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Republicans

Obama in Strong Position at Start of
Second Term

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Support for Compromise Rises, Except among Republicans Obama in Strong Position at Start of Second Term

As he prepares for his second inauguration, Barack Obama is in a stronger position with the public than he was over much of his first term. At 52%, his job approval rating is among the highest since the early months of his presidency. His personal favorability, currently 59%, has rebounded from a low of 50% in the fall campaign. And increasing percentages describe him as a strong leader, able to get things done and as someone who stands up for his beliefs.

Obama's political advantage is enhanced by the poor standing of his Republican counterparts. The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Jan. 9-13 among 1,502 adults finds that both House Speaker John Boehner and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell are viewed more unfavorably than favorably.

The Republican Party's image, which reached a recent high of 42% favorable following the GOP convention this past summer, has fallen once again to a low of just 33%. Much of this decline has come among Republicans themselves. Favorable opinions of the GOP among Republicans have fallen 20 points since September (from 89% to 69%) and are now as low as at any point during the past 20 years.

Obama's Job Approval



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 9-13, 2013. Q1.

Few Positives in Views of Republican Party, GOP Leaders

	Favorable	Unfavorable	DK
<i>Overall opinion of...</i>	%	%	%
Michelle Obama	67	22	11=100
Barack Obama	59	38	3=100
Joe Biden	42	42	16=100
John Boehner	26	40	34=100
Mitch McConnell	21	28	51=100
Harry Reid	21	34	45=100
Democratic Party	47	46	7=100
Republican Party	33	58	9=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 9-13, 2013. Q16-Q17. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

While his personal image is strong, Obama's current job rating is not high compared with other two-term presidents since World War II. Among presidents dating back to Harry S. Truman, only George W. Bush began his second term with a rating about as low as Obama's (50% approval in January 2005). To a degree, this reflects the partisan polarization in opinions about both Obama and Bush; Obama's current rating among Republicans (14% approve) is about the same as Bush's among Democrats eight years ago (17%).

Among recent two-term presidents, none has had a significantly better job approval mark at the end of his presidency than at the start of his second term.

Since Obama entered the White House four years ago, his strongest ratings have typically been on his personal traits, and he has improved his standing on these measures over the past year.

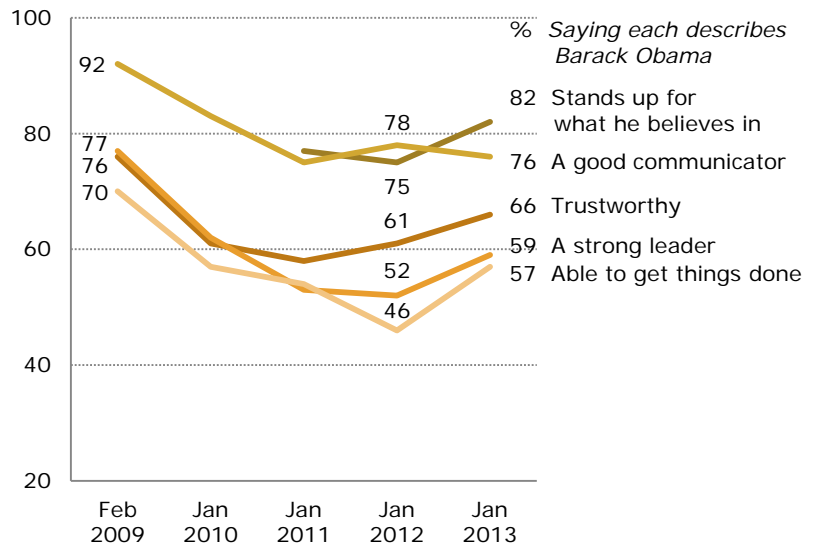
Fully 82% say that Obama stands up for what he believes in; 75% said this a year ago. Nearly six-in-ten (57%) say Obama is able to get things done, up 11 points from a year ago, and 59% say he is a strong leader, up seven points since then.

Second Term Job Ratings: Beginning and End

Job approval	Start of 2 nd term	End of 2 nd term	Change
Obama (2013-)	52	?	
Bush (2005-2009)	50	24	-26
Clinton (1997-2001)	59	61	+2
Reagan (1985-1988)	62	63	+1
Nixon (1973-1974)	59	24	-35
Johnson (1965-1969)	71	49	-22
Eisenhower (1957-1960)	73	59	-14
Truman (1949-1952)	69	32	-37

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 9-13, 2013. Q1. 1957-1988 data from Gallup. All figures from Jan. of each year except: starting Nixon figure from Dec. 1972; final Nixon figure from Aug. 1974; final Eisenhower and Reagan from Dec. 1960, 1988. Johnson figures for comparison; not officially his second term.

Obama's Personal Image Improves



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 9-13, 2013. Q35.

Nonetheless, these personal ratings are all far lower than they were shortly after he took office four years ago. [A few weeks after his inauguration](#), 70% said he was able to get things done and even higher percentages gave him positive ratings for other attributes.

Obama also faces a far more skeptical and frustrated public today than he did four years ago. Just 33% expect economic conditions to get better over the coming year – that figure was 43% in December 2008. And the public is pessimistic about the prospects for bipartisan cooperation in Washington. Just 23% expect Republicans and Democrats will work together more in the coming year, less than half the percentage that expressed that view in January 2009 (50%).

Public Expects Increased Partisan Conflict

	Jan 2001	Jan 2005	Jan 2009	Jan 2013
<i>This coming year, do you think Reps and Dems will...</i>	%	%	%	%
Bicker and oppose one another more than usual	50	59	39	66
Work together more to solve problems	41	30	50	23
Same/Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100	100	100

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After a series of bruising political battles over the past few years, the public's desire for political compromise in Washington has increased notably. In March 2011, soon after Republicans gained a majority in the House, 54% said they liked elected officials who stuck to their positions, while 40% liked politicians who made compromises with people they disagreed with. Today, 50% say they like leaders who compromise, and 44% like those who stick to their positions.

The percentages of Democrats and independents saying they prefer politicians who compromise has increased over the past two years. Currently, 59% of Democrats say they like elected officials who make compromises, up from 46% in March 2011.

Support for Compromise Rises among Dems, Inds, But Not Reps

	Mar 2011	Jan 2013	Change
<i>I like elected officials who...</i>	%	%	
Make compromises with people they disagree with	40	50	+10
Stick to their positions	54	44	-10
Neither/Both/Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	
	100	100	
<i>Percent "make compromises" among...</i>			
Republican	32	36	+4
Democrat	46	59	+13
Independent	41	53	+12

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 9-13, 2013. Q22. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Similarly, there has been a 12-point increase in the percentage of independents expressing a preference for politicians who compromise (from 41% to 53%). By contrast, Republicans' opinions are largely unchanged from two years ago. Currently, 55% say they like elected officials who stick to their positions compared with 36% who like elected officials who make compromises. Among conservative Republicans, about twice as many prefer politicians who stick to their positions than those who compromise (60% vs. 31%).

Other Important Findings

Christie's Crossover Appeal. Favorable opinions of the New Jersey governor outnumber unfavorable views by two-to-one – among Democrats. He is even more highly regarded among Republicans.

Mixed Views of Bloomberg. Impressions of New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg are more evenly divided. Notably, those who favor gun control view Bloomberg much more favorably than do supporters of gun rights.

Obama's Legacy – TBD. A third of Americans (33%) say that in the long run Obama will be a successful president, while 26% say he will be unsuccessful. But a plurality (39%) says it is too soon to tell. Views about Bush were similar at the start of his second term.

Michelle's Strong Image. While Barack Obama's favorability rating has improved, the first lady is still more popular than her husband. Currently, 67% view Michelle Obama favorably, while just 22% have an unfavorable opinion of her.

SECTION 1: OBAMA JOB RATING, PERSONAL TRAITS; VIEWS OF MICHELLE OBAMA

Barack Obama is in a relatively strong position heading into his second term. His job approval now stands at 52% - among the highest since his first year in office. A year ago, 44% said they approved of the way the Obama was handling his job as president.

Both Democrats and independents offer more positive assessments than they did a year ago. Fully 88% of Democrats approve of the job he is doing, up nine points from January 2012. Nearly half of independents (48%) now approve of the way the president is handling his job. In January 2012, just 37% of independents approved while 56% disapproved.

Obama's personal favorability rating also has improved from 51% a year ago to 59% today. And more see the president as a strong leader and able to get things done. A 59% majority say Obama is a strong leader, up from 52% a year ago. And 57% say the president is able to get things done, up 11 points from January 2012.

While Republicans have changed little in their views of Obama from a year ago, more Democrats say he is a strong leader (up nine points to 89%) and is able to get things done (up 16 points to 85%). Independents also offer more positive assessments of Obama; 55% say he is a strong leader, an 11-point increase from last year. About half (51%) of independents say he is able to get things done, up from 41% a year ago.

Democrats, Independents More Positive Toward Obama

	Jan 2012	Jan 2013	Change
	%	%	
Overall job approval	44	52	+8
Republican	13	14	+1
Democrat	79	88	+9
Independent	37	48	+11
<i>Obama is ...</i>			
A strong leader	52	59	+7
Republican	27	25	-2
Democrat	80	89	+9
Independent	44	55	+11
Able to get things done	46	57	+11
Republican	23	30	+7
Democrat	69	85	+16
Independent	41	51	+10

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan 9-13, 2013. Q1 & Q35a-b.

At the same time, Obama's job approval is lower than other presidents at the start of their second terms dating back to Dwight Eisenhower, with the exception of George W. Bush. Obama's 52% job approval is about the same as Bush's was in January 2005 (50%).

To a large extent, Obama's and Bush's lower approval ratings reflect the increased polarization during their presidencies (for more see, [Partisan Polarization Surges in Bush, Obama Years](#)). Just 14% of Republicans approve of the way Obama is handling his job as president. That is similar to the 17% of

Democrats who approved of Bush's job performance in January 2005, but both are far lower than the ratings their predecessors received from members of the opposite party. In addition, independents rate Obama and Bush lower than most other presidents at their start of their second term.

Even in this hyper-partisan environment, however, Republicans do give some positive assessments of the president. Fully 64% of Republicans say the president stands up for his beliefs and 59% say he is a good communicator. Republicans are more critical when it comes to other traits.

