



**CNN December 2017**

The study was conducted for CNN via telephone by SSRS, an independent research company. Interviews were conducted from **December 14, 2017 – December 17, 2017** among a sample of **1,001** respondents. The landline total respondents were **401** and there were **600** of cell phone respondents. The margin of sampling error for total respondents is +/-3.6 at the 95% confidence level. The design effect is 1.4. More information about SSRS can be obtained by visiting [www.ssrs.com](http://www.ssrs.com).

**EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE:  
Thursday, December 21 at 4:00 p.m.**

Q2. (A2) Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling...?

The investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
<b>December 14-17, 2017</b>	32%	56%	13%
<b>November 2-5, 2017**</b>	34%	54%	12%
<b>August 3-6, 2017</b>	31%	59%	9%

\*\*Question wording: The investigation into Russia’s attempts to influence the U.S. presidential elections

Q9c. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Robert Mueller is handling the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election?

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
<b>December 14-17, 2017</b>	47%	34%	19%

Q10. Thinking about the investigation into Russian efforts to influence the U.S. presidential election in 2016, which comes closer to your point of view about it?

	You think it's a serious matter that should be fully investigated	You think it's mainly an effort to discredit Donald Trump's presidency	No opinion
<b>December 14-17, 2017</b>	61%	34%	5%
<b>November 2-5, 2017</b>	64%	32%	4%
<b>August 3-6, 2017</b>	60%	38%	3%

Q11. Do you think the things Donald Trump has said publicly about the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election have been:

	True (NET)	Completely true	Mostly true	False (NET)	Mostly false	Completely false	No opinion
<b>December 14-17, 2017</b>	35%	8%	28%	56%	32%	24%	9%

## MORE ON METHODOLOGY

A total of **1,001** adults were interviewed by telephone nationwide by live interviewers calling both landline and cell phones. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Among the entire sample, **33%** described themselves as Democrats, **23%** described themselves as Republicans, and **44%** described themselves as independents or members of another party.

All respondents were asked questions concerning basic demographics, and the entire sample was weighted to reflect national Census figures for gender, race, age, education, region of country, and telephone usage.

Results for the full sample have a margin of sampling error of **+/-3.6** percentage points. For the sample of **898** registered voters, it is **+/-3.8** percentage points.

Crosstabs on the following pages only include results for subgroups with enough unweighted cases to produce a sampling error of +/-8.5 percentage points or less once adjusted for design effect. Some subgroups represent too small a share of the national population to produce crosstabs with an acceptable sampling error. Interviews were conducted among these subgroups, but results for groups with a design-effect adjusted sampling error larger than +/-8.5 percentage points are not displayed and instead are denoted with "N/A".



CNN/SSRS Poll -- December 14, 2017 to December 17, 2017

TABLE 005

2M. (A2m) Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling The investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election?

Base: Total Respondents

	Total	Men	Women	White	Non-white		
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====		
Approve	32%	33%	30%	39%	18%		
Disapprove	56%	52%	60%	47%	71%		
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	13%	15%	10%	14%	11%		
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	4.7	5.5	4.5	6.3		

  

	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<45	45+
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Approve	32%	24%	28%	38%	38%	24%	38%
Disapprove	56%	64%	59%	49%	50%	63%	50%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	13%	12%	14%	13%	13%	13%	12%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	7.3	8.2	6.4	6.5	5.9	4.4

  

	Total	<\$50K	\$50K+	Non-coll. grad.	Coll. grad.	White non-coll.	White coll. grad.
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Approve	32%	26%	37%	32%	29%	43%	32%
Disapprove	56%	61%	53%	54%	59%	42%	57%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	13%	13%	11%	13%	12%	15%	10%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	6.1	4.7	4.7	5.3	6.0	6.4

  

