

# UnderStandingAmericaStudy

UAS 156: 2018 MIDTERM PRE-ELECTION TRACKING POLL 2 OF 3 (OCTOBER  
21-27)



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Fielded October 21, 2018 - October 27, 2018

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

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This UAS panel survey, titled "UAS 156: 2018 Midterm Pre-Election tracking poll 2 of 3 (October 21-27)" is the second week of the three-week tracking poll. It focuses on voting in the midterm election and issues of relevance to that election. This survey is no longer in the field. Respondents were paid \$3 to complete the survey.

Note: A summary of all UAS midterm polls and their documentation is provided on the Start of section **Approval**

**introduction2** (Section Poll)

*Thank you for agreeing to participate in the UAS pre-election tracking poll! We appreciate your weekly participation. The first questions ask about how you feel about some people currently in the news.*

*/\* The answer options in ap\_001 and ap\_002 are presented in random order per ap\_answer\_randomizer variable:*

- o 1: Disapprove strongly to approve strongly*
- o 2: Approve strongly to disapprove strongly*

*\*/*

**IF ap\_answer\_randomizer = EMPTY THEN**

| ap\_answer\_randomizer := mt\_rand(1,2)

**END OF IF**

*/\* The questions ap\_001 and ap\_002 are asked in random order per ap\_question\_randomizer variable:*

- o 1: Trump, then Pelosi*
- o 2: Pelosi, then Trump*

*\*/*

**IF ap\_question\_order = EMPTY THEN**

| ap\_question\_order := mt\_rand(1,2)

**END OF IF**

**IF ap\_answer\_randomizer = 1 THEN**

| ap\_answer\_order(1) := 1

| ap\_answer\_order(2) := 2

| ap\_answer\_order(3) := 3

```
ap_answer_order(4) := 4  
ap_answer_order(5) := 5
```

**ELSE**

```
ap_answer_order(1) := 4  
ap_answer_order(2) := 3  
ap_answer_order(3) := 2  
ap_answer_order(4) := 1  
ap_answer_order(5) := 5
```

**END OF IF**

Fill code of question FL\_approve executed

**IF ap\_question\_order = 1 THEN**

**ap\_001** (trump job approval in section Approval)

Do you (disapprove) or (approve) of the job being done by Donald Trump as president of the United States?

- 1 Disapprove strongly
- 2 Disapprove somewhat
- 3 Approve somewhat
- 4 Approve strongly
- 5 Neither approve nor disapprove

**ap\_002** (pelosi job approval in section Approval)

Do you (disapprove) or (approve) of the job being done by Nancy Pelosi, as minority leader of the U.S. House of Representatives?

- 1 Disapprove strongly
- 2 Disapprove somewhat
- 3 Approve somewhat
- 4 Approve strongly
- 5 Neither approve nor disapprove

**ELSE**

**ap\_002** (pelosi job approval in section Approval)

Do you (disapprove) or (approve) of the job being done by Nancy Pelosi, as minority leader of the U.S. House of Representatives?

- 1 Disapprove strongly
- 2 Disapprove somewhat
- 3 Approve somewhat
- 4 Approve strongly
- 5 Neither approve nor disapprove

**ap\_001** (trump job approval in section Approval)

Do you (disapprove) or (approve) of the job being done by Donald Trump as president of the United States?

- 1 Disapprove strongly

- 2 Disapprove somewhat
- 3 Approve somewhat
- 4 Approve strongly
- 5 Neither approve nor disapprove

END OF IF

End of section **Approval**

Start of section **Poll**

**introduction1** (Section Poll)

*Thinking now about the election in November to elect members of the U.S. House of Representatives, governors, and other state and local officials. These elections are often referred to as the "midterms".*

**poll.q1** (Voted early in the midterm election in section Poll)

Which of the following describes whether or not you have already voted in the midterm election?

- 1 I have already voted (i.e. by mailing a vote-by-mail or absentee ballot, or by voting in person at an early voting location, or some other way)
- 2 I have not voted

IF poll.q1 = 1 THEN

**poll.q1a** (Who voted early in the midterm election in section Poll)

In the election for the U.S. House of Representatives, did you vote for a Democrat, a Republican, or a candidate from some other party?

