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# Obama's Job Ratings, Personal Image Unchanged by Recent Washington Events

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# Obama's Job Ratings, Personal Image Unchanged by Recent Washington Events

Neither the trouncing of the Democratic Party in the midterm elections nor the surprising legislative accomplishments of the “lame duck” Congress has had a measurable effect on opinions of Barack Obama. The president’s approval ratings have been rock steady since late August and his personal image has changed very little since the middle of last year.

Currently, 46% say they approve of how Obama is handling his job while 44% disapprove. The public is similarly divided on other general measures of his job performance. One-in-four (25%) think that in the long run, Obama will be a successful president, while about the same number (26%) believes that he will be unsuccessful. And 47% think that Obama’s accomplishments will be good for the country in the long run, compared with 42% who do not.

At a comparable point in his presidency, the public took a less negative view of Ronald Reagan’s accomplishments; in January 1983, 50% said the things he had done would be good for the country compared with 31% who said they would be bad.

However, Americans are more upbeat about Obama’s presidency than they were about Bill Clinton two years into his first term. In February 1995, just 18% thought Clinton would be a successful president while nearly twice as many (34%) said he would be unsuccessful.

## Obama's Job Ratings, Personal Image Little Changed

	Jan 2010	Jun 2010	Jan 2011	Jun-Jan change
<i>Job approval ...</i>	%	%	%	
<b>Overall job</b>	49	48	46	-2
<i>Approval on issues ...</i>				
Threat of terrorism	51	--	55	--
Energy policy	45	45	46	+1
Iraq	45	45	46	+1
Health care	38	42	45	+3
Afghanistan	45	45	44	-1
Dealing with Iran	--	--	42	--
Tax policy	--	--	42	--
Economy	42	43	42	-1
Dealing with China	--	--	39	--
Immigration policy	30	33	35	+2
Budget deficit	32	35	35	0
<i>Personal image ...</i>				
Stands up for what he believe in	--	--	77	--
Good communicator	83	77	75	-2
Warm and friendly	77	68	70	+2
Well informed	69	67	64	-3
Cares about people	64	60	60	0
Trustworthy	61	58	58	0
Able to get things done	57	55	54	-1
Strong leader	62	53	53	0

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 5-9, 2011; Jan. 6-9, 2011 Omnibus.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Jan. 5-9 among 1,503 adults, was largely completed before the Jan. 8

shootings in Tucson that killed six and left Rep. Gabrielle Giffords critically wounded. The survey finds that while the public is divided over Obama's job performance, his personal image remains on balance positive.

Solid majorities continue to characterize the president as a good communicator (75%), warm and friendly (70%), well-informed (64%), as caring about people like them (60%), trustworthy (58%), and able to get things done (54%). And on balance, more say Obama is a strong leader (53%) than say he is not (41%).

One area of relative consensus is that Obama sticks to his convictions. By an overwhelming 77% to 16% margin, Obama is seen as "someone who stands up for what he believes in." This view is shared by 89% of Democrats (including nearly identical percentages of liberals and non-liberals), 79% of independents and 67% of Republicans.

Ratings of Obama's performance across a range of specific issues are less glowing. Most approve of his handling of terrorist threats and a narrow plurality gives him the nod when it comes to energy policy. But public reactions are mixed across a host of other issues -- his handling of Iraq, Afghanistan, Iran and China internationally, and his handling of health care and tax policy domestically. And substantially more disapprove than approve of Obama's handling of the economy, the budget deficit and immigration policy.

While Obama's overall job performance measure has held steady since the midterm election, this has not been the case for the Republican congressional leaders. The new survey finds the public disapproving of their policies and plans for the future by a 43% to 34% margin. Just two months ago, in a [poll](#) taken days after the election, the public had a more positive view: 41% approved, 37% disapproved.

Changing views of the GOP's policy agenda are most noticeable among moderate and liberal Republicans, who approved of party leaders' plans by 78% to 3% in November. Today, 57% of moderate and liberal Republicans approve

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### Moderate Republicans Less Happy with Party Leaders

<i>View of Republican leaders' policies and plans for the future</i>	<b>Nov 2010</b>	<b>Jan 2011</b>	<b>Change</b>
	%	%	
Approve	41	34	-7
Disapprove	37	43	+7
Don't know	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	
	100	100	
<i>Approval among...</i>			
Conservative Republican	78	75	-3
Mod/Lib Republican	78	57	-21
Independent	39	30	-9
Cons/Mod Democrat	14	14	0
Liberal Democrat	10	12	+2

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 5-9, 2011. Q3. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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while 22% disapprove. Independents, too, have grown more dissatisfied with the GOP's direction; shortly after the election, about as many independents approved (39%) as disapproved (35%) of the GOP's plans and policies for the future. Today, 30% approve while 45% disapprove.

The public continues to say they want Obama and Republican leaders to work together, but there is considerable skepticism that this will occur. About six-in-ten (61%) say GOP leaders should try to work with Obama to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing some groups of Republican supporters. A similar percentage (65%) says Obama should do the same in working with Republicans.

But by roughly two-to-one (63% to 30%), most Americans think Republicans and Democrats will end up bickering and opposing one another more than usual this year. This is a far more pessimistic view than the public expressed two years ago. Shortly before Obama took office in January 2009, just 39% predicted increased partisanship, while half (50%) thought Republicans and Democrats would work together more than usual over the course of that year.

On balance, most (58%) Republicans and Republican-leaning independents continue to say that their party's leadership should "stand up to Obama" this year, but there is a sharp division of opinion within the party base. Republicans who agree with the Tea Party movement favor standing up to Obama by three-to-one (72% vs. 24% who want to work with Obama). Republicans who disagree or have no opinion about the Tea Party are divided: 51% say GOP leaders should try to work with Obama, while 46% say they should stand up to Obama.

Asked about the influence of members of Congress who support the Tea Party, most Americans (55%) say either they will not have an effect (39%) or offer no opinion (16%). Of those offering an opinion, more say lawmakers who support the Tea Party will have a positive effect (27%) than a negative one (18%).

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### Tea Party Republicans Continue to Resist Compromise

	<i>Rep/Rep Leaners</i>		
	All	Agree w/ Tea Party	No Opinion/Disagree
<i>GOP leaders should...</i>	%	%	%
Work with Obama	38	24	51
Stand up to Obama	58	72	46
Don't know	4	4	3
	100	100	100
	<i>Dem/Dem Leaners</i>		
	All	Liberal	Mod/Cons
<i>Obama should...</i>	%	%	%
Work with Republicans	47	46	48
Stand up to Republicans	47	49	46
Don't know	6	5	6
	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 5-9, 2011. Q41F1, Q42F2.  
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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In general, the Tea Party has as many opponents as supporters; 24% say they agree with the Tea Party movement, 22% say they disagree. In March of last year, when the Pew Research Center first measured views of the movement, the same percentage said they agreed with the Tea Party movement, but fewer (14%) disagreed.

Asked to describe the Tea Party in a single word, respondents offer a range of descriptors. The most frequently used words are *good*, *radical*, *crazy*, *OK* and *ridiculous*. In April of last year, the top five words used were *great*, *interesting*, *patriotic*, *good* and *ridiculous*.

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### Tea Party in a Word

April, 2010	January, 2011
Great	Good
Interesting	Radical
Patriotic	Crazy
Good	OK
Ridiculous	Ridiculous

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan 5-9, 2011. QA. Most frequent one-word descriptions of the Tea Party.

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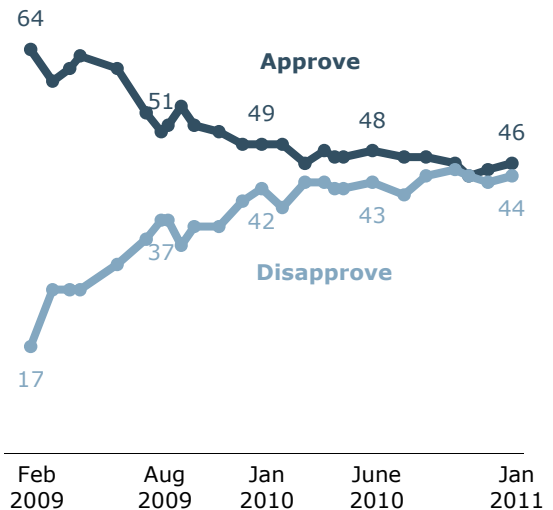
## SECTION 1: VIEWS OF OBAMA

The past year has seen a series of momentous political events – rising unemployment, passage of controversial health care legislation, a sweeping defeat for Democrats in the midterm elections and a historically active lame-duck session of Congress. But the public's impression of Barack Obama has remained remarkably steady. At the start of 2010, 49% of Americans approved of Obama's job performance, while 42% disapproved. At the start of 2011, these figures are hardly changed: 46% approve, 44% disapprove.

