ABC NEWS/WASHINGTON POST POLL: The GOP Contest EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE AFTER 7 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2016

## GOPers Call Trump the Likely Winner; His Lead Stays Big, with Cruz Behind

Donald Trump holds his lead for the GOP nomination and has soared in expectations he'll win it: A broad 64 percent of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents now expect him to be the party's nominee, up sharply in the last two months of bare-fisted campaigning.

Expectations that Trump will win the nomination have jumped by 25 percentage points since November among leaned Republicans in a new ABC News/Washington Post poll. Two-thirds also say they'd accept him as their party's nominee - as high a level of acceptability as his closest competitors'. And he's seen by 56 percent as their most electable nominee in the general election next fall.


Trump has 37 percent support nationally among leaned Republicans who are registered to vote, unchanged from last month (with no bounce from his endorsement by Sarah Palin). Ted Cruz has advanced by a slight 6 points from last month, and 15 points from October, to a clear, if somewhat distant, second place, with 21 percent. Marco Rubio's in the third slot, 11 percent, with all others in the single digits in this poll, produced for ABC by Langer Research Associates.

Rubio appears to have a stand-in shot - he does well as a second choice, selected by 23 percent now vs. 14 percent last month. Ben Carson, for his part, has continued to crater, showing the sometime changeability of voter preferences: He's gone from 22 percent two months ago to 7 percent now, almost precisely swapping places with Cruz.

There's essentially no change among lower-tier candidates - 5 percent for Jeb Bush, 4 percent for Chris Christie, 3 percent for Carly Fiorina, 2 percent apiece for John Kasich and Mike Huckabee, 1 percent for Rand Paul and less than that for Rick Santorum.


These standings reflect, above all, two factors: the strength of leaned Republicans' interest in a candidate from outside the political establishment, and the power of anti-immigrant views in the party. Statistical analysis finds that these two are the single strongest independent predictors of supporting Trump vs. any of his opponents. They're also issues on which the rest of the public differs dramatically from prevailing GOP sentiment, raising challenges for the party in the general election ahead.

Underscoring party preferences for an outsider, it's the more traditional GOP candidates - Bush and Christie - who are less apt to be rated as acceptable nominees. Just 52 percent of leaned Republicans see either as acceptable; Rubio, Cruz, Trump and Carson all do better on this score, rated as acceptable by $67,66,65$ and 62 percent, respectively.

STRENGTH - Fifty-six percent of leaned Republicans have a favorable opinion of Palin (unlike the rest of the public, who view her unfavorably by a broad 69-16 percent). That said, her endorsement of Trump last week shows no impact on vote preferences: His support is unchanged from its pre-endorsement level. Ten percent of leaned Republicans say the endorsement makes them more likely to support Trump, but as many, 9 percent, say it makes them less likely to do so. Most by far, 81 percent, say it makes no difference to their vote.

Endorsements customarily don't change preferences but, at best, reinforce them. And Trump's support appears strong: Fifty-seven percent of his backers say they'll definitely support him; among all other GOP candidates combined, strength of support declines to 35 percent, with the rest saying they may yet change their minds.


Additionally, Trump's support is essentially the same whether it's among all registered leaned Republicans or those indicating they're most likely to vote in the caucus or primary in their state. And there are no meaningful divisions in his support among key GOP groups - e.g., whether mainline Republicans or independents, evangelicals or not, or by strength of ideology (moderates vs. somewhat conservatives vs. strong conservatives). He continues to do somewhat better with lower-income leaned Republicans; differences by education and gender have faded.

Cruz, by contrast, does best with strong conservatives and evangelicals, and better with men than with women.

Trump's support, as noted, continues to spring from anti-establishment and anti-immigrant sentiment within the GOP, buttressed by economic discontent and by a broad sense among the rank and file that he'd be the party's most electable pick. Among those results:

- His backing soars to 53 percent among leaned Republicans who strongly feel that immigrants weaken U.S. society, vs. 24 percent among those who think immigrants strengthen this country. The former view is far more prevalent within the GOP.
- Leaned Republicans by 54-42 percent chiefly want a candidate from outside the political establishment. Among those who are in the anti-establishment group, and registered to vote, 51 percent pick Trump over his 10 rivals tested in this poll.

