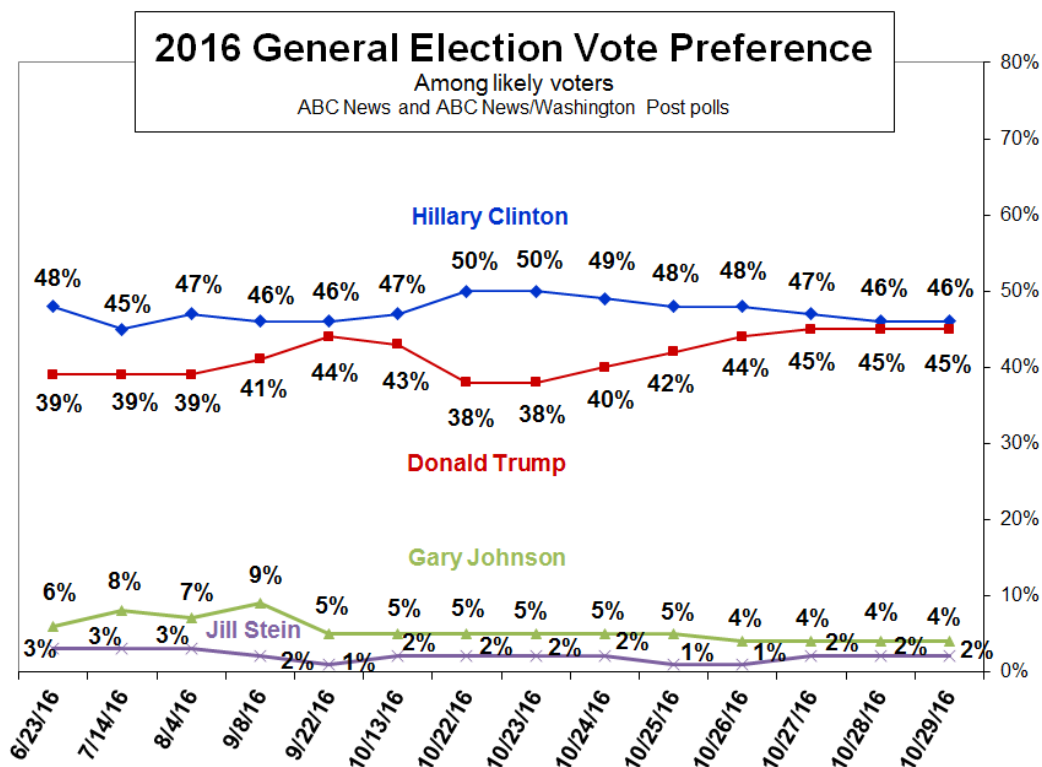


Deep Unfavorability for Clinton, Trump Marks the Election’s Sharp Divisions

Likely voters see Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump equally unfavorably, with a nearly complete partisan split in views of the two – testament both to the unprecedented unpopularity of the candidates and the level of division between their opposing camps.

