



THE PEW RESEARCH CENTER
For The People & The Press

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Obama's Afghanistan Rating Declines

A YEAR OUT, WIDESPREAD ANTI-INCUMBENT SENTIMENT

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Obama's Afghanistan Rating Declines

A YEAR OUT, WIDESPREAD ANTI-INCUMBENT SENTIMENT

The mood of America is glum. Two-thirds of the public is dissatisfied with the way things are going in the country. Fully nine-in-ten say that national economic conditions are only fair or poor, and nearly two-thirds describe their own finances that way – the most since the summer of 1992. An increasing proportion of Americans say that the war in Afghanistan is not going well, and a plurality continues to oppose the health care reform proposals in Congress.

Despite the public's grim mood, overall opinion of Barack Obama has not soured – his job approval rating of 51% is largely unchanged since July, although his approval rating on Afghanistan has declined. But opinions about congressional incumbents are another matter.

About half (52%) of registered voters would like to see their own representative re-elected next year, while 34% say that *most* members of Congress should be re-elected. Both measures are among the most negative in two decades of Pew Research surveys. Other low points were during the 1994 and 2006 election cycles, when the party in power suffered large losses in midterm elections.

Support for congressional incumbents is particularly low among political independents. Only 42% of independent voters want to see their own representative re-elected and just 25% would like to see most members of Congress re-elected. Both measures are near all-time lows in Pew Research surveys.

Anti-Incumbent Sentiment				
<i>Want to see re-elected...</i>				
	Your representative		Most representatives	
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
	%	%	%	%
2010 Midterms				
Nov 2009	52	29	34	53
2006 Midterms				
Nov 2006	55	25	37	46
Early Oct 2006	50	27	32	48
Jun 2006	51	32	29	57
Sep 2005	57	25	36	48
2002 Midterms				
Early Oct 2002	58	19	39	38
Jun 2002	58	23	45	37
1998 Midterms				
Late Oct 1998	64	19	41	37
Early Oct 1998	58	20	39	39
Mar 1998	63	21	45	41
Aug 1997	66	22	45	42
1994 Midterms				
Nov 1994	58	25	31	51
Early Oct 1994	49	29	28	56
1990 Midterms				
Oct 1990*	62	22	--	--

Q4 & Q5. Based on registered voters.
 Figures read across. See topline for complete trends.
 * 1990 data from Gallup.

The latest survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Oct. 28-Nov. 8 among 2,000 Americans reached on landlines and cell phones, finds that voting intentions for next year's midterms are largely unchanged from August. Currently, 47% of registered voters say they would vote for the Democratic candidate in their district or lean Democratic, while 42% would vote for the Republican or lean to the GOP candidate. In August, 45% favored the Democrat in their district and 44% favored the Republican.

However, voters who plan to support Republicans next year are more enthusiastic than those who plan to vote for a Democrat. Fully 58% of those who plan to vote for a Republican next year say they are *very* enthusiastic about voting, compared with 42% of those who plan to vote for a Democrat. More than half (56%) of independent voters who support a Republican in their district are very enthusiastic about voting; by contrast, just 32% of independents who plan to vote for a Democrat express high levels of enthusiasm.

Republicans Hold Sizable Enthusiasm Advantage					
<i>Among voters who...</i>	<i>How enthusiastic about voting?</i>				
	<u>Very</u>	<u>Some what</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>N</u>
Plan to vote Republican	58	28	13	2=100	729
Independents	56	29	13	2=100	218
Republicans	59	27	11	3=100	467
Plan to vote Democratic	42	37	17	4=100	731
Independents	32	43	24	1=100	182
Democrats	46	36	14	5=100	513

Q6. Based on registered voters. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

The survey finds that as Obama considers increasing U.S. troop levels in Afghanistan, a growing proportion of Americans express a negative view of the situation there. A majority (57%) now says the U.S. military effort in Afghanistan is going not too well or not at all well, up from 45% in January. And while most continue to endorse the initial decision to use force in Afghanistan, that percentage has slipped from 64% at the beginning of the year to 56% in the current survey.

Afghan Perceptions Decline; Fewer See War as Right Decision			
<i>How well is military effort going</i>	Jan 2009	Nov 2009	<i>Change</i>
Very/fairly well	45	36	-9
Not too/at all well	45	57	+12
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	
	100	100	
<i>Initial decision to use force</i>			
Right decision	64	56	-8
Wrong decision	25	34	+9
Don't know	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>	
	100	100	
<i>Number of troops should be</i>			
Increased	33	32	-1
Decreased	39	40	+1
Kept the same	20	19	-1
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	
	100	100	

Q53-55. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Yet the public remains deeply divided over what to do now – 40% say the number of troops in Afghanistan should be decreased, 32% say the number should be increased, and 19% favor keeping troop levels as they are now. These numbers are virtually unchanged from January. However, more Republicans now favor increasing the number of troops than did so in January (48% now, 38% then). The proportion of Democrats favoring a troop increase has fallen from 29% to 21% over the same period.

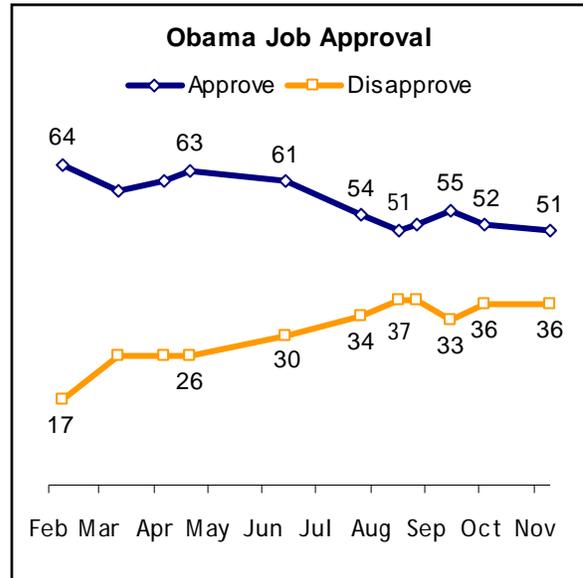
As in October, more people oppose than favor the health care proposals being discussed in Congress; 47% say they generally oppose the proposals being discussed in Congress, while 38% say they favor these proposals. About a third (34%) says they oppose the legislation very strongly while 24% favor it very strongly. The survey was mostly completed before the House approved health care reform legislation late in the evening of Nov. 7.

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
	%	%	%	%	%
Favor	38	39	42	34	38
Very strongly	--	25	29	20	24
Oppose	44	46	44	47	47
Very strongly	--	34	34	35	34
Don't know	18	15	14	19	15
	100	100	100	100	100

Q31-32. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Obama's Job Approval

Barack Obama's overall job approval ratings have held relatively steady over the past four months: currently, 51% of Americans say they approve of his job performance; this figure has fluctuated between 51% and 55% since July. The share who disapprove – currently 36% – has ranged between 33% and 37% over the same time period. *(For a detailed breakout of Obama's overall job approval, see the tables at the end of this report.)*



Obama's overall job approval rating tends to exceed his performance ratings on specific issues. For example, while 51% approve of his performance overall, 44% approve of Obama's handling of the nation's foreign policy; 38% disapprove of his handling of foreign policy. Roughly four-in-ten (43%) approve of Obama's job performance on health care policy; 47% disapprove. And just 42% approve of the way

Obama is handling the economy, while a majority (52%) disapproves. His job rating for handling the federal budget deficit is even lower: 31% approve and 58% disapprove of his job performance on this issue.