- Among those who are very worried about their economic prospects (27 percent of registered leaned Republicans), Trump gets 45 percent support, vs. 28 percent among those who aren't worried.
- Fifty-one percent think Trump is the best choice to bring needed change to Washington, perhaps the single most crucial attribute to leaned Republicans - 83 percent of whom express dissatisfaction or even anger with the way things are working in the capital.
- As noted, 56 percent of leaned Republicans think Trump has the best chance to win the general election in November, up 9 points from last month. And the sharp increase in expectations that he'll win the party's nomination has been broadly based, occurring
across GOP groups. While attitudes certainly can shift with events, some academic work has suggested that public expectations for who'll win an election can be credible predictors of actual outcomes.

These results, in any case, are intended to explore how Americans across the country are approaching the election - their issues and attributes that matter to them and how these play out, among various groups, in candidate preferences. The results don't forecast the outcome of any individual caucus or primary. Low-turnout events such as caucuses can be heavily influenced by effective get-out-the-vote operations and by prevalent population groups; high numbers of evangelical Christians, for instance, often participate in Iowa caucuses. Primaries have their own dynamics; in New Hampshire's, for example, independent voters are unusually numerous.

In an $\mathrm{ABC} /$ Post poll in December 2011, Newt Gingrich had 30 percent support nationally and Santorum had 4 percent; in the Iowa caucus the next month, by contrast, Gingrich won 13 percent of the vote, Santorum 25 percent. It was Mitt Romney - co-leader in the national poll, and co-leader in the Iowa caucus results - who went on to win the nomination. (And Romney consistently led in expectations leading up to the 2012 primaries, even as many of his rivals opened up sometimes sizable leads against him in vote intention questions.)

It's worth noting, as well, that even among Trump's supporters 42 percent say they may yet change their minds, as do 64 percent of those supporting other candidates. That makes for plenty of room for movement as the contest unfolds in the weeks ahead.


ATTRIBUTES/ISSUES - Trump has less of an advantage on some personal attributes - notably on having the best personality and temperament to serve as president ( 24 percent pick Cruz on this attribute, despite his alleged lack of collegiality, vs. Trump's 22 percent) and honesty and trustworthiness (Trump 27 percent, Carson 24, Cruz 17). In being "closest to you on the issues" 36 percent pick Trump, but Cruz, at 20 percent, has moved up, with a 12-point gain since fall.

Trump, separately, leads on most issues: Fifty-five percent pick him as best able to handle the economy, up 8 points from December. Fifty percent prefer him on regulating banks and financial institutions. And he continues to lead widely in trust to handle terrorism and immigration issues.

That said, Trump does notably less well in trust to handle a major international crisis; he's selected by 31 percent on this issue, vs. Cruz's 23 percent and Bush's 17 percent - one area in which his rivals might find ammunition.


REPS vs. THE REST - In a data analysis assessing the strongest independent correlates of vote preference for Trump, desire for an outsider is the single strongest factor, followed by antiimmigration views. Desiring an outsider, in turn, is independently related to an index of broader discontent, including anger at the way the government is working; a sense that government is part of the problem rather than part of the solution; views that the country's best days are behind it; whether it's on the wrong track; a sense that one's own values are losing ground in society; and economic anxiety.

A challenge for the GOP, looking ahead, is the extent to which leaned Republicans differ from the rest of the public on many such measures. While 54 percent of leaned Republicans are looking chiefly for an outsider, among all other Americans, 75 percent prefer a candidate with experience in how the political system works. While 50 percent of leaned Republicans say immigrants mainly weaken U.S. society, 66 percent of others say they mainly strengthen it. And there's a vast 45-point difference in views on whether the country's on the wrong track.

