

# FOX NEWS POLL

## OPINION DYNAMICS

17 September 2010

Polling was conducted by telephone September 14-16, 2010, in the evenings. The total sample is 900 registered voters nationwide with a margin of sampling error of  $\pm 3$  percentage points. Results are of registered voters, unless otherwise noted. LV = likely voters

Democrats n=337,  $\pm 5$ ; Republicans n=366,  $\pm 5$ ; Independents n=155,  $\pm 8$

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

\*\*\* President Obama Job Ratings Summary \*\*\*

	Approve	Disapprove	(Don't know)
Latest (14-16 Sep 10)	42%	52	6
High (27-28 Jan 09)	65%	16	19
Low (14-16 Sep 10)	42%	52	6
Average	51%	41	

	Approve	Disapprove	(DK)
14-16 Sep 10	42%	52	6
Democrats	80%	14	6
Republicans	8%	88	4
Independents	39%	50	11

#### TREND

1-2 Sep 10	46%	48	6
Democrats	80%	15	5
Republicans	14%	83	3
Independents	40%	50	10
10-11 Aug 10	43%	49	8
Democrats	77%	19	5
Republicans	14%	81	6
Independents	42%	46	13
27-28 Jul 10	43%	50	7
Democrats	80%	15	5
Republicans	14%	80	6
Independents	36%	56	8
13-14 Jul 10	43%	48	9
Democrats	76%	15	9
Republicans	13%	80	8
Independents	40%	48	13
29-30 Jun 10	47%	45	9
Democrats	84%	10	6
Republicans	14%	78	8
Independents	40%	48	13

	Approve	Disapprove	(DK)
8-9 Jun 10	46%	45	8
Democrats	79%	13	8
Republicans	13%	81	6
Independents	38%	52	10
18-19 May 10	45%	46	8
Democrats	79%	12	9
Republicans	12%	84	4
Independents	39%	48	14
4-5 May 10	48%	43	9
20-21 Apr 10	46%	46	8
6-7 Apr 10	43%	48	9
16-17 Mar 10	46%	48	6
23-24 Feb 10	47%	45	8
2-3 Feb 10	46%	47	7
12-13 Jan 10	50%	42	8
8-9 Dec 09	50%	44	7
17-18 Nov 09	46%	46	8
27-28 Oct 09	50%	41	10
13-14 Oct 09	49%	45	6
29-30 Sep 09	50%	42	8
15-16 Sep 09	54%	39	8
11-12 Aug 09	53%	40	7
21-22 Jul 09	54%	38	8
9-10 Jun 09	62%	31	8
12-13 May 09	60%	30	9
22-23 Apr 09	62%	29	8
31 Mar-1 Apr 09	58%	32	9
3-4 Mar 09	63%	26	11
17-18 Feb 09	60%	26	14
27-28 Jan 09	65%	16	19

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing on the economy?

	Approve	Disapprove (Don't know)	
14-16 Sep 10	40%	56	4
Democrats	75%	21	4
Republicans	8%	90	2
Independents	41%	52	8
27-28 Jul 10	38%	59	3
6-7 Apr 10	42%	53	5
23-24 Feb 10	40%	56	5
8-9 Dec 09	45%	52	3
13-14 Oct 09	48%	49	3
15-16 Sep 09	55%	40	5
21-22 Jul 09	50%	43	7

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing on Afghanistan?

	Approve	Disapprove (Don't know)	
14-16 Sep 10	48%	41	10
Democrats	70%	23	7
Republicans	24%	64	12
Independents	58%	28	14
27-28 Jul 10	42%	47	11
29-30 Jun 10	46%	41	13
6-7 Apr 10	49%	36	15
23-24 Feb 10	51%	36	14
8-9 Dec 09	49%	44	7
13-14 Oct 09	41%	43	15
15-16 Sep 09	51%	32	17

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Joe Biden is doing as vice president?

	Approve	Disapprove (Don't know)	
14-16 Sep 10	40%	42	18
Democrats	72%	14	14
Republicans	12%	72	16
Independents	42%	29	29
18-19 May 10	43%	34	23
8-9 Dec 09	38%	35	27
9-10 Jun 09	49%	32	19
22-23 Apr 09	53%	26	20

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Hillary Clinton is doing as Secretary of State?

