



# CRITICAL ISSUES POLL

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## **Post-Midterm Election Poll: How Voters Assess the Issues**

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### **Survey Methodology**

This University of Maryland Critical Issues Poll was fielded by SSRS on its Opinion Panel Omnibus platform. Data collection was conducted November 18-21, 2022 among a sample of 1,001 respondents aged 18 or older living in the United States from the SSRS probability-based panel. The survey was conducted online (n=971) and via telephone (n=30, for non-Internet and Internet-reluctant respondents) and administered in English. The margin of error for total respondents is +/-3.7 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. Members of the delivered nationally representative sample are recruited randomly based on nationally representative Address Based Sample (ABS) design (including Hawaii and Alaska). ABS sample is drawn from the Delivery Sequence File (DSF) maintained by the U.S. Postal Service. Population coverage of the DSF is in the 98%-99% range. SSRS Opinion Panel data is weighted to be representative of the entire residential adult population in the United States. The first step in the weighting process is the application of a base weight that accounts for the ABS sample design and the within-household sampling of one adult. Data were weighted to distributions of: sex by age, sex by education, age by education, race/ethnicity, census region, civic engagement, population density, frequency of internet use, voter status, religious affiliation, and party ID. Benchmark distributions are obtained from the most recently available data from sources such as the Current Population Survey (CPS), the American Community Survey (ACS), the Pew Research Center's National Public Opinion Reference Survey (NPORS), and the Aristotle Registered Voter Database. The design effect is 1.42.

Note: These questions were fielded as part of a larger poll on foreign and domestic issues. Percentages may not always add to one hundred due to rounding.

Q1. If you voted in the midterm election, for whom did you vote?

Q1A. The United States House of Representatives

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Democratic Candidate	3%	33%	81%	38%
2. Republican Candidate	83	26	1	34
3. Other	1	5	<1	3
4. I did not vote	10	34	14	21
5. Does not apply to my state/region	3	3	4	4
6. Don't know/Refused	0	0	0	<1

Q1B. The United States Senate

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Democratic Candidate	3%	30%	77%	37%
2. Republican Candidate	81	25	1	33
3. Other	<1	6	1	3
4. I did not vote	11	33	13	21
5. Does not apply to my state/region	5	7	7	6
6. Don't know/Refused	0	0	<1	<1

Q1C. Your State Governor

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Democratic Candidate	5%	28%	71%	35%
2. Republican Candidate	74	26	2	32
3. Other	1	4	1	3
4. I did not vote	12	33	15	22
5. Does not apply to my state/region	8	9	10	8
6. Don't know/Refused	<1	0	1	<1

Q1D. Your Secretary of State

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Democratic Candidate	3%	27%	69%	33%
2. Republican Candidate	70	21	1	28
3. Other	3	5	2	4
4. I did not vote	12	35	15	22
5. Does not apply to my state/region	12	13	14	13
6. Don't know/Refused	0	0	0	0

Q2. Please rank the three most important of the following issues in your voting priorities in the November 2022 midterm election [PN: Randomize] [Among those who plan to vote in November]:

Q4A. Inflation

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Ranked 1	50%	31%	10%	29%

2. Ranked 2	17	18	15	16
3. Ranked 3	14	10	10	12
4. Not Ranked	19	42	65	43

Q4B. K-12 Education

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Ranked 1	2%	2%	5%	3%
2. Ranked 2	4	8	2	5
3. Ranked 3	7	7	6	7
4. Not Ranked	87	84	87	86

Q4C. American Democracy

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Ranked 1	5%	19%	28%	17%
2. Ranked 2	6	10	14	10
3. Ranked 3	8	7	8	8
4. Not Ranked	82	63	51	65

Q4D. Crime

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Ranked 1	10%	6%	6%	7%
2. Ranked 2	22	8	6	12
3. Ranked 3	20	17	7	14
4. Not Ranked	49	69	81	67

Q4E. Climate Change

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Ranked 1	<1%	4%	10%	5%
2. Ranked 2	2	11	12	8
3. Ranked 3	2	8	17	9
4. Not Ranked	97	78	62	79

Q4F. Jobs

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Ranked 1	5%	6%	3%	5%
2. Ranked 2	7	7	4	6
3. Ranked 3	5	11	6	7
4. Not Ranked	83	77	88	82

Q4E. Foreign Policy

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Ranked 1	1%	1%	1%	1%
2. Ranked 2	2	2	2	3
3. Ranked 3	7	7	2	5
4. Not Ranked	90	90	96	92

Q4F. Abortion

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Ranked 1	5%	12%	25%	14%
2. Ranked 2	10	13	21	15
3. Ranked 3	7	7	14	9
4. Not Ranked	78	68	41	61

Q4G. Racial/Ethnic Relations

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Ranked 1	<1%	5%	4%	4%
2. Ranked 2	2	5	6	4
3. Ranked 3	1	6	9	6
4. Not Ranked	97	84	81	86

Q4H. Guns

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Ranked 1	4%	5%	3%	4%
2. Ranked 2	4	5	10	7
3. Ranked 3	8	11	11	10
4. Not Ranked	83	79	75	79

Q4I. Immigration

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Ranked 1	16%	7%	2%	8%
2. Ranked 2	24	11	5	13
3. Ranked 3	19	8	4	10
4. Not Ranked	41	7	89	68

Q4J. Pandemic

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Ranked 1	2%	1%	1%	1%
2. Ranked 2	1	2	2	1
3. Ranked 3	2	1	3	2
4. Not Ranked	95	96	95	95

Q3. In your view, which one of the following was the most important factor in the November 2022 midterm election? [PN: Randomize] [Among those who plan to vote in November]

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Specific issues as in the previous question	66%	67%	70%	68%
2. Referendum on President Joe Biden	25	17	13	17
3. Referendum on former President Donald Trump	9	15	18	14

Q5. What impact do you believe former President Donald Trump had on the midterm elections?

<b>Rep</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Total</b>
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1. Helped Republicans gain more seats in Congress than they would have otherwise gained	38%	16%	12%	22%
2. Hurt Republicans chances of gaining more seats in Congress than they would have otherwise gained	32	43	62	47
3. Made no difference on the outcome	19	27	15	19
4. I don't know	12	14	11	13