



MTV/AP-NORC Youth Political Pulse, March 2018: Young Americans' Political Outlook and Perspectives on the Trump Presidency

**Conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research
With funding from MTV and NORC at the University of Chicago**

Interviews: 2/22-3/9/2018

1,027 young people age 15-34

Margin of error: +/- 4.2 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.

Some questions held for future release.

Q1. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

If don't know, skipped, or refused in Q1

Q1A. If you had to choose, do you lean more toward approving or disapproving of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

If approve in Q1

Q1B. Would you say you approve of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president strongly or do you approve just somewhat?

If disapprove in Q1

Q1C. Would you say you disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president strongly or do you disapprove just somewhat?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Strongly/Somewhat/Leans toward approve NET	33
Strongly approve	12
Somewhat approve	21
Lean toward approving	*
Do not lean either way	*
Strongly/Somewhat/Leans toward disapprove NET	67
Lean toward disapproving	-
Somewhat disapprove	19
Strongly disapprove	47
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	*

N=

1,027

Q3. When thinking about the future of the United States, would you say that you feel...?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Generally optimistic	46
Generally pessimistic	53
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N=

1,027

Q4. Of all of the issues facing the country right now, what concerns you the most?

[OPEN ENDED QUESTION]

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Gun laws: school shootings, gun control, Second Amendment, assault rifles, guns, etc.	21
The economy: jobs, debt, poverty, cost of living, etc.	15
Social inequality	8
Immigration: DACA, border wall, immigrants, etc.	5
War or threat of nuclear war	5
Political climate: lack of bipartisanship, division, lack of empathy, ideological differences, etc.	5
Other issues	5
Health care: costs, etc.	4
Crime, safety, violence, in general	4
Environment: climate change, natural disasters, etc.	4
Foreign policy: international relations, mentions of specific countries, etc.	4
Concerns about President Trump, leadership	4
Education: quality, costs, etc.	3
Terrorism, homeland security, national security	2
“Everything”	1
“Nothing”	*
DON’T KNOW	1
SKIP/REFUSED	7

N=

1,027

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Q5. In the past month...

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018	Extremely/ Very NET	Extremely	Very	Moderately	Slightly/Not at all NET	Slightly	Not at all	DK	SKP/ REF
How <u>angry</u> have you felt about the state of the country?	40	16	24	32	28	18	10	*	*
How <u>anxious</u> have you felt about the state of the country?	36	13	23	33	30	19	11	-	*
How <u>positive</u> have you felt about the state of the country?	13	3	10	31	56	32	24	-	*
How <u>excited</u> have you felt about the state of the country?	9	3	6	24	67	27	40	-	*

N=1,027

Q6. In the past month, how well do you feel American politics have been functioning?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Functioning extremely/very well NET	6
Functioning extremely well	1
Functioning very well	5
Functioning moderately well	23
Not functioning very well/well at all NET	70
Not functioning very well	45
Not functioning well at all	25
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	*

N=

1,027

Q7A. How much do elected public officials care what people like you think?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
A great deal/A lot NET	4
A great deal	*
A lot	4
A moderate amount	21
A little/Not at all NET	75
A little	42
Not at all	32
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	*

N=

1,027

Q7B. How much can people like you affect what the government does?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
A great deal/A lot NET	13
A great deal	4
A lot	9
A moderate amount	24
A little/Not at all NET	62
A little	42
Not at all	21
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N=

1,027

The next few questions are about the MIDTERM ELECTIONS. The midterms are non-presidential elections that will be held in November 2018 to elect leaders at many levels of government – governors, Senators, Congressmen, and state legislators.

If old enough to vote in the 2018 midterm elections

Q8. There are a range of reasons why people do or do not vote. We're interested in hearing from voters and non-voters. On a scale from zero to 10, where 10 means you're certain you will vote in the 2018 midterm elections and zero means there is no chance you will vote, please indicate how likely it is that you will vote in this November's election.

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
0 – Certain will not vote	13
1	3
2	6
3	6
4	4
5	13
6	5
7	7
8	7
9	5
10 – Certain will vote	32
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	*

N=

882

Q9. Thinking about the 2018 midterm elections in November, how often are you engaged in the following activities?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018	Often/ Sometimes NET	Often	Sometimes	Rarely/ Never NET	Rarely	Never	DK	SKP/ REF
I'm reading or watching news about the midterms, such as about the candidates, the issues, or other aspects of the election	50	16	34	50	25	24	-	1
I'm posting/liking/commenting on the midterms in social media	23	4	19	76	20	56	-	1
I'm sharing political memes related to the midterms in social media	21	5	16	79	21	58	-	1
I'm participating in events related to the midterms such as candidate forums or rallies	14	3	11	86	17	69	-	*
I'm volunteering with a candidate or issue campaign	10	1	8	90	13	77	-	*

N=1,027

Q12. Overall, do you think President Trump is doing a better job as president than you expected, a worse job, or about what you expected?

