



**PRRI/The Atlantic 2018 Voter Engagement Survey
Total = 1,031
June 6 - June 18, 2018**

Q.1 Do you think things in this country are generally going in the right direction or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

| | <u>Right direction</u> | <u>Wrong track</u> | <u>Mixed (VOL.)</u> | <u>Refused (VOL.)</u> |
|------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| June 2018 | 35 | 64 | - | 1=100 |
| Sept. 2016 | 25 | 74 | - | 1=100 |
| May 2016 | 28 | 72 | - | 1=100 |
| Dec. 2013 | 26 | 65 | - | 8=100 |
| Sept. 2012 | 34 | 57 | 5 | 4=100 |
| July 2011 | 21 | 71 | - | 8=100 |
| May 2011 | 29 | 65 | - | 7=100 |

IF THINGS ARE OFF ON WRONG TRACK (Q1=2), ASK [N=642]:

Q.2 And do you think things have gotten off track in just the last few years or do you think things have been off track for a long time?

| <u>June 2018</u> | <u>Sept. 2016</u> | |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 62 | 40 | Last few years |
| 37 | 59 | For a long time |
| <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | 100 | Total |

ASK ALL:

Q.3 Would you say your overall opinion of Donald Trump is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

| | <u>Very favorable</u> | <u>Mostly favorable</u> | <u>Mostly unfavorable</u> | <u>Very unfavorable</u> | Have not heard of (VOL.) | Refused (VOL.) |
|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| June 2018 | 14 | 23 | 19 | 41 | - | 2=100 |
| Mar. 2018 | 13 | 29 | 18 | 36 | * | 3=100 |
| Jan. 2018 | 14 | 23 | 17 | 42 | * | 5=100 |
| Oct. 2017 | 15 | 26 | 18 | 37 | * | 3=100 |
| Aug. 2017 | 18 | 20 | 15 | 41 | 1 | 5=100 |
| Feb. 2017 | 16 | 27 | 16 | 34 | * | 6=100 |
| Jan. 2017 | 17 | 26 | 17 | 35 | 1 | 5=100 |
| Sept. 2016 | 10 | 23 | 15 | 50 | 2 | 1=100 |
| May 2016 | 10 | 18 | 16 | 53 | 1 | 1=100 |
| April 2016 | 8 | 16 | 18 | 52 | * | 6=100 |
| Jan. 2016 | 12 | 19 | 22 | 42 | * | 5=100 |
| Nov. 2015 | 11 | 16 | 21 | 44 | 2 | 6=100 |
| Oct. 2015 | 9 | 21 | 21 | 45 | 3 | 1=100 |

Q.4 Many people participate in some elections, but not others. Please say how often you participate in the following elections. How often would you say you vote in the following types of elections? **[RANDOMIZE]**

a. Elections for U.S. president

| <u>June 2018</u> | <u>April 2017</u> | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 63 | 63 | Always |
| 11 | 11 | Nearly always |
| 6 | 5 | In about half of elections |
| 5 | 8 | Seldom |
| 13 | 13 | Never |
| <u>2</u> | * | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | 100 | Total |

b. Midterm elections for U.S. Congress

| <u>June</u> <u>2018</u> | <u>April</u> <u>2017</u> | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 36 | 33 | Always |
| 16 | 15 | Nearly always |
| 14 | 11 | In about half of elections |
| 11 | 14 | Seldom |
| 21 | 27 | Never |
| <u>2</u> | <u>*</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | 100 | Total |

c. Local elections for school board, city council and other city or county offices

| <u>June</u> <u>2018</u> | <u>April</u> <u>2017</u> | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 27 | 26 | Always |
| 19 | 18 | Nearly always |
| 18 | 15 | In about half of elections |
| 12 | 17 | Seldom |
| 21 | 24 | Never |
| <u>2</u> | <u>*</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | 100 | Total |

Q.5 How would you rate your chances of voting in the 2018 congressional election in November? Would you say you are... **[READ IN ORDER]**

| | |
|----------|----------------------------|
| 50 | Absolutely certain to vote |
| 16 | Probably will vote |
| 11 | Chances are 50-50 |
| 9 | Less than 50-50 chance |
| 12 | Definitely not voting |
| <u>2</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

Q.6 Regardless of whether you plan on voting, how many of your close friends do you think will vote in the 2018 congressional election?

| | |
|----------|--------------------|
| 12 | All of them |
| 42 | Most of them |
| 22 | About half of them |
| 16 | Few of them |
| 5 | None of them |
| <u>2</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

Q.7 Now, suppose the 2018 congressional election was being held TODAY. If you had to choose between **[READ AND ROTATE]** in your election district, who would you vote for?

