

CONGRESSIONAL INSTITUTE 2017 NATIONAL SURVEY
1000 Registered Voters
January 14-16, 2017

- 1. Generally speaking, would you say things in the country are headed in the right direction, or are things seriously headed off on the wrong track?**

1. Right Direction	39
2. Don't Know	17
3. Wrong Track	44

- 2. Overall would you say that you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as President?**

1. Approve	52
2. Don't know	7
3. Disapprove	42

Please tell me for each of the following whether you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression. (IF CHOICE IS MADE, ASK:) Would you say you have a strongly (FAVORABLE/UNFAVORABLE) impression or just a somewhat (FAVORABLE/UNFAVORABLE) impression? (ROTATE 3-4)

	NAME ID	TOTAL FAVORABLE	TOTAL UNFAVORABLE	NO OPINION
3. Republicans in Congress	100	39	54	7
4. Democrats in Congress	99	43	51	6

- 5. Which of the following issues would you say is most important to you in deciding how to vote for Congress? (ROTATE)**

1. Education	4
2. Social Security	9
3. Retirement and Investments	2
4. Terrorism	11
5. Health care/Rx	15
6. The Economy	26

7. Jobs	5
8. Taxes	3
9. Crime and Safety	3
10. Environment	3
11. National Defense/Foreign Affairs	4
12. National Deficit/Spending	3
13. Energy	1
14. Gas prices	1
15. Immigration	6
16. Other	2
17. Don't know	3

6. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Congress is doing?

1. Approve	27
2. Disapprove	55
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	18

7. If the elections were held today for US Congress in your state, would you be more likely to vote for (ROTATE) the Republican candidate or the Democrat candidate? (IF UNDECIDED ASK:) would you be leaning toward (ROTATE) the Republican candidate or the Democrat candidate?

1. Republican	42
2. Lean Republican	4
3. Undecided	9
4. Lean Democrat	6
5. Democrat	39
TOTAL REPUBLICAN	47
TOTAL DEMOCRAT	44

8. In thinking about the role of people like you in the political and public policy discourse about issues, do you think your voice is heard effectively?

1. Yes	29
2. No	58
3. Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	13

On a scale of 1-9 with 1 being it does not concern you at all, 5 neutral and 9 being it is extremely concerning to you, how much does each of the following concern you about Congress? (ROTATE LIST Q9-17)

	MEAN
9. The way Congress spends my money	7.57
10. Influence of special interests	7.35
11. Partisanship	6.79
12. Lack of accountability	7.50
13. Not fulfilling its Constitutional role	7.26
14. Not presenting a clear plan to voters and following through	7.30
15. Gerrymandering of Congressional districts	6.48
16. Your voice not being heard	7.14
17. Not getting things done	7.52

18. In thinking about the most recent presidential election and your level of interest and engagement in the political process in that election, would you consider yourself more engaged and interested, about the same or less engaged and interested than you were before that?

1. More	50
2. About the same	41
3. Less	7
4. Don't Know	2

19. Who has the largest role in determining whether or not your voice is effectively heard in the political and public policy discourse about issues? (ROTATE)

1. You	27
2. Your Elected Representatives in Congress	43
3. The President	11
4. The media	7
5. Don't Know	12

EXPECTATIONS AND PRIORITIES FOR NEXT YEAR

20. In terms of what happen with the new President and Congress, how would you describe your expectations? (ROTATE)

1. There will be significant positive change	31
2. There will be some positive change but not much different than now	18
3. No change	6
4. There will be some negative change but not much different than now	11
5. There will be significant negative change	27
6. Don't Know	7

21. In terms of the kinds of changes you would like to see the most, rank the following outcomes and policy items from 1 to 15, with 1 being the most important, and 15 being the least important. (ROTATE LIST BELOW)

Means ranked most important to least important

	MEAN
Jobs coming back to the US	6.37
Dealing with ISIS and terrorism	6.46
Upholding the Constitution	6.95
Increase in incomes	7.47
Fiscal responsibility, including balanced budget and lowering the debt	7.48
Relief from cost of living increases	7.61
Reducing poverty	7.79
Reforming the tax code	8.23
Increasing border security and addressing immigration	8.28
Greater protection against cybersecurity threats	8.33
More business startups in the US	8.50
Businesses growing	8.82
Reducing regulations that burden small businesses	9.00
Repealing and replacing Obamacare	9.33
Rewarding work	9.37

22. Which statement comes closer to your view? (ROTATE)

1. Lawmakers try to do too many things and don't focus on priorities like the economy and jobs	56
2. Lawmakers don't address enough issues	36
3. Don't Know	9