Obama gets his highest issue-specific ratings for handling terrorist threats and energy policy. A narrow majority (52%) approves of the way Obama is handling terrorist threats; 34% disapprove. Obama gets comparable ratings on energy policy (50% approve, 34% disapprove).

As with Obama's overall job approval figures, ratings of his performance on specific issues have remained largely unchanged since July. But Afghanistan is an exception to this pattern. Currently, only 36% of Americans say they approve of how Obama is handling the situation in Afghanistan, compared with 49% who disapprove. In July, more people approved (47%) than disapproved (33%) of his handling of the issue.

<i>Obama job approval...</i>	<u>Apr</u> %	<u>Jul</u> %	<u>Nov</u> %	<u>Jul-Nov change</u>
Overall	63	54	51	-3
Terrorist threats	57	--	52	--
Energy policy	--	46	50	+4
Foreign policy	61	47	44	-3
Health care	51	42	43	+1
Economy	60	38	42	+4
Afghanistan	--	47	36	-11
Budget deficit	50	32	31	-1

Q2 & Q13a-f,k.

Obama's ratings on Afghanistan have fallen sharply among men, Republicans and independents. Currently, a majority of men (53%) disapprove of Obama's handling of the situation in Afghanistan while 35% approve. In July, most men (52%) gave Obama positive ratings on the issue. Opinion among women has shown far less change (37% approval currently, 43% in July).

Just 19% of Republicans now approve of Obama's handling of the situation in Afghanistan, down from 40% in July. There also has been a 15-point slide in approval among independents (from 46% in July to 31% today). Democratic ratings have remained mostly positive – 54% approve of Obama's handling of the situation in Afghanistan, down only slightly from 59% four months ago.

	<u>July</u>		<u>November</u>		<u>Change in approve</u>
	<u>App-rove</u> %	<u>Dis-app</u> %	<u>App-rove</u> %	<u>Dis-app</u> %	
Total	47	33	36	49	-11
Men	52	30	35	53	-17
Women	43	36	37	46	-6
Republican	40	39	19	68	-21
Democrat	59	25	54	31	-5
Independent	46	32	31	56	-15

Q13kF2. Figures read across.

But Democrats who favor decreasing the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan give Obama lower ratings on this issue than do those who favor increasing the number of troops or maintaining current troop levels. Half of Democrats say they want to see the number of troops in Afghanistan decreased, and within this segment of the party, just 46% approve of Obama's handling of Afghanistan policy. A 41% minority of Democrats want to see troop levels increased or kept as they are now; among this group, 61% approve of Obama's handling of Afghanistan policy.

Anti-Incumbent Sentiment

Public frustration with Congress may have serious electoral implications for incumbents in the 2010 midterm elections. Only about a third (34%) of registered voters say they think most members of Congress should be re-elected next year, which is on par with ratings during the 1994 and 2006 elections. Meanwhile, just 52% of voters say they want to see their own member re-elected, approaching levels in early October 2006 (50%) and 1994 (49%).

In November 1994, 68% of Democrats and 55% of Republicans favored the re-election of their own member of Congress, which is comparable to the current figures (64% of Democrats, 50% of Republicans). But today, just 42% of independents want to see their own representative re-elected, compared with 52% of independents on the eve of the 1994 midterm elections.

Want to See Your Representative Re-elected?				
	All voters	Rep	Dem	Ind
<i>% saying yes</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>
2010 Midterms				
Nov 2009	52	50	64	42
2006 Midterms				
Nov 2006	55	69	52	45
Early Oct 2006	50	64	49	40
Jun 2006	51	63	49	45
Sep 2005	57	70	53	49
2002 Midterms				
Early Oct 2002	58	62	59	52
Jun 2002	58	65	59	49
1998 Midterms				
Late Oct 1998	64	69	68	56
Early Oct 1998	58	69	62	47
Mar 1998	63	67	69	55
Aug 1997	66	69	69	58
1994 Midterms				
Nov 1994	58	55	68	52
Early Oct 1994	49	49	50	47

Q4. Based on registered voters.

Partisan feelings about incumbents were the reverse in 2006, when the GOP held majorities in the House and Senate. In November 2006, 69% of Republicans, 52% of Democrats and 45% of independents wanted to see their own member of Congress re-elected.

No Spike in Support for Third Party

Despite record dissatisfaction with Congress and extremely low ratings for both the Democratic and Republican Parties, there is no shift in public demand for alternatives to the two parties. Just over half (52%) of Americans say the U.S. should have a third major political party in addition to the Democrats and Republicans, while four-in-ten (40%) disagree. This is little changed from last year, when 56% favored a third party and 38% opposed the idea.

Support for a third party continues to be widespread among independents. As was the case last year, 70% of independents say we should have a third major political party. Just 44% of both Republicans and

No Increase in Support for Third Party				
<i>We should have a third party in the US</i>				
	Oct 1995*	Apr 2006	Jun 2008	Nov 2009
	%	%	%	%
Total	59	53	56	52
Republican	52	47	54	44
Democrat	55	49	48	44
Independent	69	67	70	70
18-29	68	60	62	63
30-49	65	57	60	54
50-64	55	51	54	53
65+	36	40	40	37

Q7.
* Highest point in Pew Research polling.

Democrats agree. There is also a consistent difference between younger and older Americans. In the current poll, 63% of Americans under age 30 support the idea of a third political party, compared with just 37% of those ages 65 and older.

More Negative Views of Afghanistan

Currently, 36% say the U.S. military effort in Afghanistan is going very or fairly well, while 57% say it is going not too well or not at all well. Opinion is much more negative now than it was in January, when 45% said things were going well in Afghanistan while an equal percentage disagreed.

Most Americans (56%) say that the initial decision to use force in Afghanistan was right, but that percentage also has declined since January (64%). Like the change in positive views of the military effort, the falloff in support for the initial decision to use force is evident across most political and demographic groups.

Currently, 49% of conservative and moderate Democrats and just 44% of liberal Democrats support the initial decision to use force. Majorities of each group favored this decision in January. Support for the decision to go to war also has fallen among independents, from 65% in January to 55% in the current survey.

While support for the initial decision to go to war also has declined among Republicans, they remain more likely than Democrats to endorse this decision. Currently, 76% of conservative Republicans and 62% of moderate and liberal Republicans say the United States made the right decision in using force in Afghanistan, down nine points and 13 points, respectively, since January.

	Jan 2009	Nov 2009	Change
<i>"Right decision" to use force...</i>	%	%	
Total	64	56	-8
Men	71	62	-9
Women	58	49	-9
18-29	62	52	-10
30-49	63	61	-2
50-64	72	59	-13
65+	59	45	-14
College grad+	74	64	-10
Some college	64	61	-3
HS or less	59	49	-10
Conserv Rep	85	76	-9
Mod/Lib Rep	75	62	-13
Independent	65	55	-10
Cons/Mod Dem	59	49	-10
Liberal Dem	53	44	-9
<i>US military effort...</i>			
Going well	78	69	-9
Not going well	59	49	-10
Q53.			

