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Two-Thirds Say Obama 'Fights Hard' for His Policies

Obama Maintains Approval Advantage, But GOP Runs Even on Key Issues

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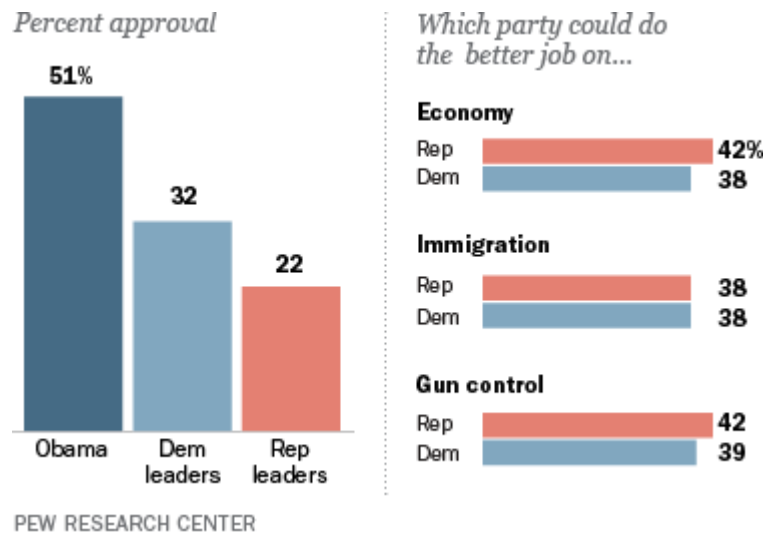
President Obama continues to hold a substantial advantage over congressional Republicans in public regard. Obama’s job approval is back in positive territory at 51%, after slipping to 47% in March. By comparison, just 22% approve of the job Republican leaders in Congress are doing, among the lowest approval rating for congressional leaders from either party in 20 years.

Furthermore, a record-high 80% say Obama and Republican leaders are not working together to address important issues facing the country, and by nearly two-to-one (42%-22%) more blame Republican leaders than Obama for the gridlock.

Despite GOP leaders’ poor job ratings, the Republican Party runs about even with the Democrats on leading issues such as the economy, immigration and gun control. Overall, 42% say the Republican Party could do the better job dealing with the economy, while 38% say the Democratic Party. The public is similarly divided over which party could better handle gun control policy and immigration policy.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center, conducted May 1-5 among 1,504 adults, finds that Republicans have particularly low regard for their party’s congressional leaders. Just 42% approve of the job GOP leaders in Congress are doing, while 51% disapprove. This is far below the job ratings that Democrats give their party’s leaders (60% approve, 32% disapprove).

Parties Run Even on Issues, Despite Low Ratings for Congressional Republican Leaders



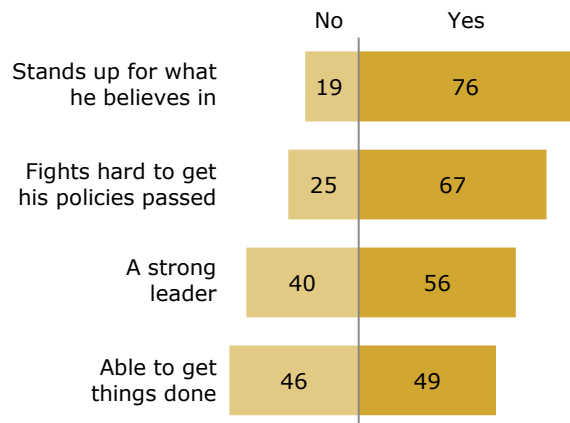
Despite their frustration with the party's leadership, Republicans overwhelmingly say the GOP could do a better job than the Democratic Party when it comes to issues like the economy, immigration and gun control. By comparison, fewer Democrats side with their party on the economy and gun control, which is one reason why Republicans run even with the Democrats overall. On each of these three issues, independents are split as to whether the Republican Party or the Democratic Party could do better.

As Obama works toward advancing his second-term agenda, the public is divided over whether he is someone who is *able to get things done* (49%) or not (46%). Views of Obama's effectiveness have declined since shortly after his re-election, when more saw him as effective (57%) than did not (37%).

