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**For The People & The Press**

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2011

Pocketbook Concerns: Prices Matter More than Jobs

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## Economic Views Sag, Obama Rating Slips

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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**Andrew Kohut**

President, Pew Research Center

**Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock**

Associate Directors

**Scott Keeter**

Director of Survey Research

1615 L St, N.W., Suite 700

Washington, D.C. 20036

Tel (202) 419-4350

Fax (202) 419-4399

[www.people-press.org](http://www.people-press.org)

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## Pocketbook Concerns: Prices Matter More than Jobs Economic Views Sag, Obama Rating Slips

With the public growing more anxious about the economy and concerned about overseas commitments, Barack Obama's job rating has edged lower.

About as many now approve (47%) as disapprove (45%) of the way Obama is handling his job as president. In March, opinions about Obama's job performance were more positive; 51% approved of his job performance and 39% disapproved. The current measure is similar to Obama's ratings from last fall through early 2011.

On specific issues, Obama gets particularly negative ratings for his handling of the federal budget deficit (59% disapprove) and the overall economy (56% disapprove). He gets a mixed rating for his handling of the situation in Libya (41% approve, 46% disapprove). The survey also shows that an increasing number of Americans say the U.S. and its allies lack a clear goal in Libya. (See [\*"Goal of Libyan Operation Less Clear to Public," April 5.\*](#))

Despite recent signs of job growth, Americans are taking a more negative view of the national economy. The proportion rating economic conditions as "poor" has risen from 42% in February to 53% currently. Equally important, the public's economic outlook has dimmed: 54% now say it will be a long time before the economy recovers, up 12 points from February. And there has been a rise in the percentage that expects their personal finances to get worse over the next year – from 26% in December to 33% currently.

### Obama Job Rating Again Divided, Recovery Viewed as Long Way Off

	Jan 2011	March 2011	April 2011
<i>Obama job rating...</i>	%	%	%
Approve	46	51	47
Disapprove	44	39	45
<i>Rating on ...</i>			
<b>Budget deficit</b>			
Approve	35	--	33
Disapprove	53	--	59
<b>Economy</b>			
Approve	42	--	39
Disapprove	51	--	56
<b>Libya</b>			
Approve	--	--	41
Disapprove	--	--	46
<i>View of national economy...</i>	<b>Dec 2010</b>	<b>Feb 2011</b>	<b>April 2011</b>
Recovering	17	24	20
Not yet recovering, but will soon	33	33	24
It will be a long time before economy recovers	48	42	54

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Mar. 30-Apr. 3, 2011.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted March 30-April 3 among 1,507 adults, finds widespread concern about an array of financial problems – not just jobs, but also prices for gas and food.

Fully 69% say that gas prices affect their household's financial situation a lot; 58% say the same about prices for food and consumer goods. By comparison, 42% say the job situation has a major impact on their personal financial situation; about as many (43%) say the federal budget deficit affects their personal financial situation a lot.

*(Pew Research's Weekly News Interest Index, released April 6, found that while the percentage of Americans who say they are hearing mostly bad news about the job situation has declined, more are hearing bad news about prices. )*

With the showdown on federal spending looming, Obama's job rating continues to be much higher than those of Republican or Democratic leaders in Congress. Just 30% approve of the job that Republican leaders in Congress are doing while twice as many (61%) disapprove. The job rating for Democratic congressional leaders is equally dismal (31% approve, 60% disapprove).

However, while Obama continues to attract overwhelming support from the Democratic base, many Democrats – particularly liberals – say he should challenge congressional Republicans more often. Among the general public, 29% say he should go along with Republicans more often, 27% say he should challenge them more often, and 34% say he is handling this about right.

### An Array of Financial Concerns, But Prices Pinch Most

<i>How much does each affect your household finances?</i>	<b>A lot</b>	<b>A little</b>	<b>Not at all</b>	<b>DK</b>
	%	%	%	%
Gas prices	69	23	7	1=100
Prices for food, consumer goods	58	34	7	1=100
Federal budget deficit	43	34	19	4=100
Job situation	42	26	30	1=100
Real estate values	35	28	34	3=100
Stock market	24	37	34	5=100

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### Many Liberal Dems Want Obama to Challenge GOP More Often

*In dealing w/ Republicans, Obama should ...*

	<b>Go along more</b>	<b>Challenge more</b>	<b>Handling about right</b>	<b>Other/DK</b>
	%	%	%	%
Total	29	27	34	10=100
Conserv Rep	68	8	18	6=100
Mod/Lib Rep	53	10	34	4=100
Independent	26	30	32	13=100
Cons/Mod Dem	10	35	47	8=100
Liberal Dem	4	45	47	4=100

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Liberal Democrats are divided – 47% say he is handling relations with congressional Republicans about right, but nearly as many (45%) want him to challenge Republicans more often. Conservative and moderate Democrats, on balance, say Obama is handling this about right. Republicans, not surprisingly, would like to see Obama go along with the GOP more often.

