

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2010

Four Years Later

Republicans Faring Better with Men, Whites, Independents and Seniors

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Four Years Later

Republicans Faring Better with Men, Whites, Independents and Seniors

The Republican Party's prospects for the midterm elections look much better than they did four years ago at this time, while the Democrats' look much worse. Voter preferences for the upcoming congressional elections remain closely divided (45% support the Democratic candidate or lean Democratic, while 44% favor the Republican or lean Republican). In polling conducted in August-September 2006, the Democrats held an 11-point advantage (50% to 39%).

Major shifts in sentiment among key voting blocs account for the improved GOP standing in 2010. The Republicans now enjoy advantages among typically loyal voting blocs that wavered in 2006, notably men and whites.

The GOP is also now running better than four years ago among three key swing groups in recent elections — independents, white Catholics and seniors.

The Republicans also continue to enjoy an engagement advantage over

who's woving, who's staying: 2006	-2010
Aug-Sep	t 2006

	Aug-Sept 2006		AL	August 2010		
			Dem			Dem
Vote for Congress	Rep	Dem	Adv	Rep	Dem	Adv
	%	%		%	%	4
All voters	39	50	+11	44	45	+1
Rep-leaning groups						
returning to the fold						
White, non-Hispanic	40	4 =	. 0	Г1	20	-13
•	43	45	+2	51	38	
Men	43	46	+3	49	40	-9
Swing groups becoming						
Swing groups becoming						
disillusioned with the						
Democrats						
Independents	31	46	+15	42	35	-7
White non-Hisp Catholics	39	49	+10	48	43	-5
Ages 65 and older	39	50	+11	46	43	-3
Dem-leaning groups						
remaining with the party						
Black, non-Hispanic	14	78	+64	9	84	+75
Ages 18 to 29	38	52	+14	39	49	+10
PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-A	uaust 5. 2	2010.				

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-August 5, 2010. Based on registered voters. Figures read across.

the Democrats, which at least in part reflects the greater disposition to vote among these voting blocs that have swung their way. In contrast, groups such as young people and African Americans, who continue to support the Democrats by comparable margins as in 2006, are relatively unenthused about voting.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted July 21-August 5 among 3,003 adults, including 2,431 registered voters, finds that the basic contours of opinion about the midterm election have changed little since the start of the year. In four previous surveys in 2010, preferences among registered voters were also evenly divided. Also as in past surveys, economic issues continue to be most important for voters. At the other end of the spectrum, same-sex marriage ranks last in importance among 13 issues tested in the new poll.

The Vote for Congress

Republicans and Democrats express nearunanimous support for candidates of their own party (93% each), while independents are divided (42% for Republican candidates, vs. 35% for Democratic candidates).

More than eight-in-ten Republican-leaning independents (85%) favor the GOP candidate in their district; 78% of Democratic-leaning independents (%) support the Democratic candidate.

Men are 10 points more likely than women to favor Republican candidates (49% vs. 39%). About half of white voters (51%) favor Republican candidates, while blacks overwhelmingly support Democratic candidates (84%). Hispanic voters favor

Congressional Horse Race					
	Vote Rep %	Vote Dem %	DK %	N	
All voters	44	45	11	2431	
Republican	93	5	3	754	
Conservative Rep	95	3	2	538	
Mod/Liberal Rep	86	9	5	200	
Democrat	4	93	3	824	
Cons/Mod Dem	6	90	4	477	
Liberal Dem	2	98	1	316	
Independent	42	35	23	747	
Lean Rep	85	5	10	342	
Lean Dem	10	78	12	277	
Men	49	40	11	1035	
Women	39	49	11	1396	
18-29	39	49	12	294	
30-49	44	44	12	657	
50-64	44	47	9	790	
65+	46	43	11	641	
White non-Hispanic	51	38	11	1874	
Black non-Hispanic	9	84	7	279	
Hispanic	30	60	10	136	
College graduate	46	45	10	996	
Some college	44	44	12	651	
High school or less	42	46	11	769	
Protestant	49	42	9	1352	
White evangelical	67	23	10	566	
White mainline	50	41	9	460	
Black Protestant	7	86	7	227	
Catholic	41	49	10	528	
White non-Hisp	48	43	9	420	
Unaffiliated	36	49	16	320	
Tea Party					
Agree with	84	9	7	696	
Disagree with	9	84	6	578	
No opinion/					
Never heard of	38	47	15	1157	
PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jo Based on registered voters					

Democrats by a two-to-one margin (60% to 30%).

About a quarter of all voters (27%) say they generally agree with the Tea Party political movement; and the vast majority of this group (84%) says they will vote Republican this fall. Conversely, those who disagree with the Tea Party (22% of voters) overwhelmingly support Democratic candidates (84%). About half of voters (51%) have never heard of the Tea Party or have no opinion of it; these voters favor Democratic candidates Over GOP candidates by a modest margin (47% to 38%)

Wide Partisan Gap in Engagement Persists

In the current survey, 44% of voters say they have given "quite a lot" of thought to the November election. This is comparable to the level of interest expressed by voters in September 2006 (45%), though it is quite a bit higher than in September 2002, when just 36% said they had given a lot of thought to the upcoming elections. Currently, interest is on par with levels later in the 1994 and 1998 midterm campaigns (44% and 42%, respectively, in early October of those two years).

The partisan enthusiasm gap seen in surveys earlier this year persists. (For a detailed analysis of the GOP's enthusiasm advantage, see "Voting Intentions Even, Turnout Indicators Favor GOP," July 1, 2010).

GOP's Engagement Advantage

	Given a lot of thought to the election %	
All voters	44	70
Plan to		
Vote Republican	59	79
Vote Democratic	34	66
Party identification		
Republican	55	77
Conservative Rep	62	81
Mod/Liberal Rep	41	71
Democrat	37	69
Cons/Mod Dem	37	69
Liberal Dem	39	69
Independent	43	66
Lean Rep	62	76
Lean Dem	29	59
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PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-August 5, 2010. Based on registered voters.