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Much/Somewhat better job NET	21
Much better job	6
Somewhat better job	15
About what you expected	41
Much/Somewhat worse job NET	38
Somewhat worse job	16
Much worse job	21
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	*

N= 1,027

Q13. How well do each of the following phrases describe President Trump?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018	Extremely/ Very well NET	Extremely well	Very well	Somewhat well	Not too well/Not at all well NET	Not too well	Not at all well	DK	SKP/ REF
Is treated fairly by the press	21	7	14	24	54	26	28	*	1
Is representative of the Republican Party	24	9	15	36	39	20	19	-	1
Cares about the forgotten people of the country	13	4	9	20	67	20	47	-	1
Is "making America great again"	14	6	8	19	66	18	49	-	1
Is a smart businessman	34	13	21	24	41	15	26	-	*
Reflects my personal values	9	2	6	18	72	19	53	-	1

N=1,027

Q13A. Do you think Trump's presidency has...?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Helped the US economy	34
Hurt the US economy	43
Not affected the US economy	22
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,027</i>

Q13B. Do you think President Trump is mentally fit or unfit to be president?

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Mentally fit to be president	38
Mentally unfit to be president	60
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,027</i>

Q13C. Would you say that President Trump is...?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Generally honest	37
Generally dishonest	62
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,027</i>

Q13CC. When it comes to Donald Trump's ties with Russia, do you think he has done something illegal, or he has done something unethical, but NOT illegal, or do you think he has not done anything wrong?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Done something illegal	37
Done something unethical, but NOT illegal	39
Not done anything wrong	22
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	2

N= 1,027

Q13D11. Do you think that President Trump is a racist, or is he not a racist?

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Is a racist	63
Is not a racist	36
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N= 1,027

Q14. Regardless of how you feel about President Trump, would you say that since he was elected, people in general are doing the following things more, less, or about the same as before?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018	Much/ Somewhat more NET	Much more	Somewhat more	About the same	Much/ Somewhat less NET	Somewhat less	Much less	DK	SKP/ REF
Questioning the media	62	27	35	25	12	7	5	*	1
Paying attention to politics	64	23	40	24	11	7	5	*	1
Having conversations about race issues	60	29	31	30	10	6	4	-	*
Having conversations about gender issues	53	20	33	34	12	8	4	-	*
Engaging in political activism	61	22	39	28	10	6	4	*	1
Feeling concerned with being politically correct	39	14	25	35	25	17	8	-	*

N=1,027

Q15. Please say if you're doing each of the following more, less, or about the same since President Trump was elected in November 2016.

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018	Much/ Somewhat more NET	Much more	Somewhat more	About the same	Much/ Somewhat less NET	Somewhat less	Much less	DK	SKP/ REF
Questioning the media	47	21	26	40	12	7	5	-	1
Paying attention to politics	47	16	31	39	14	8	6	-	*
Having conversations about race issues	42	15	27	44	14	6	8	-	1
Having conversations about gender issues	34	11	23	48	17	7	10	*	1
Engaging in political activism	20	7	13	57	22	10	12	-	1
Feeling concerned about being politically correct	26	7	19	52	20	9	12	-	1

N=1,027

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Q16. Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose each of the following?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018	Strongly/ Somewhat favor NET	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Neither favor nor oppose	Strongly/ Somewhat oppose NET	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK	SKP/ REF
The government allowing those with outstanding student loan debt to refinance at lower interest rates	76	51	25	16	8	5	2	*	1
Providing a way for immigrants who were brought to the United States illegally as children to stay legally	69	41	29	16	14	8	6	-	*
A health care system in which the government provides health insurance to all Americans	67	44	24	17	15	6	9	-	1
The government taking steps to address climate change	60	41	19	26	13	7	6	-	1
Increasing the federal minimum wage	60	38	21	21	19	11	8	-	1
Protecting the rights of LGBT citizens in the United States	59	41	18	26	14	6	7	-	1
Protecting the rights of Muslims in the United States	58	41	18	29	13	8	5	*	*
Legalizing the recreational use of marijuana on a national level	55	37	18	24	20	9	12	-	1

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MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018	Strongly/ Somewhat favor NET	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Neither favor nor oppose	Strongly/ Somewhat oppose NET	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK	SKP/ REF
Providing more government assistance such as food stamps, unemployment, Medicaid, etc. for poor Americans	50	24	26	25	24	15	10	-	1
Legal abortion in most cases	46	31	15	26	26	9	17	-	1
Increasing defense and military spending	36	16	20	36	27	16	11	-	1
Building a wall along the Mexican border to help stop illegal immigration into the United States	25	12	14	18	56	13	42	*	1
The Republican tax bill	22	7	15	37	40	19	21	-	1

N=1,027

Q17. If you were President Trump's social media advisor, what would you tell him?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
"Delete your account."	49
"Take it down a notch."	37
"Keep doing what you're doing!"	13
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,027</i>

Q18. Finally, we'd like to ask some random personal questions...

Which of these cuisines is your favorite?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Mexican	27
American	19
Italian	17
Chinese	13
Japanese	8
Mediterranean	6
Thai	4
Indian	3
French	1
Greek	1
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,027</i>

Q19. What is your primary mode of transportation during a typical week?