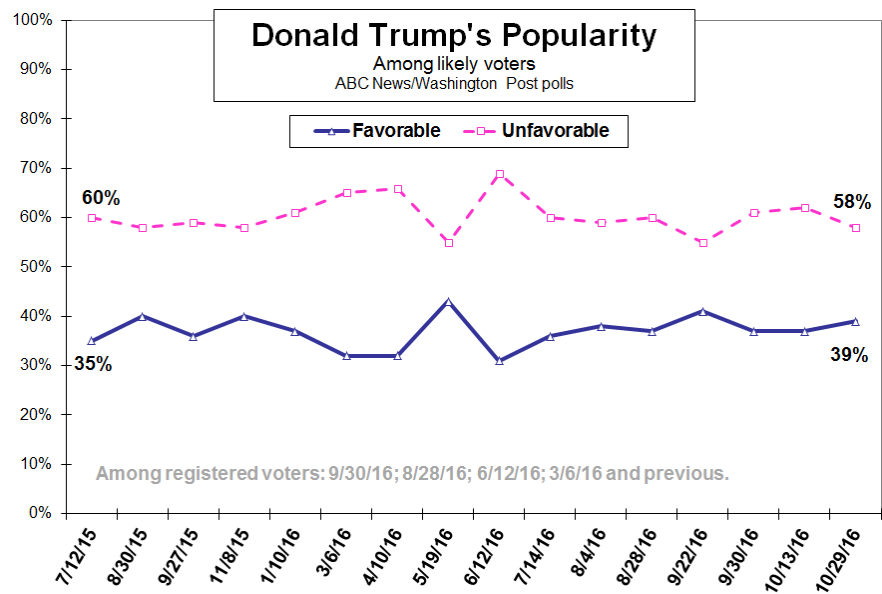
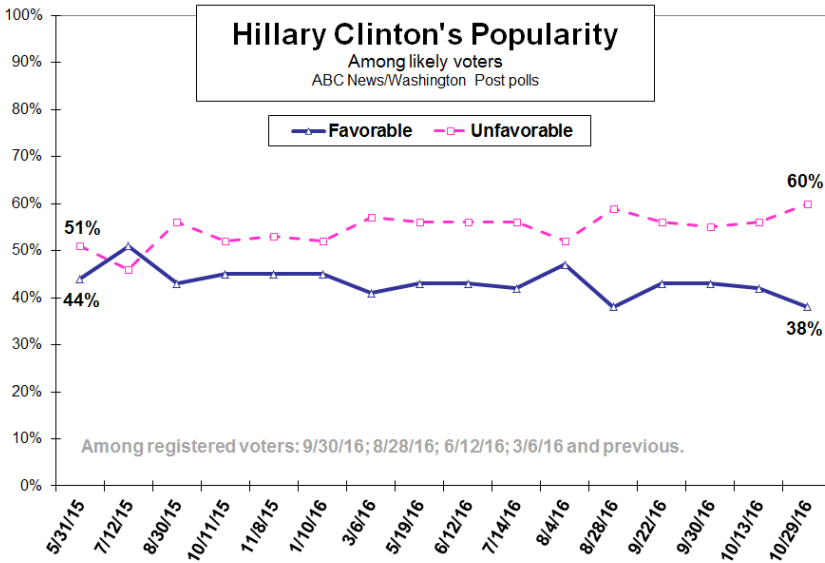
These divisions, and the partisan predispositions that inform them, help explain the close contest, unchanged in the latest ABC News/Washington Post tracking poll at 46-45 percent, Clinton-Trump, with 4 percent for Gary Johnson and 2 percent for Jill Stein.



Clinton is seen unfavorably by 60 percent of likely voters in the latest results, a new high. Trump’s seen unfavorably by essentially as many, 58 percent. Marking the depth of these views, 49 percent see Clinton “strongly” unfavorably, and 48 percent say the same about Trump – unusual levels of strong sentiment.

The extent of partisan antipathy in this poll, produced for ABC by [Langer Research Associates](#), is remarkable: Ninety-seven percent of Trump supporters see Clinton unfavorably; 90 percent,

strongly so. Ninety-five percent of Clinton supporters see Trump unfavorably – again, 90 percent strongly so.



Beneath these results is a possible slip in enthusiasm for Clinton: Using just the last two nights' results – after FBI Director James Comey revealed a further Clinton-related email investigation – 47 percent of her supporters say they're very enthusiastic about her, compared with 51 percent across the previous six nights.

Overall vote preferences haven't changed post-Comey, and the change in strong enthusiasm for Clinton is not statistically significant and could reflect night-to-night variability. Still, it bears watching.

FAVORABILITY COMPARISONS – With six in 10 viewing them unfavorably, Clinton and Trump are the two most unpopular presidential candidates in ABC/Post polls dating to the 1984 election. The previous high in October of an election year was 51 percent for Mitt Romney in 2012 and Walter Mondale in 1984. The high at any point in a campaign cycle was George Bush’s 53 percent, in July 1992.

