

Public Votes 54 to 37 Pct. Against Removing Nixon

By George Gallup

PRINCETON, N.J.—Although three Americans in four believe that President Nixon is involved at least to some extent in the Watergate scandal, the public votes 54 to 37 per cent against removing him from office.

The percentage of Americans who favor compelling Mr. Nixon to leave the presidency is now at a high point, however. The increase has accelerated since the President fired Watergate Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox and his lawyers announced that two of the nine Watergate tape recordings never existed.

The percentage who favor Mr. Nixon's removal from office has climbed 18 percentage points since June. Among Republicans the proportion who favor such a course of action has increased from 6 to 11 per cent, among Democrats from 27 to 51 per cent, and among independents from 18 to 39 per cent.

The latest survey, conducted prior to the announcement of an AFL-CIO drive to impeach the President, also compared the views of persons in labor-union households with persons in non-union households. The results:

	Should be removed	Should not	No opinion
Labor-union households	43%	49%	8%
Non-union	35	55	10

Following is the question asked to determine the public's views on removing Mr. Nixon from office:

Do you think President Nixon should be impeached and compelled to leave the presidency or not?

The latest results and trend:

	Yes	No	No opinion
Nov. 2-5	37%	54%	9%
Oct. 19-22	33	52	15
Aug. 3-6	26	61	13
July 6-9	24	62	14
June 22-25	19	69	12

This is the question asked to measure attitudes on Mr. Nixon's involvement in Watergate:

Here are four statements concerning President Nixon's connection with the Watergate affair. Will you tell me which one comes closest to your point of view? (A) Nixon planned the Watergate bugging from the beginning. (B) Nixon did not plan the bugging but knew about it before it took place. (C) Nixon found out about the bugging after it occurred, but tried to cover it up. (D) Nixon had no knowledge of the bugging and spoke up as soon as he learned about it.

	Planned	Knew about	Cover-up	No knowledge	No opinion
Nov. 2-5	10%	32%	34%	15%	9%
Sept. 7-10	11	28	33	18	10
Aug. 17-20	9	24	40	23	4
Aug. 3-6	8	29	37	15	11
July 6-9	9	30	34	15	12
June 22-25	8	27	36	17	12
June 1-4	8	28	31	19	14

Following is the question asked about the tapes:

Do you think the White House tapes that will be delivered to the court will be a true record of what was said, or do you think the tapes will have been altered to remove evidence that showed Nixon was involved in the planning or cover-up of Watergate?

Here are the national findings:

True record	28%
Altered	58
No opinion	14

The findings reported today are based on a national survey of 1,498 adults, 18 and older, interviewed in person in more than 300 scientifically selected localities during the period Nov. 2-5.

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