NAPOLITAN NEWS SERVICE

67% Say Congress Is Less Ethical Than Most Americans

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> Two-thirds of voters (67%) say that most members of Congress are less ethical than most everyday Americans. Just 13% say they are more ethical.

According to a new survey from Napolitan News Service, public trust in the ethical standing of legislative leaders remains critically low. The findings show that another 9% of respondents believe members of Congress are about as ethical as most everyday Americans. These totals include a solid plurality (39%) who say most members of Congress are "Much Less Ethical," and just 5% who say they are "Much More Ethical."

64%	**71%**
Republicans who say Congress is less ethical	Democrats who say Congress is less ethical

There is notable bi-partisan agreement on this issue. While Democrats appear slightly more pessimistic (71%), a significant majority of Republicans (64%) share the same view of the institution.

Perception of Double Standards

On a similar note, 62% of voters say that most members of Congress act in ways that would be considered inappropriate or illegal for anyone else. Just 18% disagree, while 20% are unsure. This perception of a double standard is particularly high among politically engaged voters—those who talk politics at least most days—at 75%.

Even among disengaged voters, 57% believe Congress operates under this double standard, while only 18% disagree and 25% remain unsure.

Survey Methodology

This data is from a Napolitan News Service survey of 1,000 Registered Voters conducted online by Scott Rasmussen on April 27-28, 2026. RMG Research, Inc. conducted the fieldwork. The survey has a margin of error of +/- 3.1 percentage points.

Source: Napolitan News Service (napolitannews.org)
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