While the public offers mixed views of Obama's effectiveness in a gridlocked political environment, most say he *fights hard to get his policies passed* (67%) and 76% describe him as someone who *stands up for what he believes in*. Both impressions hold with majorities of Republicans, Democrats and independents. Views of his leadership and effectiveness, by contrast, are highly polarized.

Most Say Obama "Fights Hard," Far Fewer View Him as Effective

Impressions of Barack Obama



PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013.

Views of Obama, Congressional Leaders

At 51%, Barack Obama's overall job approval rating has edged back up from a recent low of 47% in mid-March. But it still trails his 55% approval rating in early December, a month after his re-election victory.

Ratings of Republican leaders in Congress remain near all-time lows. By about three-to-one, more disapprove (68%) than approve (22%) of the job GOP leaders in Congress are doing. Republican leaders' job approval has changed little since December of last year (25%).

Democratic leaders are viewed only somewhat more positively. Overall, 32% approve of the job Democratic leaders in Congress are doing, while 59% disapprove. In December, 40% approved of the job performance of Democratic leaders.

Republicans express mixed views of the job performance of their party's congressional leaders: 42% approve, while 51% disapprove. By contrast, almost twice as many Democrats approve as disapprove of the job of Democratic congressional leaders (60% vs. 32%).

Independents continue to take a dim view of the job performance of both parties' congressional leaders: Just 23% approve of Democratic leaders' job performance while 18% give GOP leaders a positive job rating.

Half of Republicans Disapprove of GOP Leaders in Congress

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
<i>Obama</i>	%	%	%	%
Approve	51	12	85	48
Disapprove	43	85	9	45
<i>Dem leaders in Congress</i>				
Approve	32	9	60	23
Disapprove	59	87	32	67
<i>Rep leaders in Congress</i>				
Approve	22	42	12	18
Disapprove	68	51	81	72

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Figures read down; percent no opinion not shown.

Parties Run Even on Key Issues

The Republican Party runs about even with the Democratic Party on three key issues: the economy, immigration and gun control. In recent years, neither political party has held a decisive advantage on these issues. The Democratic Party led on the economy through much of George W. Bush's second term and Obama's first year in office. But since 2010, about as many have favored the GOP as the Democrats.

Similarly, neither party has had a consistent advantage on dealing with immigration. The current survey finds opinion split evenly; Democrats held a slim advantage in late 2012, while Republicans held a slight edge in 2011.

And while the gun debate has drawn significant public attention over the past four months (see: [*Gun Debate Draws More Interest than Immigration Policy Debate*](#), released April 8, 2013), it has not resulted in an advantage for either political party. In the immediate wake of the shootings in Newtown, Conn., Americans were divided over which party could better address gun control, and that divide persists today.

Since January, Little Change in Views of Parties on Gun Control

<i>Which party could do better job ...</i>	Rep Party %	Dem Party %	Both/ Neither/ DK %
Dealing with the economy			
May 2013	42	38	20=100
May 2011	38	40	21=100
September 2010	38	37	25=100
Dealing with immigration			
May 2013	38	38	24=100
December 2012	35	44	21=100
October 2011	45	37	18=100
Reflecting your views on gun control			
May 2013	42	39	19=100
January 2013	38	40	22=100
Mid-December 2012	27	28	44=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Independents are split over which party can do the better job on key issues. Overall, 38% of independents say the Republican Party could do the better job on the economy while nearly as many (35%) say the Democratic Party. Similarly, independents are divided over who can better address immigration (36% say each party) and gun control (41% Republican Party, 35% Democratic Party). On all three issues, about a quarter of independents volunteer no preference between the two parties.

Eight-in-ten Republicans (79%) say the GOP could do the better job dealing with the economy, while just 9% say the Democratic Party. Fewer Democrats (65%) say their party could do better on the economy, while 22% say the GOP could do better.

Similarly, while 76% of Republicans say the Republican Party better reflects their views on gun control, 66% of Democrats choose the Democratic Party. On dealing with immigration, 69% of Republicans prefer the GOP while about as many Democrats (63%) say the Democratic Party could do better.