Only about a third say Obama is trustworthy or cares about people like them (32% each) and just 25% say he is a strong leader.

Democrats offer very positive ratings of Obama on all of these traits. Nearly all say he stands up for what he believes in (96%), is trustworthy (95%) and that he cares about people like them (95%). Nine-in-ten (90%) say he is a good communicator, and nearly as many say he is a strong leader (89%) and able to get things done (85%).

Since Ike and LBJ, Partisan Gap In Presidential Approval Has Doubled

<i>Job approval before 2nd inauguration</i>	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	R-D gap
	%	%	%	%	
Obama (2013)	52	14	88	48	D+74
Bush (2005)	50	89	17	47	R+72
Clinton (1997)	59	31	86	54	D+55
Reagan (1985)	62	88	39	61	R+49
Nixon (1973)	59	88	42	60	R+46
Johnson* (1965)	71	51	85	62	D+34
Eisenhower (1957)	73	91	57	82	R+34

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan 9-13, 2013. Q1. All figures from January of each year, except Nixon from Dec 1972. 1957-1985 data from Gallup. *Johnson figures for comparison; not officially his second term.

Partisan Gap in Impressions of Obama

<i>Impression of Obama ...</i>	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	R-D gap
	%	%	%	%	
Stands up for what he believes in	82	64	96	83	D+32
A good communicator	76	59	90	75	D+31
Trustworthy	66	32	95	63	D+63
Cares about people like me	66	32	95	65	D+63
A strong leader	59	25	89	55	D+64
Able to get things done	57	30	85	51	D+55

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The views of independents largely mirror the public overall. Most say he stands up for what he believes in (83%) and that the president is a good communicator (75%). Majorities also say he cares about people like them (65%) and is trustworthy (63%).

In historical context, these are relatively good measures for Obama when compared with other recent presidents early in their second terms. About six-months into their second term, only about half said that Bill Clinton (47%) and Bush (49%) were trustworthy, compared with 66% who say this about Obama. In 1997, a majority (64%) said that Clinton was able to get things done. Today, slightly fewer (57%) say this about Obama. The public was more divided about Bush's effectiveness in July 2005: 50% said he was able to get things done while 42% thought he was not able to get things done.

Views of President's Personal Traits: Obama, G.W. Bush & Clinton

	Bill Clinton		G.W. Bush		Barack Obama				
	Jan 1993	Aug 1997	Feb 2001	July 2005	Feb 2009	Jan 2010	Jan 2011	Jan 2012	Jan 2013
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Stands up for what he believes in	--	--	--	--	--	--	77	75	82
Doesn't stand up for what he believes	--	--	--	--	--	--	16	19	14
A good communicator	84	--	--	--	92	83	75	78	76
Not a good communicator	11	--	--	--	6	14	21	20	21
Trustworthy	63	47	60	49	76	61	58	61	66
Not trustworthy	29	47	28	46	15	31	36	36	30
Cares about people like me	--	--	--	48	81	64	60	61	66
Doesn't care about people like me	--	--	--	49	14	30	34	35	31
A strong leader	--	--	--	55	77	62	53	52	59
Not a strong leader	--	--	--	41	13	32	41	45	37
Able to get things done	--	64	60	50	70	57	54	46	57
Not able to get things done	--	29	18	42	15	35	38	50	37

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One area where there is overwhelming partisan agreement is on whether the president should focus on domestic or foreign policy right now. Overall, 83% say the president should focus his energies on domestic issues; just 6% say foreign policy should be the president's focus right now. These numbers are largely unchanged from a year ago. Nearly nine-in-ten (88%) Democrats and about eight-in-ten Republicans (81%) and independents (83%) say that domestic policy is most important at this time.

During George W. Bush's tenure, far more said foreign policy should be the priority than do so now. But even at the start of his second term, 53% said he should focus on domestic policy while 27% said foreign policy should be the priority.

President Should Focus on...

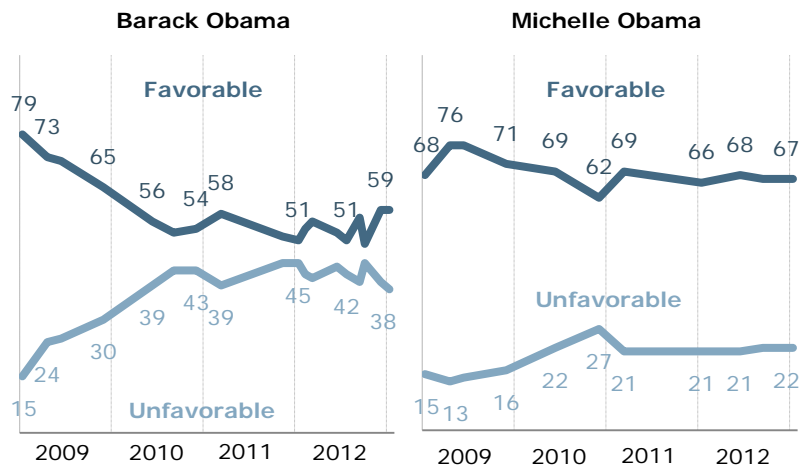
Year	Domestic policy	Foreign policy	Both/DK
	%	%	%
2013	83	6	11=100
2012	81	9	10=100
2011	78	11	11=100
2010	73	12	14=100
2009	71	11	18=100
2008	56	31	13=100
2007	39	40	21=100
2006	57	25	18=100
2005	53	27	20=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan 9-13, 2013. Q11. Trends from Jan. of each year except 2010 from Nov. 2009.

Favorability of the Obamas

Barack Obama is viewed more favorably at the start of his second term than he was during the 2012 campaign. By a 59% to 38% margin more now view the president favorably than unfavorably. However, views of the president are more negative than they were just before taking office in January 2009 when 79% had a favorable view of the incoming president.

Consistently Favorable Views of Michelle Obama



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan 9-13, 2013. Q17a-b.

Michelle Obama continues to be viewed more positively than her husband. Two-thirds (67%) of Americans say they have a favorable opinion of the first lady, while just 22% have an unfavorable opinion. These views have changed little over the past year and are comparable to the ratings she received four years ago.

The president's favorability ratings are particularly high among blacks (90% favorable), Hispanics (85% favorable) and young people (74% favorable). Fully 93% of Democrats view Obama favorably, compared with just 21% of Republicans. Among independents, more view him favorably than unfavorably by a 55% to 40% margin.

Impressions of the first lady are quite positive among most groups. About nine-in-ten Democrats (91%), as well as 65% of independents view her favorably. Republicans are more divided: 42% have a favorable impression of Michelle Obama while 45% have an unfavorable view.

Among Republicans there are differences in opinion by ideology. About half (52%) of moderate and liberal Republicans view the first lady favorably compared with just 38% of conservative Republicans.

GOP Divided in Views of Michelle Obama

	Barack Obama		Michelle Obama	
	Fav	Unfav	Fav	Unfav
<i>% favorable</i>	%	%	%	%
Total	59	38	67	22
Men	56	39	64	22
Women	62	36	70	21
18-29	74	24	74	17
30-49	55	41	64	24
50-64	58	41	66	22
65+	50	45	65	23
White	47	50	60	29
Black	90	7	90	4
Hispanic	85	11	82	8
Republican	21	77	42	45
Conserv Rep	15	83	38	49
Mod/Lib Rep	35	63	52	37
Independent	55	40	65	22
Democrat	93	6	91	4
Cons/Mod Dem	90	9	92	4
Liberal Dem	99	1	92	3

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan 9-13, 2013. Q17a-b.
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Whites and blacks are non-Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

SECTION 2: VIEWS OF CONGRESS AND THE PARTIES

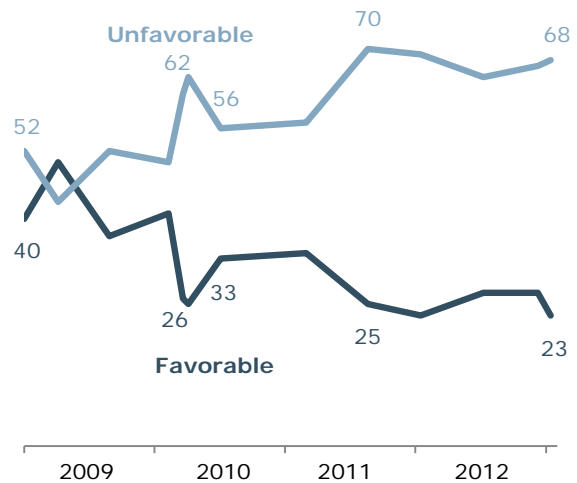
As the 113th Congress gets underway, the favorable ratings for the legislative branch match lows from more than two decades of Pew Research Center surveys. Just 23% of Americans say they have a favorable opinion of Congress. Nearly seven-in-ten (68%) have an unfavorable view.

Four years ago, as Obama came into office, 40% said they had a favorable opinion of Congress, while about half (52%) had an unfavorable one. Opinion improved somewhat in the spring of 2009 – 50% offered a favorable view of Congress that April – but has hovered near long-time lows for much of the past two years. The ratings have fluctuated only slightly in recent months, despite the prolonged standoff over the fiscal cliff.

Democrats, Republicans and independents all hold broadly negative views of Congress: 61% of Democrats say they have an unfavorable view of Congress, compared with 72% of Republicans and 73% of independents.

The favorability ratings for three top congressional leaders – John Boehner, Harry Reid and Mitch McConnell –also are on balance, negative. Opinions of these three leaders, like views of Obama and Joe Biden, are little changed following passage of legislation to avert the fiscal cliff.

Most View Congress Unfavorably



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Little Change in Opinions of Congressional Leaders, Obama

Your overall opinion of...	Favorable %	Unfavorable %	No rating %
John Boehner			
Jan. 9-13, 2013	26	40	34=100
Dec. 5-9, 2012	28	40	33=100
Harry Reid			
Jan. 9-13, 2013	21	34	45=100
Dec. 5-9, 2012	23	37	39=100
Mitch McConnell			
Jan. 9-13, 2013	21	28	52=100
Dec. 5-9, 2012	NA	NA	NA
Barack Obama			
Jan. 9-13, 2013	59	38	3=100
Dec. 5-9, 2012	59	40	2=100
Joe Biden			
Jan. 9-13, 2013	42	42	16=100
Oct. 24-28, 2012	44	42	15=100

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About a quarter (26%) have a favorable impression of House Speaker John Boehner, 40% offered an unfavorable view and 34% do not give a rating. About two-in-ten (21%) say they have a favorable view of Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid; 34% express an unfavorable view and 45% offer no opinion. The numbers are similar for Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell: 21% have a favorable view, 28% unfavorable and 52% offer no opinion.