Leaned Republicans also are 27 points more apt than others to see government as part of the problem; twice as likely to be angry about it; 17 points more likely to see America's best days as behind it; and 15 points more apt to say their own values are losing ground in society today.

|  | Leaned |  |  | Leaned |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Reps. | Others |  | Reps. | Others |
| Experience | 42\% | 75\% | America's best days. |  |  |
| Outsider | 54 | 21 | Ahead | 47\% | 64\% |
|  |  |  | Behind | 49 | 32 |
| Immigrants... |  |  |  |  |  |
| Strengthen | 38 | 66 | Your values. |  |  |
| Weaken | 50 | 25 | Gaining | 33 | 45 |
|  |  |  | Losing | 65 | 50 |
| Fed. gov't. |  |  |  |  |  |
| Satisfied | 17 | 34 | Your living standards. |  |  |
| Dissatisfied | 46 | 48 | Worried | 66 | 62 |
| Angry | 38 | 17 | Not | 34 | 38 |
| Gov't is. |  |  | Country's direction... |  |  |
| Solution | 13 | 36 | Right direction | 10 | 52 |
| Problem | 84 | 57 | Wrong track | 88 | 43 |

Economic worry is the only one of these in which significant differences aren't evident. On the others, whichever Republican wins the nomination, there'll be substantial work ahead in reconciling world views within the GOP with those beyond it.

METHODOLOGY - This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by landline and cellular telephone Jan. 21-24, 2016, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 1,001 adults. Results have a margin of sampling error of 3.5 points, including the design effect, for the full sample; 4 points for all registered voters; and 5.5 points for registered leaned Republicans. Partisan divisions are 34-23-34 percent, Democrats-Republicans-independents.

The survey was produced for ABC News by Langer Research Associates of New York, N.Y., with sampling, data collection and tabulation by Abt-SRBI of New York, N.Y. See details on the survey's methodology here.

Analysis by Gary Langer.
ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com at http://abenews.com/pollingunit.
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## Full results follow.

| 1-2, 13-19, 23-25, held for release. |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| * $=$ less than 0.5 percent |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Do you think things in this country (are generally going in the right direction) do you feel things (have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track)? |  |  |  |  |
|  | Right direction | Wrong track | No opinion |  |
| 1/24/16 | 36 | 60 | 4 |  |
| 7/19/15 | 31 | 65 | 4 |  |
| 1/15/15 | 39 | 56 | 5 |  |
| 10/26/14 | 28 | 68 | 5 |  |
| 10/12/14 | 29 | 66 | 5 |  |
| 9/7/14 | 31 | 65 | 5 |  |
| 4/27/14 | 30 | 66 | 4 |  |
| 1/23/14 | 35 | 62 | 2 |  |
| 11/17/13 | 27 | 70 | 3 |  |
| 10/20/13 | 28 | 68 | 4 |  |
| 7/21/13 | 36 | 60 | 4 |  |
| 5/19/13 | 39 | 57 | 4 |  |
| 1/13/13 | 39 | 57 | 5 |  |
| 10/31/12 LV | 43 | 55 | 2 |  |
| 10/13/12 RV | 42 | 56 | 3 |  |
| 9/29/12 RV | 38 | 60 | 2 |  |
| 8/25/12 RV | 29 | 69 | 2 |  |
| 7/8/12 | 33 | 63 | 4 |  |
| 4/8/12 | 33 | 64 | 3 |  |
| 1/15/12 | 30 | 68 | 2 |  |
| 11/3/11 | 22 | 74 | 3 |  |
| 9/1/11 | 20 | 77 | 3 |  |
| 6/5/11 | 32 | 66 | 2 |  |
| 1/16/11 | 38 | 60 | 3 |  |
| 12/12/10 | 31 | 67 | 2 |  |
| 10/28/10 RV | 27 | 71 | 2 |  |
| 6/6/10 | 37 | 60 | 3 |  |
| 3/26/10 | 38 | 60 | 2 |  |
| 1/15/10 | 37 | 62 | 1 |  |
| 11/15/09 | 44 | 55 | 2 |  |
| 10/18/09 | 44 | 54 | 2 |  |
| 8/17/09 | 44 | 55 | 1 |  |
| 6/21/09 | 47 | 50 | 3 |  |
| 4/24/09 | 50 | 48 | 2 |  |
| 3/29/09 | 42 | 57 | 1 |  |
| 2/22/09 | 31 | 67 | 2 |  |
| 1/16/09 | 19 | 78 | 3 |  |
| Call for full trend. |  |  |  |  |