Fewer Democrats Favor Their Party on Economy, Gun Control

<i>Which party could do better job ...</i>	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %
Dealing with the economy				
Republican Party	42	79	22	38
Democratic Party	38	9	65	35
Both/Neither/DK	<u>20</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>27</u>
	100	100	100	100
Reflecting your views on gun control				
Republican Party	42	76	20	41
Democratic Party	39	13	66	35
Both/Neither/DK	<u>19</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>24</u>
	100	100	100	100
Dealing with immigration				
Republican Party	38	69	19	36
Democratic Party	38	13	63	36
Both/Neither/DK	<u>24</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>28</u>
	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013.
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Eight-in-Ten Say Obama, GOP Leaders Not Working Together

The percentage saying that Obama and Republican leaders are not working together has risen steadily during Obama's presidency. Currently, 80% say the two sides are not working together, up from 65% in February 2011 (shortly after Republicans won control of the House) and just 45% in early 2009.

By nearly two-to-one, those who see a lack of cooperation are more likely to blame Republican leaders in Congress (42%) than Obama (22%) for the gridlock. The percentage blaming Republicans is up 11 points since February 2011, while the percentage blaming Obama is little changed over that time period.

Republicans and Democrats are about equally likely to say that GOP leaders and Obama are not cooperating, but Republicans are more likely to say their own party is at least partly to blame for gridlock than are Democrats.

Overall, 53% of Republicans blame Obama for the lack of cooperation in Washington. However, 28% say either that GOP leaders (12%) or both Republican leaders and Obama (17%) are to blame for not working together on important issues.

More Blame GOP than Obama for Lack of Cooperation

	Feb 2009*	Jun 2009	Aug 2009	Jan 2010	Feb 2011	Aug 2011	May 2013
<i>Obama and GOP leaders are...</i>	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Working together	43	39	24	25	27	21	15
Not working together	45	50	63	67	65	75	80
<i>Who is to blame?</i>							
GOP leaders	27	26	29	32	31	37	42
Obama	7	12	17	19	19	21	22
Both (Vol.)	5	9	9	9	11	12	12
Neither/Other/DK	6	4	7	7	4	5	4
Don't know	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. *Feb. 2009 asked specifically about the economic stimulus.

Independents Say Reps Are More to Blame for Lack of Cooperation

<i>Obama and GOP leaders are...</i>	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%
Working together	11	17	17
Not working together	85	79	80
<i>Who is to blame?</i>			
GOP leaders	12	70	39
Barack Obama	53	4	20
Both (Vol.)	17	3	17
Neither/Other/DK (Vol.)	4	2	4
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Democrats are less likely to see any blame on their side of the aisle. Seven-in-ten (70%) blame GOP leaders for the gridlock in Washington, while just 7% say either that Obama is most to blame (4%) or volunteer that both parties are to blame (3%).

Independents are much more likely to say that Republican leaders are to blame for the lack of cooperation in Washington (39%) than Obama (20%); 17% volunteer that both are to blame.

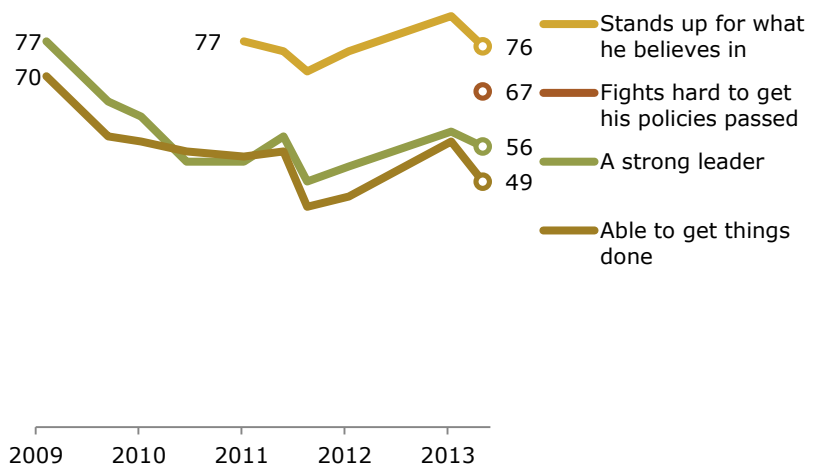
Majorities Say Obama Stands up for Beliefs, Fights for Policies

Following the failure of gun control legislation backed by the Obama administration, most continue to say that Obama stands up for what he believes in (76%) and that he fights hard to get his policies passed (67%). Most also say that Obama is a strong leader (56%); 40% say he is not a strong leader.

