



Reuters/Ipsos/UVA Center for Politics State Poll: Missouri

Reuters/Ipsos poll conducted in conjunction with the University of Virginia Center for Politics
 10.10.2018

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted September 27 – October 7, 2018 on behalf of Thomson Reuters and the University of Virginia Center for Politics. For the survey, a sample of 1,998 adults from Missouri, including 1,111 likely voters, 448 likely voter Democrats, 550 likely voter Republicans, and 55 likely voter Independents ages 18+ were interviewed online.

1. In your opinion, what is the most important problem facing the US today? (Select from below or write in).

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Economy generally	12%	11%	11%	12%	8%
Unemployment / lack of jobs	5%	2%	4%	1%	4%
War / foreign conflicts	2%	2%	3%	1%	2%
Immigration	9%	12%	3%	19%	9%
Terrorism / terrorist attacks	7%	9%	4%	12%	11%
Healthcare	23%	26%	35%	17%	34%
Energy issues	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%
Morality	12%	12%	9%	16%	5%
Education	5%	3%	4%	3%	2%
Crime	11%	10%	9%	10%	7%
Environment	3%	4%	7%	1%	5%
Other	7%	8%	9%	7%	9%
Don't know	4%	1%	1%	1%	4%

2. In November 2018, the next midterm congressional election will be held. Using a 1-to-10 scale, where 10 means you are completely certain you will vote and 1 means you are completely certain you will NOT vote, how likely are you to vote in the upcoming midterm congressional election? (Select one)

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
1	12%	2%	1%	2%	2%
2	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
3	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
4	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
5	7%	1%	1%	0%	0%
6	4%	1%	1%	1%	0%
7	5%	2%	2%	1%	3%
8	7%	4%	3%	5%	3%
9	7%	9%	8%	10%	14%
10	53%	81%	82%	81%	78%



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3. How much interest do you have in following news about the upcoming midterm congressional election?
 (Select one)

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
A great deal	24%	38%	44%	37%	28%
Quite a bit	27%	38%	33%	42%	47%
Only some	24%	18%	18%	18%	18%
Very little	12%	4%	4%	3%	7%
No interest at all	11%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Don't know / Refused	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%

4. Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track?

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Right direction	37%	42%	9%	73%	32%
Wrong track	51%	52%	87%	22%	53%
Don't know	11%	6%	4%	6%	15%

5. Generally speaking, would you say things in your state are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track?

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Right direction	38%	44%	20%	66%	52%
Wrong track	43%	43%	69%	23%	36%
Don't know	19%	13%	11%	12%	12%

6. Thinking about the elections in 2018, if the election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you vote for the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate in your district where you live?

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Democratic candidate	37%	44%	95%	5%	42%
Republican candidate	38%	46%	1%	90%	18%
Candidate from another political party	4%	3%	1%	2%	20%
Will not/do not plan to vote	9%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Don't know / Refused	11%	7%	3%	3%	20%



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7. If the election for U.S. Senate were held today and the candidates were Claire McCaskill and Josh Hawley, for whom would you vote?

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Claire McCaskill (Democrat)	36%	44%	91%	8%	46%
Josh Hawley (Republican)	36%	45%	3%	86%	21%
Japheth Campbell (Libertarian)	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Jo Crain (Green)	1%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Craig O'Dear (Independent)	3%	2%	1%	1%	8%
Other	2%	2%	0%	1%	11%
Wouldn't vote	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Don't know / Refused	10%	6%	4%	3%	11%

8. [Asked to respondents who chose 'wouldn't vote, other, or don't know/refused] If you had to choose do you lean more towards Claire McCaskill or Josh Hawley?

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Claire McCaskill (Democrat)	36%	44%	91%	8%	46%
Lean Claire McCaskill (Democrat)	2%	2%	1%	0%	4%
Lean Josh Hawley (Republican)	2%	1%	0%	1%	4%
Josh Hawley (Republican)	36%	45%	3%	86%	21%
Other/none	23%	8%	5%	5%	26%



9. Overall, do you approve or disapprove about the way Donald Trump is handling his job as President?

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Strongly approve	26%	32%	3%	59%	18%
Somewhat approve	18%	17%	4%	28%	14%
Lean towards approve	2%	1%	0%	1%	0%
Lean towards disapprove	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%
Somewhat disapprove	11%	7%	10%	4%	7%
Strongly disapprove	36%	41%	82%	7%	58%
Not sure	6%	1%	0%	1%	1%

10. As you may know, Claire McCaskill recently reported she would be voting against confirming Judge Brett Kavanaugh as a Supreme Court Justice. Does her vote make you more or less likely to vote for her for the Senate?