- 1 Democrat
- 2 Republican
- 3 Other party candidate
- 4 I voted in other elections but not in the election for U.S. House of Representatives

ELSE

**poll.q4** (Likelihood of Voting in Congressional Election in section Poll)

What is the percent chance that you will vote in the 2018 election for the U.S. House of Representatives?

RANGE 0..100

*/\* The questions poll.q5 and poll.q6 are asked in random order per poll.q5.q6.randomizer variable:*

- o 1: poll.q5, then poll.q6*
- o 2: poll.q6, then poll.q5*

*\*/*

```
IF poll_q5_q6_order = EMPTY THEN
```

```
| poll_q5_q6_order := mt_rand(1,2)
```

```
END OF IF
```

```
/* The answer options in poll_q5 are presented in random order per poll_q5_randomizer variable:
```

```
o 1: Democratic, then Republican
```

```
o 2: Republican, then Democratic
```

```
*/
```

```
IF poll_q5_randomizer = EMPTY THEN
```

```
| poll_q5_randomizer := mt_rand(1,2)
```

```
END OF IF
```

```
poll_q6_randomizer := poll_q5_randomizer
```

```
poll_q6a_randomizer := poll_q5_randomizer
```

```
Fill code of question FL_Q5 executed
```

```
IF poll_q6_randomizer = 1 THEN
```

```
| poll_q6_options(1) := 1
```

```
| poll_q6_options(2) := 2
```

```
| poll_q6_options(3) := 3
```

```
| poll_q6_options(4) := 4
```

```
| poll_q6_options(5) := 5
```

```
ELSE
```

```
| poll_q6_options(1) := 2
```

```
| poll_q6_options(2) := 1
```

```
| poll_q6_options(3) := 3
```

```
| poll_q6_options(4) := 4
```

```
| poll_q6_options(5) := 5
```

```
END OF IF
```

```
IF poll_q5_q6_order = 1 THEN
```

```
| GROUP OF QUESTIONS PRESENTED ON THE SAME SCREEN
```

```
| poll_q5a (Section Poll)
```

```
| If you do vote in the election for the U.S. House of Representatives, what is the per-  
cent chance that you will vote for the( Democratic) candidate? For the( Republican)  
candidate? For another party's candidate?
```

IF poll\_q5\_randomizer = 1 THEN

**poll\_q5\_democrat** (Percent chance of voting for Democrat in section Poll)  
For the **Democratic** candidate?  
NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

**poll\_q5\_republican** (Percent chance of voting for GOP in section Poll)  
For the **Republican** candidate?  
NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

**poll\_q5\_other** (Percent chance of voting for other in section Poll)  
For **another party's** candidate  
NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

ELSE

**poll\_q5\_republican** (Percent chance of voting for GOP in section Poll)  
For the **Republican** candidate?  
NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

**poll\_q5\_democrat** (Percent chance of voting for Democrat in section Poll)  
For the **Democratic** candidate?  
NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

**poll\_q5\_other** (Percent chance of voting for other in section Poll)  
For **another party's** candidate  
NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

END OF IF

**poll\_q5\_error** (Section Poll)  
Please make sure the total equals 100% and no entry exceeds 100%.

END OF GROUP

**poll\_q6** (Generic Congressional in section Poll)  
If the 2018 election for the U.S. House of Representatives were being held today in your district, which party's candidate would you vote for?  
1 Democratic candidate  
2 Republican candidate  
3 Another party's candidate  
4 Not sure  
5 Wouldn't vote

IF poll\_Q6 = 4 THEN

IF poll\_q6a\_randomizer = 1 THEN

poll\_q6a\_options(1) := 1  
poll\_q6a\_options(2) := 2  
poll\_q6a\_options(3) := 3

ELSE

poll\_q6a\_options(1) := 2  
poll\_q6a\_options(2) := 1  
poll\_q6a\_options(3) := 3

END OF IF

**poll\_q6a** (district lean toward in section Poll)

As of now, do you **lean** more toward voting for the (q6a answer options order(1)) or the (q6a answer options order(2)) or another party's candidate in your district?

