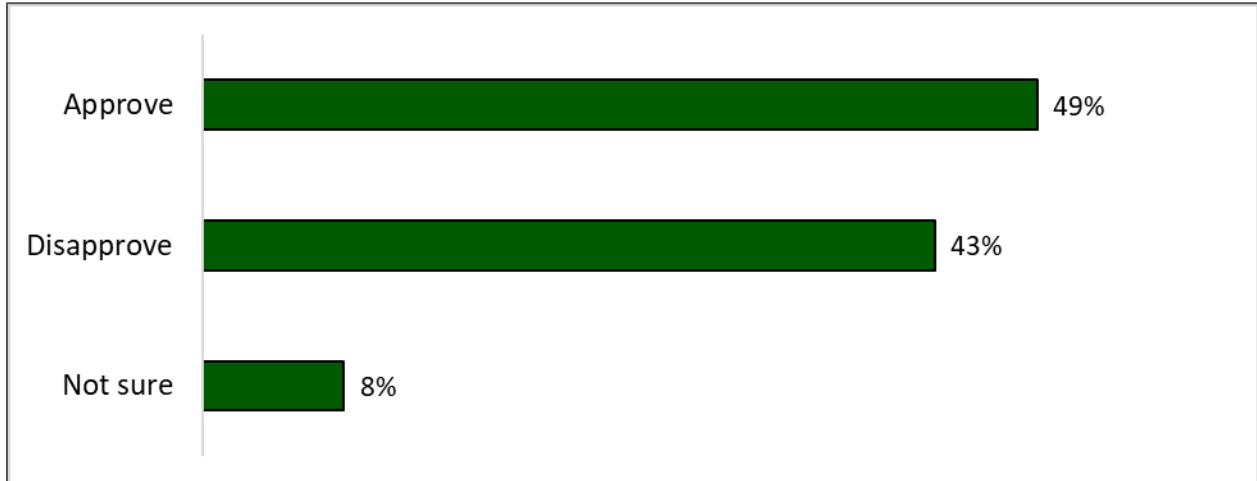


# Justice Brett Kavanaugh

Findings from the MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll

October 24, 2018

**Just under half of Minnesota voters approve of the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court, while 43 percent say they disapprove, and eight percent are unsure**



Question: "Do you approve or disapprove of the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh as a Supreme Court justice?"  
Source: MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll, October 15-17, 2018. N=800 registered Minnesota voters who are likely to vote in November; overall margin of error = +/-3.5 percentage points.

## Key findings

Results from the MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll of 800 likely voters show:

- **Overall just under half of Minnesota voters approve of the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh as a Supreme Court justice, while 43 percent disapprove, and eight percent are unsure.**
  - There is a clear partisan split on this topic: 93 percent of Republicans approve of the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court, while 84 percent of Democrats *disapprove*.
  - Independent voters are more divided amongst themselves, with a majority approving of the confirmation, while one-third disapproves.
  - Overall, 57 percent of men approve, and 36 percent disapprove, while the share of women who approve falls to 42 percent and grows for those who disapprove to 49 percent.
  - Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court also garnered approval by a majority of voters from the following groups: those who are at least 50 years of age, have an annual household income between above \$50,000 and under \$100,000, men at least 50 years of age, and residents of the metro suburbs, Northern, or Southern Minnesota.
  - The majority of likely voters *disapprove* of Kavanaugh's confirmation among those who are age 18-34, have an annual household income of less than \$25,000, are residents of Hennepin or Ramsey County, or are women age 18-49.
- **A majority of likely voters believe Kavanaugh will be an "independent and impartial" judge now that he has been confirmed.**
  - There are strong partisan divides on this topic, with more than three-quarters of Democrats indicating they do *not* believe Kavanaugh will be independent and impartial, and 95 percent of Republicans saying he *will* be.
    - Mirroring their approval ratings of his confirmation, over half of independent voters believe Justice Kavanaugh will be independent and impartial, while one-third say he will not be.
  - A strong majority of men believe Kavanaugh will be independent and impartial, while women are evenly split.
  - A full half of women voters age 18-49 are more likely to think Kavanaugh will not be independent and impartial, compared to 40 percent of women at least 50 years old who believe he will be.