Republicans, on balance, offer more favorable than unfavorable impressions of Boehner (45% vs. 30%), though 25% offer no opinion. Opinion among Republicans about McConnell is more evenly divided: 25% favorable vs. 25% unfavorable. About half (49%) offer no opinion.

Democrats also offer divided impressions of Reid; 29% have a favorable opinion of the majority leader and 20% have an unfavorable one. About half (51%) offer no opinion.

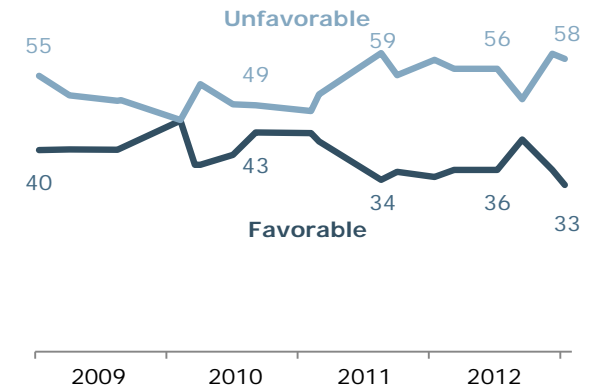
GOP Image Woes Persist

Just a third of Americans (33%) say they have a favorable opinion of the Republican Party, about the same as the lows recorded in August 2011 (34%). Nearly six-in-ten (58%) say they have an unfavorable view of the GOP. Four years ago, opinion was only slightly better. In January 2009, as Obama started his first term, 40% had a favorable opinion of the Republican Party, while 55% held an unfavorable one.

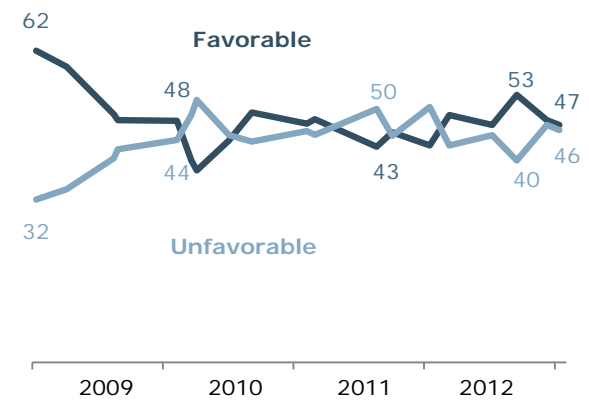
Currently, the public is divided in views of the Democratic Party: 47% have a favorable opinion, while 46% have an unfavorable one. Impressions of the Democrats were much more positive in early 2009. That January, 62% said they had a favorable view of the party, while 32% reported an unfavorable view.

Views of the Parties

Republican Party



Democratic Party



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 9-13, 2012. Q16a,b.

The public's views of the parties' ideologies have changed little since the summer of 2011. Currently, 23% see the Republican Party as very conservative, while 32% see it as conservative. About two-in-ten (22%) describe the Republican Party as moderate, 8% say liberal and 6% say very liberal. The percentage that sees the GOP as very conservative, while little changed since August 2011, is up from 17% in June 2010.

Views of the Democratic Party's ideology also have remained fairly stable; 22% see it as very liberal, 31% say liberal and 27% say moderate. One-in-ten (11%) say it is conservative, while 2% say it is very conservative.

Shifting Views of Political Compromise

When Americans are asked whether they prefer elected officials who stick to their positions or those willing to compromise, the balance of opinion has shifted since early 2011. Currently, 50% say they like elected officials who make compromises with people they disagree with rather than elected officials who stick to their positions (44%). In March 2011, 54% said they preferred those who stick to their positions and 40% preferred those who compromise.

More Prefer Elected Officials Who Compromise with Opponents

	Sept 2010*	Mar 2011	Jan 2013
<i>I like elected officials who...</i>	%	%	%
Stick to their positions	55	54	44
Make compromises with people they disagree with	40	40	50
Neither/Both/Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 9-13, 2013. Q22.
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.
 * Based on registered voters.

While a majority of Republicans say they prefer elected officials who stick to their positions (55% vs. 36%), the balance is flipped among Democrats and independents. About six-in-ten Democrat (59%) now say they like elected officials who compromise with people they disagree with, while 37% prefer officials who stick to their positions. Among independents, 53% like those who compromise, while 42% prefer those who stick to their positions.

By a wide margin (69% to 27%), liberal Democrats prefer politicians who make compromises with those whom they disagree. By contrast, 60% of conservative Republicans like elected officials who stick to their positions, while just 31% like those who compromise.

Among independents, there are wide differences tied to party leaning. About six-in-ten independents who lean Democratic (61%) say they like those who compromise, compared with 46% of those who lean Republican.

Wide Ideological Gap in Opinions about Compromise

I like elected officials who...

	Compro- mise %	Stick to positions %	Both/ Neither/ DK %
Total	50	44	6=100
Republican	36	55	9=100
Conserv. Rep	31	60	9=100
Mod/Lib Rep	51	44	5=100
Democrat	59	37	4=100
Cons/Mod Dem	54	42	4=100
Liberal Dem	69	27	3=100
Independent	53	42	4=100
Lean Republican	46	49	5=100
Lean Democrat	61	36	3=100
<i>Among Republicans/ Rep leaners</i>	40	53	7=100
Agree w/ Tea Party	31	58	10=100
Disagree/No opinion	45	50	5=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 9-13, 2013. Q22.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Public Sees More Partisan Conflict Ahead

Just 23% of Americans say they expect Republicans and Democrats to work together to solve problems this year. That's about half the number that said this as Obama took office in January 2009 (50%) and down 7 points since the start of 2011.

Most Expect More Partisan Bickering in 2013

	Jan 2001	Jan 2002	Jan 2005	Jan 2009	Jan 2011	Jan 2013
<i>This year, Republicans and Democrats in Washington will...</i>	%	%	%	%	%	%
Work together more to solve problems	41	53	30	50	30	23
Bicker & oppose one another more than usual	50	39	59	39	63	66
No difference (Vol.)/DK	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 9-13, 2013. Q12F1. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Two-thirds (66%) say Republicans and Democrats in Washington are likely to bicker and oppose one another more than usual. Just 39% said this in January 2009. Still, that number has changed little in the past two years. It stood at 63% in January 2011.

Among partisans, 73% of Republicans expect the parties to fight more than usual, compared with 59% of Democrats and 68% of independents. Just 17% of Republicans say the parties will work together more. That is down from 30% in early 2011 and 40% in early 2009. A third of Democrats (33%) agree, little changed from early 2011 (28%), but down sharply from early 2009 (59%). Among independents, 20% say the parties will work together more; nearly half (49%) said that in early 2009.

Republicans Are Especially Negative about Prospects for Bipartisan Cooperation

	Jan 2001	Jan 2002	Jan 2005	Jan 2009	Jan 2011	Jan 2013
<i>% saying parties will work together more</i>	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	41	53	30	50	30	23
Republican	51	56	32	40	30	17
Democrat	34	56	30	59	28	33
Independent	39	48	28	49	30	20

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 9-13, 2013. Q12F1.

Views of Parties on Issues

Democrats hold an edge when the public is asked which party can do a better job dealing with social welfare programs such as Social Security and Medicare. The parties run about even on which would do a better job dealing with the deficit and which would better represent their views when it comes to government spending.

More than four-in-ten (44%) say the Democratic Party can do a better job dealing with Medicare, while 36% choose the Republican Party. The Democratic advantage is down slightly from December.

On the other issues tested, changes were modest. Democrats maintain a nine-point edge on dealing with Social Security (45% vs. 36%). On taxes, 44% say the Democrats can do a better job, while 38% say Republicans can.

When it comes to dealing with the deficit, the parties run about even: 40% say the Republicans can do the better job, while 39% say the Democrats can. And when asked which party better represents your views on government spending, the public is about evenly divided: 42% say the Republicans and 36% say the Democrats.

Democrats Hold Advantage on Social Security, Medicare

<i>Which party can do a better job ...</i>	Rep Party %	Dem Party %	Both/ Neither/ DK %	Dem adv
Dealing with Social Security				
January 2013	36	45	19=100	+9
December 2012	36	45	19=100	+9
October 2011	39	45	16=100	+6
Dealing with Medicare				
January 2013	36	44	20=100	+8
December 2012	33	50	17=100	+17
March 2012	35	48	17=100	+13
Dealing with taxes				
January 2013	38	44	17=100	+6
December 2012	37	45	18=100	+8
October 2011	43	40	17=100	-3
Dealing with the deficit				
January 2013	40	39	21=100	-1
December 2012	43	38	19=100	-5
March 2012	42	41	17=100	-1
Representing your views on govt spending				
January 2013	42	36	23=100	-6

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 9-13, 2013 Q34.

SECTION 3: OPINIONS OF BIDEN, KERRY, HAGEL, CHRISTIE AND BLOOMBERG

As he heads into his second term as vice president, the public's impression of Joe Biden is mixed: 42% have a favorable opinion, while the same percentage views him unfavorably. Opinions of Biden are little changed over the past year.

Biden's current rating is somewhat less favorable than the rating for his predecessor, Dick Cheney, early in the Bush administration's second term: In March 2005, 48% of the public had a favorable opinion of Cheney. Al Gore's favorability rating on the eve of his second term as Bill Clinton's vice president was far more positive than either Biden's or Cheney's: in January 1997, 65% viewed Gore favorably while just 29% viewed him unfavorably.

Opinions of Biden are starkly divided along partisan lines. Views among the opposition party have become more negative with each successive vice president. Today, just 13% of Republicans view Biden favorably. That compares to 27% of Democrats who had a favorable opinion of Cheney in 2005, although Cheney's favorable rating among Democrats would drop to 12% by the spring of 2006. In 1997, nearly half (47%) of Republicans viewed Gore positively; his rating among the GOP also dropped, to a low of 22% in September 1997.