	Total	Demo-crat	Indep endnt Other	Repub lican	Lib-eral	Mode-rate	Con serva tive
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Approve	32%	12%	29%	63%	12%	30%	50%
Disapprove	56%	84%	53%	22%	82%	56%	35%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	13%	4%	17%	15%	6%	13%	15%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	6.3	5.6	7.3	7.4	5.7	6.4

  

	Total	Lean Demo-crat	Lean Repub lican	Trump ap-prove	Trump disap prove	Reg. voter
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Approve	32%	12%	61%	67%	12%	32%
Disapprove	56%	81%	23%	18%	81%	56%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	13%	7%	16%	15%	7%	12%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	5.0	5.7	5.9	4.8	3.8



CNN/SSRS Poll -- December 14, 2017 to December 17, 2017

TABLE 026

9C. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Robert Mueller is handling the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election?

Base: Total Respondents

	Total	Men	Women	White	Non-white		
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====		
Approve	47%	49%	44%	47%	48%		
Disapprove	34%	35%	33%	35%	32%		
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	19%	16%	23%	18%	20%		
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	4.7	5.5	4.5	6.3		

  

	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<45	45+
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Approve	47%	42%	55%	40%	53%	48%	46%
Disapprove	34%	35%	30%	40%	30%	31%	36%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	19%	23%	15%	20%	17%	21%	17%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	7.3	8.2	6.4	6.5	5.9	4.4

  

	Total	<\$50K	\$50K+	Non-coll. grad	Coll. grad.	White non-coll.	White coll. grad.
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Approve	47%	47%	48%	42%	57%	42%	56%
Disapprove	34%	32%	38%	36%	30%	36%	34%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	19%	21%	14%	22%	13%	22%	10%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	6.1	4.7	4.7	5.3	6.0	6.4

  

	Total	Democrat	Indep endnt Other	Republican	Liberal	Mod-erate	Con serva tive
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Approve	47%	63%	44%	31%	69%	53%	27%
Disapprove	34%	22%	37%	46%	20%	33%	47%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	19%	15%	19%	23%	11%	14%	26%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	6.3	5.6	7.3	7.4	5.7	6.4

  

	Total	Lean Democrat	Lean Republican	Trump approve	Trump disap prove	Reg. voter
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Approve	47%	62%	29%	27%	61%	47%
Disapprove	34%	23%	51%	53%	24%	34%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	19%	15%	21%	20%	15%	18%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	5.0	5.7	5.9	4.8	3.8

CNN/SSRS Poll -- December 14, 2017 to December 17, 2017

TABLE 027

10. Thinking about the investigation into Russian efforts to influence the U.S. presidential election in 2016, which comes closer to your point of view about it?

Base: Total Respondents

	Total	Men	Women	White	Non-white
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
You think it's a serious matter that should be fully investigated.....	61%	56%	65%	53%	76%
You think it's mainly an effort to discredit Donald Trump's presidency.....	34%	39%	30%	43%	18%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	5%	5%	5%	4%	6%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	4.7	5.5	4.5	6.3

	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<45	45+
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
You think it's a serious matter that should be fully investigated.....	61%	64%	65%	52%	62%	65%	57%
You think it's mainly an effort to discredit Donald Trump's presidency.....	34%	32%	29%	42%	34%	30%	37%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	5%	4%	6%	6%	4%	4%	6%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	7.3	8.2	6.4	6.5	5.9	4.4

	Total	<\$50K	\$50K+	Non-coll. grad.	Coll. grad.	White non-coll.	White coll. grad.
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
You think it's a serious matter that should be fully investigated.....	61%	69%	54%	58%	68%	46%	65%
You think it's mainly an effort to discredit Donald Trump's presidency.....	34%	26%	41%	36%	29%	48%	34%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	5%	5%	5%	6%	3%	6%	1%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	6.1	4.7	4.7	5.3	6.0	6.4

