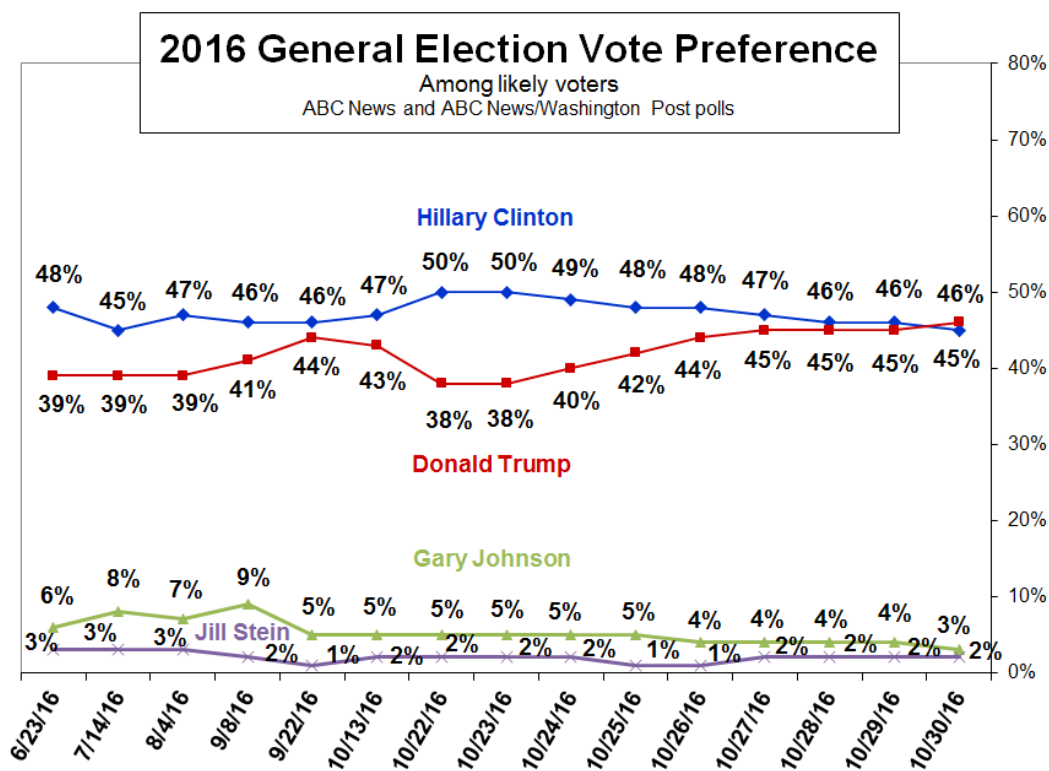


Strong Enthusiasm Ebbs for Clinton; Trump is +1 in Vote Preference

Strong enthusiasm for Hillary Clinton has ebbed since the renewal of the FBI’s email investigation, and while vote preferences have held essentially steady, she’s now a slim point behind Donald Trump in the latest ABC News/Washington Post tracking poll, a first since May.