However, the percentage saying that Obama is able to get things done has edged down since shortly after Obama's second

inauguration. In the current survey, about as many say Obama is able to get things done (49%) as not able to get things done (46%). In January, Obama was viewed as able to get things done by a 57%-37% margin.

Impressions of Obama



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Majorities of Republicans, Democrats and independents agree that Obama stands up for what he believes in and fights hard to get his policies passed. There is far less partisan agreement over Obama's leadership ability and effectiveness.

Just 18% of Republicans view Obama as a strong leader and an identical percentage say he is able to get things

done. Fully 86% of Democrats say Obama is a strong leader and 74% say he is able to get things done.

By a 56%-41% margin, more independents say Obama is a strong leader than not. However, independents are divided over whether Obama is able to get things done (46%) or not (49%).

Reps and Dems Say Obama Stands up for His Beliefs, Fights to Get His Policies Passed

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	R-D gap
<i>Impression of Obama ...</i>	%	%	%	%	
Stands up for what he believes in	76	62	92	68	-30
Doesn't stand up for beliefs	19	31	6	22	+25
Fights hard to get policies passed	67	62	77	65	-15
Doesn't fight hard to pass policies	25	31	17	26	+14
Strong leader	56	18	86	56	-68
Not a strong leader	40	78	11	41	+67
Able to get things done	49	18	74	46	-56
Not able to get things done	46	79	20	49	+59

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Views of Obama Similar to Bush at Comparable Point

Impressions of Obama's leadership and effectiveness are similar to those of George W. Bush at comparable points in their presidencies.

Currently, 56% say Obama is a strong leader, while 41% say he is not a strong leader. Public views of Bush's leadership were nearly the same in July 2005, in the first year of his second term (55% strong leader, 41% not).

Bush also got about the same rating for his ability to get things done as Obama does today (50% vs. 49% for Obama). Bill Clinton received more positive ratings for effectiveness than either Obama or Bush in the first year of his second term; in August 1997, 64% said Clinton was able to get things done.

Obama's Rating for Effectiveness Similar to Bush's Eight Years Ago

	Clinton 8/1997	Bush 7/2005	Obama 5/2013
<i>Impressions of each ...</i>	%	%	%
Strong leader	--	55	56
Not a strong leader	--	41	40
Other/DK		<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
		100	100
Able to get things done	64	50	49
Not able to get things done	29	42	46
Other/DK	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100	100

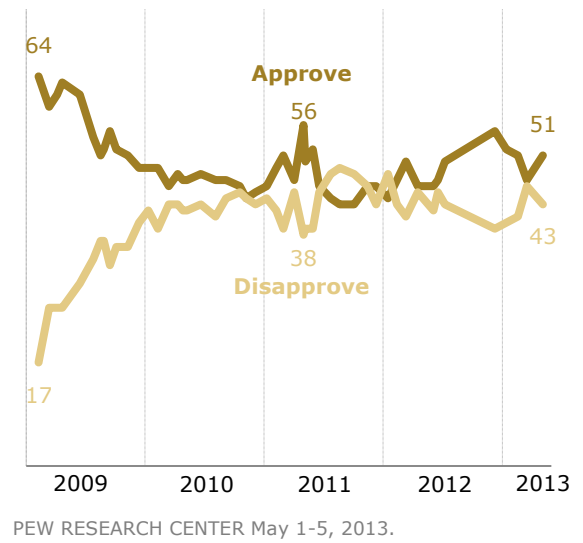
PEW RESEARCH CENTER May 1-5, 2013.
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

More Approve than Disapprove of Obama's Job Performance

Overall, 51% approve of the job Obama is doing as president, while 43% disapprove. Obama's job ratings have ticked up since March (47% approve, 46% disapprove), but remain less positive than they were in December, immediately following his re-election (55% approve, 39% disapprove).

