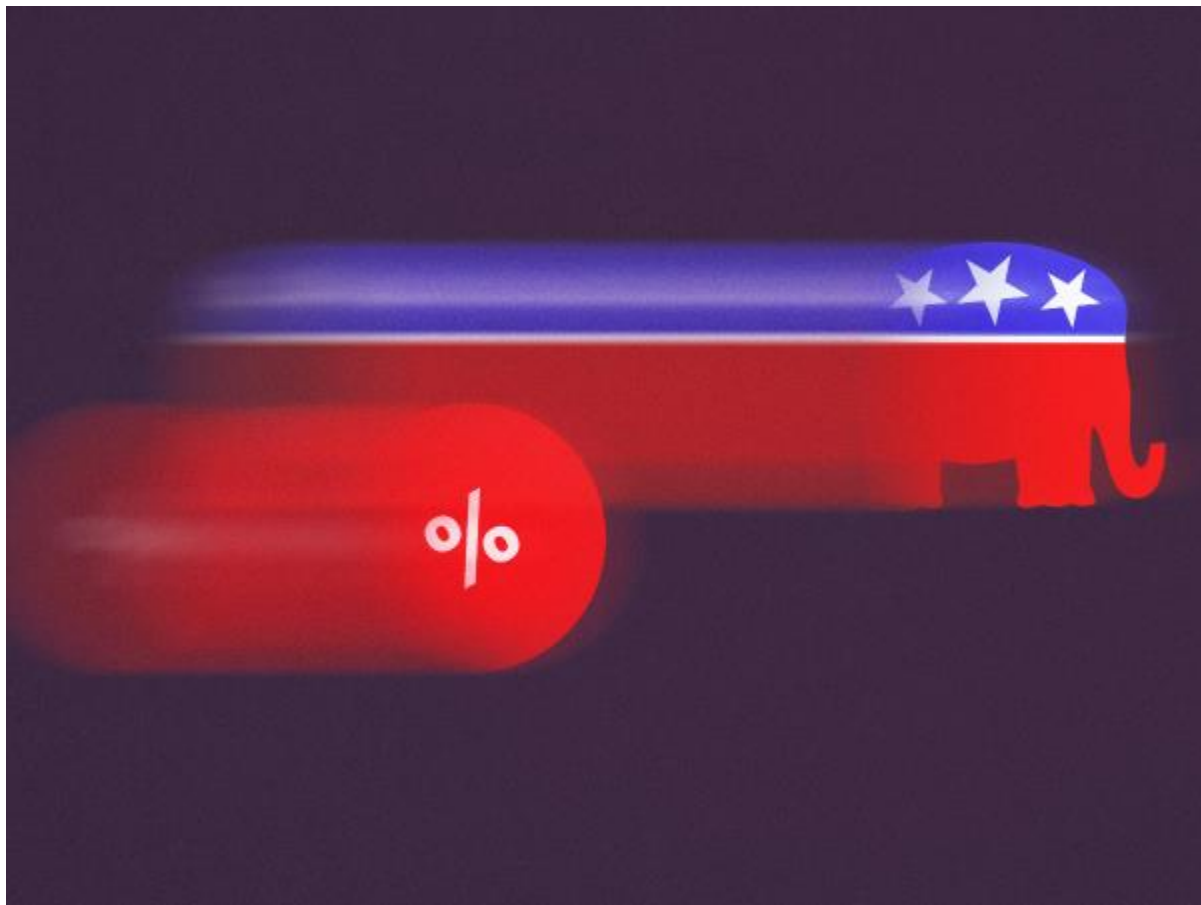


A FiveThirtyEight email

Popular In Politics

Thursday, March 4, 2021

[1. Why Did Republicans Outperform The Polls Again? Two Theories.](#)



Pollsters are perplexed. Many believed that the polling errors we saw in 2016 had been adequately addressed in time for the 2020 presidential election. But once again, the polls underestimated support for Donald Trump (and support for Republicans across the board). Now, more than three months out from the election, we still don't have a great sense as to why.

[Read more](#)

2. Why Republicans Don't Fear An Electoral Backlash For Opposing Really Popular Parts Of Biden's Agenda



Republicans in the U.S. House last week unanimously opposed President Biden's economic stimulus bill, even though polls show that the legislation is popular with the public. The U.S. Senate will consider the bill soon — and it looks like the overwhelming majority of Republicans in that chamber will oppose it as well. And it's not just the stimulus. House Republicans also last week overwhelmingly opposed a bill to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. And the GOP seems poised to oppose upcoming Democratic bills to make it easier to vote and spend hundreds of billions to improve the nation's infrastructure. All of those ideas are popular with the public, too.

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3. How Marjorie Taylor Greene Won, And Why Someone Like Her Can Win Again



Before Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene set off a metal detector outside the House chamber, lost her committee assignments, or hung a transphobic sign in the halls of the Capitol complex, she was just a candidate in a Republican primary in Georgia.