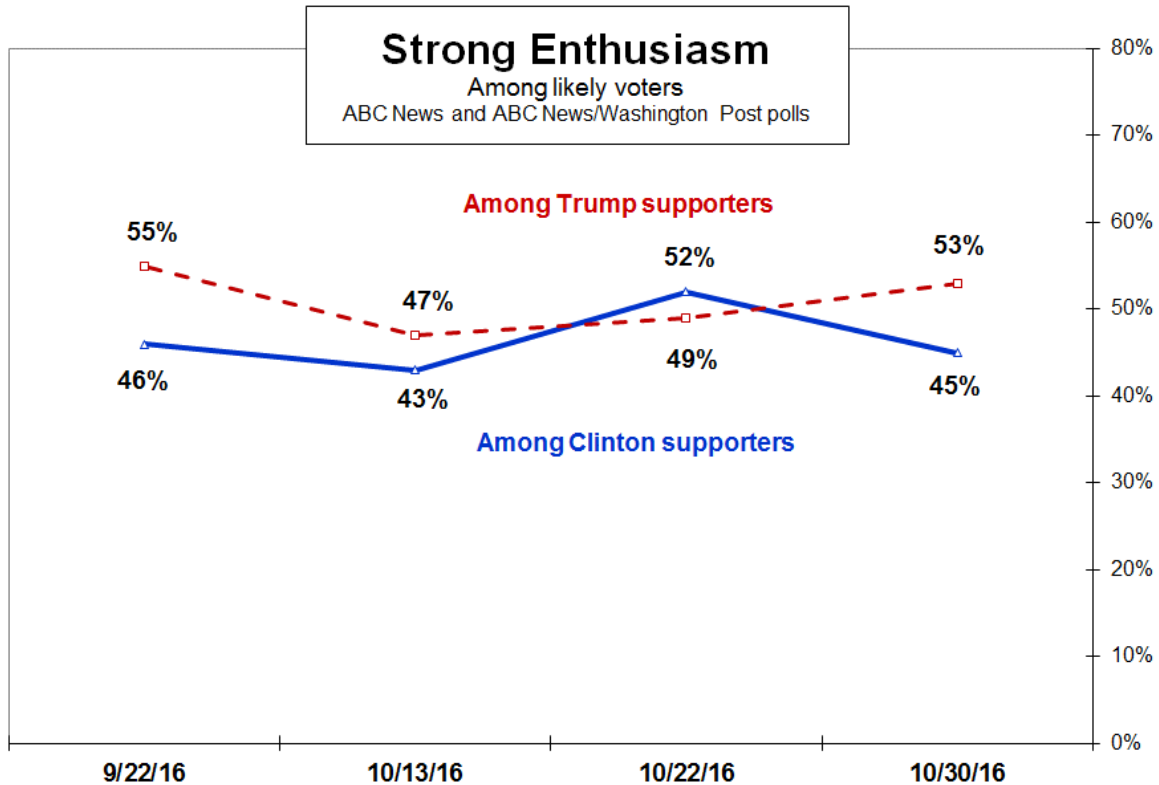
Forty-six percent of likely voters support Trump in the latest results, with 45 percent for Clinton. Taking it to the decimal for illustrative purposes, a mere seven-tenths of a percentage point divides them. Third-party candidate Gary Johnson has 3 percent, a new low; Jill Stein, 2 percent.



Trump now leads Clinton by 8 points in the share of voters who are very enthusiastic about their choice, although compared to past elections it’s low for both of them – 53 percent for Trump, 45 percent for Clinton since Friday in this poll, produced for ABC by [Langer Research Associates](#).

Strong enthusiasm for Clinton has lost 7 points since the start of tracking, especially Friday through Sunday – a possible impact of the renewed controversy over her use of a private email

server while secretary of state. Trump’s strong enthusiasm has held steady in tracking, which started Oct. 20.



CLOSE – The 1-point Clinton-Trump race overall is well within the survey’s margin of sampling error. Combining the last seven nights – across which results have been very stable – the results flip to 46-45 percent, Clinton-Trump, with a four-tenths gap, again not a significant difference.

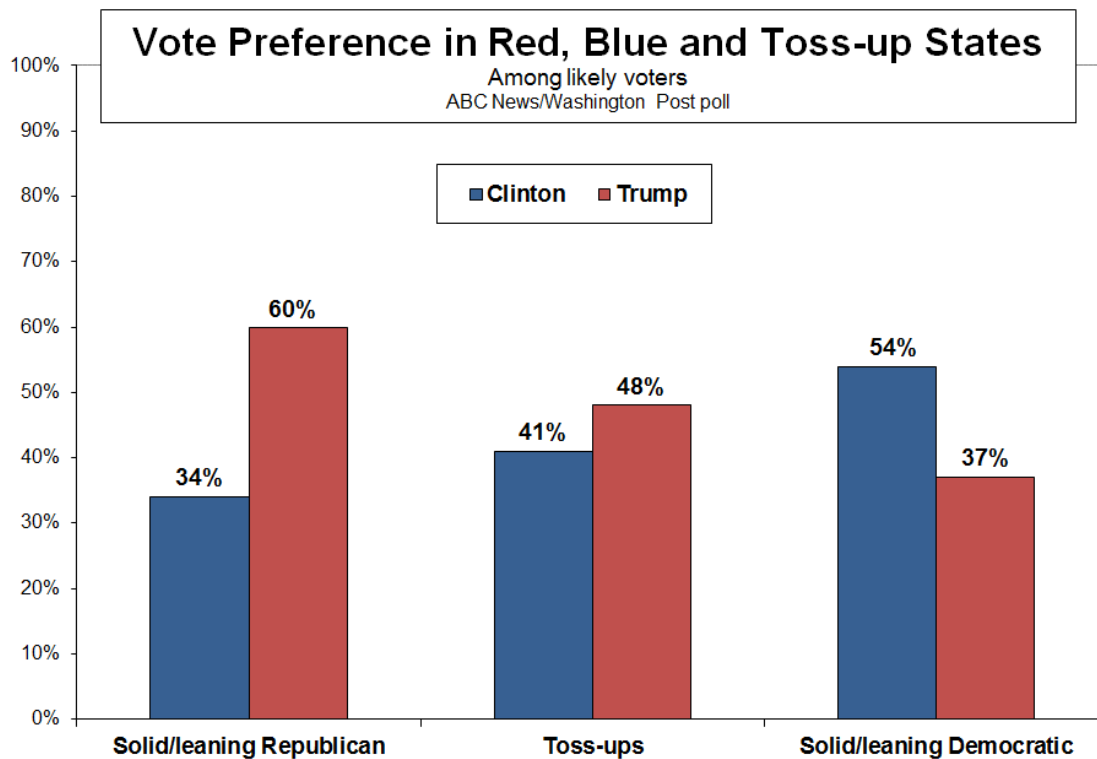
Regardless, then, the results are exceedingly close. That said, Trump’s +1 is a noteworthy result; he’s led Clinton numerically just once before, +2 in late May (among registered voters in a 2-way test), after he clinched the GOP nomination while Clinton’s duel with Bernie Sanders in the Democratic race continued.

