizona 2 | California 25 |
| California 7 | California 4  |
| California 49 | California 4  |
| Florida 7 | Colorado 6 |
| Florida 27 | Florida 26 |
| Minnesota 7 | Iowa 1 |
| New Hampshire 1 | Illinois 6 |
| New Jersey 2 | Illinois 12 |
| New Jersey 5 | Kentucky 6 |
| New Jersey 11 | Michigan 8 |
| Nevada 3 | Michigan 11 |
| Nevada 4 | Minnesota 1 |
| Pennsylvania 6 | Minnesota 2 |
| Pennsylvania 7 | Minnesota 3 |
| Pennsylvania 8 | Minnesota 8 |
| Virginia 10 | New Jersey 7 |
| New York 19 | New York 22 |
| Ohio 12 | Pennsylvania 17 |
| Texas 7 | Texas 23 |
| Texas 23 | Virginia 7 |
| Washington 8 |                                        |

25 Races are Tossups

| California 25 | Ohio 1 |
| California 4  | Ohio 14 |
| California 4  | Ohio 15 |
| California 21 | Ohio 15 |
| California 45 | Pennsylvania 1 |
| California 3  | Pennsylvania 10 |
| Colorado 3  | Pennsylvania 16 |
| Florida 6  | South Carolina 1 |
| Florida 15 | Texas 21 |
| Florida 16 | Texas 31 |
| Florida 18 | Texas 32 |
| Florida 25 | Utah 4 |
| Georgia 6  | Virginia 2 |
| Michigan 7  | Virginia 5 |
| Michigan 1  | Washington 5 |
| Michigan 6  | Wisconsin 1 |
| Michigan 7  | Wisconsin 6 |
| Missouri 2 | West Virginia 3 |
| Montana at-large | North Carolina 2 |
| North Carolina 8 | North Carolina 9 |
| North Carolina 13 |                                        |

53 Races Lean Republican

| Arkansas 2 | New Jersey 3 |
| Arizona 6 | New Mexico 2 |
| California 4 | New York 1 |
| California 4 | New York 11 |
| California 21 | New York 24 |
| Colorado 3 | Ohio 1 |
| Florida 6 | Ohio 10 |
| Ohio 15 | Ohio 24 |
| Pennsylvania 1 | Ohio 15 |
| Pennsylvania 10 | Pennsylvania 1 |
| Pennsylvania 16 | Pennsylvania 1 |
| South Carolina 1 | Texas 21 |
| Texas 21 | Texas 31 |
| Texas 32 | Utah 4 |
| Utah 4 | Virginia 2 |
| Virginia 2 | Virginia 5 |
| Virginia 5 | Washington 5 |
| Wisconsin 1 | Wisconsin 6 |
| Wisconsin 6 | West Virginia 3 |
| Montana at-large | North Carolina 2 |
| North Carolina 8 | North Carolina 9 |
| North Carolina 13 |                                        |

Source: New York Times

2018 House of Representative Races

Perceived Likelihood of Winning Each Seat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solid Democrat</th>
<th>Likely Democrat</th>
<th>Lean Democrat</th>
<th>Tossup</th>
<th>Solid Republican</th>
<th>Likely Republican</th>
<th>Lean Republican</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

The above covers the closest races in 2018. Solid and likely Democrat or Republican wins are excluded.

Source: New York Times
The basic steps to vote are the same in most states:

**REGISTRATION**
Every state except North Dakota requires you to register to vote.
- Go to vote.gov to find out how to register in your state.
- You can either register online or print and mail a filled out Voter Registration Form.
- You can register in person with your state or local election office.
- You can register at the DMV, armed services recruitment centers, or state and county public assistance offices.
- Depending on your state, you may need to register as much as a month before election.

**ABSENTEE VOTING**
Every state has absentee voting.
- Absentee voting allows you to vote by mail. Rules by state vary, but can include people who are military members, overseas, have an illness or disability that prevents getting to a designated polling place, being on business or vacation on Election Day, and being a student at an out-of-state university.
- To find out your state’s rules on absentee voting, go to usa.gov/election-office
- Give yourself plenty of extra time to follow your state’s voting procedure.

**POLLING PLACES**
Most states assign you a specific polling place, or voting location.
- Once your registration to vote has been processed, you can find your polling location by going to vote.org/polling-place-locator
References