	Approve	Disapprove (Don't know)	
14-16 Sep 10	66%	26	8
Democrats	90%	6	4
Republicans	42%	49	9
Independents	71%	16	13
18-19 May 10	59%	19	22
8-9 Dec 09	66%	22	12
11-12 Aug 09	66%	24	10
31 Mar-1 Apr 09	56%	23	21

6. Right now, how interested are you in the November elections?

	Extremely interested	Very interested	Somewhat interested	Not at all interested	(Don't know)
14-16 Sep 10	31%	31	30	9	-
Democrats	22%	28	38	10	1
Republicans	42%	33	20	5	-
Independents	24%	30	33	13	1
1-2 Sep 10	29%	31	29	10	1
Democrats	19%	33	36	12	1
Republicans	40%	30	23	7	-
Independents	27%	31	28	12	1
10-11 Aug 10	29%	29	34	8	-
Democrats	18%	31	43	8	-
Republicans	41%	25	28	6	-
Independents	29%	32	31	7	-
27-28 Jul 10	31%	31	28	9	1
Democrats	23%	36	31	10	1
Republicans	36%	30	27	7	1
Independents	44%	24	25	7	-
13-14 Jul 10	28%	29	34	8	1
29-30 Jun 10	29%	28	32	9	2
8-9 Jun 10	27%	28	31	13	1
18-19 May 10	30%	31	29	10	1
4-5 May 10	27%	31	32	10	1
20-21 Apr 10	30%	27	31	11	-
6-7 Apr 10	31%	27	30	11	1
2-3 Feb 10	28%	29	32	10	1

7. If the election for Congress were held today, would you vote for the Democratic candidate in your district or the Republican candidate in your district? (If undecided) Well, if you had to vote, which way would you lean? (ROTATE)

	Democratic Candidate			Republican Candidate			(Undecided/Don't know)	
	Total	Vote/Lean		Total	Vote/Lean		(Other)	know)
14-16 Sep 10	40%	36	4	46	41	5	3	11
Democrats	85%	79	6	6	6	-	1	8
Republicans	5%	4	1	91	83	8	-	5
Independents	30%	24	6	30	20	10	13	27
1-2 Sep 10	37%	33	4	46	42	4	4	13
Democrats	82%	74	8	7	6	1	1	8
Republicans	1%	1	-	93	87	6	2	5
Independents	21%	18	3	35	27	8	14	31
10-11 Aug 10	37%	34	3	44	41	3	3	15
Democrats	80%	74	6	6	6	-	2	11
Republicans	4%	4	-	88	82	6	2	7
Independents	28%	22	6	34	29	5	6	33
27-28 Jul 10	36%	33	3	47	42	5	3	13
13-14 Jul 10	37%	33	4	41	38	3	4	18
29-30 Jun 10	40%	36	4	42	38	4	4	13
8-9 Jun 10	41%	37	4	38	32	6	5	17
18-19 May 10	41%	37	4	41	35	6	5	14
4-5 May 10	40%	35	5	42	37	5	4	14
20-21 Apr 10	38%	35	3	42	38	4	4	15
6-7 Apr 10	39%	35	4	43	38	5	4	15
16-17 Mar 10	38%	34	4	42	38	4	6	14

8. Do you think it would be good or bad for the country if all the current members of Congress were voted out of office -- including your own representative -- and all new people were elected this November to get a fresh start?

	Good	Bad	(No difference)	(Don't know)
14-16 Sep 10	47%	43	4	6
Democrats	36%	53	3	9
Republicans	59%	33	4	4
Independents	45%	44	6	4
12-13 Jan 10	43%	44	6	6
19-20 Aug 08*	45%	39	7	9
12-13 Sep 06 LV*	39%	42	9	9

\*Wording: Do you think it would be good or bad for the country if all the current members of Congress were voted out of office and all new people were elected this November?

9. Would you like to see Democrat Nancy Pelosi keep her job as Speaker of the House next year, or would you rather see a Republican take over as leader of the U.S. House of Representatives?

SCALE: 1. Want Democrat Pelosi to keep her job as speaker 2. Want a Republican to take over as leader 3. (Want a different Democrat/Neither) 4. (Don't know)

	Want Pelosi to keep her job	Want a Republican	(Different Dem/Neither)	(Don't know)
14-16 Sep 10	37%	47	8	7
Democrats	77%	9	9	4
Republicans	6%	88	3	4
Independents	31%	37	17	15

10. President Obama and administration officials have frequently blamed the Bush administration for the way things are going in the country today. Former President George W. Bush has never responded to the criticism. Would you have more respect for former President Bush if he responded to these comments, or do you have more respect for him for keeping quiet?

SCALE: 1. Would have more respect for him if he responded 2. Have more respect for him for keeping quiet 3. (Don't know)

	More respect if responded	More respect for keeping quiet	(Don't know)
14-16 Sep 10	25%	62	13
Democrats	39%	46	15
Republicans	13%	79	7
Independents	26%	58	16

11. How much do you think elected officials in Washington truly understand and relate to the lives of everyday Americans?