Biden fares about as well among independents as Cheney did eight years ago, with opinions divided. Three-quarters of Democrats (75%) view Biden favorably today, comparable to Democrats' ratings of Gore at this point in his term. Cheney performed somewhat better among Republicans in 2005.

Vice Presidents at Start of Second Term

	Gore Jan 1997	Cheney Mar 2005	Biden Jan 2013
Total	%	%	%
Favorable	65	48	42
Unfavorable	29	42	42
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>16</u>
	100	100	100
Republican			
Favorable	47	83	13
Unfavorable	50	10	77
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>
	100	100	100
Democrat			
Favorable	81	27	75
Unfavorable	13	66	14
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	100	100
Independent			
Favorable	63	40	36
Unfavorable	31	49	42
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>22</u>
	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 9-13, 2013. Q17g. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Mixed Assessments of John Kerry, Chuck Hagel

Barack Obama's nominees for secretary of state and secretary of defense both receive mixed ratings from the public. John Kerry, the better known of the two, is viewed favorably by 39% of the public, while a comparable number (36%) view him unfavorably. Just 35% of the public offers an opinion of Chuck Hagel, Obama's nominee to head the Department of Defense. Those that do rate Hagel are about equally likely to view him favorably (18%) as unfavorably (17%).

Partisans hold differing opinions of the two nominees. While a majority of Democrats (55%) have a favorable impression of Kerry and just 19% say they have an unfavorable view, Republicans see the potential secretary of state more negatively: 52% have an unfavorable opinion of Kerry and just 28% have a favorable impression. Independents are divided in their assessments of Kerry (35% favorable, 39% unfavorable).

Despite his lower profile, the pattern of partisan opinion is similar for Hagel. By about two-to-one (23% vs. 10%), Democrats view Hagel favorably. Among Republicans, the balance of opinion about Hagel is negative (26% unfavorable, 15% favorable). Hagel receives mixed ratings from independents (17% favorable, 19% unfavorable).

Both Kerry and Hagel elicit particularly negative reactions from Republicans and Republican-leaning independents who agree with the Tea Party. Fully 70% of Tea Party Republicans have an unfavorable opinion of Kerry; that compares with 46% of Republicans and GOP leaners who either disagree with the Tea Party or have no opinion of it.

Tea Party Republicans are more familiar with Hagel than are non-Tea Party Republicans and have a much more negative opinion of him. Nearly half of Tea Party Republicans (47%) view him unfavorably, while just 6% view him favorably. Among non-Tea Party Republicans, opinions are divided (20% favorable, 19% unfavorable).

Divided Views of Kerry; Hagel Not Widely Known

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
John Kerry	%	%	%	%
Favorable	39	28	55	35
Unfavorable	36	52	19	39
Don't know	<u>26</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>
	100	100	100	100
Chuck Hagel				
Favorable	18	15	23	17
Unfavorable	17	26	10	19
Don't know	<u>65</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>64</u>
	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan 9-13, 2013. Q17e & Q17j.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Positive Ratings for Chris Christie Cross Partisan Lines

Chris Christie garners positive ratings from the American public. By about two-to-one, more have a favorable impression (40%) than an unfavorable impression (17%) of the Republican New Jersey governor, although about four-in-ten (42%) do not offer a rating.

While Christie's ratings are highest in the northeast, where about half (51%) rate him favorably, this is largely due to his higher profile in his home region (northeasterners are more likely than others to offer a rating). The balance of opinion about Christie is consistently positive across regions, as well as most other demographic groups.

And Christie is an increasingly rare political figure today: He is viewed positively by both Republicans and Democrats. Although more Republicans than Democrats or independents offer a rating for Christie, among those who do, Christie's ratings are comparably positive across all three groups.

Chris Christie Well-Regarded

	Fav %	Unfav %	DK %
Total	40	17	42=100
Republican	49	20	32=100
Democrat	37	18	45=100
Independent	37	15	47=100
College grad+	55	20	25=100
Some college	41	18	41=100
HS or less	30	15	55=100
Northeast	51	21	29=100
Midwest	38	16	46=100
South	40	16	43=100
West	33	18	49=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan 9-13, 2013. Q17i. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Michael Bloomberg Fares Well among College Grads, Democrats

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg gets mixed ratings from the public: 30% have a favorable impression of him, 27% have an unfavorable impression. About four-in-ten (43%) do not offer an opinion.

Despite his past Republican party affiliation and current independent status, Bloomberg is viewed positively among Democrats. By roughly two-to-one, more Democrats offer a favorable than unfavorable rating of Bloomberg (35% vs. 17%). Both Republicans and independents are more divided in their ratings.

Bloomberg's ratings also vary by region and education. Bloomberg fares best in the Northeast, where he is best known, and the West. Midwesterners and Southerners are more divided in their assessments. College graduates rate Bloomberg positively (46% favorable vs. 26% unfavorable), while those with less education are less likely to provide a rating and more divided in their assessments.

Perhaps reflecting Bloomberg's outspoken positions in favor of increasing gun controls, 37% of those who prioritize protecting Americans' right to own guns over controlling gun ownership view him unfavorably while just 19% view him favorably. Among those who prioritize gun control, opinions are reversed (40% favorable, 19% unfavorable).

Views of Bloomberg Starkly Divided by Gun Policy Positions

	Fav %	Unfav %	DK %
Total	30	27	43=100
Republican	24	34	42=100
Democrat	35	17	48=100
Independent	29	32	39=100
College grad+	46	26	27=100
Some college	25	24	51=100
HS or less	22	29	49=100
Northeast	42	27	31=100
Midwest	23	26	51=100
South	26	33	40=100
West	34	16	50=100
<i>More important to...</i>			
Protect right to own guns	19	37	44=100
Control gun ownership	40	19	42=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan 9-13, 2013. Q17f. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted January 9-13, 2013 among a national sample of 1,502 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (752 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 750 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 369 who had no landline telephone). The survey was conducted by interviewers at Princeton Data Source under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. A combination of landline and cell phone random digit dial samples were used; both samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents in the landline sample were selected by randomly asking for the youngest adult male or female who is now at home. Interviews in the cell sample were conducted with the person who answered the phone, if that person was an adult 18 years of age or older.

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and nativity and region to parameters from the 2011 Census Bureau's American Community Survey and population density to parameters from the Decennial Census. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status and relative usage of landline and cell phones (for those with both), based on extrapolations from the 2012 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size among respondents with a landline phone. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. The following table shows the sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Group	Unweighted sample size	Plus or minus...
Total sample	1,502	2.9 percentage points
Form 1	727	4.2 percentage points
Form 2	775	4.1 percentage points
Republicans	403	5.7 percentage points
Democrats	473	5.2 percentage points
Independents	557	4.8 percentage points

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
JANUARY 2013 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
January 9-13, 2013
N=1,502

RANDOMIZE Q.1/Q.1a BLOCK AND Q.2**ASK ALL:**

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Jan 9-13, 2013	52	40	7	Oct 13-18, 2010	46	45	9
Dec 5-9, 2012	55	39	6	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	47	44	9
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	50	43	7	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	47	41	12
Jun 7-17, 2012	47	45	8	Jun 8-28, 2010	48	41	11
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	46	42	11	Jun 16-20, 2010	48	43	9
Apr 4-15, 2012	46	45	9	May 6-9, 2010	47	42	11
Mar 7-11, 2012	50	41	9	Apr 21-26, 2010	47	42	11
Feb 8-12, 2012	47	43	10	Apr 8-11, 2010	48	43	9
Jan 11-16, 2012	44	48	8	Mar 10-14, 2010	46	43	12
Dec 7-11, 2011	46	43	11	Feb 3-9, 2010	49	39	12
Nov 9-14, 2011	46	46	8	Jan 6-10, 2010	49	42	10
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	43	48	9	Dec 9-13, 2009	49	40	11
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	49	7	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	51	36	13
Jul 20-24, 2011	44	48	8	Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	52	36	12
Jun 15-19, 2011	46	45	8	Sep 10-15, 2009	55	33	13
May 25-30, 2011	52	39	10	Aug 20-27, 2009	52	37	12
May 5-8, 2011	50	39	11	Aug 11-17, 2009	51	37	11
May 2, 2011	56	38	6	Jul 22-26, 2009	54	34	12
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	47	45	8	Jun 10-14, 2009	61	30	9
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	51	39	10	Apr 14-21, 2009	63	26	11
Feb 2-7, 2011	49	42	9	Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	61	26	13
Jan 5-9, 2011	46	44	10	Mar 9-12, 2009	59	26	15
Dec 1-5, 2010	45	43	13	Feb 4-8, 2009	64	17	19
Nov 4-7, 2010	44	44	12				

See past presidents' approval trends: [George W. Bush](#), [Bill Clinton](#)

ASK IF APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE (Q.1=1,2):

Q.1a Do you [approve/disapprove] very strongly, or not so strongly?

