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Negative Views of New Congress Cross Party Lines

*Republicans Want GOP Leaders to
Challenge Obama More Often*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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Negative Views of New Congress Cross Party Lines

Republicans Want GOP Leaders to Challenge Obama More Often

The new Republican-led Congress is drawing harsh reviews from the public – including most Republicans. Just 23% of Americans say congressional Republicans are keeping the promises they made during last fall’s campaign, while 65% say they are not.

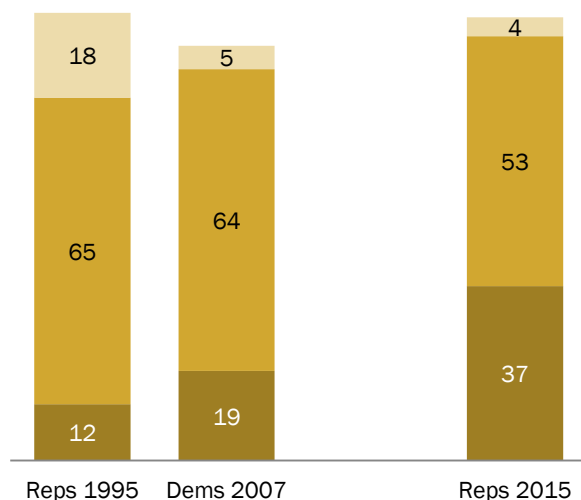
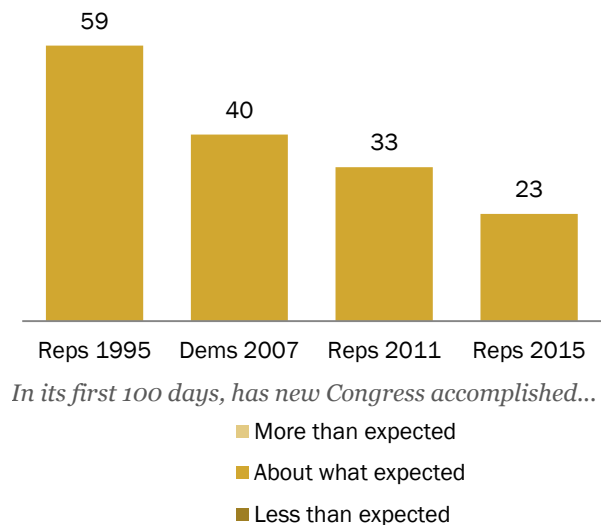
Nearly four-in-ten (37%) say the new Congress has accomplished less than they expected, while 4% say it has accomplished more than expected. About half (53%) say its accomplishments are in line with what they expected.

On both measures, the public’s views are far more negative than they were of the Democratic-led Congress in [March 2007](#), after the Democrats regained control of both chambers following several years of Republican control. Views are also much more negative than they were in [April 1995](#), shortly after the GOP had gained control of the House and Senate for the first time in four decades.

The new national survey by the Pew Research Center, conducted May 12-18 among 2,002 adults, finds that just 22% approve of the job performance of Republican congressional leaders, little changed since the summer of 2011. Ratings for Democratic congressional leaders are somewhat better (33% approve).

In Public’s View, GOP-Led Congress Fails to Impress

% who say _____ in Congress are keeping campaign promises...



Survey conducted May 12-18, 2015.

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Unlike after some previous partisan turnovers on Capitol Hill, negative assessments of the new Congress now cross party lines. Today, just 41% of Republicans approve of the job their party's leaders in Congress are doing. By comparison, in April 2011, 60% of Republicans approved of GOP leaders' job performance and in April 1995, 78% approved of GOP leadership's policies and proposals.

And just 37% of Republicans say their party's leaders are keeping their campaign promises, while 53% say they are not. In 2011, after the party won its House majority, 54% said GOP leaders were keeping promises. And in April 1995 — as the Republican-led Congress hit the 100-day milestone — fully 80% of Republicans said this.

Democrats were also relatively upbeat about their party's leaders at the 100-day mark in 2007, when 60% said Democratic leaders were keeping their campaign promises.

Currently, Republicans (36%) are about as likely as Democrats (38%) or independents (38%) to say Congress is accomplishing less than they expected.

To be sure, public views of Congress overall have been negative for several years, since well before Republicans won control of the Senate last fall or gained control of the House in January 2011. [In March](#), 22% expressed a favorable opinion of Congress; in March 2010, when Democrats still controlled Congress, just 26% had a favorable view.

Republicans Are Critical of the New Congress and its Leaders

	Reps Apr 1995	Dems Mar 2007	Reps Apr 2011	Reps May 2015
GOP leaders are keeping campaign promises				
Total	59	40	33	23
Republican	80	22	54	37
Democrat	44	60	23	17
Independent	55	34	30	20
Congress accomplished less than expected				
Total	12	19	–	37
Republican	7	25	–	36
Democrat	16	13	–	38
Independent	13	20	–	38
Job approval of party's leaders				
Total	44	37	30	22
Republican	78	11	60	41
Democrat	16	64	15	12
Independent	39	30	25	19

Survey conducted May 12-18, 2015. 2011 asked about "Republicans in the House." 1995 and 2007 asked about "policies and proposals" of the leaders.

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The survey finds deep differences in how Republicans and Democrats want President Obama and GOP leaders to deal with issues. Fully 75% of Republicans want GOP leaders to challenge Obama more often; just 15% say they are handling relations with the president about right and 7% say GOP leaders should go along with Obama more often.

Fewer Democrats (49%) want Obama to challenge Republicans more often; 33% say he is handling this about right while 11% want him to go along with GOP leaders more often.

The survey also finds:

Democrats more positive about party's handling of issues. About six-in-ten Democrats and Democratic leaners (62%) say the Democratic Party is doing a good job representing their views on same-sex marriage, 51% say the same about the party's stance on immigration and 47% think the party does well in representing their views on government spending.

Republicans and Republican leaners are more critical of their party on all three issues: 35% say it does well in representing their views on government spending, 34% on illegal immigration and 29% on same-sex marriage.

Obama job approval little changed. Currently, 46% approve of Obama's job performance, while 48% disapprove. Obama's job approval is little changed over the course of 2015: In January, 47% approved and 48% disapproved.

More say jobs are available locally. About three-in-ten Americans (27%) rate national economic conditions as excellent or good, while 73% say they are only fair (43%) or poor (30%). Economic attitudes also are little changed since the start of the year, but positive views have increased 10 points since April 2014. Over the same period, the percentage saying plenty of jobs are available locally has risen 13 points (from 27% to 40%).

Most Republicans Favor a More Confrontational Stance Toward Obama

In dealing w/ Congress, Obama should ...

	Challenge GOP more often	Is handling about right	Go along w/ GOP more often	(Vol.) Neither/ DK
	%	%	%	%
Total	34	25	30	11=100
Republican	12	9	68	11=100
Democrat	49	33	11	7=100
Independent	36	27	26	11=100

In dealing w/ Obama, Republicans in Congress should ...

	Challenge Obama more often	Are handling about right	Go along w/ Obama more often	(Vol.) Neither/ DK
	%	%	%	%
Total	40	14	39	7=100
Republican	75	15	7	3=100
Democrat	15	12	66	7=100
Independent	37	14	41	8=100

Survey conducted May 12-18, 2015. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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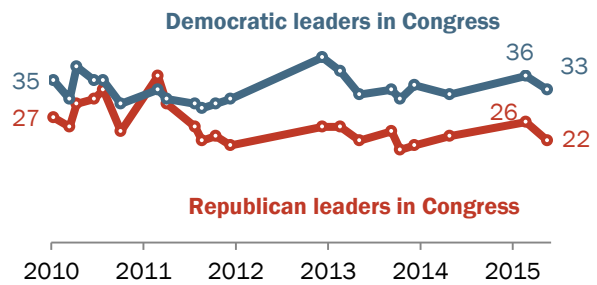
Views of Congressional Leaders

Public evaluations of the congressional leadership of both parties remain negative. Today, just a third (33%) say they approve of the job Democratic leaders are doing, while even fewer (22%) say they approve of GOP Congressional leadership.