4. How closely are you following the 2016 presidential race: very closely, somewhat closely, not so closely, or not closely at all?

|  |  | ---- | Closely | ---- | ---- | Not closely | ---- | No |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | NET | Very | Smwt | NET | Not so | At all | opinion |  |
| $1 / 24 / 16$ |  | 78 | 35 | 44 | 21 | 13 | 9 | $*$ |  |
| $11 / 19 / 15$ |  | 75 | 30 | 45 | 25 | 13 | 12 | $*$ |  |
| $11 / 4 / 12$ | LV | 99 | 66 | 33 | 1 | 1 |  | $*$ | $*$ |
| $11 / 3 / 12$ | LV | 98 | 67 | 31 | 1 | 1 | $*$ | $*$ |  |
| $11 / 2 / 12$ | LV | 99 | 67 | 31 | 1 | 1 | $*$ | $*$ |  |
| $11 / 1 / 12$ | LV | 99 | 68 | 31 | 1 | 1 | $*$ | 0 |  |


| 10/31/12 | LV | 99 | 67 | 32 | 1 | 1 | * | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10/30/12 | LV | 99 | 66 | 33 | 1 | 1 | * | 0 |
| 10/29/12 | LV | 99 | 69 | 30 | 1 | 1 | * | 0 |
| 10/28/12 | LV | 99 | 69 | 30 | 1 | 1 | * | * |
| 10/27/12 | LV | 99 | 68 | 31 | 1 | 1 | * | * |
| 10/26/12 | LV | 99 | 66 | 33 | 1 | 1 | * | 0 |
| 10/25/12 | LV | 95 | 62 | 33 | 5 | 3 | 2 | * |
| 10/24/12 | LV | 94 | 63 | 32 | 5 | 3 | 2 | * |
| 10/23/12 | LV | 93 | 63 | 31 | 6 | 4 | 2 | * |
| 10/22/12 | LV | 92 | 64 | 28 | 8 | 5 | 3 | * |
| 10/21/12 | LV | 92 | 64 | 28 | 8 | 5 | 3 | * |
| 10/13/12 | LV | 93 | 60 | 33 | 6 | 4 | 2 | * |
| 9/29/12 | LV | 92 | 54 | 38 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 0 |
| 9/9/12 | LV | 87 | 51 | 36 | 13 | 8 | 5 | 1 |
| 5/20/12 | RV | 82 | 38 | 44 | 18 | 9 | 8 | * |
| 2/4/12* | RV | 79 | 37 | 43 | 20 | 12 | 8 | * |
| 1/15/12 | RV | 76 | 33 | 43 | 24 | 14 | 10 | * |
| 12/18/11 |  | 69 | 26 | 43 | 31 | 18 | 13 | * |
| 11/3/11 |  | 65 | 24 | 41 | 34 | 17 | 17 | * |
| 10/2/11 |  | 64 | 24 | 40 | 36 | 23 | 13 | 0 |
| 9/1/11 |  | 66 | 25 | 40 | 34 | 20 | 14 | * |
| 7/17/11 |  | 61 | 18 | 43 | 39 | 23 | 15 | * |
| 6/5/11 |  | 61 | 22 | 39 | 38 | 23 | 15 | * |
| Call for | ful | tre |  |  |  |  |  |  |

5. I'd like you to rate the chances that you will vote in the presidential primary or caucus in your state. Are you absolutely certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or less than that?

|  | Cert. | Prob. | 50-50 | Less <br> than $50-50$ | Will not vote (vol.) | No primary/ caucus (vol.) | Already <br> voted (vol.) | No op. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1/24/16 | 62 | 13 | 15 | 7 | 3 | NA | NA | 1 |
| 12/13/15 | 63 | 13 | 12 | 7 | 5 | NA | NA | 0 |
| 11/19/15 | 63 | 14 | 9 | 10 | 4 | NA | NA | 1 |
| Leaned Republicans: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1/24/16 | 70 | 13 | 9 | 7 | * | NA | NA | 1 |
| 12/13/15 | 71 | 14 | 7 | 5 | 4 | NA | NA | 0 |
| 11/19/15 | 74 | 12 | 5 | 5 | 2 | NA | NA | 1 |

6. (ASKED OF LEANED REPUBLICANS) I'm going to read a list of candidates for the Republican nomination for president in 2016. If the 2016 Republican presidential primary or caucus in your state were being held today, for whom would you vote? Which candidate would you lean toward?

