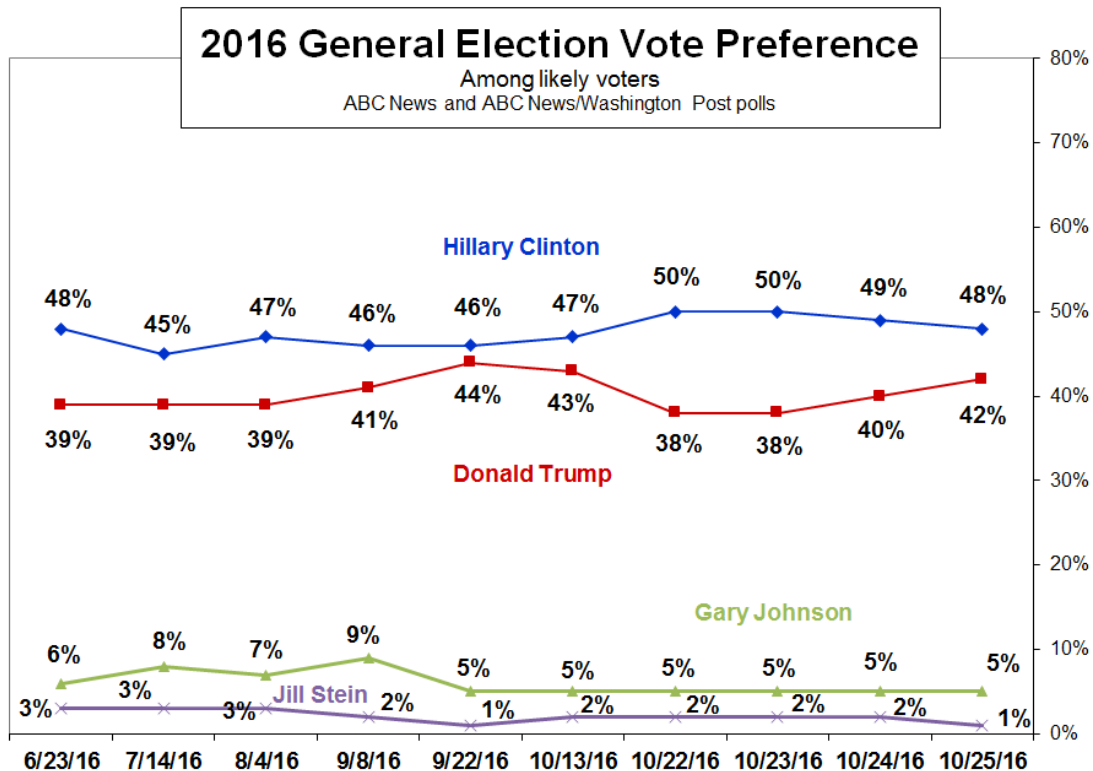


## Slight Shifts in Intention Aid Trump Amid Anxiety about Both Candidates

With his latest controversies abating in intensity, Donald Trump’s supporters are ramping up their intention to vote, edging him closer to Hillary Clinton. And anxiety about a Trump presidency, while high, is off its peak – now rivalled by discomfort with Clinton.

Sixty-one percent of likely voters say they’re anxious about the possibility of Trump as president, with nearly half “very” anxious. But that’s down from 68 percent in June, and anxiety about Clinton has moved the other way, up 5 points to 56 percent in this ABC News/Washington Post tracking poll.

In a four-day average of interviews, 48 percent of likely voters say they’d support Clinton if the election were today, while 42 percent pick Trump, compared to 49-40 percent yesterday and 50-38 percent Tuesday. Gary Johnson has 5 percent support, Jill Stein 1 percent.



The poll was produced for ABC News by [Langer Research Associates](#). The first five nights of tracking were by ABC only; as of this report, The Washington Post has joined the tracking poll, which is based on a rolling average of nightly interviews.

The Clinton and Trump changes in the latest results are slight, -2 and +4 points, and not statistically significant. That said, the last two nights have been better for Trump, a result that aligns with events: Interviews last Thursday to Sunday immediately followed peak controversy over his treatment of women, his refusal to say where he'd accept the outcome if Clinton won and the final debate, in which most say Clinton prevailed. Some of the heat has abated since.

Additionally, and typically at this stage, the results are chiefly about turnout. Voter attitudes haven't changed; intention to vote has. It ebbed among Republicans in the first days of the tracking poll, perhaps reflecting heightened criticism of Trump. The latest results find more Republicans, and somewhat fewer Democratic-leaning independents, saying they'll vote. That underscores the critical importance of get-out-the-vote efforts by both campaigns in the final two weeks.

