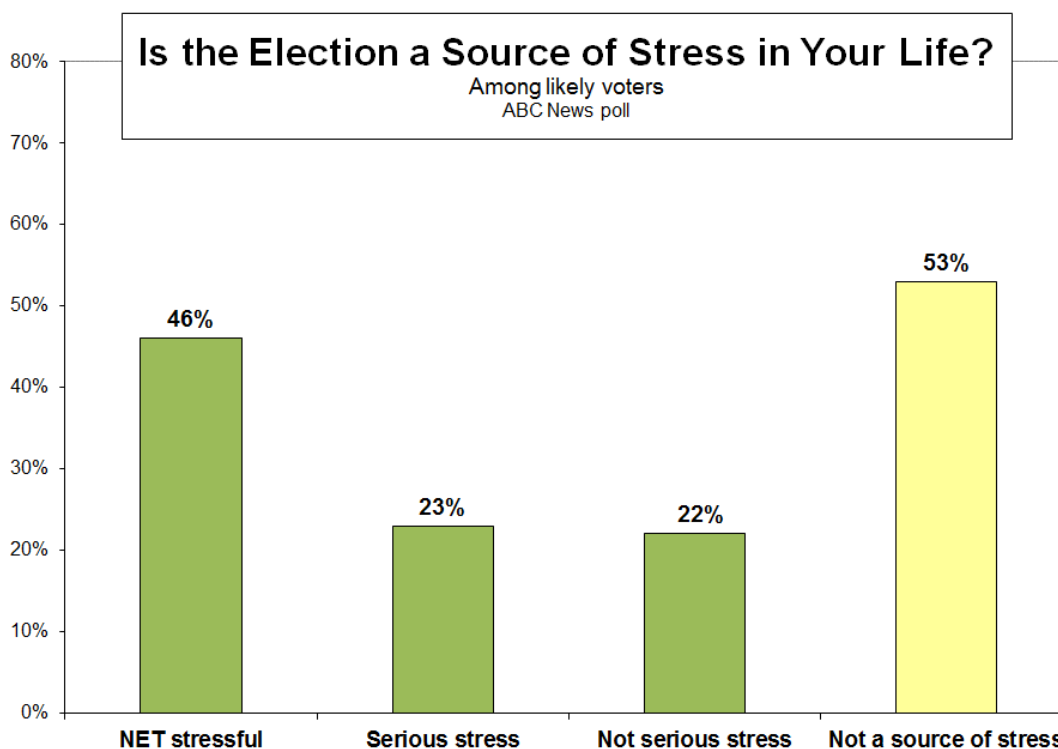


## **Stressed about the Election? If So, You've Got Company**

For all their sharp differences, supporters of Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump have one thing in common: Their levels of election-related stress.

It's substantial. Nearly half of all likely voters in the ABC News tracking poll, 46 percent, describe the election as a source of stress in their lives, including roughly equal numbers of Clinton and Trump supporters. Nearly a quarter, again in both cases, say it's serious stress.



Vote preferences in the latest tracking poll, based on four-day results through Sunday night, remain the same as the initial three-day result reported Sunday: 50 percent support for Clinton, 38 percent for Trump, with 5 percent for Gary Johnson and 2 percent for Jill Stein.

It's also a 12-point race in a two-way matchup with Clinton and Trump only, 53-41 percent, indicating that Johnson and Stein aren't drawing disproportionately from either of the two major-party candidates.

Other results also hold, including the strong element of turnout. Given sharp criticisms of Trump, Republicans are less likely now than earlier in the campaign to indicate that they intend to vote. And in addition to a 19-point Clinton lead among women, the two are virtually tied among men, reflecting worse results for Trump among all but his core supporters, white men who lack a college degree.

**STRESS** – Stress, interestingly, is comparatively high among two quite different groups, 57 percent among liberal Democrats (despite their preferred candidate's lead) and 56 percent among evangelical white Protestants, a core Republican group perhaps faced with questions about Trump's moral values.