Republicans and conservatives continue

express far greater interest in the election than do Democrats and liberals. More than half of Republicans (55%) say they have given a lot of thought to the election, compared with 37% of Democrats. Among Republican-leaning independents, 62% have given a lot of thought to the election; Democratic-leaning independents are much less engaged (29%). Among Republicans, conservatives are far more engaged than those who describe themselves as moderates or liberals (62% vs. 41%).

Republican voters also are more likely than Democrats to say they are absolutely certain to vote in November. More than three-quarters of Republicans (77%) say they are certain to vote, compared with 69% of Democrats. There is a somewhat larger gap between independents who lean Republican (76% certain to vote) and those who lean Democratic (59%). As with thought given to the election, conservative Republicans are the most engaged, with fully 81% saying they are certain to vote.

Taking two indicators of engagement together – thought given to the election and intention to vote – it is clear that Republicans and Republican leaning groups are far more energized at this point in the campaign than are Democrats and Democratic groups.

Overall, 39% of registered voters are highly engaged: They have given a lot of thought to the campaign *and* say they definitely will vote.

Men, Seniors and Whites More Eager to Vote

	Engagement in the campaig		
	High	Medium	Low
	%	%	%
All voters	39	36	25
N.A	4.4	22	22
Men	46	33	22
Women	34	38	27
40.00			
18-29	23	34	43
30-49	35	39	26
50-64	47	33	19
65+	49	36	15
White, non-Hispanic	43	35	23
Black, non-Hispanic	24	43	33
Hispanic	35	33	32
College graduate	47	33	20
Some college	39	39	22
High school or less	33	36	31

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-August 5, 2010. Based on registered voters.

Among voters who identify as Republicans, 50% fall into to this high engagement category. Perhaps equally important, 57% of independents who say they lean to the GOP are rated as highly engaged.

By comparison, Democrats are significantly less engaged. Just 33% of Democrats and 23% of Democratic-leaning independents fall into the high engagement category. Similarly, relatively few among two key demographic groups that supported Democratic candidates in 2006 and 2008, African Americans and young people, rate high on campaign engagement (24% for African Americans, 23% for voters ages 18 to 29).

It is important to keep in mind that interest in the election is not the only factor that motivates voting. Many people vote as a habit, which may be why the overall percentage saying they are "certain to vote" — either absolutely or fairly certain — is more similar between the parties. This survey did not ask about previous voting behavior, which is a usual part of pollsters' indexes of likely voting.

^{*}High engagement voters are those who have given "a lot of thought" to the election and are "absolutely certain" to vote in November. Medium engagement are those who say yes to one of these two. Low engagement are those who say yes to neither of these two questions.

Much as the Democratic Party attempted to make the 2006 elections a referendum on Republican control of the government, Republican candidates are stressing national issues this year, and Republican voters are more likely than others to say national issues are important. Asked which factor among four would be most important in their vote, a small plurality (36%) of all voters picked national issues, followed by 29% for local or state issues, 22% for candidate character and experience, and just 5% who said the candidate's political party would be most important. The percentage choosing national issues is higher than in September 2006, when 29% chose this option, and is far larger than in off-year elections from 1994 through 2002.

Among voters who support the GOP candidate in their district, 45% say national issues are most important, compared with 30% among those who say they intend to vote Democratic.

Issue Priorities and the Vote for Congress

The economy and jobs are the dominant issues of 2010. Nine-in-ten voters cite the economy as very important and about the same percentage (88%) cites jobs. The economy and jobs are viewed as very important by comparably large percentages of voters who intend to vote Republican and Democratic.

By contrast, same-sex marriage ranks at the bottom of the list for both Republican and Democratic voters. Same-sex marriage was recently in the news because of a federal district court judge's ruling that the California proposition banning gay marriage is unconstitutional.

Other issues at the top of the list include health care (at 78% very important), terrorism (71%), the federal budget deficit (69%) and taxes (68%). Mid-tier issues

Bipartisan Agreement: It's the Economy and Jobs

	aying each issue is Voters	"very important" Republican Voters			Democratic Voters		
90	Economy	91	Economy	89	Economy		
88	Jobs	87	Jobs	88	Jobs		
78	Health care	81	Budget deficit	85	Health care		
71	Terrorism	80	Taxes	71	Financial system		
69	Budget deficit	79	Terrorism	70	Environment		
68	Taxes	73	Health care	69	Energy		
65	Financial system	70	Immigration	64	Terrorism		
62	Energy	62	Financial system	61	Afghanistan		
59	Afghanistan	59	Afghanistan	60	Budget deficit		
58	Immigration	56	Energy	58	Taxes		
57	Environment	51	Abortion	47	Immigration		
43	Abortion	42	Environment	37	Abortion		
32	Same-sex marriage	37	Same-sex marriage	26	Same-sex marriage		
PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-August 5, 2010							

PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-August 5, 2010.

Based on registered voters.

include the banking and financial system (65%), energy (62%), Afghanistan (59%), immigration (58%) and the environment (57%). Rounding out the list are abortion (43%) very important) and same-sex marriage (32%).

There are sizable partisan differences in views of the importance of some issues. While about eight-in-ten voters who support Republican candidates see the budget deficit (81%) and taxes (80%) as very important, smaller majorities of Democratic voters say the same (60% budget deficit, 58% taxes). And immigration is rated a very important by substantially more Republican voters (70%) than Democratic voters (47%).

Seven-in-ten voters who intend to vote Democratic say the environment will be very important, compared with fewer than half (42%) of Republican voters. The financial

system also is seen as very important by somewhat more Democratic than Republican voters (71% vs. 62%).