The Republican Party has an advantage in views of which party can better handle the budget deficit – 46% say the Republicans can do better, compared with 34% who choose the Democrats. The two parties continue to run about even on most other issues, including jobs and health care. However, the Democratic Party holds leads over the Republicans on such traits as concern for average people (by 22 points), willingness to work with opposition leaders (17 points) and ethical governance (nine points).

The budget debate on Capitol Hill has focused in part on the possible impact of deep reductions in government spending on the nation's job situation. In a separate survey conducted last month (March 8-14), 41% said that major cuts in spending this year would not have much of an effect on the job situation. Among those who did see an impact, nearly twice as many said deep cuts would hurt, rather than help, the job situation (34% vs. 18%). Pluralities of independents (45%) and Republicans (41%) said that major spending reductions would not affect the job situation; Democrats were divided, with 39% saying deep cuts would hurt the job situation and 35% saying they would not have much of an impact.

The new survey finds that as the Republican-led House approaches the 100-day mark of its tenure, about as many Americans say they are unhappy (44%) as happy (43%) that the GOP won control of the House last November. Just a third (33%) say they are keeping their campaign promises while 52% say they are not.

Comparatively, the Republican-led House gets less positive marks than did the Democratic-led Congress in March 2007 and the GOP-led Congress in April 1995. In both of those cases, however, the parties took control of both the House and Senate; the GOP currently has a majority in the House but not the Senate.

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### Past and Present: Views of Congress at 100 Days

	Reps 4/1995	Dems 3/2007	Reps 4/2011
<i>Happy they won?</i>			
	%	%	%
Happy	52	54	43
Unhappy	36	32	44
Don't know	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>12</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Keeping their promises?</i>			
Yes	59	40	33
No	30	38	52
Don't know	<u>11</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100	100

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Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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## SECTION 1: VIEWS OF OBAMA

Currently, 47% approve of the way Obama is handling his job as president while 45% disapprove. Opinions about Obama’s job performance continue to be deeply divided along partisan lines: 80% of Democrats approve of the way he is handling his job while 16% disapprove. Republicans’ views are the reverse – 16% approve and 81% disapprove.

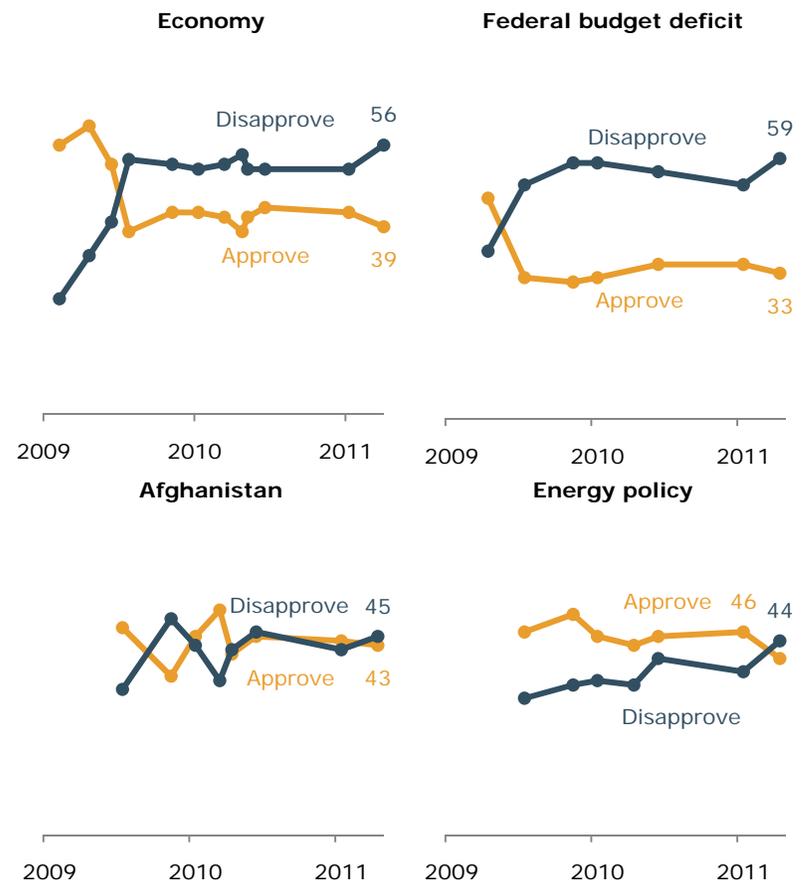
Among independents, 48% disapprove and 42% approve of the job Obama is doing.

*(For a detailed breakdown of Obama’s overall job rating, see [the table at the end of this report.](#))*

In terms of specific issues, Obama receives his highest rating for his handling of the environment (51% approve, 35% disapprove). On five other issues tested – Afghanistan, Libya, energy policy, the economy and budget deficit – Obama’s ratings are mixed or more negative than positive.

