

Pew National Parks Phone Survey

Interview Schedule

June 20-24, 2019

Project #: 19025

n=700 registered voters

Margin of error = ± 3.7 percentage points



OPINION
RESEARCH
& STRATEGY

In this document...

- *An asterisk (*) in a response category means that less than 0.5% of respondents chose that response category and a dash (-) represents no response.*
 - *^ Denotes rounding. Due to rounding, some figures may be higher or lower by less than one-half of 1 percent.*
 - *At the beginning of the survey, we asked all respondents whether they would prefer to take the survey in English or in Spanish. Spanish interviewing was conducted among n=3 respondents nationwide.*
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1. Thinking back, have you ever visited... **(READ IN ORDER)**

- 14% A national park
- 6% A historic site, cultural site or battlefield managed by the National Park Service
- 66% Both
- ...OR...
- 12% Neither
- 2% Do not recall/unsure **(DO NOT READ)**

87% TOTAL YES

The National Park Service is responsible for maintaining 419 national park sites around the country, including 28,000 buildings, eighteen 18,000 miles of trails and over 5,000 miles of paved roads.

2. If you had to guess, would you say that the National Park Service **(ROTATE)**—does or does not—have adequate funding to maintain national parks and the historic sites for which it is responsible?

- 26% Yes
 - 62% No

 - 12% Unsure/refused **(DO NOT READ)**
-

The National Park Service currently has a backlog of repairs of \$11.9 billion. The following are different ways the National Park Service might use additional funds to address this backlog. Knowing that there are often not enough funds to do everything, please tell me how important each of the following is to you personally. Is it extremely important, very important, somewhat important or not really important. **(RANDOMIZE)**

RANKED BY % EXTREMELY/VERY IMPORTANT

	Ext/Very Impt.	Ext Impt.	Very Impt.	Smwt Impt.	Not Really Impt.	(DNR) DK	(DNR) Ref
5. Repairing and maintaining water and sewer systems in parks, lodges and campgrounds	86%	36%	50%	11%	2%	*	*
7. Preserving historic items and documents	85%^	39%	45%	13%	2%	*	*
6. Preserving historic buildings and cultural sites	82%^	34%	47%	16%	3%	*	*
3. Repairing roads and bridges that allow visitors to reach all areas of a site	81%	32%	49%	16%	3%	--	*
9. Ensuring safe housing for park rangers and employees	74%^	29%	46%	21%	4%	*	*
8. Repairing campgrounds, trails and overlooks for wildlife viewing	64%	20%	44%	31%	5%	*	*
4. Repairing visitor centers, lodges, and other structures	60%^	17%	44%	35%	5%	*	*

10. Oil and gas companies now operate on some federal lands and waters, and pay fees to the government for this. There is a proposal before Congress to dedicate \$1.3 billion each year for five years from this money to pay for maintenance and repairs at national parks. Would you support or oppose this proposal?

(IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE) And do you strongly (support/oppose) or just somewhat (support/oppose) it?

2018* 2019

42%	54%	Strongly support
34%	28%	Somewhat support
11%	5%	Somewhat oppose
10%	7%	Strongly oppose
3%	5%	Unsure (DO NOT READ)
*	1%	Refused (DO NOT READ)

76% 82% TOTAL SUPPORT
21% 12% TOTAL OPPOSE

**In 2018 the question language read, "The estimated cost to address the current backlog of repairs in the national park system is over \$11 billion. Oil and gas companies now operate on some federal lands and waters, and pay fees to the government for this. There is a proposal before Congress to dedicate \$1.3 billion each year for five years from this money to pay for maintenance and repairs at national parks. Would you favor or oppose this? And do you strongly or just somewhat favor/oppose this?"*

11. If your member of Congress votes for this proposal to dedicate oil and gas fees for maintenance and repairs at national parks, would you have a more favorable impression, a less favorable impression, or would that not make a difference in your view of him or her?

(IF MORE FAVORABLE/LESS FAVORABLE, ASK) And, would that be MUCH (more/less) favorable or just SOMEWHAT (more/less) favorable?