	A great deal	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all	(Don't know)
14-16 Sep 10	4%	29	34	32	1
Democrats	7%	41	30	21	1
Republicans	2%	20	36	41	1
Independents	5%	25	35	33	2

12. - 20. How important will each of the following issues be to your vote for Congress this year?

SCALE: 1. Extremely important 2. Very important 3. Somewhat important  
4. Not at all important 5. (Don't know)

\*\*\*\*SUMMARY CHART\*\*\*\*

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not at all important	(DK)
<b>The economy</b>	57%				
Trustworthiness of candidate	53%				
Government spending	48%				
Health care	46%				
Taxes	43%				
The federal deficit	43%				
Terrorism	41%				
Immigration	32%				
Afghanistan	27%				
	<b>Extremely important</b>	<b>Very important</b>	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Not at all important</b>	<b>(DK)</b>
<b>The economy</b>					
14-16 Sep 10	57%	32	9	1	-
Democrats	56%	33	10	2	-
Republicans	63%	31	5	-	-
Independents	47%	33	16	3	1
27-28 Jul 10	57%	38	4	-	1
4-5 Nov 06 LV	32%	50	15	3	-
10-11 Oct 06 LV	39%	47	12	2	1
26-27 Sep 06 LV	48%	40	11	1	1
<b>Trustworthiness of candidates</b>					
14-16 Sep 10	53%	31	11	4	1
Democrats	48%	33	13	5	2
Republicans	62%	28	9	1	1
Independents	42%	39	8	8	3
<b>Government spending</b>					
14-16 Sep 10	48%	31	15	4	1
Democrats	37%	36	20	6	-
Republicans	63%	28	8	1	-
Independents	40%	30	19	7	3
<b>Health care</b>					
14-16 Sep 10	46%	32	16	6	-
Democrats	46%	35	15	4	-
Republicans	51%	27	15	7	-
Independents	36%	36	19	8	1
27-28 Jul 10	51%	36	11	1	1
<b>Taxes</b>					
14-16 Sep 10	43%	32	20	5	-
Democrats	36%	30	28	6	-
Republicans	53%	32	12	2	-
Independents	36%	31	24	7	1
27-28 Jul 10	40%	39	17	3	-
4-5 Nov 06 LV	26%	45	22	7	-

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not at all important	(DK)
<b>The federal deficit</b>					
14-16 Sep 10	43%	32	18	5	1
Democrats	31%	34	27	6	2
Republicans	56%	32	9	2	1
Independents	38%	28	22	11	1
27-28 Jul 10	44%	36	17	3	1
<b>Terrorism</b>					
14-16 Sep 10	41%	31	21	7	1
Democrats	35%	27	25	12	-
Republicans	51%	33	14	1	-
Independents	31%	32	26	10	1
27-28 Jul 10	39%	37	20	4	1
4-5 Nov 06 LV	33%	42	19	5	1
10-11 Oct 06 LV	39%	36	19	5	1
26-27 Sep 06 LV	52%	33	12	1	1
<b>Immigration</b>					
14-16 Sep 10	32%	28	28	10	1
Democrats	22%	25	39	13	2
Republicans	44%	34	18	4	-
Independents	30%	23	28	16	3
27-28 Jul 10	30%	34	28	7	1
4-5 Nov 06 LV	22%	38	27	12	1
10-11 Oct 06 LV	29%	35	24	10	1
26-27 Sep 06 LV	35%	28	26	10	1
<b>Afghanistan</b>					
14-16 Sep 10	27%	33	32	6	2
Democrats	29%	28	34	9	1
Republicans	28%	37	31	3	1
Independents	23%	33	33	8	2

21. Overall, would you say you are feeling more confident or nervous about the nation's economy today?

	Confident	Nervous	(Mixed)	(Don't know)
14-16 Sep 10	24%	70	5	1
Democrats	40%	52	7	1
Republicans	8%	88	3	-
Independents	29%	64	6	-

For reference: Do you think most Americans today are feeling more confident or more nervous about the nation's economy? (ROTATE)

	Confident	Nervous	(Mixed)	(Don't know)
9-10 Oct 07	13%	70	14	3
26-27 Jul 05	25%	56	12	7

22. Looking ahead to the next 10 years in the United States, would you describe yourself as optimistic or pessimistic about the future of the country? Is that very (optimistic/pessimistic) or only somewhat (optimistic/pessimistic)?