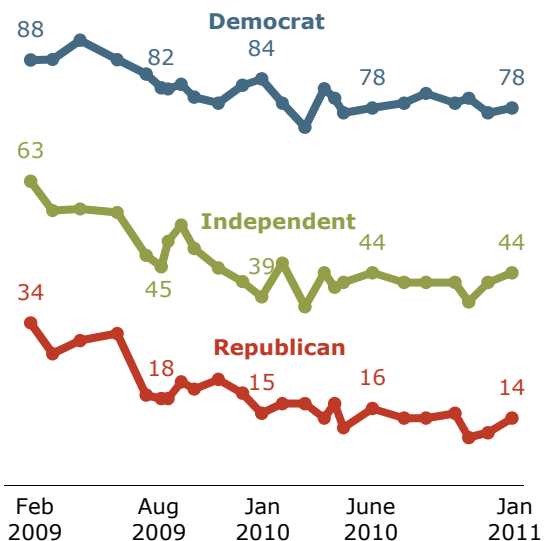
The relative stability of Obama's ratings is evident even when party identification is taken into account. Currently, 78% of Democrats, 44% of independents and 14% of Republicans approve of Obama's job performance. This is virtually identical to measures taken in June of last year, and little changed from a year ago. In January 2010, 84% of Democrats approved of Obama's jobs performance, a figure which fell as low as 74% in March, during the debate over health care reform. But Democratic ratings of Obama rebounded after the passage of that legislation, and have remained stable since then.

Obama's job ratings among independents also reached an all-time low of 37% in March 2010. His ratings rebounded in the spring but declined again, to 38%, in November following the Democrats' midterm defeat. But since November, Obama's job rating among independents has climbed back to 44%. Obama's job ratings among Republicans have remained below 20% over the past year.

### Obama's Job Approval



### Job Approval by Party



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## Obama's Personal Image Remains Positive

Assessments of President Obama's personal image have also changed little over the past year and remain, on balance, positive. Most Americans see Obama as a good communicator (75%), as warm and friendly (70%) and as well-informed (64%). Six-in-ten (60%) say he cares about people like them, while 58% say he is trustworthy. Those numbers largely mirror responses in June. Still, each has dropped by at least 15 points since Obama took office in early 2009.

In a new question, more than three-quarters (77%) say Obama stands up for what he believes in, while only 16% say he does not. The public is more narrowly divided when asked whether he is a strong leader or able to get things done. Just more than half (53%) say he is a strong leader, 41% say he is not. And 54% say he is able to get things done, while 38% disagree.

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### Views of President's Personal Traits: Obama and His Predecessors

	<b>Bill Clinton</b>			<b>George W. Bush</b>			<b>Barack Obama</b>				
	Jan <u>1993</u>	July <u>1994</u>	Aug <u>1997</u>	Feb <u>2001</u>	Sep <u>2003</u>	Aug <u>2006</u>	Feb <u>2009</u>	Sep <u>2009</u>	Jan <u>2010</u>	Jun <u>2010</u>	Jan <u>2011</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Stands up for what he believes in	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	77
Doesn't stand up for what he believes	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	16
Neither/Don't know	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6
A good communicator	84	--	--	--	--	--	92	83	83	77	75
Not a good communicator	11	--	--	--	--	--	6	13	14	20	21
Neither/Don't know	5	--	--	--	--	--	2	4	3	3	5
Warm and friendly	90	85	--	67	70	--	87	78	77	68	70
Cold and aloof	7	11	--	21	23	--	8	16	16	26	23
Neither/Don't know	3	4	--	12	7	--	5	6	7	6	7
Well-informed	79	57	--	62	59	46	79	70	69	67	64
Not well-informed	14	38	--	27	36	46	15	23	26	30	31
Neither/Don't know	7	5	--	11	5	8	6	6	5	4	6
Cares about people like me	--	--	--	--	56	41	81	68	64	60	60
Doesn't care	--	--	--	--	38	53	14	25	30	35	34
Neither/Don't know	--	--	--	--	6	6	5	7	5	5	6
Trustworthy	63	46	47	60	62	41	76	64	61	58	58
Not trustworthy	29	49	47	28	32	52	15	30	31	37	36
Neither/Don't know	8	5	6	12	6	7	9	6	7	4	6
Able to get things done	--	40	64	60	68	42	70	58	57	55	54
Not able to get things done	--	56	29	18	26	51	15	31	35	39	38
Neither/Don't know	--	4	7	22	6	7	15	11	8	6	8
A strong leader	--	--	--	--	68	43	77	65	62	53	53
Not a strong leader	--	--	--	--	29	52	13	29	32	42	41
Neither/Don't know	--	--	--	--	3	5	10	7	5	5	6

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In June, 55% said Obama was able to get things done and 53% said he was a strong leader. In February 2009, shortly after he took office, about three quarters (77%) said they saw Obama as a strong leader. Seven-in-ten at that time said they thought he was able to get things done.

## Liberal Dems Say Obama Stands Up for Beliefs

Democrats offer highly positive assessments of Obama on all the traits measured. Nearly nine-in-ten say he stands up for what he believes in (89%), is warm and friendly (88%), is a good communicator (87%) and that he cares about people like them (85%). Nearly eight-in-ten (79%) say he is a strong leader, while 74% say he is able to get things done.

And, despite criticism of his agreement with congressional Republicans on end-of-year legislation that included an extension of Bush-era income tax cuts for the wealthy, liberal

Democrats are just as likely as conservative and moderate Democrats to say that Obama stands up for what he believes in (88% vs. 90%).

Republicans also give Obama high ratings for standing up for his beliefs (67%) and his communication skills (63%), but are more critical of other traits. Just 30% see him as a strong leader, compared with 66% say he is not. And just more than a third say he cares about people like them (35%) or is able to get things done (36%).

The single largest partisan gap in impressions of Obama is over his trustworthiness.

### Largest Partisan Gap in Views of Obama's Trustworthiness

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	R-D diff
	%	%	%	%	%
Stands up for what he believes in	77	67	89	79	-22
Doesn't stand up for what he believes	16	26	6	17	+20
A good communicator	75	63	87	74	-24
Not a good communicator	21	34	9	22	+25
Warm and friendly	70	55	88	68	-33
Cold and aloof	23	38	7	27	+31
Well-informed	64	45	83	63	-38
Not well-informed	31	51	13	32	+38
Cares about people like me	60	35	85	59	-50
Doesn't care	34	60	10	36	+50
Trustworthy	58	27	86	57	-59
Not trustworthy	36	66	10	36	+56
Able to get things done	54	36	74	53	-38
Not able to get things done	38	59	17	40	+42
A strong leader	53	30	79	50	-49
Not a strong leader	41	66	16	44	+50

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By an 86% to 10% margin, Democrats believe Obama is trustworthy. About a quarter (27%) of Republicans say he is trustworthy, while two-thirds (66%) say he is not.

On most of these questions, the gap between Democrats and Republicans is largely unchanged since June, with two exceptions where Republican impressions have improved slightly. The number of Republicans who describe Obama as a strong leader has increased slightly from 22% in June to 30% today. And more Republicans also say Obama is able to get things done (29% in June, 36% today).

Opinions among independents largely reflect the public as a whole and are little changed since June. Three-quarters (74%) see the president as a good communicator, 68% say he is warm and friendly, 63% say he is well informed and 57% say he is trustworthy. On the new question, nearly eight-in-ten (79%) say he stands up for what he believes in. Half of independents see him as a strong leader, while 44% do not. That is largely unchanged since June.

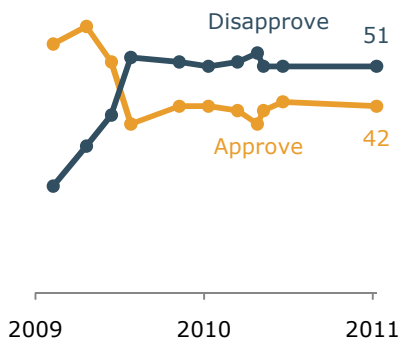
## **Obama and the Issues**

As with Obama's overall job approval, there has been little change in public evaluations of his performance on specific issues. More disapprove than approve when it comes to his handling of the economy, the deficit, and immigration policy. More approve than disapprove on the issues of energy and terrorism.

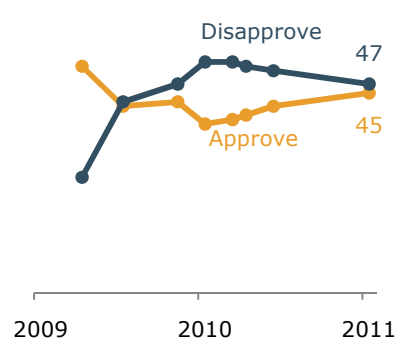
One issue on which Obama's performance is rated significantly more positively today than a year ago is health care. In January 2010, just 38% of Americans approved of Obama's handling of health care policy, while 52% disapproved. Today, opinion is divided about evenly, with 45% approving and 47% disapproving. Much of this improvement is the result of greater Democratic satisfaction; a year ago just 64% of Democrats approved of how Obama was handling health care policy; today 80% approve. By comparison, the share of independents who approve of Obama's handling of health care is little changed over the past year (39% today, 34% in January 2010), and only 18% of Republicans approve, up from 10% a year ago.