Still Divided over Troop Levels

The public continues to be divided over whether the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan should be increased (32%), decreased (40%) or kept the same (19%). The overall balance of opinion is largely unchanged from January, but Republicans have become more supportive of a troop increase while support among Democrats has fallen.

Currently, nearly half of Republicans (48%) say the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan should be increased, up 10 points from January. Only about one-in-five Democrats (21%) now favor a troop increase, down from 29% in January. A plurality of Democrats (50%) continue to favor a reduction in the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan.

Independents remain split over U.S. troop levels in Afghanistan. However, somewhat more independents now say the number of forces there should be decreased (42%) rather than increased (32%); in January, as many favored decreasing troop levels as increasing them (37% each).

Wider Partisan Divide over Increasing Troops in Afghanistan					
<i>Number of US troops should be...</i>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<i>R-D diff</i>
Nov 2009	%	%	%	%	
Increased	32	48	21	32	+27
Decreased	40	25	50	42	-25
Kept the same	19	22	20	16	+2
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	
	100	100	100	100	
Jan 2009					
Increased	33	38	29	37	+9
Decreased	39	28	47	37	-19
Kept the same	20	25	17	20	+8
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	
	100	100	100	100	
<i>Jan-Nov change in "increased"</i>	-1	+10	-8	-5	

Q55. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Health Care Opposition Remains Strong

While support for the health care bills before Congress ticked up slightly from last month, more Americans continue to oppose than support the overall package by a 47% to 38% margin. And strong opposition continues to outweigh strong support by a 34% to 24% margin.

Currently, 38% support the health care bills in Congress, up slightly from 34% last month. The shift reflects a rebound in support for health care legislation among independents, particularly independents who lean toward the Democratic Party.

Overall, 33% of independents favor the health care legislation being discussed in Congress, up from 26% in October. This is driven by a 16-point rebound in support (from 42% to 58%) among the subset of independents who say they lean Democratic. But overall, just over half of independents (51%) remain opposed to health care overhaul.

There has also been a small rebound in support for health care legislation among people with lower incomes. Among those with family incomes of less than \$30,000 a year, 44% back the bills before Congress, up from 35% last month.

<i>% who favor health care proposals</i>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Nov</u> <u>N</u>
Total	38	39	42	34	38	2000
Republican	12	13	17	14	15	564
Democrat	61	64	68	59	61	657
Independent	34	37	37	26	33	623
Republican-leaning	15	14	15	15	18	250
Democratic-leaning	59	63	62	42	58	223
Men	37	39	39	33	35	954
Women	39	40	45	36	41	1046
White, non-Hispanic	33	29	37	30	30	1510
Black, non-Hispanic	50	71	68	58	62	179
Hispanic	--	63	--	--	57	156
18-29	44	45	48	40	39	245
30-49	34	39	42	35	41	560
50-64	45	41	43	33	38	622
65+	29	30	34	30	31	523
<i>Family income</i>						
\$75,000 or more	35	38	46	34	37	517
\$30,000-74,999	37	38	38	35	38	598
Less than \$30,000	44	48	48	35	44	527
College grad+	39	43	50	40	43	746
Some college	38	37	41	34	36	453
HS or less	38	39	38	32	36	756
Have health insurance	37	--	--	34	37	1741
No health insurance	44	--	--	37	44	251
Q31.						

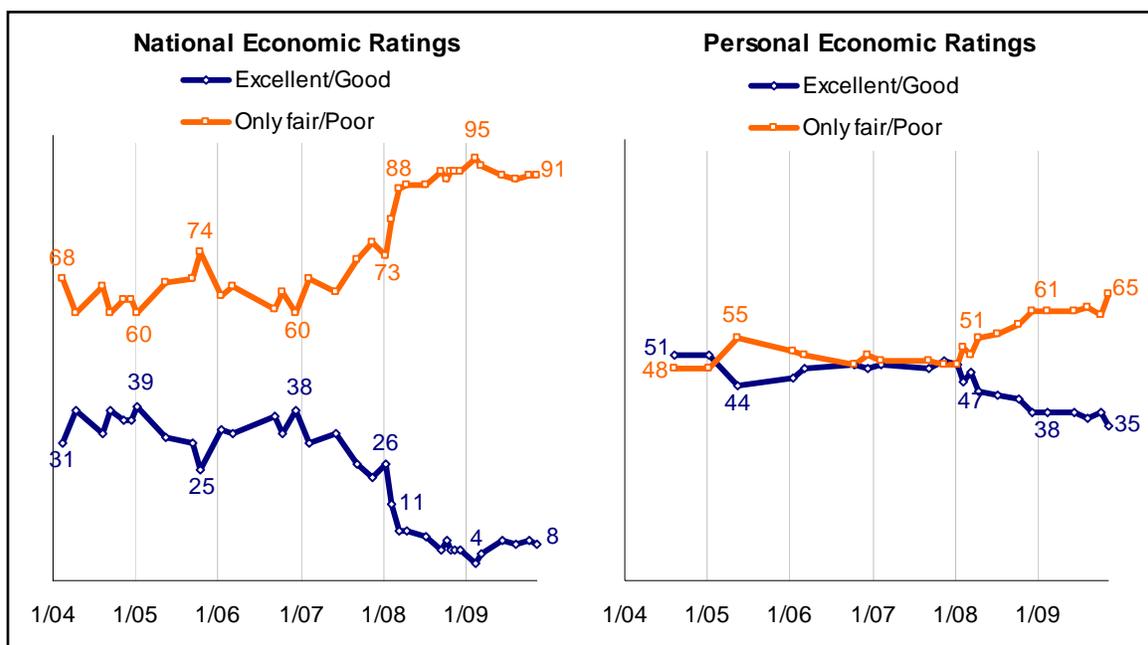
The intensity of opposition to health care reform may have electoral implications. Overall, 56% of voters who oppose the health legislation in Congress say they are very enthusiastic about voting in the 2010 midterm elections, compared with 43% of voters who support the bills. Among voters who *strongly* oppose the legislation, 64% say they are very enthusiastic about casting their ballot in 2010; only about half (49%) of those who strongly favor the health care legislation are very enthusiastic about voting.

Strong Opponents of Health Proposals Most Enthusiastic about 2010 Vote					
	<i>How enthusiastic about voting?</i>				<u>N</u>
	<u>Very</u> %	<u>Some</u> <u>what</u> %	<u>Not too/</u> <u>at all</u> %	<u>DK</u> %	
Registered voters	48	32	16	3=100	1644
<i>Health care bills</i>					
Favor	43	38	16	3=100	591
Strongly	49	33	16	2=100	378
Not strongly	33	48	17	2=100	188
Oppose	56	26	15	3=100	832
Strongly	64	22	12	3=100	660
Not strongly	28	43	27	2=100	164
Q6 & Q31/32. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.					

Fewer See Economy Getting Better

Ratings of the state of the nation’s economy remain dismal – fully 91% of Americans rate the nation’s economy as in “only fair” or “poor” shape. Within these gloomy ratings is some overall improvement from earlier in the year. Half of Americans say the economy is in “poor” shape today, down from a high of 71% in February. At the same time, however, the proportion saying they expect things to get better a year from now has slipped from 45% last month to 39% today.