Ratings of presidential candidates -
highest unfavorable in October of election year

	Favorable-unfavorable		Favorable-unfavorable
Clinton	38-60	Clinton*	58-38
Trump	39-58	Dole*	50-38
Obama	52-46	Clinton	56-36
Romney	47-51	Bush	44-50
Obama	63-34	Bush	54-37
McCain	55-42	Dukakis	44-43
Kerry	47-45	Reagan	59-37
Bush	49-46	Mondale	40-51
Gore	44-37	*September	
Bush	46-34		

Notable, too, is that just 36 percent saw Romney “strongly” unfavorably, vs. 49 and 48 percent, respectively, for Clinton and Trump. In available data, strong unfavorability for these candidates, like unfavorability overall, is at record highs.

Comparisons to the past two elections underscore the level of strong antipathy toward this year’s candidates. In 2012, about nine in 10 Obama and Romney supporters saw the opposing candidate unfavorably, just short of the levels today. But they were substantially less likely – by 16 or 20 percentage points – to feel strongly about it.

The difference from 2008 is even more striking. Likely voters then were 20 to 25 points less apt than now to see the opposing candidate unfavorably, and a vast 33 points less likely to do so strongly.

Among:	Unfavorable views of the opposing candidate	
	Overall	Strongly
Clinton supporters	95%	90%
Trump supporters	97	90
Obama supporters ('12)	87	70
Romney supporters	91	74
Obama supporters ('08)	75	57
McCain supporters	72	57

As with vote preferences, there are sharp differences among groups in favorable views of the candidates. Sixty-seven percent of whites see Clinton unfavorably, 56 percent strongly so, compared to 53 and 42 percent, respectively, for Trump. Clinton’s unfavorable rating is 13 points higher among men than among women, and soars to 79 percent (70 percent strongly unfavorable) among white men who lack a college degree.

In contrast, 59 percent of nonwhites see Clinton favorably, vs. 22 percent for Trump.

	Favorable-unfavorable		Strongly favorable-unfavorable	
	Clinton	Trump	Clinton	Trump
All	38-60%	39-58	20-49%	21-48
Men	32-67	42-54	16-56	22-42
Women	43-54	35-61	24-42	21-53
Whites	31-67	44-53	15-56	24-42
Nonwhites	59-37	22-73	34-27	15-66
White men	24-75	46-51	10-63	23-38
White women	36-61	43-55	19-50	24-46
College graduates	44-54	27-70	25-41	13-59
Non-grads	34-63	45-51	17-53	26-41
White men, no college degree	20-79	55-42	7-70	32-31
White women, college degree	48-48	27-72	30-38	15-62

PARTISANSHIP and PREFERENCE – Vote preferences between the two candidates have been very stable, and virtually even, the last six nights running – a sharp difference from a large Clinton lead in the first four nights, immediately following a period of peak controversy for Trump.

Consolidation for Trump within his own party has been one part of the dynamic; he’s gone from a low of 82 percent support among Republicans early in the tracking period to 89 percent now, his high. Clinton, meanwhile has gone from a high of 90 percent support among Democrats to 87 percent now – not a significant change, but a low in the latest four-night result.

The latest results mark the first time in tracking that Trump has had numerically higher support among Republicans than Clinton’s among Democrats, 89 vs. 87 percent. The 2-point difference is not close to statistically significant, but another result to follow in the days ahead.

Adding in ideology, the tracking poll shows Clinton going from 95 percent support among liberal Democrats early in the tracking poll to 88 percent now, while Trump’s gone from 89 percent among conservative Republicans to 94 percent now.

Independents – sometimes swing voters in past elections, albeit inconsistently – also merit attention. They’ve gone from a scant 6 points in Clinton’s favor in the first four nights of tracking, 44-38 percent, to a substantial Trump lead now, 34-51 percent, Clinton-Trump.

A key element here is the partisan preferences of independents who emerge as likely to vote: They were 2 points more likely to lean toward the Republican Party rather than the Democratic Party at the start of tracking, but are 10 points more apt to do so now.