Obama Approval Stable

President Obama's job approval rating stands at 47%, a number that has changed very little all year; 41% currently disapprove of his performance in office.

The stability in Obama's ratings for the past several months is evident not just among the public overall, but among most subgroups in the population. His core supporters continue to give him high ratings, including Democrats (79% approval) and African Americans (89%). He gets nearly unanimous approval from liberal Democrats (90%).

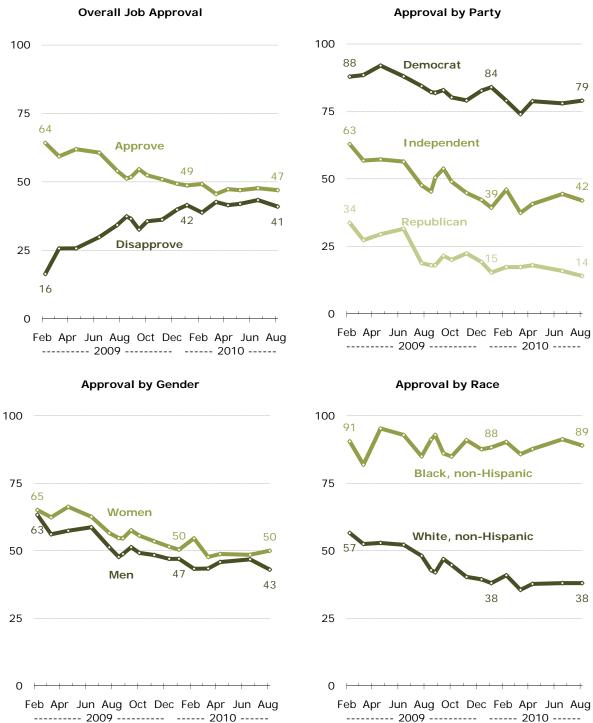
Even among groups with more mixed opinions, there has been little evidence of a trend for the past several months. Independents remain divided (42% approve, 43% disapprove), while a plurality of whites continue to disapprove (49%, vs. 38% who approve).

Obama Job Rating

	Approve	Dis- approve %	DK
All	47	41	12=100
Republican	14	78	8=100
Conservative Rep	9	84	7=100
Mod/Liberal Rep	22	70	9=100
Democrat	79	13	8=100
Cons/Mod Dem	74	16	10=100
Liberal Dem	90	7	3=100
Independent	42	43	15=100
Lean Rep	20	69	11 = 100
Lean Dem	67	22	12=100
Men	43	45	12=100
Women	50	39	11=100
18-29	54	31	15=100
30-49	47	42	11=100
50-64	46	44	11=100
65+	40	50	10=100
White, non-Hispanic	38	49	12=100
Black, non-Hispanic	89	4	8=100
Hispanic	56	34	10=100
College graduate	49	43	9=100
Some college	45	44	10=100
High school or less	46	39	15=100

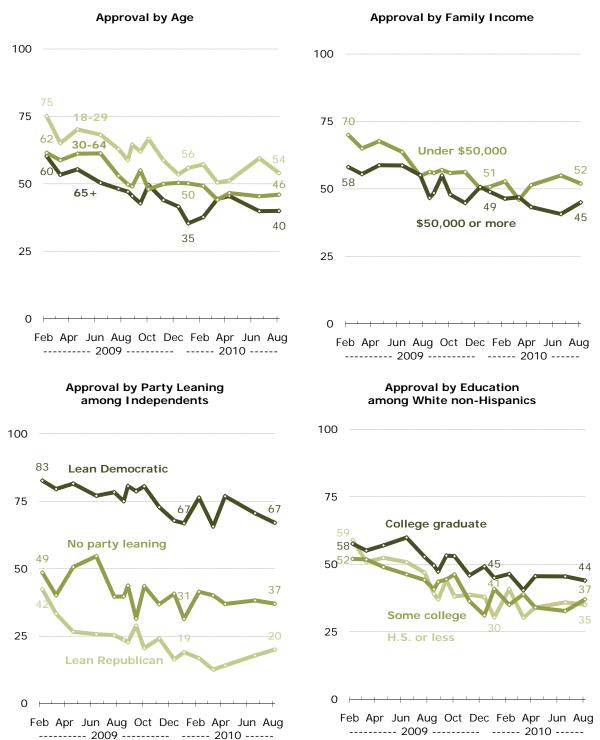
PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-August 5, 2010. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Obama Job Approval Trends



PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-August 5, 2010. Based on general public.

Obama Job Approval Trends



PEW RESEARCH CENTER July 21-August 5, 2010. Based on general public.

Obama in a Word

Good is the word that people use most frequently to describe Obama. In a separate survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Aug.5-8 among 1,002 adults, 49 say that *good* is the word that first comes to mind in describing Obama. Other words used frequently are *trying* (mentioned by 36 respondents) and *disappointing* (32).

The word $good$ is used more
frequently to describe
Obama than in previous
surveys. In a survey in
January, in which 740
respondents were asked to
give a one-word description
of Obama, 18 mentioned
good; in April 2009 (asked
of a sample of 742), 29 used
that word. Mentions of
trying also have increased –
from 12 in April 2009 to 21
in January and 36 in the
current survey.

