

Interviews with 1,028 adult Americans conducted by telephone by ORC International on October 14 - 17, 2015. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points.

The sample also includes 956 interviews among registered voters (plus or minus 3 percentage points).

This sample includes 628 interviews among landline respondents and 400 interviews among cell phone respondents.

# EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE: ????

20. As you may know, in 2012, terrorists attacked the U.S. consulate in a town in Libya named Benghazi and killed the U.S. ambassador to that country and three other U.S. citizens. Thinking specifically about Hillary Clinton, who was Secretary of State at the time of the attack, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Clinton has handled this matter?

	Oct. 14-17	May 29-June 1
	2015	2014
Satisfied	36%	43%
Dissatisfied	59%	55%
No opinion	5%	3%

21. When it comes to the congressional hearings on the Benghazi attack, do you think Republicans have gone too far or do you think Republicans have handled the hearings appropriately? (ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE. RESULTS BASED ON 505 INTERVIEWS IN VERSION A -- SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.)

	Oct. 14-17 <u>2015</u>	May 29-June 1 <u>2014</u>
Gone too far	40%	44%
Handled appropriately	51%	48%
No opinion	9%	8%

## PEW RESEARCH CENTER TRENDS

	Gone	Handled	No
	too far	appropriately	<u>opinion</u>
2013 May 9-12	36	34	30

22. Do you think the House Select Committee on Benghazi is mostly conducting an objective investigation of what happened in the Benghazi attack, or is it mostly using the investigation to gain political advantage? (ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE. RESULTS BASED ON 523 INTERVIEWS IN VERSION B -- SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.)

	Oct. 14-17 <u>2015</u>
Mostly conducting an objective investigation	23%
Mostly using the investigation to gain political advantage No opinion	72% 5%

# 22a. Which of these statements comes closer to your opinion? (RANDOM ORDER)

	Oct. 14-17 <u>2015</u>	Mar. 13-5 2015
The way Clinton handled her email while serving as Secretary of State is an important indicator of her character and ability to serve as president The way Clinton handled her email while serving as Secretary of State is not relevant to her character	54%	46%
or her ablility to serve as president No opinion	43% 4%	52% 2%

### FOR COMPARISON:

	CNN/US	SA TODAY/GALLUP	TRENDS
	Important indicators	Allegations not relevant	No <u>opinion</u>
1994 Mar 7-8	42	51	7

*QUESTION WORDING:* Which of these statements come closer to your own opinions—The Whitewater allegations are important indicators of Bill Clinton's character and ability to serve as President, or the Whitewater allegations are not relevant to Bill Clinton's ability to serve as President?

# **METHODOLOGY**

A total of 1,028 adults were interviewed by telephone nationwide by live interviewers calling both landline and cell phones. Among the entire sample, 31% described themselves as Democrats, 26% described themselves as Republicans, and 43% 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.

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. 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 sampling error larger than +/-8.5 percentage points are not displayed and instead are denoted with "N/A".

#### Question 20

As you may know, in 2012, terrorists attacked the U.S. consulate in a town in Libya named Benghazi and killed the U.S. ambassador to that country and three other U.S. citizens. Thinking specifically about Hillary Clinton, who was Secretary of State at the time of the attack, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Clinton has handled this matter?