1/24/16 - NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE
Among reg voters:

|  | 2016 | ------------- | 2015 | ---------------- | ------ | 2014 | --------- |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | $1 / 24$ | $12 / 13$ | $11 / 19$ | $10 / 18$ | $9 / 19$ | $7 / 31$ | $5 / 31$ | $3 / 29$ | $12 / 14$ | $10 / 12$ | $4 / 27$ | $1 / 23$ |
| Jeb Bush | 5 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 12 | 10 | 21 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 18 |
| Ben Carson | 7 | 12 | 22 | 22 | 20 | 6 | 8 | 6 | 8 | 7 | NA | NA |
| Chris Christie | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 14 |
| Ted Cruz | 21 | 15 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 12 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 12 |
| Carly Fiorina | 3 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 2 | $*$ | 2 | 1 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Jim Gilmore | NA | NA | NA | NA | 0 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Lindsey Graham | NA | 1 | 1 | 1 | $*$ | $*$ | 1 | 1 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Mike Huckabee | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 12 | 14 | NA |


| Bobby Jindal | NA | NA | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | $*$ | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| John Kasich | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| George Pataki | NA | 0 | $*$ | 1 | $*$ | 1 | 1 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Rand Paul | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 11 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 15 |
| Rick Perry | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 5 |
| Marco Rubio | 11 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 7 | 7 | 10 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 6 |
| Paul Ryan | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 11 | 9 | 12 |
| Rick Santorum | $*$ | $*$ | 1 | $*$ | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | NA |
| Donald Trump | 37 | 38 | 32 | 32 | 33 | 24 | 4 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Scott Walker | NA | NA | NA | NA | 2 | 13 | 11 | 13 | 7 | 2 | 5 |
| Other (vol.) | 1 |  | $*$ | 1 | 1 | $*$ | $*$ | 1 | $*$ | 1 | 2 |
| None of |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |  |  |
| $\quad$ these (vol.) | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

7. (ASKED OF LEANED REPUBLICANS IF NAMED A CANDIDATE) Will you definitely vote for [NAMED CANDIDATE] or is there a chance you could change your mind and vote for someone else?

1/24/16 - Summary Table

|  | Definitely <br> vote | Chance <br> change mind | No |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| opinion |  |  |  |
| All candidates | 43 | 56 | 1 |
| Donald Trump | 57 | 42 | 1 |
| All other candidates | 34 | 65 | 1 |

8. (IF NAMED A CANDIDATE) Who would your second choice be? Which candidate would you lean toward as your second choice?

1/24/16 - NET LEANED SECOND CHOICE

|  | $1 / 24 / 16$ | $12 / 13 / 15$ | $11 / 19 / 15$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Jeb Bush | 6 | 9 | 9 |
| Ben Carson | 11 | 12 | 16 |
| Chris Christie | 6 | 4 | 7 |
| Ted Cruz | 20 | 18 | 12 |
| Carly Fiorina | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Lindsey Graham | NA | 1 | $\star$ |
| Mike Huckabee | 4 | 4 | 6 |
| Bobby Jindal | NA | NA | 0 |
| John Kasich | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| George Pataki | NA | 3 | $*$ |
| Rand Paul | 1 | 5 | 5 |
| Marco Rubio | 23 | 14 | 17 |
| Rick Santorum | 1 | $*$ | 1 |
| Donald Trump | 13 | 12 | 13 |
| Other (vol.) | 1 | 1 | $*$ |
| None of these (vol.) | 5 | 7 | 3 |
| No opinion | 3 | 3 | 3 |

9. (ASKED OF LEANED REPUBLICANS) Regardless of who you support, which candidate do you think is most likely to win the Republican nomination for president? (Candidates not read)