BASED ON TOTAL

Jan 9-13 2013		Apr 4-15 2012	Jan 11-16 2012	Jan 11-16 2011	Sep 22- Oct 4 2011	Aug 17-21 2011	Feb 22- Mar 1 2011	Jan 5-9 2011	Aug 25- Sep 6 2010	Jun 16-20 2010	Jan 6-10 2010	Apr 14-21 2009
52	Approve	46	44	43	43	51	46	47	48	49	63	
35	Very strongly	30	27	26	26	32	27	28	29	30	45	
15	Not so strongly	15	15	15	15	18	16	17	17	15	13	
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	5	
40	Disapprove	45	48	48	49	39	44	44	43	42	26	
31	Very strongly	36	35	34	38	29	30	32	31	30	18	
8	Not so strongly	8	12	13	11	10	13	11	11	11	8	
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	*	
7	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	9	8	9	7	10	10	9	9	10	11	

RANDOMIZE Q.1/Q.1a BLOCK AND Q.2**ASK ALL:**

Q.2 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>		Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Jan 9-13, 2013	30	66	4	February, 2007	30	61	9
Dec 17-19, 2012	25	68	7	Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7
Dec 5-9, 2012	33	62	5	Early January, 2007	30	63	7
Oct 18-21, 2012	32	61	8	December, 2006	28	65	7
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	31	64	5	Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8
Jun 7-17, 2012	28	68	5	Early October, 2006	30	63	7
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	29	64	7	July, 2006	30	65	5
Apr 4-15, 2012	24	69	6	May, 2006*	29	65	6
Feb 8-12, 2012	28	66	6	March, 2006	32	63	5
Jan 11-16, 2012	21	75	4	January, 2006	34	61	5
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	17	78	5	Late November, 2005	34	59	7
Aug 17-21, 2011	17	79	4	Early October, 2005	29	65	6
Jul 20-24, 2011	17	79	4	July, 2005	35	58	7
Jun 15-19, 2011	23	73	4	Late May, 2005*	39	57	4
May 5-8, 2011	30	62	8	February, 2005	38	56	6
May 2, 2011	32	60	8	January, 2005	40	54	6
Mar 8-14, 2011	22	73	5	December, 2004	39	54	7
Feb 2-7, 2011	26	68	5	Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6
Jan 5-9, 2011	23	71	6	July, 2004	38	55	7
Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7	May, 2004	33	61	6
Nov 4-7, 2010	23	69	8	Late February, 2004*	39	55	6
Sep 23-26, 2010	30	63	7	Early January, 2004	45	48	7
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	25	71	5	December, 2003	44	47	9
Jun 24-27, 2010	27	64	9	October, 2003	38	56	6
May 13-16, 2010	28	64	7	August, 2003	40	53	7
Apr 21-26, 2010	29	66	5	<i>April 8, 2003</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>9</i>
Apr 1-5, 2010	31	63	6	January, 2003	44	50	6
Mar 11-21, 2010	25	69	5	November, 2002	41	48	11
Mar 10-14, 2010	23	71	7	September, 2002	41	55	4
Feb 3-9, 2010	23	71	6	Late August, 2002	47	44	9
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	69	4	May, 2002	44	44	12
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	25	67	7	March, 2002	50	40	10
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	25	67	7	Late September, 2001	57	34	9
Sep 10-15, 2009 ¹	30	64	7	Early September, 2001	41	53	6
Aug 20-27, 2009	28	65	7	June, 2001	43	52	5
Aug 11-17, 2009	28	65	7	March, 2001	47	45	8
Jul 22-26, 2009	28	66	6	February, 2001	46	43	11
Jun 10-14, 2009	30	64	5	January, 2001	55	41	4
Apr 28-May 12, 2009	34	58	8	October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7
Apr 14-21, 2009	23	70	7	September, 2000	51	41	8
Jan 7-11, 2009	20	73	7	June, 2000	47	45	8
December, 2008	13	83	4	April, 2000	48	43	9
Early October, 2008	11	86	3	August, 1999	56	39	5
Mid-September, 2008	25	69	6	January, 1999	53	41	6
August, 2008	21	74	5	November, 1998	46	44	10
July, 2008	19	74	7	Early September, 1998	54	42	4
June, 2008	19	76	5	Late August, 1998	55	41	4
Late May, 2008	18	76	6	Early August, 1998	50	44	6
March, 2008	22	72	6	February, 1998	59	37	4
Early February, 2008	24	70	6	January, 1998	46	50	4
Late December, 2007	27	66	7	September, 1997	45	49	6
October, 2007	28	66	6	August, 1997	49	46	5
				January, 1997	38	58	4
				July, 1996	29	67	4
				March, 1996	28	70	2
				October, 1995	23	73	4

¹ In September 10-15, 2009 and other surveys noted with an asterisk, the question was worded "Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in our country today?"

Q.2 CONTINUED...

	Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>		Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
June, 1995	25	73	2	January, 1992	28	68	4
April, 1995	23	74	3	November, 1991	34	61	5
July, 1994	24	73	3	<i>Gallup</i> : Late Feb, 1991	66	31	3
March, 1994	24	71	5	August, 1990	47	48	5
October, 1993	22	73	5	May, 1990	41	54	5
September, 1993	20	75	5	January, 1989	45	50	5
May, 1993	22	71	7	September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5
January, 1993	39	50	11				

NO QUESTIONS 3-8

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=727]:

Q.9F1 In the long run, do you think Barack Obama will be a successful or unsuccessful president, or do you think it is too early to tell?

	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Too early to tell</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Obama				
Jan 9-13, 2013	33	26	39	2
Jan 11-16, 2012	27	32	39	2
Jan 5-9, 2011	25	26	47	2
Jan 6-10, 2010	24	21	52	3
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	27	18	54	2
Jan 7-11, 2009	30	4	65	1
Bush				
January, 2007	24	45	27	4
January, 2006	27	37	32	4
Early October, 2005	26	41	30	3
January, 2005	36	27	35	2
December, 2003	39	20	38	3
Early October, 2002	40	15	44	1
January, 2001	26	15	58	1
Clinton				
January, 1999	44	24	29	3
Early September, 1998	38	24	35	3
February, 1995	18	34	43	5
October, 1994	14	35	48	3
May, 1994	21	26	52	1
January, 1994	21	19	57	3
October, 1993	18	25	56	1
September, 1993	22	22	54	2
August, 1993	13	25	60	2

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=775]:

Q.10F2 In the long run, do you think the accomplishments of the Obama Administration will outweigh its failures, or will the failures outweigh the accomplishments?

	<u>Accomplishments will outweigh failures</u>	<u>Failures will outweigh accomplishments</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Obama			
Jan 9-13, 2013	46	39	15
Jan 11-16, 2012	43	44	12
Bush			
December, 2008	24	64	12
January, 2008	28	59	13
January, 2007	31	53	16
January, 2004	49	36	15

Q.10F2 CONTINUED...

	Accomplishments will <u>outweigh failures</u>	Failures will outweigh <u>accomplishments</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Clinton			
January, 2001	60	27	13
January, 2000	51	37	12
August, 1999	56	38	6
January, 1999	50	34	16
Early September, 1998	52	35	13
Reagan			
<i>Newsweek</i> : May 1987	46	41	13
<i>Newsweek</i> Feb 1987	52	38	10

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=775]:

Q.11F2 Right now, which is more important for President Obama to focus on... domestic policy or foreign policy?

	Domestic <u>policy</u>	Foreign <u>policy</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>Both</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Obama					
Jan 9-13, 2013	83	6	1	7	4
Jan 11-16, 2012	81	9	1	5	4
May 25-30, 2011	77	9	1	9	5
Jan 5-9, 2011	78	11	1	7	3
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	73	12	1	10	3
January 7-11, 2009 ²	71	11	*	14	4
Next President					
September, 2008 ³	60	21	*	15	4
May, 2008	61	22	*	15	4
G.W. Bush					
January, 2008	56	31	1	8	4
January, 2007	39	40	1	15	5
August, 2006	50	32	1	12	5
January, 2006	57	25	1	13	4
October, 2005	64	20	1	12	3
Early January, 2005	53	27	1	16	3
January, 2002	52	34	*	11	3
Clinton					
Early September, 1998	56	30	0	11	3
January, 1997	86	7	*	5	2
December, 1994	85	7	2	4	2
October, 1993	76	13	*	7	4

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=727]:

Q.12F1 This coming year, do you think Republicans and Democrats in Washington will work together more to solve problems OR do you think they will bicker and oppose one another more than usual?

	Work <u>together more</u>	Bicker and oppose one another <u>more than usual</u>	(VOL.) <u>Same as in past</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Jan 9-13, 2013	23	66	4	7
Jan 5-9, 2011	30	63	3	5
Sep 30-Oct 3, 2010 ⁴	8	77	4	11
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	25	53	8	14
Jan 7-11, 2009	50	39	6	5

² January 7-11, 2009, survey asked about "president-elect Obama."

³ September and May 2008 surveys asked about priorities for the "next president."

⁴ In surveys that were not conducted in January of a given year the question was worded: "This year, have Republicans and Democrats in Washington been working together more to solve problems OR have they been bickering and opposing one another more than usual?"

Q.12F1 CONTINUED...

	Work <u>together more</u>	Bicker and oppose one another <u>more than usual</u>	(VOL.) Same as in past	(VOL.) DK/Ref
May, 2005	13	64	8	15
January, 2005	30	59	4	7
June, 2004	21	60	7	12
October, 2003	21	55	10	14
May, 2002	44	31	8	17
January, 2002	53	39	5	3
July, 2001	30	46	10	14
May, 2001	34	41	9	16
January, 2001	41	50	4	5
July, 2000	21	54	10	15
August, 1999	20	68	4	8
August, 1998	27	51	8	14
November, 1997	38	45	7	10
August, 1997	43	46	3	8
June, 1997	34	49	6	11
October, 1995	21	72	3	4
August, 1993	20	57	13	10

NO QUESTIONS 14-15

ASK ALL:

- Q.16 Would you say your overall opinion of [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS] is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."] How about [NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: Just in general, is your overall opinion of [ITEM] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?] [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			(VOL.) Never heard of	(VOL.) Can't rate/ Ref
	Total	Very	Mostly	Total	Very	Mostly		
a. The Democratic Party								
Jan 9-13, 2013	47	13	34	46	18	28	*	7
Dec 5-9, 2012	48	11	37	47	23	25	1	4
Sep 12-16, 2012	53	21	32	40	18	22	*	7
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	47	14	33	45	21	24	*	8
Mar 7-11, 2012	49	14	36	43	18	25	*	7
Jan 11-16, 2012	43	13	29	51	23	28	*	7
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	46	13	32	45	19	26	*	9
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	9	34	50	21	29	*	7
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	48	14	34	45	18	27	*	6
Feb 2-7, 2011	47	13	35	46	17	29	*	6
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	50	13	36	44	20	24	*	7
July 1-5, 2010	44	12	31	45	22	23	*	11
April 1-5, 2010	38	9	29	52	27	25	*	9
Mar 18-21, 2010	40	8	32	49	25	24	*	11
Feb 3-9, 2010	48	9	39	44	17	27	*	8
Aug 20-27, 2009	48	11	37	43	19	24	*	10
Aug 11-17, 2009	49	12	37	40	16	25	*	10
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	59	15	44	34	13	21	*	7
Jan 7-11, 2009	62	19	43	32	12	20	*	6
Late October, 2008	57	19	38	33	15	18	*	10
Mid-September, 2008	55	18	37	39	14	25	*	6
August, 2008	57	16	41	37	13	24	*	6
Late May, 2008	57	14	43	37	14	23	*	6
July, 2007	51	13	38	41	14	27	0	8