The share of Americans who rate their own personal financial situation positively has fallen to a 17-year low. Just 35% of Americans say they are in excellent or good shape financially, down slightly from 38% in October. The last time personal financial ratings fell to this level was in August of 1992.



Americans remain more optimistic about their personal financial situation than about the nation’s economy as a whole. Most (56%) say they think their personal finances will improve over the coming year. Just 39% see the nation’s economy improving over the same time period.

ABOUT THE SURVEY

Results for this survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Abt SRBI Inc. among a national sample of 2,000 adults living in the continental United States, 18 years of age or older, from October 28-November 8, 2009 (1500 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 500 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 193 who had no landline telephone). Both the landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see <http://people-press.org/methodology/>.

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race/ethnicity, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2008 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample is also 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 2008 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 within the landline sample. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting.

The following table shows the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Group	Sample Size	Plus or minus...
Total sample	2000	3 percentage points
Registered voters	1644	3 percentage points
Form 1	999	4 percentage points
Form 2	1001	4 percentage points
Republicans	564	5 percentage points
Democrats	657	5 percentage points
Independents	623	5 percentage points

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.

ABOUT THE CENTER

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. We are sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts and are one of seven projects that make up the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

The Center's purpose is to serve as a forum for ideas on the media and public policy through public opinion research. In this role it serves as an important information resource for political leaders, journalists, scholars, and public interest organizations. All of our current survey results are made available free of charge.

All of the Center's research and reports are collaborative products based on the input and analysis of the entire Center staff consisting of:

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PRESIDENTIAL JOB APPROVAL TABLE

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

	Approve %	Dis- <u>approve</u> %	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> %	(N)
TOTAL	51	36	13	2000
SEX				
Men	48	39	13	954
Women	54	34	12	1046
AGE				
18-49	54	33	13	805
50+	47	41	12	1145
DETAILED AGE				
18-29	59	29	12	245
30-49	51	36	13	560
50-64	48	41	10	622
65+	44	41	15	523
SEX BY AGE				
Men 18-49	49	37	14	424
Men 50+	47	42	11	508
Women 18-49	59	30	12	381
Women 50+	46	40	14	637
RACE				
White NH	40	46	14	1510
Total Non-White	75	15	10	432
Black NH	91	5	4	179
EDUCATION				
College grad	53	39	8	746
Some college	43	40	17	453
HS or less	53	33	14	756
INCOME				
\$75,000+	44	47	9	517
\$30,000-\$74,999	48	36	16	598
<\$30,000	60	30	10	527
DETAILED INCOME				
\$100,000+	44	45	10	309
\$75,000-\$99,999	44	49	7	208
\$50,000-\$74,999	46	38	16	272
\$30,000-\$49,999	49	35	16	326
<\$30,000	60	30	10	527
REGISTERED VOTER	50	39	10	1644
PARTY ID				
Republican	22	66	12	564
Democrat	79	12	9	657
Independent	45	39	16	623
PARTY AND IDEOLOGY				
Conservative Republican	14	76	11	412
Mod/Lib Republican	42	44	15	142
Mod/Cons Democrat	76	14	10	393
Liberal Democrat	86	7	6	233

PRESIDENTIAL JOB APPROVAL TABLE (CONT.)

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

	<u>Approve</u> %	Dis- <u>approve</u> %	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> %	(N)
RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE				
Total White NH Prot.	34	52	14	829
White NH evang. Prot.	28	61	11	440
White NH mainline Prot.	41	42	17	388
Total Catholic	52	34	14	441
White NH Cath.	42	44	14	325
Unaffiliated	60	25	15	287
CHURCH ATTENDANCE				
More than once a week	41	48	12	278
Once a week	49	39	12	528
Once or twice a month	50	37	13	251
A few times a year	52	35	13	336
Seldom/Never	56	30	14	527
REGION				
Northeast	54	37	10	369
Midwest	48	39	13	444
South	48	38	13	754
West	56	30	14	433
MARITAL STATUS				
Married	45	43	12	1051
Not married	58	29	13	902
MARITAL STATUS BY SEX				
Married men	42	46	12	544
Married women	48	40	12	507
Unmarried men	56	31	14	389
Unmarried women	59	28	13	513
EMPLOYMENT				
Employed	50	38	12	1015
Not employed	52	34	14	921
AMONG REPUBLICANS				
Men	18	69	13	266
Women	26	63	11	298
18-49	28	61	12	220
50+	16	72	12	341
AMONG DEMOCRATS				
Men	80	13	7	258
Women	79	12	10	399
18-49	80	11	9	250
50+	78	14	8	399
AMONG INDEPENDENTS				
Men	44	39	17	350
Women	45	40	14	273
18-49	50	35	15	271
50+	37	48	16	342

PRESIDENTIAL JOB APPROVAL TABLE (CONT.)

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

	<u>Approve</u> %	Dis- <u>approve</u> %	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> %	(N)
AMONG WHITES				
Men	38	48	14	720
Women	43	44	14	790
18-49	43	43	14	541
50+	38	48	14	957
College grad	46	47	7	614
Some college or less	38	45	17	889
\$75,000+	40	51	9	436
\$30,000-\$74,999	40	45	15	468
<\$30,000	42	44	14	354
Republican	19	70	12	506
Democrat	72	18	11	410
Independent	39	45	16	505
East	46	43	11	283
Midwest	40	45	15	374
South	33	52	15	556
West	48	38	14	297

CONGRESSIONAL TRIAL HEAT TABLE

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

Q3/3a: If the elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?/ As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?

	Rep/ lean Rep	Dem/ lean Dem	Other/ no lean	(VOL.) DK/Ref	(N)
	%	%	%	%	
ALL REGISTERED VOTERS	42	47	3	8	1644
SEX					
Men	47	41	3	8	762
Women	38	52	2	8	882
AGE					
18-49	42	47	3	8	594
50+	43	46	3	8	1029
DETAILED AGE					
18-29	45	45	3	7	156
30-49	41	48	2	9	438
50-64	40	48	3	9	561
65+	47	44	2	7	468
SEX BY AGE					
Men 18-49	49	40	4	8	296
Men 50+	45	43	3	9	459
Women 18-49	36	54	2	8	298
Women 50+	41	49	3	7	570
RACE					
White NH	49	39	3	9	1309
Total Non-White	22	70	2	6	311
Black NH	11	85	1	2	147
EDUCATION					
College grad	42	48	3	6	688
Some college	44	44	3	9	400
HS or less	41	47	2	9	546
INCOME					
\$75,000+	50	42	3	5	477
\$30,000-\$74,999	43	46	3	8	506
<\$30,000	35	53	3	9	397
DETAILED INCOME					
\$100,000+	53	39	3	5	287
\$75,000-\$99,999	46	45	2	6	190
\$50,000-\$74,999	45	45	1	9	241
\$30,000-\$49,999	41	47	5	8	265
<\$30,000	35	53	3	9	397
PARTY ID					
Republican	93	4	1	2	498
Democrat	6	90	1	4	564
Independent	41	38	6	15	515
PARTY AND IDEOLOGY					
Conservative Republican	94	4	0	2	371
Mod/Lib Republican	91	5	1	4	119
Mod/Cons Democrat	9	86	1	5	333
Liberal Democrat	1	97	0	2	207

CONGRESSIONAL TRIAL HEAT TABLE (CONT.)

