

# 2018 FFYF National Poll Results

## 1. Thinking about the U.S. Congress, do you approve or disapprove of the job Congress is doing?

- 3% Strongly Approve
- 24% Somewhat Approve
- 24% Somewhat Disapprove
- 42% Strongly Disapprove
- 7% Don't know/Refused

## 2. Looking ahead to a new year and a new Congress, will you be watching more closely to see if Members of Congress work together to break partisan gridlock and get things done or stand strong on principle and do not give in to political pressure?

- 60% Work together to break partisan gridlock and get things done
- 24% Stand strong on principle and do not give in to political pressure
- 7% Both
- 4% Neither
- 5% Unsure/Refused

## 3. When it comes to ensuring that children begin kindergarten with the knowledge and skills they need to do their best in school, do you think we should be doing more, doing less, or are doing enough?

- 66% Doing more
- 5% Doing less
- 25% Doing enough
- 4% Unsure

## 4. Do you think that federal funding for quality early education from birth to age five-including child care and preschool-should be increased, decreased, or kept about the same as it is today?

- 55% Increased
- 12% Decreased
- 29% Kept about the same
- 4% Unsure

\*Denotes rounding. Due to rounding, some figures may be higher or lower by less than one-half of one percent.



Identify whether each of the following is very important, somewhat important, not that important, or not important at all.

**5. Making available high-quality early learning and child care programs for infants and toddlers to give them a strong start on developing school ready knowledge and social skills.**

- 55% Very important
- 25% Somewhat important
- 11% Not that important
- 9% Not at all important
- 1% Unsure
- 79%^ Total important**
- 20% Total not important**

**6. Providing voluntary home visiting and parent education programs that help parents support their child's early learning, health and emotional development.**

- 43% Very important
- 34% Somewhat important
- 11% Not that important
- 9% Not at all important
- 1% Unsure
- 78%^ Total important**
- 21%^ Total not important**

**7. Helping working families afford the cost of early education and child care.**

- 62% Very important
- 25% Somewhat important
- 6% Not that important
- 6% Not at all important
- 1% Unsure
- 87% Total important**
- 12% Total not important**

**8. Helping states and local communities build better preschool services for parents and making them more accessible to children from low- and middle-income families.**

- 66% Very important
- 21% Somewhat important
- 6% Not that important
- 6% Not at all important
- 1% Unsure
- 87% Total important**
- 12% Total not important**

**9. About how many of the early education programs in your area would you say are high quality AND affordable for lower and middle income families?**

- 4% All
- 11% Most
- 16% About half
- 19% Only some
- 27% Very few
- 23% Unsure
- 15% Total all/most**
- 16% About half**
- 45%^ Total some/few**

**10. If your Member of Congress supported policies and funding for more families to have quality child care and preschool, would you have a more favorable impression of him or her, less favorable impression or would it not affect your opinion much one way or the other?**

- 32% Much more favorable



- 26% Somewhat more favorable
- 34% No difference
- 2% Somewhat less favorable
- 5% Much less favorable
- 1% Unsure
- 58% Total more favorable**
- 7% Total less favorable**

**11. Compared to other issues like the economy or health care, how important are issues involving early childhood education for you in deciding whether to support an elected public official? Are they...**

- 25% Very important, they are a primary factor in deciding whether to support an elected public official
- 44% Somewhat important; they are one of several issues you consider
- 19% Not too important; they are not a significant factor considered in deciding whether to support an elected public official
- 12% Not at all important for you in deciding whether to support an elected official
- 69% Total important**
- 31% Total not important**

**12. (ASKED ONLY OF DEMOCRATS AND INDEPENDENTS): Which one of the following statements comes closer to your point of view?**

- 78% It is more important that funding for early childhood education be increased, even if this means the Trump Administration can take some credit for helping children and families
- 11% It is more important that the Trump Administration does not have a chance to take credit for helping children and families, even if this means that funding for early childhood education is not increased
- 1% Both equally
- 5% Neither
- 5% Unsure