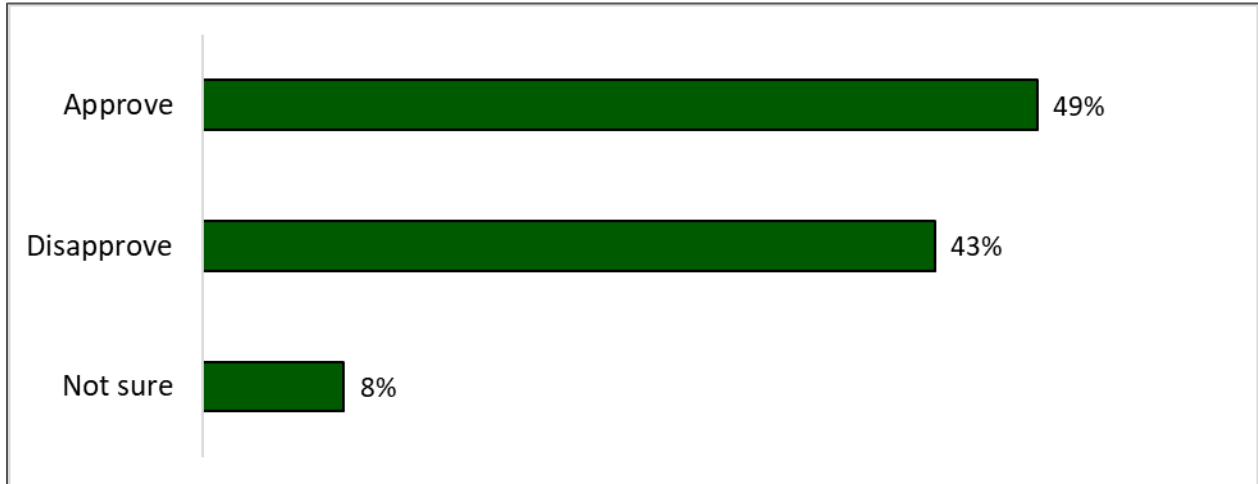
- Additionally, a majority of voters from Hennepin and Ramsey Counties in addition to a majority of voters age 18-34 do not believe Kavanaugh will be an independent and impartial judge.
  - A majority of voters with an annual household income of at least \$50,000, who are at least 35 years old, or who live in the metro suburbs, Northern, or Southern Minnesota believe Kavanaugh will act with independence and impartiality as a Supreme Court justice.
- **In Minnesota, likely voters are evenly split on whether the confirmation of Justice Kavanaugh will increase their likelihood of voting for either Democrats or Republicans.**
  - Just over half of likely voters age 18-34 say the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court makes them more likely to vote for Democrats, while 32 percent say Republicans.
  - We see a similar pattern for women age 18-49 and residents of Hennepin and Ramsey Counties.
  - Men indicated they are more likely to vote Republican, while women indicated they are more likely to vote Democrat as a result of the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court.
  - Likely voters with an annual household income of less than \$50,000 said the confirmation of Kavanaugh makes them more likely to vote Democratic (45%) than Republican (30%).
  - Residents of the metro suburbs and Northern Minnesota are more likely to say the confirmation of Kavanaugh makes them more likely to vote Republican, whereas residents of Hennepin and Ramsey Counties are more likely to vote Democrat as a result of his confirmation.
- **Forty-one percent of likely voters do not believe the allegation of sexual assault against Kavanaugh, while 35 percent do believe it, and a 24 percent are unsure.**
  - Overall, there is no statistical difference between the share of men and women who believe the allegation (approximately one-third); however, considerably more men than women say they do *not* believe the allegation (48% and 35%, respectively).
    - Women voters age 18-49 are more likely to believe the allegations against Kavanaugh, with 4 in 10 saying this.
    - Men voters at least 50 years of age are almost twice as likely to say they do *not* believe the allegations against Kavanaugh (52%) compared to those who do believe (27%) or unsure if they believe the allegation (21%).

- At least 45 percent of voters who are at least 50 years of age, have an annual household income over \$50,000, or live in the metro suburbs, Southern, or Northern Minnesota do *not* believe the allegations.
- In Hennepin and Ramsey Counties, a plurality of likely voters believes the allegation (48%), while approximately one-quarter do not believe the allegations or are unsure.
- Allegations against Justice Kavanaugh are different in nature than are the allegations against Representative Keith Ellison, and so are the responses of likely voters to those allegations, as noted in a special section concluding the body of this brief.

The remainder of this report details these findings in tables and graphs. Please see the appendices for survey background and methods, respondent characteristics, regional definitions, and exact question wording.

## Justice Kavanaugh confirmation approval rating

**Just under half of Minnesota voters approve of the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court, while 43 percent say they disapprove, and eight percent are unsure**



Question: "Do you approve or disapprove of the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh as a Supreme Court justice?"  
Source: MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll, October 15-17, 2018. N=800 registered Minnesota voters who are likely to vote in November; overall margin of error = +/-3.5 percentage points.