Ratings for the Congressional leadership of both parties have been relatively stable over the past few years. Though the job approval ratings of both GOP and Democratic leadership rose slightly earlier this year, current ratings are now on par with attitudes last spring.

Low Marks for Congressional Leaders in Both Parties

% who approve of the way ___ are handling their job



Survey conducted May 12-18, 2015.

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While the overall ratings of Republican congressional leaders over the last few months have dropped a modest four points, Republican ratings of their own party's leadership have moved in a significantly negative direction over the first few months of a GOP-controlled Congress.

Today, more Republicans say they disapprove (55%) than approve (41%) of the Republican congressional leadership's job performance. In February, Republican evaluations were more positive (50% of Republicans approved of the GOP leadership's job performance, 44% disapproved). And this shift in opinion is primarily seen among conservative Republicans: 54% approved of GOP congressional leaders' job performance in February,

today just 41% approve. By contrast, Democratic views of their party's congressional leadership are substantially more positive and are little changed over this time. Currently 60% of Democrats approve of the job performance of Democratic leaders, while 35% disapprove.

Independent views of the two parties largely track those of the overall public: Just 19% approve of GOP leaders' job performance, while 27% approve of Democratic congressional leadership.

Republican Views of GOP Congressional Leadership Have Declined Since February

% who say they ____ of the job of..

	Feb 2015		May 2015		Change in approve
	Approve %	Dis-approve %	Approve %	Dis-approve %	
Republican leaders in Congress	26	66	22	72	-4
Republican	50	44	41	55	-9
Democrat	14	81	12	84	-2
Independent	21	69	19	74	-2
Democratic leaders in Congress	36	58	33	60	-3
Republican	10	87	10	87	0
Democrat	64	31	60	35	-4
Independent	31	61	27	65	-4

Survey conducted May 12-18, 2015. Don't know responses not shown.

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Partisans Rate Their Parties on Current Issues

On a set of three current issues – government spending, illegal immigration and same-sex marriage – rank-and-file Republicans are much more critical of how their party has dealt with each than Democrats are of their own party’s performance.

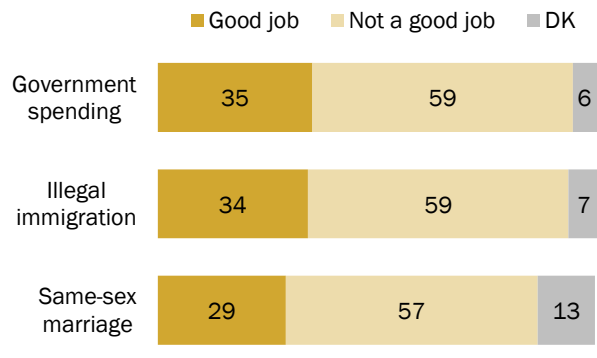
Fewer than four-in-ten Republicans and Republican leaners say the Republican Party is doing a good job representing their views on the issues of government spending (35%), illegal immigration (34%) and same-sex marriage (29%). On all three issues, majorities of Republicans say their party is not doing a good job representing their views. And there is little difference in these ratings between conservative Republicans and moderate and liberal Republicans.

Republican ratings of their party on these issues are no better than they were in a September 2014 survey, prior to the GOP winning control of the Senate in the November midterm elections.

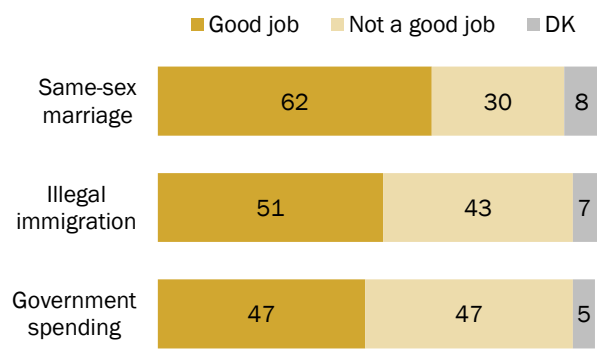
By contrast, Democrats are more positive about their own party’s performance on these three issues than are Republicans. About six-in-ten Democrats and Democratic leaners (62%) say the Democratic Party is doing a good job representing their views on same-sex marriage, while just 30% say they are not doing a good job. Views are more mixed when it comes to illegal immigration and government spending. Overall, 51% of Democrats say their party is doing a good job on the issue of illegal immigration, compared with 43% who say they are not doing a good job. On the issue of government spending, as many Democrats say their party is doing a good job representing their views on the issue (47%) as say it

Republicans Say GOP Not Doing Good Job on Set of Current Issues

% of Republicans/Republican-leaners who say party does ____ representing their views on ...



% of Democrats/Democratic-leaners who say party does ____ representing their views on ...



Survey conducted May 12-18, 2015.

Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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is not doing a good job (47%). Democratic views have shown little change on these measures since the questions were last asked in September 2014.

Little Change in Overall Views of Obama

Barack Obama's overall approval ratings have been stable over the course of 2015. Currently about as many say they approve of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president as say they disapprove of his job performance (46% vs. 48%).

Similar to his overall approval ratings, the public is about evenly divided in its ratings of how Obama is handling race relations (48% approve, 44% disapprove) and the threat of terrorism (47% approve, 44% disapprove) and the economy (43% approve, 52% disapprove).

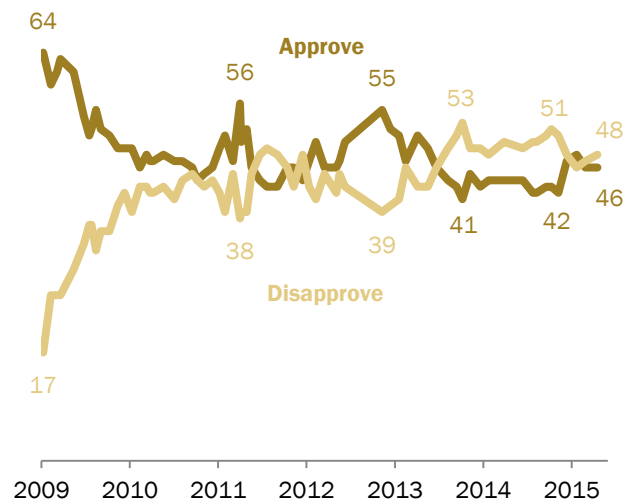
But on several other key policy areas, there is more disapproval than approval of Obama's performance. Ratings of Obama's performance on the economy remain relatively unchanged over the past year: 52% disapprove, while 43% approve.

And a majority of Americans continue to disapprove (56%) of how the president is handling immigration policy.

Obama's ratings on foreign policy and his handling of Iran are similarly in negative territory. And amid debate over the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade proposal, 39% of respondents say they approve of Obama's handling of international trade, while 44% say they disapprove; 17% do not offer a rating of his performance on trade.

Obama Job Approval: 2009-2015

% who _____ of way Obama is handling his job

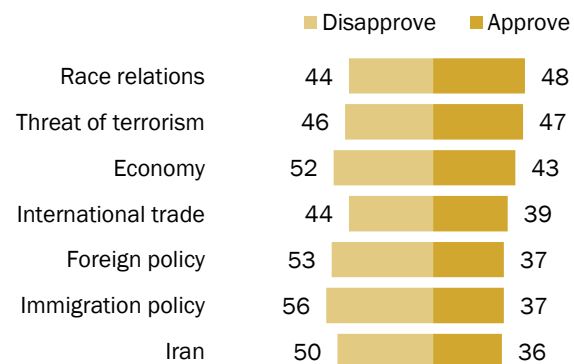


Survey conducted May 12-18, 2015.

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Obama's Mixed Ratings on Issues

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling... (%)



Survey conducted May 12-18, 2015.

Don't know responses not shown.

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Obama's Ratings on Race Relations Improve

Obama's handling of race relations is currently one of his better ratings: 48% approve, while 44% disapprove. This is up eight points from December, in a [poll conducted](#) in the immediate wake of grand jury decisions not to charge police officers in the deaths of African Americans in Ferguson, Missouri and New York City and the associated protests. Public reactions to how the president is handling race relations are now equal to where they were in August (48% approved).