SCALE: 1. Very optimistic 2. Somewhat optimistic 3. Somewhat pessimistic 4. Very pessimistic 5. (Don't know)

	-- Optimistic --			-- Pessimistic --			
	TOTAL	Vry	Smwht	TOTAL	Smwht	Vry	(DK)
14-16 Sep 10	61%	29	32	34	17	17	4
Democrats	76%	41	35	20	11	9	4
Republicans	49%	20	29	47	22	25	4
Independents	63%	30	33	34	21	13	4
22-23 Apr 09	70%	37	33	26	14	12	5
13-14 Jan 09	77%	35	42	21	11	9	3
18-19 Apr 06	58%	25	33	35	18	17	7
28-29 Oct 03	73%	39	34	20	12	8	7
8-9 Oct 02* LV	82%	44	38	13	10	3	5
21-22 Apr 99	75%	33	42	21	15	6	4
7-8 Apr 99	79%	35	44	16	10	6	5

\*October 2002 and previous: "Would you describe yourself as optimistic or pessimistic about the long-term future of the country?"

23. How confident do you feel about your own personal financial future?

SCALE: 1. Very confident 2. Somewhat confident 3. Not very confident 4. Not at all confident 5. (Don't know)

	-- Confident --			- Not confident -			
	TOTAL	Vry	Smwht	TOTAL	Ntvry	Not	(DK)
14-16 Sep 10	78%	30	48	21	16	5	2
Democrats	80%	33	47	18	13	5	2
Republicans	74%	27	47	25	20	5	2
Independents	83%	31	52	17	13	4	1
3-4 Mar 09	79%	32	47	19	13	6	2
13-14 Jan 09	74%	24	50	25	17	8	1
22-23 Sep 08	81%	32	49	16	12	4	2
9-10 Oct 07	80%	37	43	19	13	6	2
3-4 Jun 03	74%	26	48	23	17	6	3
9-10 Jan 02	81%	36	45	14	11	3	5
10-11 Jan 01	82%	32	50	14	10	4	4
19-20 May 99	83%	36	47	13	11	2	4

24. Do you think President Obama has spent too much time trying to fix the economy, too little time trying to fix the economy or about the right amount of time?

SCALE: 1. Too much time trying to fix the economy 2. Too little time trying to fix the economy 3. About the right amount of time 4. (He should stay out of the economy - vol.) 5. (Don't know)

	(Should)				
	Too much	Too little	About right	stay out)	(Don't know)
14-16 Sep 10	10%	43	41	2	5
Democrats	5%	22	68	-	4
Republicans	14%	62	17	3	4
Independents	8%	45	39	2	6

25. What do you think is a greater potential threat to the country's future -- the national debt or terrorism?

	National				
	Debt	Terrorism	(Both)	(Neither)	(Don't know)
14-16 Sep 10	59%	24	13	2	1
Democrats	57%	28	12	2	2
Republicans	63%	24	12	1	1
Independents	56%	19	20	3	2
16-17 Mar 10	65%	23	10	1	2

26. If you had to, in what economic class would you place yourself: the upper class, middle class, working class or lower class?

	Upper	Middle	Working	Lower	(Don't know/
					Refused)
14-16 Sep 10	5%	50	37	8	-
Democrats	4%	49	35	11	-
Republicans	7%	51	36	6	-
Independents	4%	46	40	9	1
9-10 Oct 07	8%	50	33	9	1
6-7 Aug 97	6%	49	35	8	2

27. The tax cuts that were passed at the beginning of former President George W. Bush's term are set to expire this year. Do you think those tax cuts should be allowed to expire and those taxes increased back to the previous level, or should these tax cuts be continued going forward?

	Allowed	Continued	(Don't know)
	to expire	going forward	
14-16 Sep 10	26%	63	11
Democrats	45%	45	10
Republicans	11%	81	9
Independents	28%	56	16
13-14 Jul 10	27%	64	10

28. Some people support continuing the Bush tax cuts for families of all income levels. Other people support continuing the tax cuts only on incomes below two hundred and fifty thousand dollars a year. What do you think Congress should do -- continue the tax cuts for everyone, continue the tax cuts only on incomes below \$250,000 dollars, or allow the tax cuts to expire for everyone and let taxes go back up to their previous levels?