Some negative terms also are being used more frequently, including *disappointing*, incompetent and idiot: 32 now describe Obama as disappointing (six did so in January); 22 use the word incompetent (11 in January);

One-Word	Impressions	of Barack	Obama

Number of respondents – <u>not percentages</u> – giving each response						
April 2009	#	Jan 2010	#	Aug 2010	#	
Intelligent	30	Intelligent	25	Good	49	
Good	29	Inexperienced	21	Trying	36	
Socialist	20	Trying	21	Disappointing	32	
Liberal	17	Good	18	Fair	25	
Great	16	Socialist	15	Incompetent	22	
Confident	15	Honest	12	Intelligent	18	
Inexperienced	13	Unqualified	12	Idiot	17	
Honest	12	Arrogant	11	President	17	
Trying	12	Fair	11	Liar	15	
Smart	11	Incompetent	11	Socialist	15	
Change	10	Confident	10	Competent	14	
Competent	10	Different	10	Great	13	
Excellent	10	Strong	10	OK	12	
Spender	10	Change	8	Excellent	11	
Arrogant	9	Great	8	Charismatic	10	
Норе	9	OK	7	Inexperienced	10	
Charismatic	8	Smart	7	Leader	10	
President	8			Unqualified	10	
Different	7			Overwhelmed	8	
Leader	7			Bad	7	
				Determined	7	
				Not good	7	
N=742		N=740		N=1002		

PEW RESEARCH CENTER August 5-8, 2010. Based on general public.

and 17 describe Obama as an idiot (five in January).

About the Survey

Results for this survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International among a national sample of 3,003 adults living in the continental United States, 18 years of age or older, from July 21-August 5, 2010 (2,002 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 1,001 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 431 who had no landline telephone). Both the landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see http://people-press.org/methodology/.

The combined landline and cell phone sample are weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race/ethnicity, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2009 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample is also weighted to match current patterns of telephone status and relative usage of landline and cell phones (for those with both), based on extrapolations from the 2009 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the combined sample and adjusts for household size within the landline sample. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting.

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

Group	Sample Size	Plus or minus
Total sample	3,003	2.5 percentage points
Registered voters	2,431	2.5 percentage points
Republican RVs	754	4.5 percentage points
Democratic RVs	824	4.5 percentage points
Independent RVs	747	4.5 percentage points

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

About the 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:

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For more information about the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press' weekly News Interest Index, go to www.people-press.org.

PRESIDENTIAL JOB APPROVAL TABLE

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

·		Dis-	(VOL.)	6.0
	<u>Approve</u> %	<u>approve</u> %	<u>DK/Ref</u> %	(N)
TOTAL	47	41	12	3003
SEX	.,			
Men	43	45	12	1336
Women	50	39	11	1667
AGE				
18-49	50	38	13	1328
50+	43	46	10	1618
DETAILED AGE				
18-29	54	31	15	491
30-49	47	42	11	837
50-64	46	44	11	913
65+	40	50	10	705
SEX BY AGE				
Men 18-49	47	41	12	639
Men 50+	38	50	12	678
Women 18-49	52	35	13	689
Women 50+	48	43	9	940
RACE				
White NH	38	49	12	2211
Black NH	89	4	8	340
Hispanic	56	34	10	249
EDUCATION				
College grad	49	43	9	1110
Some college	45	44	10	780
HS or less	46	39	15	1096
INCOME				
\$75,000+	45	48	7	839
\$30,000-\$74,999	46	43	11	939
<\$30,000	55	32	13	700
DETAILED INCOME				
\$100,000+	46	49	6	491
\$75,000-\$99,999	44	46	10	348
\$50,000-\$74,999	46	46	9	435
\$30,000-\$49,999	46	41	13	504
<\$30,000	55	32	13	700
MARITAL STATUS				
Married	42	47	11	1561
Not married	52	35	12	1418

PRESIDENTIAL JOB APPROVAL TABLE (CONT.)

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

		Dis-	(VOL.)	
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>approve</u>	DK/Ref	(N)
	%	%	%	
MARITAL STATUS BY SEX				
Married men	37	52	11	728
Married women	47	42	11	833
Unmarried men	50	37	13	600
Unmarried women	54	34	12	818
REGISTERED VOTER				
Yes, certain	46	44	10	2431
Not registered	48	34	18	572
PARTY ID				
Republican	14	78	8	842
Democrat	79	13	8	992
Independent	42	43	15	977
PARTY LEANING				
Lean Republican	20	69	11	421
Lean Democrat	67	22	12	377
No leaning	37	34	28	371
PARTY WITH LEANERS				
Republican/Lean Rep	16	75	9	1263
Democrat/Lean Dem	75	15	9	1369
PARTY AND IDEOLOGY				
Conservative Republican	9	84	7	585
Mod/Lib Republican	22	70	9	239
Cons/Mod Democrat	74	16	10	582
Liberal Democrat	90	7	3	367
AMONG REPUBLICANS				
Men	13	79	8	360
Women	14	77	8	482
18-49	15	75	10	345
50+	12	82	6	484
College grad	11	83	6	337
Some college or less	15	76	9	502
AMONG DEMOCRATS				
Men	77	13	9	378
Women	80	12	7	614
18-49	82	11	7	421
50+	76	15	9	557
College grad	90	6	4	357
Some college or less	75	15	10	631

PRESIDENTIAL JOB APPROVAL TABLE (CONT.)
Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

		Dis-	(VOL.)	
	<u>Approve</u>	approve	DK/Ref	(N)
	%	%	%	
AMONG INDEPENDENTS				
Men	40	46	14	513
Women	45	39	17	464
18-49	48	37	16	478
50+	34	52	15	484
College grad	45	43	12	371
Some college or less	41	43	16	601
RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE				
Total White NH Prot.	30	58	12	1200
White NH evang. Prot.	21	67	12	663
White NH mainline Prot.	41	47	12	534
Total Catholic	48	41	11	657
White NH Cath.	42	46	12	477
Unaffiliated	54	31	14	446
ATTEND SERVICES				
Weekly or more	40	49	11	1238
Monthly/yearly	51	38	11	975
Seldom/never	52	35	13	747
NET Less than weekly	52	37	12	1722
REGION				
Northeast	52	38	11	539
Midwest	47	40	13	732
South	44	45	12	1183
West	47	41	12	549
AMONG WHITES				
Men	35	53	13	981
Women	42	46	12	1230
18-49	40	46	13	880
50+	36	53	11	1304
College grad	44	49	7	878
Some college or less	36	49	15	1325
\$75,000+	40	52	8	685
\$30,000-\$74,999	39	51	10	715
<\$30,000	44	40	16	444
Republican	11	81	8	754
Democrat	74	16	10	597
Independent	39	47	15	736
East	46	41	13	416
Midwest	41	46	13	619
South	31	57	12	800
West	40	48	12	376

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS AND PEW FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE 2010 RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE SURVEY FINAL TOPLINE July 21-August 5, 2010 N=3,003

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]

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

ASK ALL:

The congressional elections will be coming up later this year ...