Stress about the election also is higher among women than men, 51 vs. 39 percent; it's not clear whether women feel more stress or simply are more apt to recognize and report it. There's also a difference among whites evaluated by sex and education – lowest stress among non-college white men, 38 percent, highest among college-educated white women, 59 percent, with others between the two.

High as it is, election stress trails stress about the economy during the Great Recession; it peaked at 61 percent in March 2009. But the recession and its aftermath had no clear end date; the election, at least, does.

**ISSUES** – Underlying dynamics, coming off a difficult two weeks for Trump, continue to boost Clinton in the race. She has her own challenges – 60 percent of likely voters disapprove of her handling of questions about her use of email while secretary of state, and 46 percent disapprove strongly. But 70 percent disapprove of how Trump has handled questions about his treatment of women, and strong disapproval advances to 57 percent.

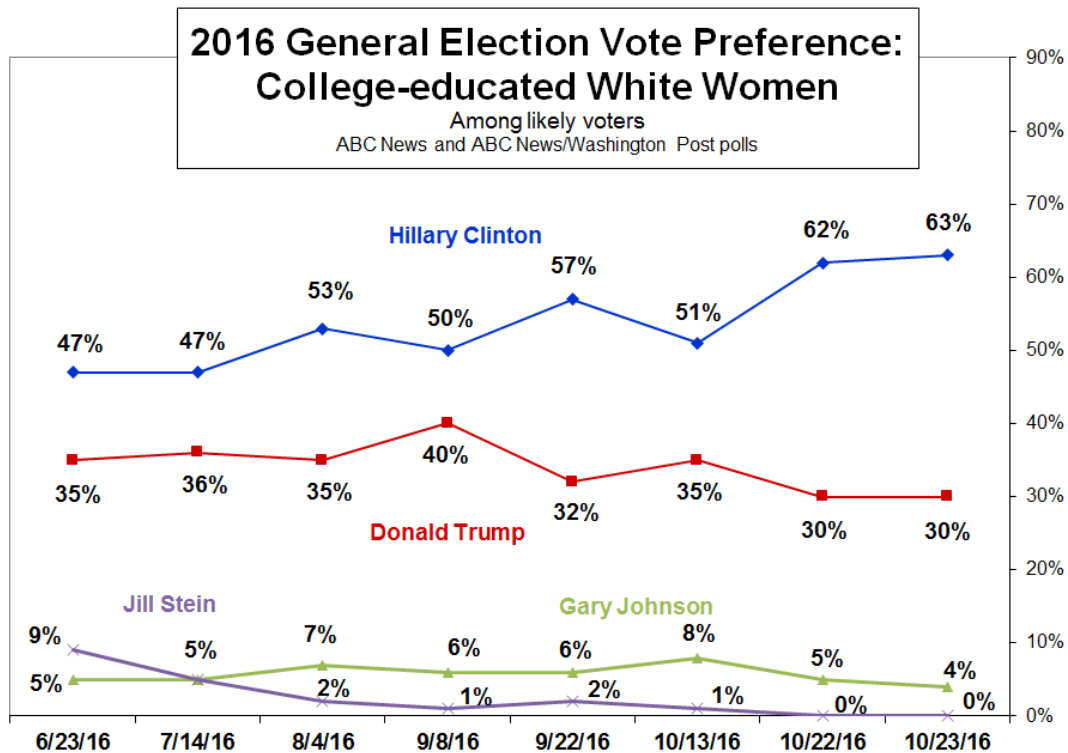
Sixty-four percent of likely voters, moreover, disapprove of Trump's refusal to say whether he'd accept the outcome if Clinton won. And 58 percent think that by calling the election rigged, he's making excuses in case he loses, not raising legitimate concerns.