Obama's improved rating is seen across most political and demographic groups. About seven-in-ten blacks (71%) now approve of his efforts on race relations, though he ended the year with 57% of blacks giving him a positive rating and 33% a negative one. His marks among blacks are now on par with those of August.

The views of whites are more mixed, with 43% today approving of Obama's handling of race relations and half (50%) disapproving. This is an improvement from December when most gave him a negative rating (33% approved, 57% disapproved).

On balance, Hispanics remain positive toward Obama on this issue: 53% now approve of his handling of race relations and 37% disapprove. Hispanic ratings of Obama on this issue have remained relatively stable since last August.

Democrats continue to rate Obama highly for his handling of race relations. About seven-in-ten Democrats (69%) – including 80% of liberal Democrats – approve of how he is handling the issue. As with many policy areas, far more Republicans disapprove (71%) than approve (23%) of how Obama handles race relations. The attitudes of independents mirror those of the public overall.

Obama Job Rating on Race Relations Rebounds

% saying they approve of President Obama's handling of race relations...

	Aug 2014	Dec 2014	May 2015	Dec-May change
	%	%	%	
Total	48	40	48	+8
Men	46	40	48	+8
Women	49	39	48	+9
White	42	33	43	+10
Black	73	57	71	+14
Hispanic	54	51	53	+2
18-29	59	44	51	+7
30-49	50	44	53	+9
50-64	42	36	45	+9
65+	40	32	42	+10
College grad+	57	50	55	+5
Some college	47	34	46	+12
H.S. or less	42	37	46	+9
Republican	26	16	23	+7
Democrat	72	60	69	+9
Independent	45	40	48	+8

Survey conducted May 12-18, 2015. Disapprove and don't know responses not shown. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic; Hispanics are of any race.

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Views of Job Availability, National Economy

Four-in-ten (40%) currently say there are “plenty of jobs available” in their community, though 53% still see local jobs as difficult to find. The current assessments of job availability continue an upward trend over the last five years and are among the most positive since 2001. In March 2010 — when the [unemployment rate was almost 10%](#) — 85% said jobs were difficult to find and just 10% said plenty of jobs were available.

Younger adults and those with some college experience are most likely to be optimistic about job opportunities: 55% of adults 18-29 and 42% of those 30-49 say there are plenty of jobs available, but just 31% of adults 50 and older say the same. Among those with a college degree, 43% say there are plenty of jobs available locally, as do 47% of those with some college experience but who do not have a Bachelor’s degree; by comparison, just 32% of those with a high school degree or less education say there are plenty of jobs available in their community.

Since April of 2014 there has been a 13-percentage point rise in the share of the public saying there are plenty of jobs available in the local communities.

Young Adults Perceive More Job Opportunities in Community

	Plenty of jobs available	Jobs difficult to find	Mixed/DK
	%	%	%
Total	40	53	7=100
18-29	55	43	2=100
30-49	42	48	10=100
50-64	31	63	6=100
65+	30	61	9=100
College grad+	43	49	8=100
Some college	47	48	6=100
HS or less	32	61	7=100

Survey conducted May 12-18, 2015. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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Ratings of the nation's overall economic conditions have changed little since the start of 2015 after increasing over the past few years.

About one-in-four say the U.S. economy is "excellent" (3%) or "good" (24%). A plurality (43%) continues to rate the economy as "only fair," while three-in-ten (30%) say it is poor.

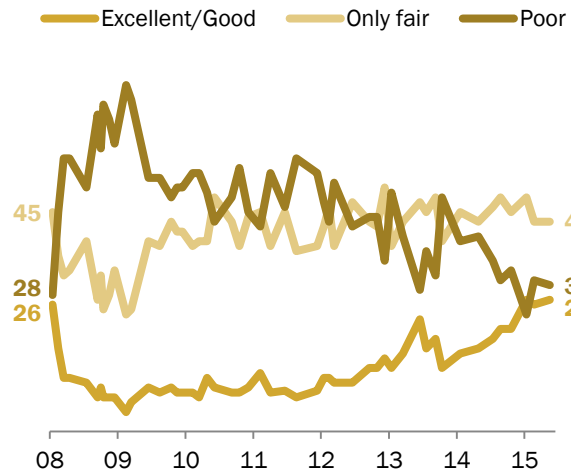
Democrats are about twice as likely as Republicans to rate the economy positively. Among Democrats, 36% see conditions as excellent or good and 64% say they are fair or poor; 16% of Republicans say the economy is at least good and 83% say it is fair or poor. And college graduates and higher-income adults are somewhat more positive.

Meanwhile, 53% expect the country's economic conditions to be the same next year. Somewhat more say the economy will be better (25%) than worse (20%) a year from now. By comparison, many more were optimistic about the future of the economy in the depths of the Great Recession in 2008 and 2009.

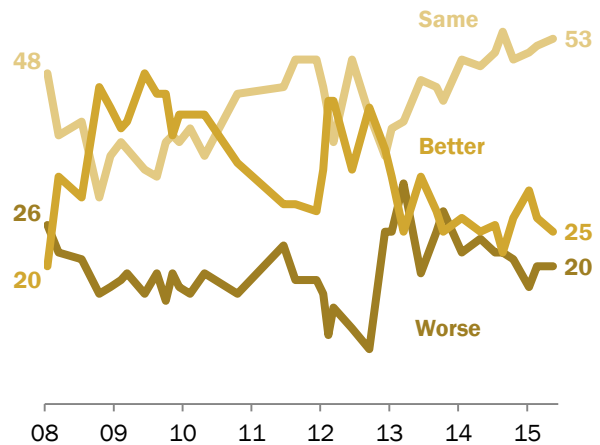
Today, people who are positive about the economy are the most likely to predict that it will improve. Among those who say the economy is currently excellent or good, 43% say it will be better in a year and 4% say it will be worse (51% predict the same). By comparison, just 12% of those rating the economy as poor expect improvement and 41% think it will decline over the next year (45% say it will be the same).

National Economic Ratings Steady; Majority Expect Same Next Year

Economic conditions in country today are ... (%)



A year from now, economic conditions will be ...



Survey conducted May 12-18, 2015.

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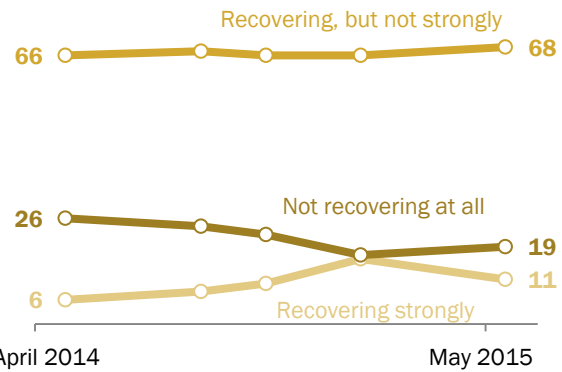
As has been the case for the last year, about two-thirds of the public (68%) say that the economy is recovering, but not strongly. Today, about one-in-ten (11%) see a strong economic recovery; roughly two-in-ten (19%) say the economy isn't recovering at all.

The share saying there is a strong recovery is somewhat lower than it was in January (16% then, 11% today), but remains higher than in April 2014 (when just 6% said the economy was recovering strongly).

Large majorities across partisan lines say there has been a less-than-strong recovery, but those in the GOP are more likely than Democrats to view the situation negatively. One-in-three Republicans (33%) say the economy isn't recovering at all, compared with 7% of Democrats. On the other hand, more Democrats than Republicans think there is a strong recovery (19% vs. 5%).

Since Last April, Little Change in Attitudes About Economic Recovery

The economy is ... (%)



Survey conducted May 12-18, 2015.

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Partisan Divide in Views of the Recovery

The economy is ...

	Recovering strongly	Recovering, but not strongly	Not recovering at all	DK
	%	%	%	%
Total	11	68	19	2=100
Republican	5	61	33	1=100
Democrat	19	72	7	1=100
Independent	9	68	22	1=100

Survey conducted Jan. 7-11, 2015. Q30.