GROUPS – Young voters (age 18 to 29) were a central element of the Obama coalition; he won them by a record 34-point margin in 2008 and by 23 points in 2012. Today, though, preferences among young voters have contracted from 56-21 percent in Clinton’s favor in early tracking to 48-35 percent now.

Again shifts in partisan turnout are a factor. At the start of tracking, the share of Democrats among young likely voters exceeded the share of Republicans by 26 points. Today the gap has narrowed to half that.

Another element is the extent to which young likely voters prefer to support third-party candidates: Sixteen percent currently do so, vs. 6 percent of older likely voters.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by landline and cellular telephone Oct. 26-29, 2016, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 1,165 likely voters. Results have a margin of [sampling error](#) of 3 points, including the design effect. Partisan divisions are 37-27-30 percent, Democrats-Republicans-independents.

Q7 was asked Oct. 27-29 among 935 likely voters; those results have a 3.5-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](#).

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
10/29/16 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 to vote	Probably vote	Chances 50/50	Less than that	Don't think will vote (vol.)	Already voted (vol.)	No op.	
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.

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
10/29/16	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?

		--- Enthusiastic ----			--- Not enthusiastic ----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion	
Clinton:								
10/29/16 LV	83	50	33	16	11	6	1	
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:								
10/29/16 LV	84	52	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
10/29/16	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
10/29/16	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

7. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Overall, do you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of [ITEM]? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

10/29/16 - Summary Table

LIKELY VOTERS

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
a. Hillary Clinton	38	20	18	60	11	49	2
b. Donald Trump	39	21	17	58	10	48	3

REGISTERED VOTERS

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
a. Hillary Clinton	38	19	18	59	12	47	4
b. Donald Trump	37	19	18	59	11	47	4

Trend:

a. Hillary Clinton

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No	
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion	
10/29/16	LV	38	20	18	60	11	49	2
10/29/16	RV	38	19	18	59	12	47	4
10/13/16		43	21	21	53	13	40	4
9/30/16		45	26	20	53	11	42	2
9/22/16		41	21	20	55	14	42	4
8/28/16		41	20	22	56	15	40	3
8/4/16		48	28	20	50	7	42	2
7/14/16		42	21	21	54	11	44	4
6/12/16		43	25	18	55	16	39	2
5/19/16		44	22	22	53	12	41	3
3/6/16		46	24	22	52	11	41	2
1/10/16		48	24	24	49	13	36	3
11/8/15		46	23	24	51	13	38	3
10/11/15		47	20	26	49	14	35	5
8/30/15		45	21	24	53	14	39	2
7/12/15		52	25	26	45	14	30	4
5/31/15		45	24	21	49	10	39	6
3/29/15		49	30	20	46	11	35	4

Call for full trend.

b. Donald Trump

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/29/16 LV	39	21	17	58	10	48	3
10/29/16 RV	37	19	18	59	11	47	4
10/13/16	31	17	14	66	11	54	4
9/30/16	34	18	17	64	13	51	2
9/22/16	35	18	17	59	14	45	6
8/28/16	35	16	18	63	16	47	3
8/4/16	34	16	18	63	11	52	3
7/14/16	31	15	16	64	13	52	4
6/12/16	29	15	14	70	14	56	1
5/19/16	37	18	19	60	11	49	3
4/10/16	31	14	17	67	14	53	2
3/6/16	30	15	14	67	11	56	3
1/10/16	35	17	18	62	14	48	3
11/8/15	38	16	23	59	13	46	3
9/27/15	35	14	21	60	19	41	5
8/30/15	37	16	21	59	16	43	4
7/12/15	33	14	19	61	16	45	6
5/31/15	16	7	9	71	16	55	13
12/18/11	40	12	29	48	21	27	12
1/16/00*	20	NA	NA	70	NA	NA	11
10/31/99*	18	"	"	70	"	"	12

* "Regardless of how you might vote, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of Donald Trump, or perhaps you don't know enough to say."

*** END ***