



IPSOS / REUTERS POLL DATA

Prepared by Ipsos Public Affairs

Ipsos Poll Conducted for Reuters

Tax Returns Poll 03.18.2019

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted March 5-March 11, 2019 on behalf of Thomson Reuters. For the survey, a sample of roughly 2,205 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The sample includes 1,860 registered voters, 741 Democrats, and 830 Republicans.

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 2015 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, region, race/ethnicity and income.

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 2.4 percentage points for all respondents (see link below for more info on Ipsos online polling “Credibility Intervals”). 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=2,205 DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=3.9).

The poll also has a credibility interval plus or minus 2.6 percentage points for registered voters, plus or minus 4.1 percentage points for Democrats, and plus or minus 3.9 percentage points for Republicans (see link below for more info on Ipsos online polling “Credibility Intervals”).

For more information about Ipsos online polling methodology, please go here <http://goo.gl/yJBkuf>

		Total	Registered Voters	Democrat	Republican
AB11. Overall, do you approve or disapprove about the way Donald Trump is handling his job as President?	Strongly approve	22%	25%	3%	50%
	Somewhat approve	18%	18%	5%	30%
	Lean towards approve	2%	2%	1%	3%
	Lean towards disapprove	3%	2%	2%	1%
	Somewhat disapprove	12%	11%	12%	8%
	Strongly disapprove	39%	40%	76%	8%
	Not sure	5%	3%	1%	1%
	Total	2205	1860	741	830
AB11. Overall, do you approve or disapprove about the way Donald	TOTAL APPROVE	42%	45%	9%	83%
	TOTAL DISAPPROVE	53%	53%	90%	17%
	Not sure	5%	3%	1%	1%



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Trump is handling his job as President? Summary	Total	2205	1860	741	830
TM1604Y19 - In 2018, did your personal income increase, decrease, or stay the same from the previous year?	Income increased a lot	6%	7%	5%	10%
	Income increased a little	30%	32%	26%	40%
	Income stayed the same	30%	33%	33%	30%
	Income decreased a little	11%	11%	15%	8%
	Income decreased a lot	9%	9%	12%	6%
	Not applicable	7%	5%	6%	4%
	Don't know	6%	4%	3%	3%
	Total	2205	1860	741	830
TM1394Y18 - To the best of your knowledge, has the 2017 tax reform bill impacted your personal finances?	Yes, I have seen an increase in my paycheck	18%	20%	12%	31%
	Yes, I have seen a decrease in my paycheck	12%	12%	18%	6%
	No, I have seen no change	34%	36%	38%	35%
	Don't know	18%	15%	14%	15%
	Not applicable	18%	16%	18%	13%
	Total	2205	1860	741	830
TM1605Y19 - Have you or will you file a personal income tax return this year?	Yes, I have already filed	38%	40%	39%	41%
	Yes, I will file an income tax return	38%	41%	38%	44%
	No, I will not file	9%	8%	9%	6%
	Not applicable	9%	7%	11%	5%
	Don't know	6%	3%	4%	3%
	Total	2205	1860	741	830
TM1390Y18 - From what you know about the tax plan that Congress passed in December 2017, how do you think your personal income taxes will be impacted?	I will pay more in taxes	29%	31%	46%	18%
	There will be no change in how much I pay in taxes	26%	26%	24%	29%
	I will pay less in taxes	20%	22%	9%	33%
	Don't know	24%	21%	21%	21%
	Total	1783	1571	598	728
TM1606Y19 - You mentioned you expect to pay less in taxes. Do you expect to pay a lot less or a little bit less in taxes?	A lot less	17%	19%	11%	19%
	A little bit	77%	75%	78%	76%
	Don't know	6%	6%	11%	5%
	Total	377	349	54	247



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TM1607Y19 - You mentioned you expect to pay more in taxes. Do you expect to pay a lot more or a little more in taxes?	A lot more	41%	42%	44%	36%
	A little bit more	50%	49%	48%	59%
	Don't know	9%	8%	8%	5%
	Total	539	489	275	139
TM1395Y18 - Last year, did you itemize your tax deductions?	Yes	41%	43%	36%	48%
	No	49%	49%	52%	46%
	Don't know	10%	8%	12%	6%
	Total	1783	1571	598	728
TM1396Y18 - This year, will you plan to itemize your tax deductions?	Yes	36%	37%	33%	39%
	No	51%	51%	52%	50%
	Don't know	14%	12%	15%	11%
	Total	1783	1571	598	728
TM1608Y19 - Do you plan on deducting state and local sales tax or income and property taxes?	Yes, state and local sales tax	24%	24%	21%	26%
	Yes, income and property tax	45%	46%	45%	49%
	No	14%	13%	17%	10%
	Don't know	16%	16%	17%	14%
	Total	658	593	202	292
TM1609Y19 - Do you expect that you will exceed the \$10,000 cap on deductions state and local tax?	Yes	32%	32%	40%	33%
	No	57%	58%	54%	56%
	Don't know	11%	10%	6%	10%
	Total	466	425	138	220



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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 Bayesian ¹ 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