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#### **2018 HIGHER EDUCATION GOVERNMENT RELATIONS CONFERENCE**

Delivering Results Amid Change, Uncertainty, and Polarization



# Party Polarization in Public Perceptions of Higher Education

Juliana Horowitz, Ph.D.

Associate Director, Research

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#### **Major research areas:**

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- Internet, science and technology
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### Data sources

Nationally representative surveys of U.S. adults conducted by the Pew Research Center

- Telephone surveys
  - Views of national institutions and trend on views of the impact colleges and university
  - Views of main purpose and usefulness of college education
- Web survey using probability-based American Trends Panel
  - Views of direction of higher education

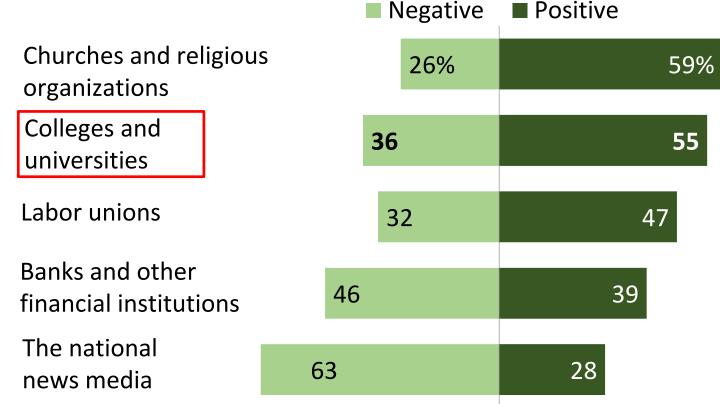
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## Effect of national institutions on the way things are going in the country

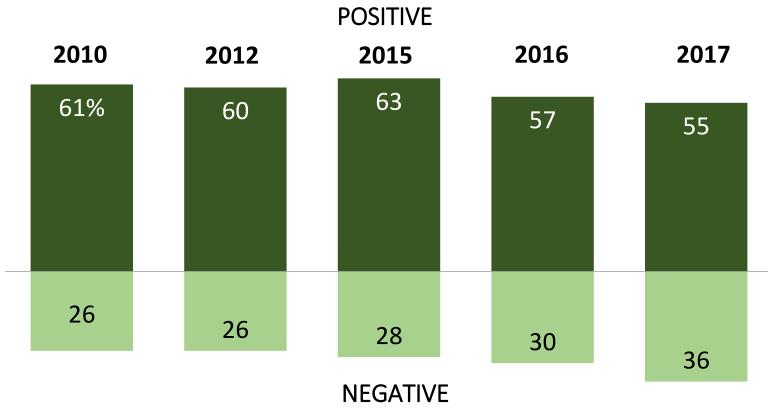






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## Colleges and universities have a positive/negative effect on the way things are going in the country





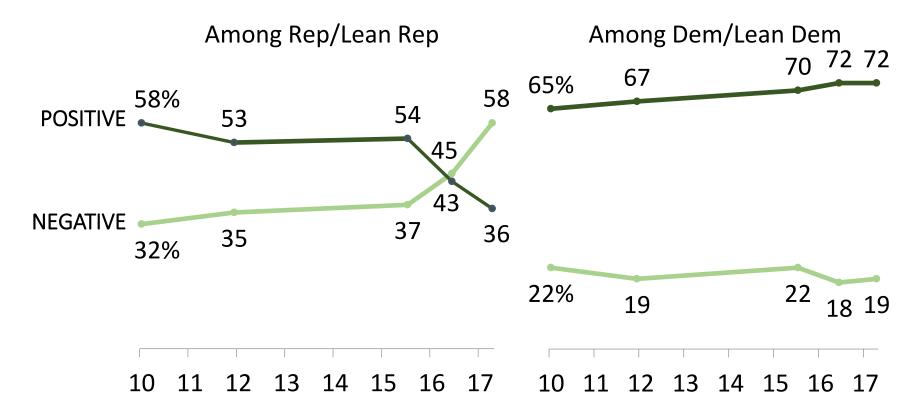




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## Colleges and universities have a positive/negative effect on the country, by party

