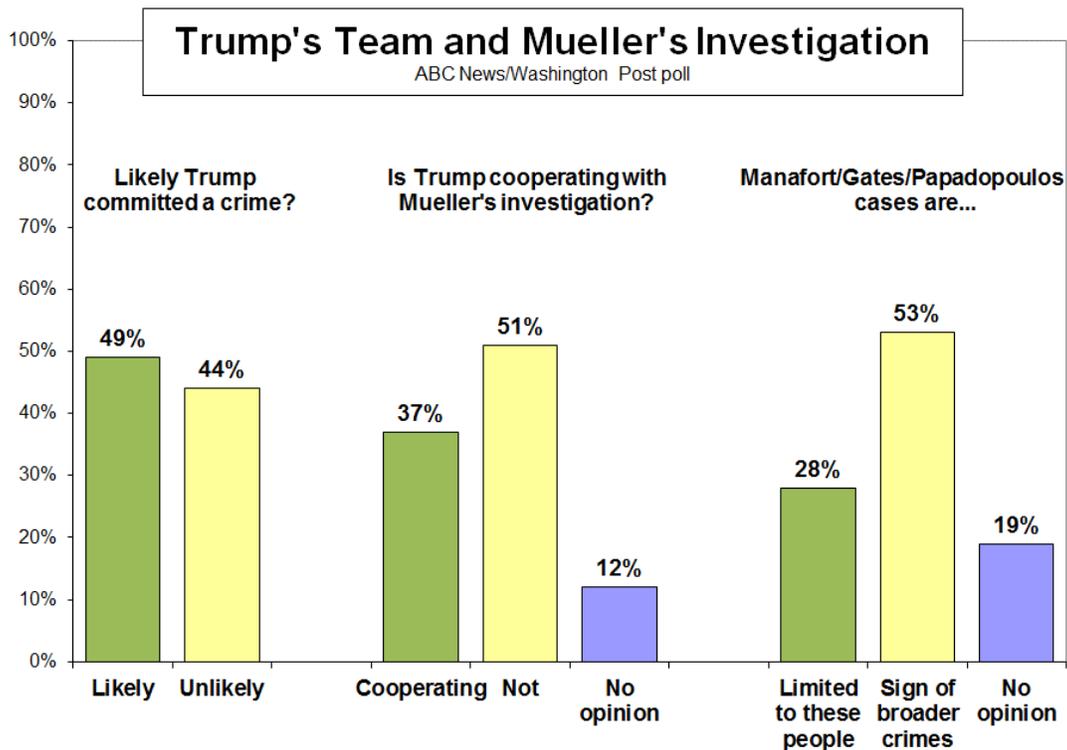


## **Broad Backing for Manafort Charges as Half Suspect Trump of Wrongdoing**

Just three in 10 Americans think that alleged wrongdoing in the 2016 Trump campaign ends with those who were charged this week – and about half in a new ABC News/Washington Post poll suspect that Donald Trump himself broke the law.

The poll finds substantial support for the investigation, with 58 percent approving of how special counsel Robert Mueller is handling it, and more – 68 percent – approving of the filling of federal charges against Trump’s former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, and one of his associates.

