

FOX NEWS POLL

OPINION DYNAMICS

17 September 2009

Polling was conducted by telephone September 15-16, 2009, in the evenings. The total sample is 900 registered voters nationwide with a margin of error of ± 3 percentage points. Results are of registered voters, unless otherwise noted.

LV = likely voters

Democrats n=375, ± 5 ; Republicans n=282, ± 6 ; Independents n=186, ± 7

Whites n=738, ± 4 ; Blacks n=103 ± 10

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as president?

	Approve	Disapprove	(DK)		Approve	Disapprove	(DK)
15-16 Sep 09	54%	39	8	22-23 Apr 09	62%	29	8
Democrats	85%	10	5	Democrats	92%	4	4
Republicans	17%	72	11	Republicans	24%	66	10
Independents	51%	42	7	Independents	57%	29	14
11-12 Aug 09	53%	40	7	31 Mar-1 Apr 09	58%	32	9
Democrats	87%	8	5	Democrats	90%	5	5
Republicans	16%	76	8	Republicans	23%	66	11
Independents	49%	44	7	Independents	52%	35	13
21-22 Jul 09	54%	38	8	3-4 Mar 09	63%	26	11
Democrats	86%	8	6	Democrats	92%	3	4
Republicans	17%	75	8	Republicans	30%	56	13
Independents	54%	36	10	Independents	61%	24	15
9-10 Jun 09	62%	31	8	17-18 Feb 09	60%	26	14
Democrats	88%	8	4	Democrats	90%	5	5
Republicans	28%	62	11	Republicans	29%	53	18
Independents	66%	26	9	Independents	62%	19	19
12-13 May 09	60%	30	9	27-28 Jan 09	65%	16	19
Democrats	93%	5	2	Democrats	85%	2	12
Republicans	23%	63	13	Republicans	37%	36	27
Independents	57%	30	13	Independents	64%	16	19

2. - 4. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing on the following issues? (READ AND RANDOMIZE LIST)

	Approve	Disapprove	(Don't know)
Health care	44%	48	8
The economy	55%	40	5
Afghanistan	51%	32	17

	Approve	Disapprove	(Don't know)
Health care			
15-16 Sep 09	44%	48	8
Democrats	73%	17	10
Republicans	13%	85	2
Independents	35%	53	11
21-22 Jul 09	43%	45	12

	Approve	Disapprove	(Don't know)
The economy			
15-16 Sep 09	55%	40	5
Democrats	82%	13	5
Republicans	24%	72	5
Independents	50%	44	6
21-22 Jul 09	50%	43	7
Afghanistan			
15-16 Sep 09	51%	32	17
Democrats	64%	20	16
Republicans	37%	47	16
Independents	49%	31	19

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Congress is doing?

