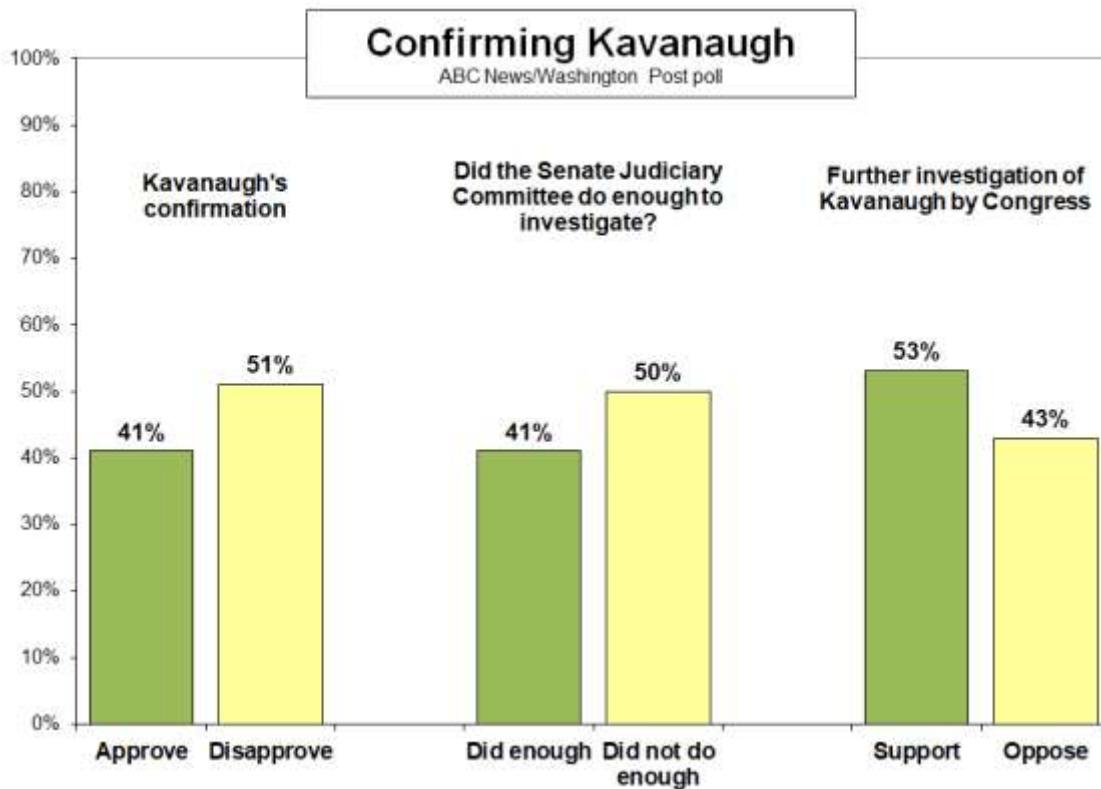


## Women Lead Support for Further Investigation of Kavanaugh

Led by discontent among women, Americans by 51-41 percent disapprove of Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court – and a majority favors further investigation by Congress that could lead to efforts to remove him from office.

Fifty-three percent of Americans support such an investigation, with 43 percent opposed. The gender gap is wide: Men divide on the question by 47-49 percent, support-oppose. Women, by contrast, support a congressional probe by 58-37 percent.



Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., has promised an investigation into sexual misconduct and perjury allegations against Kavanaugh if the Democrats take control of the House in the midterm elections. Nadler is in line to lead the House Judiciary Committee should the Democrats prevail.

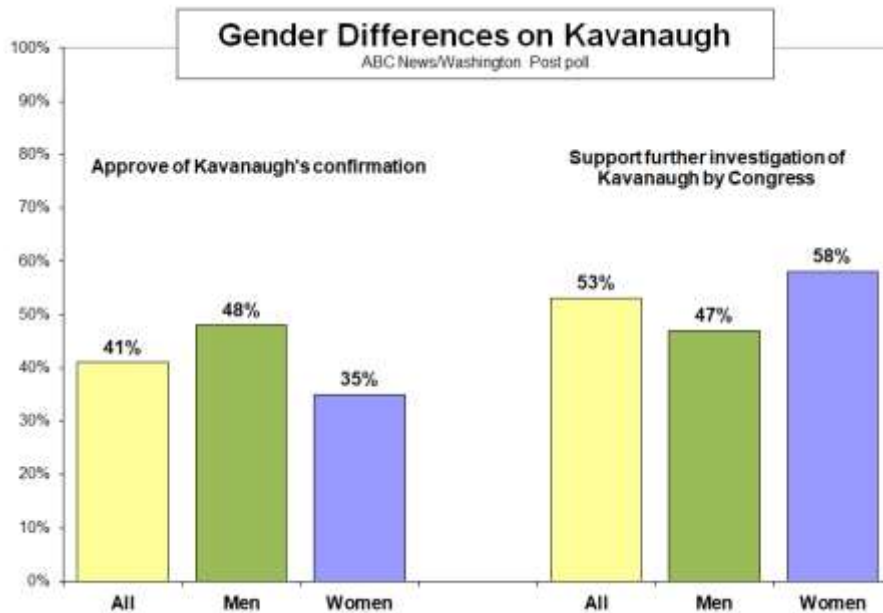
The gender gap is mirrored in views of Kavanaugh’s confirmation and the Senate Judiciary Committee’s handling of the allegations. Men divide about evenly on both, while women disapprove of the confirmation by 58-35 percent and of the committee’s work by 56-38 percent.