Jeb Bush
$1 / 24 / 16 \quad 11 / 19 / 15 \quad 10 / 18 / 15 \quad 3 / 29 / 15$
Jush
6
6
12
33

| Ben Carson | 2 | 19 | 15 | 1 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Chris Christie | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Ted Cruz | 12 | 4 | 3 | 12 |
| Carly Fiorina | 0 | $*$ | 1 | $*$ |
| Lindsey Graham | NA | 0 | NA | NA |
| Mike Huckabee | 0 | $\star$ | 2 | 4 |
| Bobby Jindal | NA | 0 | 0 | $*$ |
| John Kasich | $\star$ | 1 | $\star$ | 0 |
| George Pataki | NA | $\star$ | 0 | NA |
| Rand Paul | $\star$ | 1 | 1 | NA |
| Rick Perry | NA | NA | NA | 5 |
| Marco Rubio | 5 | 13 | 5 | 2 |
| Rick Santorum | 1 | $*$ | 1 | 4 |
| Donald Trump | 64 | 39 | 42 | 1 |
| Scott Walker | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Other | 0 | 1 | $*$ | 8 |
| No opinion | 13 | 14 | 16 | 2 |

10. (ASKED OF LEANED REPUBLICANS) Would you accept [ITEM] as the Republican candidate for president, or would you find him unacceptable?

1/24/16 - Summary Table

|  | Would accept | Unacceptable | No opinion |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. Donald Trump | 65 | 32 | 2 |
| b. Ted Cruz | 66 | 26 | 8 |
| c. Jeb Bush | 52 | 45 | 3 |
| d. Marco Rubio | 67 | 22 | 10 |
| e. Ben Carson | 62 | 30 | 7 |
| f. Chris Christie | 52 | 38 | 10 |

11. (ASKED OF LEANED REPUBLICANS) Thinking about just five of these candidates (Trump), (Carson), (Bush), (Rubio) and (Cruz) - who do you think [ITEM]?

Full item wording:
a. is the most honest and trustworthy
b. has the best personality and temperament to serve effectively as president
c. has the best chance of getting elected president in November 2016
d. would do the most to bring needed change to Washington
e. is closest to you on the issues

1/24/16 - Summary Table

|  | Most |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| honest |  | | Best |
| :---: |
| personality |$\quad$| Best |
| :---: |
| chance |$\quad$| Bring |
| :---: |
| change | | Closest on |
| :---: |
| issues |

Trend:
a. Is the most honest and trustworthy

Trump
$\begin{array}{llll}1 / 24 / 16 & 12 / 13 / 15 & 11 / 19 / 15 & 10 / 18 / 15\end{array}$

| Carson | 24 | 24 | 34 | 33 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Fiorina | NA | NA | NA | 7 |
| Bush | 11 | 12 | 11 | 10 |
| Rubio | 8 | 11 | 12 | 10 |
| Cruz | 17 | 12 | 10 | 7 |
| All equally (vol.) | 1 | 1 | 1 | $*$ |
| Any 2 or more (vol.) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| None of them (vol.) | 5 | 10 | 4 | 6 |
| No opinion | 7 | 6 | 6 | 5 |

b. Has the best personality and temperament to serve effectively as president

|  | $1 / 24 / 16$ | $12 / 13 / 15$ | $11 / 19 / 15$ | $10 / 18 / 15$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Trump | 22 | 23 | 20 | 19 |
| Carson | 15 | 17 | 26 | 24 |
| Fiorina | NA | NA | NA | 10 |
| Bush | 11 | 18 | 18 | 15 |
| Rubio | 19 | 17 | 20 | 14 |
| Cruz | 24 | 18 | 11 | 5 |
| All equally (vol.) | 1 | $*$ | 0 | 1 |
| Any 2 or more (vol.) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| None of them (vol.) | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| No opinion | 5 | 5 | 3 | 11 |