Among independents, 48% approve of the job Obama is doing while 45% disapprove. Democrats overwhelmingly approve of Obama's job performance (85% approve vs. 9% disapprove), while Republicans disapprove by a similar margin (85% disapprove vs. 12% approve).

Obama Job Approval



About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted May 1-5, 2013 among a national sample of 1,504 adults, 18 years of age or older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia (751 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 753 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 401 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/>

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

Group	Unweighted sample size	Plus or minus...
Total sample	1,504	2.9 percentage points
Republicans	399	5.7 percentage points
Democrats	489	5.2 percentage points
Independents	529	5.0 percentage points

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

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

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
MAY 2013 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
May 1-5, 2013
N=1,504

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=740]:

Q.1F1 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

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

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.1F1 CONTINUED...

	Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref		Satis- <u>fied</u>	Dis- <u>satisfied</u>	(VOL.) DK/Ref
November, 1998	46	44	10	July, 1994	24	73	3
Early September, 1998	54	42	4	March, 1994	24	71	5
Late August, 1998	55	41	4	October, 1993	22	73	5
Early August, 1998	50	44	6	September, 1993	20	75	5
February, 1998	59	37	4	May, 1993	22	71	7
January, 1998	46	50	4	January, 1993	39	50	11
September, 1997	45	49	6	January, 1992	28	68	4
August, 1997	49	46	5	November, 1991	34	61	5
January, 1997	38	58	4	<i>Gallup</i> : Late Feb, 1991	66	31	3
July, 1996	29	67	4	August, 1990	47	48	5
March, 1996	28	70	2	May, 1990	41	54	5
October, 1995	23	73	4	January, 1989	45	50	5
June, 1995	25	73	2	September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5
April, 1995	23	74	3				

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=764]:

Q.2F2 All in all, do you think things in the nation are generally headed in the right direction, or do you feel things are off on the wrong track?

May 1-5

2013

32	Right direction
58	Wrong track
10	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

ASK ALL:

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

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

ASK ALL:

Q.4 Do you approve or disapprove of the job the **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** are doing? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the job the [ITEM] are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]. [INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: REPEAT FULL QUESTION FOR NEXT ITEM]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Republican leaders in Congress			
May 1-5, 2013	22	68	10
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	25	67	9
Dec 5-9, 2012	25	67	8
Dec 7-11, 2011	21	68	11
Nov 9-14, 2011	23	67	10
Aug 17-21, 2011	22	69	9
Jul 20-24, 2011	25	66	10
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	30	61	9
Feb 24-27, 2011	36	45	19
Jan 5-9, 2011 ²	34	43	22
Nov 4-7, 2010	41	37	22
Sep 30-Oct 3, 2010	24	60	16
Jul 22-25, 2010	33	53	14
Jun 16-20, 2010	31	55	14
Apr 8-11, 2010	30	56	14
Mar 10-14, 2010	25	59	16
Jan 6-10, 2010	27	57	16
Dec 9-13, 2009	29	51	20
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	24	60	17
Jun 10-14, 2009	29	56	15
Mar 9-12, 2009	28	51	21
Feb 4-8, 2009	34	51	15
Early October, 2006	33	56	11
June, 2006	30	53	17
March, 2006	32	50	18
January, 2006	33	52	15
Early November, 2005	33	50	17
Early October, 2005	32	52	16
Mid-September, 2005	36	49	15
Mid-May, 2005	35	50	15
Mid-March, 2005	39	44	17
Early February, 2004	41	42	17
January, 2003	48	37	15
June, 2002	50	34	16
May, 2002	49	34	17
February, 2002	56	24	20
Early September, 2001	43	39	18
June, 2001	40	40	20
May, 2001	45	36	19
April, 2001	45	30	25
January, 2001	43	36	21
July, 2000	36	46	18
May, 2000	40	42	18
March, 2000	38	43	19
February, 2000	40	43	17
January, 2000	39	41	20
December, 1999	38	42	20
October, 1999	34	50	16
Late September, 1999	34	46	20
August, 1999	40	44	16

² Question wording for Nov. 4-7, 2010, and Jan. 5-9, 2011, was: "Do you approve or disapprove of Republican congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future?"