## Approval of Justice Kavanaugh's confirmation, by group

	Approve	Disapprove	Not sure
<b>ALL</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>43%</b>	8%
<b>SEX</b>			
Male	<b>57%</b>	<b>36%</b>	7%
Female	<b>42%</b>	<b>49%</b>	9%
<b>AGE GROUP</b>			
18-34	<b>39%</b>	<b>57%</b>	4%
35-49	46%	43%	10%
50-64	<b>52%</b>	<b>39%</b>	9%
65+	<b>54%</b>	<b>38%</b>	8%
<b>AGE by SEX</b>			
Male, 18-49	51%	43%	6%
Male, 50 or older	<b>61%</b>	<b>31%</b>	8%
Female, 18-49	<b>36%</b>	<b>54%</b>	10%
Female, 50 or older	46%	45%	9%
<b>ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME</b>			
Under \$50,000	40%	48%	12%
<i>Under \$25,00</i>	<b>35%</b>	<b>52%</b>	13%
<i>\$25,000-\$49,999</i>	44%	45%	12%
\$50,000 or more	<b>53%</b>	<b>42%</b>	6%
<i>\$50,000-\$74,999</i>	<b>54%</b>	<b>40%</b>	5%
<i>\$75,000-\$99,999</i>	<b>57%</b>	<b>36%</b>	6%
<i>\$100,000+</i>	48%	47%	5%
<b>REGION <sup>b</sup></b>			
Hennepin/Ramsey	<b>33%</b>	<b>58%</b>	9%
Metro Suburbs	<b>57%</b>	<b>36%</b>	8%
Southern Minnesota	<b>53%</b>	<b>38%</b>	9%
Northern Minnesota	<b>60%</b>	<b>33%</b>	7%
<b>PARTY IDENTIFICATION</b>			
DFL/Democrat	<b>6%</b>	<b>84%</b>	10%
Independent/other	<b>55%</b>	<b>33%</b>	12%
Republican	<b>93%</b>	<b>4%</b>	3%

Source: APM Research Lab analysis of MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll, October 15-17, 2018. N=800 registered Minnesota voters who are likely to vote in November; overall margin of error = +/-3.5 percentage points.

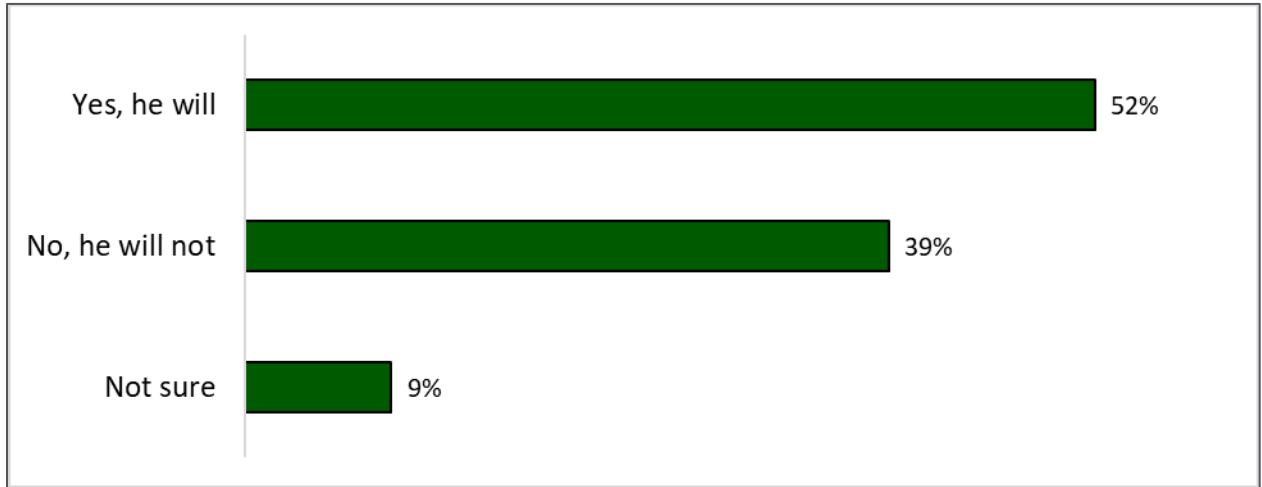
Question: "Do you approve or disapprove of the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh as a Supreme Court justice?"

Note: **Bolded percentages** indicate a statistically significant difference (95 percent confidence level or higher).

<sup>a</sup> See Appendix 2 for definition of regions.

## Belief in Kavanaugh's impartiality and independence as judge

**More than half of voters believe Kavanaugh will be an independent and impartial Supreme Court justice, while 39 percent say he will not, and nine percent are unsure**



Question: "Now that Kavanaugh he has been confirmed, do you believe Kavanaugh will or will not be 'independent and impartial'?"