**GROUPS** – Sizable numbers of men as well as women disapprove of Trump's response to questions about his treatment of women – 66 and 73 percent, respectively. (Women, though, are 12 points more apt to strongly disapprove.) And while Clinton is just 3 points from her largest lead among women in ABC News and ABC News/Washington Post polls, she's also improved among men, to 44-42 percent against Trump in the latest data. He led by 19 points among men as recently as Sept. 22.

Much of this movement has occurred among whites. Viewed through the prism of gender and education, Trump peaked at 59 points ahead of Clinton, 76-17 percent, among non-college white men in late September. He's now at 61-29 percent in this group, +32 points – back to the usual advantage Republican candidates have had among non-college white men in recent elections.

Trump topped out at +12 among college-educated white men in July, a group in which he's now -4 to Clinton, one of her best showings to date in this group. Democratic candidates since 1980

have lost college-educated white men by double digits, with the exception of Bill Clinton's closer -6 in 1992.



Hillary Clinton, meanwhile, is at a peak among college-educated white women, leading Trump 63-30 percent. That far surpasses the best result in this group for a Democrat in exit poll data back to 1980, +8 for Al Gore vs. George Bush in 2000. That leaves her at +19 points among white college graduates overall, a group no Democrat presidential candidate has won in exit polls dating to 1980.

**METHODOLOGY** – This ABC News poll was conducted by landline and cellular telephone Oct. 20-23, 2016, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 1,155 likely voters. Results have a margin of [sampling error](#) of 3 points, including the design effect. Partisan divisions are 36-27-31 percent, Democrats-Republicans-independents.

Question 12 was asked Oct. 22-23 among 611 likely voters; that result has a 4.5-point error margin.

The survey was produced for ABC News by [Langer Research Associates](#) of New York, N.Y., with sampling, data collection and tabulation by Abt-SRBI of New York, N.Y. See details on the survey's methodology [here](#).

Analysis by Gary Langer.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com at <http://abcnews.com/pollingunit>.

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Full results follow.

\*= less than 0.5 percent

1. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) How closely are you following the 2016 presidential race: very closely, somewhat closely, not so closely, or not closely at all?

|          |    | ---- Closely ---- |      |      | ---- Not closely ---- |        |        | No      |
|----------|----|-------------------|------|------|-----------------------|--------|--------|---------|
|          |    | NET               | Very | Smwt | NET                   | Not so | At all | opinion |
| 10/23/16 | LV | 94                | 66   | 28   | 6                     | 4      | 2      | *       |
| 10/22/16 | LV | 94                | 68   | 26   | 6                     | 4      | 2      | *       |
| 10/13/16 | LV | 94                | 66   | 28   | 5                     | 4      | 1      | 1       |
| 9/22/16  | LV | 92                | 60   | 32   | 8                     | 5      | 3      | *       |
| 9/8/16   | LV | 92                | 59   | 33   | 8                     | 5      | 3      | *       |
| 1/24/16  | RV | 84                | 39   | 45   | 16                    | 10     | 6      | *       |
| 11/19/15 |    | 75                | 30   | 45   | 25                    | 13     | 12     | *       |

Call for full trend.

2. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) I'd like you to rate the chances that you will vote in the presidential election in November: Are you absolutely certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or less than that?

|          |    | Certain | Probably | Chances | Less than | Don't think | Already | No  |
|----------|----|---------|----------|---------|-----------|-------------|---------|-----|
|          |    | to vote | vote     | 50/50   | that      | will vote   | voted   | op. |
|          |    |         |          |         |           | (vol.)      | (vol.)  |     |
| 10/23/16 | RV | 79      | 7        | 5       | 3         | 1           | 5       | *   |
| 10/22/16 | RV | 80      | 7        | 5       | 2         | 1           | 5       | *   |
| 10/13/16 | RV | 85      | 6        | 5       | 3         | 1           | 1       | 0   |
| 9/22/16  | RV | 83      | 7        | 6       | 3         | *           | 0       | *   |
| 9/8/16   | RV | 81      | 8        | 6       | 5         | 1           | NA      | *   |
| 8/4/16   | RV | 81      | 8        | 6       | 4         | 1           | NA      | *   |
| 7/14/16  | RV | 79      | 10       | 5       | 3         | 1           | NA      | 1   |
| 6/23/16  | RV | 79      | 8        | 7       | 4         | 2           | NA      | *   |
| 5/19/16  | RV | 80      | 9        | 5       | 3         | 2           | NA      | *   |

Call for full trend.

