

Questionnaire

Q1. First, I would like to ask you about some questions concerning your feelings towards the political parties. Generally speaking, do you consider you're a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or what?

1. Democrat
2. Republican
3. Independent
4. Other (Please Specify)

If respondent answers 1 or 2 in question above, go to the next question. If not, go to the following question.

Q2. Would you call yourself a strong [Democrat/Republican] or a not very strong [Democrat/Republican]?

1. Strong
2. Not very strong

Q3. Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or to the Democratic Party?

1. Closer to the Republican Party
2. Neither
3. Closer to the Democratic Party

For the following four questions, assign respondents based on their responses in Q1 through Q3. Assign Democrat and Republican “leaners” to the Democrat and Republican conditions, respectively. Only non-leaning Independents receive the Independent condition.

Q4. “How important is being a [Democrat/Republican/Independent] to you?”

1. Extremely Important
2. Very Important
3. Somewhat Important
4. Not Very Important
5. Not Important at All?

Q5. “How well does the term [Democrat/Republican/Independent] describe you?”

1. Extremely Well
2. Very Well
3. Somewhat Well
4. Not Very Well
5. Not at All

Q6. When talking about [Democrat/Republican/Independent], how often do you use ‘we’ instead of ‘they’?”

1. All the Time
2. Most of the Time
3. Some of the Time
4. Rarely
5. Never

Q7. To what extent do you think of yourself as being a [Democrat/Republican/Independent]?”

1. A Great Deal
2. Quite a Bit
3. Somewhat
4. Very Little
5. Not at All

Now, I would like to ask for your opinion regarding support for members of Congress based on some of their characteristics. While these individuals are hypothetical, please imagine whether or not you would support candidates like them as they run for re-election.

Q8. First, Alan Smith is a Republican who has been a member of the House of Representatives for 14 years. He is currently on the House Judiciary Committee and the House Agriculture Committee. He considers himself a “common sense conservative.” Since taking office he has focused on promoting second amendment rights, securing the country’s borders, simplifying the tax code, and cutting government regulations, among other issues. **[He is also ranked as one of the (most/least) effective members of his party by the Legislative Effectiveness Project. This project tracks the ability of each representative to move bills through Congress and get them passed into law.] (THREE CONDITIONS: “MOST,” “LEAST,” AND NO INFO).**

Imagine that Rep. Smith is running for re-election against a typical Democratic candidate. Based on the information above, if you had the opportunity to vote in this election, how likely would you be to vote for Rep. Smith?

1. Extremely Likely
2. Very Likely
3. Somewhat Likely
4. Not Very Likely
5. Not at All Likely

Q9. Next, Stephanie Terry is a Democrat who has been a member of the House of Representative for 12 years. She currently sits on the House Natural Resource Committee and the Committee on Education and the Workforce. She is a strong progressive voice in the House of Representatives. Since taking office, she has focused on immigration reform, ensuring livable wages for workers, protecting natural resources, and reducing the role of money in politics, among other issues. **[She is also ranked as one of the most/least effective members of her party by the Legislative Effectiveness Project. This project tracks the ability of each representative to move bills through Congress and get them passed into law.] (THREE CONDITIONS: “MOST,” “LEAST,” AND NO INFO).**

Imagine that Rep. Terry is running for re-election against a typical Republican candidate. Based on the information above, if you had the opportunity to vote in this election, how likely would you be to vote for Rep. Terry?

1. Extremely Likely
2. Very Likely
3. Somewhat Likely
4. Not Very Likely
5. Not at All Likely

Q10. Next, Sally Oakes is a Republican who has been in office for four years. She is House Committee on Ethics as well as the Energy and Commerce Committee. Her website touts her “strong background in the public and private sectors.” Since taking office in 2013, she has focused repealing and replacing the Affordable Care Act, reducing the national debt, strengthen defenses against biological threats, and supporting farming communities, among other issues. **[She also has a strong/weak record of working across the aisle; she is ranked among the top/bottom in her party by The Lugar Center’s Bipartisan Index. This index ranks representatives based on how often they work with members of the other party to pass legislation.] (THREE CONDITIONS: “STRONG/TOP,” “WEAK/BOTTOM,” AND NO INFO).**

Imagine that Rep. Oakes is running for re-election against a typical Democratic candidate. Based on the information above, if you had the opportunity to vote in this election, how likely would you be to vote for Rep. Oakes?

1. Extremely Likely
2. Very Likely
3. Somewhat Likely
4. Not Very Likely
5. Not at All Likely

Q11. Finally, Tim Lawson is a Democrat who has been in office for four years. He currently sits on the House Agriculture and Veteran Affairs committees. He is a former Army officer who has served two tours in Afghanistan. Since taking office, he has focused on increasing clean energy production, repairing the country’s infrastructure, making higher education more affordable, and improving the lives of veterans, among other issues. **[He also has a strong/weak record of working across the aisle; he is ranked among the top/bottom in his party by The Lugar Center’s Bipartisan Index. This index ranks representatives based on how often they work with members of the other party to pass legislation.] (THREE CONDITIONS: “STRONG/TOP,” “WEAK/BOTTOM,” AND NO INFO).**

Imagine that Rep. Lawson is running for re-election against a typical Republican candidate. Based on the information above, if you had the opportunity to vote in this election, how likely would you be to vote for Rep. Lawson?

1. Extremely Likely
2. Very Likely
3. Somewhat Likely
4. Not Very Likely
5. Not at All Likely

This question is to see if you are paying attention. Please select “1. CNN” for your answer below, despite what the question text says.

Q12. Cable TV news has grown increasingly popular in recent years. Which cable TV news channel do you watch the most?

1. CNN
2. Fox News
3. MSNBC
4. A different channel
5. I don't watch cable TV news

Finally, I want to ask just a few more questions about you.

Q13. What is your age? (Fill in Blank)

Q14. What is your gender?

1. Male
2. Female
3. Other (Please Specify)

Q15. Are you Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino?

1. Yes
2. No

Q16. In the list of race categories below, please choose one or more categories that you consider yourself to be (multiple choices allowed):

1. White
2. Black or African American
3. American Indian or Alaskan Native
4. Asian
5. Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
6. Other

Q17. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

1. Some high school, no diploma
2. High school diploma
3. Some college, no degree
4. Associate degree
5. Bachelor's degree
6. Master's degree
7. Doctoral/professional degree (for example, PhD, MD, or JD)

Q18. What state do you currently reside? (drop down menu)