Source: MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll, October 15-17, 2018. N=800 registered Minnesota voters who are likely to vote in November; overall margin of error = +/-3.5 percentage points.

Note: This was the first series of questions asked in the survey, and did not include reference to a specific title, office, or political party.

## Belief in whether Justice Kavanaugh will be independent and impartial judge, by group

	Yes, he will	No, he will not	Not sure
<b>ALL</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>39%</b>	9%
<b>SEX</b>			
Male	<b>60%</b>	<b>34%</b>	6%
Female	<b>44%</b>	<b>44%</b>	12%
<b>AGE GROUP</b>			
18-34	<b>37%</b>	<b>53%</b>	10%
35-49	<b>53%</b>	<b>40%</b>	7%
50-64	<b>56%</b>	<b>37%</b>	8%
65+	<b>56%</b>	<b>33%</b>	11%
<b>AGE by SEX</b>			
Male, 18-49	<b>57%</b>	<b>39%</b>	4%
Male, 50 or older	<b>63%</b>	<b>29%</b>	7%
Female, 18-49	<b>38%</b>	<b>50%</b>	12%
Female, 50 or older	<b>49%</b>	<b>40%</b>	11%
<b>ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME</b>			
Under \$50,000	47%	47%	7%
\$50,000 or more	<b>56%</b>	<b>36%</b>	8%
<b>REGION <sup>a</sup></b>			
Hennepin/Ramsey	<b>40%</b>	<b>53%</b>	7%
Metro Suburbs	<b>57%</b>	<b>33%</b>	10%
Southern Minnesota	<b>57%</b>	<b>34%</b>	9%
Northern Minnesota	<b>59%</b>	<b>31%</b>	10%
<b>PARTY IDENTIFICATION</b>			
DFL/Democrat	<b>11%</b>	<b>77%</b>	12%
Independent	<b>55%</b>	<b>31%</b>	13%
Republican	<b>96%</b>	<b>3%</b>	2%

Source: APM Research Lab analysis of MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll, October 15-17, 2018. N=800 registered Minnesota voters who are likely to vote in November; overall margin of error = +/-3.5 percentage points. Question: "Now that Kavanaugh he has been confirmed, do you believe Kavanaugh will or will not be 'independent and impartial'?"

Note: **Bolded percentages** indicate a statistically significant difference (95 percent confidence level or higher).

<sup>a</sup> See Appendix 2 for definition of regions.



## Influence of Justice Kavanaugh’s confirmation hearing on the election

### Whether confirmation of Justice Kavanaugh increased likelihood to vote for Democrats or Republicans, by group

	Democrats	Republicans	Neither	Not sure
<b>ALL</b>	41%	39%	13%	8%
<b>SEX</b>				
Male	<b>34%</b>	<b>45%</b>	15%	6%
Female	<b>47%</b>	<b>33%</b>	11%	9%
<b>AGE GROUP</b>				
18-34	<b>51%</b>	<b>32%</b>	11%	5%
35-49	43%	38%	12%	7%
50-64	36%	42%	15%	7%
65+	35%	40%	14%	10%
<b>AGE by SEX</b>				
Male, 18-49	42%	42%	13%	3%
Male, 50 or older	<b>28%</b>	<b>47%</b>	17%	7%
Female, 18-49	<b>51%</b>	<b>29%</b>	11%	9%
Female, 50 or older	43%	35%	12%	10%
<b>ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME</b>				
Under \$50,000	<b>45%</b>	<b>30%</b>	16%	9%
\$50,000 or more	38%	44%	13%	6%
<b>REGION <sup>a</sup></b>				
Hennepin/Ramsey	<b>56%</b>	<b>24%</b>	15%	5%
Metro Suburbs	<b>33%</b>	<b>47%</b>	11%	9%
Southern Minnesota	35%	44%	11%	9%
Northern Minnesota	<b>33%</b>	<b>44%</b>	17%	6%
<b>PARTY IDENTIFICATION</b>				
DFL/Democrat	<b>84%</b>	<b>1%</b>	9%	7%
Independent/other	27%	34%	27%	12%
Republican	<b>2%</b>	<b>86%</b>	7%	5%

Question: “Does the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court make you more likely to vote for Democrats or Republicans?”