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Much more likely	23%	31%	68%	5%	15%
Somewhat more likely	14%	13%	21%	5%	28%
Somewhat less likely	9%	7%	3%	11%	7%
Much less likely	31%	39%	3%	72%	29%
Don't know	23%	9%	6%	7%	21%

11. From the list of candidates below, please indicate whether they are a traditional politician or a non-traditional politician?

a. Claire McCaskill

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Traditional politician	67%	80%	80%	83%	82%
Non-traditional politician	16%	14%	18%	13%	12%
Don't know	17%	6%	3%	5%	6%



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b. Josh Hawley

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Traditional politician	51%	63%	68%	60%	75%
Non-traditional politician	24%	26%	20%	33%	13%
Don't know	25%	11%	11%	7%	13%

c. Japheth Campbell

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Traditional politician	13%	11%	14%	9%	7%
Non-traditional politician	20%	20%	17%	21%	41%
Don't know	67%	69%	68%	70%	52%

d. Jo Crain

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Traditional politician	13%	12%	14%	10%	7%
Non-traditional politician	19%	19%	17%	19%	39%
Don't know	68%	70%	69%	72%	54%

e. Craig O'Dear

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Traditional politician	13%	11%	12%	11%	3%
Non-traditional politician	19%	17%	16%	16%	47%
Don't know	69%	71%	72%	73%	50%



12. In your opinion, which political party has a better plan, policy or approach to each of the following?
 (Select one per row)

a. Medicare

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Democratic Party	34%	40%	81%	9%	38%
Republican Party	28%	33%	3%	62%	12%
Independents	5%	4%	2%	4%	15%
Other	2%	1%	0%	1%	0%
None	11%	12%	7%	14%	17%
Don't know	20%	11%	7%	10%	18%

b. Social Security

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Democratic Party	32%	38%	78%	7%	41%
Republican Party	30%	35%	3%	67%	16%
Independents	5%	4%	3%	4%	10%
Other	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%
None	12%	12%	8%	14%	22%
Don't know	20%	9%	8%	7%	10%

c. Immigration

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Democratic Party	28%	33%	73%	5%	26%
Republican Party	40%	47%	8%	82%	40%
Independents	4%	4%	3%	3%	14%
Other	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%
None	8%	8%	8%	5%	14%
Don't know	17%	7%	7%	4%	5%



d. The US Economy

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Democratic Party	27%	31%	68%	4%	19%
Republican Party	40%	48%	8%	85%	47%
Independents	5%	3%	3%	2%	13%
Other	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
None	9%	9%	10%	5%	16%
Don't know	19%	8%	11%	3%	5%

e. Dealing with sexual harassment

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Democratic Party	34%	37%	72%	10%	41%
Republican Party	23%	28%	4%	53%	6%
Independents	5%	4%	2%	4%	13%
Other	3%	2%	2%	2%	6%
None	13%	16%	11%	19%	23%
Don't know	22%	12%	9%	12%	11%

f. The war on terror

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Democratic Party	22%	24%	56%	2%	10%
Republican Party	42%	51%	15%	84%	57%
Independents	3%	3%	2%	3%	11%
Other	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%
None	10%	9%	11%	5%	17%
Don't know	21%	12%	15%	7%	7%



g. Supporting small business

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Democratic Party	27%	29%	64%	6%	15%
Republican Party	36%	45%	8%	80%	43%
Independents	6%	6%	7%	2%	20%
Other	2%	1%	0%	1%	4%
None	9%	9%	10%	6%	10%
Don't know	20%	10%	11%	6%	9%

h. The federal government deficit

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Democratic Party	24%	29%	65%	3%	11%
Republican Party	33%	39%	6%	69%	32%
Independents	6%	5%	3%	4%	23%
Other	3%	2%	1%	2%	7%
None	14%	16%	14%	16%	20%
Don't know	20%	10%	10%	7%	9%

i. Healthcare

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Democratic Party	34%	41%	82%	9%	39%
Republican Party	31%	37%	3%	71%	9%
Independents	6%	4%	3%	3%	12%
Other	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%
None	10%	10%	6%	10%	23%
Don't know	18%	9%	6%	7%	15%



13. How motivated are you to vote for a candidate in the November midterm election that will do the following?

a. Defend laws that protect healthcare for people with pre-existing conditions.