| <u>June</u> <u>2018</u> | <u>Mar.</u> <u>2018</u> | <u>Oct.</u> <u>2017</u> | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 41 | 36 | 35 | The Republican candidate |
| 53 | 42 | 43 | The Democratic candidate |
| - | 5 | 6 | Other/Third Party candidate (VOL.) |
| - | 3 | - | Not going to vote (VOL.) |
| <u>6</u> | <u>14</u> | <u>16</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | 100 | 100 | Total |

Q.8 Thinking about the 2018 election, which of the following would you say is the MOST important reason to vote? **[READ; RANDOMIZE]**

| | |
|----------|---|
| 46 | To elect candidates who support issues I care about |
| 14 | To vote against officials who broke their promises or engaged in misconduct |
| 25 | Out of a sense of duty and responsibility as a citizen |
| 12 | Because it could make a difference in a close election |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

Q.9 If all eligible voters participated in national elections, which political party do you think this would benefit? **[READ AND ROTATE ITEMS 1 AND 2]**

| | |
|----------|----------------------|
| 16 | The Republican Party |
| 39 | The Democratic Party |
| 14 | Neither |
| 29 | Both equally |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

Q.10 Thinking about our current election system, how much of a problem, if at all, are each of the following? **[READ; RANDOMIZE]**

a. Wealthy individuals and corporations having too much influence

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| 66 | Major problem |
| 20 | Minor problem |
| 10 | Not a problem |
| <u>4</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

b. Media bias against certain candidates

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| 57 | Major problem |
| 28 | Minor problem |
| 11 | Not a problem |
| <u>4</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

c. Too few people voting

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| 67 | Major problem |
| 21 | Minor problem |
| 8 | Not a problem |
| <u>4</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

d. Too many uninformed people voting

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| 60 | Major problem |
| 28 | Minor problem |
| 9 | Not a problem |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

e. Outside interference or influence from foreign governments

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| 45 | Major problem |
| 35 | Minor problem |
| 17 | Not a problem |
| <u>4</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

f. People casting votes who are not eligible to vote

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| 36 | Major problem |
| 31 | Minor problem |
| 29 | Not a problem |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

g. Eligible voters being denied the right to vote

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| 38 | Major problem |
| 29 | Minor problem |
| 29 | Not a problem |
| <u>4</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

Q.11 To the best of your knowledge, in the last presidential election, did people in your local community vote for...? [**HALF SAMPLE ORDER 1-4, HALF SAMPLE ORDER 4-1**]

| | |
|----------|--|
| 23 | Trump by a large margin |
| 13 | Trump by a small margin |
| 8 | Clinton by a small margin |
| 23 | Clinton by a large margin |
| 4 | Trump and Clinton in about equal numbers |
| 28 | Not sure |
| <u>2</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

Q.12 To the best of your knowledge, in the upcoming 2018 Congressional election, do you think people in your local community will vote for...? [**HALF SAMPLE ORDER 1-4, HALF SAMPLE ORDER 4-1**]

| | |
|----------|--|
| 17 | The Republican candidate by a large margin |
| 11 | The Republican candidate by a small margin |
| 11 | The Democratic candidate by a small margin |
| 21 | The Democratic candidate by a large margin |
| 5 | The Republican and Democratic candidate in about equal numbers |
| 32 | Not sure |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

PROGRAMMING INSTRUCTIONS: ROTATE ORDER OF Q13 & Q14

Q.13 As you may know, U.S. Census projections show that by 2043, African Americans, Latinos, Asians, and other mixed racial and ethnic groups will together be a majority of the population. Do you think the likely impact of this coming demographic change will be mostly positive or mostly negative? **[READ AND ROTATE ITEMS 1 AND 2]**

| | |
|----------|-----------------|
| 64 | Mostly positive |
| 31 | Mostly negative |
| <u>5</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

Q.14 Thinking about U.S. elections in general, which do you think is a BIGGER problem today ... **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS]**

| <u>June</u> <u>2018</u> | <u>Sept.</u> <u>2016</u> ¹ | <u>Nov.</u> <u>2014</u> | |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|
| 38 | 37 | 40 | People casting votes who are not eligible to vote |
| 40 | 41 | 43 | Eligible voters being denied the right to vote |
| 17 | 19 | 7 | Other (SPECIFY) |
| <u>5</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>10</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | 100 | 100 | Total |

Q.15 To the best of your knowledge, does your state allow residents to vote... **[READ; RANDOMIZE]**

a. Before Election Day

| | |
|----------|--------------------|
| 60 | Yes, does allow |
| 10 | No, does not allow |
| 27 | Not sure |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