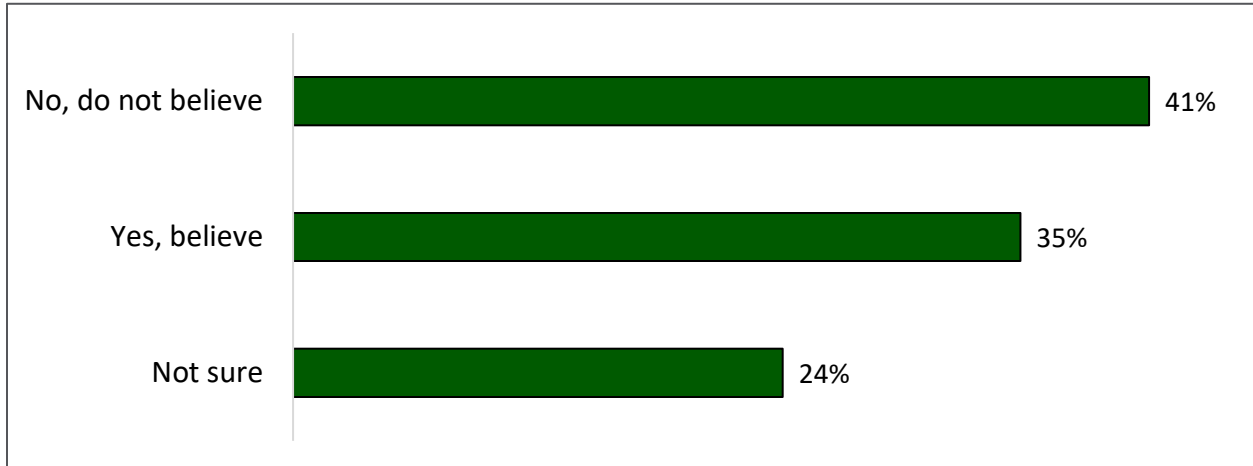
Source: APM Research Lab analysis of MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll, October 15-17, 2018. N=800 registered Minnesota voters who are likely to vote in November; overall margin of error = +/-3.5 percentage points.

<sup>a</sup> See Appendix 2 for definition of regions.

Note: **Bolded percentages** indicate a statistically significant difference (95 percent confidence level or higher).

## Belief in sexual assault allegation

**Forty-one percent of voters do not believe the allegation of sexual assault against Kavanaugh, while 35 percent do believe the allegations, and one-quarter are unsure**



*Question: "As you may know, Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh has been accused of committing sexual assault when he was a teenager. Do you believe this allegation, or not?"*

*Source: MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll, September 10-12 and October 15-17, 2018. N=800 registered Minnesota voters who are likely to vote in November; overall margin of error = +/-3.5 percentage points.*

## Belief in sexual assault allegation, by group

	Yes, believe	No, do not believe	Not sure
<b>ALL</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>41%</b>	24%
<b>SEX</b>			
Male	<b>32%</b>	<b>48%</b>	20%
Female	38%	35%	27%
<b>AGE GROUP</b>			
18-34	42%	35%	24%
35-49	36%	37%	27%
50-64	<b>35%</b>	<b>44%</b>	22%
65+	<b>30%</b>	<b>47%</b>	23%
<b>AGE by SEX</b>			
Male, 18-49	37%	44%	19%
Male, 50 or older	<b>27%</b>	<b>52%</b>	21%
Female, 18-49	<b>39%</b>	<b>29%</b>	32%
Female, 50 or older	38%	39%	23%
<b>ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME</b>			
Under \$50,000	39%	37%	24%
\$50,000 or more	<b>34%</b>	<b>45%</b>	22%
<b>REGION <sup>b</sup></b>			
Hennepin/Ramsey	<b>48%</b>	<b>27%</b>	25%
Metro Suburbs	<b>28%</b>	<b>47%</b>	25%
Southern Minnesota	<b>29%</b>	<b>47%</b>	24%
Northern Minnesota	<b>30%</b>	<b>51%</b>	19%
<b>PARTY IDENTIFICATION</b>			
DFL/Democrat	<b>69%</b>	<b>7%</b>	25%
Independent/other	<b>26%</b>	<b>40%</b>	34%
Republican	<b>5%</b>	<b>82%</b>	13%

Source: APM Research Lab analysis of MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll, 2018. N=800 registered Minnesota voters who are likely to vote in November; overall margin of error = +/-3.5 percentage points.

Question: "As you may know, Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh has been accused of committing sexual assault when he was a teenager. Do you believe this allegation, or not?"

**Bolded percentages** indicate a statistically significant difference (95 percent confidence level or higher).

<sup>a</sup> See Appendix 2 for definition of regions.

## Special section: Comparison of responses to allegations against Representative Keith Ellison and Justice Brett Kavanaugh

The allegations of domestic abuse against Keith Ellison, a current member of the U.S. House of Representatives who is running to be Minnesota's next attorney general, are quite different from the sexual assault allegations against Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh.<sup>2</sup> Still there are enough similarities to warrant comparisons between how likely voters in Minnesota are reacting to the two cases.