Among these issues, Obama gets his lowest ratings on the budget deficit and the economy. Currently, 59% disapprove of his handling of the budget deficit and 56% disapprove of his handling of the economy. These views have changed little since the summer of 2009.

### Obama’s Continued Low Ratings on Deficit, Economy



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## Obama Faulted on the Deficit

Even some groups that have generally positive opinions about Obama, such as young people, are critical of his handling of the federal budget deficit. Overall, more than half of those younger than 30 (54%) approve of Obama's overall job performance – the highest percentage in any age group.

But nearly twice as many young people disapprove as approve of his handling of the federal budget deficit (57% to 29%). On this issue, the views of young people are similar to those in older age groups.

Nearly two-thirds of independents (65%) disapprove of Obama's handling of the deficit, while just 26% approve. Even independents who lean to the Democratic Party give Obama only a mixed rating on this issue (48% approve, 43% disapprove).

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## Young People Critical of Obama on Budget Deficit

<i>Obama's handling of federal budget deficit...</i>	<b>App-rove</b> %	<b>Dis-approve</b> %	<b>DK</b> %
Total	33	59	8=100
White	26	65	8=100
Black	63	31	8=100
18-29	29	57	14=100
30-49	34	59	8=100
50-64	35	61	4=100
65+	32	60	8=100
<i>Family income</i>			
\$75,000 or more	28	66	5=100
\$30,000-74,999	28	65	7=100
Less than \$30,000	42	47	11=100
Republican	8	88	3=100
Conserv Republican	5	92	3=100
Mod/Lib Republican	16	81	3=100
Independent	26	65	10=100
Democrat	62	32	6=100
Cons/Mod Democrat	58	34	8=100
Liberal Democrat	69	28	3=100

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## How Should Obama Deal with Congress?

The public is divided over how President Obama should deal with Republicans in Congress. About as many say Obama should go along with Republicans more often (29%) as say he should challenge Republicans more often (27%); 34% say he is handling things about right.

While mixed, opinion is far more favorable toward Obama than it was toward George W. Bush following the 2006 midterms. In March 2007, just 18% said Bush should challenge congressional Democrats more often – far more (43%) said he should go along with Democrats more often; about a quarter (27%) said he was handling things about right. The public's views of Obama's approach to Congress today is similar to opinions about Bill Clinton's in the spring of 1995, following Democratic losses in the 1994 midterm election.

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### Public Divided over Obama's Approach to GOP

	April 1995	March 2007	April 2011
<i>The president should ...</i>	%	%	%
Go along with other party more	25	43	29
Challenge other party more	27	18	27
Is handling situation about right	41	27	34
Neither/Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>
	100	100	100

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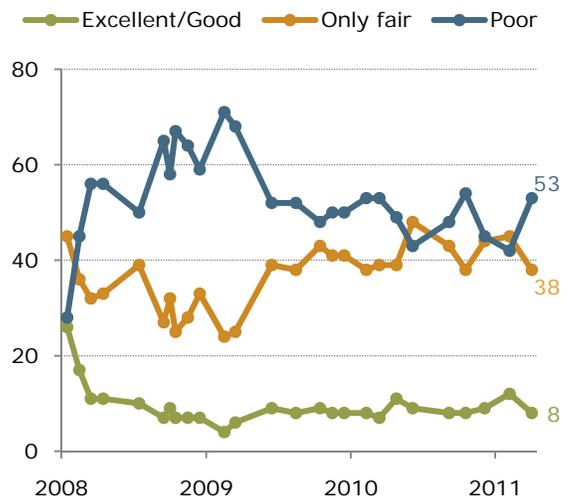
## SECTION 2: NATIONAL ECONOMY, PERSONAL FINANCES

The public's views of the national economy began to move in a less negative direction late last year. The proportion rating the national economy as poor fell from 54% in October to 45% in December. That trend continued through February, when 42% said economic conditions were poor.

But in the new survey, the number saying economic conditions are poor has again climbed; currently, 53% say the economy is poor, up 11 points from February. Fewer people rate the economy as only fair (38% now, down from 45% in February). As has been the case for the past three years, very few (8%) say that economic conditions are excellent or good.

Negative views of economic conditions have increased among most demographic and political groups. But independents are especially gloomy about the state of the economy: 57% say economic conditions are poor, up from 43% in February. A comparable percentage of Republicans (59%) also views the economy as poor, which is little changed from February (51%). Democrats' views of the economy have shown less change and are more positive than those of Republicans or independents (41% poor now, 36% in February).