c. Has the best chance of getting elected president in November 2016

|  | $1 / 24 / 16$ | $12 / 13 / 15$ | $11 / 19 / 15$ | $10 / 18 / 15$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Trump | 56 | 47 | 38 | 43 |
| Carson | 2 | 7 | 22 | 16 |
| Fiorina | NA | NA | NA | 3 |
| Bush | 4 | 8 | 10 | 13 |
| Rubio | 9 | 14 | 17 | 11 |
| Cruz | 17 | 15 | 6 | 4 |
| All equally (vol.) | 1 | $\star$ | 0 | $*$ |
| Any 2 or more (vol.) | 1 | 2 | 1 | $\star$ |
| None (vol.) | 1 | 2 | $\star$ | 1 |
| No opinion | 8 | 4 | 5 | 8 |

d. Would do the most to bring needed change to Washington

|  | $1 / 24 / 16$ | $12 / 13 / 15$ | $11 / 19 / 15$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Trump | 51 | 51 | 47 |
| Carson | 7 | 11 | 22 |
| Bush | 6 | 8 | 7 |
| Rubio | 10 | 11 | 11 |
| Cruz | 17 | 12 | 9 |
| All equally (vol.) | 1 | 1 | $*$ |
| Any Or more (vol.) | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| None of them (vol.) | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| No opinion | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| e. Is closest to you on the issues |  |  |  |


|  | $1 / 24 / 16$ | $10 / 18 / 15$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Trump | 36 | 32 |
| Carson | 13 | 19 |
| Fiorina | NA | 6 |
| Bush | 9 | 11 |
| Rubio | 12 | 11 |
| Cruz | 20 | 8 |
| All equally (vol.) | 1 | $*$ |
| Any 2 or more (vol.) | 1 | 1 |
| None of them (vol.) | 2 | 2 |

12. (ASKED OF LEANED REPUBLICANS) Again, thinking about (Trump), (Carson), (Bush), (Rubio) and (Cruz) - who do you trust most to handle [ITEM]?

Full item wording:
a. the economy
b. immigration issues
c. the threat of terrorism
d. regulating banks and other financial institutions
e. a major international crisis

1/24/16 - Summary Table

|  | The <br> economy | Immigration <br> issues | The threat of <br> terrorism | Regulating <br> banks | Major <br> crisis |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Trump | 55 | 44 | 45 | 50 | 31 |
| Carson | 6 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 6 |
| Bush | 8 | 8 | 11 | 10 | 17 |
| Rubio | 8 | 15 | 11 | 7 | 13 |
| Cruz | 16 | 18 | 19 | 14 | 23 |
| All equally (vol.) | $\star$ | $\star$ | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| Any 2 or more (vol.) | $\star$ | $\star$ | 3 | 0 | 4 |
| None of them (vol.) | 2 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 3 |
| No opinion | 4 | 5 |  | 5 |  |

Trend:
a. The economy

|  | $1 / 24 / 16$ | $11 / 19 / 15$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Trump | 55 | 47 |
| Carson | 6 | 15 |
| Bush | 8 | 12 |
| Rubio | 8 | 11 |
| Cruz | 16 | 9 |
| All equally (vol.) | $*$ | 1 |
| Any 2 or more (vol.) | $*$ | 0 |
| None of them (vol.) | 2 | 2 |
| No opinion | 4 | 3 |
| b. Immigration issues |  |  |


|  | $1 / 24 / 16$ | $12 / 13 / 15$ | $11 / 19 / 15$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Trump | 44 | 50 | 45 |
| Carson | 7 | 10 | 10 |
| Bush | 8 | 11 | 13 |
| Rubio | 15 | 14 | 18 |
| Cruz | 18 | 10 | 9 |
| All equally (vol.) | $\star$ | $\star$ | $\star$ |
| Any 2 or more (vol.) | $\star$ | $\star$ | $\star$ |
| None of them (vol.) | 2 | 1 | $\star$ |
| No opinion | 5 | 5 | 4 |

c. The threat of terrorism

|  | $1 / 24 / 16$ | $12 / 13 / 15$ | $11 / 19 / 15$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Trump | 45 | 50 | 42 |
| Carson | 5 | 9 | 10 |
| Bush | 11 | 14 | 18 |
| Rubio | 11 | 9 | 13 |
| Cruz | 19 | 12 | 9 |


| All equally (vol.) | $*$ | $*$ | 1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Any 2 or more (vol.) | 1 | $*$ | $*$ |
| None of them (vol.) | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| No opinion | 5 | 3 | 6 |
| d-e. No trend |  |  |  |