## Obama Approval on Issues

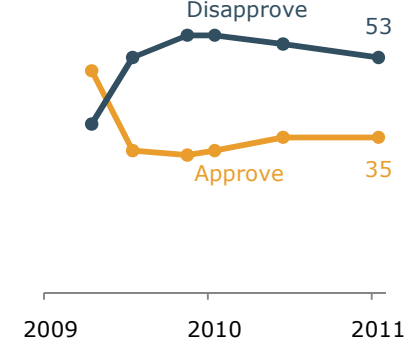
**The Economy**



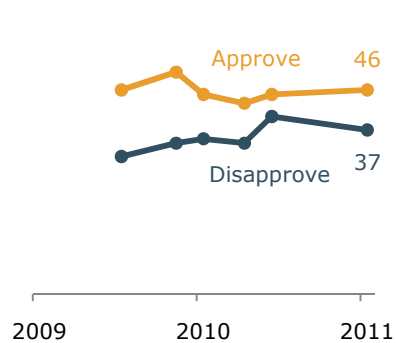
**Health Care Policy**



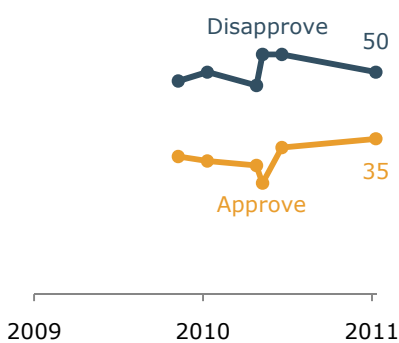
**The Budget Deficit**



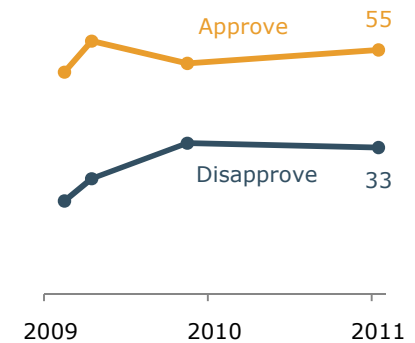
**Energy Policy**



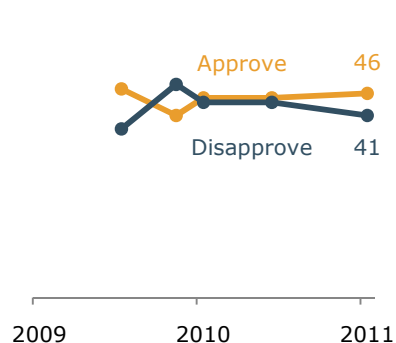
**Immigration Policy**



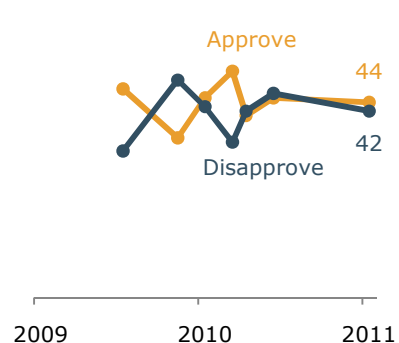
**The Threat of Terrorism**



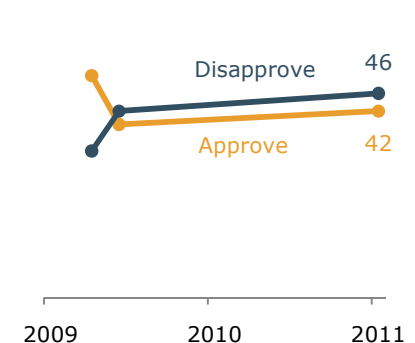
**The Situation in Iraq**



**The Situation in Afghanistan**



**Dealing with Iran**



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 6-9, 2010 Omnibus.

## Will Obama Be a Successful President?

Halfway into Obama's first term, a plurality (47%) of the public still says it is too early to tell whether he will be a successful or unsuccessful president in the long run.

Opinion is divided among those who offer an expectation about his presidency – 25% think he will be a successful president while 26% say he will be unsuccessful in the long run. These views are little changed from a year ago.

The public is more positive about Obama's prospects for success than they were about Bill Clinton's at a comparable point in his first term, just a few months after the 1994 midterm elections. In February 1995, only 18% thought Clinton would be a successful president while 34% thought he would be unsuccessful and 43% said it was too early to tell. By Clinton's second term, the public's views about his presidency were much more positive – 44% thought he would be a successful president, 24% thought he would be unsuccessful and 29% said it was too early to tell in January 1999.

George W. Bush, by contrast, got far more positive ratings early in his presidency. In October 2002, 40% thought he would be a successful president while 15% thought he would be unsuccessful and 44% thought it was too early to tell. Opinion was reversed by the middle of his second term; far more thought Bush would be unsuccessful (45%) than successful (24%).

There are large partisan differences over Obama's potential for success as president. Far more Republicans think Obama will be unsuccessful (44%) than say he will be successful (8%). Opinion is reversed among Democrats (45% of Democrats say Obama will be successful and only 7% think he will be unsuccessful). Independents are divided – 21% think he will be successful, 30% say he will be unsuccessful and 48% think it is too early to tell.

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### Public Divided Over Obama's Long-Term Prospects

	<b>Clinton Feb 1995</b>	<b>Jan 2009</b>	<b>Obama Jan 2010</b>	<b>Jan 2011</b>
	%	%	%	%
Successful	18	30	24	25
Unsuccessful	34	4	21	26
Too early to tell	43	65	52	47
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100

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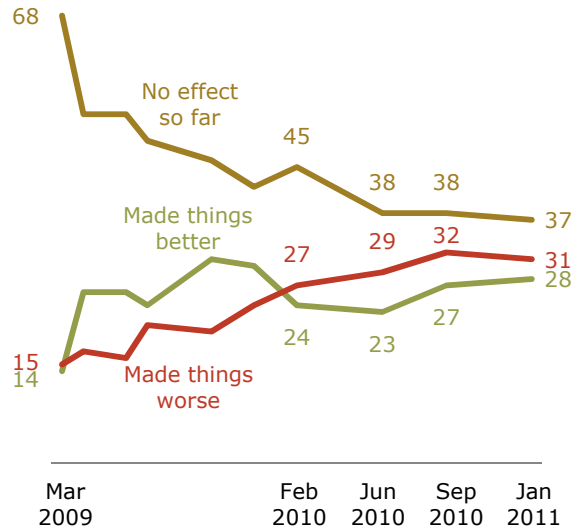
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## Views of Obama’s Economic Policies

The public is divided over the effect of Obama’s policies on economic conditions – 28% say his policies have made economic conditions better while 31% say they have made conditions worse. A plurality (37%) continues to say his policies have not had an effect so far or volunteer that it is too soon to tell.

While the share of Americans who believe Obama’s policies have had an effect has grown, there is been little change in the balance of opinion over the past year. In February 2010, 24% said Obama’s policies had made economic conditions better, 27% said they had made things worse. Earlier, over much of 2009, slightly more felt his policies had helped than hurt.

### Effect of Obama’s Economic Policies So Far



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 "No effect so far" responses combined with those who volunteer "too soon to tell."

There continue to be partisan differences in evaluations of the effect of Obama’s economic policies. Most Democrats say either that Obama’s policies have made the economy better (46%) or have had no effect so far or it is too soon to tell (40%). Just 11% of Republicans say Obama’s policies have made things better and 28% say they have had no effect; a majority (59%) says Obama’s policies have made things worse.

Yet there are sizable differences in opinion among both Democrats and Republicans. Far more liberal Democrats (58%) than conservative and moderate Democrats (41%) say Obama’s economic policies have made things better. Among Republicans, 68% of conservatives say Obama’s policies have made things worse compared with 42% of moderate and liberals.

### Sharp Ideological Divide Over Impact of Obama Economic Policies

	Made things better	Made things worse	No effect so far	DK
	%	%	%	%
Total	28	31	37	4=100
Republican	11	59	28	2=100
Conservative	6	68	22	3=100
Moderate/Liberal	20	42	37	1=100
Democrat	46	9	40	5=100
Conserv./Mod	41	10	44	6=100
Liberal	58	6	32	4=100
Independent	27	30	39	3=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 5-9, 2011. Q22. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. "No effect so far" responses combined with those who volunteer "too soon to tell."

### Health Care Seen as Biggest Accomplishment

When asked to choose Obama and Congress’s biggest legislative accomplishment over the last two years, there is no consensus among the public. A quarter (25%) says the health care legislation, 21% say extending tax cuts and 18% mention the economic stimulus package as the biggest accomplishment. Fewer think allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military (11%) and the financial regulation legislation (9%) are the biggest accomplishments of the last two years.