**Views of the Economy Again Turn More Negative**



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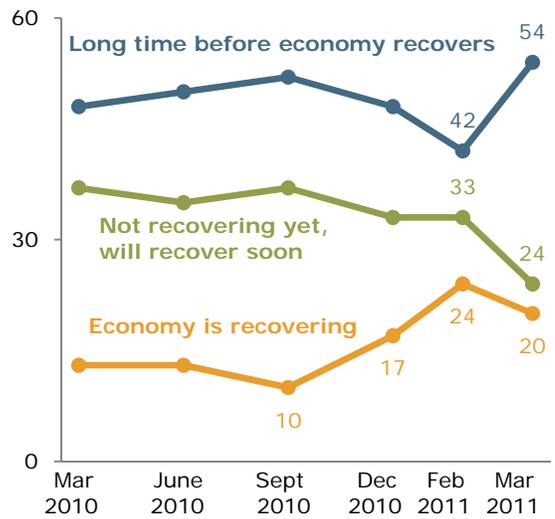
Since February, there also has been a decline in the number saying the economic recovery is already occurring or will kick in soon. Two months ago, a majority (57%) said the economy was recovering (24%) or that the economy would recover soon (33%). Only about four-in-ten (42%) said it would be a long time before the economy recovered.

Today, more (54%) say the recovery is a long way off than say either it is already recovering (20%) or will recover soon (24%).

The rise in economic pessimism since February has come across nearly all political and demographic groups. And in most cases, people are about as likely to see recovery as a long way off as they did in December.

Just as independents' views of current economic conditions are comparable to Republicans' assessments, their economic expectations are similar as well. Currently, 59% of independents and 63% of Republicans say it will be a long time before the economy recovers; that compares with 41% of Democrats. In February, 49% of Republicans, 44% of independents and 32% of Democrats said the recovery was a long way off.

## Recovery Seen as More Distant



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## Across-the-Board Rise in Economic Pessimism

<i>Percent saying it will be long time before economy recovers...</i>	Dec 2010	Feb 2011	Apr 2011	Feb-Apr change
	%	%		
Total	48	42	54	+12
<i>Family income</i>				
\$75,000 or more	42	35	46	+11
\$30k-\$74,999	46	44	58	+14
Less than \$30,000	57	42	56	+14
<i>College grad+</i>				
College grad+	42	35	47	+12
Some college	50	46	53	+7
HS or less	52	44	59	+15
<i>Party</i>				
Republican	54	49	63	+14
Democrat	38	32	41	+9
Independent	53	44	59	+15
<i>Age</i>				
18-29	33	32	47	+15
30-49	50	43	55	+12
50-64	52	41	58	+17
65+	58	51	55	+4

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## More Expect Family Financial Situation to Worsen

The public continues to give rather dour assessments of their own personal financial situation. Most rate their finances as either only fair (36%) or poor (26%); 29% say they are in good shape and just 7% say they are in excellent shape financially. Personal financial ratings have shown little change over the past several months.

At the same time, people's financial outlooks for the next year have become somewhat more negative since December. Just over half (51%) say they expect their financial situation to improve a lot (7%) or some (44%) over the next year. However, the percentage saying they expect it to get a little or a lot worse has grown from 26% in December to 33% in the current survey.

The increase in financial pessimism has come entirely among those in middle- and lower-income groups. Currently, 35% of those with family incomes of between \$30,000 and \$75,000 expect their finances to get worse, up from 25% in December. There has been a similar increase among those with family incomes of less than \$30,000 (from 29% to 39%).

By contrast, those earning \$75,000 or more a year have experienced no change in expectations and remain far less likely to say they expect their situation to worsen (23% compared with 35% and 39%, respectively).

Republicans have also become more pessimistic about the outlook for their family's finances over the next year. Roughly a third (36%) expects their situation to get worse over the next year up from 26% in December. There have been no significant changes among Democrats or independents.

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### Personal Financial Outlook Dims for Those With Lower Incomes

<i>Financial situation will get a little/lot worse over the next year ...</i>	<b>Dec 2010</b>	<b>Apr 2011</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total	26	33	+7
<i>Family income</i>			
\$75,000 or more	23	23	0
\$30,000-\$74,999	25	35	+10
Less than \$30,000	29	39	+10
<i>Party</i>			
Republican	26	36	+10
Democrat	23	25	+2
Independent	32	38	+6

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## Gas Prices Top Household Financial Pressure

Gas prices affect the household finances of most Americans, regardless of their age, income or political affiliation. Fully 69% of the public and majorities across demographic and political groups say that gas prices affect their household finances a lot.

Aside from gas prices, however, there is less common ground in views of different financial pressures. While large majorities of those with low (65% of those with less than \$30,000) and middle family incomes (63% of those with \$30,000 to \$75,000) say their finances are affected a great deal by prices for food and other consumer goods, fewer of those with higher incomes agree. About half (48%) of those with incomes of \$75,000 or more say their finances are affected a lot by food and consumer prices.