Base = Total Sample

	Total				Non-White			
Satisfied	 36%	33%	38%	 30%	48%			
Dissatisfied	59%	64%	55%	64%	49%			
No opinion	5%	3%	7%	5%	3%			
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-4.5 +	-/-4.5 +/	-3.5 +	-/-6.5			
	Total		35- 49	50- 64	65+	Under 50	50 and Older	
Satisfied	36%	35%	38%	37%	34%	36%	36%	
Dissatisfied	59%	56%	59%	60%	63%	58%	61%	
No opinion	5%	88	3%	48	3%	6%	3%	
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-7.5	+/-7.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.0	+/-5.5	+/-3.5	
	Total		\$50K or more	No College	-		Lean Repub- lican	
Satisfied	 36%	 35%	 36%	 32%	 39%	 61%	 12%	
Dissatisfied	59%	60%	60%	62%	57%	34%	84%	
No opinion	5%	5%	48	6%	48	5%	48	
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.5	+/-6.0	+/-3.5	+/-4.5	+/-4.5	
	Total		Indep- endent	lican	n eral	Mod- erate		7e
Satisfied	 36%	 63%	 31%			42%		
Dissatisfied	59%	30%	65%	85%	37%	54%	798	5
No opinion	5%	7%	48	4 8	68	5%	38	Š
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.0	+/-5.5	5 +/-6.5	+/-5.0	+/-4.5	5
	Total		Mid- west	South	West	Urban	Sub- urban	Rural
Catiafied						429		
Satisfied Dissatisfied	36% 59%	42% 53%	38% 56%	29% 66%	38% 57%	43% 51%	32% 64%	28% 67%
No opinion	5%	48	50%	5%	5%	68	48	5%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.0			+/-4.5	+/-6.5
	Total		Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose				
Satisfied	36%	10%	29%	64%				
Dissatisfied	59%	87%	65%	32%				
No opinion	5%	3%	5%	4%				
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-7.0	+/-4.5	+/-5.5				

Question 21 When it comes to the congressional hearings on the Benghazi attack, do you think Republicans have gone too far or do you think Republicans have handled the hearings appropriately?

Base = Half Sample

	Total	Men	Women	White 1	Non-White			
Gone too far	 40%	 31%	48%	· 34%	 N/A			
Handled appropriately	40% 51%	60%	40%	54° 598	N/A N/A			
No opinion	98	98	98	78	N/A N/A			
Sampling Error	+/-4.5			-5.0	N/A			
Sampring hitor	17-4.5	17-010		-5.0				
		18-	35-	50-		Under	50 and	
	Total	34	49	64	65+	50	Older	
Gone too far	40%	N/A	N/A	39%	35%	43%	37%	
Handled appropriately	51%	N/A	N/A	56%	61%	46%	57%	
No opinion	98	N/A	N/A	6%	48	11%	5%	
Sampling Error	+/-4.5			+/-7.5	+/-7.5	+/-8.0	+/-5.5	
						Lean	Lean	
		Under	\$50K	No	Attende		Repub-	
	Total	\$50K	or more	College	-	e crat	lican	
Gone too far	40%	47%	35%	36%	43			
Handled appropriately	51%	44%	59%	55%	49			
No opinion	98	98	6%	88	8			
Sampling Error	+/-4.5	+/-7.5	+/-6.0	+/-8.0	+/-5.0	0 +/-7.0	+/-6.0	
		Demo-	Indep-	Repul	o- Lib-	Mod-	Conser	_
	Total	crat	endent	lica	n eral	erate	vative	1
								-
Gone too far	40%	71%	36%	169	8 N/A	46%	21%	
Handled appropriately	51%	20%	57%	749			71%	
No opinion	98	98	88	109			7%	
Sampling Error	+/-4.5	+/-8.5	+/-7.0	+/-7.	5	+/-8.0	+/-6.5	
		North	Mid-				Sub-	
	Total	east	west	South	West	Urban	urban	Rural
			west		west			
Gone too far	40%	N/A	N/A	43%	N/A	58%	32%	N/A
Handled appropriately	51%	N/A	N/A	52%	N/A	38%	57%	N/A
No opinion	98	N/A	N/A	5%	N/A	5%	12%	N/A
Sampling Error	+/-4.5	11/ 11	11/11	+/-7.5	11,7 11		+/-6.5	11/11
Sampling Lifer	.,			.,		.,	.,	
		Tea Pty	Tea Pty	Tea Pty				
	Total	Support	Neutral	Oppose				
Gone too far	40%	N/A	30%	78%				
Handled appropriately	51%	N/A	59%	20%				
No opinion	98	N/A	11%	2%				
Sampling Error	+/-4.5		+/-6.5	+/-7.5				

#### Question 22

Do you think the House Select Committee on Benghazi is mostly conducting an objective investigation of what happened in the Benghazi attack, or is it mostly using the investigation to gain political advantage?