- 1 Democratic candidate
- 2 Republican candidate
- 3 Another party's candidate

END OF IF

ELSE

**poll\_q6** (Generic Congressional in section Poll)

If the 2018 election for the U.S. House of Representatives were being held today in your district, which party's candidate would you vote for?

- 1 Democratic candidate
- 2 Republican candidate
- 3 Another party's candidate
- 4 Not sure
- 5 Wouldn't vote

IF poll\_Q6 = 4 THEN

IF poll\_q6a\_randomizer = EMPTY THEN

poll\_q6a\_randomizer := mt\_rand(1,2)

END OF IF

IF poll\_q6a\_randomizer = 1 THEN

poll\_q6a\_options(1) := 1  
poll\_q6a\_options(2) := 2  
poll\_q6a\_options(3) := 3

ELSE

poll\_q6a\_options(1) := 2  
poll\_q6a\_options(2) := 1  
poll\_q6a\_options(3) := 3

END OF IF



**poll\_q6a** (district lean toward in section Poll)

As of now, do you **lean** more toward voting for the (q6a answer options order(1)) or the (q6a answer options order(2)) or another party's candidate in your district?

- 1 Democratic candidate
- 2 Republican candidate
- 3 Another party's candidate

END OF IF

#### GROUP OF QUESTIONS PRESENTED ON THE SAME SCREEN

**poll\_q5a** (Section Poll)

If you do vote in the election for the U.S. House of Representatives, what is the percent chance that you will vote for the( Democratic) candidate? For the( Republican) candidate? For another party's candidate?

IF **poll\_q5\_randomizer = 1** THEN

**poll\_q5\_democrat** (Percent chance of voting for Democrat in section Poll)

For the **Democratic** candidate?

NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

**poll\_q5\_republican** (Percent chance of voting for GOP in section Poll)

For the **Republican** candidate?

NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

**poll\_q5\_other** (Percent chance of voting for other in section Poll)

For **another party's** candidate

NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

ELSE

**poll\_q5\_republican** (Percent chance of voting for GOP in section Poll)

For the **Republican** candidate?

NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

**poll\_q5\_democrat** (Percent chance of voting for Democrat in section Poll)

For the **Democratic** candidate?

NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

**poll\_q5\_other** (Percent chance of voting for other in section Poll)

For **another party's** candidate

NUMBER (NO DECIMALS ALLOWED)

```

| END OF IF
|
| poll_q5_error (Section Poll)
| Please make sure the total equals 100% and no entry exceeds 100%.
|
| END OF GROUP
| END OF IF
END OF IF

```

**poll\_q7** (interest November election in section Poll)  
Have you been following the news about the November election? If so, how closely?  
1 Have not been following  
2 Following, not very closely  
3 Following somewhat closely  
4 Following very closely  
5 Following extremely closely

*/\* The answer options in poll\_q8 are presented in random order per poll\_q8\_randomizer variable:*

- o 1: Support, then opposition
- o 2: Opposition, then support

*\*/*

```

IF poll_q8_randomizer = EMPTY THEN
| poll_q8_randomizer := mt_rand(1,2)
END OF IF

```

```

IF poll_q8_randomizer = 1 THEN
| poll_q8_order(1) := 1
| poll_q8_order(2) := 2
| poll_q8_order(3) := 3
ELSE
| poll_q8_order(1) := 2
| poll_q8_order(2) := 1
| poll_q8_order(3) := 3
END OF IF

```

**poll\_q8** (vote expression in section Poll)  
Thinking about your vote for Congress in November, which of the following comes closest to representing your view?  
1 My vote was, or will be, an expression of support for President Trump  
2 My vote was, or will be, an expression of opposition to President Trump

3 My vote was not, or will not be, an expression of either support or opposition to President Trump

End of section **Poll**

Start of section **Additional**

**wk2\_intro** (Section Additional)

The next questions ask about claims being made by Democratic and Republican campaigns in recent weeks.