Among Republicans, 33% think extending the tax cuts was Obama and Congress’s biggest legislative accomplishment while 15% said the

### Obama and Congress’s Biggest Accomplishment

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Health care legislation	25	9	40	23
Extending tax cuts	21	33	10	23
Economic stimulus	18	15	22	16
Allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military	11	10	10	14
Financial regulation	9	9	10	9
Other	1	1	1	1
None	7	14	1	7
Don't know	8	8	7	7
	100	100	100	100
N	1503	429	454	525

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 5-9, 2011. Q45. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

economic stimulus package and only 9% mentioned the health care legislation. When offered these choices, 14% of Republicans said none of these was a big accomplishment.

Democrats cited health care legislation as the top accomplishment – 40% said health care legislation, 22% the economic stimulus package and 10% said they thought extending the tax cuts was Obama and Congress's biggest accomplishment. Independents are divided with as many citing health care legislation (23%) as extending the tax cuts (23%).

## SECTION 2: VIEWS OF THE NEW CONGRESS

As Congress begins with a new Republican majority in the House of Representatives, about a third (34%) of Americans approve of GOP congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future; 43% disapprove. Public approval of Republican plans has declined by seven points since the party won back the House in November's election; two months ago 41% approved and 37% disapproved of their plans.

About seven-in-ten (69%) Republicans now approve of their party leadership's plans and policies, compared with just 13% of Democrats. And while 30% of independents approve of GOP leaders' plans, far more (45%) disapprove.

Since November, approval of Republican plans has declined among moderate and liberal Republicans, while approval among conservative Republicans is little changed. Currently, 57% of moderate and liberal Republicans approve of GOP leaders' policies, down 21 points since November. Opinion among conservative Republicans has changed little over this period (78% approved in November, 75% today).

Over the same time frame, approval of the GOP congressional agenda has dropped by nine points among independents (from 39% to 30%). Republican-leaning independents are far less supportive of Republican plans and policies than they were in November; 50% currently approve, down from 67% two months ago. Approval among Democratic-leaning independents – and Democrats – has not changed significantly since November (currently 17% and 13%, respectively).

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### Modest Support for GOP's Policies and Plans for the Future

	Approve %	Disapprove %	DK %
Total	34	43	22=100
Republican	69	13	18=100
Conservative Rep	75	8	16=100
Mod/Lib Rep	57	22	21=100
Democrat	13	68	19=100
Cons/Mod Dem	14	66	20=100
Liberal Dem	12	76	12=100
Independent	30	45	25=100
Lean Republican	50	25	26=100
Lean Democrat	17	66	17=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 5-9 2011. Q3.  
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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## More Partisan Bickering Expected

The public is pessimistic about the relationships between the two parties in Washington over the coming year. By about a two-to-one margin, more say that Republicans and Democrats in the capital will bicker and oppose one another more than usual (63%) rather than

work together more to solve problems (30%). At the start of the Obama administration and the last Congress two years ago, more Americans predicted increased cooperation than opposition (50% vs. 39%). The current predictions are roughly on par with the public's forecasts at the start of George W. Bush's second term in January 2005.

Opinions about the expected level of cooperation between the parties are about the same across partisan groups: Only about three-in-ten Republicans (30%), Democrats (28%) or independents (30%) say they expect the parties in Washington to work together more in 2011. This is comparable to partisan opinions in January 2005. In January 2009, all groups were more optimistic about improving relations than they are today, although Democrats were considerably more positive about prospects for partisan cooperation than were Republicans.

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### Public Predicts Contentious Year in Washington

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

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 5-9 2011. Q23. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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### Republicans and Democrats Agree: Not Much Cooperation This Year

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

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 5-9 2011. Q23. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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## Most Want Opposing Sides in Washington to Cooperate

Despite gloomy forecasts about whether the two parties will work together this year, majorities would like to see Republican leaders and Barack Obama try to work with each other, even if it means disappointing some of their supporters.

About six-in-ten (61%) say Republican leaders should try as best they can to work with Obama; 33% say GOP leadership should stand up to Obama, even if it means less gets done in Washington. Opinions about Obama working with Republican leaders are similar: 65% say Obama should work with GOP leadership, even if it means disappointing some Democratic supporters; 28% say he should stand up to Republicans even if it means less gets done in Washington. The public's appetite for bipartisanship is about the same as it was immediately after the November election.

Independents, in particular, want to see Obama and Republican leadership working together. Two-thirds (67%) say Republican congressional leadership should work with Obama, while about the same percentage (68%) says Obama should work with Republican leaders.

While Democrats are divided about what Obama should do (46% say work with the GOP, 47% say stand up to them), Republicans are about twice as likely to say their leadership should stand up to Obama as to say it should work with him (65% vs. 30%).

Republicans and Republican-leaning independents who agree with the Tea Party overwhelmingly favor GOP leaders standing up to Obama; 72% express this view, while

### Majorities Want to See Obama and GOP Leaders Working Together

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
<i>Republican leaders should</i>	%	%	%	%
Work with Obama	61	30	82	67
Stand up to Obama	33	65	12	29
Don't know	6	4	6	5
	100	100	100	100
N	737	213	224	255
<i>Barack Obama should</i>				
Work with Rep leaders	65	85	46	68
Stand up to Rep leaders	28	9	47	25
Don't know	7	6	7	6
	100	100	100	100
N	766	216	230	270

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 5-9, 2011. Q41F1 & Q42F2.  
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

### Tea Party Republicans Much Less Open to Compromise

	<i>GOP leaders in Washington should...</i>		
	Work with Obama	Stand up to Obama	DK
<i>Among Republicans/Republican leaners</i>	%	%	%
All	38	58	4=100
<i>Tea Party</i>			
Agree with	24	72	4=100
Disagree/No opinion	51	46	3=100
Tea/Not Tea diff	-27	+26	

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 5-9, 2011. Q41F1.

just 24% favor GOP leaders working with Obama. By contrast, opinions are more divided among other Republicans and GOP leaners (46% stand up to Obama, 51% work with Obama).

## Impressions of the Tea Party

The Tea Party movement draws a range of reactions when people are asked to describe their impression of it in a single word. Although no one word is mentioned by more than 2% of people, among the most commonly mentioned words are some positive (*good, great*), some negative (*radical, crazy, ridiculous*) and some neutral (*OK, undecided, confused, conservative*). In April 2010, the balance of the top words mentioned was somewhat more positive (*great, interesting, patriots, good, needed*), although less flattering words were also relatively high on the list (*ridiculous, misinformed, radical, stupid*).

Not surprisingly, these descriptors differ between those who agree and disagree with the movement. Among those who agree with the Tea Party, the top words are all positive (*good, great, hopeful, patriotic, impressed*), while those who disagree with the movement volunteer more negative words (*radical, ridiculous, crazy, extreme, idiots, nuts, scary*).

The top descriptors used by those who don't have a strong opinion of the movement reflect their relative unfamiliarity (*OK, undecided, unknown, interesting*)

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### Tea Party in a Word: Views of Supporters and Opponents

	Agree with Tea Party (24%)	Disagree with Tea Party (23%)	No opinion/ Not heard of (53%)
#	#	#	#
14	Good/Good thing	8	Radical
8	Great	8	OK
6	Hopeful	8	Ridiculous
6	Patriotic/Patriots	7	Crazy
5	Impressed	5	Extreme/Extremists
4	Conservative	5	Hate/Hateful
4	Constitution	5	Idiots
4	Encouraging	5	Nuts
4	Favorable	5	Scary
4	Grassroots		
4	Positive		
N	199	180	358

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 5-9, 2011. QA. NOTE: These are the numbers of respondents who offered each of the top responses. These are **NOT** percentages.

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## Tea Party's Impact on Congress

Most Americans (55%) say either that Tea Party supporters in Congress either will not have much of an effect on the institution (39%) or offer no response (16%). Among those who do see Tea Party supporters having an impact, 27% think it will be positive and 18% say it will be negative.

Nearly half of Republicans (48%) say members associated with the Tea Party movement will have a positive effect, compared with 29% of independents and just 10% of Democrats.

### Many Expect Tea Party Supporters To Have Little Impact on Congress

<i>The effect of Tea Party supporters in Congress will be mostly_____</i>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>
	%	%	%	%
Positive	27	48	10	29
Negative	18	8	30	14
Not much effect	39	30	46	39
Don't know	<u>16</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>18</u>
	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 5-9, 2011. Q11. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Among Republicans and Republican leaners who

agree with the Tea Party, more than three-quarters (77%) say supporters of the movement in Congress will have a positive effect on the institution. Other Republicans and Republican leaners offer more muted predictions. While they are more likely to say the effect on Congress will be positive (22%) than negative (11%), nearly half (46%) say the presence of Tea Party supporters in Congress will not have much of an effect.

## GOP Investigations Backed

About six-in-ten Americans (63%) say they have heard either a lot (15%) or a little (48%) about the plans by Republican leaders in Congress to open major investigations into how the government has operated under the Obama administration. In a separate survey conducted concurrently, the [Pew Research Center's News Interest Index](#) finds that these plans rank lower in public awareness than other items on the GOP's agenda, including efforts to repeal the health care law (49% heard a lot, 32% a little) and proposed spending cuts (31% heard a lot, 41% a little).