THOUGHT How much thought have you given to the coming November election... Quite a lot or only a little?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2431]:

		Quite <u>A lot</u>	(VOL.) Some	Only a <u>Little</u>	(VOL.) None/DK/Ref
2010	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	44	5	44	7
2006	November, 2006	61	5	28	6
	Late October, 2006	54	6	35	5
	Early October, 2006	51	4	40	5
	September, 2006	45	4	48	3
2002	Early November, 2002	52	6	35	7
	Early October, 2002	45	6	45	4
	Early September, 2002	36	5	54	5
1998	Late October, 1998	49	11	35	5
	Early October, 1998	42	8	43	7
1994	November, 1994	56	7	32	5
	Late October, 1994	45	7	45	3
	Early October, 1994	44	2	50	4
1990	Gallup: October, 1990 ¹	43	7	46	4
	Gallup: October, 1982	29	22	37	12

Gallup trends based on general public.

THOUGHT CONTINUED...

		Quite	(VOL.)	Only a	(VOL.)
		A lot	<u>Some</u>	<u>Little</u>	DK/Ref
1978	Gallup: October, 1978	23	22	39	17
	Gallup: September, 1978	21	18	44	18

ASK ALL:

Q.2 If the elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for **[RANDOMIZE:** "the Republican Party's candidate" OR "the Democratic Party's candidate" or Congress in your district?

ASK IF ANSWERED OTHER OR DON'T KNOW (Q.2=3,9):

Q.2a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the **[READ IN SAME ORDER AS Q.2; IF NECESSARY: "**for U.S. Congress in your district"]?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2431]:

	Rep/	Dem/	(VOL.) Other/
	Lean Rep		<u>Undecided</u>
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	44	45	11
Jun 16-20, 2010	45	45	10
Mar 11-21, 2010	44	44	12
Feb 3-9, 2010	42	45	13
Jan 6-10, 2010	44	46	10
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	42	47	11
Aug 20-27, 2009	44	45	10
2008 Election			
June, 2008	37	52	11
2006 Election			
November, 2006	40	48	12
Late October, 2006	38	49	13
Early October, 2006	38	51	11
September, 2006	39	50	11
August, 2006	41	50	9
June, 2006	39	51	10
April, 2006	41	51	8
February, 2006	41	50	9
Mid-September, 2005	40	52	8
2004 Election			
June, 2004	41	48	11
2002 Election			
Early November, 2002	42	46	12
Early October, 2002	44	46	10
Early September, 2002		46	10
June, 2002	44	46	10
February, 2002	46	45	9
Early November, 2001	44	44	12
2000 Election	-1-1		12
Early November, 2000	42	48	10
Early October, 2000	43	47	10
July, 2000	43	47	10
February, 2000	44	47	9
October, 1999	43	49	8
June, 1999	43 40	50	10
1998 Election	40	30	10
Late October, 1998	40	47	13
Early October, 1998	43	44	13
Early September, 1998		46	9
Late August, 1998	44	45	11
Early August, 1998	42	49	9
June, 1998	44	46	10
March, 1998	40	52	8

Q.2/Q.2a CONTINUED...

			(VOL.)
	Rep/	Dem/	Other/
	Lean Rep	Lean Dem	<u>Undecided</u>
February, 1998	41	50	9
January, 1998	41	51	8
August, 1997	45	48	7
1996 Election			
November, 1996 ²	44	48	8
October, 1996	42	49	9
Late September, 1996	43	49	8
Early September, 1996	43	51	6
July, 1996	46	47	7
June, 1996	44	50	6
March, 1996	44	49	7
January, 1996	46	47	7
October, 1995	48	48	4
August, 1995	50	43	7
1994 Election			
November, 1994	45	43	12
Late October, 1994	47	44	9
Early October, 1994	52	40	8
September, 1994	48	46	6
July, 1994	45	47	8

ASK ALL:

PLANTO1 Thinking ahead to November, do you yourself plan to vote in the Congressional election this

November, or not?³

ASK IF YES (PLANTO1=1):

PLANTO2 How certain are you that you will vote? Are you absolutely certain, fairly certain, or not

certain?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2431]:

	Yes, plan	Absolutely	Fairly	Not	No, don't	(VOL.)
	to vote	<u>certain</u>	<u>certain</u>	<u>certain</u>	plan to	DK/Ref
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	91	70	17	3	7	2
Jun 16-20, 2010	90	69	19	2	8	2
Mar 11-21, 2010	91	69	20	2	6	3
2008 Election						
Mid-October, 2008 ⁴	97	92	5	*	2	1
Early October, 2008	97	92	4	1	2	1
Late September, 2008	97	91	6	*	2	1
Mid-September, 2008	97	90	6	1	2	1
August, 2008	97				2	1
July, 2008	97				2	1
June, 2008	95	85	8	2	2	3
2006 Election						
November, 2006	90				8	2
Late October, 2006	94				3	3
Early October, 2006	93	75	17	1	4	3
Early September, 2006	92				5	3

-

² November 1996 trends based on likely voters.

Question began with "Thinking ahead to November," on June 16-20, 2010 and March 11-21, 2010 surveys. Surveys prior to March,

²⁰¹⁰ did not ask specifically about voting in the "Congressional election."