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Very motivated	59%	69%	84%	57%	70%
Somewhat motivated	22%	22%	11%	31%	24%
Not very motivated	9%	6%	3%	8%	2%
Not at all motivated	11%	3%	2%	4%	4%

b. Oppose laws that protect healthcare for people with pre-existing conditions.

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Very motivated	18%	22%	25%	19%	18%
Somewhat motivated	14%	13%	10%	15%	10%
Not very motivated	16%	15%	4%	24%	19%
Not at all motivated	52%	51%	62%	41%	54%

c. Defend and expand regulations protecting the environment.

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Very motivated	37%	42%	68%	20%	49%
Somewhat motivated	30%	30%	24%	36%	26%
Not very motivated	17%	19%	7%	29%	13%
Not at all motivated	15%	10%	2%	15%	11%

d. Try to cut back on regulations protecting the environment.

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Very motivated	11%	13%	9%	17%	12%
Somewhat motivated	21%	24%	15%	33%	16%
Not very motivated	24%	23%	14%	31%	27%
Not at all motivated	44%	40%	63%	19%	46%



e. Make it a priority to deport more illegal immigrants from the U.S.

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Very motivated	28%	34%	12%	54%	26%
Somewhat motivated	23%	23%	19%	27%	21%
Not very motivated	21%	19%	23%	14%	37%
Not at all motivated	29%	24%	47%	6%	17%

f. Supports policies that allow illegal immigrants to remain in the country if they are employed and have no criminal history.

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Very motivated	21%	24%	46%	10%	11%
Somewhat motivated	27%	30%	34%	23%	62%
Not very motivated	20%	19%	12%	25%	8%
Not at all motivated	31%	27%	9%	42%	19%

g. Wants to make abortion illegal.

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Very motivated	21%	23%	10%	35%	27%
Somewhat motivated	16%	15%	10%	19%	10%
Not very motivated	19%	18%	17%	19%	20%
Not at all motivated	44%	45%	63%	28%	44%

h. Wants to protect a woman's option to have a legal abortion.

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Very motivated	33%	39%	67%	16%	38%
Somewhat motivated	20%	20%	20%	19%	26%
Not very motivated	16%	15%	9%	20%	7%
Not at all motivated	31%	26%	4%	45%	30%



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14. Overall, do you approve or disapprove about the way your Congressperson is handling their job as Representative?

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Strongly approve	9%	14%	17%	13%	7%
Somewhat approve	32%	38%	40%	34%	54%
Somewhat disapprove	23%	24%	22%	26%	13%
Strongly disapprove	13%	16%	10%	20%	18%
Don't know	23%	9%	10%	7%	8%

15. Overall, do you approve or disapprove about the way Congress as a whole is handling its job?

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Strongly approve	4%	4%	3%	6%	3%
Somewhat approve	20%	20%	14%	26%	16%
Somewhat disapprove	33%	36%	37%	36%	29%
Strongly disapprove	28%	37%	43%	28%	51%
Don't know	15%	4%	3%	4%	1%



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16. What is the most important issue in determining your vote?

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Unemployment, jobs	5%	2%	3%	2%	4%
Deficit/budget	3%	3%	1%	5%	4%
Taxes	4%	4%	1%	6%	0%
Economy in general	13%	12%	11%	15%	6%
Healthcare generally	17%	19%	29%	10%	33%
Medicare/Medicaid	6%	7%	8%	5%	12%
The environment	3%	2%	5%	0%	0%
Energy, gas prices	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%
Social Security	8%	8%	12%	6%	9%
Education	4%	2%	3%	2%	2%
Crime, law & order	8%	8%	5%	9%	10%
Immigration	8%	10%	2%	19%	4%
International issues/conflicts abroad	2%	3%	3%	2%	3%
Social issues like abortion and same-sex marriage	6%	6%	6%	7%	0%
Gun laws	4%	2%	2%	3%	0%
Other (specify)	7%	6%	6%	4%	8%
The Supreme Court	2%	3%	2%	5%	4%