23. Who or what has the largest role in determining the scale of changes that can be made in the country? (ROTATE)

1. You – the voter	21
2. Congress	40
3. The President	25
4. The media	6
5. Don't Know	8

24. Which of the following statements do you agree with more? (ROTATE)

1. Because of the current economic situation, your ability to contribute to society is limited.	35
2. It is up to every individual to determine their contribution to society and define their value.	53
3. Don't Know	12

25. Do you believe or not believe the following statement: elites do not understand the problems I am facing.

1. Believe	73
2. Do not believe	15
3. Don't Know	11

26. Which statement do you agree with more? (ROTATE)

1. The middle class does not feel needed or useful in what they are doing and the work they do.	27
2. The middle class feels value in what they are doing and the work that they do, but are not valued by the nation's elites and institutions.	52
3. The middle class feels value in what they are doing and the work that they do, and are valued by the nation's elites and institutions.	12
3. Don't Know	9

PERSONAL OUTCOMES

You will be shown a series of issues to rank on a scale of 1-9. The goal is to understand how you view these issues in relation to one another.

On a scale of 1 to 9, with 1 being important, 5 being very important, and 9 being extremely important, how important are the following personal outcomes to you?
ROTATE LIST Q27-42

Means ranked highest to lowest

	MEAN
27. Having a secure retirement	7.63
28. Being able to have the quality affordable health care that you need	7.61
29. Being safe from terrorism	7.61
30. Not having to worry about whether you can pay next month's bills	7.47
31. Being able to effectively manage cost of living	7.17
32. Having a society that rewards work so that more people contribute to the economy	7.08
33. Having the government be focused on accountability to citizens like you	7.03
34. Seeing jobs come back from overseas so that more jobs are available	7.00
35. Ensuring that everyone has the chance to make the most of their lives no matter where they start	7.00
36. Having job security	6.97
37. Paying off personal or family debt	6.81
38. Kids being able to get jobs	6.57
39. Being able to afford my child's education and college costs	5.95
40. Being kept safe from climate change	5.83
41. Being able to start a business	5.52
42. Being able to fill out your tax return on a postcard	4.71

**43. In last November's presidential election, for which presidential candidate did you vote?
(ROTATE)**

1. Donald Trump, the Republican candidate	47
2. Hillary Clinton, Democratic candidate	39
3. Gary Johnson, the Libertarian candidate	4
4. Jill Stein, the Green Party candidate	2
5. Other (SPECIFY)	1
6. Did not vote in presidential race	5
7. Don't Know	3

Now just a few demographic questions for statistical purposes only—

44. In what year were you born?

1. 18-34	17
2. 35-44	19
3. 45-54	21
4. 55-64	21
5. 65+	22

45. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself (ROTATE) a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?

1. Republican	35
2. Democrat	36
3. Independent	23
4. Other	5
5. Don't Know	1

46. If you had to classify yourself, would you say you are very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, or somewhat conservative or very conservative in your political beliefs?

1. Very Liberal	11
2. Somewhat Liberal	13
3. Moderate	38
4. Somewhat Conservative	24
5. Very Conservative	13
6. Don't Know	1

47. Are there children in your household under the age of 18 years old?

1. Yes	34
2. No	65
3. Don't Know	1

48. What is your current marital status?

1. Single, never married	23
2. Married	59
3. Separated	1
4. Divorced	13
5. Widowed	4
6. Don't Know	*

49. What is the annual income of your household before taxes? Is it...

1. Less than 15K	9
2. 15K-30K	13
3. 30K-50K	20
4. 50K-75K	19
5. 75K-100K	17
6. Over 100K	19
7. Don't Know	3

50. What is your religion?

1. Evangelical/Fundamentalist Protestant	14
2. Mainline Protestant	14
3. Catholic	34
4. Jewish	4
5. Mormon	2
6. Atheist/Agnostic	7
7. Other	21
8. Don't Know	5

51. What is your race?

1. Hispanic	9
2. African-American	11
3. Asian	4
4. White	73
5. Other	2
6. Don't Know	1

52. What was the last grade of school that you completed?

1. High school or less	19
2. Some college or associate's degree	30
3. College graduate	31
4. Post graduate study	19
5. Don't Know	1

53. Do you or anyone in your household belong to a labor union?

1. Yes	14
2. No	83
3. Don't Know	3

54. Do you consider yourself a part of the tea party movement?

1. Yes	12
2. No	80
3. Don't Know	7

55. What type of area do you live in? (TAKEN FROM SAMPLE)

1. Urban	36
2. Suburban	45
3. Rural	20

Gender

1. Male	48
2. Female	52

Region (TAKEN FROM SAMPLE)

1. Northeast	20
2. South	28
3. Midwest	20
4. Plains/Mountains	17
5. West Coast	15