	Total	Demo-crat	Indep endnt Other	Repub lican	Lib-eral	Mode-rate	Con serva tive
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
You think it's a serious matter that should be fully investigated.....	61%	93%	60%	16%	89%	69%	32%
You think it's mainly an effort to discredit Donald Trump's presidency.....	34%	4%	34%	78%	7%	28%	62%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	5%	3%	6%	6%	4%	3%	6%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	6.3	5.6	7.3	7.4	5.7	6.4

	Total	Lean Demo-crat	Lean Repub lican	Trump ap-prove	Trump disap prove	Reg. voter
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
You think it's a serious matter that should be fully investigated.....	61%	92%	19%	16%	89%	60%
You think it's mainly an effort to discredit Donald Trump's presidency.....	34%	5%	75%	79%	6%	36%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	5%	3%	6%	5%	5%	5%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	5.0	5.7	5.9	4.8	3.8

CNN/SSRS Poll -- December 14, 2017 to December 17, 2017

TABLE 028

11. Do you think the things Donald Trump has said publicly about the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election have been...?

Base: Total Respondents

	Total	Men	Women	White	Non-white		
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====		
True (Net)	35%	40%	31%	44%	20%		
Completely true	8%	7%	8%	9%	5%		
Mostly true	28%	33%	22%	34%	16%		
False (Net)	56%	54%	59%	48%	71%		
Mostly false	32%	30%	34%	28%	39%		
Completely false	24%	24%	25%	20%	32%		
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	9%	7%	11%	8%	9%		
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	4.7	5.5	4.5	6.3		
	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	<45	45+
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
True (Net)	35%	31%	31%	42%	38%	31%	39%
Completely true	8%	5%	6%	9%	11%	6%	9%
Mostly true	28%	26%	25%	33%	28%	25%	30%
False (Net)	56%	61%	61%	48%	53%	61%	52%
Mostly false	32%	44%	30%	25%	26%	40%	25%
Completely false	24%	17%	30%	24%	27%	21%	27%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	9%	8%	8%	10%	9%	8%	9%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	7.3	8.2	6.4	6.5	5.9	4.4
	Total	<\$50K	\$50K+	Non-coll. grad.	Coll. grad.	White coll.	White coll. grad.
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
True (Net)	35%	29%	41%	38%	30%	50%	32%
Completely true	8%	7%	8%	8%	7%	11%	7%
Mostly true	28%	22%	33%	30%	24%	39%	25%
False (Net)	56%	63%	53%	53%	64%	40%	63%
Mostly false	32%	38%	28%	32%	32%	26%	32%
Completely false	24%	24%	24%	21%	31%	14%	31%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	9%	8%	6%	10%	6%	10%	5%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	6.1	4.7	4.7	5.3	6.0	6.4
	Total	Demo-crat	Indep Other	Repub lican	Lib-eral	Mode-rate	Con serva-tive
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
True (Net)	35%	9%	36%	73%	6%	36%	57%
Completely true	8%	3%	7%	15%	2%	4%	16%
Mostly true	28%	5%	29%	58%	5%	32%	41%
False (Net)	56%	86%	56%	16%	87%	59%	32%
Mostly false	32%	44%	33%	13%	43%	35%	22%
Completely false	24%	42%	22%	3%	44%	24%	10%
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	9%	5%	9%	11%	7%	5%	11%
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	6.3	5.6	7.3	7.4	5.7	6.4
	Total	Lean Demo-crat	Lean Repub lican	Trump ap-prove	Trump disap-prove	Reg. voter	
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	
True (Net)	35%	10%	72%	78%	9%	36%	
Completely true	8%	2%	15%	18%	2%	8%	
Mostly true	28%	8%	57%	59%	7%	28%	
False (Net)	56%	85%	18%	11%	85%	56%	
Mostly false	32%	46%	14%	8%	46%	30%	
Completely false	24%	40%	3%	3%	39%	25%	
Don't know/Undecided/Refused	9%	4%	11%	11%	6%	9%	
Sampling Error (+/-)	3.6	5.0	5.7	5.9	4.8	3.8	