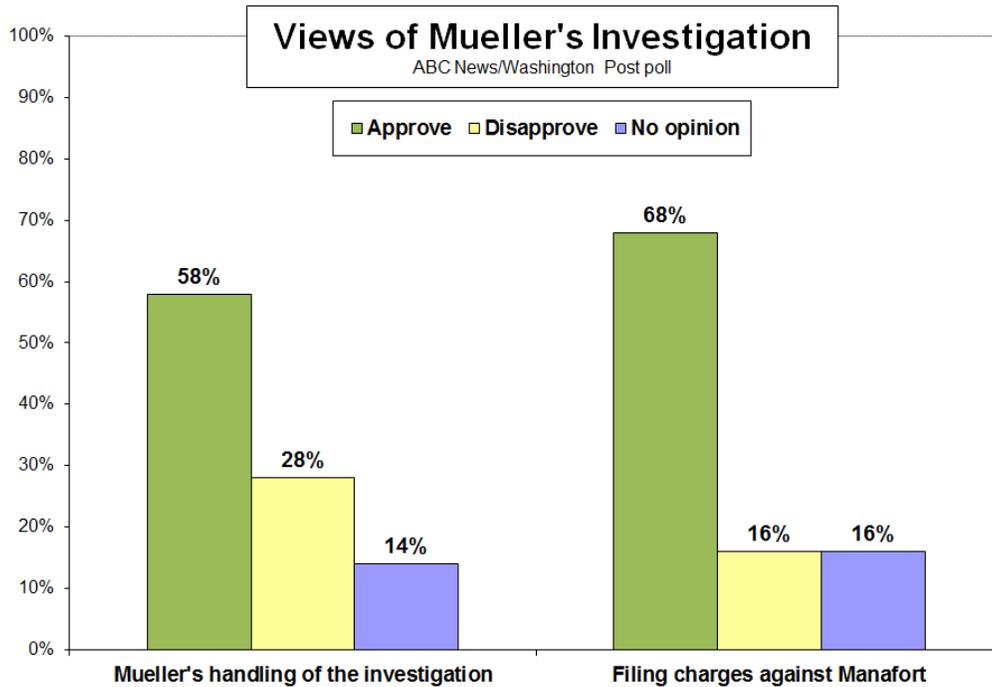


Only 28 percent think the case is limited to Manafort, Richard Gates and a former Trump campaign adviser, George Papadopoulos, who’s pleaded guilty to lying to FBI agents. Fifty-three percent see “broader wrongdoing,” and a substantial 19 percent are withholding judgment.

Moreover, just 37 percent think Trump is cooperating with the investigation; many more, 51 percent, say he’s not cooperating, and another sizable share, 12 percent, have no opinion. And 49 percent of Americans think it’s likely that Trump himself committed a crime in connection with

possible Russian attempts to influence the election. Slightly fewer, 44 percent, call this unlikely.

That said, many fewer, 19 percent, think there's been "solid evidence" of criminal wrongdoing by Trump. Three in 10 in this poll, produced for ABC by [Langer Research Associates](#), instead say it's their suspicion only.



Indeed these views strongly reflect partisan predispositions. Nearly three-quarters of Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents, 73 percent, call it likely that Trump broke the law. Almost the same number of Republicans and GOP-leaning independents, 77 percent, say it's unlikely.

Nonetheless, this leaves substantial numbers within Trump's base – 36 percent of working-class whites, 34 percent of rural Americans and 30 percent of conservatives, for example – who call it likely that he committed a crime related to the 2016 campaign. Again, most in each case call this a suspicion, not a factual judgment.

Trump's core supporters, however, remain overwhelmingly by his side. Among those who voted for him last year, a mere 6 percent suspect him of lawbreaking in the campaign. That soars to 80 percent of Hillary Clinton supporters, reflecting the still-raw divisions of the election. It's 58 percent among those who voted for others, or didn't vote.

Political divisions are a bit less garish, but still profound, on other questions. There's a 40-point gap between Democrats and Republicans in approval of Mueller's handling of the investigation, 78 vs. 38 percent, and a 50-point gap between Clinton and Trump voters, though even a third of Trump voters approve (33 percent, vs. 83 percent of Clinton's).

Three-quarters of Trump voters and two-thirds of Republicans maintain that he's cooperating with Mueller; a mere 15 percent of Clinton voters and 21 percent of Democrats agree (as do just a third of political independents).

That said, there are just two groups in which majorities (both 56 percent) think the case is limited to Manafort, Gates and Papadopoulos – Trump voters and Trump approvers. And partisanship fades on the Manafort/Gates indictment: Fifty-seven percent of Republicans and 54 percent of Trump voters approve of it, numbers that swell by 20 or 30 points, respectively, among their political opposites.

**METHODOLOGY** – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by landline and cellular telephone Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 2017, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 714 adults. Results have a margin of [sampling error](#) of 4 points, including the design effect. Partisan divisions are 32-23-38 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 Associates of Cambridge, Massachusetts. 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.

1-27 held for release.

28. A special counsel at the U.S. Justice Department, Robert Mueller, has been investigating possible ties between Trump's presidential campaign and the Russian government. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Mueller is handling this investigation?

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
11/1/17	58	28	14

29. Do you think Trump is or is not cooperating with Mueller's investigation?

	Is cooperating	Not cooperating	No opinion
11/1/17	37	51	12

Compare to:

Do you think Trump is (cooperating) with investigations of possible Russian influence in the 2016 election, or is (trying to interfere) with those investigations?

	Cooperating	Trying to interfere	No opinion
7/13/17	37	52	12
6/4/17	34	56	10

30. As part of this investigation, a federal grand jury has indicted the former chairman of Trump's presidential campaign, Paul Manafort, and one of his associates on

charges including conspiracy, money laundering and tax evasion. Do you approve or disapprove of these charges being filed against Manafort?

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
11/1/17	68	16	16

31. Separately, another former Trump campaign aide, George Papadopoulos has pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI about his contacts with a professor he thought had ties to the Russian government. Do you think these cases (are limited just to Manafort, his associate and Papadopoulos) or do you think they (represent broader wrongdoing by people involved in Trump's presidential campaign)?

	Limited to Manafort and Papadopoulos	Represents broader wrongdoing	No opinion
11/1/17	28	53	19

32. Do you think it's likely or unlikely that Trump himself committed a crime in connection with possible Russian attempts to influence the election? (IF LIKELY) Do you think there's been solid evidence of that, or is it your suspicion only?

	NET	----- Likely ----- Solid evidence	Suspicion only	Unlikely	No opinion
11/1/17	49	19	30	44	7

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