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

Q3/3a: If the elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?/As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?

	Rep/ lean Rep	Dem/ lean Dem	Other/ no lean	(VOL.) DK/Ref	(N)
	%	%	%	%	
RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE					
Total White NH Prot.	58	30	2	9	713
White NH evang. Prot.	64	26	2	8	381
White NH mainline Prot.	51	36	2	11	331
Total Catholic	43	48	4	5	374
White NH Cath.	49	42	5	5	296
Unaffiliated	23	63	4	10	231
CHURCH ATTENDANCE					
More than once a week	56	35	3	6	237
Once a week	51	39	3	7	463
Once or twice a month	38	52	4	5	209
A few times a year	40	50	1	8	285
Seldom/Never	31	56	2	11	419
REGION					
Northeast	38	52	3	7	303
Midwest	44	46	3	6	377
South	45	43	2	10	612
West	40	50	2	8	352
MARITAL STATUS					
Married	49	40	2	8	928
Not married	33	56	3	8	701
MARITAL STATUS BY SEX					
Married men	51	36	3	10	472
Married women	47	44	1	7	456
Unmarried men	41	49	4	7	285
Unmarried women	28	61	3	9	416
EMPLOYMENT					
Employed	43	47	3	7	864
Not employed	42	46	2	10	769
AMONG REPUBLICANS					
Men	93	4	0	3	234
Women	93	5	1	2	264
18-49	94	4	1	1	181
50+	92	4	0	3	314
AMONG DEMOCRATS					
Men	9	85	1	5	209
Women	4	93	0	3	355
18-49	7	88	1	5	193
50+	5	91	1	3	363
AMONG INDEPENDENTS					
Men	42	37	7	14	290
Women	39	38	6	17	225
18-49	36	44	6	14	193
50+	47	30	7	16	315

CONGRESSIONAL TRIAL HEAT TABLE (CONT.)

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

Q3/3a: If the elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?/As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?

	Rep/ <u>lean Rep</u> %	Dem/ <u>lean Dem</u> %	Other/ no lean %	(VOL.) DK/Ref %	(N)
AMONG WHITES					
Men	53	35	3	9	616
Women	46	43	3	9	693
18-49	50	39	3	8	431
50+	49	39	3	9	868
College grad	49	43	3	5	581
Some college or less	50	37	3	11	723
\$75,000+	55	38	3	4	413
\$30,000-\$74,999	50	38	3	9	404
<\$30,000	43	42	4	12	283
Republican	94	3	1	2	452
Democrat	8	87	1	4	370
Independent	43	35	6	16	433
East	43	48	4	5	246
Midwest	51	39	4	7	325
South	55	31	3	12	473
West	43	45	1	11	265

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
& COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
AMERICA'S PLACE IN THE WORLD, V
GENERAL PUBLIC SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
October 28-November 8, 2009
N=2000**

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.1 AND Q.2

ASK ALL:

Q.1 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>
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	25	67	7	December, 2004	39	54	7
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	25	67	7	Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6
September 10-15, 2009 ¹	30	64	7	July, 2004	38	55	7
August 20-27, 2009	28	65	7	May, 2004	33	61	6
August, 11-17, 2009	28	65	7	Late February, 2004*	39	55	6
July 22-26, 2009	28	66	6	Early January, 2004	45	48	7
June 10-14, 2009	30	64	5	December, 2003	44	47	9
April 28-May 12, 2009	34	58	8	October, 2003	38	56	6
April 14-21, 2009	23	70	7	August, 2003 ²	40	53	7
January 7-11, 2009	20	73	7	April 8, 2003	50	41	9
December, 2008	13	83	4	January, 2003	44	50	6
Early October, 2008	11	86	3	November, 2002	41	48	11
Mid-September, 2008	25	69	6	September, 2002	41	55	4
August, 2008	21	74	5	Late August, 2002	47	44	9
July, 2008	19	74	7	May, 2002	44	44	12
June, 2008	19	76	5	March, 2002	50	40	10
Late May, 2008	18	76	6	Late September, 2001	57	34	9
March, 2008	22	72	6	Early September, 2001	41	53	6
Early February, 2008	24	70	6	June, 2001	43	52	5
Late December, 2007	27	66	7	March, 2001	47	45	8
October, 2007	28	66	6	February, 2001	46	43	11
February, 2007	30	61	9	January, 2001	55	41	4
Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7	October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7
Early January, 2007	30	63	7	September, 2000	51	41	8
December, 2006	28	65	7	June, 2000	47	45	8
Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8	April, 2000	48	43	9
Early October, 2006	30	63	7	August, 1999	56	39	5
July, 2006	30	65	5	January, 1999	53	41	6
May, 2006*	29	65	6	November, 1998	46	44	10
March, 2006	32	63	5	Early September, 1998	54	42	4
January, 2006	34	61	5	Late August, 1998	55	41	4
Late November, 2005	34	59	7	Early August, 1998	50	44	6
Early October, 2005	29	65	6	February, 1998	59	37	4
July, 2005	35	58	7	January, 1998	46	50	4
Late May, 2005*	39	57	4	September, 1997	45	49	6
February, 2005	38	56	6	August, 1997	49	46	5
January, 2005	40	54	6	January, 1997	38	58	4
				July, 1996	29	67	4
				March, 1996	28	70	2
				October, 1995	23	73	4
				June, 1995	25	73	2

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.1 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>
April, 1995	23	74	3	January, 1992	28	68	4
July, 1994	24	73	3	November, 1991	34	61	5
March, 1994	24	71	5	Late February, 1991 (<i>Gallup</i>)	66	31	3
October, 1993	22	73	5	August, 1990	47	48	5
September, 1993	20	75	5	May, 1990	41	54	5
May, 1993	22	71	7	January, 1989	45	50	5
January, 1993	39	50	11	September, 1988 (<i>RVs</i>)	50	45	5

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.1 AND Q.2

ASK ALL:

Q.2 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>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	51	36	13
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	52	36	12
September 10-15, 2009	55	33	13
August 20-27, 2009	52	37	12
August, 11-17, 2009	51	37	11
July 22-26, 2009	54	34	12
June 10-14, 2009	61	30	9
April 14-21, 2009	63	26	11
March 31-Apr 6, 2009	61	26	13
March 9-12, 2009	59	26	15
February 4-8, 2009	64	17	19

ASK ALL:

The next congressional elections will be coming up about a year from now...

Q.3 If the elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?

IF ANSWERED '3' OTHER OR '9' DON'T KNOW IN Q.3, ASK:

Q.3a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1644]:

	Rep/ <u>Lean Rep</u>	Dem/ <u>Lean Dem</u>	Other/ <u>Undecided</u>
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	42	47	11
August 20-27, 2009	44	45	10
2008 Election			
June, 2008	37	52	11
2006 Election			
November, 2006	40	48	12
Late October, 2006	38	49	13
Early October, 2006	38	51	11
September, 2006	39	50	11
August, 2006	41	50	9
June, 2006	39	51	10
April, 2006	41	51	8

Q.3/Q.3a CONTINUED...