¹ Question wording in 2014 and 2016: And thinking about U.S. elections in general... Overall, which do you think is a BIGGER problem in U.S. elections today...

b. If they have not registered to vote ahead of Election Day

| | |
|----------|--------------------|
| 17 | Yes, does allow |
| 49 | No, does not allow |
| 32 | Not sure |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

c. If they are late in paying their taxes

| | |
|----------|--------------------|
| 40 | Yes, does allow |
| 5 | No, does not allow |
| 52 | Not sure |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

d. If they do not have a permanent address

| | |
|----------|--------------------|
| 15 | Yes, does allow |
| 23 | No, does not allow |
| 60 | Not sure |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

e. By mail rather than in person

| | |
|----------|--------------------|
| 67 | Yes, does allow |
| 6 | No, does not allow |
| 23 | Not sure |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

f. If they have been convicted of a felony

| | |
|----------|--------------------|
| 9 | Yes, does allow |
| 45 | No, does not allow |
| 43 | Not sure |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

g. If they cannot speak English fluently

| | |
|----------|--------------------|
| 57 | Yes, does allow |
| 4 | No, does not allow |
| 36 | Not sure |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

h. If they have outstanding traffic tickets or unpaid utility bills

| | |
|----------|--------------------|
| 46 | Yes, does allow |
| 4 | No, does not allow |
| 47 | Not sure |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

i. If they are not a U.S. citizen

| | |
|----------|--------------------|
| 6 | Yes, does allow |
| 65 | No, does not allow |
| 26 | Not sure |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

Q.16 Now, please indicate whether you or anyone in your household experienced any of the following the last time they tried to vote... **[READ; RANDOMIZE]**

a. Was told I did not have the correct identification

| | |
|----------|---|
| 1 | Yes, happened to me |
| 1 | Yes, happened to someone in my household |
| 3 | Yes, happened to me and someone in my household |
| 93 | Did not happen to anyone in household |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

b. Was unable to find the correct polling place

| | |
|----------|---|
| 3 | Yes, happened to me |
| 3 | Yes, happened to someone in my household |
| 2 | Yes, happened to me and someone in my household |
| 89 | Did not happen to anyone in household |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

c. Missed the registration deadline

| | |
|----------|---|
| 2 | Yes, happened to me |
| 3 | Yes, happened to someone in my household |
| 2 | Yes, happened to me and someone in my household |
| 91 | Did not happen to anyone in household |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

d. Was harassed or bothered while trying to vote

| | |
|----------|---|
| 2 | Yes, happened to me |
| 2 | Yes, happened to someone in my household |
| 2 | Yes, happened to me and someone in my household |
| 91 | Did not happen to anyone in household |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

e. Couldn't get off work to vote when polls were open

| | |
|----------|---|
| 4 | Yes, happened to me |
| 3 | Yes, happened to someone in my household |
| 3 | Yes, happened to me and someone in my household |
| 86 | Did not happen to anyone in household |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

f. Was told my name was not on the list even though I am registered

| | |
|----------|---|
| 3 | Yes, happened to me |
| 2 | Yes, happened to someone in my household |
| 2 | Yes, happened to me and someone in my household |
| 90 | Did not happen to anyone in household |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

Q.17 When you were a child, did your parents ever take you to the voting booth on Election Day, or not?

| <u>June</u> <u>2018</u> | <u>Nov.</u> <u>2014</u> | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| 31 | 34 | Yes |
| 66 | 62 | No |
| <u>2</u> | <u>4</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | 100 | Total |

Q.18 Now, please read the following statements on a few different topics and indicate if you agree or disagree with each one. **[RANDOMIZE LIST]**.

a. A person who has been convicted of a felony should be allowed to vote after they have served their sentence

| <u>June</u> <u>2018</u> | <u>Sept.</u> <u>2016</u> | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 38 | 33 | Completely agree |
| 34 | 41 | Mostly agree |
| 14 | 14 | Mostly disagree |
| 10 | 12 | Completely disagree |
| <u>4</u> | <u>1</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | 100 | Total |

b. All citizens should be automatically registered to vote when they do business with the Department of Motor Vehicles or certain other state agencies

| | |
|----------|---------------------|
| 40 | Completely agree |
| 27 | Mostly agree |
| 14 | Mostly disagree |
| 16 | Completely disagree |
| <u>4</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

c. All citizens should be allowed to register and vote on the same day

| | |
|----------|---------------------|
| 31 | Completely agree |
| 30 | Mostly agree |
| 20 | Mostly disagree |
| 15 | Completely disagree |
| <u>4</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

d. Ordinary citizens can do a lot to influence government in Washington if they are willing to make the effort.