Q.4 CONTINUED...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
July, 1999	36	45	19
June, 1999	37	46	17
May, 1999	38	44	18
March, 1999	38	47	15
February, 1999	37	51	12
January, 1999	38	50	12
Early December, 1998	38	49	13
November, 1998	41	48	11
Early September, 1998	44	37	19
Early August, 1998	43	37	20
June, 1998	42	38	20
May, 1998	40	41	19
April, 1998	41	40	19
March, 1998	43	39	18
January, 1998	43	41	16
November, 1997	41	43	16
August, 1997	42	44	14
June, 1997	33	50	17
May, 1997	40	44	16
April, 1997	40	44	16
February, 1997	44	42	14
January, 1997	38	47	15
December, 1996 ³	40	43	17
July, 1996	38	48	14
June, 1996	36	50	14
April, 1996	39	46	15
March, 1996	35	51	14
February, 1996	33	53	14
January, 1996	36	54	10
October, 1995	36	51	13
September, 1995	36	50	14
August, 1995	38	45	17
June, 1995	41	45	14
April, 1995	44	43	13
March, 1995	43	39	18
December, 1994	52	28	20
b. Democratic leaders in Congress			
May 1-5, 2013	32	59	9
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	37	55	8
Dec 5-9, 2012	40	53	7
Dec 7-11, 2011	31	58	11
Nov 9-14, 2011	30	61	9
Aug 17-21, 2011	29	63	9
Jul 20-24, 2011	30	60	10
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	31	60	9
Feb 24-27, 2011	33	48	19
Sep 30-Oct 3, 2010	30	53	17
Jul 22-25, 2010	35	56	10
Jun 16-20, 2010	35	53	12
Apr 8-11, 2010	38	51	11
Mar 10-14, 2010	31	57	12
Jan 6-10, 2010	35	53	11
Dec 9-13, 2009	36	47	17
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	33	53	15
Jun 10-14, 2009	42	45	13

³ From December, 1994, through December, 1996, the question was worded: "As best you can tell, do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Republican leaders in Congress?"

Q.4 CONTINUED...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 9-12, 2009	47	35	18
Feb 4-8, 2009	48	38	14
August, 2008	31	58	11
January, 2008	31	53	16
November, 2007	35	50	15
October, 2007	31	54	15
July, 2007	33	54	13
June, 2007	34	49	17
April, 2007	36	43	21
March, 2007 ⁴	37	42	21
February, 2007	41	36	23
Mid-January, 2007	39	34	27
November, 2006 ⁵	50	21	29
Early October, 2006	35	53	12
June, 2006	32	50	18
March, 2006	34	46	20
January, 2006	34	48	18
Early November, 2005	36	44	20
Early October, 2005	32	48	20
Mid-September, 2005	36	45	19
Mid-May, 2005	39	41	20
Mid-March, 2005	37	44	19
Early February, 2004	38	42	20
June, 2002	47	36	17
May, 2002	42	37	21
February, 2002	49	30	21
Early September, 2001	49	30	21
June, 2001	50	28	22
December, 1994	52	28	20

ASK ALL:

- Q.5 As I read some pairs of opposite phrases, please tell me which one best reflects your impression of Barack Obama. (First,) does Barack Obama impress you as...**[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**?

a.	<u>Able to get things done</u>	<u>Not able to get things done</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither particularly</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
May 1-5, 2013	49	46	2	3
Jan 9-13, 2013	57	37	1	4
Jan 11-16, 2012	46	50	2	2
Aug 17-21, 2011	44	50	2	4
May 25-30, 2011	55	38	3	5
Jan 5-9, 2011	54	38	3	5
June 16-20, 2010	55	39	2	4
Jan 6-10, 2010	57	35	3	5
Sep 10-15, 2009	58	31	3	8
Feb 4-8, 2009	70	15	2	13

⁴ In March 2007 the question was worded: "Do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Democratic leaders in Congress?"

⁵ Question wording in November, 2006, and December, 1994, was: "As best you can tell, do you approve or disapprove of Democratic congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future?"

Q.5 CONTINUED...