As close as the election is, vote preference results a week out are not necessarily predictive of the final result. Mitt Romney was +1 vs. Barack Obama in comparable tracking poll results in 2012, for example, and John Kerry was +1 vs. George Bush a week out in 2004.

	ABC and ABC/Post tracking poll		Actual vote
	One week out	Final estimate	
2016 Clinton-Trump	45-46%	NA	NA
2012 Obama-Romney	48-49	50-47	51-47
2008 Obama-McCain	52-45	53-44	53-46
2004 Kerry-Bush	49-48	48-49	48-51
2000 Gore-Bush	45-48	45-48	48-48
1996 Clinton-Dole	54-35	51-39	49-41
1992 Clinton-Bush	41-34	44-37	43-37

RED/BLUE – Another look at the data divides the last seven nights of tracking results into red, blue and toss-up states, as designated by the ABC News Political Unit. The results:

- In states considered to be strongly for Trump or leaning toward him (with a total of 180 electoral college votes), he leads Clinton by a broad 60-34 percent.
- In blue states (with 278 electoral votes), Clinton leads, 54-37 percent.
- In the five ABC-designated toss-up states (with 80 electoral votes), Arizona, Florida, North Carolina, Ohio and Utah, voters split 41-48 percent, Clinton-Trump. That's not a significant difference given the 5.5-point error margin at this sample size.



EARLY BIRDS – Clinton's support rests in part on early voting: A fifth of those identified as likely voters (21 percent) say they've in fact already voted. While the sample isn't large (thus an error margin of +/-7 percentage points), they divide by 55-39 percent, Clinton-Trump.

That said, early voting estimates can change, given state-level rules, turnout and sampling variability. Early voting estimates in the 2012 ABC/Post tracking poll ranged from +17 for Obama to +4 for Romney in four-night averages, settling at +3 for Obama.

The latest results, while steady for seven nights, reflect a sharp turnaround from a large Clinton lead in the first four nights of tracking, after a particularly difficult news cycle for Trump.

Among other factors, there's been consolidation for Trump among Republicans and GOP-leaning independents (86 percent now back him, up from 80 percent) and improvement for him among pure independents (i.e., those who don't lean toward either party), up from an even split to a large Trump advantage, 25-54 percent, Clinton-Trump, across the past seven nights (combined for a larger samples size). Seventeen percent of pure independents pick someone else.

Among Democrats and Democratic leaners, meanwhile, Trump's support has gone from 5 to 9 percent, a slight change but a statistically significant one. Clinton's has been essentially steady.

PARTY ID – The race is close even though self-identified Democrats outnumber Republicans among likely voters by 10 points, 38 to 28 percent. There are three reasons: One, this narrows to a 5-point gap, 48-43 percent, including independents who lean toward one party or the other.

The second is Trump's advantage among pure independents, as noted – even though they account for just 7 percent of all likely voters. And the third is the fact that Trump wins 9 percent of Democrats and Democratic leaners, while Clinton's supported by 6 percent of Republicans and those who lean toward the GOP – another slight difference, and not statistically significant. But in contests this close, small differences add up.

