



To: Interested Parties

From: Global Strategy Group and G<sup>2</sup> Public Strategies

Re: Privacy Research
Date: May 18, 2015

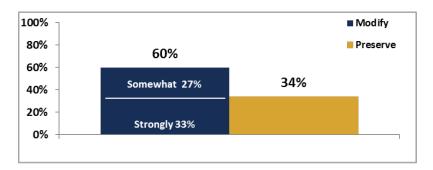
In April 2015, a bipartisan team of Global Strategy Group and G<sup>2</sup> Public Strategies fielded a nationwide survey of 1001 likely voters in the United States. The research was conducted April 6-12, 2015, and yielded a margin of error of 3.1% at the 95% confidence level. Additionally surveyed was an oversample of 300 likely voters between the ages of 18-39, which yielded a margin of error of 5.65% at the 95% confidence level. Below are some key findings from that research.

## **Key Findings**

By nearly a 2:1 margin (60% modify, 34% preserve), Americans believe the Patriot Act should not be reauthorized in its current form. With broad, bipartisan support across all ages, ideologies and political parties, voters are rejecting the argument that the Patriot Act should be preserved with no changes because of potential terrorist threats. Millennials (65% modify) and Independent men (75% modify), in particular, are driving the push for modification to limit government surveillance.

Which of the following statements about reauthorizing the Patriot Act do you agree with more?

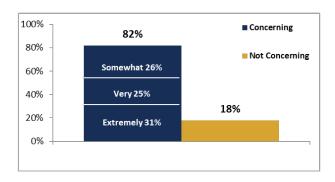
- Some people say Congress should modify the Patriot Act to limit government surveillance and protect Americans' privacy.
- Other people say Congress should preserve the Patriot Act and make no changes because it has been effective in keeping America safe from terrorists and other threats to national security like ISIS or Al Qaeda.



	Overall	Party			Independent		Very	Very	Age			Gender	
		Dem	Indy	GOP	Men	Women	Liberal	Cons.	18-39	<45	45+	М	F
Modify	60	59	71	58	75	65	65	59	65	62	59	64	57
Preserve	34	35	22	36	19	26	28	34	30	32	35	30	38
Net Modify	+26	+24	+49	+22	+56	+39	+37	+25	+35	+30	+24	+34	+19

By more than 4:1 (82% concerned, 18% not concerned), voters find it concerning that the United States government is collecting and storing the personal information of Americans, including 31% who are extremely concerned and 25% who are very concerned.

Do you find it concerning that the U.S. government is collecting and storing your personal information like your phone records, emails, bank statements, and other communications?

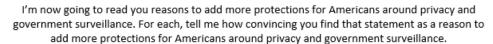


 Over three quarters of voters found four different examples of government spying personally concerning to them. The government accessing personal communications, information or records without a judge's permission (83%) and using that information for things other than stopping terrorist attacks (83%) were the two most concerning examples to voters.

I am now going to read you a list of statements that some people have made about US government surveillance. For each, tell me how concerning you personally find that issue.

■ Concerning The government accesses any of your personal Some communications, information, or records you share Extremely Very what 83% 27 33 with a company without a judge's permission based 23 on evidence. The government uses information collected without Extremely Very 83% what a warrant for things other than stopping terrorist 33 28 22 attacks. The government allows private companies to use Some-Extremely Very 77% public school technology programs to track the what 27 27 23 online activities of school children. The government performs instant wiretaps on any Very Extremely what 76% phone or other telecommunications device located in 27 20 the United States.

Specific arguments made in favor of adding more protections for Americans around privacy, also proved to be convincing to voters. 84% of voters said it was a convincing argument that local police and the FBI should have a warrant to search phone and email records, further confirming that Americans believe that individual privacy rights should be more strongly protected. Additionally, 81% of voters were convinced more protections were needed on account of companies providing loopholes in their services to make surveillance easier for the government.





## **About**

Survey respondents consisted of likely voters in the United States. Voters were screened based on their propensity to vote, and only likely voters continued the interviews. 29% of respondents were affiliated with the Republican Party, 34% Democratic Party, and 37% were independent. Party identification was self-reported by respondents. Interviews were conducted via both landline and cellular (30%) phone.

The poll was commissioned by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), a group with more than a million members, activists and supporters that for nearly 100 years, has been our nation's guardian of liberty, working in courts, legislatures, and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties that the Constitution and the laws of the United States guarantee everyone in this country.

Global Strategy Group (GSG) was Named 2014 Public Affairs Agency of the Year (Americas) by The Holmes Report, GSG is distinguished by its depth of talent, influential clients and winning track record. Their clients include Fortune 100 companies, national political leaders, associations and nonprofits.

G<sup>2</sup> Public Strategies is a national issue advocacy firm, providing strategic guidance and conducting public opinion research experience across the nation to help advance public affairs campaigns.