3. (IF CERTAIN TO VOTE) If the presidential election were being held today and the candidates were [(Hillary Clinton and Tim Kaine, the Democrats), (Donald Trump and Mike Pence, the Republicans)], [(Gary Johnson and Bill Weld of the Libertarian Party) and (Jill Stein and Ajamu Baraka of the Green Party)], for whom would you vote? Would you lean toward [(Clinton and Kaine), (Trump and Pence)], [(Johnson and Weld) or (Stein and Baraka)]? (IF ALREADY VOTED) Confidentially and for statistical purposes only, did you vote for...?

NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE - LIKELY VOTERS

|          |  | Hillary | Donald | Gary    | Jill  | Other  | None     | Would    | No      |
|----------|--|---------|--------|---------|-------|--------|----------|----------|---------|
|          |  | Clinton | Trump  | Johnson | Stein | (vol.) | of these | not vote | opinion |
|          |  |         |        |         |       |        | (vol.)   | (vol.)   |         |
| 10/23/16 |  | 50      | 38     | 5       | 2     | 1      | 2        | 0        | 2       |
| 10/22/16 |  | 50      | 38     | 5       | 2     | 1      | 2        | 0        | 2       |
| 10/13/16 |  | 47      | 43     | 5       | 2     | *      | 1        | 0        | 2       |
| 9/22/16  |  | 46      | 44     | 5       | 1     | *      | 1        | 0        | 3       |
| 9/8/16   |  | 46      | 41     | 9       | 2     | 1      | 1        | 0        | 1       |
| 8/4/16   |  | 47      | 39     | 7       | 3     | 1      | 1        | *        | 2       |
| 7/14/16* |  | 45      | 39     | 8       | 3     | 1      | 1        | *        | 2       |

6/23/16 48 39 6 3 1 1 \* 2

4. (IF NAMED CLINTON OR TRUMP) Would you say you are very enthusiastic about supporting (Clinton/Trump), somewhat enthusiastic, not so enthusiastic, or not enthusiastic at all?

|          |    | --- Enthusiastic ---- |      |          | --- Not enthusiastic ---- |        |            | No      |
|----------|----|-----------------------|------|----------|---------------------------|--------|------------|---------|
|          |    | NET                   | Very | Somewhat | NET                       | Not so | Not at all | opinion |
| Clinton: |    |                       |      |          |                           |        |            |         |
| 10/23/16 | LV | 86                    | 49   | 37       | 14                        | 8      | 6          | *       |
| 10/22/16 | LV | 87                    | 52   | 35       | 13                        | 7      | 5          | *       |
| 10/13/16 | LV | 83                    | 43   | 40       | 16                        | 9      | 7          | 1       |
| 9/22/16  | LV | 81                    | 46   | 35       | 18                        | 10     | 8          | 1       |
| 9/8/16   | LV | 82                    | 36   | 46       | 18                        | 12     | 6          | 0       |
| Trump:   |    |                       |      |          |                           |        |            |         |
| 10/23/16 | LV | 83                    | 50   | 33       | 16                        | 10     | 6          | *       |
| 10/22/16 | LV | 83                    | 49   | 34       | 17                        | 11     | 6          | 0       |
| 10/13/16 | LV | 79                    | 47   | 32       | 21                        | 12     | 9          | *       |
| 9/22/16  | LV | 91                    | 55   | 36       | 8                         | 5      | 3          | 1       |
| 9/8/16   | LV | 85                    | 48   | 37       | 15                        | 10     | 4          | *       |

Call for full trend.