Republicans are more likely than Democrats to have heard about these plans (71% of Republicans vs. 59% of Democrats have heard at least a little). Awareness is particularly high among conservative Republicans: Eight-in-ten (80%) have heard about these plans. That compares with just 58% of moderate and liberal Republicans. About six-in-ten independents (63%) have heard about the plans.

Among those who have heard a lot or a little, 56% say opening major investigations is the right thing to do, while 32% say it is the wrong thing to do. Nearly three-quarters of Republicans (73%) say it is the right thing, compared with a smaller majority of independents (52% right thing, 33% wrong thing). Democrats are more divided (41% say it is the right thing to do, 51% say it is the wrong thing).

### Most Who Are Aware of Planned GOP Investigations See Them as Right Thing

<i>Heard about GOP plans for major investigations of Obama administration?</i>	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
A lot	15	15	14	17
A little	48	56	45	46
Nothing at all	35	28	39	35
Don't know	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100
N	766	216	230	270
<i>Are these investigations...*</i>				
The right thing to do	56	73	41	52
The wrong thing to do	32	16	51	33
Too early to tell (Vol.)	1	*	1	2
Don't know	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	100	100	100
N	507	156	149	174

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 5-9 2011. Q12 & Q13.  
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.  
 \* Based on those who have heard a lot or a little.

## About the Survey

Most of the analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted January 5-9, 2011 among a national sample of 1,503 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States (1,000 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 503 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 235 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://people-press.org/methodology/detailed>.

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2010 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status and relative usage of landline and cell phones (for those with both), based on extrapolations from the 2010 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 sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Sample Size</b>	<b>Plus or minus ...</b>
Total sample	1503	3.0 percentage points
Form 1	737	4.5 percentage points
Form 2	766	4.5 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.

In addition to the main survey, this report is supplemented with results from an omnibus survey. Telephone interviews were conducted January 6-9, 2011 among a national sample of 1,018 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States (687 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 331 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 136 who had no landline telephone). Interviewing was conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. Both the landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English.

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2010 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample also is weighted to match current patterns of telephone status and relative usage of landline and cell phones (for those with both), based on extrapolations from the 2010 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 sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Sample Size</b>	<b>Plus or minus ...</b>
Total sample	1018	4.0 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 Pew Research Center for the People & the Press

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:

Andrew Kohut, Director  
Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research  
Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors  
Michael Remez, Senior Writer  
Leah Christian and Jocelyn Kiley, Senior Researchers  
Robert Suls, Shawn Neidorf, and Alec Tyson, Research Associates  
Jacob Poushter, Research Analyst  
Danielle Gewurz, Research Assistant

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## PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL TABLE

Q1: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handing his job as president?

Q1a: Do you (approve/disapprove) very strongly, or not so strongly?

	<u>Approve</u> %	<u>Very</u> <u>strongly</u> %	<u>Not so</u> <u>strongly/</u> <u>DK/Ref</u> %	<u>Dis-</u> <u>approve</u>	<u>Very</u> <u>strongly</u> %	<u>Not so</u> <u>strongly/</u> <u>DK/Ref</u> %	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> %	<u>N</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	46	27	18	44	30	14	10	1503
<b>SEX</b>								
Men	46	26	19	44	29	15	10	694
Women	46	29	18	44	31	13	10	809
<b>AGE</b>								
18-49	46	26	21	43	26	17	11	653
50+	45	30	16	45	35	10	10	833
<b>DETAILED AGE</b>								
18-29	50	25	24	41	18	23	9	217
30-49	44	26	19	44	31	13	12	436
50-64	47	31	16	45	34	11	8	472
65+	43	28	15	45	36	10	12	361
<b>SEX BY AGE</b>								
Men 18-49	47	24	23	43	25	19	10	340
Men 50+	44	29	15	45	35	10	11	348
Women 18-49	46	27	19	43	28	15	11	313
Women 50+	46	30	16	45	34	11	9	485
<b>RACE</b>								
White, non-Hispanic	37	20	17	53	38	16	10	1135
Black, non-Hispanic	92	75	17	4	0	3	4	131
Hispanic	54	28	26	33	15	18	13	112
<b>EDUCATION</b>								
College grad+	46	26	21	45	33	12	8	542
Some college	42	27	15	49	37	11	9	397
HS or less	48	29	19	41	24	16	12	560
<b>INCOME</b>								
\$75,000+	44	24	20	48	36	12	8	432
\$30,000-\$74,999	45	28	17	46	31	15	9	474
<\$30,000	51	31	20	37	23	14	12	429
<b>RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE</b>								
Total White NH Prot.	27	14	13	61	45	16	12	627
White NH evang. Prot.	17	8	9	69	53	16	14	314
White NH mainline Prot.	38	20	18	53	37	16	10	313
Total Catholic	44	24	20	45	29	16	11	330
White NH Cath.	40	22	18	50	40	11	10	246
Unaffiliated	62	36	26	30	14	16	8	231
<b>REGION</b>								
Northeast	55	31	25	39	24	15	6	303
Midwest	44	27	17	42	28	13	14	369
South	43	28	15	47	34	13	10	571
West	43	23	20	46	31	16	10	260



## PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL TABLE

Q1: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handing his job as president?

Q1a: Do you (approve/disapprove) very strongly, or not so strongly?

	<u>Approve</u> %	<u>Very</u> <u>strongly</u> %	<u>Not so</u> <u>strongly/</u> <u>DK/Ref</u> %	<u>Dis-</u> <u>approve</u>	<u>Very</u> <u>strongly</u> %	<u>Not so</u> <u>strongly/</u> <u>DK/Ref</u> %	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> %	<u>N</u>
<b>REGISTERED VOTER</b>								
Yes, certain	45	28	18	46	34	12	9	1214
Not registered	47	27	20	38	18	20	15	289
<b>PARTY ID</b>								
Republican	14	7	7	78	59	19	8	429
Democrat	78	52	26	15	6	9	8	454
Independent	44	25	19	45	29	16	12	525
<b>PARTY WITH LEANERS</b>								
Rep/Lean Rep	15	7	8	77	58	19	8	670
Dem/Lean Dem	76	48	28	16	6	10	9	660
<b>IDEOLOGY</b>								
Conservative	29	17	13	64	49	15	7	643
Moderate	53	32	21	36	19	17	10	522
Liberal	72	45	26	18	9	9	10	267
<b>PARTY AND IDEOLOGY</b>								
Conservative Republican	7	4	4	87	70	17	6	295
Mod/Lib Republican	27	14	13	63	39	24	10	125
Mod/Cons Democrat	77	51	26	16	6	10	7	291
Liberal Democrat	80	54	26	12	5	7	8	148
<b>TEA PARTY MOVEMENT</b>								
Agree	16	7	9	78	65	13	6	419
Disagree	81	54	27	12	7	5	6	363
No opinion/Don't know	45	26	19	42	23	19	13	700

## PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL TABLE

Q1: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handing his job as president?

Q1a: Do you (approve/disapprove) very strongly, or not so strongly?

	<u>Approve</u> %	<u>Very</u> <u>strongly</u> %	<u>Not so</u> <u>strongly/</u> <u>DK/Ref</u> %	<u>Dis-</u> <u>approve</u>	<u>Very</u> <u>strongly</u> %	<u>Not so</u> <u>strongly/</u> <u>DK/Ref</u> %	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> %	<u>N</u>
<b>LABOR UNION</b>								
Member in HH	47	33	14	38	31	7	15	169
Not a member	46	27	19	45	30	15	9	1321
<b>AMONG WHITES</b>								
Men	38	19	19	53	36	17	9	495
Women	35	20	15	54	39	15	11	640
18-49	36	17	19	54	35	20	10	433
50+	38	22	15	53	41	12	9	694
College grad+	43	22	21	49	36	13	8	444
Some college or less	34	18	15	55	38	17	11	691
\$75,000+	40	20	20	54	40	14	7	360
\$30,000-\$74,999	38	20	17	55	38	17	7	373
<\$30,000	37	20	18	48	33	16	14	274
Republican	11	6	6	83	64	19	6	378
Democrat	74	45	29	18	8	10	8	378
Independent	35	18	18	53	34	19	12	378
Northeast	49	26	22	47	31	16	5	241
Midwest	36	19	17	49	34	15	15	301
South	31	17	14	60	44	16	9	413
West	35	18	17	56	39	17	10	180

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**JANUARY 2011 POLITICAL SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**January 5-9, 2011**  
**N=1503**

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

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

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

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

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

**BASED ON TOTAL:**

Jan 5-9 <u>2011</u>		Aug 25-Sep 6 <u>2010</u>	Jun 16-20 <u>2010</u>	Jan 6-10 <u>2010</u>	Apr 14-21 <u>2009</u>
46	Approve	47	48	49	63
27	Very strongly	28	29	30	45
16	Not so strongly	17	17	15	13
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	2	3	5
44	Disapprove	44	43	42	26
30	Very strongly	32	31	30	18
13	Not so strongly	11	11	11	8
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	1	1	*
10	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	9	9	10	11