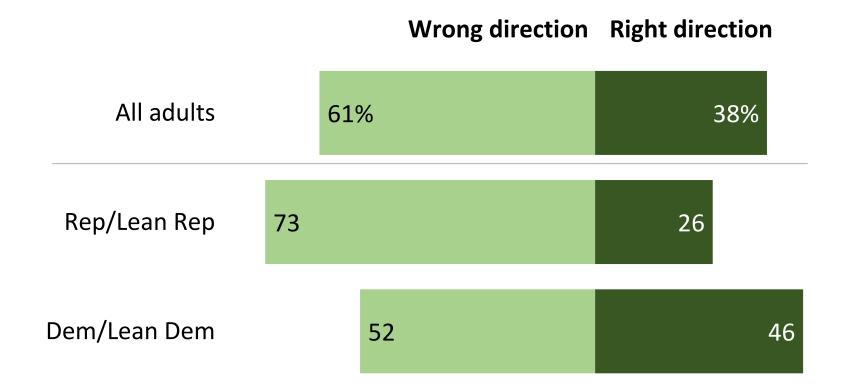






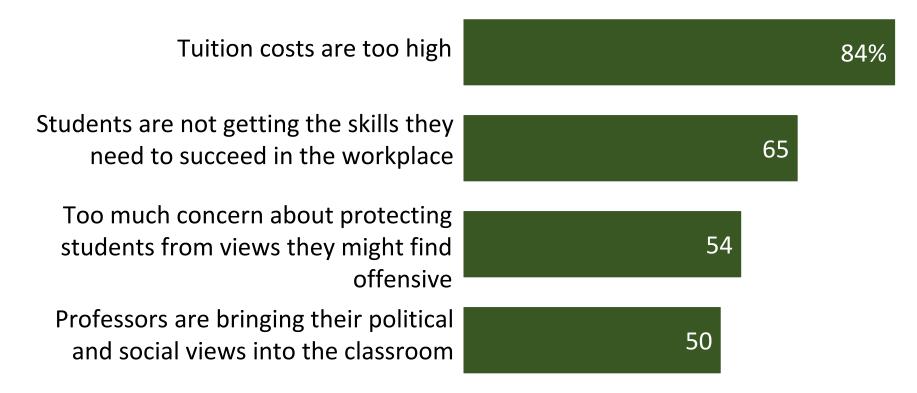
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## Higher education system in the U.S. today is generally going in the wrong/right direction



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## Major reasons for saying higher education is going in the wrong direction





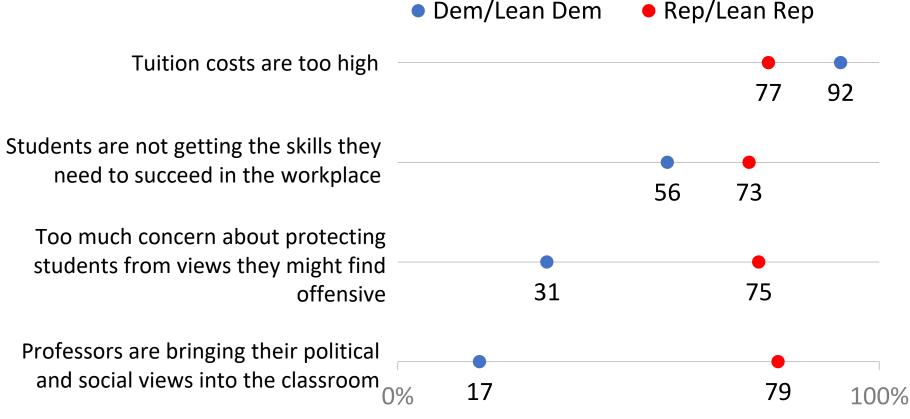


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## Major reasons for saying higher education is going in the wrong direction, by party



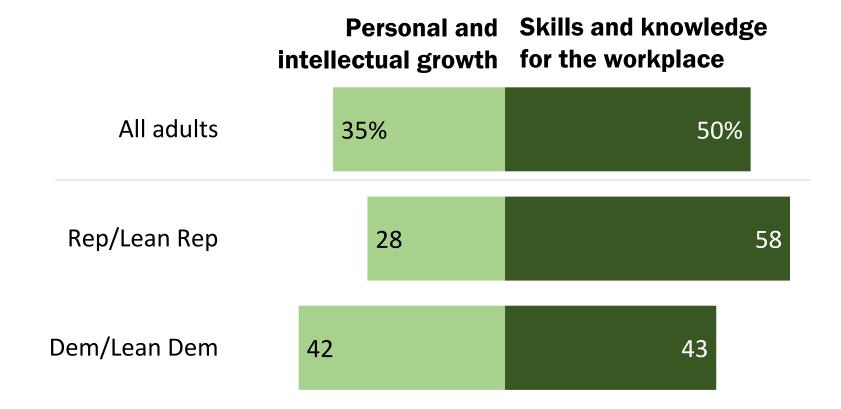




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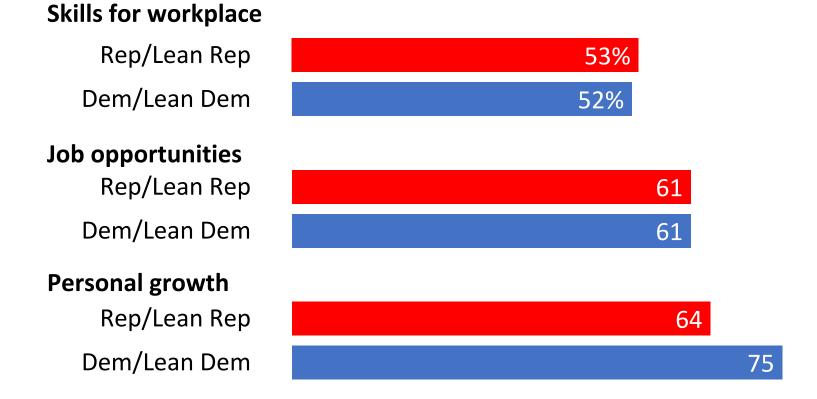
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The main purpose of college should be...



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## College graduates with four-year degrees who say their own college education was very useful in each



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