Vote preference results are essentially identical in 23 likely voter models produced for diagnostic purposes, with turnout estimates ranging from 43 to 81 percent of the voting-age population. Seventeen of the individual models produce a 45-46 percent Clinton-Trump race, as does the average of all 23.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by landline and cellular telephone Oct. 27-30, 2016, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 1,128 likely voters. Results have a margin of [sampling error](#) of 3 points, including the design effect. Partisan divisions are 38-28-29 percent, Democrats-Republicans-independents.

Q5a and Q5b were asked Oct. 28-30, among 388 and 397 Clinton and Trump supporters, respectively; they both have 5.5-point error margins.

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://abcnews.com/pollingunit>.

Media contacts: [Heather Riley](#) or [Julie Townsend](#) .

Full results follow.

*= less than 0.5 percent

1. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) 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
10/30/16	LV	94	66	28	6	3	2	*
10/29/16	LV	95	68	27	5	3	2	*
10/28/16	LV	94	66	29	5	3	2	*
10/27/16	LV	94	66	28	6	3	3	*
10/26/16	LV	93	64	29	7	4	3	*
10/25/16	LV	92	62	30	7	5	3	*
10/24/16	LV	93	65	28	7	4	2	*
10/23/16	LV	94	66	28	6	4	2	*
10/22/16	LV	94	71	23	6	4	2	*
10/13/16	LV	94	66	28	5	4	1	1
9/22/16	LV	92	60	32	8	5	3	*
9/8/16	LV	92	59	33	8	5	3	*
1/24/16	RV	84	39	45	16	10	6	*
11/19/15		75	30	45	25	13	12	*

Call for full trend.

2. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) I'd like you to rate the chances that you will vote in the presidential election in November: Are you absolutely certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or less than that?

		Certain	Probably	Chances	Less than	Don't think	Already	No
		to vote	vote	50/50	that	will vote	voted	op.
						(vol.)	(vol.)	
10/30/16	RV	72	5	4	3	1	15	0
10/29/16	RV	73	6	4	3	1	14	0
10/28/16	RV	76	5	4	3	1	11	0
10/27/16	RV	77	6	4	3	1	9	*
10/26/16	RV	78	6	4	3	*	8	*
10/25/16	RV	79	6	5	3	*	6	*
10/24/16	RV	78	7	5	4	1	5	*
10/23/16	RV	79	7	5	3	1	5	*
10/22/16	RV	80	7	5	2	1	5	*
10/13/16	RV	85	6	5	3	1	1	0
9/22/16	RV	83	7	6	3	*	0	*
9/8/16	RV	81	8	6	5	1	NA	*
8/4/16	RV	81	8	6	4	1	NA	*
7/14/16	RV	79	10	5	3	1	NA	1
6/23/16	RV	79	8	7	4	2	NA	*
5/19/16	RV	80	9	5	3	2	NA	*

Call for full trend.

2a. (IF CERTAIN TO VOTE) Do you think you'll (vote in person at your polling place on Election Day), or (vote before Election Day by early voting or mail-in ballot)?*

		Vote	Early voting/	Already	No opinion
		in person	mail-in ballot	voted (vol.)	
10/30/16	LV	53	24	21	1

*Includes those who volunteered they already voted in Q2.

3. (IF REGISTERED TO VOTE) If the presidential election were being held today and the candidates were [(Hillary Clinton and Tim Kaine, the Democrats), (Donald Trump and Mike Pence, the Republicans)], [(Gary Johnson and Bill Weld of the Libertarian Party) and (Jill Stein and Ajamu Baraka of the Green Party)], for whom would you vote? Would

you lean toward [(Clinton and Kaine), (Trump and Pence)], [(Johnson and Weld) or (Stein and Baraka)]? (IF ALREADY VOTED) Confidentially and for statistical purposes only, did you vote for...?

NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE - LIKELY VOTERS

	Hillary Clinton	Donald Trump	Gary Johnson	Jill Stein	Other (vol.)	None of these (vol.)	Would not vote (vol.)	No opinion
10/30/16	45	46	3	2	*	2	0	2
10/29/16	46	45	4	2	1	1	0	2
10/28/16	46	45	4	2	1	1	0	2
10/27/16	47	45	4	2	1	1	0	2
10/26/16	48	44	4	1	*	1	0	2
10/25/16	48	42	5	1	*	1	0	2
10/24/16	49	40	5	2	*	2	0	2
10/23/16	50	38	5	2	1	2	0	2
10/22/16	50	38	5	2	1	2	0	2
10/13/16	47	43	5	2	*	1	0	2
9/22/16	46	44	5	1	*	1	0	3
9/8/16	46	41	9	2	1	1	0	1
8/4/16	47	39	7	3	1	1	*	2
7/14/16	45	39	8	3	1	1	*	2
6/23/16	48	39	6	3	1	1	*	2

4. (IF NAMED CLINTON OR TRUMP) Would you say you are very enthusiastic about supporting (Clinton/Trump), somewhat enthusiastic, not so enthusiastic, or not enthusiastic at all?

	NET	--- Enthusiastic --- Very	--- Enthusiastic --- Somewhat	NET	--- Not enthusiastic --- Not so	--- Not enthusiastic --- Not at all	No opinion
Clinton:							
10/30/16 LV	82	45	37	18	11	7	*
10/24/16 LV	85	48	37	14	8	6	*
10/23/16 LV	86	49	37	14	8	6	*
10/22/16 LV	87	52	35	13	7	5	*
10/13/16 LV	83	43	40	16	9	7	1
9/22/16 LV	81	46	35	18	10	8	1
9/8/16 LV	82	36	46	18	12	6	0
Trump:							
10/30/16 LV	85	53	32	15	10	5	*
10/24/16 LV	83	50	33	17	9	7	*
10/23/16 LV	83	50	33	16	10	6	*
10/22/16 LV	83	49	34	17	11	6	0
10/13/16 LV	79	47	32	21	12	9	*
9/22/16 LV	91	55	36	8	5	3	1
9/8/16 LV	85	48	37	15	10	4	*

Call for full trend.

5. (IF NOT CLINTON OR TRUMP) If the only candidates were (Hillary Clinton and Tim Kaine, the Democrats) and (Donald Trump and Mike Pence, the Republicans), for whom would you vote? Would you lean toward (Clinton and Kaine) or toward (Trump and Pence)?

NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE - LIKELY VOTERS

	Clinton	Trump	Other (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	Would not vote (vol.)	No opinion
10/30/16	48	47	1	1	1	1
10/29/16	49	47	1	1	1	1

10/28/16	49	46	1	2	1	1
10/27/16	49	46	1	2	1	1
10/26/16	50	45	1	1	1	2
10/25/16	51	44	1	2	1	1
10/24/16	51	43	*	2	2	1
10/23/16	53	41	1	3	2	1
10/22/16	53	42	1	3	1	1
10/13/16	50	46	*	2	1	1
9/22/16	49	47	*	1	2	1
9/8/16*	51	43	*	3	1	1
8/4/16**	51	44	1	2	0	1
7/14/16***	50	43	1	5	0	2
6/23/16	52	41	2	4	0	1
5/19/16	46	49	2	3	0	*

*9/8/16 and later Results based on total sample. Respondents who named Clinton or Trump in Q3 assigned to initial preference.

**8/4/16 and earlier: If the presidential election were being held today and the candidates were (Hillary Clinton and Tim Kaine, the Democrats) and (Donald Trump and Mike Pence, the Republicans), for whom would you vote? Would you lean toward (Clinton and Kaine) or toward (Trump and Pence)?

***7/14/16 and prior: "Hillary Clinton, the Democrat" and "Donald Trump, the Republican."

6. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Regardless of whom you support, who do you expect to win the election for president? (IF NAMED CLINTON/TRUMP) Do you think (she/he will win easily), or do you think (it will be close)?

	Expect Clinton will win			Expect Trump will win			Other	No
	NET	Easily	Close	NET	Close	Easily	(vol.)	opinion
10/30/16 LV	56	23	34	31	21	10	*	12
10/29/16 LV	57	25	33	31	21	10	*	11
10/28/16 LV	60	26	33	29	20	9	*	11
10/27/16 LV	59	27	33	30	21	9	*	10
10/26/16 LV	59	27	32	30	21	9	*	10
9/8/16 LV	57	19	37	29	23	6	1	12
5/19/16	50	NA	NA	40	NA	NA	1	9
3/6/16	59			36			1	4
1/24/16	54	"	"	42	"	"	1	3

*** END ***