**RANDOMIZE Q.1/Q.1a 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- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref		Satis- fied	Dis- satisfied	(VOL.) DK/Ref
Jan 5-9, 2011	23	71	6	July, 2004	38	55	7
Dec 1-5, 2010	21	72	7	May, 2004	33	61	6
Nov 4-7, 2010	23	69	8	Late February, 2004*	39	55	6
Sep 23-26, 2010	30	63	7	Early January, 2004	45	48	7
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	25	71	5	December, 2003	44	47	9
Jun 24-27, 2010	27	64	9	October, 2003	38	56	6
May 13-16, 2010	28	64	7	August, 2003	40	53	7
Apr 21-26, 2010	29	66	5	April 8, 2003	50	41	9
Apr 1-5, 2010	31	63	6	January, 2003	44	50	6
Mar 11-21, 2010	25	69	5	November, 2002	41	48	11
Mar 10-14, 2010	23	71	7	September, 2002	41	55	4
Feb 3-9, 2010	23	71	6	Late August, 2002	47	44	9
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	69	4	May, 2002	44	44	12
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	25	67	7	March, 2002	50	40	10
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	25	67	7	Late September, 2001	57	34	9
Sep 10-15, 2009 <sup>1</sup>	30	64	7	Early September, 2001	41	53	6
Aug 20-27, 2009	28	65	7	June, 2001	43	52	5
Aug 11-17, 2009	28	65	7	March, 2001	47	45	8
Jul 22-26, 2009	28	66	6	February, 2001	46	43	11
Jun 10-14, 2009	30	64	5	January, 2001	55	41	4
Apr 28-May 12, 2009	34	58	8	October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7
Apr 14-21, 2009	23	70	7	September, 2000	51	41	8
Jan 7-11, 2009	20	73	7	June, 2000	47	45	8
December, 2008	13	83	4	April, 2000	48	43	9
Early October, 2008	11	86	3	August, 1999	56	39	5
Mid-September, 2008	25	69	6	January, 1999	53	41	6
August, 2008	21	74	5	November, 1998	46	44	10
July, 2008	19	74	7	Early September, 1998	54	42	4
June, 2008	19	76	5	Late August, 1998	55	41	4
Late May, 2008	18	76	6	Early August, 1998	50	44	6
March, 2008	22	72	6	February, 1998	59	37	4
Early February, 2008	24	70	6	January, 1998	46	50	4
Late December, 2007	27	66	7	September, 1997	45	49	6
October, 2007	28	66	6	August, 1997	49	46	5
February, 2007	30	61	9	January, 1997	38	58	4
Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7	July, 1996	29	67	4
Early January, 2007	30	63	7	March, 1996	28	70	2
December, 2006	28	65	7	October, 1995	23	73	4
Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8	June, 1995	25	73	2
Early October, 2006	30	63	7	April, 1995	23	74	3
July, 2006	30	65	5	July, 1994	24	73	3
May, 2006*	29	65	6	March, 1994	24	71	5
March, 2006	32	63	5	October, 1993	22	73	5
January, 2006	34	61	5	September, 1993	20	75	5
Late November, 2005	34	59	7	May, 1993	22	71	7
Early October, 2005	29	65	6	January, 1993	39	50	11
July, 2005	35	58	7	January, 1992	28	68	4
Late May, 2005*	39	57	4	November, 1991	34	61	5
February, 2005	38	56	6	Gallup: Late Feb, 1991	66	31	3
January, 2005	40	54	6	August, 1990	47	48	5
December, 2004	39	54	7	May, 1990	41	54	5
Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6	January, 1989	45	50	5
				September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5

<sup>1</sup> From 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?"

**ASK ALL:**

Q.3 Do you approve or disapprove of Republican congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future?

Jan 5-9 <u>2011</u>		<i>Democratic congressional leaders</i>		
		Nov 4-7 <u>2010</u> <sup>2</sup>	Nov <u>2006</u>	Dec <u>1994</u>
34	Approve	41	50	52
43	Disapprove	37	21	28
22	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	22	29	20

**NO QUESTIONS 4-6****ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=737]:**

Q.7F1 In the long run, do you think Barack Obama will be a successful or unsuccessful president, or do you think it is too early to tell?

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

<sup>2</sup> In Nov. 2010 and before, the question began "As best you can tell, do you approve..."

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=737]:**

Q.8F1 What do you think is the most important problem facing the country today? **[RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE FOR CLARITY – DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL MENTIONS. IF MORE THAN ONE MENTION, RECORD IN ORDER OF MENTION]**

Jan 5-9 <u>2011</u>		Aug	Early		Mid-		Mid-										
		26-29 <u>10<sup>3</sup></u>	Feb <u>10</u>	Aug <u>09</u>	Feb <u>09</u>	Oct <u>08</u>	Jul <u>08</u>	Jan <u>08</u>	Sep <u>07</u>	Jan <u>07</u>	Sep <u>06</u>	Jan <u>06</u>	May <u>05</u>	Jan <u>05</u>	Jul <u>04</u>	Apr <u>03</u>	Mar <u>02</u>
35	Unemployment/Lack of jobs	27	31	19	31	9	5	5	3	5	4	7	7	7	8	10	4
27	Economy (general)	35	24	27	53	55	39	20	10	5	9	11	15	12	14	28	8
	Deficit/National debt/Balanced																
11	budget/Gov't spending	3	11	6	4	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	3	1	2	1
	Dissatisfaction with gov't/politics/																
9	Obama/Gov't control	9	5	5	5	4	3	6	7	8	6	5	6	5	7	3	4
9	Health care/costs/accessibility	4	13	20	3	4	3	10	7	8	4	6	7	5	5	3	2
3	War/War in Iraq/War in Afghan.	3	4	5	3	11	17	27	37	42	25	23	24	32	25	14	10
	Education/schools/affording																
3	education	1	1	2	1	--	4	4	3	4	4	3	2	3	4	4	4
2	Immigration	2	1	1	1	1	2	6	6	5	6	3	4	1	1	1	1
2	Energy costs	--	--	--	--	5	19	3	2	2	7	5	6	--	2	--	1
2	Morality/Ethics/Family values	4	3	3	1	1	3	2	3	3	2	4	3	5	4	4	8
2	Finances/money	2	--	--	--	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
2	Inflation	1	--	--	2	5	6	3	1	--	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
1	Crime/Violence	--	1	1	1	--	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	4
1	Environment/pollution/																
	Global warming	1	1	--	1	1	3	1	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
1	Housing market/foreclosures	2	--	--	--	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
1	Trade/Jobs moving overseas	--	2	1	1	1	1	1	--	--	--	2	1	1	2	--	--
1	Poverty/Hunger/Starvation	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	7	2	3	2	3	2
1	Taxes	1	1	--	--	1	--	2	1	--	--	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	Terrorism	--	2	1	1	2	3	3	6	5	14	6	8	10	8	9	24
1	Uneven distribution of wealth	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	--
1	Defense/National security	--	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	1	4	3	2	3	3	2	5
1	Drugs/Alcohol	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	4
1	Wall Street/Corporate America	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
10	Other																
5	Don't know/No answer	7	6	5	3	4	4	5	5	7	7	7	5	5	6	9	8
	<b>(NET) FOREIGN ISSUES/</b>																
<b>6</b>	<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>62</b>	<b>(NET) ECONOMIC</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>16</b>

<sup>3</sup> Complete trend for Q8.F1 not shown; trends available to 1987.

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=766]:**

Q.9F2 What ONE WORD best describes your impression of Barack Obama? Just the one word that best describes him. **[OPEN-END. PROBE ONCE IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "DON'T KNOW". ACCEPT UP TO TWO RESPONSES, BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR SECOND RESPONSE].**

*NOTE: The numbers listed represent the number of respondents who offered each response; the numbers are not percentages.*