SCALE: 1. Continue tax cuts for everyone 2. Continue tax cuts on income below \$250,000 3. Allow the tax cuts to expire and let taxes go back up 4. (Don't know)

	Continue for	Continue for	Allow to	(Don't know)
	everyone	<\$250,000	expire	
14-16 Sep 10	40%	44	10	6
Democrats	22%	57	16	5
Republicans	61%	28	5	6
Independents	28%	55	12	5

For reference: As you may know, a series of tax cuts that were passed at the beginning of former President George W. Bush's term are set to expire this year. If you were president, would you:

SCALE: 1. Continue the tax cuts for everyone 2. Continue the tax cuts for everyone except families earning more than \$250,000 dollars a year 3. Allow the tax cuts to expire and let taxes go back up to their previous level 4. (Don't know)

	Continue for	Continue for	Allow to	(Don't know)
	everyone	<\$250,000	expire	
27-28 Jul 10	44%	36	14	6



29. Some people support a tax increase on high income earners because they believe high earners can afford it. Others oppose tax increases on high-income earners because they believe high earners are the people who own small businesses, create jobs and spend a bigger share of the money to keep the economy going. Which do you agree with more -- do you support or oppose tax increases on high-income earners?

	Support	Oppose	(Don't know)
14-16 Sep 10	48%	47	5
Democrats	74%	22	4
Republicans	25%	70	6
Independents	52%	42	7

30. Which of the following best describes your family's situation these days? Would you say you are:

SCALE: 1. Working harder and earning more 2. Working harder and earning less  
3. Working harder and earning the same 4. (Not working any harder - vol.)  
5. (Don't know)

	-- Working harder and earning --			(Not working any harder)	(DK)
	More	Less	The same		
14-16 Sep 10	12%	38	37	10	4
Democrats	12%	33	42	10	3
Republicans	11%	41	37	8	3
Independents	13%	43	27	12	6

31. Compared to a few years ago, do you think that the United States is seen as stronger or weaker today in the eyes of the world?

	Stronger	Weaker	(Same)	(Don't know)
14-16 Sep 10	16%	80	2	2
Democrats	27%	66	4	4
Republicans	8%	91	-	1
Independents	14%	82	2	2

32. Do you think that if an individual works hard, they can still achieve the "American Dream" of making a decent living, owning a home, and sending their children to college?

	Yes	No	(Depends - vol.)	(Don't know)
14-16 Sep 10	64%	28	6	2
Democrats	68%	25	5	2
Republicans	63%	28	8	1
Independents	62%	33	3	2
19-20 Feb 97	72%	24	na	4

Moving on...

33. Thinking about the health care law that was passed earlier this year, would you favor repealing the new law to keep it from going into effect, or would you oppose repealing the new law?

	Favor repealing	Oppose repealing	(Don't know)
14-16 Sep 10	44%	43	12
Democrats	19%	67	14
Republicans	71%	22	7
Independents	38%	45	17

For reference: What do you want to happen with the new health care law -- make sure it is implemented as it is, make changes to it, or repeal it all together?

SCALE: 1. Implement it as it is 2. Make changes to it 3. Repeal it all together  
4. (Don't know)

	Implement	Make changes	Repeal	(Don't know)
6-7 Apr 10	12%	47	36	4

34. Which of the following makes you more upset -- that the new health care law doesn't go far enough or that the health care bill passed Congress and became law at all?

SCALE: 1. That the new health care law doesn't go far enough

2. That the health care bill passed Congress and became law at all 3. (Both)

4. (Neither) 5. (Don't know)

	Law doesn't go far enough	Bill passed and became law at all	(Both)	(Neither)	(Don't know)
14-16 Sep 10	36%	47	2	5	10
Democrats	62%	17	2	5	12
Republicans	11%	81	1	2	5
Independents	45%	35	-	9	11

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)
14-16 Sep 10	37%	41	17	3	2
1-2 Sep 10	39%	37	20	3	1
10-11 Aug 10	38%	40	17	3	2
27-28 Jul 10	37%	41	16	3	3
13-14 Jul 10	37%	38	18	4	3
29-30 Jun 10	38%	36	20	3	3
8-9 Jun 10	41%	34	18	3	3
18-19 May 10	39%	35	20	3	3
4-5 May 10	41%	37	18	2	2
20-21 Apr 10	41%	36	18	2	2
6-7 Apr 10	40%	36	18	4	2
16-17 Mar 10	40%	37	18	4	2
23-24 Feb 10	38%	37	17	5	3
2-3 Feb 10	36%	36	22	3	3
12-13 Jan 10	39%	34	20	3	4
8-9 Dec 09	38%	38	18	3	3
17-18 Nov 09	38%	36	20	3	3
27-28 Oct 09	40%	37	17	4	2
13-14 Oct 09	41%	37	16	4	1
29-30 Sep 09	41%	37	17	3	2
15-16 Sep 09	42%	31	21	4	3