**Coming up, Congress may be considering a number of proposals that provide more families the opportunity for their children to attend high- quality child care and preschool. For each one please indicate whether you would support or oppose that particular change.**

**13. Increase the child care tax credit to help parents better afford quality child care and early education programs, with low- and middle-income parents who need more help getting a larger credit.**

- 50% Strongly support
- 30% Somewhat support
- 7% Somewhat oppose
- 10% Strongly oppose
- 2% Unsure
- 81%^ Total support**
- 17% Total oppose**



**14. Provide tax incentives to businesses which provide or help their employees afford quality early childhood education programs.**

- 52% Strongly support
- 32% Somewhat support
- 7% Somewhat oppose
- 6% Strongly oppose
- 3% Unsure
- 84% Total support**
- 13% Total oppose**

**15. Provide greater funding to Head Start and early Head Start which provide quality early education, nutrition, and support services to children in low-income families, so more programs can serve more children and families.**

- 58% Strongly support
- 22% Somewhat support
- 9% Somewhat oppose
- 9% Strongly oppose
- 2% Unsure
- 80% Total support**
- 18% Total oppose**

**16. Increase federal funding to states to create or build on their own programs that directly helps low-income children, so their parents have quality child care while they work or attend school.**

- 54% Strongly support
- 27% Somewhat support
- 7% Somewhat oppose
- 10% Strongly oppose
- 1% Unsure
- 81% Total support**
- 18%^ Total oppose**

**17. Expand the federal partnership through grants and policies that enable states and communities to improve access to quality early childhood education for children from ages birth through five who are from low- and middle-income families.**

- 49% Strongly support
- 32% Somewhat support
- 9% Somewhat oppose
- 9% Strongly oppose
- 1% Unsure
- 81% Total support**
- 18% Total oppose**

**18. I'm going to read you two statements about these proposals. Please tell me which of the following statements comes closer to your opinion, even if neither one matches your opinion exactly.**

- 57% Supporters of this approach say that... Investing in child care and early education is investing in our future. Members of Congress from both parties need to come together and act now to help working families ensure our children get a strong start in life.
- 40% Opponents of this approach say that... Federal programs just create new bureaucracies and end up wasting money that would be better spent directly helping children. Besides, we need to focus on properly funding education overall, not just early education.
- 1% Both
- 1% Neither
- 1% Unsure



**If more children are able to attend quality child care and preschool, how much would it help in each of the following areas? Does it help a lot, a fair amount, some, very little, or not at all in each of the following areas?**

**19. Children having academic success in elementary school.**

- 57% A lot
- 16% A fair amount
- 17% Some
- 5% Very little
- 3% Not at all
- 2% Unsure
- 73% Total a lot / fair amount**

**20. Children having academic success in middle school and high school.**

- 57% A lot
- 16% A fair amount
- 16% Some
- 5% Very little
- 6% Not at all
- 73% Total a lot / fair amount**

**21. Children will develop important social skills, such as self-confidence, self-discipline, and ability to work well with others that are necessary for success throughout life.**

- 56% A lot
- 15% A fair amount
- 18% Some
- 5% Very little
- 6% Not at all
- 71% Total a lot / fair amount**

**22. Breaking the cycle of poverty by ensuring children from low-income families experience high-quality educational opportunities that might otherwise be out of reach.**

- 51% A lot
- 15% A fair amount
- 19% Some
- 8% Very little
- 7% Not at all
- 1% Unsure
- 65%^ Total a lot / fair amount**

**23. Enabling more mothers to be able to start or continue their careers and provide for their families.**

- 55% A lot
- 16% A fair amount
- 20% Some
- 3% Very little
- 5% Not at all
- 1% Unsure
- 71% Total a lot / fair amount**

**24. Boosting our economic future in the long-term by ensuring more future workers are highly skilled.**

- 50% A lot
- 16% A fair amount
- 18% Some
- 6% Very little
- 8% Not at all
- 1% Unsure
- 67% Total a lot / fair amount**



**FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES:**

**1. To ensure we have a representative sample of voters, please tell me in what year you were born.**

24%	18-34
21%	35-44
14%	45-54
22%	55-64
18%	65+
1%	Refused

**2. Do you have any children age 18 or under that you are responsible for raising, living in your home?**

<b>32%</b>	<b>Total yes</b>
<b>65%</b>	<b>Total no</b>
10%	Yes; not yet in kindergarten
18%	Yes; kindergarten and elementary school
20%	Yes; middle or high school
5%	Yes; graduated
43%	No; no children
20%	No children at home

**3. IF ANSWER TO QUESTION 2 INDICATED PRESENCE OF YOUNG CHILDREN: Are any of your children in child care or an early education setting where they are cared for by someone other than a parent on a regular basis?**

57%	Yes
42%	No
1%	Refused

**4. IF ANSWER TO QUESTION 2 INDICATED 2-4 CHILDREN: Before they began kindergarten or elementary school, were any of your children in child care or an early education setting where they were cared for by someone other than a parent on a regular basis?**

70%	Yes
30%	No

**5. And in politics today, do you consider yourself...**

25%	Strong Republican
6%	Not so strong Republican
6%	Lean to Republicans
6%	Lean to Democrats
9%	Not so strong Democrat
28%	Strong Democrat
1%	Refused
<b>37%</b>	<b>Total Republican</b>
<b>43%</b>	<b>Total Democrat</b>
<b>19%</b>	<b>Something else / Independent</b>

**6. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be conservative, moderate, or liberal on most issues?**

20%	Very conservative
20%	Somewhat conservative
30%	Moderate
28%	Liberal
2%	Don't know
1%	Refused

**7. Finally, regardless of how you may feel today, for which of the following candidates did you vote for President?**

40%	Donald Trump
43%	Hillary Clinton
3%	Gary Johnson
2%	Jill Stein
4%	Someone else
3%	Did not vote
1%	Don't know / don't recall
4%	Refused

**8. What was the last level of education you completed?**

26%	Graduated high school or less
3%	Technical or vocational school
25%	Some college
29%	Graduated college
16%	Graduate/professional school
1%	Refused
<b>26%</b>	<b>High school or less</b>
<b>28%</b>	<b>Some college / technical / vocational</b>
<b>45%</b>	<b>College or higher</b>



**9. If you added together the yearly income of all the members of your family who were living at home last year, would the total be less than \$10,000, between \$10,000 and \$20,000, between \$20,000 and \$30,000, between \$30,000 and \$40,000, between \$40,000 and \$50,000, between \$50,000 and \$75,000, between \$75,000 and \$100,000, between \$100,000 and \$200,000 or would the total be more than that?**

- 5% Less than \$10,000
- 6% \$10,000 - \$20,000
- 7% \$20,000 - \$30,000
- 8% \$30,000 - \$40,000
- 8% \$40,000 - \$50,000
- 17% \$50,000 - \$75,000
- 14% \$75,000 - \$100,000
- 18% \$100,000 - \$200,000
- 7% More than \$200,000
- 10% Refused
- 26% Less than \$40k**
- 25% \$40k - \$75k**
- 14% \$75k - \$100k**
- 25% \$100k or more**

**10. Other than being an American, what is your main ethnic or racial heritage?**

- 12% African American or Black
- 74% White
- 10% Hispanic American or Latino
- 1% Asian American
- 1% Other
- 2% Refused

**11. How would you describe the area where you currently live?**

- 28% A city
- 29% A suburban area
- 23% A small town
- 18% A rural area
- 1% Don't know / not sure
- 1% Refused

**12. What is your gender? Are you currently employed, a student, a stay-at-home (mom/dad), retired, or unemployed and looking for work?**

- 30% Male / employed
- 2% Male / student
- 1% Male / stay-at-home
- 10% Male / retired
- 3% Male / unemployed and looking
- 1% Male / refused
- 29% Female / employed
- 2% Female / student
- 6% Female / stay-at-home
- 13% Female / retired
- 2% Female / unemployed and looking
- 1% Female / refused
- 47% Total male**
- 53% Total female**