5. (IF NOT CLINTON OR TRUMP) If the only candidates were (Hillary Clinton and Tim Kaine, the Democrats) and (Donald Trump and Mike Pence, the Republicans), for whom would you vote? Would you lean toward (Clinton and Kaine) or toward (Trump and Pence)?

NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE - LIKELY VOTERS

|            | Clinton | Trump | Other (vol.) | Neither (vol.) | Would not vote (vol.) | No opinion |
|------------|---------|-------|--------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------|
| 10/23/16   | 53      | 41    | *            | 3              | 2                     | 1          |
| 10/22/16   | 53      | 41    | *            | 3              | 1                     | 1          |
| 10/13/16   | 50      | 46    | *            | 2              | 1                     | 1          |
| 9/22/16    | 49      | 47    | *            | 1              | 2                     | 1          |
| 9/8/16*    | 51      | 43    | *            | 3              | 1                     | 1          |
| 8/4/16**   | 51      | 44    | 1            | 2              | 0                     | 1          |
| 7/14/16*** | 50      | 43    | 1            | 5              | 0                     | 2          |
| 6/23/16    | 52      | 41    | 2            | 4              | 0                     | 1          |
| 5/19/16    | 46      | 49    | 2            | 3              | 0                     | *          |

\*9/8/16 and later Results based on total sample. Respondents who named Clinton or Trump in Q3 assigned to initial preference.

\*\*8/4/16 and earlier: If the presidential election were being held today and the candidates were (Hillary Clinton and Tim Kaine, the Democrats) and (Donald Trump and Mike Pence, the Republicans), for whom would you vote? Would you lean toward (Clinton and Kaine) or toward (Trump and Pence)?

\*\*\*7/14/16 and prior: "Hillary Clinton, the Democrat" and "Donald Trump, the Republican."

6a. (IF NAMED CLINTON) Do you mainly support Clinton, or mainly oppose Trump?

|          |    | Support Clinton | Oppose Trump | No opinion |
|----------|----|-----------------|--------------|------------|
| 10/23/16 | LV | 55              | 42           | 2          |
| 10/22/16 | LV | 56              | 42           | 2          |
| 8/4/16   | RV | 49              | 47           | 4          |
| 7/14/16  | RV | 44              | 54           | 2          |
| 5/19/16  | RV | 48              | 48           | 3          |

6b. (IF NAMED TRUMP) Do you mainly support Trump, or mainly oppose Clinton?

|             | Support<br>Trump | Oppose<br>Clinton | No<br>opinion |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 10/23/16 LV | 41               | 54                | 5             |
| 10/22/16 LV | 41               | 54                | 6             |
| 8/4/16 RV   | 40               | 56                | 4             |
| 7/14/16 RV  | 38               | 57                | 4             |
| 5/19/16 RV  | 44               | 53                | 4             |

3/6 NET:

|             | -- Vote for Clinton -- |                    |                 | --- Vote for Trump --- |                  |                   | Oth.  | Neither | No            | No  |
|-------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------|---------|---------------|-----|
|             | NET                    | Support<br>Clinton | Oppose<br>Trump | NET                    | Support<br>Trump | Oppose<br>Clinton | (vol) | (vol)   | vote<br>(vol) | op. |
| 10/23/16 LV | 50                     | 28                 | 21              | 38                     | 16               | 21                | 7     | 2       | 0             | 2   |
| 10/22/16 LV | 50                     | 28                 | 21              | 38                     | 15               | 20                | 8     | 2       | 0             | 2   |
| 8/4/16 RV   | 50                     | 25                 | 24              | 42                     | 17               | 24                | 1     | 4       | 1             | 1   |
| 7/14/16 RV  | 47                     | 21                 | 25              | 43                     | 16               | 25                | 2     | 6       | *             | 2   |
| 5/19/16 RV  | 44                     | 21                 | 21              | 46                     | 20               | 24                | 2     | 5       | 2             | 1   |