[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Personal car	79
Bus	5
Carpool	4
Walking	4
Train or subway	3
Bike	3
Ride share (Uber, Lyft, etc.)	2
Taxi/for-hire car	*
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,027</i>

PID1. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an independent or none of these?

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Democrat	34
Republican	19
Independent	26
None of these	22
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,027</i>

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If Democrat in PID1

PIDa. Do you consider yourself a strong Democrat or a moderate Democrat?

If Republican in PID1

PIDb. Do you consider yourself a strong Republican or a moderate Republican?

If Independent, None of these, or Don't Know/Skip/Refused in PID1

PIDi. Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Democrat NET	48
Strong Democrat	12
Moderate Democrat	21
Lean Democrat	14
Independent/None – Don't lean	23
Republican NET	29
Lean Republican	11
Moderate Republican	13
Strong Republican	6
Unknown	*

N=

1,027

If age 18 or older

QVOTE2016. Did you vote in the 2016 Presidential election for Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton, or someone else?

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Donald Trump	23
Hillary Clinton	34
Someone else	12
Did not vote	31
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	*

N=

839

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AGE

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
15-17	12
18-22	17
23-29	41
30-34	29
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	-
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,027</i>

GENDER

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Male	50
Female	49
Does not identify with either gender	*
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,027</i>

RACE/ETHNICITY

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
White	55
Black or African American	14
Hispanic	21
Other	10
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,027</i>

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If age 18 or older

MARITAL STATUS

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Married	31
Widowed	*
Divorced	1
Separated	2
Never married	53
Living with partner	12
<i>N=</i>	839

If age 18 or older

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Employed	70
Not employed	30
<i>N=</i>	839

If age 18 or older

EDUCATION

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Less than a high school diploma	10
High school graduate or equivalent	25
Some college	35
College graduate or above	29
<i>N=</i>	839

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If age 15-17

PARENTS' HIGHEST EDUCATION LEVEL

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Less than a high school diploma	3
High school graduate or equivalent	14
Some college	45
College graduate or above	38
<i>N=</i>	<i>188</i>

INCOME

	MTV/AP-NORC 2/22-3/9/2018
Under \$10,000	8
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	11
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	15
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	11
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	9
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	17
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	12
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	11
\$150,000 or more	6
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,027</i>

Study Methodology

This survey was conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and with funding from MTV and NORC at the University of Chicago. Staff from NORC at the University of Chicago, The Associated Press, and MTV collaborated on all aspects of the study.

Data were collected using AmeriSpeak®, NORC's probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. During the initial recruitment phase of the panel, randomly selected U.S. households were sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame and then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, and field interviewers (face-to-face). The panel provides sample coverage of approximately 97 percent of the U.S. household population. Those excluded from the sample include people with P.O. Box only addresses, some addresses not listed in the USPS Delivery Sequence File, and some newly constructed dwellings.

Interviews for this survey were conducted between February 22 and March 9, 2018, with young people age 15 to 34 representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish, depending on respondent preference. Adult panel members age 18 to 34 were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 839 completed the survey—818 via the web and 21 via telephone. In addition, completed interviews were conducted with 188 teenagers age 15 to 17 who will be old enough to vote in the 2020 presidential election (with birth dates of October 2002 or earlier), 187 via the web and 1 via telephone. Adult panel members living in households with minors were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and after confirming that there were children of the appropriate age in the household, permission was sought from a parent or guardian to survey their teenager. If a given panelist had multiple teens at home, one teen was randomly selected to participate.

The final stage completion rate is 14.3 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 33.7 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 88.1 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 4.2 percent. The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 4.2 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups.

Once the sample has been selected and fielded, and all the study data have been collected and made final, a poststratification process is used to adjust for any survey nonresponse as well as any noncoverage or under and oversampling resulting from the study specific sample design. Poststratification variables included age, gender, census division, race/ethnicity, and education. Weighting variables were obtained from the 2017 Current Population Survey. The weighted data reflect the U.S. population of young people age 15 to 34.

For more information, email info@apnorc.org.

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The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research taps into the power of social science research and the highest-quality journalism to bring key information to people across the nation and throughout the world.

- The Associated Press (AP) is the world's essential news organization, bringing fast, unbiased news to all media platforms and formats.
- NORC at the University of Chicago is one of the oldest and most respected, independent research institutions in the world.

The two organizations have established The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals.

The founding principles of The AP-NORC Center include a mandate to carefully preserve and protect the scientific integrity and objectivity of NORC and the journalistic independence of AP. All work conducted by the Center conforms to the highest levels of scientific integrity to prevent any real or perceived bias in the research. All of the work of the Center is subject to review by its advisory committee to help ensure it meets these standards. The Center will publicize the results of all studies and make all datasets and study documentation available to scholars and the public.

About MTV

MTV is a global youth culture brand inspired by music. For more information, check out mtvpress.com. MTV is a unit of Viacom Inc. (NASDAQ: VIAB, VIA)