	Approve	Disapprove	(DK)		Approve	Disapprove	(DK)
15-16 Sep 09	27%	64	9	18-19 Mar 08	20%	67	12
Democrats	39%	51	11	19-20 Feb 08	22%	68	10
Republicans	13%	80	7	30-31 Jan 08	22%	66	12
Independents	24%	68	9	18-19 Dec 07	25%	60	15
RECENT TREND				13-14 Nov 07	26%	61	14
11-12 Aug 09	30%	59	11	23-24 Oct 07	25%	54	22
21-22 Jul 09	30%	60	10	9-10 Oct 07	24%	63	12
12-13 May 09	41%	49	10	25-26 Sep 07	24%	63	13
31 Mar-1 Apr 09	38%	52	10	11-12 Sep 07	32%	56	11
3-4 Mar 09	41%	48	10	21-22 Aug 07	24%	60	17
17-18 Feb 09	39%	50	10	5-6 Jun 07	29%	55	15
27-28 Jan 09	40%	46	14	15-16 May 07	32%	53	15
13-14 Jan 09	23%	68	10	17-18 Apr 07	35%	49	16
9-10 Dec 08	20%	71	9	27-28 Mar 07	30%	54	16
1-2 Nov 08	18%	75	7	27-28 Feb 07	32%	49	20
1-2 Nov 08 LV	18%	75	7	30-31 Jan 07	33%	44	22
28-29 Oct 08	17%	76	6	16-17 Jan 07	32%	47	21
28-29 Oct 08 LV	18%	77	5	4-5 Nov 06 LV	29%	57	13
20-21 Oct 08	19%	72	9	10-11 Oct 06 LV	31%	63	6
20-21 Oct 08 LV	18%	73	8	12-13 Sep 06 LV	29%	53	18
8-9 Oct 08	13%	77	10	29-30 Aug 06	24%	61	15
22-23 Sep 08	17%	73	9	8-9 Aug 06	24%	58	17
8-9 Sep 08	23%	68	8	11-12 Jul 06	25%	61	14
19-20 Aug 08	20%	73	7	13-14 Jun 06	29%	59	12
22-23 Jul 08	21%	68	11	16-18 May 06	27%	56	17
17-18 Jun 08	19%	69	13	18-19 Apr 06	25%	52	23
28-29 Apr 08	22%	67	11	14-15 Mar 06	29%	55	16

6. These days, how much attention do you feel Congress pays to what regular Americans think when it decides what to do -- a great deal, some, not much or none at all?

	A great deal	Some	Not much	None at all	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	6%	30	39	23	2
Democrats	9%	39	35	14	2
Republicans	5%	21	43	32	1
Independents	3%	27	41	26	3

7. Since January of this year, do you think the country has become more united or more divided?

	More united	More divided	(Same/ No change)	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	27%	60	10	4
Democrats	38%	48	11	3
Republicans	13%	76	8	3
Independents	23%	60	14	3

8. In the next congressional election in 2010, are you more likely to:
 SCALE: 1. Vote for the Democrat to help Barack Obama pass his policies and programs
 2. Vote for the Republican to provide a check on Obama's power
 3. (Too soon to say) 4. (Don't know/Refused)

	-- Vote for --			
	Democrat	Republican	(Too soon)	(DK/Ref)
15-16 Sep 09	40%	35	17	7
Democrats	77%	7	10	6
Republicans	5%	79	12	5
Independents	29%	28	36	7
11-12 Aug 09	40%	40	15	5
Democrats	80%	7	10	3
Republicans	3%	86	8	3
Independents	28%	30	31	10
21-22 Jul 09	43%	38	15	4
Democrats	82%	3	13	2
Republicans	5%	83	10	1
Independents	34%	31	24	11
12-13 May 09	47%	35	14	4
Democrats	86%	6	7	2
Republicans	5%	81	11	3
Independents	35%	31	25	9
22-23 Apr 09	46%	33	17	4
Democrats	86%	5	7	2
Republicans	4%	78	15	3
Independents	33%	26	34	8

9. Do you think Barack Obama is a new kind of politician or is he a typical politician?

	New kind of politician	Typical politician	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	54%	39	7
Democrats	72%	21	6
Republicans	36%	58	6
Independents	46%	46	7

10. What do you think the president should be spending more time on right now -
 - fixing the economy or reforming health care?

	Fixing economy	Reforming health care	(Both equally)	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	57%	19	21	3
Democrats	39%	34	26	1
Republicans	78%	6	11	5
Independents	63%	10	25	2

For reference: What do you think should be the higher priority for the federal government right now -- fixing the economy and creating jobs or reforming health care?

SCALE: 1. Fixing economy and creating jobs 2. Reforming health care

3. (Both equal) 4. (Don't know)

	Economy	Health care	(Both)	(Don't know)
21-22 Jul 09	76%	12	10	2
Democrats	70%	17	12	1
Republicans	88%	3	6	3
Independents	72%	12	14	3

11. All in all, do you think the actions Barack Obama has taken since becoming president have helped or hurt the nation's economy, or have they not made much of a difference?