Responses to the allegations against Kavanaugh are shown above. Some of the responses to the allegations against Keith Ellison are shown in the next table.<sup>3</sup> In comparison:

- A higher proportion of likely voters are unsure of whether to believe the allegations against Ellison (49%) than is the case for Kavanaugh (24%).
- In both cases, women are somewhat more likely than men to be uncertain.
- Women who express certainty are split between believing and not believing the accusations.
- While a significantly higher proportion of men believe that the allegations against Ellison are true (36%) than believe they are false (20%); the reverse is true for the Kavanaugh allegations, where a significantly higher proportion believe those allegations to be false (48%) than true (32%).

As shown in the final table in this section, it is relatively rare for likely voters to have completely "consistent" responses to these two separate allegations. Only seven percent believe allegations against both Ellison and Kavanaugh and only eight percent say they do not believe the allegations in both cases. Seventeen percent say they are not sure in response to questions about both cases.

- Among those who believe the allegations against Ellison, the most common response is to *not* believe to the allegations against Kavanaugh (161 of 242 responses).
- Among those who believe the allegations against Kavanaugh, the most common response is to be unsure about the allegations against Ellison (151 of 281 responses).

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<sup>2</sup> For reporting on the allegations against Keith Ellison, see <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2018/08/12/abuse-allegation-made-against-keith-ellison-denies-attorney-general-election> and <http://www.startribune.com/u-s-rep-keith-ellison-denies-domestic-violence-allegation/490674981/>

<sup>3</sup> For complete results, see [https://www.apmresearchlab.org/stories/2018/09/16/mpr-news-star-tribune-minnesota-poll-walz-leads-governors-race-especially-young-voters-women#h1.attorney\\_general%E2%80%99s\\_race](https://www.apmresearchlab.org/stories/2018/09/16/mpr-news-star-tribune-minnesota-poll-walz-leads-governors-race-especially-young-voters-women#h1.attorney_general%E2%80%99s_race)

## Belief in domestic abuse allegations against Keith Ellison, by group

	Yes, believe	No, do not believe	Not sure
<b>ALL</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>21%</b>	49%
<b>SEX</b>			
Male	<b>36%</b>	<b>20%</b>	44%
Female	25%	22%	53%
<b>PARTY IDENTIFICATION</b>			
DFL/Democrat	<b>13%</b>	<b>31%</b>	56%
Independent/other	<b>33%</b>	<b>16%</b>	51%
Republican	<b>48%</b>	<b>14%</b>	38%

Source: APM Research Lab analysis of MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll, October 15-17, 2018. N=800 registered Minnesota voters who are likely to vote in November; overall margin of error = +/-3.5 percentage points.

Question: "The ex-girlfriend of Keith Ellison, the Democratic nominee for attorney general, has alleged that he committed an act of domestic violence against her. Do you believe her allegation, or not?"

Note: Statistically significant differences are shown in **bold** (95 percent confidence level or higher).

## Responses to Ellison and Kavanaugh allegations

		Kavanaugh sexual assault allegations		
		Yes, believe	No, do not believe	Not sure
<b>Ellison domestic abuse allegations</b>	Yes, believe	52 (7% of total)	161 (20% of total)	29 (4% of total)
	No, do not believe	76 (10% of total)	65 (8% of total)	27 (3% of total)
	Not sure	153 (19% of total)	104 (13% of total)	133 (17% of total)

Source: APM Research Lab analysis of MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll, October 15-17, 2018. N=800 registered Minnesota voters who are likely to vote in November; overall margin of error = +/-3.5 percentage points.

Questions: "As you may know, Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh has been accused of committing sexual assault when he was a teenager. Do you believe this allegation, or not?" and "The ex-girlfriend of Keith Ellison, the Democratic nominee for attorney general, has alleged that he committed an act of domestic violence against her. Do you believe her allegation, or not?"

## Appendix 1: Survey background and methods

This survey is the result of a collaboration between Minnesota Public Radio News and the Star Tribune. It is a continuation of the Star Tribune's periodic "Minnesota Poll."<sup>4</sup>

Mason-Dixon Polling & Strategy, Inc. of Jacksonville, Florida, designed and executed the survey, including sample construction and screening procedures, data collection, and analysis. The poll was conducted from October 15 through 17, 2018. A total of 800 registered Minnesota voters were interviewed statewide by telephone. All indicated they were likely to vote in the November general election.

Those interviewed were randomly selected from a phone-matched Minnesota voter registration list that included both land-line and cell phone numbers. Quotas were assigned to reflect voter turnout by county.