In Mid-October 2008 and from Mid-October 2004 to November 2006 and in Early November 2002, the "Yes, Plan to vote" category also includes people who volunteered that they already voted. In November 2006, Early November 2002, Early November, 2000, Late October 1998, November 1996 and November 1994 the question was worded: "Do you yourself plan to vote in the election this Tuesday, or not?"

PLANTO1/PLANTO2 CONTINUED. . .

	Yes, plan to vote	Absolutely certain	Fairly <u>certain</u>	Not <u>certain</u>	No, don't plan to	(VOL.) DK/Ref
2004 Election						
November, 2004	97				2	1
Mid-October, 2004	98				1	1
Early October, 2004	98	91	6	1	1	1
September, 2004	98	91	6	1	1	1
August, 2004	98	89	8	1	2	*
June, 2004	96	85	10	1	2	2
2002 Election						
Early November, 2002	90				8	2
Early October, 2002	95				3	2
2000 Election						
Early November, 2000	96				3	1
Late October, 2000	97				2	1
Mid-October, 2000	96				2	2
Early October, 2000	97	87	9	1	2	1
September, 2000	95	84	10	1	3	2
June, 2000	95	84	10	1	2	3
1998 Election						
Late October, 1998	91				6	3
Early October, 1998	92				4	4
Early September, 1998	95				2	3
Late August, 1998	93	75	17	1	3	4
June, 1998	95	74	19	2	3	2
1996 Election						
November, 1996	96				2	2
October, 1996	98	87	10	1	1	1
Late September, 1996	98	89	8	1	1	1
Early September, 1996	96	83	11	2	2	2
July, 1996	95	82	12	1	3	2
June, 1996	96	84	11	1	2	2
1994 Election						
November, 1994	93				5	2
October, 1994	95				3	2
1992 Election						
October, 1992	98	91	6	1	1	1
September, 1992	98	85	11	2	1	1
August, 1992	97	89	8	*	1	2
June, 1992	97	88	8	1	1	2
1988 Election						
Gallup: November, 19	988 97	87	9	1	2	1
October, 1988	98				1	1

NO QUESTIONS 3-6

Q.7 What will make the biggest difference in how you vote for Congress in your district – national issues, local or state issues, the candidate's political party, or the candidate's character and experience? [IF MORE THAN ONE, PROBE WITH: Well, which is most important?]

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2431]:

		-		Character/	(101.)	(1/01.)	(VOL.)
	National	Local/State	Political	Character/	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	DK/
	<u>issues</u>	<u>issues</u>	<u>party</u>	<u>Experience</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Ref</u> .
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	36	29	5	22	3	1	4
Jun 16-20, 2010	38	28	5	21	3	1	3
Feb 3-9, 2010	31	27	5	30	2	*	5
2006 Election							
November, 2006	34	29	6	22	3	1	5
September, 2006	29	33	5	27	1	2	3

Q.7 CONTINUED	National issues	Local/State issues		Character/ Experience	(VOL.) Other	(VOL.) None	(VOL.) DK/ Ref.
June, 2006	30	<u>133063</u> 26	<u>party</u> 6	33	2	*	3
2002 Election	30	20	O	33	2		3
Early November, 2002	23	38	7	26	2	*	4
Early October, 2002	28	35	5	25	2	1	4
June, 2002	26	30	5	33	2	1	3
2000 Election	20	30	3	33	2	'	3
Early October, 2000	21	42	9	21	1	1	5
July, 2000	18	40	6	32	1	1	2
1998 Election	10	10	J	02	•	•	-
Late October, 1998	20	39	5	27	3	2	4
Early October, 1998	23	36	7	28	1	*	5
Early September, 1998	22	34	5	33	2	*	4
Early August, 1998	20	38	5	31	2	*	4
June, 1998	22	37	4	32	1	1	3
March, 1998	18	37	6	35	1	1	2
1996 Election							
November, 1996	23	38	6	25	2	*	6
October, 1996	19	45	7	26	1	1	1
Late September, 1996	25	38	6	24	2	*	5
Early September, 1996	18	42	6	30	1	*	3
1994 Election							
November, 1994	22	38	5	30	1	*	4
Late October, 1994	22	38	3	29	3	1	4
Early October, 1994	22	27	5	39	2	1	4
1986 Election							
CBS/NYT: 10/24-28, 198	36 22	25	6	40	1	1	5
CBS/NYT: 9/28-10/1, 19	86 20	23	9	41	3	*	4

ASK ALL:

Q.8 As you think about the elections for Congress this November, how important are each of the following issues to you. Is the issue of [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important? How about [NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: As you think about the elections for Congress this November, is the issue of [ITEM] very, somewhat, not too, or not at all important to you?] [INTERVIEWER: PLEASE RE-READ RESPONSE OPTIONS AS NECESSARY TO REMIND RESPONDENTS OF OPTIONS]

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2431]:

		Very	Somewhat	Not too	Not at all	Don't Know/
		<u>Important</u>	<u>Important</u>	<u>Important</u>	<u>Important</u>	<u>Refused</u>
ASK A	ALL:					
a.	The economy					
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	90	9	1	*	*
	Mid-October, 2008	91	7	2	*	*
	August, 2008	87	12	1	*	*
	Late May, 2008	88	9	1	1	1
	October, 2007	79	18	1	1	1
	June, 2007	74	22	2	1	1
	Mid-October, 2004	78	18	3	1	*
	August, 2004	76	22	1	1	*
ASK F	ORM 1 ONLY [N=1207]:					
b.F1	Gay marriage					
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	29	20	16	32	2
	Mid-October, 2008	28	21	21	27	3
	August, 2008	28	20	18	32	2
	Late May, 2008	28	21	19	29	3
	October, 2007	22	21	21	32	4

Q.8 CONTINUED...