	Rep/ <u>Lean Rep</u>	Dem/ <u>Lean Dem</u>	Other/ <u>Undecided</u>
February, 2006	41	50	9
Mid-September, 2005	40	52	8
2004 Election			
June, 2004	41	48	11
2002 Election			
Early November, 2002	42	46	12
Early October, 2002	44	46	10
Early September, 2002	44	46	10
June, 2002	44	46	10
February, 2002	46	45	9
Early November, 2001	44	44	12
2000 Election			
Early November, 2000	42	48	10
Early October, 2000	43	47	10
July, 2000	43	47	10
February, 2000	44	47	9
October, 1999	43	49	8
June, 1999	40	50	10
1998 Election			
Late October, 1998	40	47	13
Early October, 1998	43	44	13
Early September, 1998	45	46	9
Late August, 1998	44	45	11
Early August, 1998	42	49	9
June, 1998	44	46	10
March, 1998	40	52	8
February, 1998	41	50	9
January, 1998	41	51	8
August, 1997	45	48	7
1996 Election			
November, 1996 ²	44	48	8
October, 1996	42	49	9
Late September, 1996	43	49	8
Early September, 1996	43	51	6
July, 1996	46	47	7
June, 1996	44	50	6
March, 1996	44	49	7
January, 1996	46	47	7
October, 1995	48	48	4
August, 1995	50	43	7
1994 Election			
November, 1994	45	43	12
Late October, 1994	47	44	9
Early October, 1994	52	40	8
September, 1994	48	46	6
July, 1994	45	47	8

² November 1996 trends based on likely voters.

ASK ALL:

Q.4 Would you like to see your representative in Congress be re-elected in the next congressional election, or not?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1644]:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	(VOL.) Congressperson <u>not running</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
2010 Election				
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	52	29	1	18
2008 Election				
Late February, 2008	60	22	1	17
2006 Election				
November, 2006	55	25	1	19
Late October, 2006	55	26	1	18
Early October, 2006	50	27	1	22
September, 2006	53	27	1	19
August, 2006	51	30	*	19
June, 2006	51	32	1	16
April, 2006	57	28	1	14
February, 2006	59	28	1	12
Mid-September, 2005	57	25	1	17
2002 Election				
Early October, 2002	58	19	2	21
June, 2002	58	23	1	18
2000 Election				
Early November, 2000	59	16	2	23
October, 2000	60	17	1	22
July, 1999	66	23	*	11
1998 Election				
Late October, 1998	64	19	1	16
Early October, 1998	58	20	2	20
Early September, 1998	63	20	1	16
March, 1998	63	21	1	15
January, 1998	66	23	0	11
August, 1997	66	22	0	12
1996 Election				
Early November, 1996	60	16	3	21
October, 1996	62	19	2	17
Late September, 1996	55	17	2	26
Early September, 1996	62	19	2	17
1994 Election				
November, 1994	58	25	1	16
Late October, 1994	55	30	2	13
Early October, 1994	49	29	2	20
1990 Election				
<i>Gallup</i> : October, 1990	62	22	2	14

ASK ALL:

Q.5 Regardless of how you feel about your own representative, would you like to see most members of Congress re-elected in next year's congressional election, or not?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1644]:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
2010 Election			
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	34	53	13
2008 Election			
Late February, 2008	36	49	15
2006 Election			
November, 2006	37	46	17
Late October, 2006	34	49	17
Early October, 2006	32	48	20
September, 2006	35	49	16
August, 2006	36	49	15
June, 2006	29	57	14
April, 2006	34	53	13
February, 2006	36	49	15
September, 2005	36	48	16
2002 Election			
Early October, 2002	39	38	23
June, 2002	45	37	18
2000 Election			
October, 2000	40	34	26
July, 1999	41	47	12
1998 Election			
Late October, 1998	41	37	22
Early October, 1998	39	39	22
Early September, 1998	46	37	17
March, 1998	45	41	14
January, 1998	44	43	13
August, 1997	45	42	13
1996 Election			
Early September, 1996	43	43	14
1994 Election			
November, 1994	31	51	18
Late October, 1994	31	56	13
Early October, 1994	28	56	16

ASK ALL:

Q.6 How enthusiastic are you about voting in next year's Congressional elections? Would you say you are very, somewhat, not too, or not at all enthusiastic?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=1644]:

Oct 28-Nov 8	
<u>2009</u>	
48	Very enthusiastic
32	Somewhat enthusiastic
10	Not too enthusiastic
6	Not at all enthusiastic
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

Q.7 Some people say we should have a third major political party in this country in addition to the Democrats and Republicans. Do you agree or disagree?

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	52	40	8
June, 2008	56	38	6
April, 2006	53	40	7
June, 2004	50	43	7
October, 2003	46	44	10
June, 2000	52	42	6
August, 1999	54	40	6
Early September, 1998	46	47	7
August, 1997	47	46	7
July, 1996	58	37	5
October, 1995	59	37	4
April, 1995	57	38	5
July, 1994	53	43	4
ABC/Wash Post: January, 1984 ³	41	48	11
ABC/Wash Post: September, 1982	44	44	12

QUESTIONS 8 THROUGH 12F2 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

Thinking about some issues...

Q.13 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]

FORM 1 ITEMS BASED ON N=999
FORM 2 ITEMS BASED ON N=1001

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a. The economy			
Obama Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	42	52	5
Obama July 22-26, 2009	38	53	9
Obama June 10-14, 2009	52	40	8
Obama April 14-21, 2009	60	33	7
Obama February 4-8, 2009	56	24	20
GW Bush April, 2007	38	52	10
GW Bush December, 2006	39	53	8
GW Bush August, 2006	33	59	8
GW Bush June, 2006	33	57	10
GW Bush March, 2006	34	57	9
GW Bush February, 2006	38	55	7
GW Bush December, 2005	38	55	7
GW Bush Late October, 2005	36	56	8
GW Bush Early September, 2005	33	60	7

3 In January 1984, the ABC/Washington Post trend was worded: "Can you please tell me if you tend to agree or disagree with the following statement, or if, perhaps, you have no opinion about the statement: We should have a third major political party in this country in addition to the Democrats and Republicans." In September 1982, the ABC/Washington Post trend was worded: "I'm going to read a few statements. For each, can you please tell me if you tend to agree or disagree with it, or if, perhaps, you have no opinion about the statements... We should have a third party in this country in addition to the Democrats and Republicans."

Q.13a CONTINUED...

