



PRESS RELEASE

Nearly Half of Americans Support Trump Impeachment

Majority Feel Trump Asking Ukraine to Investigate Biden is an Abuse of Power

Washington, DC, October 3, 2019 — As the House of Representatives' impeachment inquiry into President Donald Trump continues to unfold, a new USA Today/Ipsos poll finds that 45% of Americans believe the U.S. House should vote to impeach Trump (38% do not), and an equal number (44%) think the U.S. Senate should vote to convict him (35% do not). However, Americans are split on whether there is enough reliable information or evidence to decide if Trump should be impeached; four in ten (39%) say yes, 36% say no, and a quarter are unsure. The issue of impeachment uncovers a vast partisan split, as Democrats overwhelmingly favor a House impeachment vote (74%) and Senate conviction (72%), while fewer than one in five Republicans (17% each) agree.

A majority of Americans (52%) agree that President Trump asking Ukraine to investigate Biden is an abuse of power, including 79% of Democrats, 46% of Independents, and 30% of Republicans. On the other hand, less than half (42%) believe there are valid reasons to look into Hunter and Joe Biden's behavior in Ukraine. One area in which there is bipartisan agreement: majorities of Democrats (65%) and Republicans (61%) alike believe that children of senior American officials should be prohibited from benefitting from their family relationships.

Though two-thirds (65%) are very or somewhat familiar with the launch of a formal impeachment inquiry into Trump, fewer (58%) are familiar with the presidential impeachment process itself, including less than a quarter (23%) who consider themselves to be very familiar. When asked a series of factual questions about the impeachment process, a slim majority understand that impeachment begins in the U.S. House of Representatives (56% answered correctly) but that it does not immediately remove a president from office (55% answered correctly). Most Americans guessed incorrectly that American presidents have been removed from office by impeachment in the past; only two have been impeached, but neither was removed from office. Just 33% of Americans answered correctly.

For full results, please refer to the following questionnaire.



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Full Annotated Questionnaire:

1. How familiar are you, if at all, with the following...

Total Familiar Summary

	Total (N=1,006)	Democrat (N=412)	Republican (N=403)	Independent (N=115)
The launch of a formal impeachment inquiry into Trump	65%	73%	66%	51%
The whistleblower complaint about President Trump's conversation with the Ukrainian President Zelensky	59%	68%	62%	46%
The presidential impeachment process	58%	67%	58%	40%
The transcript of the conversation between Trump and Zelensky	47%	56%	47%	31%

a. The whistleblower complaint about President Trump's conversation with the Ukrainian President Zelensky

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Very familiar	27%	32%	28%	15%
Somewhat familiar	33%	35%	34%	31%
Heard of it, know little	29%	25%	29%	39%
Have not heard of it	7%	4%	6%	10%
Don't know	5%	3%	3%	6%
<i>Familiar (net)</i>	59%	68%	62%	46%

b. The transcript of the conversation between Trump and Zelensky

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Very familiar	19%	21%	21%	12%
Somewhat familiar	28%	35%	25%	19%
Heard of it, know little	33%	30%	35%	41%
Have not heard of it	15%	10%	15%	21%
Don't know	5%	4%	3%	6%
<i>Familiar (net)</i>	47%	56%	47%	31%



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c. The launch of a formal impeachment inquiry into Trump

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Very familiar	32%	38%	32%	22%
Somewhat familiar	33%	35%	34%	30%
Heard of it, know little	26%	22%	27%	35%
Have not heard of it	6%	3%	6%	8%
Don't know	4%	3%	2%	5%
<i>Familiar (net)</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>73%</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>51%</i>

d. The presidential impeachment process

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Very familiar	23%	24%	24%	18%
Somewhat familiar	35%	42%	34%	22%
Heard of it, know little	34%	28%	36%	49%
Have not heard of it	4%	2%	3%	6%
Don't know	4%	3%	2%	4%
<i>Familiar (net)</i>	<i>58%</i>	<i>67%</i>	<i>58%</i>	<i>40%</i>

2. Are each of the following TRUE or FALSE about impeaching an American president...

a. Impeachment immediately removes a president from office

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
True	22%	23%	20%	23%
False	55%	57%	61%	44%
Don't know	23%	20%	19%	34%
<i>Correct response - False</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>57%</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>44%</i>

b. Impeachment begins in the U.S. House of Representatives

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
True	56%	61%	57%	45%
False	6%	6%	7%	5%
Don't know	38%	33%	36%	50%
<i>Correct response - True</i>	<i>56%</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>57%</i>	<i>45%</i>





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c. There are specific legal criteria that determine if a president can be impeached

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
True	79%	81%	83%	76%
False	6%	6%	7%	4%
Don't know	15%	13%	10%	20%
<i>Correct response - True</i>	<i>79%</i>	<i>81%</i>	<i>83%</i>	<i>76%</i>

d. American presidents have been removed from office by impeachment in the past

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
True	51%	50%	54%	46%
False	33%	37%	33%	31%
Don't know	16%	13%	13%	23%
<i>Correct response - False</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>37%</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>31%</i>

e. It takes a two-thirds majority of the U.S. Senate to convict a president and remove him from office

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
True	62%	66%	64%	53%
False	4%	5%	4%	1%
Don't know	33%	29%	31%	45%
<i>Correct response - True</i>	<i>62%</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>64%</i>	<i>53%</i>

3. Is the U.S. President subject to the laws of the United States?

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Yes, a president is subject to all laws just like any citizen	74%	73%	80%	67%
A president is subject to some laws, but not all of them	15%	16%	13%	20%
No, a president is above the law	4%	5%	3%	3%
Don't know	8%	6%	5%	10%





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4. In your opinion...