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About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted May 12-18, 2015 among a national sample of 2,002 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (700 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 1,302 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 750 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. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see <http://www.pewresearch.org/methodology/u-s-survey-research/>

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 2013 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 (landline only, cell phone only, or both landline and cell phone), based on extrapolations from the 2014 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. The margins of error reported and statistical tests of significance are adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, a measure of how much efficiency is lost from the weighting procedures.

The following table shows the unweighted 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	2,002	2.5 percentage points
Form 1	992	3.6 percentage points
Form 2	1,010	3.5 percentage points
Republican	506	5.0 percentage points
Democrat	636	4.5 percentage points
Independent	758	4.1 percentage points
Republican/Republican-leaning	835	3.9 percentage points
Democrat/Democratic-leaning	975	3.6 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 is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization and a subsidiary of The Pew Charitable Trusts, its primary funder.

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER
MAY 2015 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
MAY 12-18, 2015
N=2,002**

RANDOMIZE Q.1 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]**

	Approve	Dis- approve	(VOL.) DK/Ref		Approve	Dis- approve	(VOL.) DK/Ref
May 12-18, 2015	46	48	6	Aug 17-21, 2011	43	49	7
Mar 25-29, 2015	46	47	7	Jul 20-24, 2011	44	48	8
Feb 18-22, 2015	48	46	5	Jun 15-19, 2011	46	45	8
Jan 7-11, 2015	47	48	5	May 25-30, 2011	52	39	10
Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	42	51	6	May 5-8, 2011	50	39	11
Nov 6-9, 2014	43	52	5	May 2, 2011 (WP)	56	38	6
Oct 15-20, 2014	43	51	6	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	47	45	8
Sep 2-9, 2014	42	50	8	Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	51	39	10
Aug 20-24, 2014 (U)	42	50	8	Feb 2-7, 2011	49	42	9
Jul 8-14, 2014	44	49	6	Jan 5-9, 2011	46	44	10
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	44	50	7	Dec 1-5, 2010	45	43	13
Feb 27-Mar 16, 2014	44	49	7	Nov 4-7, 2010	44	44	12
Feb 14-23, 2014	44	48	8	Oct 13-18, 2010	46	45	9
Jan 15-19, 2014 (U)	43	49	8	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	47	44	9
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	45	49	6	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	47	41	12
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	41	53	6	Jun 8-28, 2010	48	41	11
Oct 9-13, 2013	43	51	6	Jun 16-20, 2010	48	43	9
Sep 4-8, 2013 (U)	44	49	8	May 6-9, 2010	47	42	11
Jul 17-21, 2013	46	46	7	Apr 21-26, 2010	47	42	11
Jun 12-16, 2013	49	43	7	Apr 8-11, 2010	48	43	9
May 1-5, 2013	51	43	6	Mar 10-14, 2010	46	43	12
Mar 13-17, 2013	47	46	8	Feb 3-9, 2010	49	39	12
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	51	41	7	Jan 6-10, 2010	49	42	10
Jan 9-13, 2013	52	40	7	Dec 9-13, 2009	49	40	11
Dec 5-9, 2012	55	39	6	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	51	36	13
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	50	43	7	Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	52	36	12
Jun 7-17, 2012	47	45	8	Sep 10-15, 2009	55	33	13
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	46	42	11	Aug 20-27, 2009	52	37	12
Apr 4-15, 2012	46	45	9	Aug 11-17, 2009	51	37	11
Mar 7-11, 2012	50	41	9	Jul 22-26, 2009	54	34	12
Feb 8-12, 2012	47	43	10	Jun 10-14, 2009	61	30	9
Jan 11-16, 2012	44	48	8	Apr 14-21, 2009	63	26	11
Dec 7-11, 2011	46	43	11	Mar 31-Apr 6, 2009	61	26	13
Nov 9-14, 2011	46	46	8	Mar 9-12, 2009	59	26	15
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	43	48	9	Feb 4-8, 2009	64	17	19

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

RANDOMIZE Q.1 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>
May 12-18, 2015	29	67	4	Sep 10-15, 2009 ¹	30	64	7
Mar 25-29, 2015	31	64	5	Aug 20-27, 2009	28	65	7
Feb 18-22, 2015	33	62	5	Aug 11-17, 2009	28	65	7
Jan 7-11, 2015	31	66	4	Jul 22-26, 2009	28	66	6
Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	26	71	3	Jun 10-14, 2009	30	64	5
Nov 6-9, 2014	27	68	4	Apr 28-May 12, 2009	34	58	8
Oct 15-20, 2014	29	65	6	Apr 14-21, 2009	23	70	7
Sep 2-9, 2014	25	71	4	Jan 7-11, 2009	20	73	7
Aug 20-24, 2014	24	72	4	December, 2008	13	83	4
Jul 8-14, 2014	29	68	4	Early October, 2008	11	86	3
Apr 23-27, 2014	29	65	6	Mid-September, 2008	25	69	6
Feb 12-26, 2014	28	66	6	August, 2008	21	74	5
Jan 15-19, 2014	26	69	5	July, 2008	19	74	7
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	21	75	3	June, 2008	19	76	5
Oct 9-13, 2013	14	81	5	Late May, 2008	18	76	6
Jul 17-21, 2013	27	67	6	March, 2008	22	72	6
May 1-5, 2013	30	65	5	Early February, 2008	24	70	6
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	31	64	5	Late December, 2007	27	66	7
Jan 9-13, 2013	30	66	4	October, 2007	28	66	6
Dec 17-19, 2012	25	68	7	February, 2007	30	61	9
Dec 5-9, 2012	33	62	5	Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7
Oct 18-21, 2012	32	61	8	Early January, 2007	30	63	7
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	31	64	5	December, 2006	28	65	7
Jun 7-17, 2012	28	68	5	Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	29	64	7	Early October, 2006	30	63	7
Apr 4-15, 2012	24	69	6	July, 2006	30	65	5
Feb 8-12, 2012	28	66	6	May, 2006*	29	65	6
Jan 11-16, 2012	21	75	4	March, 2006	32	63	5
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	17	78	5	January, 2006	34	61	5
Aug 17-21, 2011	17	79	4	Late November, 2005	34	59	7
Jul 20-24, 2011	17	79	4	Early October, 2005	29	65	6
Jun 15-19, 2011	23	73	4	July, 2005	35	58	7
May 5-8, 2011	30	62	8	Late May, 2005*	39	57	4
May 2, 2011	32	60	8	February, 2005	38	56	6
Mar 8-14, 2011	22	73	5	January, 2005	40	54	6
Feb 2-7, 2011	26	68	5	December, 2004	39	54	7
Jan 5-9, 2011	23	71	6	Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6
Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7	July, 2004	38	55	7
Nov 4-7, 2010	23	69	8	May, 2004	33	61	6
Sep 23-26, 2010	30	63	7	Late February, 2004*	39	55	6
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	25	71	5	Early January, 2004	45	48	7
Jun 24-27, 2010	27	64	9	December, 2003	44	47	9
May 13-16, 2010	28	64	7	October, 2003	38	56	6
Apr 21-26, 2010	29	66	5	August, 2003	40	53	7
Apr 1-5, 2010	31	63	6	April 8, 2003	50	41	9
Mar 11-21, 2010	25	69	5	January, 2003	44	50	6
Mar 10-14, 2010	23	71	7	November, 2002	41	48	11
Feb 3-9, 2010	23	71	6	September, 2002	41	55	4
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	69	4	Late August, 2002	47	44	9
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	25	67	7	May, 2002	44	44	12
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	25	67	7	March, 2002	50	40	10

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>
				August, 1997	49	46	5
Late September, 2001	57	34	9	January, 1997	38	58	4
Early September, 2001	41	53	6	July, 1996	29	67	4
June, 2001	43	52	5	March, 1996	28	70	2
March, 2001	47	45	8	October, 1995	23	73	4
February, 2001	46	43	11	June, 1995	25	73	2
January, 2001	55	41	4	April, 1995	23	74	3
October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7	July, 1994	24	73	3
September, 2000	51	41	8	March, 1994	24	71	5
June, 2000	47	45	8	October, 1993	22	73	5
April, 2000	48	43	9	September, 1993	20	75	5
August, 1999	56	39	5	May, 1993	22	71	7
January, 1999	53	41	6	January, 1993	39	50	11
November, 1998	46	44	10	January, 1992	28	68	4
Early September, 1998	54	42	4	November, 1991	34	61	5
Late August, 1998	55	41	4	<i>Gallup</i> : Late Feb, 1991	66	31	3
Early August, 1998	50	44	6	August, 1990	47	48	5
February, 1998	59	37	4	May, 1990	41	54	5
January, 1998	46	50	4	January, 1989	45	50	5
September, 1997	45	49	6	September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5

QUESTION 3 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**NO QUESTIONS 4-9****ASK ALL:**

Now thinking about how Barack Obama is handling some issues ...