On another topic,
20. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of Sarah Palin? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

21. (ASKED OF LEANDED REPUBLICANS) Does Palin's endorsement of Trump make you (more) likely to support Trump, (less) likely to support him, or won't it make any difference in your vote?
$\begin{array}{ccccc} & \text { More Likely } & \text { Less likely } & \text { No difference } & \text { No opinion } \\ \text { 1/24/16 } & 10 & 9 & 81 & \star\end{array}$
22. All else equal, would you like the next president to be someone who has experience in how the political system works, or someone from outside the existing political establishment?

|  | Experience in | Outside | No |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: |
| political system | establishment | opinion |  |
| $1 / 24 / 16$ | 62 | 33 | 4 |
| $12 / 13 / 15$ | 57 | 37 | 5 |
| $10 / 18 / 15$ | 57 | 39 | 4 |

26. I am going to mention four phrases and ask you which one best describes how you feel about the way the federal government works. Do you feel enthusiastic, satisfied but not enthusiastic, dissatisfied but not angry, or angry?

27. When it comes to challenges facing the nation, overall, do you feel that government is part of the (solution), or part of the (problem)? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

28. All in all, do you think America's best days are ahead of it, or behind it? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

|  | --------- Ahead | --------- | -------- |  | Behind | --------- | No |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | NET | Strongly | Somewhat | NET | Somewhat | Strongly | opinion |
| $1 / 24 / 16$ | 57 | 31 | 26 | 38 | 14 | 24 | 4 |
| $9 / 7 / 14$ | 57 | 32 | 25 | 39 | 15 | 24 | 4 |

Compare to: When you think about the future of the United States, do you feel confident that the country's best years are still ahead of us, or do you feel concerned that America's best years might already be behind us?
Best years

ahead \begin{tabular}{ccc}
Best years <br>
behind

$c$

No <br>
opinion
\end{tabular}

29. Do you think that people and groups that hold values similar to yours are (gaining) influence in American life in general these days, or do you think that they are (losing) influence? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

|  | NET | -- Gaini <br> Strongly | Somewhat | NET | --- Losin Somewhat | Strongly | Neither | $\begin{gathered} \text { No } \\ \text { opinion } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1/24/16 | 40 | 19 | 21 | 55 | 21 | 35 | 2 | 2 |
| 8/5/12 | 34 | NA | NA | 59 | NA | NA | 3 | 4 |
| 4/24/05 | 33 | NA | NA | 58 | NA | NA | 6 | 2 |
| 8/16/98 | 35 | NA | NA | 55 | NA | NA | 6 | 4 |

30. How concerned are you about being able to maintain your current standard of living - are you very worried, somewhat worried, not so worried or not worried at all?

|  | -- More worried - |  |  | - | Less worried --- |  | No |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | NET | Very | Smwt | NET | Not so | At all | opinion |
| 1/24/16 | 63 | 25 | 38 | 37 | 19 | 18 | * |
| 1/15/15 | 62 | 25 | 37 | 38 | 20 | 18 | * |
| 11/3/11 | 67 | 31 | 36 | 33 | 18 | 15 | * |
| 12/13/09 | 64 | 24 | 39 | 36 | 19 | 17 | * |
| 12/14/08 | 66 | 24 | 42 | 34 | 17 | 16 | * |
| 5/11/08 | 68 | 28 | 40 | 32 | 16 | 15 | * |
| 12/9/07 | 51 | 17 | 34 | 49 | 22 | 27 | * |

31. Overall, do you think immigrants from other countries mainly strengthen or mainly weaken American society? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

|  | Strengthen ------ |  |  |  | Weaken |  | Neither | Depends | No |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | NET | Strongly | Somewhat | NET | Somewhat | Strongly | (vol.) | (vol.) | op. |
| 1/24/16 | 55 | 34 | 21 | 35 | 14 | 21 | 3 | 5 | 3 |
| 7/19/15 | 57 | 34 | 23 | 33 | 12 | 21 | 1 | 5 | 4 |