Q.8 C0	ONTINUED					
		Very	Somewhat	Not too	Not at all	Don't Know/
	Mid Oalahaa 2004	<u>Important</u>	<u>Important</u>	<u>Important</u>	<u>Important</u>	<u>Refused</u>
	Mid-October, 2004	32	22	19	24	3
	August, 2004	34	19	15	30	2
ASK F	ORM 2 ONLY [N=1224:]					
b.F2	Same sex marriage					
D.1 Z	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	32	20	17	30	2
	3d. 21 / lag 3/ 2010	02	20	.,	00	-
b.F1/I	b.F2					
BASE	OON ALL REGISTERED V	OTERS:				
	Gay marriage/					
	Same sex marriage					
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	31	20	17	31	2
ASK A						
C.	Abortion	4.0	0.4	10	47	0
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	43	24	13	17	3
	Mid-October, 2008	41	29	16	12	2
	August, 2008	39	26	17 15	15	3
	Late May, 2008	40	27	15	15	3
	October, 2007	39	26	17	13	5
	June, 2007	40	30	13	14	3
	Mid-October, 2004	47	27	12	11	3 3
	August, 2004	45	25	13	14	3
ASK A	11.					
d.	The environment					
۵.	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	57	33	7	3	1
	Mid-October, 2008	5 <i>7</i>	31	8	3	1
	August, 2008	59	31	6	3	1
	Late May, 2008	62	27	8	3	*
	October, 2007	58	31	8	2	1
	June, 2007	55	36	6	3	*
	Mid-October, 2004	53	37	7	2	1
	August, 2004	55	35	7	3	*
ASK A						
e.	Immigration	5 0	0.0			4
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	58	29	8	4	1
	Mid-October, 2008	49	32	13	5	1
	August, 2008	52	33	10	4	1
	Late May, 2008	54	32	9	3	2
	October, 2007	56	31	7	4	2
	June, 2007	54	34	7	3	2
ASK F	ORM 1 ONLY [N=1207]:					
f.F1	Afghanistan					
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	59	28	6	4	3
	341 21-Aug 3, 2010	37	20	O	4	3
ASK F g.F1	ORM 1 ONLY [N=1207]: Jobs					
<i>3</i> .	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	88	9	1	1	*
	Mid-October, 2008	80	15	2	2	1
	Late May, 2008	78	17	3	1	1
	October, 2007	71	23	3	2	1
	Mid-October, 2004	76	19	4	1	*
	,					

Q.8 CONTINUED...

Q.8 CONTI	NUED					
		Very	Somewhat	Not too	Not at all	Don't Know/
		<u>Important</u>	<u>Important</u>	<u>Important</u>	<u>Important</u>	<u>Refused</u>
ASK FORM	I 1 ONLY [N=1207]:					
h.F1 End	ergy					
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	62	30	5	2	1
	Mid-October, 2008	78	18	3	1	*
	August, 2008	77	19	2	1	1
	Late May, 2008	77	20	2	*	1
	October, 2007	65	28	3	2	2
	June, 2007	61	32	4	2	1
	Mid-October, 2004	54	37	6	2	1
	August, 2004	53	40	6	*	1
	0					
ASK FORM	1 1 ONLY [N=1207]:					
i.F1 The	e banking and financial	system				
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	65	27	4	2	1
	I 2 ONLY [N=1224]:					
j.F2 Ter	rrorism					
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	71	18	6	3	1
	Mid-October, 2008	69	20	7	3	1
	August, 2008	72	20	5	2	1
	Late May, 2008	68	23	6	2	1
	October, 2007	69	22	5	3	1
	June, 2007	69	24	4	2	1
	Mid-October, 2004	77	17	3	2	1
	August, 2004	75	19	3	2	1
ASK EODM						
	I 2 ONLY [N=1224]: alth care					
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	78	17	3	1	*
	Mid-October, 2008	77	19	2	1	1
	August, 2008	73	21	5	1	*
	Late May, 2008	78	17	3	2	*
	October, 2007	76	18	4	1	1
	June, 2007	71	23	4	2	*
	Mid-October, 2004	73	22	4	1	*
	August, 2004	72	21	5	2	*
	· ·					
	I 2 ONLY [N=1224]:					
I.F2 Tax	xes					
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	68	24	6	2	1
	Mid-October, 2008	71	24	3	1	1
	Late May, 2008	68	24	5	2	1
	October, 2007	63	28	6	1	2
	June, 2007	62	29	7	2	*
	Mid-October, 2004	59	31	7	2	1
	1 2 ONLY [N=1224]:					
m.F2 The	e federal budget deficit					
	Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	69	22	5	2	2
	Late May, 2008	69	21	4	3	3
	October, 2007	61	28	8	1	2
	Mid-October, 2004	57	32	7	3	1
	August, 2004	55	35	7	3	*

ASK ALL:

Q.9 How much, if anything, have you heard or read about the Tea Party movement that has been involved in campaigns and protests in the U.S. over the past year? Have you heard ... **[READ]**

Jul 21-Aug 5		Jun 16-20	May 20-23	Mar 11-21
2010		<u>2010</u>	2010	<u>2010</u> ⁵
36	A lot	30	38	26
43	A little	43	38	42
20	Nothing at all	26	24	30
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)) 1	1	1

ASK IF HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE (Q.9=1,2):

Q.10 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?

BASED ON TOTAL:

Jul 21-Aug 5 <u>2010</u>		Jun 16-20 <u>2010</u>	May 20-23 2010	Mar 11-21 <u>2010</u>
8	Strongly agree	9	10	9
14	Agree	15	15	15
9	Disagree	10	8	7
9	Strongly disagree	8	10	7
37	No opinion either way	30	31	29
1	Refused (VOL.)	*	1	1
21	Not heard of Tea Party/DK	27	25	31

QUESTIONS 11 - 58 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

-

In March 11-21, 2010, question was worded: "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year?"