Base = Half Sample

	Total	Men	Women	White N	on-White			
Conducting obj investigation	 23%	23%	 23%	 25%	 N/A			
Using to gain political advan		238 748	71%	23% 71%	N/A			
No opinion	5%	48	68	48	N/A			
Sampling Error	+/-4.5			-5.0	11/11			
Jampiing Liloi	.,	.,	.,,					
		18-	35-	50-		Under	50 and	
	Total	34	49	64	65+	50	Older	
Conducting obj investigation	23%	N/A	N/A	29%	28%	18%	29%	
Using to gain political advan		N/A	N/A	64%	67%	79%	65%	
No opinion	5%	N/A	N/A	78	6%	3%	68	
Sampling Error	+/-4.5			+/-8.0	+/-7.0 +	-/-7.5	+/-5.5	
						Lean	Lean	
		Under	\$50K	No	Attended	l Demo-	Repub-	
	Total	\$50K	or more	College	College	crat	lican	
Conducting obj investigation	23%	21%	26%	18%	27%	12%	39%	
Using to gain political advan		72%	73%	76%	70%	83%	56%	
No opinion	5%	7%	2%	78	3%	48	5%	
Sampling Error	+/-4.5	+/-7.0	+/-6.5	+/-8.5	+/-5.0	+/-6.0	+/-6.5	
		Demo-	Indep-	Repub	- Lib-	Mod-	Conser	
		Dellio-	Indep-	Kepub	- 110-	MOU-	COUPCI	-
	Total	crat	endent	-		erate	vative	
		crat 	endent	lican	eral 	erate 	vative	
Conducting obj investigation	23%	crat  10%	endent  20%	lican  47%	eral  N/A	erate  15%	vative  44%	
Using to gain political advan	23% 72%	crat  10% 85%	endent  20% 75%	lican  47% 49%	eral  N/A N/A	erate  15% 79%	vative  44% 53%	
Using to gain political advan No opinion	23% 72% 5%	crat  10% 85% 5%	endent  20% 75% 5%	lican  47% 49% 4%	eral  N/A	erate  15% 79% 6%	vative  44% 53% 3%	
Using to gain political advan	23% 72%	crat  10% 85%	endent  20% 75%	lican  47% 49%	eral  N/A N/A	erate  15% 79%	vative  44% 53%	
Using to gain political advan No opinion	23% 72% 5%	crat  10% 85% 5% +/-7.5	endent  20% 75% 5% +/-7.0	lican  47% 49% 4%	eral  N/A N/A	erate  15% 79% 6%	vative  44% 53% 3% +/-7.0	
Using to gain political advan No opinion	23% 72% 5%	crat  10% 85% 5%	endent  20% 75% 5%	lican  47% 49% 4%	eral  N/A N/A	erate  15% 79% 6%	vative  44% 53% 3%	
Using to gain political advan No opinion	 23% 72% 5% +/-4.5	crat  10% 85% 5% +/-7.5 North	endent  20% 75% 5% +/-7.0 Mid-	lican  47% 49% 4% +/-8.5	eral  N/A N/A N/A	erate  15% 79% 6% +/-7.0	vative  44% 53% 3% +/-7.0 Sub-	-
Using to gain political advan No opinion	 23% 72% 5% +/-4.5 Total	crat  10% 85% 5% +/-7.5 North east	endent  20% 75% 5% +/-7.0 Mid- west	lican  47% 49% 4% +/-8.5 South	eral  N/A N/A West	erate  15% 79% 6% +/-7.0 Urban	vative 	- Rural
Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error	23% 72% 5% +/-4.5 Total  23%	crat  10% 85% 5% +/-7.5 North east 	endent  20% 75% 5% +/-7.0 Mid- west 	lican 47% 49% 4% +/-8.5 South	eral  N/A N/A West 	erate  15% 79% 6% +/-7.0 Urban 	vative 	- Rural
Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error Conducting obj investigation Using to gain political advan No opinion	 23% 72% 5% +/-4.5 Total  23% 72% 5%	crat  10% 85% 5% +/-7.5 North east  N/A	endent  20% 75% 5% +/-7.0 Mid- west  N/A	lican 47% 49% 4% +/-8.5 South  27% 69% 4%	eral  N/A N/A West  N/A N/A	erate  15% 79% 6% +/-7.0 Urban  18% 78% 4%	vative  44% 53% 3% +/-7.0 Sub- urban  26% 69% 6%	- Rural  N/A
Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error Conducting obj investigation Using to gain political advan	 23% 72% 5% +/-4.5 Total  23% 72%	crat  10% 85% 5% +/-7.5 North east  N/A N/A	endent  20% 75% 5% +/-7.0 Mid- west  N/A N/A	lican 47% 49% 4% +/-8.5 South  27% 69%	eral  N/A N/A West  N/A N/A	erate  15% 79% 6% +/-7.0 Urban  18% 78% 4%	vative  44% 53% 3% +/-7.0 Sub- urban  26% 69%	Rural  N/A N/A
Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error Conducting obj investigation Using to gain political advan No opinion	 23% 72% 5% +/-4.5 Total  23% 72% 5%	crat  10% 85% +/-7.5 North east  N/A N/A N/A	endent  20% 75% 5% +/-7.0 Mid- west  N/A N/A N/A	lican 47% 49% 4% +/-8.5 South  27% 69% 4% +/-7.5	eral  N/A N/A West  N/A N/A	erate  15% 79% 6% +/-7.0 Urban  18% 78% 4%	vative  44% 53% 3% +/-7.0 Sub- urban  26% 69% 6%	Rural  N/A N/A
Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error Conducting obj investigation Using to gain political advan No opinion	 23% 72% 5% +/-4.5 Total  23% 72% 5% +/-4.5	crat 10% 85% +/-7.5 North east  N/A N/A N/A Tea Pty	endent  20% 75% 5% +/-7.0 Mid- west  N/A N/A N/A Tea Pty	lican  47% 49% 4% +/-8.5 South  27% 69% 4% +/-7.5 Tea Pty	eral  N/A N/A West  N/A N/A	erate  15% 79% 6% +/-7.0 Urban  18% 78% 4%	vative  44% 53% 3% +/-7.0 Sub- urban  26% 69% 6%	Rural  N/A N/A
Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error Conducting obj investigation Using to gain political advan No opinion	 23% 72% 5% +/-4.5 Total  23% 72% 5% +/-4.5	crat  10% 85% +/-7.5 North east  N/A N/A N/A	endent  20% 75% 5% +/-7.0 Mid- west  N/A N/A N/A	lican 47% 49% 4% +/-8.5 South  27% 69% 4% +/-7.5	eral  N/A N/A West  N/A N/A	erate  15% 79% 6% +/-7.0 Urban  18% 78% 4%	vative  44% 53% 3% +/-7.0 Sub- urban  26% 69% 6%	Rural  N/A N/A
Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error Conducting obj investigation Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error	 23% 72% 5% +/-4.5 Total  23% 72% 5% +/-4.5 Total 	crat 10% 85% 5% +/-7.5 North east  N/A N/A N/A Tea Pty Support	endent 20% 75% 5% +/-7.0 Mid- west  N/A N/A N/A Tea Pty Neutral	lican 47% 49% 4% +/-8.5 South  27% 69% 4% +/-7.5 Tea Pty Oppose 	eral  N/A N/A West  N/A N/A	erate  15% 79% 6% +/-7.0 Urban  18% 78% 4%	vative  44% 53% 3% +/-7.0 Sub- urban  26% 69% 6%	Rural  N/A N/A
Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error Conducting obj investigation Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error Conducting obj investigation	 23% 72% 5% +/-4.5 Total  23% 72% 5% +/-4.5	crat 10% 85% 5% +/-7.5 North east  N/A N/A Tea Pty Support  N/A	endent 20% 75% 5% +/-7.0 Mid- west  N/A N/A N/A N/A Tea Pty Neutral  22%	lican 47% 49% 4% +/-8.5 South  27% 69% 4% +/-7.5 Tea Pty Oppose  8%	eral  N/A N/A West  N/A N/A	erate  15% 79% 6% +/-7.0 Urban  18% 78% 4%	vative  44% 53% 3% +/-7.0 Sub- urban  26% 69% 6%	Rural  N/A N/A
Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error Conducting obj investigation Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error Conducting obj investigation Using to gain political advan	 23% 72% 5% +/-4.5 Total  23% 72% 5% +/-4.5 Total -23% 72%	crat  10% 85% 5% +/-7.5 North east  N/A N/A Tea Pty Support  N/A N/A	endent  20% 75% 5% +/-7.0 Mid- west  N/A N/A N/A N/A Tea Pty Neutral  22% 73%	lican 47% 49% 4% +/-8.5 South  27% 69% 4% +/-7.5 Tea Pty Oppose  8% 90%	eral  N/A N/A West  N/A N/A	erate  15% 79% 6% +/-7.0 Urban  18% 78% 4%	vative  44% 53% 3% +/-7.0 Sub- urban  26% 69% 6%	Rural  N/A N/A
Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error Conducting obj investigation Using to gain political advan No opinion Sampling Error Conducting obj investigation	 23% 72% 5% +/-4.5 Total  23% 72% 5% +/-4.5	crat 10% 85% 5% +/-7.5 North east  N/A N/A Tea Pty Support  N/A	endent 20% 75% 5% +/-7.0 Mid- west  N/A N/A N/A N/A Tea Pty Neutral  22%	lican 47% 49% 4% +/-8.5 South  27% 69% 4% +/-7.5 Tea Pty Oppose  8%	eral  N/A N/A West  N/A N/A	erate  15% 79% 6% +/-7.0 Urban  18% 78% 4%	vative  44% 53% 3% +/-7.0 Sub- urban  26% 69% 6%	Rural  N/A N/A