*/\* The questions wk2\_001a, wk2\_001b and wk2\_002a, wk2\_002b are asked in random order per wk2\_question\_order variable:*

- o 1: Democratic, then Republican agenda*
- o 2: Republican, then Democratic agenda*

*\*/*

**IF wk2\_question\_order = EMPTY THEN**

**|** wk2\_question\_order := mt\_rand(1,2)

**END OF IF**

*/\* The answer options in wk2\_001a and wk2\_002a are presented in random order per wk2\_a\_randomizer variable:*

- o 1: Extremely likely to not at all likely*
- o 2: Not at all likely to extremely likely*

*\*/*

**IF wk2\_a\_randomizer = EMPTY THEN**

**|** wk2\_a\_randomizer := mt\_rand(1,2)

**END OF IF**

*/\* The answer options wk2\_001b and wk2\_002b are presented in random order per wk2\_b\_randomizer variable:*

- o 1: Strongly support to strongly oppose*
- o 2: Strongly oppose to strongly support*

*\*/*

**IF wk2\_b\_randomizer = EMPTY THEN**

**|** wk2\_b\_randomizer := mt\_rand(1,2)

END OF IF

IF wk2\_a\_randomizer = 1 THEN

wk2\_a\_order(1) := 1  
wk2\_a\_order(2) := 2  
wk2\_a\_order(3) := 3  
wk2\_a\_order(4) := 4  
wk2\_a\_order(5) := 5

ELSE

wk2\_a\_order(1) := 5  
wk2\_a\_order(2) := 4  
wk2\_a\_order(3) := 3  
wk2\_a\_order(4) := 2  
wk2\_a\_order(5) := 1

END OF IF

IF wk2\_b\_randomizer = 1 THEN

wk2\_b\_order(1) := 1  
wk2\_b\_order(2) := 2  
wk2\_b\_order(3) := 3  
wk2\_b\_order(4) := 4  
wk2\_b\_order(5) := 5

ELSE

wk2\_b\_order(1) := 5  
wk2\_b\_order(2) := 4  
wk2\_b\_order(3) := 3  
wk2\_b\_order(4) := 2  
wk2\_b\_order(5) := 1

END OF IF

IF wk2\_question\_order = 1 THEN

GROUP OF QUESTIONS PRESENTED ON THE SAME SCREEN

**wk2\_001\_intro** (Section Additional)

**Republicans have said: "If the Democrats win a majority in Congress they will enact a liberal Nancy Pelosi agenda of higher taxes, greatly increased government spending and large defense budget cuts."**

**wk2\_001a** (how likely enact Democratic agenda in section Additional)

If Democrats win a majority of seats in the House, how likely do you think it is that Congress will enact this agenda?

- 1 Extremely likely
- 2 Very likely

- 3 Somewhat likely
- 4 Not very likely
- 5 Not at all likely

**wk2\_001b** (support Democratic agenda in section Additional)  
Would you support or oppose Congress enacting this agenda?

- 1 Strongly support
- 2 Somewhat support
- 3 Neither support nor oppose
- 4 Somewhat oppose
- 5 Strongly oppose

END OF GROUP

GROUP OF QUESTIONS PRESENTED ON THE SAME SCREEN

**wk2\_002\_intro** (Section Additional)

**Democrats have said "If Republicans keep a majority in Congress, they will enact a conservative Donald Trump agenda of Medicare and Medicaid cuts as well as tax breaks for the rich and they will end affordable health insurance access for people with preexisting conditions."**

**wk2\_002a** (how likely enact Republican agenda in section Additional)

If Republicans retain a majority in Congress, how likely do you think it is that Congress will enact this agenda?

- 1 Extremely likely
- 2 Very likely
- 3 Somewhat likely
- 4 Not very likely
- 5 Not at all likely

**wk2\_002b** (support Republican agenda in section Additional)  
Would you support or oppose Congress enacting this agenda?