### Gas Prices Affect Most Americans, Low-Income People Affected More by Job Situation

<i>% saying each affects household finances "a lot"</i>	<b>Gas prices</b>	<b>Food prices</b>	<b>Budget deficit</b>	<b>Jobs</b>	<b>Real estate</b>	<b>Stock market</b>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	69	58	43	42	35	24
<i>Family income</i>						
\$75,000 or more	61	48	41	28	41	34
\$30,000-\$74,999	73	63	43	39	37	24
Less than \$30,000	75	65	44	54	31	17
<i>Age</i>						
18-29	65	45	31	43	27	15
30-49	74	68	45	47	42	26
50-64	71	60	52	47	37	33
65+	64	56	42	24	32	23
<i>Political affiliation</i>						
Republican	71	59	48	37	38	28
Democrat	67	51	38	44	34	22
Independent	69	64	45	43	36	26

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Jobs are a particular concern for those with lower incomes: 54% of those with incomes of below \$30,000 say the job situation say their household finances are affected a lot by the job situation, the highest in any other income category. Conversely, the stock market is a greater concern for those with incomes of at least \$75,000 than it is for those in lower income groups.

The budget deficit is generally viewed as a secondary financial concern, though more Republicans and independents than Democrats say the deficit affects their household finances. Nearly half of Republicans (48%) and 45% of independents say their household finances are affected a lot by the budget deficit; fewer Democrats (38%) express this view.

## SECTION 3: VIEWS OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES

The Republican Party now leads the Democrats by 12 points as the party better able to reduce the federal budget deficit: 46% say the GOP could do better compared with 34% who prefer the Democrats. A year ago, the two parties were rated about evenly on reducing the deficit (38% Republicans, 35% Democrats).

On most other issues, the two parties run about even. But on several, the GOP has made substantial gains in recent years. In August 2009, the Democratic Party held a 13-point lead on making wise decisions about foreign policy (44% to 31%). Today, 40% say the GOP could do better while about as many (38%) choose the Democrats. The GOP also has drawn even with the Democrats on health care and energy. The Democrats led by 10 points on health care last September and by 10 points on dealing with energy problems last October.

The Democrats continue to hold a substantial advantage as the party better able to improve education (46% to 32%). But the GOP has narrowed the Democrats' lead since August 2009, when more than twice as many said the Democratic Party than the GOP could improve education (47% to 22%).

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### Republicans Lead on Deficit, Run Even on Most Other Issues

<i>Which party can do a better job...</i>	<b>Rep Party</b>	<b>Dem Party</b>	<b>Both/ Neither/ DK</b>	<b>Rep adv</b>
<b>Reducing deficit</b>	%	%	%	
April 2011	46	34	21=100	+12
October 2010	35	28	37=100	+7
April 2010	38	35	27=100	+3
August 2009	35	36	29=100	-1
<b>Making wise foreign policy decisions</b>				
April 2011	40	38	21=100	+2
April 2010	39	34	27=100	+5
August 2009	31	44	24=100	-13
<b>Improving job situation</b>				
April 2011	39	39	22=100	0
October 2010	35	31	34=100	+4
April 2010	36	37	27=100	-1
<b>Making Social Security sound</b>				
April 2011	39	39	22=100	0
September 2010	35	35	31=100	0
<b>Handling disasters</b>				
April 2011	37	37	25=100	0
September 2005	34	40	26=100	-6
<b>Dealing w/ health care</b>				
April 2011	40	42	18=100	-2
October 2010	32	39	29=100	-7
September 2010	36	46	18=100	-10
<b>Dealing w/ energy</b>				
April 2011	37	42	21=100	-5
October 2010	28	38	34=100	-10
August 2009	25	47	28=100	-22
<b>Improving education</b>				
April 2011	32	46	22=100	-14
February 2010	29	48	24=100	-19
August 2009	22	47	30=100	-25

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Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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## Democrats Lead on Key Traits

While Republicans have the advantage in views of which party can reduce the budget deficit and have made inroads on other issues, the Democratic Party still holds substantial leads on several key traits and characteristics.

Democrats continue to have better ratings than Republicans on traits such as concern for average people (by 54% to 32%) and governing in a more honest and ethical way (42% to 33%). And far more view the Democratic Party than the Republican Party as more willing to work with political leaders from the other party (49% to 32%).

In addition, somewhat more continue to say that the Republican Party, rather than the Democratic Party, is more influenced by lobbyists and special interests: 44% say the GOP is more influenced by lobbyists compared with 34% who say the Democrats.

The parties are now about even on the question of who can bring about changes the country needs (44% say Democrats, 41% say Republicans). In June, 2010 Democrats held a 12-point edge on this trait.

The public also is as likely to say Republicans (41%) are better able to manage the government as they are to say Democrats (39%). Just before the 2010 midterm elections Republicans held a small advantage over Democrats as the party seen as better able to manage the federal government (43% vs. 36%).