| | |
|----------|---------------------|
| 39 | Completely agree |
| 36 | Mostly agree |
| 15 | Mostly disagree |
| 6 | Completely disagree |
| <u>4</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

Q.19 Do you believe presidential elections should be decided based on the popular vote or by the Electoral College? **[ROTATE OPTIONS]**

| | |
|----------|-------------------|
| 65 | Popular vote |
| 32 | Electoral College |
| <u>3</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

ATTEND Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services... more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?

| | |
|----------|-----------------------|
| 9 | More than once a week |
| 20 | Once a week |
| 6 | Once or twice a week |
| 16 | A few times a year |
| 22 | Seldom |
| 24 | Never |
| <u>2</u> | Refused (VOL.) |
| 100 | Total |

Survey Methodology

The 2018 Voter Engagement Survey was conducted by PRRI in partnership with The Atlantic among a random sample of adults (age 18 and up) living in the United States and who are part of GfK's Knowledge Panel. The survey included a national sample (N=1,031) representing all 50 states as well as oversamples of respondents in Illinois (N=638), Ohio (N=608), Michigan (N=595), Minnesota (N=426), and Wisconsin (N=445). Interviews were conducted online in both English and Spanish between June 6 and June 18, 2018. The survey was made possible by generous grants from The Joyce Foundation, The Kresge Foundation, and The McKnight Foundation.

Respondents are recruited to the KnowledgePanel using an addressed-based sampling methodology from the Delivery Sequence File of the USPS – a database with full coverage of all delivery addresses in the U.S. As such, it covers all households regardless of their phone status, providing a representative online sample. Unlike opt-in panels, households are not permitted to "self-select" into the panel; and are generally limited to how many surveys they can take within a given time period.

The initial sample drawn from the KnowledgePanel was adjusted using pre-stratification weights so that it approximates the adult U.S. population defined by the latest Current Population Survey. Next, a probability proportional to size (PPS) sampling scheme was used to select a representative sample. Once assigned to the survey, panel participants received an email notification reminder on June 9th to complete the survey. An additional email reminder was sent out on June 13th of the field period.

To reduce the effects of any non-response bias, a post-stratification adjustment was applied based on demographic distributions from the most recent Current Population Survey (CPS). The post-stratification weight rebalanced the sample based on the following benchmarks: age, race and ethnicity, gender, Census division, metro area, education and income. The sample weighting was accomplished using an iterative proportional fitting (IFP) process that simultaneously balances the distributions of all variables. Weights were trimmed to prevent individual interviews from having too much influence on the final results. In addition to an overall national weight, separate weights were computed for each state to ensure that the demographic characteristics of the sample closely approximate the demographic characteristics of the target populations.

The margin of error for the national survey is +/- 3.3 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. The design effect for the survey is 1.2. Table 1 includes margin of error information for the state samples. In addition to sampling error, surveys may also be subject to error or bias due to question wording, context and order effects.

Table 1. State Sample Sizes and Margins of Error

| <u>State</u> | <u>Sample Size</u> | <u>Margin of Error</u> |
|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Ohio | N=608 | +/- 4.9 |
| Illinois | N=638 | +/- 4.6 |
| Michigan | N=595 | +/- 5.1 |
| Wisconsin | N=445 | +/- 5.7 |
| Minnesota | N=426 | +/- 6.4 |

Additional details about the KnowledgePanel can be found on the GfK website:
<https://www.gfk.com/products-a-z/us/knowledgepanel-united-states/>

Appendix

**Table 1. Demographic, Political, Religious,
and Geographic Subgroup Sample Sizes**
(All figures are unweighted)

| | N= |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Total Sample | 1,031 |
| Male | 523 |
| Female | 508 |
| Republican | 269 |
| Independent | 419 |
| <i>Leans Republican</i> | <i>183</i> |
| <i>Leans Democrat</i> | <i>171</i> |
| Democrat | 325 |
| White, non-Hispanic | 733 |
| Black, non-Hispanic | 111 |
| Hispanic | 103 |
| Age 18-29 | 161 |
| 30-49 | 304 |
| 50-64 | 330 |
| 65+ | 236 |
| White evangelical Protestant | 151 |
| White mainline Protestant | 186 |
| Nonwhite Protestant | 133 |
| Catholic | 230 |
| <i>White Catholic</i> | <i>153</i> |
| Religiously unaffiliated | 202 |
| Illinois | 638 |
| Michigan | 595 |
| Minnesota | 426 |
| Ohio | 608 |
| Wisconsin | 445 |