	Helped	Hurt	Not much difference	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	46%	25	27	2
Democrats	74%	5	19	2
Republicans	16%	50	33	1
Independents	39%	24	33	5
22-23 Apr 09*	52%	28	15	4

*April 2009 wording: "... president WILL help or hurt the nation's economy, or will they not make much of a difference?"

12. Which one of the following best describes your current financial situation? Are you:

	Getting ahead	Just able to pay most bills	Falling behind	(Don't know /Refused)
15-16 Sep 09	27%	54	17	2
Democrats	31%	55	12	2
Republicans	22%	52	23	2
Independents	23%	56	18	2
22-23 Sep 08	23%	57	17	3
18-19 Dec 07	41%	45	11	3
17-18 Apr 07	31%	51	15	3

13. Do you think the government's recent takeovers of sections of private industries such as in the banking industry, the insurance industry and the auto industry were a good idea or a bad idea?

	Good idea	Bad idea	(Mixed)	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	33%	54	9	4
Democrats	55%	31	8	6
Republicans	12%	80	7	1
Independents	23%	58	15	4

For reference: Do you think the federal government's increased involvement in the management of U.S. banks and the financial industry is a good thing, or a bad thing?

	Good thing	Bad thing	(Combination)	(Don't know)
12-13 May 09	38%	47	11	4

For reference: Do you think the federal government's increased involvement in the management of U.S. car companies is a good thing, or a bad thing?

	Good thing	Bad thing	(Combination)	(Don't know)
12-13 May 09	33%	55	9	3

14. Do you think the Obama administration is proposing too many major policy changes, not enough policy changes, or about the right amount?

	Too many	Not enough	About right	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	44%	10	41	5
Democrats	17%	11	68	4
Republicans	73%	10	12	5
Independents	52%	10	33	5

15. Do you think the Obama administration is proposing too much of an increase in government spending, not enough of an increase, or about the right amount?

	Too much	Not enough	About right	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	53%	8	34	4
Democrats	25%	11	59	5
Republicans	84%	7	8	1
Independents	61%	7	29	4
12-13 May 09	54%	6	35	4

16. Do you think it is possible the country -- meaning the United States government -- could go bankrupt?

	Yes	No	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	63%	33	3
Democrats	48%	48	4
Republicans	77%	21	2
Independents	73%	24	3
3-4 Mar 09	61%	36	4

17. [ROTATE A & B] Thinking about Barack Obama's policies, some people say [A: those who oppose Obama's policies are mostly motivated by racism], while others say [B: opposition to Obama's policies is based on honest disagreements] -- which comes closer to your view? Do you think opposition to Obama's policies is: [ROTATE CHOICES]

	Based on honest disagreements	Motivated by racism	(Some of both)	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	65%	20	9	5
Democrats	48%	34	14	5
Republicans	87%	8	1	4
Independents	69%	13	13	5
Whites	71%	14	10	5
Blacks	27%	63	8	2

Now a few questions on Health Care

18. Based on what you know about the health care reform legislation being considered right now, do you favor or oppose the plan?

	Favor	Oppose	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	38%	48	14
Democrats	65%	20	15
Republicans	13%	79	8
Independents	31%	55	14
11-12 Aug 09	34%	49	16
Democrats	61%	21	18
Republicans	8%	81	10
Independents	27%	50	23
21-22 Jul 09	36%	47	16
Democrats	61%	22	17
Republicans	11%	80	9
Independents	33%	43	24

19. Do you think senior citizens would be better off or worse off under the health care reforms being considered by Congress or would the reforms not make much of a difference to most elderly Americans across the country?

	Better off	Worse off	No difference	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	23%	34	29	14
Democrats	40%	11	37	12
Republicans	8%	60	22	10
Independents	15%	36	31	18

20. Do you think you and your family would be better off or worse off under the health care reforms being considered or would the reforms not make much of a difference to your family?