## Democrats Lead on Empathy, Working with Opponents, Ethics

<i>Which party...</i>	Dem Party	Rep Party	Both/ Neither/ DK	Dem adv
<b>Is more concerned about people like me</b>	%	%	%	
April 2011	54	32	15=100	+22
October 2010	46	36	19=100	+10
June 2010	50	34	16=100	+16
August 2009	51	27	21=100	+24
<b>Is more willing to work w/opponents</b>				
April 2011	49	32	18=100	+17
<b>Governs in more honest &amp; ethical way</b>				
April 2011	42	33	25=100	+9
October 2010	35	35	29=100	0
June 2010	41	31	28=100	+10
August 2009	42	26	33=100	+16
<b>Can bring needed change</b>				
April 2011	44	41	15=100	+3
October 2010	41	35	23=100	+6
June 2010	45	33	22=100	+12
August 2009	47	25	27=100	+22
<b>Can better manage the government</b>				
April 2011	39	41	19=100	-2
October 2010	36	43	21=100	-7
June 2010	37	41	22=100	-4
August 2009	38	34	28=100	+4
<b>Is more influenced by special interests</b>				
April 2011	34	44	22=100	-10
February 2010	32	40	27=100	-8
August 2009	31	37	32=100	-6

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## Independents Favor GOP on Managing Government

For the most part, independents' views of the parties and their images mirror those of the general public. However, there is a notable exception to this pattern. Far more independents think the Republicans rather than the Democrats can better manage the federal government (by 47% to 28%).

Yet the Democratic Party holds clear advantages among independents on concern for average people (by 49% to 30%) and on willingness to work with political leaders from the other party

On issues, the GOP holds a lead among independents as the party better able to reduce the federal budget deficit (45% to 29%), while the Democrats are favored on improving the education system (43% to 30%). On other issues, the two parties run about even among independents.

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### Independents' Views of the Parties

	Rep Party	Dem Party	Both/Neither DK
<i>Party traits...</i>	%	%	%
Can better manage the gov't	47	28	24=100
Is more influenced by lobbyists and special interests	40	31	29=100
Can bring needed change	37	39	24=100
Governs in more honest & ethical way	31	38	31=100
Is more willing to work with leaders from other party	27	45	28=100
Is more concerned about people like me	30	49	20=100
<i>Party strength on issues...</i>			
Reducing federal deficit	45	29	26=100
Making wise foreign policy decisions	39	34	27=100
Dealing with health care	39	35	27=100
Making Social Security sound	34	38	29=100
Improving the job situation	38	35	26=100
Dealing with energy problems	34	42	24=100
Handling disasters	30	37	33=100
Improving education system	30	43	26=100

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## SECTION 4: CONGRESS AT 100 DAYS

As the 112th Congress approaches the 100-day mark, most say Republicans in the House of Representatives are not keeping their campaign promises and fewer than half say they are happy the Republicans won control of the House in last November's election.

Just a third (33%) say that that Republicans in the House are keeping the promises they made during the campaign, while 52% say they are not. Compared with other recent changes in power on Capitol Hill, House Republicans receive lower marks for delivering on campaign promises than did Democrats in 2007 and Republicans in 1995— though, in both 2007 and 1995 the party in power controlled both the House and Senate.

In March 2007, 40% said Democrats in Congress were keeping the promises they made during the campaign, while 38% did not. And in 1995, the public reacted even more positively to the new Republican Congressional leadership: 59% said they were keeping their promises, just 30% said they were not.

In the current survey, most Republicans (54%) say their representatives in the House are keeping their promises, while 33% say they are not. Conservative Republicans (61%) are much more likely than moderate and liberal Republicans (39%) to say that Republicans in the House have followed through on their promises.

Nearly six-in-ten (59%) Republicans and Republican leaners who agree with the Tea Party movement say House Republicans are keeping their promises while 30% say they are not. Opinions are mixed among Republicans and Republican leaners who have no opinion of the Tea Party or disagree with the movement (42% keeping promises, 45% not keeping promises).

By wide margins, Democrats and independents say that House Republicans are not keeping their campaign promises. Nearly two-thirds of Democrats (65%) say that House

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### Most Say House Republicans Are Not Keeping Campaign Promises

<i>House Reps keeping promises?</i>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>DK</b>	<b>N</b>
	%	%	%	
Total	33	52	14=100	1507
Republican	54	33	13=100	395
Conservative	61	28	11=100	287
Mod/Lib	39	45	16=100	103
Independent	30	54	15=100	561
Democrat	23	65	12=100	470
Liberal	24	62	13=100	179
Cons/Mod	23	66	11=100	279
<i>Among Reps/Rep leaners</i>				
Agree w/Tea Party	59	30	11=100	319
Disagree/No opinion	42	45	14=100	338

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Mar 30-Apr. 3, 2011. Q17. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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Republicans are not keeping their promises while 23% say that they are; among independents, 54% say House Republicans are not keeping their promises while 30% say that they are.

