

Methodology

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted September 15-18, 2016 among a national sample of 1,000 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in the continental United States (500 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 500 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 316 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted by interviewers at Princeton Data Source under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. A combination of landline and cell phone random digit dial samples were used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see

<http://www.pewresearch.org/methodology/u-s-survey-research/>

See [here](#) for information about methodology of the analysis based on the American Trends Panel.

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and region to parameters from the 2014 Census Bureau's American Community Survey and population density to parameters from the Decennial Census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status (landline only, cell phone only, or both landline and cell phone), based on extrapolations from the 2015 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size among respondents with a landline phone. The margins of error reported and statistical tests of significance are adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, a measure of how much efficiency is lost from the weighting procedures.

The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Group	Unweighted sample size	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	1,000	3.7 percentage points
Registered voters	802	4.1 percentage points
<i>Among registered voters</i>		
Republican/Republican leaners	325	6.5 percentage points
Democrat/Democrat leaners	365	6.1 percentage points

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Pew Research Center is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization and a subsidiary of The Pew Charitable Trusts, its primary funder.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
September 15-18, 2016 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,000

PEW.1 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**PEW.2 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL:**

PEW.3 How likely is it that you will watch the upcoming presidential debates between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, coming up later this month – very likely, somewhat likely or not likely?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=802]:

	<u>Very likely</u>	<u>Somewhat likely</u>	<u>Not likely</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
2016 Election				
September 15-18, 2016	60	19	21	*
2012 Election				
October 12-14, 2012	68	15	16	*
September 27-30, 2012	62	21	17	0
2008 Election				
October 3-6, 2008	70	18	12	*
September 19-22, 2008 ¹ (GP)	58	24	18	*
2004 Election				
Early October, 2004	59	29	11	1
Early September, 2004	61	27	11	1
2000 Election				
Early October, 2000	49	31	19	1
Late September, 2000	43	31	22	4
1996 Election				
September, 1996	43	34	22	1
1992 Election				
CBS/NYT: 1992	67	24	8	2
1988 Election				
CBS/NYT: 1988	55	27	17	1
1984 Election				
CBS/NYT: 1984	55	27	16	2

¹ September 19-22, 2008 asked about the upcoming foreign policy debate between John McCain and Barack Obama, and figures are based on general public results. In early October, 2004 the question asked: "How likely is it that you will watch either of the upcoming presidential debates between Bush and Kerry this coming Friday, or next Wednesday?" The 1988 survey is based on the probable electorate.

ASK ALL:

PEW.4 How much would you say you know about where **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** stands on the issues that are important to the country? A lot, some, not much or nothing at all? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=802]:

		<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not much</u>	<u>Nothing at all</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Hillary Clinton					
	Sep 15-28, 2016	48	32	11	7	2
	Jun 15-26, 2016	53	32	7	7	2
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
	<i>Barack Obama</i>					
	May, 2008	39	41	12	5	3
b.	Donald Trump					
	Sep 15-28, 2016	41	27	15	15	2
	Jun 15-26, 2016	43	29	12	13	2
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
	<i>John McCain</i>					
	May, 2008	34	44	13	6	3

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?

ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL.) <u>No preference</u>	(VOL.) <u>Other party</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Lean Rep</u>	<u>Lean Dem</u>
Sep 15-18, 2016	21	32	35	6	1	6	13	12