

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER
GENERAL PUBLIC SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 6, 2013
N=2,003**

QUESTION 1 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**RANDOMIZE Q.1 AND Q.2****ASK ALL:**

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

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

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

**QUESTIONS 3-5, 12 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE
NO QUESTIONS 6-11**

ASK ALL:

Thinking about some issues...

Q.13 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]** How about **[NEXT ITEM]?** **[REPEAT INTRODUCTION AS NECESSARY]**

		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,007]:				
a.F1	Health care policy			
	Obama			
	Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	37	59	3
	Sep 4-8, 2013 (U)	41	53	6
	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
	July 22-26, 2009	42	43	14
	April 14-21, 2009	51	26	23
	G.W. Bush			
	August, 2006	31	54	15
	March, 2006	26	57	17
	February, 2006	28	57	15
	February, 2005	36	51	13
	Gallup: November, 2004	37	57	6
	Gallup: January, 2004	43	49	8
	September, 2003	33	46	21
	Gallup: January, 2003	41	44	15
	June, 2002	37	46	17
	Clinton			
	July, 1994	39	54	7
	Bush, Sr			
	May, 1990 ¹	30	59	11
b.F1	The threat of terrorism			
	Obama			
	Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	51	44	5
	Jun 12-16, 2013	56	35	9
	Jan 11-16, 2012	65	28	7
	Aug 17-21, 2011	56	33	12
	May 2, 2011	69	21	10
	Jan 6-9, 2011	55	33	12
	May 6-9, 2010 ²	49	37	13
	Jan 6-10, 2010	51	39	10
	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	52	34	14
	April 14-21, 2009	57	26	17
	February 4-8, 2009	50	21	29
	G.W. Bush			
	April, 2007	46	43	11
	December, 2006	48	44	8
	August, 2006	50	39	11
	June, 2006	47	41	12
	March, 2006	42	49	9
	February, 2006	53	40	7
	December, 2005	49	44	7
	Late October, 2005	52	40	8
	Early September, 2005	49	41	10

¹ In May 1990, the question asked about "health care."

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

July, 2005	49	40	11
Q.13 CONTINUED...			
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Mid-May, 2005	57	35	8
February, 2005	59	34	7
January, 2005	62	33	5
Mid-October, 2004	49	40	11
Early September, 2004	62	32	6
August, 2004	58	37	5
July, 2004	54	40	6
June, 2004	56	35	9
Late April, 2004	55	36	9
Early April, 2004	53	38	9
Gallup: December, 2003	65	33	2
September, 2003	64	28	8
February, 2003	67	25	8
January, 2003	69	23	8
Early October, 2002	71	22	7
June, 2002	74	18	8
Mid-September, 2001 ³	85	6	9
Clinton			
Early September, 1998	72	20	8

ITEMS c.F1-f.F1 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=996]:**

g.F2 The economy

Obama

Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	31	65	3
Sep 4-8, 2013 (U)	43	52	5
Jun 12-16, 2013	44	50	5
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	40	56	4
Mar 7-11, 2012	43	53	4
Jan 11-16, 2012	38	59	4
Nov 9-14, 2011	35	58	6
Aug 17-21, 2011	34	60	6
May 2, 2011	40	55	4
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	39	56	6
Jan 6-9, 2011	42	51	7
Jun 16-20, 2010	43	51	5
May 6-9, 2010	41	51	8
Apr 21-26, 2010	38	54	8
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

G.W. Bush

April, 2007	38	52	10
December, 2006	39	53	8
August, 2006	33	59	8
June, 2006	33	57	10
March, 2006	34	57	9
February, 2006	38	55	7