Q. 16 CONTINUED...

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	Never heard of	Can't rate/Ref
Early January, 2007	54	15	39	35	12	23	*	11
Late October, 2006	53	13	40	36	11	25	*	11
July, 2006	47	13	34	44	13	31	2	7
April, 2006	47	12	35	42	14	28	*	11
February, 2006	48	14	34	44	17	27	0	8
Late October, 2005	49	14	35	41	15	26	*	10
July, 2005	50	15	35	41	14	27	*	9
June, 2005	52	12	40	39	13	26	*	9
December, 2004	53	13	40	41	14	27	*	6
June, 2004	54	12	42	36	11	25	0	10
Early February, 2004	58	14	44	37	9	28	*	5
June, 2003	54	11	43	38	10	28	0	8
April, 2003	57	13	44	36	11	25	*	7
December, 2002	54	15	39	37	10	27	*	9
July, 2001	58	18	40	34	10	24	*	8
January, 2001	60	18	42	30	9	21	1	9
September, 2000 (RVs)	60	16	44	35	12	23	*	5
August, 1999	59	14	45	37	9	28	*	4
February, 1999	58	11	47	37	11	26	0	5
January, 1999	55	14	41	38	12	26	0	7
Early December, 1998	59	18	41	34	10	24	0	7
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	56	11	45	38	9	29	*	6
Early September, 1998	60	13	47	33	8	25	*	7
March, 1998	58	15	43	36	10	26	*	6
August, 1997	52	11	41	42	10	32	0	6
June, 1997	61	10	51	33	8	25	*	6
January, 1997	60	13	47	35	7	28	*	5
October, 1995	49	9	40	48	11	37	0	3
December, 1994	50	13	37	44	13	31	*	6
July, 1994	62	13	49	34	7	27	*	4
May, 1993	57	14	43	34	9	25	0	9
July, 1992	61	17	44	33	9	24	*	6
b. The Republican Party								
Jan 9-13, 2013	33	6	28	58	27	31	1	8
Dec 5-9, 2012	36	7	28	59	23	36	*	5
Sep 12-16, 2012	42	12	30	50	25	26	*	8
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	36	9	27	56	28	28	*	8
Mar 7-11, 2012	36	7	30	56	27	29	*	8
Jan 11-16, 2012	35	7	27	58	28	30	*	7
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	36	7	29	55	27	28	*	9
Aug 17-21, 2011	34	5	29	59	27	32	*	7
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	42	9	32	51	22	28	1	7
Feb 2-7, 2011	43	8	35	48	19	29	*	9
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	43	8	35	49	21	28	*	8
July 1-5, 2010	39	10	29	49	24	25	*	12
April 1-5, 2010	37	8	29	53	26	27	*	9
Mar 18-21, 2010	37	5	32	51	20	31	*	12
Feb 3-9, 2010	46	5	41	46	14	32	0	8
Aug 20-27, 2009	40	6	34	50	19	31	*	10
Aug 11-17, 2009	40	7	33	50	18	32	*	10
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	40	7	33	51	17	34	0	9
Jan 7-11, 2009	40	5	35	55	21	34	*	5
Late October, 2008	40	10	30	50	23	27	*	10
Mid-September, 2008	47	11	36	46	22	24	*	7
August, 2008	43	9	34	49	18	31	1	7

Q. 16 CONTINUED...

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	Never heard of	Can't rate/Ref
Late May, 2008	39	7	32	53	20	33	*	8
July, 2007	39	7	32	53	22	31	0	8
Early January, 2007	41	9	32	48	21	27	1	10
Late October, 2006	41	9	32	50	20	30	*	9
July, 2006	40	10	30	52	23	29	1	7
April, 2006	40	10	30	50	21	29	*	10
February, 2006	44	11	33	50	24	26	*	6
Late October, 2005	42	12	30	49	24	25	*	9
July, 2005	48	13	35	43	18	25	*	9
June, 2005	48	11	37	44	20	24	0	8
December, 2004	52	15	37	42	17	25	0	6
June, 2004	51	12	39	40	14	26	0	9
Early February, 2004	52	14	38	42	16	26	*	6
June, 2003	58	14	44	33	10	23	0	9
April, 2003	63	14	49	31	10	21	*	6
December, 2002	59	18	41	33	11	22	*	8
July, 2001	48	11	37	42	15	27	*	10
January, 2001	56	13	43	35	13	22	*	9
September, 2000 (RVs)	53	11	42	40	12	28	0	7
August, 1999	53	8	45	43	12	31	*	4
February, 1999	44	7	37	51	15	36	0	5
January, 1999	44	10	34	50	23	27	0	6
Early December, 1998	46	11	35	47	20	27	*	7
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	52	9	43	42	14	28	0	6
Early September, 1998	56	9	47	37	11	26	*	7
March, 1998	50	10	40	43	12	31	*	7
August, 1997	47	9	38	47	11	36	*	6
June, 1997	51	8	43	42	11	31	1	6
January, 1997	52	8	44	43	10	33	*	5
October, 1995	52	10	42	44	16	28	*	4
December, 1994	67	21	46	27	8	19	*	6
July, 1994	63	12	51	33	8	25	*	4
May, 1993	54	12	42	35	10	25	0	11
July, 1992	46	9	37	48	17	31	*	6

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=775]:

c.F2 Congress

Jan 9-13, 2013	23	4	19	68	32	36	*	9
Dec 5-9, 2012	27	4	22	67	24	43	1	6
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	27	5	22	65	30	35	*	8
Jan 11-16, 2012	23	5	18	69	33	36	*	8
Aug 17-21, 2011	25	4	21	70	30	40	4	6
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	34	4	30	57	21	36	1	8
July 1-5, 2010	33	6	27	56	23	33	*	11
April 1-5, 2010	25	3	22	65	30	36	*	9
Mar 18-21, 2010	26	3	23	62	23	39	*	12
Feb 3-9, 2010	41	3	38	50	17	34	0	9
Aug 20-27, 2009	37	4	33	52	20	32	*	11
Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	50	10	40	43	15	28	*	7
Jan 7-11, 2009	40	5	35	52	20	32	*	8
Late May, 2008	41	6	35	51	17	34	0	8
July, 2007	41	6	35	51	16	35	0	8
Early January, 2007	53	11	42	38	9	29	1	8
Late October, 2006	41	5	36	46	15	31	*	13
February, 2006	44	6	38	47	14	33	0	9
Late October, 2005	45	7	38	45	13	32	*	10

Q.16 CONTINUED...

	-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't rate/
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>heard of</u>	<u>Ref</u>
July, 2005	49	6	43	40	11	29	*	11
June, 2005	49	6	43	40	10	30	*	11
June, 2004	56	7	49	33	7	26	*	11
July, 2001	57	7	50	32	8	24	*	11
March, 2001	56	6	50	36	10	26	1	7
January, 2001	64	10	54	23	5	18	1	12
September, 2000 (RVs)	61	8	53	32	5	27	*	7
August, 1999	63	8	55	34	7	27	*	3
June, 1999	56	9	47	39	9	30	*	5
February, 1999	52	4	48	44	8	36	0	4
January, 1999	48	7	41	45	15	30	0	7
Early December, 1998	52	11	41	41	12	29	0	7
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	62	7	55	33	8	25	0	5
Early September, 1998	66	7	59	27	5	22	0	7
October, 1997	53	5	48	44	11	33	0	3
August, 1997	50	6	44	44	11	33	0	6
June, 1997	52	4	48	42	8	34	0	6
May, 1997	49	5	44	42	10	32	*	9
February, 1997	52	6	46	40	9	31	*	8
January, 1997	56	6	50	40	8	32	*	4
June, 1996	45	6	39	50	12	38	*	5
April, 1996	45	6	39	50	13	37	0	5
January, 1996	42	4	38	54	16	38	*	4
October, 1995	42	4	38	55	13	42	0	3
August, 1995	45	5	40	47	13	34	*	7
June, 1995	53	8	45	42	11	31	*	5
February, 1995	54	10	44	37	10	27	0	9
July, 1994	53	7	46	43	9	34	*	4
May, 1993	43	8	35	48	13	35	0	9
November, 1991	51	7	44	43	9	34	0	6
March, 1991	66	16	50	26	7	19	0	8
May, 1990	59	6	53	34	9	25	1	6
May, 1988	64	8	56	28	5	23	0	8
January, 1988	64	6	58	29	4	25	0	7
May, 1987	74	10	64	20	4	16	*	6
January, 1987	59	7	52	31	8	23	0	10
July, 1985	67	9	58	26	5	21	*	7

ASK ALL:

- Q.17 And is your overall opinion of [INSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? How about [NEXT NAME]?
[IF NECESSARY: Just in general, is your overall opinion of [NAME] very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?] [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]

	-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>heard of</u>	<u>rate/Ref</u>
a. Barack Obama								
Jan 9-13, 2013	59	28	31	38	20	18	*	3
Dec 5-9, 2012	59	26	33	40	24	16	*	2
Oct 4-7, 2012	50	24	26	45	26	19	*	5
Sep 12-16, 2012	57	27	30	40	23	17	*	4
Jul 16-26, 2012	51	24	26	42	27	15	0	8
Jun 7-17, 2012	53	20	33	44	22	21	0	4
Mar 7-11, 2012	56	24	32	41	25	16	*	3

Q.17 CONTINUED...