Q.10 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling [INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]? How about [NEXT ITEM]? [REPEAT INTRODUCTION AS NECESSARY]

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Race relations			
May 12-18, 2015	48	44	8
Dec 3-7, 2014 (U)	40	50	11
Aug 20-24, 2014 (U)	48	42	10
b. The economy			
May 12-18, 2015	43	52	4
Dec 3-7, 2014	45	51	4
Aug 20-24, 2014 (U)	39	55	6
Jul 8-14, 2014	40	56	4
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	42	53	5
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	31	65	3
Sep 4-8, 2013 (U)	43	52	5
Jun 12-16, 2013	44	50	5
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	40	56	4
Mar 7-11, 2012	43	53	4
Jan 11-16, 2012	38	59	4
Nov 9-14, 2011	35	58	6
Aug 17-21, 2011	34	60	6
May 2, 2011	40	55	4
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	39	56	6
Jan 6-9, 2011	42	51	7
Jun 16-20, 2010	43	51	5
May 6-9, 2010	41	51	8
Apr 21-26, 2010	38	54	8

Q.10 CONTINUED...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 10-14, 2010	41	52	7
Jan 6-10, 2010	42	51	7
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	42	52	5
Jul 22-26, 2009	38	53	9
Jun 10-14, 2009	52	40	8
Apr 14-21, 2009	60	33	7
Feb 4-8, 2009	56	24	20
c. The nation's immigration policy			
May 12-18, 2015	37	56	7
Dec 3-7, 2014	38	56	6
Aug 20-24, 2014 (U)	31	61	7
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	32	60	7
Jun 12-16, 2013	43	47	11
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	44	43	13
Nov 9-14, 2011	32	49	20
Jan 6-9, 2011	35	50	16
Jun 16-20, 2010	33	54	12
May 6-9, 2010	25	54	21
Apr 21-26, 2010	29	47	24
Jan 6-10, 2010	30	50	21
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	31	48	21
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=992]:			
d.F1 The nation's foreign policy			
May 12-18, 2015	37	53	10
Dec 3-7, 2014	37	54	9
Jul 8-14, 2014	36	55	9
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	34	56	10
Sep 4-8, 2013 (U)	33	57	11
Jan 11-16, 2012	46	45	10
Nov 9-14, 2011	46	40	13
Jun 16-20, 2010	45	40	15
Mar 10-14, 2010	42	40	18
Jan 6-10, 2010	44	40	16
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	44	38	18
July 22-26, 2009	47	32	21
June 10-14, 2009	57	31	12
April 14-21, 2009	61	22	17
Feb 4-8, 2009	52	17	31
e.F1 International trade issues			
Obama			
May 12-18, 2015	39	44	17
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	36	47	17
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	36	35	28
G.W. Bush			
July, 2004	33	45	22
Early September, 2001	38	34	28
Clinton			
September, 1997	44	38	18
September, 1993	38	39	23
August, 1993	49	25	26
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,010]:			
f.F2 Dealing with Iran			
May 12-18, 2015	36	50	15

Q.10 CONTINUED...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	39	44	17
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	37	53	10
Jun 12-16, 2013	45	41	13
Mar 7-11, 2012	47	40	14
Jan 11-16, 2012	48	41	11
Jan 6-9, 2011	42	39	19
Apr 21-26, 2010	38	43	19
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	43	40	17
 g.F2 The threat of terrorism			
Obama			
May 12-18, 2015	47	46	6
Dec 3-7, 2014	45	49	6
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	51	44	5
Jun 12-16, 2013	56	35	9
Jan 11-16, 2012	65	28	7
Aug 17-21, 2011	56	33	12
May 2, 2011	69	21	10
Jan 6-9, 2011	55	33	12
May 6-9, 2010 ²	49	37	13
Jan 6-10, 2010	51	39	10
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	52	34	14
April 14-21, 2009	57	26	17
February 4-8, 2009	50	21	29
G.W. Bush			
April, 2007	46	43	11
December, 2006	48	44	8
August, 2006	50	39	11
June, 2006	47	41	12
March, 2006	42	49	9
February, 2006	53	40	7
December, 2005	49	44	7
Late October, 2005	52	40	8
Early September, 2005	49	41	10
July, 2005	49	40	11
Mid-May, 2005	57	35	8
February, 2005	59	34	7
January, 2005	62	33	5
Mid-October, 2004	49	40	11
Early September, 2004	62	32	6
August, 2004	58	37	5
July, 2004	54	40	6
June, 2004	56	35	9
Late April, 2004	55	36	9
Early April, 2004	53	38	9
<i>Gallup</i> : December, 2003	65	33	2
September, 2003	64	28	8
February, 2003	67	25	8
January, 2003	69	23	8
Early October, 2002	71	22	7
June, 2002	74	18	8
Mid-September, 2001 ³	85	6	9

² In May 6-9, 2010, Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009, April, 2007 and earlier, the item was worded "terrorist threats."

³ In Mid-September, 2001 the question was worded: "...dealing with the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington." In Early September 1998 the question was worded: "Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling current threats from international terrorist groups?"

Q.10 CONTINUED...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Clinton			
Early September, 1998	72	20	8

ASK ALL:

Q.11 Do you approve or disapprove of the job the **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** are doing? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the job the [ITEM] are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]. [INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: REPEAT FULL QUESTION FOR NEXT ITEM]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Republican leaders in Congress			
May 12-18, 2015	22	72	6
Feb 18-22, 2015	26	66	8
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	23	68	10
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	21	72	7
Oct 9-13, 2013	20	72	8
Sep 4-8, 2013	24	68	8
May 1-5, 2013	22	68	10
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	25	67	9
Dec 5-9, 2012	25	67	8
Dec 7-11, 2011	21	68	11
Nov 9-14, 2011	23	67	10
Aug 17-21, 2011	22	69	9
Jul 20-24, 2011	25	66	10
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	30	61	9
Feb 24-27, 2011	36	45	19
Sep 30-Oct 3, 2010	24	60	16
Jul 22-25, 2010	33	53	14
Jun 16-20, 2010	31	55	14
Apr 8-11, 2010	30	56	14
Mar 10-14, 2010	25	59	16
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	57	16
Dec 9-13, 2009	29	51	20
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	24	60	17
Jun 10-14, 2009	29	56	15
Mar 9-12, 2009	28	51	21
Feb 4-8, 2009	34	51	15
Early October, 2006	33	56	11
June, 2006	30	53	17
March, 2006	32	50	18
January, 2006	33	52	15
Early November, 2005	33	50	17
Early October, 2005	32	52	16
Mid-September, 2005	36	49	15
Mid-May, 2005	35	50	15
Mid-March, 2005	39	44	17
Early February, 2004	41	42	17
January, 2003	48	37	15
June, 2002	50	34	16
May, 2002	49	34	17
February, 2002	56	24	20
Early September, 2001	43	39	18
June, 2001	40	40	20
May, 2001	45	36	19
April, 2001	45	30	25
January, 2001	43	36	21
July, 2000	36	46	18

