

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER
2016 VOTING SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE**

March 25-April 19, 2016
N=3,763

NOTE: Numbers are based on all respondents; [the report](#) shows only the numbers of those who matched to the voter file and were old enough to vote in the 2012 general election. Previously released questions available [here](#).

QUESTIONS CITIZEN, REG, VOTE AND IN1 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK ALL:

CE1 People often disagree about what it takes to be a good citizen. Do you think that a person must do the following to be considered a good citizen?

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Refused</u>
a.	Vote in elections Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	66	33	*
b.	Participate in a religious community Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	29	71	*
c.	Volunteer their time to help others Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	56	44	*
d.	Donate money to help others Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	43	57	*
e.	Pay attention to government decisions and political happenings Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	62	37	*
f.	Serve jury duty if called Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	69	31	*

ADDITIONAL QUESTION HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

CE3 How often do you talk about current events or things you have heard about in the news with your friends?

Mar 25-
Apr 20
2016

14	Very often
25	Often
41	Sometimes
15	Rarely
6	Never
*	Refused

ASK ALL:

CE4 When you were growing up, how often was politics discussed around your house?

Mar 25- Apr 20 2016	
6	Very often
12	Often
34	Sometimes
34	Rarely
14	Never
1	Refused

ADDITIONAL QUESTION HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**

CE6 How much impact do you think people like you can have in making your community a better place to live?

Mar 25- Apr 20 2016	
19	Big impact
41	Moderate impact
32	Small impact
7	No impact at all
1	Refused

ASK ALL:

CE7 For the following activities, please indicate whether you have ever done each one.

	Yes, within last 12 <u>months</u>	Yes, but not within last 12 <u>months</u>	No, haven't <u>done it</u>	<u>Refused</u>
a. Have you ever worked together informally with someone or some group to solve a problem in the community where you live? Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	12	25	63	1
b. Have you ever spent time participating in any community service or volunteer activity-- actually working in some way to help others for no pay? Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	28	32	39	1
c. Have you ever worked on a political campaign or for any organization that supports candidates? Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	3	12	84	1
d. Have you ever contributed money to a candidate, a political party, or any organization that supports candidates? Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	9	13	77	1

CE7 continued ...

		Yes, within last 12 <u>months</u>	Yes, but not within last 12 <u>months</u>	No, haven't <u>done it</u>	<u>Refused</u>
e.	Have you ever avoided buying something or purposefully bought something in order to register a protest or send a message? Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	19	19	62	1
f.	Have you attended a community meeting such as school board or city council? Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	12	27	61	1

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**QUESTIONS R2-R5, R7 AND V1 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL:**

I5 How much difference does it make to you personally whether the Democrats control the government or the Republicans do?

Mar 25- Apr 20 <u>2016</u>	36	A Lot
	27	Some
	14	A little
	22	None
	1	Refused

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**

V8 Generally speaking, would you say that an individual vote can make a difference and influence the outcome of an election?

Mar 25- Apr 20 <u>2016</u>	64	Yes, a vote can influence the outcome of an election.
	36	No, a vote cannot influence the outcome of an election.
	*	Refused

ASK ALL:

V9 Have you ever been contacted personally to vote for a particular candidate for public office or a group of candidates?

Mar 25- Apr 20 <u>2016</u>	27	Yes, within last 12 months
	19	Yes, but not within last 12 months
	53	No
	1	Refused

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

V12 How closely have you been following the 2016 presidential election?

Mar 25- Apr 20 <u>2016</u>	
30	Very closely
36	Somewhat
21	Just a little
12	Not at all
1	Refused

ASK ALL:

V13 Generally speaking, would you say that you personally care a good deal who wins the following races in 2016:

		Care a <u>good deal</u>	Don't care <u>very much</u>	<u>Refused</u>
a.	The presidential party nominations Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	67	32	1
b.	The election for president Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	75	23	2
c.	The election for U.S. House of Representatives in your congressional district Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	52	46	1

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF QUESTIONS PA3 AND PA7 AND ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]****ASK ALL:**

Now we will show you a few statements about public life. Please mark which of the following pairs of statements is closest to what you think, even if neither is exactly right for your views.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**

PA3 Please mark which of the following statements is closest to what you think, even if neither is exactly right for your views.

Mar 25- Apr 20 <u>2016</u>	
70	People in the government are mostly corrupt
28	People in the government are mostly honest
2	Refused

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

PA7 Please mark which of the following statements is closest to what you think, even if neither is exactly right for your views.

Mar 25-

Apr 20

2016

64	Government is almost always wasteful and inefficient
34	Government often does a better job than people give it credit for
2	Refused

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

And now we have just a few more questions.

ASK ALL:

K1 For how many years is a United State Senator elected – that is, how many years are there in one full term of office for a U.S. Senator?

Mar 25-

Apr 20

2016

11	2
20	4
40	6 (CORRECT)
6	8
22	Don't know
1	Refused

ASK ALL:

K2 Which political party currently has a majority in the U.S. House of Representatives?

Mar 25-

Apr 20

2016

62	The Republican Party (CORRECT)
15	The Democratic Party
22	Don't know
1	Refused

ASK ALL:

K3 The budget for police and fire protection services is usually set at which level of government?

Mar 25-

Apr 20

2016

69	Local government, such as a city or county (CORRECT)
23	State government
5	Federal government
3	Refused

ASK ALL:

K4 Which level of government sets the rules for licenses – such as driver’s licenses and occupational licenses?

Mar 25-
Apr 20
2016
8 Local government, such as a city or county
83 State government (CORRECT)
7 Federal government
2 Refused

ASK ALL:

K5 To the best of your knowledge, when you move, do election officials or the U.S. Postal Service automatically update your voter registration?

Mar 25-
Apr 20
2016
6 Yes
69 No (CORRECT)
24 Don’t know
1 Refused

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**

D5 How would you describe your household’s financial situation?

Mar 25-
Apr 20
2016
30 Live comfortably
37 Meet your basic expenses with a little left over for extras
25 Just meet your basic expenses
6 Don’t even have enough to meet basic expenses
1 Refused

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**

PARTY1 Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a...

ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER (PARTY1=3,4,5):

PARTY4 Do you think of yourself as closer to the...

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Refused</u>	Lean <u>Rep</u>	Lean <u>Dem</u>
Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	25	30	45	-	18	23

ASK IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT (PARTY1=1,2):

PARTY2/3 Would you call yourself a...?

	Strong <u>Republican</u>	Not strong <u>Republican</u>	Strong <u>Democrat</u>	Not strong <u>Democrat</u>
Mar 25-Apr 20, 2016	13	11	17	13