	<u>A strong leader</u>	Not a strong <u>leader</u>	(VOL.) Neither <u>particularly</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	
b.					
	May 1-5, 2013	56	40	1	2
	Jan 9-13, 2013	59	37	1	2
	Jan 11-16, 2012	52	45	2	2
	Aug 17-21, 2011	49	47	1	3
	May 25-30, 2011	58	37	1	3
	Jan 5-9, 2011	53	41	2	4
	June 16-20, 2010	53	42	2	3
	Jan 6-10, 2010	62	32	2	3
	Sep 10-15, 2009	65	29	2	5
	Feb 4-8, 2009	77	13	1	9

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=740]:

	<u>Stands up for what he believes in</u>	Doesn't stand up for what he <u>believes in</u>	(VOL.) Neither <u>particularly</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	
c.F1					
	May 1-5, 2013	76	19	1	5
	Jan 9-13, 2013	82	14	1	3
	Jan 11-16, 2012	75	19	1	5
	Aug 17-21, 2011	71	22	1	5
	May 25-30, 2011	75	18	1	5
	Jan 5-9, 2011	77	16	1	5

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=764]:

	<u>Fights hard to get his policies passed</u>	Doesn't fight hard to get his <u>policies passed</u>	(VOL.) Neither <u>particularly</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	
d.F2					
	May 1-5, 2013	67	25	2	7

NO QUESTIONS-6-8, 10-13, 15-16**QUESTION 9, 17c PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****QUESTIONS 14, 17a-b HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK ALL:**

Thinking about some issues,

Q.18 Please tell me if you think the REPUBLICAN Party or the DEMOCRATIC Party could do the better job in each of the following areas. First, which party could do the better job of **[INSERT FIRST ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**? How about **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Which party could do the better job of ITEM?]**

	<u>Republican Party</u>	<u>Democratic Party</u>	(VOL.) <u>Both equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	
a.						
	Reflecting your views about gun control					
	May 1-5, 2013	42	39	4	6	9
	Jan 9-13, 2013	38	40	5	6	11
	Dec 17-19, 2012 ⁶	27	28	12	15	18
	July, 2004	34	36	3	6	21
	Late October, 2002 (RV)	36	38	5	5	16
	April, 2000	30	36	4	7	23
	June, 1999	34	42	4	8	12
	December, 1993	32	42	--	8	18

⁶ In Dec 2012, July 2004, and April 2000 the question was not part of a list.

Q.18 CONTINUED...

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
b. Dealing with immigration					
May 1-5, 2013	38	38	7	8	9
Dec 5-9, 2012	35	44	5	6	10
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	45	37	3	6	9
May 25-30, 2011	39	37	4	9	11
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	28	9	12	16
May 20-23, 2010	35	27	10	14	14
Apr 21-26, 2010	36	35	7	11	12
Aug 27-30, 2009	31	36	6	13	13
February, 2008	38	43	4	6	9
October, 2006	35	33	6	8	18
September, 2006	32	37	5	10	16
April, 2006	27	43	6	11	13
February, 2006	34	38	8	9	11
c. Dealing with the economy					
May 1-5, 2013	42	38	6	8	6
May 25-30, 2011	38	40	5	8	8
Sep 16-19, 2010	38	37	8	10	8
May 20-23, 2010	33	34	9	14	10
Feb 3-9, 2010	38	41	7	6	7
Aug 27-30, 2009	32	42	6	12	9
February, 2008	34	53	2	5	6
October, 2006	32	45	4	5	14
September, 2006	32	46	5	5	12
February, 2006	36	46	5	5	8
Mid-September, 2005	38	44	5	7	6
July, 2004	34	46	5	5	10
Late October, 2002 (RVs)	37	40	5	6	12
Early October, 2002 (RVs)	37	41	4	5	13
Early September, 2002	36	36	9	6	13
January, 2002	43	34	--	5	18
May, 2001 ⁷	33	44	8	5	10
June, 1999	37	43	8	3	9
March, 1999	39	44	5	3	9
Early September, 1998	40	38	8	4	10
March, 1998	40	40	12	3	5
October, 1994	45	33	5	7	10
Gallup: October, 1992 (RVs)	36	45	10	--	9
Gallup: October, 1990	37	35	--	--	28

⁷ In May 2001 and earlier, the item was worded: "... keeping the country prosperous."