Q.11 CONTINUED...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
May, 2000	40	42	18
March, 2000	38	43	19
February, 2000	40	43	17
January, 2000	39	41	20
December, 1999	38	42	20
October, 1999	34	50	16
Late September, 1999	34	46	20
August, 1999	40	44	16
July, 1999	36	45	19
June, 1999	37	46	17
May, 1999	38	44	18
March, 1999	38	47	15
February, 1999	37	51	12
January, 1999	38	50	12
Early December, 1998	38	49	13
November, 1998	41	48	11
Early September, 1998	44	37	19
Early August, 1998	43	37	20
June, 1998	42	38	20
May, 1998	40	41	19
April, 1998	41	40	19
March, 1998	43	39	18
January, 1998	43	41	16
November, 1997	41	43	16
August, 1997	42	44	14
June, 1997	33	50	17
May, 1997	40	44	16
April, 1997	40	44	16
February, 1997	44	42	14
January, 1997	38	47	15
December, 1996 ⁴	40	43	17
July, 1996	38	48	14
June, 1996	36	50	14
April, 1996	39	46	15
March, 1996	35	51	14
February, 1996	33	53	14
January, 1996	36	54	10
October, 1995	36	51	13
September, 1995	36	50	14
August, 1995	38	45	17
June, 1995	41	45	14
April, 1995	44	43	13
March, 1995	43	39	18
December, 1994	52	28	20
b. Democratic leaders in Congress			
May 12-18, 2015	33	60	6
Feb 18-22, 2015	36	58	7
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	32	60	8
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	34	58	8
Oct 9-13, 2013	31	62	7
Sep 4-8, 2013	33	59	7
May 1-5, 2013	32	59	9
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	37	55	8
Dec 5-9, 2012	40	53	7
Dec 7-11, 2011	31	58	11

⁴ From December, 1994 through December, 1996, the question was worded: "As best you can tell, do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Republican leaders in Congress?"

Q.11 CONTINUED...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Nov 9-14, 2011	30	61	9
Aug 17-21, 2011	29	63	9
Jul 20-24, 2011	30	60	10
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	31	60	9
Feb 24-27, 2011	33	48	19
Sep 30-Oct 3, 2010	30	53	17
Jul 22-25, 2010	35	56	10
Jun 16-20, 2010	35	53	12
Apr 8-11, 2010	38	51	11
Mar 10-14, 2010	31	57	12
Jan 6-10, 2010	35	53	11
Dec 9-13, 2009	36	47	17
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	33	53	15
Jun 10-14, 2009	42	45	13
Mar 9-12, 2009	47	35	18
Feb 4-8, 2009	48	38	14
August, 2008	31	58	11
January, 2008	31	53	16
November, 2007	35	50	15
October, 2007	31	54	15
July, 2007	33	54	13
June, 2007	34	49	17
April, 2007	36	43	21
March, 2007 ⁵	37	42	21
February, 2007	41	36	23
Mid-January, 2007	39	34	27
Early October, 2006	35	53	12
June, 2006	32	50	18
March, 2006	34	46	20
January, 2006	34	48	18
Early November, 2005	36	44	20
Early October, 2005	32	48	20
Mid-September, 2005	36	45	19
Mid-May, 2005	39	41	20
Mid-March, 2005	37	44	19
Early February, 2004	38	42	20
June, 2002	47	36	17
May, 2002	42	37	21
February, 2002	49	30	21
Early September, 2001	49	30	21
June, 2001	50	28	22

⁵ In March 2007 the question was worded: "Do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Democratic leaders in Congress?"

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=992]:

Q.12F1 In dealing with Congress, do you think President Obama...**[RANDOMIZE: Should go along with the Republicans more often [OR] Should challenge the Republicans more often]** or is he handling this about right?

May 12-18 <u>2015</u>		Aug 17-21 <u>2011</u>	Mar 30-Apr 3 <u>2011</u>	<i>Bush and</i>	<i>Clinton and</i>		
				<i>Democrats</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Aug</i>
				<u>2007⁶</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1995</u>
30	Should go along with the Republicans more often	25	29	43	30	26	25
34	Should challenge the Republicans more often	37	27	18	23	27	27
25	He is handling this about right	26	34	27	41	38	41
4	Neither (VOL.)	4	1	3	2	2	2
7	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	9	9	9	4	7	5

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,010]:

Q.13F2 In dealing with President Obama, do you think Republicans in Congress...**[RANDOMIZE: Should go along with President Obama more often [OR] Should challenge President Obama more often]** or are they handling this about right?

May 12-18 <u>2015</u>	
39	Should go along with President Obama more often [OR]
40	Should challenge President Obama more often [OR]
14	They are handling this about right
3	Neither (VOL.)
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

Q.14 From what you have seen or heard about events in the new Congress, in general, do you think the Republicans in Congress are keeping the promises they made during the campaign, or not?

May 12-18 <u>2015</u>		Mar 30-Apr 3 <u>2011⁷</u>	<i>Democrats</i>	<i>--- Republicans ---</i>	
			<u>Mar</u> <u>2007</u>	<u>Apr</u> <u>1995</u>	<i>Newsweek</i> <u>Jan 1995</u>
23	Yes, keeping promises	33	40	59	41
65	No, not keeping promises	52	38	30	30
12	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	14	22	11	29

ASK ALL:

Q.15 On balance, do you think the new Congress has accomplished more than you expected in its first 100 days, less than you expected, or about what you expected?

May 12-18 <u>2015</u>		Mar <u>2007</u>	Apr <u>1995</u>
4	More than expected	5	18
37	Less than expected	19	12
53	About what was expected	64	65
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	12	5

QUESTIONS 16-18 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**NO QUESTIONS 19-23, 25-27**

⁶ In March 2007 and before, answer choices were not randomized, and the third answer choice read "...or is handling the situation about right?"

⁷ In April 2011, the question was worded to specifically mention the Republicans in the House of Representatives in the aftermath of the November 2010 election: "From what you have seen or heard about events in the new Congress, in general, do you think the Republicans in the House are keeping the promises they made during the campaign, or not?"

QUESTIONS 24 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**RANDOMIZE Q.28/Q.29 BLOCK WITH Q.30/Q.31 BLOCK****ASK ALL:**

Thinking about the nation's economy...

Q.28 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>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
May 12-18, 2015	3	24	43	30	*
Feb 18-22, 2015	2	23	43	31	*
Jan 7-11, 2015	4	23	48	24	*
Oct 15-20, 2014	2	19	45	33	1
Aug 20-24, 2014	1	19	48	31	1
Jul 8-14, 2014	2	17	46	35	*
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	2	15	43	40	1
Jan 15-19, 2014 (U)	1	15	45	39	1
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	1	14	48	36	1
Oct 9-13, 2013	1	12	39	48	*
Sep 4-8, 2013	2	17	48	32	*
Jul 17-21, 2013	2	15	45	37	1
Jun 12-16, 2013	2	21	47	29	*
Mar 13-17, 2013	1	15	43	40	1
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

Q.28 CONTINUED...

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
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
December, 2004	3	33	43	20	1
Early November, 2004 (RVs)	5	31	37	26	1
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 ⁸	2	29	42	26	1

RANDOMIZE Q.28/Q.29 BLOCK WITH Q.30/Q.31 BLOCK**ASK ALL:**

Q.29 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>	(VOL.) <u>Same</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
May 12-18, 2015	25	20	53	2
Feb 18-22, 2015	27	20	52	1
Jan 7-11, 2015	31	17	51	1
Oct 15-20, 2014	27	21	50	3
Aug 20-24, 2014	22	22	54	2
Jul 8-14, 2014	26	22	51	1
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	25	24	49	2
Jan 15-19, 2014 (U)	27	22	50	1
Oct 9-13, 2013	25	28	44	3
Sep 4-8, 2013	28	25	46	1
Jun 12-16, 2013	33	19	47	1
Mar 13-17, 2013	25	32	41	1
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

⁸ Earlier trends available from Gallup.

Q.29 CONTINUED...