- 1 Strongly support
- 2 Somewhat support
- 3 Neither support nor oppose
- 4 Somewhat oppose
- 5 Strongly oppose

END OF GROUP

ELSE

GROUP OF QUESTIONS PRESENTED ON THE SAME SCREEN

**wk2\_002\_intro** (Section Additional)

**Democrats have said "If Republicans keep a majority in Congress, they will enact a conservative Donald Trump agenda of Medicare and Medicaid cuts as well as tax breaks for the rich and they will end affordable health insurance access for people with preexisting conditions."**

**wk2\_002a** (how likely enact Republican agenda in section Additional)

If Republicans retain a majority in Congress, how likely do you think it is that Congress will enact this agenda?

- 1 Extremely likely
- 2 Very likely
- 3 Somewhat likely
- 4 Not very likely
- 5 Not at all likely

**wk2\_002b** (support Republican agenda in section Additional)

Would you support or oppose Congress enacting this agenda?

- 1 Strongly support
- 2 Somewhat support
- 3 Neither support nor oppose
- 4 Somewhat oppose
- 5 Strongly oppose

END OF GROUP

GROUP OF QUESTIONS PRESENTED ON THE SAME SCREEN

**wk2\_001\_intro** (Section Additional)

**Republicans have said: "If the Democrats win a majority in Congress they will enact a liberal Nancy Pelosi agenda of higher taxes, greatly increased government spending and large defense budget cuts."**

**wk2\_001a** (how likely enact Democratic agenda in section Additional)

If Democrats win a majority of seats in the House, how likely do you think it is that Congress will enact this agenda?

- 1 Extremely likely
- 2 Very likely
- 3 Somewhat likely
- 4 Not very likely
- 5 Not at all likely

**wk2\_001b** (support Democratic agenda in section Additional)

Would you support or oppose Congress enacting this agenda?

- 1 Strongly support
- 2 Somewhat support

- 3 Neither support nor oppose
- 4 Somewhat oppose
- 5 Strongly oppose

END OF GROUP

END OF IF

IF wk2\_001a IN (1,2,3) AND wk2\_001b IN (3,4,5) AND wk2\_002a IN (1,2,3) AND wk2\_002b IN (3,4,5) THEN

**wk2\_003** (least like to happen in section Additional)

Between the two scenarios, please select which one of the two you would you LEAST like to see happen:

- 1 Republicans keep a majority in Congress, and enact a conservative Donald Trump agenda of Medicare and Medicaid cuts as well as tax breaks for the rich and they will end affordable health insurance access for people with preexisting conditions.
- 2 Democrats win a majority in Congress and enact a liberal Nancy Pelosi agenda of higher taxes, greatly increased government spending and large defense budget cuts

END OF IF

End of section **Additional**

Start of section **Background**

```
uas149_poll_q2 := getUAS149Preload("poll_q2")
uas149_poll_q2a := getUAS149Preload("poll_q2a")
uas149_poll_q3 := getUAS149Preload("poll_q3")
uas155_poll_q2 := getUAS155Preload("poll_q2")
uas155_poll_q2a := getUAS155Preload("poll_q2a")
uas155_poll_q3 := getUAS155Preload("poll_q3")
```

IF statereside = EMPTY THEN

**statereside** (R STATE RESIDENCE in section Demographics)

In what state are you currently residing?

- 1 Alaska (AK)
- 2 Alabama (AL)
- 3 Arizona (AZ)
- 4 Arkansas (AR)
- 5 California (CA)
- 6 Colorado (CO)
- 7 Connecticut (CT)
- 8 Delaware (DE)
- 9 Florida (FL)
- 10 Georgia (GA)
- 11 Hawaii (HI)