	<u>Jan 5-9, 2011</u>	<u>January, 2010</u>	<u>Mid-April, 2009</u>	<u>February, 2009<sup>4</sup></u>			
30	Good	25	Intelligent	30	Intelligent	33	Intelligent/Intellectual
25	Trying	21	Inexperienced	29	Good	17	Change
20	Socialist	21	Trying	20	Socialist	16	Honest
19	Inexperienced	18	Good	17	Liberal	15	Confident
16	Incompetent	15	Socialist	16	Great	15	Inexperienced
14	Great	12	Honest	15	Confident	14	Hope/Hopeful
13	Intelligent	12	Unqualified	13	Inexperienced	13	Smart
13	Leader	11	Arrogant	12	Honest	13	Socialist
12	Liar	11	Fair	12	Trying	12	Good
11	Strong	11	Incompetent	11	Smart	11	Charismatic
11	Smart	10	Confident	10	Change	10	Great
10	Determined	10	Different	10	Competent	9	Fantastic
10	Liberal	10	Strong	10	Excellent	9	Leader
9	Disappointing	8	Change	10	Spender/Spending	9	Trying
9	Honest	8	Great	9	Arrogant	8	Determined
9	Idiot	7	OK	9	Hope/Hopeful	8	Different
8	President	7	Smart	8	Charismatic	8	Liberal
7	Capable	6	Capable	8	President/Presidential	8	President
7	Fair	6	Disappointing	7	Different	8	Sincere
6	Alright	6	Excellent	7	Leader	7	Arrogant
6	Excellent	6	Fake	5	Caring/Cares	7	Awesome
6	OK	6	Leader	5	Determined	7	Competent
5	Deceitful/Deceptive	6	Liar	5	Efficient	7	Energetic
5	Talker	5	Charismatic	5	Strong	6	Dedicated
5	Unqualified	5	Communist	5	Young	6	Excellent
4	Arrogant	5	Idiot	4	Ambitious	6	Fresh/Refreshing
4	Dynamic	5	Liberal	4	Awesome	6	Naive
4	Hope/Hopeful	5	President	4	Capable	5	Committed
4	Naïve	4	Clueless	4	Impressed	5	New
4	Personable	4	Competent	4	Incompetent	5	Outstanding
4	Puppet	4	Dedicated	4	Integrity	5	Young
4	Weak	4	Determined	4	Naïve	4	Amazing
		4	Dishonest	4	Politician	4	Capable
		4	Hopeful		<b>(N=742)</b>	4	Dynamic
		4	Integrity			4	Enthusiastic
		4	Young			4	Fair
			<b>(N=740)</b>			4	Integrity
						4	OK
						4	Good speaker
						4	Strong
						4	Surprising
							<b>(N=660)</b>

<sup>4</sup> Full trend not shown. Question was also asked in Sept. 2008.

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=766]:**

Q.10F2 Barack Obama has been president for nearly two years now. Do you think most of the things he has done since he became president will turn out to be **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

		<i>ABC:</i>
		<b>Reagan</b>
Jan 5-9		Jan
<u>2011</u>		<u>1983</u> <sup>5</sup>
47	Good for the country in the long run	50
42	Bad for the country in the long run	31
2	Too soon to tell <b>(VOL.)</b>	5
3	Some good/some bad <b>(VOL.)</b>	8
6	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	7

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<sup>5</sup> In Jan 1983, the answer choice "Good for the country in the long run" was always the first option read and the question ended with "...or what?"



**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=737]:**

Q.AF1 And a different kind of question about the Tea Party. What one word best describes your impression of the Tea Party movement? Just the one word that best describes it. **[OPEN END. PROBE FOR CLARITY ONLY. RECORD ONLY ONE RESPONSE. DO NOT READ PRECODE LIST. DO NOT SUGGEST ANSWERS]**?

*NOTE: The numbers listed represent the number of respondents who offered each response; the numbers are not percentages.*

<u>Jan 5-9, 2011</u>		<u>April 16-19, 2010</u>			
15	Good/Good thing	34	Great	5	Positive
12	Radical	34	Interesting	5	Waste/Wasteful/ Waste of time
11	Crazy	31	Patriots/Patriotic	4	Active/Activists
11	OK	23	Good	4	Bad
9	Ridiculous	18	Ridiculous	4	Boring
9	Undecided/Uncertain/ Undetermined	16	Misinformed/Not informed/Uninformed	4	Disgusting/Disgusted
8	Confused/Confusing	15	Radical	4	Hopeful
8	Conservative	14	Stupid	4	Justified/Justifiable
8	Great	11	Needed	4	Noisy
7	Hopeful	10	Angry	4	Nonsense
7	Interesting	10	Conservative	4	Protest
7	Unknown	10	Not interested/ Uninterested	4	Rebellion/Rebellious
6	Disapprove	9	Excellent	4	Silly
6	Extreme/Extremists	9	Fantastic	4	Terrible
6	Idiots	9	Necessary	4	Unorganized/Disorganized
6	Patriotic/Patriots	9	Concern/Concerned		
6	Scary	8	Crazy		<b>(N=1,008)</b>
6	Silly	8	Freedom		
5	Aggressive	8	Idiot/Idiotic/Idiocy		
5	Change	8	Politics/Political		
5	Constitutionalists/ Constitution	7	American		
5	Hate/Hateful	6	Awesome		
5	Impressed	6	Confused/Confusing		
5	Uniformed/Misinformed	6	Extreme/Extremist		
5	Nuts	6	Ignorant		
4	Bad	6	Nuts		
4	Disgusted/Disgusting	6	Racist		
4	Encouraging	6	Republican		
4	Favorable	6	Useless		
4	Grassroots	5	Fringe		
4	Positive	5	Frustration/Frustrated		
4	Reactionary	5	Go		
4	Successful	5	Grassroots		
4	Unnecessary	5	Important		
		5	Impressive/Impressed		
		5	Misguided		

**ASK ALL:**

Thinking about the new Congress ...

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=737]:**

Q.11F1 In your view, will members of Congress who support the Tea Party have a mostly positive effect, mostly negative effect or not much of an effect?

Jan 5-9	
<u>2011</u>	
27	Mostly positive
18	Mostly negative
39	Not much of an effect
16	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=766]:**Q.12F2 How much, if anything, have you heard or read about Republican leaders in Congress planning major investigations into how the government has operated under the Obama administration?  
**[READ IN ORDER]?**

Jan 5-9	
<u>2011</u>	
15	A lot
48	A little
35	Nothing at all
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

**ASK IF HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE (Q12F2=1,2):**Q.13F2 Do you think these investigations are **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]?****BASED ON THOSE WHO HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE [N=507]**

Jan 5-9	
<u>2011</u>	
56	The right thing to do
32	The wrong thing to do
1	Too early to tell (VOL.)
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

**QUESTION 14 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****NO QUESTION 15****ASK ALL:**Q.16 As I read some pairs of opposite phrases, please tell me which one best reflects your impression of Barack Obama. (First,) does Barack Obama impress you as...**[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]?**

	Jan 5-9		Jun 16-20	Jan 6-10	Sep 10-15	Feb 4-8
	<u>2011</u>		<u>2010</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2009</u>
a.	58	Trustworthy	58	61	64	76
	36	Not trustworthy	37	31	30	15
	2	Neither particularly (VOL.)	1	2	2	1
	4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3	5	5	8
b.	70	Warm and friendly	68	77	78	87
	23	Cold and aloof	26	16	16	8
	2	Neither particularly (VOL.)	4	3	2	2
	5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	4	4	3
c.	54	Able to get things done	55	57	58	70
	38	Not able to get things done	39	35	31	15
	3	Neither particularly (VOL.)	2	3	3	2
	5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	5	8	13

**QUESTION 16 CONTINUED ...**

	Jan 5-9 <u>2011</u>		Jun 16-20 <u>2010</u>	Jan 6-10 <u>2010</u>	Sep 10-15 <u>2009</u>	Feb 4-8 <u>2009</u>
d.	64	Well informed	67	69	70	79
	31	Not well informed	30	26	23	15
	2	Neither particularly <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	1	2	1
	4	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	4	4	5
e.	77	Stands up for what he believes in	--	--	--	--
	16	Doesn't stand up for what he believes in	--	--	--	--
	1	Neither particularly <b>(VOL.)</b>	--	--	--	--
	5	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	--	--	--	--
f.	75	A good communicator	77	83	83	92
	21	Not a good communicator	20	14	13	6
	1	Neither particularly <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	1	1	*
	4	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	2	3	2
g.	60	Someone who cares about people like me	60	64	68	81
	34	Someone who doesn't care about people like me	35	30	25	14
	1	Neither particularly <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	1	1	1
	5	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	3	4	6	4
h.	53	A strong leader	53	62	65	77
	41	Not a strong leader	42	32	29	13
	2	Neither particularly <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	2	2	1
	4	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	3	3	5	9

**NO QUESTIONS 17-18**

**QUESTION 19 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****QUESTIONS 20-21 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL:**

Q.22 Since taking office, have Barack Obama's economic policies made economic conditions better, worse, or not had an effect so far?

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>No effect so far</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>Too soon/ early to tell</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Jan 5-9, 2011	28	31	35	2	4
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	27	32	36	2	4
Jun 3-6, 2010	23	29	35	3	9
Feb 3-9, 2010	24	27	42	3	5
Dec 9-13, 2009	30	24	39	3	4
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	31	20	42	4	3
Jul 20-26, 2009	24	21	46	3	6
Jun 10-14, 2009	26	16	49	4	4
Apr 14-21, 2009	26	17	47	6	4
Mar 9-12, 2009	14	15	64	4	3

**ASK ALL:**

Q.23 This coming year, do you think Republicans and Democrats in Washington will work together more to solve problems OR do you think they will bicker and oppose one another more than usual?