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
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
<i>Newsweek</i> : January, 2001	18	33	44	5
June, 2000	15	24	55	6
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
<i>Newsweek</i> : January, 1984 (RVs)	35	13	49	3

RANDOMIZE Q.28/Q.29 BLOCK WITH Q.30/Q.31 BLOCK**ASK ALL:**

Thinking about your own personal finances...

Q.30 How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in excellent shape, good shape, only fair shape or poor shape financially?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only</u> <u>fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
May 12-18, 2015	8	35	37	19	1
Jan 7-11, 2015	7	35	37	21	1
Aug 20-24, 2014	8	34	36	21	1
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	6	31	39	23	1
Jan 15-19, 2014 (U)	6	34	38	22	1
Dec 3-8, 2013 (U)	6	34	40	19	1
Jun 12-16, 2013	7	33	39	20	1
Mar 13-17, 2013	6	32	41	21	1
Dec 5-9, 2012	7	32	38	22	1
Oct 24-28, 2012	8	35	36	20	1
Sep 12-16, 2012	8	35	36	20	1

Q.30 CONTINUED...

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Jun 7-17, 2012	7	34	38	21	1
Jan 11-16, 2012	6	29	42	22	1
Dec 7-11, 2011	6	32	37	24	1
Jun 15-19, 2011	5	33	40	21	1
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	7	29	36	26	2
Feb 2-7, 2011	7	29	41	22	1
Dec 1-5, 2010	5	30	40	23	2
Oct 13-18, 2010	6	33	36	23	1
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	6	30	40	23	1
Jun 3-6, 2010	6	32	38	20	4
Mar 10-14, 2010	6	31	39	22	2
Dec 9-13, 2009	7	28	39	24	2
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	5	30	40	25	1
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	6	32	38	22	1
Aug 11-17, 2009	6	31	36	26	2
Jun 10-14, 2009	6	32	39	22	1
Feb 4-8, 2009	5	33	41	20	1
December, 2008	6	32	40	21	1
Early October, 2008	6	35	40	18	1
July, 2008	9	33	37	19	2
April, 2008	8	35	39	16	2
March, 2008	8	39	34	17	2
Early February, 2008	9	36	37	16	2
January, 2008	10	39	34	15	2
November, 2007	9	41	34	15	1
September, 2007	10	38	34	16	2
February, 2007	8	41	36	14	1
December, 2006	8	40	35	16	1
Late October, 2006	9	40	33	16	2
March, 2006	9	39	36	15	1
January, 2006	7	39	37	15	2
Mid-May, 2005	7	37	39	16	1
January, 2005	10	41	34	14	1
August, 2004	9	42	34	14	1
September, 2003	10	38	36	15	1
Late March, 2003	10	43	31	12	4
January, 2003	7	38	39	15	1
Early October, 2002	7	39	37	16	1
June, 2002	5	40	37	16	2
Late September, 2001	7	40	37	14	2
June, 2001	6	38	39	16	1
June, 2000	9	43	35	11	2
August, 1999	6	43	41	9	1
May, 1997	7	43	38	11	1
September, 1996 (RVs)	8	47	34	10	1
February, 1995	8	39	38	14	1
March, 1994	5	41	40	13	1
December, 1993	5	34	45	15	1
U.S. News: January, 1993	4	33	46	16	1
U.S. News: October, 1992	6	34	40	19	1
U.S. News: August, 1992	5	30	47	17	1
U.S. News: May, 1992	4	35	45	15	1
U.S. News: January, 1992	4	32	45	18	1

RANDOMIZE Q.28/Q.29 BLOCK WITH Q.30/Q.31 BLOCK**ASK ALL:**

Q.31 Over the course of the next year, do you think the financial situation of you and your family will improve a lot, improve some, get a little worse or get a lot worse?

	Improve <u>a lot</u>	Improve <u>some</u>	Get a <u>little worse</u>	Get a lot <u>worse</u>	(VOL.) Stay the <u>same</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
May 12-18, 2015	11	52	13	7	16	1
Jan 7-11, 2015	11	56	14	5	12	2
Aug 20-24, 2014	10	56	15	5	11	3
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	8	51	19	8	12	3
Jan 15-19, 2014 (U)	10	50	17	6	14	2
Jun 12-16, 2013	12	51	18	7	11	2
Mar 13-17, 2013	8	52	19	9	10	2
Dec 5-9, 2012	9	50	18	8	13	2
Sep 12-16, 2012	12	54	11	4	11	7
Jun 7-17, 2012	10	53	15	5	14	4
Jan 11-16, 2012	10	50	18	7	11	3
Dec 7-11, 2011	9	49	17	5	15	4
Jun 15-19, 2011	7	49	21	7	13	3
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	7	44	23	10	13	3
Dec 1-5, 2010	7	49	20	6	14	4
Oct 13-18, 2010	9	48	16	6	17	5
Mar 10-14, 2010	9	52	15	8	12	4
Dec 9-13, 2009	9	44	19	8	15	4
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	6	50	19	8	13	4
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	10	49	17	6	13	4
Aug 11-17, 2009	8	47	17	8	15	5
Jun 10-14, 2009	9	54	17	7	9	4
Feb 4-8, 2009	7	47	22	7	13	4
December, 2008	7	49	21	6	13	4
Early October, 2008	8	51	20	6	9	6
July, 2008	7	44	21	7	14	7
March, 2008	10	45	20	7	13	5
January, 2008	11	49	16	6	14	4
September, 2007	10	52	14	4	16	4
February, 2007	11	52	12	3	19	3
December, 2006	10	57	13	3	14	3
January, 2006	10	51	14	5	16	4
Mid-May, 2005	10	51	15	5	15	4
January, 2005	10	54	14	4	15	3
August, 2004	13	57	9	3	12	6
September, 2003	11	53	15	4	14	3
Late March, 2003	12	51	15	4	11	7
January, 2003	9	51	18	5	13	4
Early October, 2002	10	54	13	5	12	6
June, 2002	11	55	15	4	11	4
January, 2002	12	53	15	5	11	4
Late September, 2001	9	46	16	4	17	8
June, 2001	11	52	15	4	14	4
January, 2001	11	46	18	9	12	4
January, 1999	17	55	7	3	14	4
May, 1997	12	56	10	2	17	3
February, 1995	11	53	13	3	17	3
March, 1994	10	57	11	3	16	3
U.S. News: October, 1992	9	51	14	3	15	8
U.S. News: August, 1992	6	50	20	5	14	5
U.S. News: May, 1992	8	49	22	4	13	4
U.S. News: January, 1992	9	46	19	5	16	5

RANDOMIZE Q.32F1 AND Q.33F1**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=992]:**

Q.32F1 Which of these best describes your opinion: **[READ; READ CATEGORIES IN REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF THE SAMPLE]?**

May 12-18 <u>2015</u>		Jan 7-11 <u>2015</u>	Oct 15-20 <u>2014</u>	Aug 20-24 <u>2014</u>	Apr 23-27 <u>2014</u>
11	The economy is recovering strongly	16	10	8	6
68	The economy is recovering, but not so strongly	66	66	67	66
19	The economy isn't recovering at all	17	22	24	26
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	2	1	2

RANDOMIZE Q.32F1 AND Q.33F1**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=992]:**

Q.33F1 Thinking now about job opportunities where you live, would you say there are plenty of jobs available in your community or are jobs difficult to find?