	Better off	Worse off	No difference	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	22%	36	35	6
Democrats	36%	12	45	8
Republicans	8%	63	27	2
Independents	17%	46	31	7
11-12 Aug 09	20%	35	37	9

21. Which would you prefer -- the current health care system or the health care plan proposed by President Obama?

	Current health care system	President Obama's proposed system	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	46%	37	16
Democrats	20%	65	15
Republicans	79%	10	11
Independents	49%	31	19

22. Some Americans choose not to buy health insurance even though they can afford it. Do you think the government should be able to require all Americans who can afford it to have some form of health insurance, even if they don't want it?

	Yes	No	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	42%	54	3
Democrats	58%	40	3
Republicans	26%	70	3
Independents	41%	57	3

23. If you were sick or seriously ill, would you rather be covered by a government-run health insurance plan or a privately-run health insurance plan?

	Government-run	Privately-run	(Either)	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	20%	62	10	8
Democrats	35%	40	15	10
Republicans	5%	90	3	2
Independents	16%	64	11	9

For reference: If you were sick or seriously ill, would you rather be in a government-run health care system or the current privately-run health care system?

	Government-run	Privately-run	(Either)	(Don't know)
21-22 Jul 09	19%	64	8	9

24. President Obama says his health care plan will not add one dime to the deficit today or in the future -- do you believe this is possible, or not?

	Yes, possible	No, not possible	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	28%	67	5
Democrats	47%	46	7
Republicans	10%	87	2
Independents	21%	75	4

25. President Obama says under his health care plan if you have health coverage you like that you won't have to make a change if you don't want to -- do you believe this will be the case, or do you believe you'll probably have to make some changes?

	Believe I won't have to make changes	Believe I will probably have to make some changes	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	36%	60	4
Democrats	54%	43	3
Republicans	18%	77	5
Independents	32%	63	5

26. If a government-run health insurance plan or the so-called "public plan" became law, do you think it would eventually put private health insurance companies out of business?

	Yes	No	(Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	52%	41	7
Democrats	34%	60	6
Republicans	71%	21	8
Independents	56%	38	6

POLITICAL IDENTIFICATION: When you think about politics, do you think of yourself as a Democrat or a Republican?

	Democrat	Republican	(Independent)	(Other)	(Refused/Don't know)
15-16 Sep 09	42%	31	21	4	3
11-12 Aug 09	39%	35	22	2	2
21-22 Jul 09	40%	34	20	4	2
9-10 Jun 09	40%	33	23	1	2
12-13 May 09	42%	30	24	2	2
22-23 Apr 09	42%	30	22	3	4
31 Mar-1 Apr 09	42%	33	20	3	2
3-4 Mar 09	40%	32	22	3	3
17-18 Feb 09	42%	35	18	3	2
27-28 Jan 09	44%	30	22	2	2
13-14 Jan 09	42%	32	21	2	4
9-10 Dec 08	43%	33	20	2	2
1-2 Nov 08 LV	42%	36	18	3	1
28-29 Oct 08 LV	41%	39	16	2	1
20-21 Oct 08 LV	43%	37	16	2	2
1-2 Nov 08	41%	36	18	4	1
28-29 Oct 08	40%	39	17	2	2
20-21 Oct 08	43%	36	16	2	3
8-9 Oct 08	41%	34	21	2	2
22-23 Sep 08	41%	34	21	2	2
8-9 Sep 08	41%	34	21	2	2
19-20 Aug 08	42%	35	20	1	2
22-23 Jul 08	42%	33	19	3	3
17-18 Jun 08	42%	35	16	3	3
28-29 Apr 08	44%	30	21	2	2
18-19 Mar 08	43%	30	21	3	3
19-20 Feb 08	43%	33	17	4	3
30-31 Jan 08	42%	33	20	2	3