## Public Now Split Over Election Outcome

Shortly after the GOP won control of the House, the public expressed mixed reactions to the outcome; [in Pew Research's post-election survey](#), 48% said they were happy that the Republicans gained control of the House while 34% were unhappy. Reactions were far more positive to the Democrats winning control of the Congress in 2007 and the Republicans' sweeping electoral victories in 1994. In both cases, however, those parties won control of *both* the House and the Senate.

In the new survey, the public is divided in reactions to the GOP's victory in November; 43% say they are happy the Republican Party won control of the House while about the same percentage (44%) expresses unhappiness.

This follows a pattern from the Democratic congressional victory four years ago and the GOP's big win in 1995: Public reactions to those power shifts were also somewhat less positive at about the 100-day mark than they were just after the election. Even so, narrow majorities continued to express positive views of those election outcomes (54% happy in March 2007, 52% in April 1995).

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### Public Now Divided Over GOP's House Takeover

	Happy	Unhappy	DK
	%	%	%
<b>Republican House</b>			
April, 2011	43	44	12=100
November, 2010	48	34	18=100
<b>Democratic Congress</b>			
March, 2007	54	32	14=100
November, 2006	60	24	16=100
<b>Republican Congress</b>			
April, 1995	52	36	12=100
December, 1994	57	31	12=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Mar. 30-Apr. 3, 2011. Q13. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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Independents are now divided in their reaction to the election: 43% say they are happy the GOP won control of the House while 39% are unhappy. In November, independents by a wide margin (48% to 27%) expressed a positive reaction to the Republicans' victory. The proportion of Democrats unhappy that the GOP won also has increased (from 73% to 84%). Republicans remain overwhelmingly happy that the GOP won control of the House (90% happy, 6% unhappy).

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### More Independents Unhappy Republicans Won House

	Nov 2010	Apr 2011	Change
<i>% unhappy ...</i>	%	%	
Total	34	44	+10
Independent	27	39	+12
Democrat	73	84	+11
Republican	3	6	+3

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Mar. 30-Apr. 3, 2011. Q13. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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### Boehner Job Approval Ratings

The public is split over the performance of Speaker of the House John Boehner, with many unable to offer a rating of the Republican leader. Boehner is no less visible than Nancy Pelosi was in the spring in 2007, but while Pelosi enjoyed a broadly positive balance of opinion, about as many say they approve of Boehner's job performance (36%) as disapprove (34%); 29% cannot offer a rating.

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### Boehner Less Visible than Gingrich, Job Ratings Are Similar

	Approve	Disapprove	DK
<b>Boehner</b>	%	%	%
April, 2011	36	34	29=100
<b>Pelosi</b>			
March, 2007	48	22	30=100
<b>Gingrich</b>			
April, 1995	43	42	15=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Mar. 30-Apr. 3, 2011. Q14. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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In April 1995, Newt Gingrich also received mixed reviews from the public for his performance as Speaker of the House. However, Gingrich was far better known than either Pelosi or Boehner – just 15% could not offer a rating of Gingrich in the spring of 1995.

## Tea Party Seen as Separate from the GOP

More continue to say that the Tea Party is a separate and independent movement from the Republican Party (50%) than say it is part of the GOP (36%). Opinion on this question is little changed since last November following the midterm elections (47% separate, 38% part of GOP).

Most Republicans (59%) and independents (54%) view the Tea Party as an independent movement. Democrats, however, are divided: 41% say it is a separate movement, 46% say it is part of the Republican Party.

Two-thirds (67%) of those who agree with the Tea Party say it is a separate and independent movement from the Republican Party. Among those who disagree with the Tea Party, more say it is part of the GOP (52%) than say it is a separate movement (41%).

Tea Party Republicans are dissatisfied with the amount of attention that the movement receives from Republican leaders. More than half (56%) of Republicans and Republican leaders who agree with the Tea Party movement say that Republican leaders pay too little attention to the Tea Party. Just 35% say Republican leaders are paying the right amount of attention, while 2% say the movement gets too much attention from GOP leaders.

By contrast, Republicans and Republican leaders who have no opinion of the Tea Party or disagree with the movement are divided: 33% say Republican leaders pay the right amount of attention to the Tea Party, 29% say too little and 15% say they pay too much attention to the movement.

