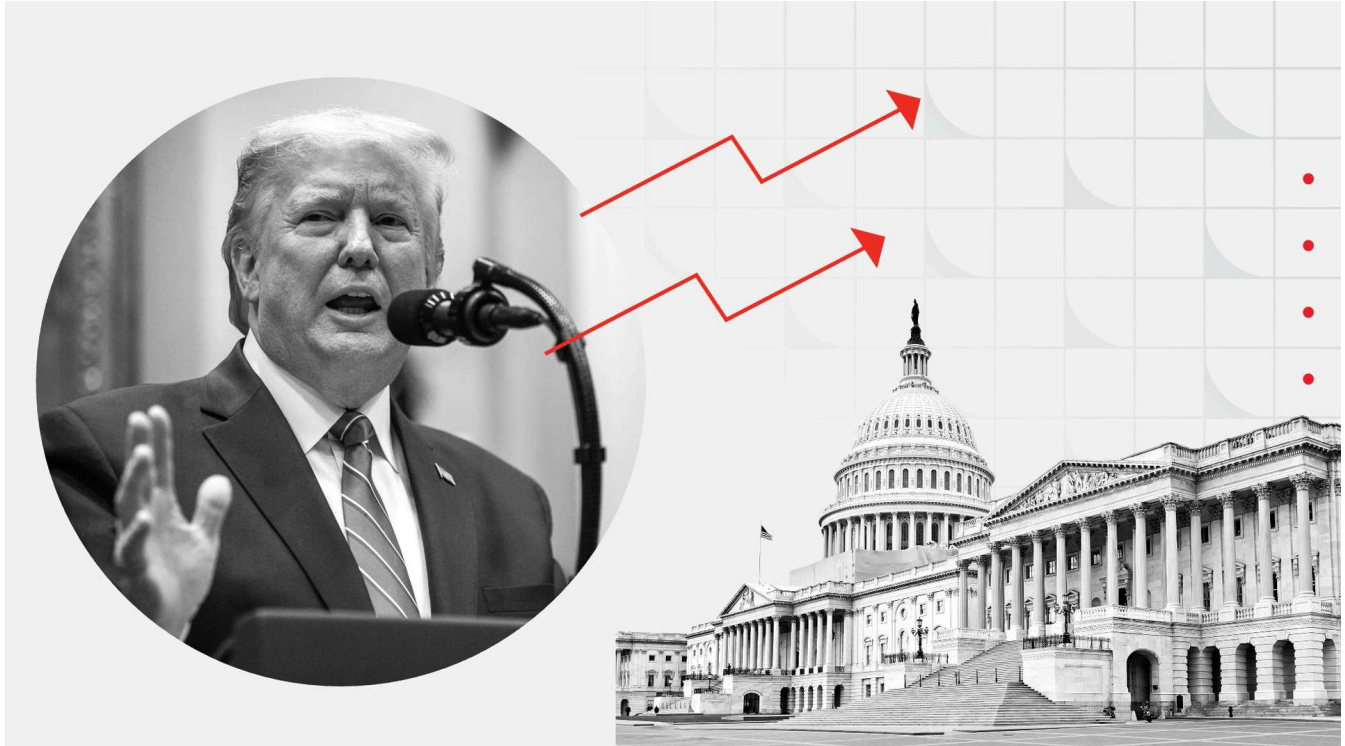


Tracking Public Opinion of Trump's Washington

Trump's approval rating dips as government shutdown continues



By Eli Yokley & Cameron Easley

Morning Consult is tracking what voters across the country think about how President Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress are governing the United States ahead of the 2026 midterm elections. Each week, we'll update this page with fresh and timely data on all of the major questions facing Washington, including views about the people in charge, the issues dominating the conversation and what is actually breaking through to the electorate.

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KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Trump's approval rating returns to 2025 low amid shutdown:** With the federal government shut down since Oct. 1, Trump's approval rating declined from 46% to 45% over the past week, tying a record low for his second term in office, while his disapproval rating ticked up from 52% to 53% over that time frame, tying a record high for the year.
- **Shutdown remains the country's biggest story:** Roughly half of voters (49%) say they've seen, read or heard "a lot" about the shutdown. That's a larger percentage than we measured for the Israel-Hamas cease-fire, which 35% of voters reported hearing a lot about, making it the week's second-most salient story. The share of voters who say they've heard a lot about this shutdown is also higher than [the 42% who said the same](#) at a similar point of the prior shutdown, which began in late 2018 and ended in early 2019.

- **Congressional Democrats' popularity ticks back up:** Voters are 5 percentage points more likely to have an unfavorable than favorable view of Democrats in Congress, a 2-point improvement from last week that nonetheless leaves them less popular with Americans than they were for most of September. At 7 points underwater, Republicans in Congress remain slightly less popular with the U.S. electorate.
- **Schumer bests Johnson in popularity:** For the first time this year, House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.) has a lower net favorability rating among voters than Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.). However, with respective net ratings of -5 points and -4 points, both leaders are underwater with the overall electorate.
- **Improving buzz on foreign affairs:** The prospect of peace in the Middle East appears to be driving more favorable coverage about foreign affairs more generally. Voters are only 10 points more likely to report hearing something negative than positive about global matters and international affairs over the past week. That's the best net buzz rating on that topic that we've clocked since early February.

People



Trump's approval ratings

Latest

Voter approval of President Donald Trump's job performance

Strongly approve
 Somewhat approve
 Don't know/No opinion

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