24%	Much more favorable
21%	Somewhat more favorable
6%	Somewhat less favorable
4%	Much less favorable
41%	No difference
3%	Don't know/refused (DO NOT READ)
46%^	TOTAL MORE FAVORABLE
10%	TOTAL LESS FAVORABLE

Thinking about a different proposal—

12. Congress is also considering the budgets for the nation’s highways, roads and bridges over the next five years. Given that half of the needed repairs at national park sites are for roads, bridges and other transportation items, should Congress allocate—(ROTATE) more funds, less funds—or about the same amount as they have in the past to the National Park Service to repair and maintain roads and bridges?

(IF MORE/LESS THEN ASK) And would you say they should allocate MUCH (more/less) or SOMEWHAT (more/less)?

31%	Much more
34%	Somewhat more
2%	Somewhat less
1%	Much less
30%	About the same
3%	Unsure/refused (DO NOT READ)
65%	TOTAL ALLOCATE MORE FUNDS
2%	TOTAL ALLOCATE LESS FUNDS

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Totaling, National Park Service, and other agencies are available to help you with the survey. For more information, please contact the National Park Service at 1-800-368-6868.

Now, I just have a few more questions for statistical purposes only...

D1. In what year were you born?

23% 18 to 34

17% 35 to 44

15% 45 to 54

20% 55 to 64

25% 65 and over

* Refused (**DO NOT READ**)

D2. And, other than being an American, what is your main ethnic or racial heritage? **(READ CHOICES)**

13% African American or black
73% White
10% Hispanic American or Latino
3% Asian American

1% Other **(DO NOT READ) (IF PUNCH, ASK)** Now I realize you just said your main ethnic or racial heritage doesn't fall into any of the categories I just mentioned ... but if you had to choose JUST ONE of these categories, which ONE would you choose?

* Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

Thinking about yourself for a moment—Do you consider yourself to be— **(RANDOMIZE)**

RANKED BY % YES

	Yes	No	(DNR) Unsure/Ref
D4. A conservationist	73%	25%	2%
D5. An outdoor recreation enthusiast	62%	37%	1%
D3. A history buff	57%	41%	2%

D6. Do you have any children age 18 or under that you are responsible for raising, living in your home?

29% Yes
71% No

* Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

D7. What was the last level of education you completed? **(DO NOT READ)**

- 27% Attended/Graduated High School
- 2% Technical or Vocational School Degree
- 28% Some College/Associates Degree
- 29% Graduated College
- 14% Graduate/Professional School Degree

* Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

- 27% HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS**
- 30% SOME COLLEGE**
- 43% COLLEGE+**

D8. And in politics today, do you consider yourself... **(ROTATE)**

A Republican,
A Democrat,
Or something else?

(IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT, ASK:) Would you call yourself a STRONG (Republican/Democrat) or a NOT-SO-STRONG (Republican/ Democrat)?

(IF SOMETHING ELSE, ASK:) Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or to the Democratic party?

- 21% Strong Republican
 - 7% Not-so-strong Republican
 - 7% Lean to Republicans

 - 25% Something else/Independent

 - 7% Lean to Democrats
 - 7% Not-so-strong Democrat
 - 25% Strong Democrat

 - 1% Don't know **(DO NOT READ)**
 - 2% Refused **(DO NOT READ)**
-

D9. And, thinking a little about your political attitudes ... Do you consider yourself to be...

Conservative
Moderate
...OR...
Liberal

(IF CONSERVATIVE/LIBERAL, ASK:) And would you say you are VERY (conservative/liberal) or just SOMEWHAT (conservative/liberal)?

17% Very conservative
17% Somewhat conservative

36% Moderate

12% Somewhat liberal
13% Very liberal

5% Undecided/not sure **(DO NOT READ)**

34% TOTAL CONSERVATIVE
25% TOTAL LIBERAL

D10. And for statistical purposes only ... is your total annual household income greater or less than \$60,000?

9% Under \$20,000
15% Between \$20,000 - \$40,000
14% Over \$40,000

13% Under \$80,000
15% Between \$80,000 - \$100,000
25% Over \$100,000

9% Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

38% UNDER \$60,000
53% OVER \$60,000

D11. Gender (**BY OBSERVATION**)

47% Male
53% Female