17. How motivated are you to vote for the following in the November midterm election?

a. To vote for a candidate who agrees with me on major issues

	All Adults	All Likely Voters	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Very motivated	58%	70%	76%	69%	52%
Somewhat motivated	26%	24%	19%	26%	42%
Not very motivated	5%	3%	2%	3%	2%
Not at all motivated	11%	3%	3%	1%	4%



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b. To vote for a candidate who will support President Trump

	All Adults	All Likely Voters	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Very motivated	28%	35%	6%	63%	20%
Somewhat motivated	17%	16%	6%	24%	13%
Not very motivated	13%	9%	9%	6%	16%
Not at all motivated	43%	40%	80%	7%	52%

c. To vote for a candidate who will oppose President Trump

	All Adults	All Likely Voter	Likely Voters: Democrat	Likely Voters: Republican	Likely Voters: Independent
Very motivated	30%	37%	74%	8%	41%
Somewhat motivated	13%	11%	15%	5%	20%
Not very motivated	14%	11%	6%	13%	11%
Not at all motivated	43%	41%	5%	74%	28%



Methodology

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted September 27 – October 7, 2018 on behalf of Thomson Reuters and the University of Virginia Center for Politics. For the survey, a sample of 1,998 adults from Missouri, including 1,111 likely voters, 448 likely voter Democrats, 550 likely voter Republicans, and 55 likely voter Independents ages 18+ were interviewed online.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos's online panel (see link below for more info on "Access Panels and Recruitment"), partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos "Ampario Overview" sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2016 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Post-hoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, and education.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online non-probability polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 2.5 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following ($n=1,998$, $DEFF=1.5$, adjusted Confidence Interval=4.0).

The poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.4 percentage points for likely voters, plus or minus 5.3 percentage points for likely voters Democrats, plus or minus 4.8 percentage points for likely voters Republicans and plus or minus 15.1 percentage points for likely voters Independents.

For more information about conducting research intended for public release or Ipsos' online polling methodology, please visit our Public Opinion Polling and Communication page where you can download our brochure, see our public release protocol, or contact us.



How to Calculate Bayesian Credibility Intervals

The calculation of credibility intervals assumes that Y has a binomial distribution conditioned on the parameter θ , i.e., $Y|\theta \sim \text{Bin}(n, \theta)$, where n is the size of our sample. In this setting, Y counts the number of “yes”, or “1”, observed in the sample, so that the sample mean (\bar{y}) is a natural estimate of the true population proportion θ . This model is often called the likelihood function, and it is a standard concept in both the Bayesian and the Classical framework. The Bayesian¹ statistics combines both the prior distribution and the likelihood function to create a posterior distribution. The posterior distribution represents our opinion about which are the plausible values for θ adjusted after observing the sample data. In reality, the posterior distribution is one’s knowledge base updated using the latest survey information. For the prior and likelihood functions specified here, the posterior distribution is also a beta distribution ($\pi(\theta/y) \sim \beta(y+a, n-y+b)$), but with updated hyper-parameters.

Our credibility interval for ϑ is based on this posterior distribution. As mentioned above, these intervals represent our belief about which are the most plausible values for ϑ given our updated knowledge base. There are different ways to calculate these intervals based on $\pi(\theta/y)$. Since we want only one measure of precision for all variables in the survey, analogous to what is done within the Classical framework, we will compute the largest possible credibility interval for any observed sample. The worst case occurs when we assume that $a=1$ and $b=1$ and $y=n/2$. Using a simple approximation of the posterior by the normal distribution, the 95% credibility interval is given by, approximately:

$$\bar{y} \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$$

For this poll, the Bayesian Credibility Interval was adjusted using standard weighting design effect $1+L=1.3$ to account for complex weighting²

Examples of credibility intervals for different base sizes are below. Ipsos does not publish data for base sizes (sample sizes) below 100.

Sample size	Credibility intervals
2,000	2.5
1,500	2.9
1,000	3.5
750	4.1
500	5.0
350	6.0
200	7.9
100	11.2