Question 22A Which of these statements comes closer to your opinion:

Base = Total Sample

	Total	Men		White No	on-White			
Important indicator, character	54%	58%	50%	58%	45%			
Not relevant to character	43%	41%	44%	39%	51%			
No opinion	48	28	5%	3%	3%			
Sampling Error -	+/-3.0	+/-4.5 +	/-4.5 +/	-3.5 +	/-6.5			
		18-	35-	50-		Under	50 and	
	Total	34	49	64	65+	50	Older	
Important indicator, character	 54%	48%	<b></b> 56%	 54%	 60%	 51%	 56%	
Not relevant to character	43%	47%	44%	42%	36%	46%	40%	
No opinion	48	5%	*	48	48	3%	48	
Sampling Error -	⊦/-3.0	+/-7.5	+/-7.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.0 -	+/-5.5	+/-3.5	
						Lean	Lean	
		Under	\$50K	No	Attended	d Demo-	Repub-	
	Total	\$50K	or more	College	College	crat	lican	
Important indicator, character	 54%	 52%	 55%	 57%	 51%	 31%	 77%	
Not relevant to character	43%	44%	42%	37%	47%	68%		
No opinion	48	48	3%	6%	2%	1%		
-	⊦/-3.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.5	+/-6.0	+/-3.5	+/-4.5	+/-4.5	
		Demo-	Indep-	Repub	- Lib-	Mod-	Conse	r-
	Total	crat	endent	lican	eral	erate	vativ	e
Important indicator, character	54%	28%	57%	80%	31%	49%	72%	
Not relevant to character	43%	70%	39%	17%	67%	47%	25%	
No opinion Sampling Error -	4% ⊦/-3.0	2% +/-5.5	5% +/-5.0	3% +/-5.5		4% +/-5.0	3% +/-4.5	
Sampling Ellor		+/-J.J	+/-5.0	+/=J.J	+/=0.5	+/=5.0	+/-4.5	
		North	Mid-				Sub-	
	Total	east	west	South	West	Urban	urban	Rural
Townsel indiants shows the								
Important indicator, character Not relevant to character	54% 43%	53% 46%	49% 50%	58% 36%	53% 43%	45%	57% 41%	61% 28%
No opinion	438	40%	1%	50% 6%	438	54% 2%	41% 2%	205
-	+/-3.0	+/-6.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.0				+/-6.5
Sampling Ellor		+/=0.5	+/=0.5	+/=3.0	+/=0.5		+/-4.J	+/=0.5
		Tea Pty	Tea Pty	Tea Pty				
	Total	Support	Neutral	Oppose				
Toursel and indication of the								
Important indicator, character	54%	81%	59%	27%				
Not relevant to character	43%	17%	37%	71%				
No opinion Sampling Error -	4% ⊦/-3.0	2% +/-7.0	4% +/-4.5	2% +/-5.5				
		+/-/.0	F/ <b>-4</b> .5	+/-0.0				