	<u>Work together more</u>	<u>Bicker and oppose one another more than usual</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>Same as in past</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Jan 5-9, 2011 <sup>6</sup>	30	63	3	5
January, 2009	50	39	6	5
May, 2005	13	64	8	15
January, 2005	30	59	4	7
June, 2004	21	60	7	12
October, 2003	21	55	10	14
May, 2002	44	31	8	17
January, 2002	53	39	5	3
July, 2001	30	46	10	14
May, 2001	34	41	9	16
January, 2001	41	50	4	5
July, 2000	21	54	10	15
August, 1999	20	68	4	8
August, 1998	27	51	8	14
November, 1997	38	45	7	10
August, 1997	43	46	3	8
June, 1997	34	49	6	11
October, 1995	21	72	3	4
August, 1993	20	57	13	10

**NO QUESTIONS 24-25****QUESTIONS 26-27 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****NO QUESTION 28****QUESTIONS 29-30 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****NO QUESTIONS 31-35**

<sup>6</sup> In surveys that were not conducted in January of a given year the question was worded: "This year, have Republicans and Democrats in Washington been working together more to solve problems OR have they been bickering and opposing one another more than usual?"

**QUESTIONS 36-39 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****NO QUESTION 40****ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=737]:**Q.41F1 This year should the Republican leaders in Washington... **[READ IN ORDER]**

Jan 5-9 <u>2011</u>		Nov 4-7 <u>2010</u> <sup>7</sup>	<b>Voters</b> Nov <u>2008</u> <sup>8</sup>
61	Try as best they can to work with Barack Obama to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing some groups of Republican supporters? [OR]	55	66
33	Should they stand up to Barack Obama on issues that are important to Republican supporters, even if it means less gets done in Washington?	38	28
6	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	8	6

**TREND FOR COMPARISON:***This year should the Democratic leaders in Washington... [READ]*

	Jan <u>2007</u> <sup>9</sup>	Nov <u>2006</u>
Try as best they can to work with George W. Bush to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing some groups of Democratic supporters? [OR]	52	54
Should they stand up to George W. Bush on issues that are important to Democratic supporters, even if it means less gets done in Washington?	43	36
Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	5	11

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=766]:**Q.42F2 This year should Barack Obama... **[READ IN ORDER]**

Jan 5-9 <u>2011</u>		Nov 4-7 <u>2010</u> <sup>10</sup>
65	Try as best he can to work with Republican leaders to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing some groups of Democratic supporters? [OR]	62
28	Should he stand up to the Republicans on issues that are important to Democratic supporters, even if it means less gets done in Washington?	27
7	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	11

**NO QUESTIONS 43-44**<sup>7</sup> In Nov 2010 and before, the question began "Next year..."<sup>8</sup> November 2008 trend is based on voters, not the general public. The question was rotated and figures are based only on those who received the question first in the rotation.<sup>9</sup> In January 2007 and November 2006 the question was rotated. Figures are based only on those who received this question first in the rotation.<sup>10</sup> In Nov 2010 the question began "Next year..."

**ASK ALL:**

Q.45 Which of the following, if any, do you think has been Barack Obama and the Congress's biggest accomplishment over the last two years? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

**ASK IF ANSWER GIVEN (Q45=1-7):**

Q.46 And which, if any, do you think has been Barack Obama's second biggest accomplishment so far? **[READ IN SAME ORDER AS Q.45 EXCLUDING PRIOR SELECTION]**

Jan 5-9, 2011			
<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Combined</u>	
25	16	41	Health care legislation
21	16	37	Extending tax cuts
18	19	37	The economic stimulus package
9	14	23	Financial regulation legislation
11	10	21	Allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military
1	*	1	Other <b>(VOL.)</b>
7	5	7	No successes/None <b>(VOL.)</b>
8	4	8	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>
--	15	--	No first choice

**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?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>No preference</u>	<u>Other party</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>	<u>Lean Rep</u>	<u>Lean Dem</u>
Jan 5-9, 2011	27	32	35	4	*	2	15	14
Dec 1-5, 2010	25	33	34	5	1	2	13	14
Nov 4-7, 2010	26	30	37	4	*	2	17	13
Oct 27-30, 2010	25	34	31	6	1	4	13	11
Oct 13-18, 2010	25	31	36	4	*	3	16	13
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	24	32	39	2	*	2	15	17
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	26	33	34	4	*	3	14	14
Jun 16-20, 2010	27	34	34	3	1	2	15	15
Apr 21-26, 2010	26	33	36	3	1	3	16	13
Mar 11-21, 2010	28	34	32	3	*	3	13	12
Mar 10-14, 2010	22	33	37	6	*	3	14	13
Feb 3-9, 2010	26	31	37	3	*	3	14	17
Jan 6-10, 2010	22	33	42	2	1	2	17	16
<b>Yearly Totals</b>								
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

**PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...**

				(VOL.) No	(VOL.) Other	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	preference	party			
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 ALL:**

TEAPARTY

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

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion either way	(VOL.) Haven't heard of	(VOL.) Refused	Not heard of/ DK
Jan 5-9, 2011	6	18	12	10	50	2	1	--
Dec 1-5, 2010	5	17	14	12	49	2	2	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	8	19	11	11	49	1	1	--
Oct 27-30, 2010 <sup>11</sup> (RVs)	12	17	11	14	32	--	1	13
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	9	19	11	13	30	--	1	16
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	11	18	12	14	32	--	1	13
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	8	14	9	9	37	--	1	21
Jun 16-20, 2010	9	15	10	8	30	--	*	27
May 20-23, 2010	10	15	8	10	31	--	1	25
Mar 11-21, 2010	9	15	7	7	29	--	1	31

**ASK ALL:**

CVOTE10A

In the 2010 elections for CONGRESS, did things come up which kept you from voting, or did you happen to vote?

**ASK IF RESPONDENT VOTED (CVOTE10A=1):**

CVOTE10B

Did you happen to vote for a Republican candidate or a Democratic candidate for U.S. Congress in your district?

Jan 5-9

2011

66	Yes, voted
30	Republican
27	Democrat
2	Other/Independent candidate (VOL.)
1	Didn't vote for Congress (VOL.)
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
33	No, didn't vote
*	No, too young to vote (VOL.)
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

<sup>11</sup>

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

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER NEWS INTEREST INDEX  
JANUARY 6-9, 2011 OMNIBUS  
FINAL TOPLINE  
N=1018**

**QUESTIONS PEW1, PEW 2, PEW6, PEW7, PEW8, PEW9 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**QUESTIONS PEW3 - PEW5, PEW11-PEW13 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**ASK ALL:**

Thinking about Barack Obama is handling some issues...

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

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Dis- approve</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. The economy			
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
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
b. The nation's immigration policy			
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
c. Energy policy			
Jan 6-9, 2011	46	37	18
Jun 16-20, 2010	45	40	15
Apr 21-26, 2010	43	34	23
Jan 6-10, 2010	45	35	20
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	50	34	16
Jul 22-26, 2009	46	31	22
<b>NO ITEM d.</b>			
e. The situation in Afghanistan			
Jan 6-9, 2011	44	42	13
Jun 16-20, 2010	45	46	9
Apr 21-26, 2010	41	42	17
Mar 10-14, 2010	51	35	15
Jan 6-10, 2010	45	43	12
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	36	49	15
Jul 22-26, 2009	47	33	19
f. The federal budget deficit			
Jan 6-9, 2011	35	53	12
Jun 16-20, 2010	35	56	9
Jan 6-10, 2010	32	58	11
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	31	58	11
Jul 22-26, 2009	32	53	15



<b>PEW.10 CONTINUED...</b>		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Dis-</u> <u>approve</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
	April 14-21, 2009	50	38	12
g.	Health care policy			
	Jan 6-9, 2011	45	47	8
	Jun 16-20, 2010	42	50	7
	Apr 21-26, 2010	40	51	9
	Mar 10-14, 2010	39	52	9
	Jan 6-10, 2010	38	52	10
	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	43	47	10
	Jul 22-26, 2009	42	43	14
	Apr 14-21, 2009	51	26	23
h.	The situation in Iraq			
	Jan 6-9, 2011	46	41	12
	Jun 16-20, 2010	45	44	11
	Jan 6-10, 2010	45	44	10
	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	41	48	12
	Jul 22-26, 2009	47	38	15
i.	The threat of terrorism			
	Jan 6-9, 2011	55	33	12
	Jan 6-10, 2010	51	39	10
	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009 <sup>12</sup>	52	34	14
	Apr 14-21, 2009	57	26	17
	Feb 4-8, 2009	50	21	29
j.	Dealing with China			
<b>Obama</b>	Jan 6-9, 2011	39	37	24
	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	33	34	33
<b>GW Bush</b>	Early September, 2001	38	31	31
<b>Clinton</b>	September, 1997	37	37	26
<b>Bush, Sr.</b>	May, 1990	44	29	27
k.	Dealing with Iran			
	Jan 6-9, 2011	42	39	19
	Apr 21-26, 2010	38	43	19
	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	43	40	17
l.	Tax policy			
	Jan 6-9, 2011	42	46	12
	Jul 22-26, 2009	39	42	18
	Apr 14-21, 2009	50	33	17

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In surveys conducted October 28-November 8, 2009 and before, the item was worded "Terrorist threats."