ASK ALL:

Q.19 In dealing with important issues facing the country, are **[RANDOMIZE; Barack Obama and Republican leaders in Congress, Republican leaders in Congress and Barack Obama]** working together or not working together?

ASK IF 'NOT WORKING TOGETHER' (Q.19=2) [N=1,251]:

Q.20 Who do you think is most to blame for them not working together? **[READ AND RANDOMIZE**

May 1-5 <u>2013</u>		Aug 17-21 <u>2011</u>	Feb 2-7 <u>2011</u>	Jan 6-10 <u>2010</u>	Aug 11-17 <u>2009</u>	Jun 10-14 <u>2009</u>	Feb 4-8 <u>2009</u> ⁸
15	Working together	21	27	25	24	39	43
80	Not working together	75	65	67	63	50	45
22	Barack Obama to blame	21	19	19	17	12	7
42	Republican leaders in Congress to blame	37	31	32	29	26	27
12	Both to blame (VOL.)	12	11	9	9	9	5
1	Neither to blame (VOL.)	1	1	2	1	1	1
1	Other to blame (VOL.)	1	1	2	2	1	3
2	Don't know who is to blame (VOL.)	3	2	3	4	2	2
4	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	9	8	13	11	12

QUESTIONS 25-27, 29-30, 36-38, 40-42, 46-53, 56-63, 69-72, 75, 78-80, 84 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**NO QUESTIONS 21-24, 28, 31-35, 39, 43-45, 54-55, 64-68, 73-74, 76-77, 81-83****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?

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	(VOL.) No preference	(VOL.) Other party	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
May 1-5, 2013	25	32	37	2	1	3	14	16
Mar 13-17, 2013	26	33	34	3	1	3	14	15
Feb.13-18, 2013	22	32	41	2	*	2	15	19
Jan 9-13, 2013	25	32	38	2	*	2	15	16
Dec 17-19, 2012	21	32	38	4	*	4	15	14
Dec 5-9, 2012	23	33	38	3	1	2	14	19
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012	26	34	34	3	1	3	13	16
Oct 24-28, 2012	28	33	33	4	*	2	12	16
Oct 4-7, 2012	27	31	36	3	1	3	15	15
Sep 12-16, 2012	24	35	36	2	*	2	14	16
Jul 16-26, 2012	22	33	38	4	*	3	14	15
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	24	33	37	3	*	3	15	17
Jun 7-17, 2012	24	33	39	2	*	2	17	17
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	24	32	36	4	*	4	13	14
Apr 4-15, 2012	24	31	39	3	*	2	15	15
Yearly Totals								
2012	24.7	32.6	36.4	3.1	.5	2.7	14.4	16.1
2011	24.3	32.3	37.4	3.1	.4	2.5	15.7	15.6
2010	25.2	32.7	35.2	3.6	.4	2.8	14.5	14.1
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.7	36.0	31.5	3.6	.3	3.0	10.6	15.2
2007	25.3	32.9	34.1	4.3	.4	2.9	10.9	17.0
2006	27.8	33.1	30.9	4.4	.3	3.4	10.5	15.1
2005	29.3	32.8	30.2	4.5	.3	2.8	10.3	14.9
2004	30.0	33.5	29.5	3.8	.4	3.0	11.7	13.4
2003	30.3	31.5	30.5	4.8	.5	2.5	12.0	12.6
2002	30.4	31.4	29.8	5.0	.7	2.7	12.4	11.6

⁸ In February 2009, question was worded: "In developing a plan to stimulate the economy and create jobs. ..."

PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3	--	3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--

ASK REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS ONLY (PARTY=1 OR PARTYLN=1) [N=600]:

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

May 1-5 2013		Mar 13-17 2013	Feb 13-18 2013	Jan 9-13 2013
28	Agree	43	36	35
8	Disagree	7	9	10
61	No opinion either way	47	52	51
2	Haven't heard of (VOL.)	1	1	2
1	Refused (VOL.)	1	3	2

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

(U) Pew Research Center/USA Today polls