8. (ASKED OF LIKELY VOTERS) Do you approve or disapprove of how [ITEM]? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

a. Trump is handling questions about his treatment of women

|             | ----- Approve ----- |          |          | ----- Disapprove ----- |          |          | No      |
|-------------|---------------------|----------|----------|------------------------|----------|----------|---------|
|             | NET                 | Strongly | Somewhat | NET                    | Somewhat | Strongly | opinion |
| 10/23/16 LV | 24                  | 14       | 10       | 70                     | 13       | 57       | 6       |
| 10/22/16 LV | 24                  | 14       | 10       | 69                     | 13       | 57       | 6       |

b. Clinton is handling questions about her use of personal e-mail while she was secretary of state?

|             | ----- Approve ----- |          |          | ----- Disapprove ----- |          |          | No      |
|-------------|---------------------|----------|----------|------------------------|----------|----------|---------|
|             | NET                 | Strongly | Somewhat | NET                    | Somewhat | Strongly | opinion |
| 10/23/16 LV | 34                  | 19       | 14       | 60                     | 14       | 46       | 6       |
| 10/22/16 LV | 35                  | 21       | 14       | 59                     | 14       | 45       | 6       |
| 9/8/16      | 32                  | 17       | 16       | 62                     | 14       | 48       | 5       |
| 6/23/16     | 34                  | 18       | 16       | 56                     | 12       | 44       | 9       |
| 10/18/15    | 36                  | NA       | NA       | 57                     | NA       | NA       | 7       |
| 9/10/15     | 34                  |          |          | 55                     |          |          | 11      |
| 5/31/15     | 31                  | "        | "        | 55                     | "        | "        | 14      |

10. (ASKED OF LIKELY VOTERS) Trump has said he thinks the election might be rigged so that Clinton could be elected through vote fraud. Do you think (this is a legitimate concern), or do you think (Trump is trying to make excuses in case he loses the election)?

|          | Legitimate<br>concern | Make excuses in<br>case he loses | No<br>opinion |
|----------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| 10/23/16 | 39                    | 58                               | 3             |
| 10/22/16 | 39                    | 59                               | 3             |

11. (ASKED OF LIKELY VOTERS) Trump has refused to say whether or not he would accept the election's outcome if Clinton wins. Do you approve or disapprove of Trump indicating that he may not accept the election outcome? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

|             | ----- Approve ----- |          |          | ----- Disapprove ----- |          |          | No      |
|-------------|---------------------|----------|----------|------------------------|----------|----------|---------|
|             | NET                 | Strongly | Somewhat | NET                    | Somewhat | Strongly | opinion |
| 10/23/16 LV | 29                  | 21       | 8        | 64                     | 12       | 52       | 7       |
| 10/22/16 LV | 29                  | 21       | 7        | 65                     | 11       | 53       | 7       |

12. (ASKED OF LIKELY VOTERS) Would you describe the presidential election as a source of stress in your life or not? (IF YES) Is it a source of serious stress, or stress, but not serious?

|          | ----- Source of stress ----- |         |             | Not a source | No      |
|----------|------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|---------|
|          | NET                          | Serious | Not serious | of stress    | opinion |
| 10/23/16 | 46                           | 23      | 22          | 53           | 1       |

Compare to: Is the current economic situation a cause of stress in your life, or not? (IF YES) Is it a cause of serious stress, or stress, but not serious?

|          | --- Yes, cause of stress --- |         |             | Not a cause | No      |
|----------|------------------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|---------|
|          | NET                          | Serious | Not serious | of stress   | opinion |
| 12/13/09 | 57                           | 28      | 30          | 42          | *       |
| 9/12/09  | 55                           | 33      | 23          | 44          | *       |
| 3/29/09  | 61                           | 33      | 28          | 39          | *       |
| 2/22/09  | 57                           | 27      | 30          | 43          | 0       |

\*\*\* END \*\*\*