		<u>Approve</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
GW Bush	July, 2005	38	53	9
GW Bush	Mid-May, 2005	35	57	8
GW Bush	February, 2005	43	50	7
GW Bush	January, 2005	45	50	5
GW Bush	Mid-October, 2004	38	55	7
GW Bush	Early September, 2004	44	49	7
GW Bush	August, 2004	42	52	6
GW Bush	July, 2004	42	52	6
GW Bush	June, 2004	43	50	7
GW Bush	Early April, 2004	39	53	8
GW Bush	Mid-January, 2004	47	47	6
GW Bush	September, 2003	43	48	9
GW Bush	February, 2003	43	48	9
GW Bush	January, 2003	47	45	8
GW Bush	Early October, 2002	49	40	11
GW Bush	June, 2002	53	36	11
GW Bush	January, 2002	60	28	12
GW Bush	Early September, 2001	47	44	9
GW Bush	February, 2001	50	22	28
Clinton	January, 1996	50	42	8
Clinton	June, 1995	46	46	8
Clinton	October, 1994 ⁴	45	46	9
Clinton	July, 1994	38	56	6
Bush, Sr.	August, 1992	40	52	8
Bush, Sr.	May, 1990	42	47	11
b.F1 Health care policy				
Obama	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	43	47	10
Obama	July 22-26, 2009	42	43	14
Obama	April 14-21, 2009	51	26	23
GW Bush	August, 2006	31	54	15
GW Bush	March, 2006	26	57	17
GW Bush	February, 2006	28	57	15
GW Bush	February, 2005	36	51	13
GW Bush	Gallup: November, 2004	37	57	6
GW Bush	Gallup: January, 2004	43	49	8
GW Bush	September, 2003	33	46	21
GW Bush	Gallup: January, 2003	41	44	15
GW Bush	June, 2002	37	46	17
Clinton	July, 1994	39	54	7
Bush, Sr.	May, 1990 ⁵	30	59	11
c.F2 The nation's foreign policy				
Obama	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	44	38	18
Obama	July 22-26, 2009	47	32	21
Obama	June 10-14, 2009	57	31	12
Obama	April 14-21, 2009	61	22	17
Obama	February 4-8, 2009	52	17	31
GW Bush	April, 2007	30	55	15

⁴ Item wording in October 1994 and in previous surveys was "Economic conditions in this country."

⁵ In May 1990, the question asked about "health care."

Q.13cF2 CONTINUED...

		<u>Approve</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
GW Bush	December, 2006	30	59	11
GW Bush	August, 2006	37	49	14
GW Bush	June, 2006	37	51	12
GW Bush	Late October, 2005	36	51	13
GW Bush	July, 2005	36	49	15
GW Bush	Mid-May, 2005	38	46	16
GW Bush	February, 2005	43	46	11
GW Bush	January, 2005	48	43	9
GW Bush	Mid-October, 2004	37	49	14
GW Bush	Early September, 2004	47	42	11
GW Bush	August, 2004	42	49	9
GW Bush	July, 2004	40	48	12
GW Bush	Mid-January, 2004	53	36	11
GW Bush	March, 2003	53	36	11
GW Bush	Early April, 2002	69	20	11
GW Bush	<i>Gallup</i> : October, 2001	81	14	5
GW Bush	Early September, 2001	46	34	20
GW Bush	August, 2001 ⁶	45	32	23
GW Bush	June, 1999	52	37	11
Clinton	May, 1999	46	43	11
Clinton	April, 1999	51	39	10
Clinton	March, 1999	56	34	10
Clinton	September, 1998	61	30	9
Clinton	September, 1997	54	34	12
Clinton	January, 1996	52	39	9
Clinton	June, 1995	39	52	9
Clinton	October, 1994	50	42	8
Clinton	July, 1994	38	53	9
Clinton	October, 1993	39	46	15
Clinton	September, 1993	47	33	20
Clinton	August, 1993	52	25	23
Clinton	<i>Newsweek</i> : June 30-July 1, 1993	49	35	16
Bush, Sr.	May, 1990	58	30	12
d.F1	The federal budget deficit			
Obama	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	31	58	11
Obama	July 22-26, 2009	32	53	15
Obama	April 14-21, 2009	50	38	12
GW Bush	April, 2007	22	60	18
GW Bush	February, 2006	27	60	13
GW Bush	February, 2005	41	46	13
GW Bush	<i>Gallup</i> : December, 2003	32	60	8
GW Bush	<i>Gallup</i> : August, 2003	39	55	6
GW Bush	<i>Gallup</i> : January, 2003 ⁷	43	47	10
GW Bush	<i>Gallup</i> : March, 2002	51	37	12
GW Bush	<i>Gallup</i> : April, 2001	52	37	11

⁶ In August 2001 roughly half of the U.S. sample was asked about George W. Bush's handling of international policy, while the other half was asked about the handling of the nation's foreign policy. Results did not differ between question wordings and are combined.

⁷ Between April 2001 and January 2003 the Gallup item was worded "the federal budget."

Q.13dF2 CONTINUED...

		<u>Approve</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Clinton	July, 1994	31	58	11
Bush, Sr.	May, 1990	22	64	14
e.F2 Energy policy				
Obama	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	50	34	16
Obama	July 22-26, 2009	46	31	22
GW Bush	June, 2006	26	56	18
GW Bush	February, 2006	30	55	15
GW Bush	Mid-May, 2005	31	49	20
GW Bush	Early April, 2004	29	48	23
GW Bush	<i>Gallup</i> : August, 2003	47	44	9
GW Bush	June, 2002	41	39	20
GW Bush	<i>CBS News</i> : August, 2001	43	42	15
f.F1 Terrorist threats				
Obama	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	52	34	14
Obama	April 14-21, 2009 ⁸	57	26	17
Obama	February 4-8, 2009	50	21	29
GW Bush	April, 2007	46	43	11
GW Bush	December, 2006	48	44	8
GW Bush	August, 2006	50	39	11
GW Bush	June, 2006	47	41	12
GW Bush	March, 2006	42	49	9
GW Bush	February, 2006	53	40	7
GW Bush	December, 2005	49	44	7
GW Bush	Late October, 2005	52	40	8
GW Bush	Early September, 2005	49	41	10
GW Bush	July, 2005	49	40	11
GW Bush	Mid-May, 2005	57	35	8
GW Bush	February, 2005	59	34	7
GW Bush	January, 2005	62	33	5
GW Bush	Mid-October, 2004	49	40	11
GW Bush	Early September, 2004	62	32	6
GW Bush	August, 2004	58	37	5
GW Bush	July, 2004	54	40	6
GW Bush	June, 2004	56	35	9
GW Bush	Late April, 2004	55	36	9
GW Bush	Early April, 2004	53	38	9
GW Bush	<i>Gallup</i> : December, 2003	65	33	2
GW Bush	September, 2003	64	28	8
GW Bush	February, 2003	67	25	8
GW Bush	January, 2003	69	23	8
GW Bush	Early October, 2002	71	22	7
GW Bush	June, 2002	74	18	8
GW Bush	Mid-September, 2001 ⁹	85	6	9
Clinton	Early September, 1998	72	20	8

QUESTIONS 13g.F2 THROUGH 13j.F1 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

⁸ In the surveys conducted February 4-8, 2009, and April 14-21, 2009, the item was worded "the threat of terrorism."

⁹ 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.13 CONTINUED...

		<u>Approve</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
k.F2	The situation in Afghanistan			
Obama	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	36	49	15
Obama	July 22-26, 2009	47	33	19

QUESTIONS 13L.F1 THROUGH 15F2 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

RANDOMIZE Q.16-Q.17/Q.18-Q.19 IN BLOCKS

ASK ALL:

Now thinking about the nation's economy...

Q.16 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	*	8	41	50	1
September 30-October 4, 2009	1	8	43	48	1
August 11-17, 2009	*	8	38	52	2
June 10-14, 2009	1	8	39	52	1
March 9-12, 2009	*	6	25	68	1
February 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
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 ¹⁰	2	29	42	26	1

RANDOMIZE Q.16-Q.17/Q.18-Q.19 IN BLOCKS

¹⁰ Earlier trends available from Gallup.