Mason-Dixon provided the following information regarding survey cooperation:

	Human contacted (potential respondent)	Agreeing to participate	Of those agreeing, number qualifying (screened in) and completing survey
Land-line	1,580	577 (37%)	479 (83%)
Mobile	1,895	417 (22%)	321 (77%)
TOTAL	3,475	994 (29%)	800 (80%)

The data were not weighted. The overall margin for error is no more than  $\pm 3.5$  percentage points. This means that there is a 95 percent probability that the "true" figure would fall within that range if all adults were surveyed. The margin for error is higher for any subgroup, such as a sex or age grouping, as shown in Appendix 2.

The APM Research Lab provided consultation on the questionnaire and additional analysis of survey results, including this brief.

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<sup>4</sup> See <http://www.startribune.com/the-minnesota-poll/468458743/>

## Appendix 2: Characteristics of survey sample

	Survey respondents <sup>a</sup>		Margin of error for within-group analysis <sup>b</sup>	All Minnesotans age 18+ <sup>c</sup>
	Number	Percent <sup>d</sup>	Percentage points ±	
<b>ALL</b>	800	100%	3.5	4,277,949
<b>SEX</b>				
Male	384	48%	5.0	49%
Female	416	52%	4.8	51%
<b>AGE GROUP</b>				
18-34	136	17%	8.4	29%
35-49	210	26%	6.8	24%
50-64	237	30%	6.4	26%
65+	210	26%	6.8	20%
Refused	7	--	--	
<b>ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME</b>				
Under \$50,000	225	36%	6.5	36%
<i>Under \$25,000</i>	106	17%	--	16%
<i>\$25,000-\$49,999</i>	119	19%	--	20%
\$50,000 or more	400	64%	4.9	64%
<i>\$50,000-\$74,999</i>	131	21%	--	19%
<i>\$75,000-\$99,999</i>	129	21%	--	14%
<i>\$100,000 or more</i>	140	22%	--	32%
Refused	175	--	--	
<b>REGION <sup>e</sup></b>				
Hennepin/Ramsey	255	32%	6.1	33%
Metro Suburbs	230	29%	6.5	28%
Southern Minnesota	160	20%	7.7	19%
Northern Minnesota	155	19%	7.9	20%
<b>PARTY IDENTIFICATION</b>				
DFL/Democrat	306	38%	5.6	--
Independent	229	29%	6.5	--
Republican	265	33%	6.0	--
<b>INTERVIEW TYPE</b>				
Land-line	479	60%	--	--
Cell phone	321	40%	--	--

<sup>a</sup> MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll. N=800 registered Minnesota voters who are likely to vote in November.

<sup>b</sup> Maximum margin of error at 95 percent confidence level for results presented for the group. For example, if 50 percent of males prefer a given candidate, there is a 95 percent probability that the value for the entire population would be between 45 and 55 percent.

<sup>c</sup> Mason Dixon's methods for this survey are designed to mirror the population that will vote in November. The exact characteristics of that population are unknowable; we provide characteristics of all adults as a point of reference (APM Research Lab analysis of U.S. Census Bureau 2017 Population Estimates and American Community Survey).

<sup>d</sup> Percentages in this table are calculated as "valid percentages"; refusals are excluded from the denominator.

<sup>e</sup> Regional definitions are noted below

## Comparison with September Minnesota Poll

In comparing the characteristics of the survey sample noted in the table above from the Minnesota Poll conducted September 10-12, 2018 with those of the Minnesota Poll conducted October 15-17, 2018, there are no statistically significant differences in terms of describing the broader target population of likely voters. However, there are some minor differences that may influence the overall results, in addition to the changes in the actual opinions of the broader population. Note that the two surveys are independent of one another; Mason Dixon did *not* attempt to interview the same respondents.

There is a slight difference in the age profile of respondents, with a 2.0 percentage point decrease from September to October in the proportion represented in the youngest age category, 18-34. The oldest category (65+) also decreased slightly, while the two middle categories both increased by less than 2 percentage points.

There also was a 2.8 percentage point increase in the proportion of respondents indicating that they had annual incomes below \$25,000 and a decrease of nearly 5 percentage points in the portion of respondents who refused to answer the income question; proportions represented in the broader “Under \$50,000” and “\$50,000 or more” categories differed by less than one percentage points between the two surveys.

There are no regional differences between the two surveys as regions were used as quotas in the sampling for both iterations of the Minnesota Poll.

In the October poll, the percentage of respondents identifying as Republican and DFL or Democrat increased by 2.4 and 0.9 percentage points, respectively, while the percentage identifying as independent decreased by 3.3 percentage points. Note that party identification can change as respondents associate themselves with candidates.

	October 15-17		September 10-12	
	<i>Number</i>	Percent <sup>d</sup>	<i>Number</i>	Percent <sup>d</sup>
<b>PARTY IDENTIFICATION</b>				
DFL/Democrat	306	38%	299	37%
Independent	229	29%	255	32%
Republican	265	33%	246	31%

<sup>a</sup> MPR News | Star Tribune Minnesota Poll. N=800 registered Minnesota voters who are likely to vote in November.