12 Idaho (ID)  
13 Illinois (IL)  
14 Indiana (IN)  
15 Iowa (IA)  
16 Kansas (KS)  
17 Kentucky (KY)  
18 Louisiana (LA)  
19 Maine (ME)  
20 Maryland (MD)  
21 Massachusetts (MA)  
22 Michigan (MI)  
23 Minnesota (MN)  
24 Mississippi (MS)  
25 Missouri (MO)  
26 Montana (MT)  
27 Nebraska (NE)  
28 Nevada (NV)  
29 New Hampshire (NH)  
30 New Jersey (NJ)  
31 New Mexico (NM)  
32 New York (NY)  
33 North Carolina (NC)  
34 North Dakota (ND)  
35 Ohio (OH)  
36 Oklahoma (OK)  
37 Oregon (OR)  
38 Pennsylvania (PA)  
39 Rhode Island (RI)  
40 South Carolina (SC)  
41 South Dakota (SD)  
42 Tennessee (TN)  
43 Texas (TX)  
44 Utah (UT)  
45 Vermont (VT)  
46 Virginia (VA)  
47 Washington (WA)  
48 West Virginia (WV)  
49 Wisconsin (WI)  
50 Wyoming (WY)  
51 Washington D.C.  
52 Puerto Rico

END OF IF

IF poll\_q1 != 1 AND statereside != 34 THEN



**poll\_q2** (Currently Registered to Vote in section Background)

Are you:

- 1 Certain you are registered to vote in the district where you now live
- 2 Not certain if you are registered to vote in your district
- 3 Not registered to vote
- 4 Not sure if registered to vote or not

**IF** poll\_q2 = 1 **AND** uas149\_poll\_q2a = EMPTY **AND** uas155\_poll\_q2a = EMPTY  
**THEN**

**poll\_q2a** (Party Registration in section Background)

Are you registered as:

- 1 Democrat
- 2 Republican
- 3 No political party (independent)
- 4 No political party (state does not allow registration by party)
- 5 Libertarian
- 6 Green party
- 7 Some other party

**END OF IF**

**END OF IF**

**IF** uas149\_poll\_q3 = EMPTY **AND** uas155\_poll\_q3 = EMPTY **THEN**

**poll\_q3** (Party affiliation in section Background)

Regardless of if or how you are registered to vote, are you more closely aligned with...

- 1 Democrats
- 2 Republicans
- 3 Independents (no political party)
- 4 Libertarians
- 5 Green party
- 6 Some other party
- 7 Not aligned with any political party

**IF** poll\_q3 **IN** (3,7) **THEN**

**poll\_q3a** (lean affiliation in section Background)

Generally speaking, do you lean more toward affiliating with Democrats or with Republicans?

- 1 Lean toward affiliating with Democrats
- 2 Lean toward affiliating with Republicans
- 3 Do not lean toward either party

**END OF IF**

**END OF IF**

presvote := getPresidentialVote()

uas149\_poll.q42 := getUAS149Preload("poll.q42")  
uas155\_poll.q42 := getUAS155Preload("poll.q42")

IF presvote = EMPTY AND uas149\_poll.q42 = EMPTY AND uas155\_poll.q42 = EMPTY  
THEN

**poll.q41** (Vote in 2016 Presidential Election in section Background)

Many people were not able to vote in the election for U.S. President, which took place between Republican candidate Donald Trump, Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton, Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson, and Green party candidate Jill Stein and a few other candidates. Were you able to vote in that election, or not?

- 1 I was not able to vote in that election
- 2 I was too young to vote
- 3 I chose not to vote in the 2016 election
- 4 I am sure I voted for a candidate in the 2016 presidential election
- 5 I am not sure or I can't remember if I voted

IF poll.q41 = 4 THEN

**poll.q42** (Candidate choice in 2016 election in section Background)

In the 2016 presidential election, which candidate did you vote for?

- 1 Republican candidate Donald Trump
- 2 Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton
- 3 Green party candidate Jill Stein
- 4 Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson
- 5 Someone else

END OF IF

END OF IF

End of section **Background**

Start of section **Closing**

**CS\_001** (HOW PLEASANT INTERVIEW in section Closing)

Could you tell us how interesting or uninteresting you found the questions in this interview?

- 1 Very interesting
- 2 Interesting
- 3 Neither interesting nor uninteresting
- 4 Uninteresting
- 5 Very uninteresting

**CS\_003** (comments in section Closing)

Do you have any other comments on the interview? Please type these in the box below. (If you have no comments, please click next to complete this survey.)

STRING

End of section **Closing**

/\* Please note that although question CS\_003 is listed in the routing, the answers are not included in the microdata in the event identifiable information is captured. Cleaned responses are available by request. \*/