

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
DECEMBER 2017 POLITICAL SURVEY  
FINAL TOPLINE  
NOVEMBER 29-DECEMBER 4, 2017  
N=1,503**

**QUESTIONS 1-4 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****NO QUESTION 5****ASK ALL:**

Q.6 Some people say they are basically content with the federal government, others say they are frustrated, and others say they are angry. Which of these best describes how you feel?

	<u>Basically content</u>	<u>Frustrated</u>	<u>Angry</u>	<b>(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u></b>
Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	17	55	24	5
Apr 5-11, 2017	19	55	22	3
Mar 17-26, 2016	20	57	21	2
Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	18	57	22	3
Feb 12-26, 2014	17	62	19	2
Oct 9-13, 2013	12	55	30	3
Sep 25-29, 2013	17	51	26	5
Jan 9-13, 2013	20	58	19	3
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	17	58	21	3
Aug 17-21, 2011	11	60	26	3
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	22	59	14	5
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	21	52	23	4
Apr 1-5, 2010	23	52	21	4
Mar 11-21, 2010	19	56	21	5
Early January, 2007	21	58	16	5
Early October, 2006	21	54	20	5
March, 2004	32	52	13	3
Mid November, 2001	53	34	8	5
June, 2000	28	53	13	6
February, 2000	33	54	10	3
October, 1997	29	56	12	3

**ASK ALL:**

Q.7 How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

	<u>Just about always</u>	<u>Most of the time</u>	<u>Only some of the time</u>	<b>(VOL.) <u>Never</u></b>	<b>(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u></b>
Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	3	15	67	14	2
Apr 5-11, 2017	4	16	68	11	2
Aug 27- Oct 4, 2015	3	16	67	13	1
Feb 12-26, 2014	3	21	68	7	1
Oct 9-13, 2013	3	16	68	12	1
Jan 9-13, 2013	3	23	67	6	2
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	3	17	72	7	2
Aug 17-21, 2011	3	16	72	8	1
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	4	25	65	4	2
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	3	21	65	10	1
Apr 1-5, 2010	5	20	61	13	1
Mar 11-21, 2010	3	19	65	11	2
January, 2007	3	28	63	5	1
February, 2006	4	30	59	6	1
Mid-September, 2005	3	28	63	4	2

**Q.7 CONTINUED...**

	Just about <u>always</u>	Most of <u>the time</u>	Only some <u>of the time</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>Never</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mid-March, 2004	4	32	59	4	1
February, 2000	5	35	56	3	1
May, 1999	3	28	62	5	2
February, 1999	4	27	64	4	1
November, 1998 <sup>1</sup>	4	22	61	11	2
February, 1998	5	29	61	4	1
October, 1997	3	36	59	2	*

**NO QUESTIONS 8-10, 13-14****QUESTIONS 11-12 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****QUESTION 15 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL:**

Q.16 Now thinking about the job the federal government is doing in some different areas. Is the federal government doing a very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad or very bad job **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Is the federal government doing a very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad or very bad job [ITEM]?**

		----- Good Job -----			----- Bad Job -----			<b>(VOL.)</b>	<b>(VOL.)</b>
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Not</u>	<u>DK/</u>
								<u>govt job</u>	<u>Ref</u>
<b>ASK FORM 1 [N=751]:</b>									
a.F1	Strengthening the economy								
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	53	15	38	42	21	21	1	5
	Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	51	9	42	47	22	25	*	2
b.F1	Keeping the country safe from terrorism								
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	66	24	42	30	14	16	0	4
	Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	72	30	43	26	13	12	*	2
c.F1	Helping people get out of poverty								
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	26	6	20	67	42	25	4	4
	Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	36	6	30	61	30	30	2	2
d.F1	Ensuring access to health care								
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	36	9	27	58	33	25	2	4
	Aug 27-Sep 13, 2015	56	15	42	40	21	19	1	3

<sup>1</sup> The November, 1998 survey was conducted Oct. 26-Dec. 1, 1998. The question asked, "How much of the time do you trust the government in Washington to do the right thing? Just about always, most the time, or only some of the time?"