	-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't rate/
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>heard of</u>	<u>Ref</u>
Feb 8-12, 2012	54	22	32	42	26	16	*	5
Jan 11-16, 2012	51	23	28	45	24	21	0	4
Nov 9-14, 2011	52	21	31	45	24	21	*	3
Mar 8-14, 2011	58	22	36	39	20	19	*	3
Dec 2-5, 2010	54	26	29	43	25	18	*	2
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	53	21	32	43	23	20	*	5
Jun 10-13, 2010	56	27	30	39	20	19	0	4
Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009	65	33	32	30	16	14	*	5
Jun 10-14, 2009	72	37	35	25	11	14	*	3
Apr 14-21, 2009	73	38	35	24	10	14	*	3
Jan 7-11, 2009	79	40	39	15	4	11	0	6
Mid-October, 2008	66	33	33	28	13	15	*	6
Late September, 2008	65	33	32	30	11	19	*	5
Mid-September, 2008	62	28	34	34	15	19	*	4
Late May, 2008	51	23	28	40	21	19	*	9
April, 2008	52	21	31	42	21	21	*	6
March, 2008	56	21	35	34	18	16	1	9
Late February, 2008	57	24	33	34	16	18	1	8
Early February, 2008	58	19	39	30	13	17	2	10
January, 2008	56	20	36	33	13	20	3	8
Late December, 2007	54	16	38	30	12	18	5	11
August, 2007	48	14	34	26	10	16	13	13
b. Michelle Obama								
Jan 9-13, 2013	67	37	30	22	11	11	1	11
Sep 12-16, 2012	67	39	28	22	11	11	*	10
Jun 7-17, 2012	68	33	35	21	11	10	1	10
Jan 11-16, 2012	66	33	34	21	10	12	*	12
Mar 8-14, 2011	69	30	39	21	9	12	1	9
Dec 2-5, 2010	62	30	31	27	15	12	1	10
Jun 10-13, 2010	69	31	38	22	9	12	1	9
Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009	71	33	38	16	8	8	1	11
Jun 10-14, 2009	76	36	39	14	5	9	1	9
Apr 14-21, 2009	76	36	40	13	4	9	1	10
Jan 7-11, 2009	68	28	40	15	4	11	2	15
Mid-September, 2008	56	23	33	25	11	14	2	17
Late May, 2008	43	14	29	21	8	13	4	32
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=727]:								
c.F1. John Boehner								
Jan 9-13, 2013	26	6	21	40	17	23	20	14
Dec 5-9, 2012	28	5	23	40	17	23	22	11
Jan 11-16, 2012	21	5	16	40	16	24	22	17
Mar 8-14, 2011	26	7	19	27	11	16	32	16
Dec 2-5, 2010	28	8	20	25	12	14	34	12
Jun 10-13, 2010	12	3	9	22	8	15	54	12
d.F1 Harry Reid								
Jan 9-13, 2013	21	5	16	34	16	19	28	17
Dec 5-9, 2012	23	3	20	37	17	20	27	12
Jan 11-16, 2012	18	4	15	38	20	18	28	16
Dec 2-5, 2010	23	5	18	39	21	18	26	12
December, 2006	17	3	14	20	7	13	45	18

Q.17 CONTINUED...

		-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't rate/ Ref
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>heard of</u>	<u>Ref</u>
e.F1	John Kerry								
	Jan 9-13, 2013	39	11	27	36	15	21	12	13
	April, 2006	45	10	35	44	20	24	2	9
	Late October, 2005	46	12	34	43	20	23	2	9
	Late March, 2005	49	13	36	41	17	24	2	8
	Mid-October, 2004 (RVs)	56	21	35	40	16	24	0	3
	Early October, 2004 (RVs)	53	16	37	41	16	25	*	6
	Early September, 2004	49	17	32	43	19	24	*	8
	August, 2004	56	23	33	36	14	22	1	7
	June, 2004	50	11	39	41	16	25	0	9
	Early February, 2004	58	14	44	28	8	20	1	13
	January, 2003	30	6	24	16	4	12	36	18
f.F1	Michael Bloomberg								
	Jan 9-13, 2013	30	7	22	27	12	15	22	21
	January, 2008	17	4	13	38	13	25	17	28
	Gallup: July, 2007	36	--	--	27	--	--	11	28
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=775]:									
g.F2	Joe Biden								
	Jan 9-13, 2013	42	14	28	42	20	21	8	8
	Oct 24-28, 2012	44	17	27	42	26	16	5	10
	Oct 4-7, 2012	38	13	24	46	26	21	5	11
	Sep 12-16, 2012	41	15	26	43	22	21	4	11
	Jun 7-17, 2012	40	10	30	37	18	19	6	17
	Jan 11-16, 2012	38	10	28	41	18	22	9	12
	Oct 28-Nov 30, 2009	50	13	36	29	13	16	8	13
	Mid-Apr 2009	51	14	37	28	10	18	8	13
	Jan 2009	63	22	41	20	7	13	6	11
	Mid-October, 2008	55	20	34	35	10	19	6	10
	Early Oct, 2008 (callback)	61	20	41	30	10	20	1	8
	Late September, 2008	49	15	34	30	10	20	8	13
	Mid-September, 2008	48	14	34	30	11	19	8	14
	April, 2006	28	7	21	20	5	15	38	14
	Late October, 2005	21	4	17	20	6	14	43	16
	September, 1987	22	4	18	15	4	11	25	38
h.F2	Mitch McConnell								
	Jan 9-13, 2013	21	2	18	28	11	17	32	20
	Dec 2-5, 2010	22	5	18	27	11	16	35	15
i.F2	Chris Christie								
	Jan 9-13, 2013	40	10	30	17	7	11	26	16
j.F2	Chuck Hagel								
	Jan 9-13, 2013	18	5	14	17	7	10	41	24

QUESTION 18 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

NO QUESTION 19

ASK ALL:

Thinking about the nation's economy...

Q.20 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Jan 9-13, 2013	2	11	38	49	1
Dec 5-9, 2012	1	14	50	35	1
Oct 24-28, 2012	1	12	42	44	1
Sep 12-16, 2012	1	12	43	44	1
Jun 7-17, 2012	1	9	47	42	1
Mar 7-11, 2012	1	9	38	51	1
Feb 8-12, 2012	1	10	46	43	1
Jan 11-16, 2012	2	9	42	47	1
Dec 7-11, 2011	*	8	38	53	1
Aug 17-21, 2011	1	6	37	56	1
Jun 15-19, 2011	*	8	45	46	1
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	1	7	38	53	1
Feb 2-7, 2011	1	11	45	42	1
Dec 1-5, 2010	1	8	44	45	1
Oct 13-18, 2010	1	7	38	54	1
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	1	7	43	48	1
Jun 3-6, 2010	1	8	48	43	1
Apr 21-26, 2010	*	11	39	49	1
Mar 10-14, 2010	1	6	39	53	1
Feb 3-9, 2010	1	7	38	53	1
Dec 9-13, 2009	1	7	41	50	1
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	*	8	41	50	1
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	1	8	43	48	1
Aug 11-17, 2009	*	8	38	52	2
Jun 10-14, 2009	1	8	39	52	1
Mar 9-12, 2009	*	6	25	68	1
Feb 4-8, 2009	*	4	24	71	1
December, 2008	*	7	33	59	1
November, 2008	1	6	28	64	1
Late October, 2008	*	7	25	67	1
Early October, 2008	1	8	32	58	1
Late September, 2008	*	7	27	65	1
July, 2008	1	9	39	50	1
April, 2008	1	10	33	56	*
March, 2008	1	10	32	56	1
Early February, 2008	1	16	36	45	2
January, 2008	3	23	45	28	1
November, 2007	3	20	44	32	1
September, 2007	3	23	43	29	2
June, 2007	6	27	40	25	2
February, 2007	5	26	45	23	1
December, 2006	6	32	41	19	2
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	9	35	37	17	2
Late October, 2006	6	27	40	25	2
September, 2006	5	32	41	20	2
March, 2006	4	29	44	22	1
January, 2006	4	30	45	19	2
Early October, 2005	2	23	45	29	1
Mid-September, 2005	3	28	44	24	1
Mid-May, 2005	3	29	47	20	1
January, 2005	3	36	45	15	1
Early November, 2004 (RVs)	5	31	37	26	1

Q.20 CONTINUED...

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mid-September, 2004	4	34	40	20	2
August, 2004	3	30	45	21	1
Late April, 2004	4	34	38	22	2
Late February, 2004 ⁵	2	29	42	26	1

ASK ALL:

Q.21 A year from now, do you expect that economic conditions in the country as a whole will be better than they are at present, or worse, or just about the same as now?

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Same</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Jan 9-13, 2013	33	25	40	2
Dec 5-9, 2012	37	25	36	2
Sep 12-16, 2012	43	8	42	8
Jun 7-17, 2012	34	11	50	5
Mar 7-11, 2012	44	14	38	4
Feb 8-12, 2012	44	10	42	3
Jan 11-16, 2012	34	16	46	3
Dec 7-11, 2011	28	18	50	4
Aug 17-21, 2011	29	18	50	2
Jun 15-19, 2011	29	23	46	2
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	16	45	4
Apr 21-26, 2010	42	19	36	3
Feb 3-9, 2010	42	16	40	3
Dec 9-13, 2009	42	17	38	3
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	39	19	39	2
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	45	15	38	3
Aug 11-17, 2009	45	19	33	3
Jun 10-14, 2009	48	16	34	2
Mar 9-12, 2009	41	19	37	3
Feb 4-8, 2009	40	18	38	4
December, 2008	43	17	36	4
Early October, 2008	46	16	30	8
July, 2008	30	21	41	8
March, 2008	33	22	39	6
January, 2008	20	26	48	6
September, 2007	19	23	53	5
June, 2007	16	24	55	5
February, 2007	17	20	58	5
December, 2006	22	18	56	4
September, 2006	16	25	55	4
January, 2006	20	22	55	3
Early October, 2005	20	32	45	3
Mid-September, 2005	18	37	43	2
Mid-May, 2005	18	24	55	3
January, 2005	27	18	52	3
August, 2004	36	9	47	8
Late February, 2004	39	12	41	8
September, 2003	37	17	43	3
May, 2003	43	19	35	3
Late March, 2003	33	23	37	7
January, 2003	30	20	44	6
January, 2002	44	17	36	3
Newsweek: January, 2001	18	33	44	5
June, 2000	15	24	55	6

5 Earlier trends available from Gallup.

Q.21 CONTINUED...