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

December, 2005	38	55	7
Late October, 2005	36	56	8
Q.13 CONTINUED...			
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Early September, 2005	33	60	7
July, 2005	38	53	9
Mid-May, 2005	35	57	8
February, 2005	43	50	7
January, 2005	45	50	5
Mid-October, 2004	38	55	7
Early September, 2004	44	49	7
August, 2004	42	52	6
July, 2004	42	52	6
June, 2004	43	50	7
Early April, 2004	39	53	8
Mid-January, 2004	47	47	6
September, 2003	43	48	9
February, 2003	43	48	9
January, 2003	47	45	8
Early October, 2002	49	40	11
June, 2002	53	36	11
January, 2002	60	28	12
Early September, 2001	47	44	9
February, 2001	50	22	28
Clinton			
January, 1996	50	42	8
June, 1995	46	46	8
October, 1994 ⁴	45	46	9
July, 1994	38	56	6
Bush, Sr			
August, 1992	40	52	8
May, 1990	42	47	11

ITEM h.F2 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

i.F2	The nation's foreign policy			
	Obama			
	Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	34	56	10
	Sep 4-8, 2013 (U)	33	57	11
	Jan 11-16, 2012	46	45	10
	Nov 9-14, 2011	46	40	13
	Jun 16-20, 2010	45	40	15
	Mar 10-14, 2010	42	40	18
	Jan 6-10, 2010	44	40	16
	Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	44	38	18
	July 22-26, 2009	47	32	21
	June 10-14, 2009	57	31	12
	April 14-21, 2009	61	22	17
	February 4-8, 2009	52	17	31
	G.W. Bush			
	April, 2007	30	55	15
	December, 2006	30	59	11
	August, 2006	37	49	14
	June, 2006	37	51	12
	Late October, 2005	36	51	13
	July, 2005	36	49	15
	Mid-May, 2005	38	46	16
	February, 2005	43	46	11

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

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January, 2005	48	43	9
Mid-October, 2004	37	49	14
Early September, 2004	47	42	11

Q.13 CONTINUED...

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
August, 2004	42	49	9
July, 2004	40	48	12
Mid-January, 2004	53	36	11
March, 2003	53	36	11
Early April, 2002	69	20	11
<i>Gallup</i> : October, 2001	81	14	5
Early September, 2001	46	34	20
August, 2001 ⁵	45	32	23
June, 1999	52	37	11
Clinton			
May, 1999	46	43	11
April, 1999	51	39	10
March, 1999	56	34	10
September, 1998	61	30	9
September, 1997	54	34	12
January, 1996	52	39	9
June, 1995	39	52	9
October, 1994	50	42	8
July, 1994	38	53	9
October, 1993	39	46	15
September, 1993	47	33	20
August, 1993	52	25	23
<i>Newsweek</i> :			
June 30-July 1, 1993	49	35	16
Bush, Sr			
May, 1990	58	30	12

j.F2 The nation's immigration policy

Obama			
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	32	60	7
Jun 12-16, 2013	43	47	11
Feb 13-18, 2013 (U)	44	43	13
Nov 9-14, 2011	32	49	20
Jan 6-9, 2011	35	50	16
Jun 16-20, 2010	33	54	12
May 6-9, 2010	25	54	21
Apr 21-26, 2010	29	47	24
Jan 6-10, 2010	30	50	21
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	31	48	21
G.W. Bush			
April, 2007	26	59	15
June, 2006	32	52	16
April, 2006	25	62	13
February, 2006	23	57	20
Late October, 2005	24	54	22

ITEMS k.F2-I.F2 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

QUESTIONS 14-20, 23-26 28-29, 31-34, 40-44, 46-48, Q49a.F2-b.F2, 49d.F2-f.F2, 50-59 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ITEM 49c.F2 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

NO QUESTIONS 21-22, 27, 30, 35-39, 45

⁵ In August 2001 roughly half of the U.S. sample was asked about George W. Bush's handling of international policy, while the other half was asked about the handling of the nation's foreign policy. Results did not differ between question wordings and are combined.