ASK ALL:

Q.17 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>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	39	19	39	2
September 30-October 4, 2009	45	15	38	3
August 11-17, 2009	45	19	33	3
June 10-14, 2009	48	16	34	2
March 9-12, 2009	41	19	37	3
February 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
January, 2001 <i>Newsweek</i>	18	33	44	5
June, 2000	15	24	55	6
Early October, 1998 (<i>RVs</i>)	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 (<i>RVs</i>)	24	16	51	9
May, 1988	24	20	46	10
January, 1988	22	26	45	7
January, 1984 <i>Newsweek (RVs)</i>	35	13	49	3

RANDOMIZE Q.16-Q.17/Q.18-Q.19 IN BLOCKS

ASK ALL:

Now thinking about your own personal finances...

Q.18 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 Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	5	30	40	25	1
September 30-October 4, 2009	6	32	38	22	1
August 11-17, 2009	6	31	36	26	2
June 10-14, 2009	6	32	39	22	1
February 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
January, 1993 <i>U.S. News</i>	4	33	46	16	1
October, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	6	34	40	19	1
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	5	30	47	17	1
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	4	35	45	15	1
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	4	32	45	18	1

RANDOMIZE Q.16-Q.17/Q.18-Q.19 IN BLOCKS

ASK ALL:

Q.19 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.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	6	50	19	8	13	4
September 30-October 4, 2009	10	49	17	6	13	4
August 11-17, 2009	8	47	17	8	15	5
June 10-14, 2009	9	54	17	7	9	4
February 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
October, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	9	51	14	3	15	8
August, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	6	50	20	5	14	5
May, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	8	49	22	4	13	4
January, 1992 <i>U.S. News</i>	9	46	19	5	16	5

QUESTIONS 20 THROUGH 27F2 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

NO QUESTIONS 28-29

ASK ALL:

Q.30 How much, if anything, have you heard about the bills in Congress to overhaul the health care system?
[READ]

Oct 28-Nov 8 <u>2009</u>		Sep 30-Oct 4 <u>2009</u>	Sep 10-15 <u>2009</u>	Aug 20-27 <u>2009</u>	Jul 22-26 <u>2009</u>
49	A lot	46	60	53	41
42	A little [OR]	43	34	40	47
7	Nothing at all	10	5	7	10
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	1	1	1

ASK ALL:

Q.31 As of right now, do you generally favor or generally oppose the health care proposals being discussed in Congress?

ASK IF Q31 =1,2:

Q.32 Do you (favor/oppose) these health care proposals very strongly, or not so strongly?

Oct 28-Nov 8 <u>2009</u>		Sep 30-Oct 4 <u>2009</u>	Sep 10-15 <u>2009</u>	Aug 20-27 <u>2009</u>	Jul 22-26 <u>2009</u>
38	Generally favor	34	42	39	38
24	Very strongly	20	29	25	--
13	Not so strongly	13	11	13	--
1	Don't know (how strongly) (VOL.)	1	2	1	--
47	Generally oppose	47	44	46	44
34	Very strongly	35	34	34	--
12	Not so strongly	11	10	12	--
1	Don't know (how strongly) (VOL.)	1	*	1	--
15	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	19	14	15	18

NO QUESTIONS 33-35

ASK ALL:

Q.36 Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan or do you not have health insurance at this time? [READ IF NECESSARY: A health plan would include any private insurance plan through your employer or a plan that you purchased yourself, as well as a government program like Medicare or Medicaid]

Oct 28-Nov 8 <u>2009</u>		Sep 30-Oct 4 <u>2009</u>	Jul 22-26 <u>2009</u>	Jun 10-14 <u>2009</u>
80	Covered by health insurance	80	81	81
20	Not covered by health insurance	20	19	18
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	*	*	*

NO QUESTIONS 37-39

QUESTIONS 40 THROUGH 48F2 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

NO QUESTIONS 49-52

ASK ALL:

Now thinking about Afghanistan...

Q.53 Do you think the United States' initial decision to use force in Afghanistan was the right decision or the wrong decision?

Oct 28-Nov 8 <u>2009</u>		Jan 7-11 <u>2009</u> ¹¹	Feb <u>2008</u>	Dec <u>2006</u>	Jan <u>2006</u>
56	Right decision	64	65	61	69
34	Wrong decision	25	24	29	20
10	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	11	11	10	11

ASK ALL:

Q.54 How well is the U.S. military effort in Afghanistan going? [READ IN ORDER]

Oct 28-Nov 8 <u>2009</u>		Jan 7-11 <u>2009</u>	Feb <u>2008</u>
4	Very well	7	10
32	Fairly well	38	38
41	Not too well	34	31
16	Not at all well	11	10
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	10	11

ASK ALL:

Q.55 Over the next year, do you think the number of troops in Afghanistan should be increased, decreased, or kept the same as it is now?

Oct 28-Nov 8 <u>2009</u>		Jan 7-11 <u>2009</u>
32	Increased	33
40	Decreased	39
19	Kept the same as it is now	20
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8

QUESTIONS 56 THROUGH 70F2 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

¹¹ In January 2009 and earlier the question was worded: "Do you think the U.S. made the right decision or the wrong decision in using military force in Afghanistan?"

ASK ALL:

PARTY

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

IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:

PARTYLN

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

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)		
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>DK/</u>	<i>Lean</i>	<i>Lean</i>
				<u>preference</u>	<u>party</u>	<u>Ref</u>	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Dem</i>
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	27	35	32	3	*	2	13	13
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	23	34	37	3	1	3	16	14
September 10-15, 2009	23	34	34	4	*	5	13	17
August 20-27, 2009	26	32	36	3	*	3	14	16
August 11-17, 2009	23	33	38	3	*	3	16	15
July, 2009	22	34	37	5	*	2	15	14
June, 2009	25	34	34	3	*	3	11	16
May, 2009	23	39	29	4	*	4	9	14
April, 2009	22	33	39	3	*	3	13	18
March, 2009	24	34	35	5	*	2	12	17
February, 2009	24	36	34	3	1	2	13	17
January, 2009	25	37	33	3	*	2	11	16
December, 2008	26	39	30	2	*	3	8	15
Yearly Totals								
2008	25.3	35.8	31.7	3.8	.3	3.1	10.5	15.4
2007	25.4	32.9	33.7	4.6	.4	3.1	10.7	16.7
2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9	10.2	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8	10.2	14.9
2004	29.7	33.4	29.8	3.9	.4	2.9	11.7	13.4
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5	12.1	13.0
2002	30.3	31.2	30.1	5.1	.7	2.7	12.6	11.6
2001	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	.5	2.7	11.7	11.4
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28.2	34.6	29.5	5.0	.5	2.1	11.7	12.5
2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0	11.6	11.6
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.3	12.3	13.8
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2	--	--	12.7	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4	--	--	14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6	--	--	14.3	12.6
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8	--	--	11.8	14.7
1992	27.7	32.7	35.7	3.9	--	--	13.8	15.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	4.5	--	--	14.6	10.8
1990	31.0	33.1	29.1	6.8	--	--	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--