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	16	22	57	5
Early September, 1998	18	17	61	4
May, 1990	18	31	45	6
February, 1989	25	22	49	4
September, 1988 (RVs)	24	16	51	9
May, 1988	24	20	46	10
January, 1988	22	26	45	7
Newsweek: January, 1984 (RVs)	35	13	49	3

ASK ALL:

Next,

Q.22 Which comes closer to your own views — even if neither is exactly right. **[READ IN ORDER]?**

<u>Jan 9-13 2013</u>		<u>Feb 22-Mar 1 2011</u>	<u>(RVs) Aug 25-Sep 6 2010</u>
50	I like elected officials who make compromises with people they disagree with	40	40
44	I like elected officials who stick to their positions	54	55
2	Neither/Both equally (VOL.)	3	3
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	2

ASK ALL:

Q.23 Which comes closer to your view of Congress these days? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

<u>Jan 9-13 2013</u>		<u>Dec 7-11 2011</u>	<u>Mar 11-21 2010</u>
32	Most members of Congress have good intentions, it's the political system that is broken	32	38
56	The political system can work fine, it's the members of Congress that are the problem	55	52
4	Both (VOL.)	6	3
1	Neither (VOL.)	1	1
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	7	6

QUESTION 24 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

Q.25 Now thinking about the positions of the parties these days ... would you say **[INSERT FIRST ITEM]** is very conservative, conservative, moderate, liberal, or very liberal? How about **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: "Would you say [ITEM] is very conservative, conservative, moderate, liberal, or very liberal?"]**

	<u>Very conservative</u>	<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Liberal</u>	<u>Very liberal</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a. The Republican Party						
Jan 9-13, 2013	23	32	22	8	6	9
Aug 17-21, 2011	20	35	22	8	6	9
Jun 16-20, 2010	17	37	26	9	5	7
b. The Democratic Party						
Jan 9-13, 2013	2	11	27	31	22	7
Aug 17-21, 2011	4	13	26	30	19	8
Jun 16-20, 2010	3	10	28	31	23	6

NO QUESTIONS 26-29

QUESTION 30-32 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

NO QUESTION 33

Thinking about some issues...

ASK ALL:

Q.34 Which party could do a better job of **[INSERT FIRST ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Which party could do a better job of ITEM?]**

	Republican Party	Democratic Party	(VOL.) Both equally	(VOL.) Neither	(VOL.) DK/Ref
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=727]:					
a.F1 Dealing with the federal budget deficit					
Jan 9-13, 2013	40	39	7	8	6
Dec 5-9, 2012	43	38	4	7	9
Mar 7-11, 2012	42	41	2	7	7
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	46	37	4	6	7
Jul 22-24, 2011	43	37	5	6	8
May 25-30, 2011 ⁶	41	38	4	9	8
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	46	34	8	6	7
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	28	7	16	14
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	43	36	5	9	7
May 20-23, 2010	33	30	8	16	12
Apr 21-26, 2010	38	35	6	11	10
Feb 3-9, 2010	42	36	6	8	7
Aug 27-30, 2009	35	36	6	13	10
September, 2006	27	47	4	8	14
February, 2006	33	45	6	9	7
Early October, 2005	29	47	6	10	8
June, 1999	37	41	5	8	9
July, 1994	42	36	2	13	7
December, 1993	31	36	--	18	15

NO ITEM b

c.F1 Dealing with taxes					
Jan 9-13, 2013	38	44	5	6	6
Dec 5-9, 2012	37	45	6	4	7
Jul 20-24, 2011	43	40	4	6	8
Oct 13-18, 2010	36	35	7	9	12
Sep 16-19, 2010	40	34	8	8	9
Aug 27-30, 2009	38	37	4	11	11
February, 2008	37	49	2	5	7
October, 2006	32	40	5	7	16
September, 2006	30	45	4	9	12
February, 2006	35	46	5	6	8
May, 2001	37	40	8	6	9
June, 1999	38	38	5	7	12
September, 1998	41	37	7	5	10
March, 1998	39	40	6	7	8
October, 1994	43	34	5	9	9

NO ITEMS d-f

g.F1 Dealing with the Social Security system					
Jan 9-13, 2013	36	45	5	7	7
Dec 5-9, 2012	36	45	6	4	9
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	39	45	3	5	8
Jul 22-24, 2011	37	42	7	5	9

⁶ From February 2006 to May 2011 item read "Reducing the federal budget deficit;" and the experiment conducted in July 2011 showed no significant difference between the current wording and this wording. In Early October 2005, the item was asked as a stand alone question. In June 1999, the item was worded: "Keeping the federal budget balanced." In December 1993 the item was worded: "Reducing the budget deficit."

Q.34 CONTINUED...

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011 ⁷	39	39	9	6	7	
Sep 16-19, 2010	35	35	9	11	11	
September, 2006	26	46	4	11	13	
September, 2005	33	45	6	9	7	
Late October, 2002 (RVs)	31	42	6	9	12	
Early September, 2002	30	38	8	10	14	
May, 2002	32	38	--	9	21	
January, 2002	28	40	--	6	26	
May, 2001	35	43	6	5	11	
January, 2001	36	44	--	7	13	
June, 1999	33	41	4	9	13	
January, 1999	27	46	--	7	20	
Early September, 1998	37	42	7	5	9	
May, 1990	28	41	--	16	15	
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=775]:						
h.F2	Dealing with the Medicare system					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	36	44	4	6	10
	Dec 5-9, 2012	33	50	3	6	8
	Mar 7-11, 2012	35	48	3	7	7
	May 25-30, 2011	34	44	5	8	9
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
	<i>Reforming the Medicare system</i>					
	Sep 16-19, 2010	33	38	7	9	12
i.F2	Representing your views on government spending					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	42	36	5	9	9
j.F2	Representing your views on abortion					
	Jan 9-13, 2013	36	41	3	6	14
	Mar 7-11, 2012	31	47	1	6	15
	Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	36	44	2	5	13
	Aug 27-30, 2009	33	41	3	9	14
	September, 2006	33	44	2	6	15
	January, 1992 ⁸	29	39	--	11	21
	August, 1990	30	40	--	12	18

NO ITEM K

QUESTION 34I PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

⁷ From January 2002 to May 2011 item read "Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound;" experiment conducted in July 2011 showed no significant difference between the current wording and this wording. For May 2001, June 1999, Early September 1998 and May 1990, the question was worded, "Please tell me if you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party could do a better job in each of the following areas ... keeping Social Security financially sound?"

⁸ In January 1992 and August 1990, the item was worded, "Which political party - the Republican Party or the Democratic party do you think could do a better job of: representing your views on abortion?"

ASK ALL:

Q.35 As I read some pairs of opposite phrases, please tell me which one best reflects your impression of Barack Obama. (First,) does Barack Obama impress you as... **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**?

	Jan 9-13 <u>2013</u>		Jan 11-16 <u>2012</u>	Aug 17-21 <u>2011</u>	May 25-30 <u>2011</u>	Jan 5-9 <u>2011</u>	Jun 16-20 <u>2010</u>	Jan 6-10 <u>2010</u>	Sep 10-15 <u>2009</u>	Feb 4-8 <u>2009</u>
a.	57	Able to get things done	46	44	55	54	55	57	58	70
	37	Not able to get things done	50	50	38	38	39	35	31	15
	1	Neither particularly (VOL.)	2	2	3	3	2	3	3	2
	4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	4	5	5	4	5	8	13
b.	59	A strong leader	52	49	58	53	53	62	65	77
	37	Not a strong leader	45	47	37	41	42	32	29	13
	1	Neither particularly (VOL.)	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
	2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	3	3	4	3	3	5	9

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=727]:

c.F1	82	Stands up for what he believes in	75	71	75	77	--	--	--	--
	14	Doesn't stand up for what he believes in	19	22	18	16	--	--	--	--
	1	Neither particularly (VOL.)	1	1	1	1	--	--	--	--
	3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	5	5	5	5	--	--	--	--

NO ITEM d.

e.F1	66	Trustworthy	61	59	62	58	58	61	64	76
	30	Not trustworthy	36	37	31	36	37	31	30	15
	1	Neither particularly (VOL.)	*	1	2	2	1	2	2	1
	3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3	3	5	4	3	5	5	8

NO ITEM f.**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=775]:**

g.F2	76	A good communicator	78	75	75	75	77	83	83	92
	21	Not a good communicator	20	22	20	21	20	14	13	6
	1	Neither particularly (VOL.)	*	1	1	1	2	1	1	*
	2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	2	3	4	1	2	3	2
h.F2	66	Someone who cares about people like me	61	63	64	60	60	64	68	81
	31	Someone who doesn't care about people like me	35	31	30	34	35	30	25	14
	*	Neither particularly (VOL.)	1	1	*	1	2	1	1	1
	3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3	5	5	5	3	4	6	4

ASK ALL:

Q.36 In his first term in office, would you say that Barack Obama did a better job handling **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**?

Jan 9-13 <u>2013</u>	30	Domestic policy [OR]
	40	Foreign policy
	15	Neither (VOL.)
	6	Both
	9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

**NO QUESTIONS 37-39, 44-49, 52
QUESTION 40-43, 50-51, 53-54 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?

ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
Jan 9-13, 2013	25	32	38	2	*	2	15	16
Dec 17-19, 2012	21	32	38	4	*	4	15	14
Dec 5-9, 2012	23	33	38	3	1	2	14	19
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012	26	34	34	3	1	3	13	16
Oct 24-28, 2012	28	33	33	4	*	2	12	16
Oct 4-7, 2012	27	31	36	3	1	3	15	15
Sep 12-16, 2012	24	35	36	2	*	2	14	16
Jul 16-26, 2012	22	33	38	4	*	3	14	15
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	24	33	37	3	*	3	15	17
Jun 7-17, 2012	24	33	39	2	*	2	17	17
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	24	32	36	4	*	4	13	14
Apr 4-15, 2012	24	31	39	3	*	2	15	15
Mar 7-11, 2012	24	34	36	3	1	2	16	17
Feb 8-12, 2012	26	32	36	4	1	2	13	17
Jan 11-16, 2012	22	31	42	3	*	2	17	16
Jan 4-8, 2012	26	31	35	4	*	4	14	14
Yearly Totals								
2012	24.7	32.6	36.4	3.1	.5	2.7	14.4	16.1
2011	24.3	32.3	37.4	3.1	.4	2.5	15.7	15.6
2010	25.2	32.7	35.2	3.6	.4	2.8	14.5	14.1
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.7	36.0	31.5	3.6	.3	3.0	10.6	15.2
2007	25.3	32.9	34.1	4.3	.4	2.9	10.9	17.0
2006	27.8	33.1	30.9	4.4	.3	3.4	10.5	15.1
2005	29.3	32.8	30.2	4.5	.3	2.8	10.3	14.9
2004	30.0	33.5	29.5	3.8	.4	3.0	11.7	13.4
2003	30.3	31.5	30.5	4.8	.5	2.5	12.0	12.6
2002	30.4	31.4	29.8	5.0	.7	2.7	12.4	11.6
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3	--	3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--