As reported Sunday, the share of Republicans who are likely to vote dropped by seven points from mid-October. In the nights since, Republicans have halfway recovered from this turnout drop as the news cycle has moved beyond the final debate. They accounted for 27 percent of likely voters in the first three nights of tracking, vs. 31 percent in the last two. (The share of Democrats has been steady, 36 percent.)

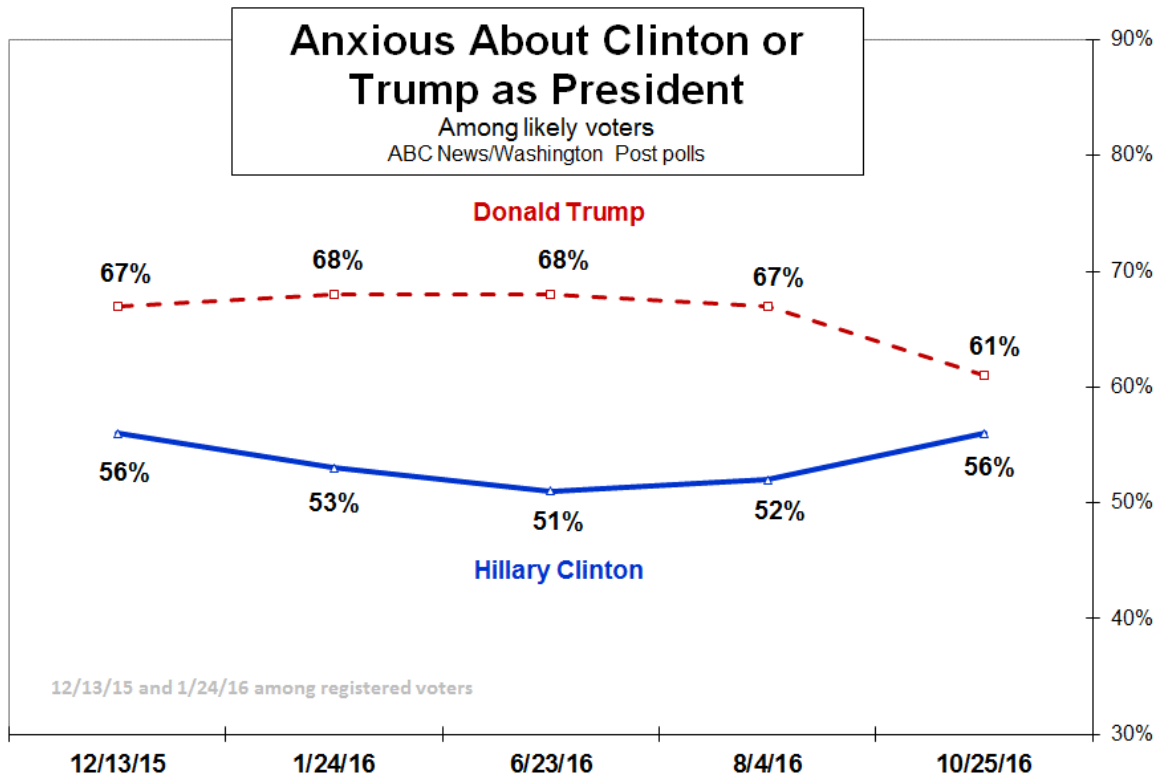
At the same time, the share of independent likely voters who lean to one of the parties has shifted: Among independents, 38 percent were Democratic leaners in the first three nights of tracking, vs. 28 percent in the last two. Vote preferences among all independents have followed suit, from an 8-point advantage for Clinton during the first three nights of tracking to a 5-point deficit in the latest full tracking (four-night) results.

Democratic-leaning independents were a key support group for Bernie Sanders. In mid-October, 72 percent of them were likely to vote, vs. 66 percent now. While this 6-point difference doesn't reach statistical significance given the sample size, it is a group to watch in the next two weeks.

**HIGH ANXIETY** – Results on anxiety demonstrate the sharp polarization in the race. Among Clinton supporters, nearly all – 93 percent – say the idea of a Trump presidency makes them anxious, and 84 percent say it makes them very anxious. The opposite is true among Trump supporters: Ninety percent are anxious about Clinton as president, 76 percent highly so.