Yes Summary

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Should the U.S. House vote to impeach President Trump?	45%	74%	17%	37%
If the House votes to impeach, should the U.S. Senate vote to convict President Trump?	44%	72%	17%	37%
Is there enough reliable information or evidence to decide if President Trump should be impeached?	39%	63%	16%	29%

- a. Is there enough reliable information or evidence to decide if President Trump should be impeached?

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Yes	39%	63%	16%	29%
No	36%	15%	65%	34%
Don't know	25%	22%	19%	38%

- b. Should the U.S. House vote to impeach President Trump?

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Yes	45%	74%	17%	37%
No	38%	14%	68%	33%
Don't know	17%	11%	15%	31%

- c. If the House votes to impeach, should the U.S. Senate vote to convict President Trump?

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Yes	44%	72%	17%	37%
No	35%	13%	65%	31%
Don't know	21%	14%	19%	32%



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5. Is the whistleblower who originally reported President Trump's phone call with the President of Ukraine to the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community a patriot or a traitor?

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Patriot	44%	71%	21%	31%
Traitor	21%	10%	36%	15%
Don't know	36%	18%	43%	54%

6. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Total Agree Summary

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Children of senior American officials should be prohibited from benefiting from their family relationships	60%	65%	61%	53%
President Trump asking Ukraine to investigate Biden is an abuse of power	52%	79%	30%	46%
There are valid reasons to look into Hunter and Joe Biden's behavior in Ukraine	42%	24%	65%	42%
The impeachment inquiry is a partisan "witch hunt"	36%	13%	68%	32%

- a. The impeachment inquiry is a partisan "witch hunt"

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly agree	22%	6%	43%	17%
Somewhat agree	15%	7%	24%	15%
Neither agree nor disagree	12%	11%	9%	15%
Somewhat disagree	10%	14%	5%	13%
Strongly disagree	31%	55%	11%	20%
Don't know	11%	7%	8%	19%
<i>Agree (net)</i>	<i>36%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>68%</i>	<i>32%</i>
<i>Disagree (net)</i>	<i>41%</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>34%</i>





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b. President Trump asking Ukraine to investigate Biden is an abuse of power

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly agree	36%	63%	15%	23%
Somewhat agree	16%	16%	15%	22%
Neither agree nor disagree	16%	8%	21%	17%
Somewhat disagree	8%	3%	14%	6%
Strongly disagree	13%	3%	26%	10%
Don't know	11%	6%	9%	21%
<i>Agree (net)</i>	<i>52%</i>	<i>79%</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>46%</i>
<i>Disagree (net)</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>39%</i>	<i>16%</i>

c. There are valid reasons to look into Hunter and Joe Biden's behavior in Ukraine

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly agree	22%	8%	39%	22%
Somewhat agree	20%	16%	26%	20%
Neither agree nor disagree	20%	24%	15%	18%
Somewhat disagree	10%	17%	4%	5%
Strongly disagree	11%	19%	5%	5%
Don't know	17%	16%	11%	29%
<i>Agree (net)</i>	<i>42%</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>42%</i>
<i>Disagree (net)</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>36%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>11%</i>

d. Children of senior American officials should be prohibited from benefiting from their family relationships

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly agree	36%	36%	40%	35%
Somewhat agree	24%	29%	21%	18%
Neither agree nor disagree	20%	18%	20%	19%
Somewhat disagree	5%	5%	6%	8%
Strongly disagree	4%	4%	4%	4%
Don't know	11%	8%	9%	17%
<i>Agree (net)</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>53%</i>
<i>Disagree (net)</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>12%</i>





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7. In your opinion, will President Trump leave office before the end of his first term?

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
No, he will remain in office until the end of his first term	33%	41%	25%	38%
No, he will win a second term	29%	10%	54%	21%
Yes, he will be removed as a result of the impeachment process	15%	25%	5%	9%
Yes, he will voluntarily resign	3%	4%	2%	3%
Don't know	20%	20%	13%	28%
<i>Yes (net)</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>12%</i>
<i>No (net)</i>	<i>62%</i>	<i>51%</i>	<i>80%</i>	<i>59%</i>

8. Which is your main source of news?

	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
FOX News	16%	7%	27%	8%
CNN	14%	21%	9%	13%
ABC	12%	12%	12%	14%
NBC	10%	13%	10%	6%
CBS	9%	11%	8%	10%
MSNBC	6%	9%	2%	8%
Other	32%	26%	32%	42%



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About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between October 1-2, 2019 on behalf of USA Today. For this survey, a sample of roughly 1,006 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The sample includes 412 Democrats, 403 Republicans, and 115 Independents.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos' 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 a 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. Posthoc 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 3.5 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=1,006, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=+/-5.0 percentage points).

The poll also has a credibility interval of plus or minus 5.5 percentage points for Democrats, plus or minus 5.6 percentage points for Republicans, and plus or minus 10.4 percentage points for Independents.

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