ASK ALL:

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

ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):

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

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	24	32	38	4	*	2	16	14
Oct 9-13, 2013	25	32	37	3	1	3	16	18
Sep 4-8, 2013	26	32	38	3	1	1	17	15
Jul 17-21, 2013	19	29	46	3	*	2	19	18
Jun 12-16, 2013	23	33	39	3	*	2	17	15
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
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
2001	29.0	33.2	29.5	5.2	.6	2.6	11.9	11.6
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	27.3	34.4	30.9	5.1	.6	1.7	12.1	13.5
2000	28.0	33.4	29.1	5.5	.5	3.6	11.6	11.7
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.9	33.7	31.1	4.6	.4	2.3	11.6	13.1
1997	28.0	33.4	32.0	4.0	.4	2.3	12.2	14.1
1996	28.9	33.9	31.8	3.0	.4	2.0	12.1	14.9
1995	31.6	30.0	33.7	2.4	.6	1.3	15.1	13.5
1994	30.1	31.5	33.5	1.3	--	3.6	13.7	12.2
1993	27.4	33.6	34.2	4.4	1.5	2.9	11.5	14.9
1992	27.6	33.7	34.7	1.5	0	2.5	12.6	16.5
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	0	1.4	3.0	14.7	10.8
1990	30.9	33.2	29.3	1.2	1.9	3.4	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--

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

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

BASED ON REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICAN LEANERS [N=876]:

	Agree	Disagree	No opinion either way	(VOL.) Haven't heard of	(VOL.) Refused	Not heard of/ DK
Oct 30-Nov 6, 2013	40	9	48	2	1	--
Oct 9-13, 2013	41	11	45	2	1	--
Sep 4-8, 2013	35	9	54	1	1	--
Jul 17-21, 2013	37	10	50	2	1	--
Jun 12-16, 2013	44	9	46	1	2	--
May 23-26, 2013	41	7	48	1	3	--
May 1-5, 2013	28	8	61	2	1	--
Mar 13-17, 2013	43	7	47	1	1	--
Feb 13-18, 2013	36	9	52	1	3	--
Feb 14-17, 2013	43	9	45	1	2	--
Jan 9-13, 2013	35	10	51	2	2	--
Dec 5-9, 2012	37	11	51	1	*	--
Oct 31-Nov 3, 2012 (RVs)	40	8	49	1	2	--
Oct 4-7, 2012	38	9	50	1	3	--
Sep 12-16, 2013	39	7	52	1	1	--
Jun 28-Jul 9, 2012	40	9	47	2	1	--
Jun 7-17, 2012	42	8	48	1	1	--
May 9-Jun 3, 2012	36	9	53	1	2	--
Apr 4-15, 2012	42	8	48	1	1	--
Mar 7-11, 2012	38	10	49	2	1	--
Feb 8-12, 2012	40	7	51	1	1	--
Jan 11-16, 2012	42	8	47	1	1	--
Jan 4-8, 2012	37	8	52	1	1	--
Dec 7-11, 2011	40	9	48	2	1	--
Nov 9-14, 2011	41	9	49	*	1	--
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011	37	11	51	1	1	--
Aug 17-21, 2011	43	7	49	*	1	--
Jul 20-24, 2011	40	7	51	*	1	--
Jun 15-19, 2011	42	9	47	1	1	--
May 25-30, 2011	37	7	52	1	3	--
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	45	9	46	*	1	--
Mar 8-14, 2011	37	7	54	1	*	--
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	41	9	48	1	1	--
Feb 2-7, 2011 ⁶	43	8	47	1	1	--
Jan 5-9, 2011	45	6	47	1	1	--
Dec 1-5, 2010	48	5	45	1	1	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	51	5	42	1	1	--
Oct 27-30, 2010 (RVs)	58	5	27	--	1	9
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	54	5	30	--	1	10
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	56	6	29	--	*	9
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	46	5	36	--	1	13
Jun 16-20, 2010	46	5	30	--	*	19
May 20-23, 2010	53	4	25	--	1	16
Mar 11-21, 2010	48	4	26	--	1	21

⁶ In the February 2-7, 2011, survey and before, question read "...do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the Tea Party movement..." In October 2010 and earlier, question was asked only of those who had heard or read a lot or a little about the Tea Party. In May 2010 through October 2010, it was described as: "the Tea Party movement that has been involved in campaigns and protests in the U.S. over the past year." In March 2010 it was described as "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."

Key to Pew Research trends noted in the topline:

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