	Kavanaugh's confirmation		Judiciary Committee did...		Further investigation	
	Approve	Disapprove	Enough	Not enough	Support	Oppose
All	41%	51	41%	50	53%	43
Men	48	43	44	43	47	49
Women	35	58	38	56	58	37

**POLITICS** – The poll, produced for ABC by [Langer Research Associates](#), finds that vote impacts in the midterms are possible, albeit slightly so. Registered voters say Kavanaugh’s confirmation makes them more apt to support Democratic rather than Republican candidates by a 6-point margin, 33-27 percent, with the rest saying it makes no difference. That said, those more likely to support Democratic candidates generally fit the profile of Democratic voters in the first place, suggesting the confirmation outcome reaffirmed vote preferences rather than altering them.

The poll also finds a substantial sense that Kavanaugh’s presence will lead to more politically motivated rulings from the court – 43 percent say so, vs. just 10 percent who expect politics to play a reduced role in Supreme Court decisions. Of course, this view itself reflects political predispositions: Sixty-four percent of Democrats think Kavanaugh’s presence will lead to a more politicized high court; 45 percent of independents agree, dropping to 18 percent of Republicans.

**GROUPS** – Women not only tilt against Kavanaugh, but do so with more gusto. Forty-nine percent of women strongly disapprove of his confirmation, while just 28 percent strongly approve. Men divide evenly in their strength of sentiment.



Gender gaps are broadest in some groups: Women who describe themselves as politically independent are 20 points more apt than independent men to disapprove of Kavanaugh’s confirmation, 61 vs. 41 percent; it’s similar among women age 18-49 compared with their male counterparts, 64 vs. 45 percent. Additionally, moderate women are 17 points more likely than moderate men to disapprove of the confirmation, 69 vs. 52 percent. There also are slight 8- and 9-point gaps between conservative women and men and liberal women and men.

Support for a further congressional investigation, as noted, is 11 points higher among women than men, 58 vs. 47 percent, and women are 16 points more apt to back it strongly, 49 vs. 33 percent. The gender gap peaks among 18- to 49-year-olds – 70 percent of women in this age group support an investigation, vs. 53 percent of men. That nets to 61 percent support among 18- to 49-year-olds, dropping to 49 percent of Americans age 50-64 and 38 percent of seniors.

Attitudes on all these questions include sharp partisan and ideological differences. Notably, though, about a quarter of conservatives, 27 percent, support further investigation by Congress of the newest Supreme Court member.

**METHODOLOGY** – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by telephone Oct. 8-11, 2018, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 1,144 adults, with 65 percent reached on cell phones and 35 percent on landlines. Results have a margin of [sampling error](#) of 3.5 points for the full sample, including design effects due to weighting. Partisan divisions are 33-26-35 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 Rockville, Md. 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.

1-10 held for release.

11. Do you approve or disapprove of the U.S. Senate's vote to confirm Trump's nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/11/18	41	33	8	51	8	42	8

Compare to: Trump has nominated Brett Kavanaugh to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. Do you think the U.S. Senate should or should not confirm Kavanaugh's nomination to the Supreme Court?

	Should	Should not	No opinion
8/29/18	38	39	23

12. (ASK IF REGISTERED TO VOTE) Does the debate over Kavanaugh's confirmation make you more likely to support (Democratic) candidates in the midterm election, more likely to support (Republican) candidates, or does it make no difference in your vote?

	Democratic candidates	Republican candidates	No difference	No opinion
10/11/18	33	27	39	1

13. With Kavanaugh on the Supreme Court, do you think the court's rulings will be (more) politically motivated than in the past, (less) politically motivated, or will having him on the court make no difference?

	More politically motivated	Less politically motivated	No difference	No opinion
10/11/18	43	10	39	8

14. Do you think the Senate committee handling Kavanaugh's nomination did or did not do enough to investigate allegations that he committed sexual misconduct in high school and college? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	----- Did do enough -----			--- Did not do enough ---			Went too far (vol.)	No op.
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly		
10/11/18	41	31	10	50	10	40	3	6

15. Would you support or oppose further investigation of Kavanaugh by Congress, which could potentially lead to an effort to remove him from the court? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
10/11/18	53	41	12	43	9	34	5

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