## Regions

**Hennepin/Ramsey:** Likely voters in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties.

**Metro Suburbs:** Likely voters in Scott, Wright, Sherburne, Carver, Dakota, Anoka, Isanti, Chisago and Washington Counties.

**Southern Minnesota:** Likely voters in Goodhue, Rice, Le Sueur, Blue Earth, Waseca, Freeborn, Steele, Dodge, Mower, Fillmore, Olmstead, Houston, Winona, Wabasha, Rock, Nobles, Jackson, Martin, Faribault, Watonwan, Cottonwood, Murray, Pipestone, Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood, Brown, Nicollet, McLeod, Renville, Sibley, Meeker, Kandiyohi, Chippewa, Yellow Medicine, Lac Qui Parle, Swift, Big Stone, Traverse, Stevens, Pope, Douglas, and Grant Counties.

**Northern Minnesota:** Likely voters in Benton, Stearns, Morrison, Todd, Wadena, Otter Tail, Wilkin, Clay, Becker, Hubbard, Beltrami, Lake of the Woods, Clearwater, Mahnomen, Norman, Polk, Red Lake, Pennington, Marshall, Roseau, Kittson, Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Itasca, Cass, Crow Wing, Aitkin, Carlton, Pine, Kanabec, and Mille Lacs Counties.

**Metro:** Hennepin/Ramsey and Metro Suburbs combined.

**Greater Minnesota:** Southern and Northern Minnesota combined.

## Appendix 3: Question wording

### OCTOBER 2018 MINNESOTA POLL

Good evening. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ from Mason-Dixon Polling. We are conducting a statewide public opinion poll. Would you have a few minutes to participate?

SCREENER #1: Are you a registered voter in the state of Minnesota?

YES-SKIP TO SCREENER 3      NO-PROCEED

SCREENER #2: Are you planning to register at the polls on Election Day in order to vote?

YES      1-SKIP TO Q1                      NO-TERMINATE

SCREENER #3: In November, there will be a general election for Governor, two US Senate seats and other state and local offices. Which of the following best describes your plans for participating in that election?

I will vote by absentee ballot	1-PROCEED
I will definitely vote on Election Day	2-PROCEED
I will probably vote on Election Day	3-PROCEED
I may or may not vote	4-TERMINATE
I probably will not vote	5-TERMINATE
I definitely will not vote	6-TERMINATE
Not Sure ( <b>DO NOT READ</b> )	7-TERMINATE

22) Do you approve or disapprove of the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh as a Supreme Court justice?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 3 Not sure

23) Does the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court make you more likely to vote for Democrats or Republicans?

- 1 Democrats
- 2 Republicans
- 3 Neither (**DO NOT READ**)
- 4 Not sure (**DO NOT READ**)

24) As you may know, Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh has been accused of committing sexual assault when he was a teenager. Do you believe this allegation, or not?

- 1 Yes, believe
- 2 No, do not believe
- 3 Not sure

25) Brett Kavanaugh said he would be an “independent and impartial” justice if confirmed to the Supreme Court. Now that he has been confirmed, do believe Kavanaugh will or will not be “independent and impartial”?

- 1 Yes, he will
- 2 No, he will not
- 3 Not sure

30) In terms of your political party identification, do you generally consider yourself DFL or Democrat, Republican or an independent?

DFL/Democrat 1      Republican 2      Independent/Other 3

31) What is your age?

18-34	1
35-49	2
50-64	3
65+	4
Refused	5

32) What is your annual household income?

<\$25,000	1
\$25,000-\$49,999	2
\$50,000-\$74,999	3
\$75,000-\$99,999	4
\$100,000+	5
Refused ( <b>DO NOT READ</b> )	6

33) NOTE SEX:      Male 1                      Female 2

34) NOTE REGION:

Hennepin/Ramsey Counties	1
Metro Suburbs	2
Southern Minnesota	3
Northern Minnesota	4

## About the APM Research Lab: Bringing Facts into Focus

The APM Research Lab is a division of American Public Media aimed at informing the public by producing credible research- and analysis-based content. Our mission is to foster an engaged democracy by inspiring curiosity, inquiry and discussion through fact-driven, credible research and analysis. Values: Independent, Useful, Informative, Non-partisan.

The APM Research Lab conducts research projects of all types — surveys, demographic analyses, literature reviews, and more — and informs the work of partner organizations and the broader public through traditional reports, as well as infographics, blog posts, interactives, presentations, and other platforms.

In addition to philanthropic support and partnership, we are happy to entertain requests for proposals and other contractual inquiries related to research and analysis.



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