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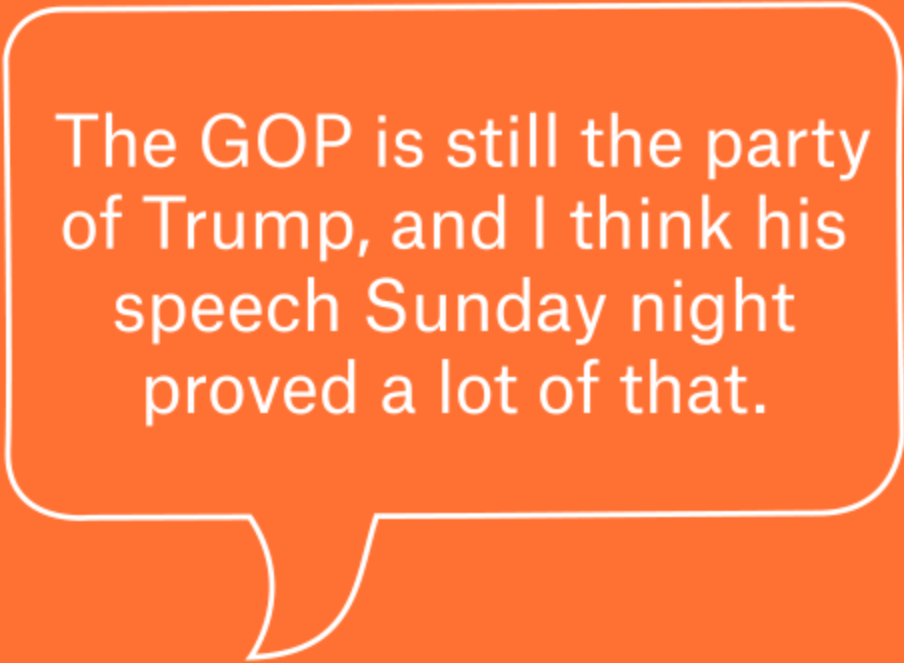
[4. How Much Longer Can This Era Of Political Gridlock Last?](#)



Democrats may have a narrow majority in both the House and the Senate for the next two years, but it's nothing near the margin they hoped for. And the likelihood that Democrats keep both the House and the Senate in 2022 are low, as the president's party almost always loses seats in the midterm elections.

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5. What Did CPAC Tell Us About The Future Of The GOP?



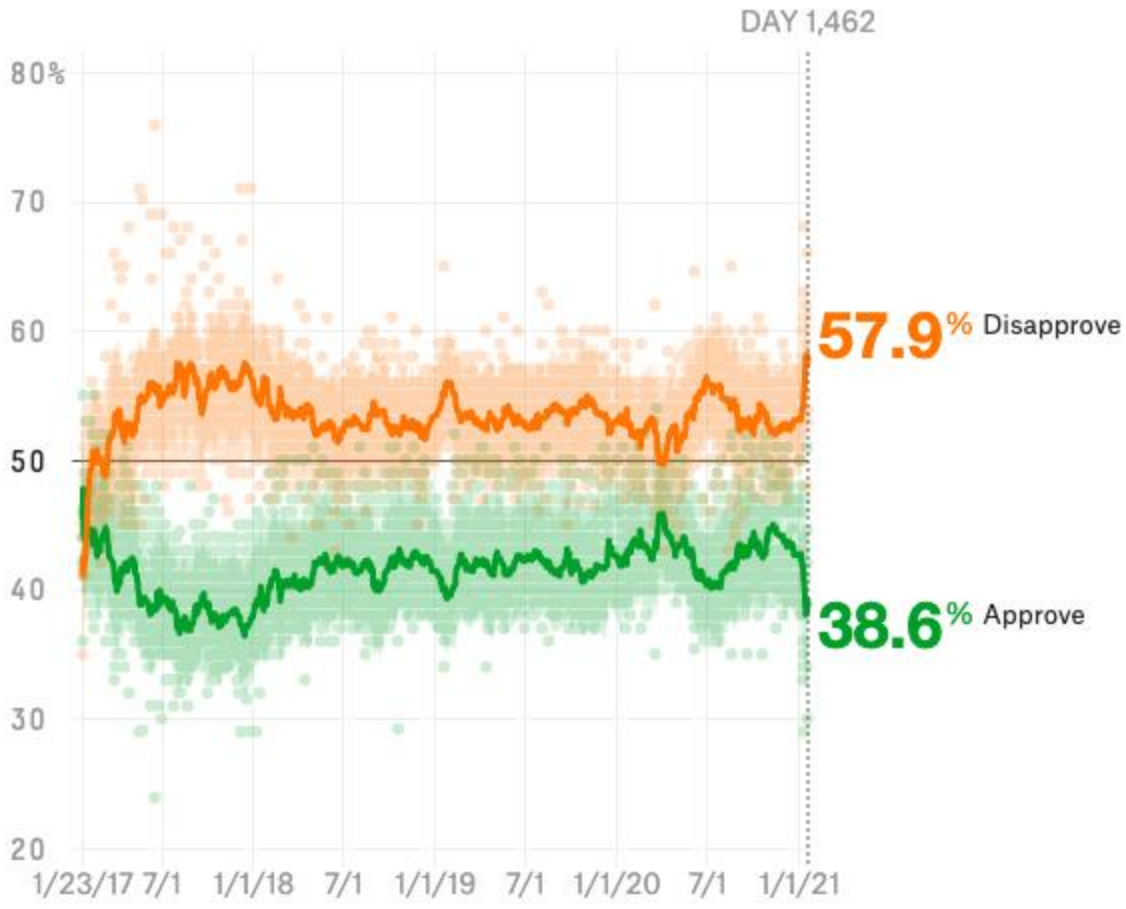
The GOP is still the party of Trump, and I think his speech Sunday night proved a lot of that.

Welcome to FiveThirtyEight's politics chat. The transcript below has been lightly edited.

[Read more](#)

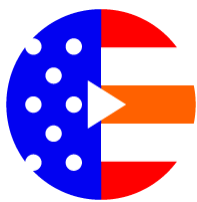
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