Other differences also are telling. Women are 12 points more apt than men to be comfortable with Clinton as president; men are 13 points more likely than women to be comfortable with Trump. Compared with non-graduates, college graduates are 14 points more anxious about Trump and 12 points less anxious about Clinton. Anxiety about Clinton reaches 64 percent among whites, vs. 38 percent of nonwhites. For Trump, it's 55 percent among whites, and 76 percent among nonwhites.

There are five groups in which majorities say they're comfortable, rather than anxious, about one or the other of the candidates as president. For Trump: evangelical white Protestants (65 percent), Republicans (65 percent), conservatives (62 percent), white men who don't have college degrees (59 percent) and rural residents (58 percent). For Clinton: Democrats (75 percent), liberals (71 percent), nonwhites (60 percent), the non-religious (57 percent) and urban dwellers (53 percent).



There's not insubstantial concern within their own houses. A fifth of Clinton's own supporters, and a quarter of Democrats, are anxious about her as president. A quarter of Trump's supporters, and three in 10 Republicans, have anxiety about him.

	Clinton as president		Trump as president	
	Anxious	Comfortable	Anxious	Comfortable
All	56%	42	61%	36
Women	52	47	67	30
Men	62	35	54	43
Whites	64	34	55	43
Nonwhites	38	60	76	20
College grads	49	50	70	30
Non-grads	61	36	56	40

In terms of change from June, anxiety about Trump eased by 13 points among Republicans, 10 points among conservatives and 8 points among moderates. Anxiety about Clinton has increased by 11 points among likely voters who don't have a four-year college degree, 10 points among men and 8 points among conservatives and independents alike.

VOTE GROUPS – Vote preferences among groups have been generally stable; as noted, it's intention to vote that's been shifting slightly. Clinton leads by 53-37 percent among women, while it's 43-47 percent, Clinton-Trump, among men; that 20-point gender gap is nearly double the average in presidential elections since 1976.

One difference from past elections is nonwhites overall: Trump's support in this group, 20 percent, is typical for a Republican, while Clinton's, 68 percent, is lower than typical for a Democrat. Barack Obama won 80 and 82 percent of nonwhites in his two elections, and the average since 1976 is 78 percent.

Clinton's winning 88 percent of blacks and 65 percent of Hispanics, both essentially matching the average for Democratic presidential candidates. The difference, then, is nonwhites who aren't black or Hispanic; about a quarter of all nonwhites, they're splitting evenly between Clinton and Trump, 42-42 percent. It's a group that voted 66-31 percent for Obama, per the 2012 exit poll.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by landline and cellular telephone Oct. 22-25, 2016, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 1,135 likely voters. Results have a margin of [sampling error](#) of 3 points, including the design effect. Partisan divisions are 36-29-29 percent, Democrats-Republicans-independents.

Q5 was asked Oct. 24-25 among 638 likely voters; those results have a 4.5-point error margin.

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](#).

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ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com at <http://abcnews.com/pollingunit>.

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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 opinion
	NET	Very	Smwt	NET	Not so	At all	
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 to vote	Probably vote	Chances 50/50	Less than that	Don't think will vote (vol.)	Already voted (vol.)	No op.	
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.

3. (IF CERTAIN 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
10/25/16	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 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
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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."

5. (ASKED OF LIKELY VOTERS) Thinking about [ITEM] as president - are you comfortable with this, or does it make you anxious? Would you say you are very comfortable with/anxious about the idea of [ITEM] as president, or somewhat comfortable with/anxious about it?

10/25/16 - Summary Table

	---- Comfortable ----			----- Anxious -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	opinion
a. Hillary Clinton	42	29	13	56	17	40	2
b. Donald Trump	36	22	15	61	14	47	3

Trend:

a. Hillary Clinton

	---- Comfortable ----			----- Anxious -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	opinion
10/25/16 LV	42	29	13	56	17	40	2
8/4/16 LV	46	31	15	52	14	39	1
6/23/16 LV	47	31	16	51	12	38	3
1/24/16 RV	46	29	16	53	14	39	2
12/13/15 RV	42	25	17	56	17	39	2

b. Donald Trump

	---- Comfortable ----			----- Anxious -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Very	opinion
10/25/16 LV	36	22	15	61	14	47	3
8/4/16 LV	32	19	13	67	18	49	1
6/23/16 LV	30	19	11	68	17	51	2
1/24/16 RV	31	18	13	68	18	50	1
12/13/15 RV	30	16	14	67	20	47	3

\*\*\* END \*\*\*