	Plenty of <u>jobs available</u>	Jobs are <u>difficult to find</u>	(VOL.) Lots of some jobs, <u>few of others</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
May 12-18, 2015	40	53	4	3
Jan 7-11, 2015	36	57	3	3
Aug 20-24, 2014	33	58	4	5
Jul 8-14, 2014	29	62	4	5
Apr 23-27, 2014 (U)	27	65	4	4
Jun 12-16, 2013	29	64	3	4
Dec 5-9, 2012	22	68	5	5
Jan 11-16, 2012	16	78	2	4
Jun 15-19, 2011	14	79	3	4
Dec 1-5, 2010	14	79	3	4
Mar 10-14, 2010	10	85	3	2
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	14	79	3	3
Feb 4-8, 2009	11	80	3	6
December, 2008	19	73	4	4
Early October, 2008	25	64	4	7
July, 2008	31	58	4	7
April, 2008	30	61	4	5
Early February, 2008	34	53	5	8
November, 2007	41	48	4	7
September, 2007	36	50	6	8
June, 2007	39	49	5	7
February, 2007	39	48	6	7
December, 2006	40	49	5	6
March, 2006	37	56	3	4
January, 2006	33	56	6	5
Early October, 2005	36	56	4	4
May, 2005	30	60	6	4
January, 2005	32	58	5	5
Mid-September, 2004	31	52	6	11
August, 2004	34	55	4	7
Late April, 2004	30	57	4	9
Late February, 2004	31	59	5	6
Mid-January, 2004	27	60	6	7
October, 2003	24	66	5	5
June, 2002	31	59	4	6
June, 2001	42	44	8	6
U.S. News: August, 1992	15	76	6	3
U.S. News: May, 1992	16	77	4	3
U.S. News: January, 1992	12	79	6	3

QUESTIONS 34-38, 40-42F1, 44-53, 61F2-64F2 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

QUESTION 39 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**NO QUESTIONS 43, 54-60, 65-69****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
May 12-18, 2015	24	32	38	3	1	2	15	18
Mar 25-29, 2015	25	30	39	4	*	2	15	17
Feb 18-22, 2015	24	31	38	4	1	1	18	17
Jan 7-11, 2015	21	30	44	3	1	1	19	18
Dec 3-7, 2014	24	31	39	3	1	2	17	17
Nov 6-9, 2014	27	32	36	2	*	1	15	16
Oct 15-20, 2014	24	33	38	4	*	1	13	17
Sep 2-9, 2014	24	33	38	3	1	2	15	15
Aug 20-24, 2014	24	31	37	4	1	4	15	16
Jul 8-14, 2014	25	34	37	2	1	1	16	15
Apr 23-27, 2014	24	30	41	2	1	2	18	17
Yearly Totals								
2014	23.2	31.5	39.5	3.1	.7	2.0	16.2	16.5
2013	23.9	32.1	38.3	2.9	.5	2.2	16.0	16.0
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	--	--	--	--	--

ASK REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1):

TEAPARTY3 From what you know, do you agree or disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

BASED ON REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS [N=835]:

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>No opinion either way</u>	<u>(VOL.) Haven't heard of</u>	<u>(VOL.) Refused</u>	<u>Not heard of/ DK</u>
May 12-18, 2015	34	13	51	1	*	--
Mar 25-29, 2015	35	11	52	1	1	--
Feb 18-22, 2015	36	9	54	*	*	--
Jan 7-11, 2015	34	9	54	1	2	--
Dec 3-7, 2014	34	9	55	2	1	--
Nov 6-9, 2014	31	10	57	1	1	--
Oct 15-20, 2014	32	8	56	2	2	--
Sep 2-9, 2014	38	10	50	1	1	--
Aug 20-24, 2014	34	10	53	*	2	--
Jul 8-14, 2014	35	12	50	2	1	--
Apr 23-27, 2014	33	11	54	1	1	--
Jan 23-Mar 16, 2014	37	11	50	1	1	--
Feb 14-23, 2014	36	9	54	1	1	--
Jan 15-19, 2014	35	12	52	1	*	--
Dec 3-8, 2013	32	9	57	1	1	--
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	40	9	48	2	1	--
Oct 9-13, 2013	41	11	45	2	1	--
Sep 4-8, 2013	35	9	54	1	1	--
Jul 17-21, 2013	37	10	50	2	1	--
Jun 12-16, 2013	44	9	46	1	2	--
May 23-26, 2013	41	7	48	1	3	--
May 1-5, 2013	28	8	61	2	1	--
Mar 13-17, 2013	43	7	47	1	1	--
Feb 13-18, 2013	36	9	52	1	3	--
Feb 14-17, 2013	43	9	45	1	2	--
Jan 9-13, 2013	35	10	51	2	2	--
Dec 5-9, 2012	37	11	51	1	*	--
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012 (RVs)	40	8	49	1	2	--
Oct 4-7, 2012	38	9	50	1	3	--
Sep 12-16, 2013	39	7	52	1	1	--
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	40	9	47	2	1	--
Jun 7-17, 2012	42	8	48	1	1	--
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	36	9	53	1	2	--
Apr 4-15, 2012	42	8	48	1	1	--
Mar 7-11, 2012	38	10	49	2	1	--
Feb 8-12, 2012	40	7	51	1	1	--
Jan 11-16, 2012	42	8	47	1	1	--
Jan 4-8, 2012	37	8	52	1	1	--
Dec 7-11, 2011	40	9	48	2	1	--
Nov 9-14, 2011	41	9	49	*	1	--
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	37	11	51	1	1	--
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	7	49	*	1	--
Jul 20-24, 2011	40	7	51	*	1	--
Jun 15-19, 2011	42	9	47	1	1	--
May 25-30, 2011	37	7	52	1	3	--
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	45	9	46	*	1	--
Mar 8-14, 2011	37	7	54	1	*	--
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	41	9	48	1	1	--
Feb 2-7, 2011 ⁹	43	8	47	1	1	--

⁹ In the February 2-7, 2011, survey and before, question read "...do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the Tea Party movement..." In October 2010 and earlier, question was asked only of those who had heard or read a lot or a little about the Tea Party. In May 2010 through October 2010, it was described as: "the Tea Party"

TEAPARTY3 CONTINUED...

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>No opinion either way</u>	(VOL.) <u>Haven't heard of</u>	(VOL.) <u>Refused</u>	Not heard of/ <u>DK</u>
Jan 5-9, 2011	45	6	47	1	1	--
Dec 1-5, 2010	48	5	45	1	1	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	51	5	42	1	1	--
Oct 27-30, 2010 (RVs)	58	5	27	--	1	9
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	54	5	30	--	1	10
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	56	6	29	--	*	9
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	46	5	36	--	1	13
Jun 16-20, 2010	46	5	30	--	*	19
May 20-23, 2010	53	4	25	--	1	16
Mar 11-21, 2010	48	4	26	--	1	21

ASK REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1):

Q.70 Thinking about how the Republican Party is handling some issues today... Do you think the Republican Party is doing a good job, OR is it NOT doing a good job representing your views on **[ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? Do you think the Republican Party is doing a good job, OR is it NOT doing a good job representing your views on **[ITEM]**? And, how about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Do you think the Republican Party is doing a good job, OR is it NOT doing a good job representing your views on this issue?]**

BASED ON REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS [N=835]:

	<u>Good job</u>	<u>Not doing a good job</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Government spending			
May 12-18, 2015	35	59	6
Sep 2-9, 2014	35	60	6
b. Same-sex marriage			
May 12-18, 2015	29	57	13
Sep 2-9, 2014	34	53	13
c. Illegal immigration			
May 12-18, 2015	34	59	7
Sep 2-9, 2014	37	56	7

NO QUESTION 71

movement that has been involved in campaigns and protests in the U.S. over the past year." In March 2010 it was described as "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."

ASK DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS (PARTY=2 OR PARTYLN=2):

Q.72 Thinking about how the Democratic Party is handling some issues today... Do you think the Democratic Party is doing a good job, OR is it NOT doing a good job representing your views on **[ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? Do you think the Democratic Party is doing a good job, OR is it NOT doing a good job representing your views on **[ITEM]**? And, how about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Do you think the Democratic Party is doing a good job, OR is it NOT doing a good job representing your views on this issue?]**

BASED ON DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC LEANERS [N=975]:

		<u>Good job</u>	<u>Not doing a good job</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Government spending			
	May 12-18, 2015	47	47	5
	Sep 2-9, 2014	49	45	6
b.	Same-sex marriage			
	May 12-18, 2015	62	30	8
	Sep 2-9, 2014	62	28	10
c.	Illegal immigration			
	May 12-18, 2015	51	43	7
	Sep 2-9, 2014	47	44	9

NO QUESTION 73

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

(U) Pew Research Center/USA Today polls
(WP) Pew Research Center/Washington Post polls