**Q.16 CONTINUED...**

		----- Good Job -----			----- Bad Job -----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
		Total	Very	Somewhat	Total	Very	Somewhat	Not govt job	DK/ Ref
e.F1	Maintaining roads, bridges and other infrastructure								
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	51	13	38	46	20	26	*	3
	Aug 27-Sep 13, 2015	52	14	38	46	23	23	1	1
f.F1	Ensuring that food and medicine are safe								
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	61	19	42	33	19	15	*	6
	Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	72	22	49	26	11	15	*	2
<b>ASK FORM 2 [N=752]:</b>									
g.F2	Ensuring a basic income for people 65 and older								
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	41	10	31	48	28	20	1	10
	Aug 27-Sep 13, 2015	48	9	39	45	20	25	1	5
h.F2	Ensuring access to high quality education								
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	44	11	33	50	27	23	2	4
	Aug 27-Sep 13, 2015	52	12	40	44	20	24	1	3
i.F2	Managing the nation's immigration system								
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	32	7	25	64	38	26	0	4
	Aug 27-Sep 13, 2015	28	5	23	68	38	30	*	4
j.F2	Setting fair and safe standards for workplaces								
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	65	18	47	24	9	15	2	9
	Aug 27-Sep 13, 2015	76	21	56	20	8	12	1	3
k.F2	Protecting the environment								
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	44	11	32	53	33	20	1	3
	Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	59	11	48	38	16	23	*	2
l.F2	Responding to natural disasters								
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	64	26	38	34	18	16	*	3
	Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	79	28	51	19	8	11	*	2

**ASK ALL:**

Q.17 For each of these same areas, please tell me how much of a role, if any, the federal government should play. Should the federal government play a major role, a minor role or no role at all **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**? How about **[INSERT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Should the federal government play a major role, a minor role, or no role at all [ITEM]?**

		Major role	Minor role	No role at all	(VOL.) DK/Ref
<b>ASK FORM 1 [N=751]:</b>					
a.F1	Strengthening the economy				
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	75	18	4	2
	Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	74	20	4	1

**Q.17 CONTINUED...**

		<u>Major role</u>	<u>Minor role</u>	<u>No role at all</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
b.F1	Keeping the country safe from terrorism				
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	94	5	1	1
	Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	94	5	1	1
c.F1	Helping people get out of poverty				
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	67	26	6	1
	Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	55	38	5	1
d.F1	Ensuring access to health care				
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	69	21	9	2
	Aug 27-Sep 13, 2015	61	28	10	1
e.F1	Maintaining roads, bridges and other infrastructure				
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	75	21	2	3
	Aug 27-Sep 13, 2015	76	20	3	1
f.F1	Ensuring that food and medicine are safe				
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	87	9	3	1
	Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	87	10	2	1
<b>ASK FORM 2 [N=752]:</b>					
g.F2	Ensuring a basic income for people 65 and older				
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	71	21	6	2
	Aug 27-Sep 13, 2015	69	25	4	2
h.F2	Ensuring access to high quality education				
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	68	23	8	1
	Aug 27-Sep 13, 2015	70	25	4	1
i.F2	Managing the nation's immigration system				
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	80	15	4	1
	Aug 27-Sep 13, 2015	81	15	2	1
j.F2	Setting fair and safe standards for workplaces				
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	65	28	6	1
	Aug 27-Sep 13, 2015	66	30	3	1
k.F2	Protecting the environment				
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	76	19	3	1
	Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	75	22	3	1
l.F2	Responding to natural disasters				
	Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	89	9	1	1
	Aug 27-Oct 4, 2015	88	10	1	1

**NO QUESTIONS 18-20, 25, 27, 30-33, 36-40, 43-49, 52-55, 58-75**

**QUESTIONS 21, 41-42 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**QUESTIONS 22-24, 26, 28-29, 34-35, 50-51, 56-57, 76-79 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****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?

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
Nov 29-Dec 4, 2017	20	32	40	4	1	3	13	19
Oct 25-30, 2017	22	32	41	3	1	2	17	19
Jun 8-Jul 9, 2017	25	31	39	3	1	2	16	18
Apr 5-11, 2017	24	31	42	2	1	*	17	20
Feb 7-12, 2017	23	34	37	3	1	2	15	18
Jan 4-9, 2017	25	28	41	4	*	1	18	19
Nov 30-Dec 5, 2016	24	33	35	5	1	3	15	16
<b>Yearly Totals</b>								
2016	25.4	32.0	36.5	3.4	.5	2.2	14.6	17.0
2015	23.7	30.4	40.1	3.6	.4	1.8	16.4	17.3
2014	23.2	31.5	39.5	3.1	.7	2.0	16.2	16.5
2013	23.9	32.1	38.3	2.9	.5	2.2	16.0	16.0
2012	24.7	32.6	36.4	3.1	.5	2.7	14.4	16.1
2011	24.3	32.3	37.4	3.1	.4	2.5	15.7	15.6
2010	25.2	32.7	35.2	3.6	.4	2.8	14.5	14.1
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.7	36.0	31.5	3.6	.3	3.0	10.6	15.2
2007	25.3	32.9	34.1	4.3	.4	2.9	10.9	17.0
2006	27.8	33.1	30.9	4.4	.3	3.4	10.5	15.1
2005	29.3	32.8	30.2	4.5	.3	2.8	10.3	14.9
2004	30.0	33.5	29.5	3.8	.4	3.0	11.7	13.4
2003	30.3	31.5	30.5	4.8	.5	2.5	12.0	12.6
2002	30.4	31.4	29.8	5.0	.7	2.7	12.4	11.6
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3	--	3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--