

Partisans Remain Sharply Divided in Their Attitudes About the News Media | Pew Research Center

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September 25, 2018

After a year of continued tension [between President Donald Trump and the news media](#), the partisan divides in attitudes toward the news media that [widened in the wake of the 2016](#) presidential election remain stark, according to a new Pew Research Center analysis of survey data of 5,035 U.S. adults collected between Feb. 22 and March 4, 2018.

Specifically, strong divisions between Republicans and Democrats persist when it comes to support of the news media's watchdog role, perceived fairness in political coverage, trust in information from both national and local news organizations, and ratings of how well the news media keep people informed.

Americans are particularly divided politically on whether or not they think news media criticism keeps political leaders in line – the so-called “watchdog role” of the news media. A vast majority of Democrats (82%) say in the survey conducted earlier this year that they support the news media's watchdog role, believing that news media criticism keeps political leaders from doing things that shouldn't be done. On the other hand, the majority of Republicans (58%) think news media criticism gets in the way of political leaders doing their job.

Source: [Partisans Remain Sharply Divided in Their Attitudes About the News Media | Pew Research Center](#)