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent? **ASK IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY**:

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

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)			
				No	Other	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent		party	DK/Ref	<u>Rep</u>	Dem
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010		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
Apr 8-11, 2010	23	32	38	5	*	2	17	13
Apr 1-5, 2010	24	29	40	3	1	3	17	15
Mar 18-21, 2010	24	30	40	2	1	3	17	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
Dec 9-13, 2009	25	32	38	2	*	2	14	15
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009		35	32	3	*	2	13	13
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009		34	37	3	1	3	16	14
Sep 10-15, 2009	23	34	34	4	*	5	13	17
Aug 20-27, 2009	26	32	36	3	*	3	14	16
Aug 11-17, 2009	23	33	38	3	*	3	16	15
Jul 22-26, 2009	22	34	37	5	*	2	15	14
Jun 10-14, 2009	25	34	34	3	*	3	11	16
Yearly Totals	25	34	34	3		3		10
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.3	35.8	31.7	3.4	.3	3.1	10.5	15.7
2007	25.4	32.9	33.7	4.6	.4	3.1	10.3	16.7
2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9	10.7	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8	10.2	14.9
2004	29.7	33.4	29.8	3.9	.4	2.9	11.7	13.4
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5	12.1	13.4
2003	30.3	31.4	30.1	5.1	.5 .7	2.7	12.1	11.6
2002	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	. <i>,</i>	2.7	11.7	11.4
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	33.0 31.8	27.9	5.1 5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28.2	34.6	29.5	5. <i>0</i>	.5	2.1	11.7	12.5
2000 2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0	11.6	11.6
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5 .5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.4	12.3	13.8
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2	. 4 	Z.J 	12.3	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4			14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6			14.4	12.9
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8			11.8	14.7
1992 1991	27.7 30.9	32.7 31.4	35.7 33.2	3.9 4.5			13.8 14.6	15.8 10.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2 29.1	4.5 6.8				
			29. i 34				12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34 39					
1987	26	35	39					

PEW RESEARCH CENTER NEWS INTEREST INDEX AUGUST 5-8, 2010 OMNIBUS FINAL TOPLINE N=1002

ASK ALL:

4 Loser4 Outstanding

4 Terrible

4 Thoughtful

(N=1002)

Now thinking about Barack Obama...

PEW.4 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].

	-8, <u>2010</u>	<u>Jan 6-1</u>	<u>0, 2010</u> <u>Ap</u>	r 14	-21, 2009 <u>F</u>	eb 4	I-8, 2009	Septen	nber, 2008 <i>(RV)</i>
	Good	25	Intelligent	30	Intelligent	33	Intelligent	55	Inexperienced
36	Trying	21	Inexperienced	29	Good	17	' Change	36	Change
32	Disappointing	21	Trying	20	Socialist	16	Honest	20	Intelligent
25	Fair	18	Good	17	Liberal	15	Confident	20	Young
22	Incompetent	15	Socialist	16	Great	15	Inexperienced	15	Charismatic
18	Intelligent	12	Honest	15	Confident	14		14	New
17	Idiot	12	Unqualified	13	Inexperience	d 13	Smart	12	Energetic
17	President	11	Arrogant	12	Honest	13	Socialist	12	Hope
	Liar	11	Fair	12	Trying	12	2 Good	12	Liberal
15	Socialist	11	Incompetent	11	Smart	11	Charismatic	10	Honest
14	Competent	10	Confident	10	Change	10) Great	9	Fresh
	Great	10	Different	10	Competent	9	Fantastic	9	Scary
12	OK	10	Strong	10	Excellent	9	Leader	8	Different
11	Excellent	8	Change	10	Spender	9	Trying	7	Enthusiastic
10	Charismatic	8	Great	9	Arrogant	8	Determined	7	Unqualified
10	Inexperienced	1 7	OK	9	Hope	8	Different	6	Committed
	Leader	7	Smart	8	Charismatic	8	Liberal	6	Good
10	Unqualified	6	Capable	8	President	8	President	6	Innovative
8	Overwhelmed	6	Disappointing	7	Different	8	Sincere	6	Inspiring
7	Bad	6	Excellent	7	Leader	7	Arrogant	6	Liar
7	Determined	6	Fake	5	Caring	7	Awesome	6	Socialist
7	Not good	6	Leader	5	Determined	7	Competent	5	Dishonest
6	Awesome	6	Liar	5	Efficient	7	Energetic	5	Fake
6	Failure	5	Charismatic	5	Strong	6	Dedicated	5	Leader
6	Норе	5	Communist	5	Young	6	Excellent	5	Phony
6	Impressive	5	Idiot	4	Ambitious	6	Fresh	5	Unknown
6	Liberal	5	Liberal	4	Awesome	6	Naïve	4	Arrogant
6	Mediocre	5	President	4	Capable	5	Committed	4	Idealist
6	Wonderful	4	Clueless	4	Impressed	5	New	4	Interesting
5	Alright	4	Competent	4	Incompetent	5	Outstanding	4	Opportunist
5	Average	4	Dedicated	4	Integrity	5	Young	4	Uncertain
5	Dedicated	4	Determined	4	Naïve	4	Amazing		(N=629)
5	Honest	4	Dishonest	4	Politician	4	Capable		
5	Inept	4	Hopeful		(N=742)	4	Dynamic		
5	Persistent	4	Integrity			4	Enthusiastic		
5	Smart	4	Young			4	Fair		
5	Strong		(N=740)			4	Integrity		
4	Adequate		(4	OK		
4	Awful					4	Good speaker		
4	Challenged					4	Strong		
4	Change					4	Surprising		
4	Confident					•	(N=660)		
4	Democrat						·/		
4	Ineffective								

NOTE: The numbers listed represent the <u>number of respondents</u> who offered each response; the numbers <u>are not</u> percentages. Counts include close variations on the same word (e.g., young/youthful)