### Is the Tea Party Separate from the Republican Party?

	Separate from GOP	Part of GOP	Depends/DK
	%	%	%
Total	50	36	14=100
Republican	59	28	13=100
Democrat	41	46	12=100
Independent	54	35	11=100
<i>Tea Party</i>			
Agree	67	28	4=100
Disagree	41	52	6=100
No opinion	48	30	22=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Mar. 30-Apr. 3, 2011. Q18. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

### Tea Party Republicans Feel Neglected by GOP Leaders

<i>GOP leaders' attention to Tea Party...</i>	Too much	Too little	Right amount	DK
	%	%	%	%
Total	27	32	23	19=100
Republican	10	38	34	17=100
Democrat	46	24	14	17=100
Independent	24	36	24	16=100
<i>Among Reps/Rep leaners</i>				
Agree w/ Tea Party	2	56	35	7=100
Disagree/No opinion	15	29	33	23=100

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Mar. 30-Apr. 3, 2011. Q19. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

By roughly two-to-one, more Democrats say GOP leaders are paying too much attention to the ideas of the Tea Party (46%) than too little (24%); 14% say they are paying the right amount of attention to the Tea Party.

Republicans are divided: 38% say that Republican leaders are paying too little attention to the Tea Party, while about as many (34%) say they are paying the right amount; just 10% of Republicans say GOP leaders are paying too much attention to the Tea Party. Among independents, 36% say Republican leaders are paying too little attention to the Tea Party, 24% say too much and the same percentage says the right amount.

## About the Survey

The analysis in this report is based on telephone interviews conducted March 30-April 3, 2011 among a national sample of 1,507 adults 18 years of age or older living in the continental United States (1,001 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 506 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 215 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. 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, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2010 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. 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 2010 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 sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Sample Size</b>	<b>Plus or minus ...</b>
Total sample	1,507	3.5 percentage points
Republicans	395	6.0 percentage points
Democrats	470	5.5 percentage points
Independents	561	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.

## 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:

Andrew Kohut, Director  
Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research  
Carroll Doherty and Michael Dimock, Associate Directors  
Michael Remez, Senior Writer  
Leah Christian and Jocelyn Kiley, Senior Researchers  
Robert Suls, Shawn Neidorf, and Alec Tyson, Research Associates  
Jacob Poushter, Research Analyst  
Danielle Gewurz, Research Assistant

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**PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL TABLE**

Q1: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>N</u>
	%	%	%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	47	45	8	1507
<b>SEX</b>				
Men	45	46	9	736
Women	48	45	7	771
<b>AGE</b>				
18-49	51	41	8	611
50+	42	51	7	877
<b>DETAILED AGE</b>				
18-29	54	37	9	217
30-49	48	45	7	394
50-64	42	52	6	477
65+	42	50	8	400
<b>SEX BY AGE</b>				
Men 18-49	51	40	9	325
Men 50+	37	55	8	403
Women 18-49	50	43	7	286
Women 50+	46	47	6	474
<b>RACE</b>				
White, non-Hispanic	38	54	8	1124
Black, non-Hispanic	92	6	2	174
<b>EDUCATION</b>				
College grad+	56	34	10	98
Some college	52	43	6	580
HS or less	47	46	8	421
<b>INCOME</b>				
\$75,000+	44	47	9	503
\$30,000-\$74,999	44	51	4	419
<\$30,000	42	50	8	515
<b>RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE</b>				
Total White NH Prot.	50	36	14	231
White NH evang. Prot.	27	64	8	617
White NH mainline Prot.	19	75	6	311
Total Catholic	37	52	11	304
White NH Cath.	50	43	6	339
Unaffiliated	45	51	4	238
<b>REGION</b>				
Northeast	58	32	10	232
Midwest	53	39	8	277
South	47	43	10	387
West	44	51	5	561

**PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL TABLE**

Q1: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

	<u>Approve</u> %	<u>Disapprove</u> %	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> %	<u>N</u>
<b>REGISTERED VOTER</b>				
Yes, certain	46	48	6	1276
Not registered	50	36	14	231
<b>PARTY ID</b>				
Republican	16	81	3	395
Democrat	80	16	4	470
Independent	42	48	10	561
<b>PARTY WITH LEANERS</b>				
Rep/Lean Rep	17	79	4	664
Dem/Lean Dem	77	17	6	696
<b>IDEOLOGY</b>				
Conservative	25	70	5	604
Moderate	58	34	8	559
Liberal	74	19	6	282
<b>PARTY AND IDEOLOGY</b>				
Conservative Republican	11	87	2	287
Mod/Lib Republican	29	67	4	103
Mod/Cons Democrat	76	19	5	279
Liberal Democrat	88	9	3	179
<b>TEA PARTY MOVEMENT</b>				
Agree	12	84	4	376
Disagree	82	12	6	469
No opinion/Don't know	42	48	10	662

**PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL TABLE**

Q1: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

	<u>Approve</u> %	<u>Disapprove</u> %	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u> %	<u>N</u>
<b>LABOR UNION</b>				
Member in HH	60	35	6	187
Not a member	45	48	7	1301
<b>AMONG WHITES</b>				
Men	36	56	8	531
Women	41	52	7	593
18-49	40	51	9	385
50+	36	57	7	725
College grad+	47	47	6	450
Some college or less	34	57	8	674
\$75,000+	40	56	4	347
\$30,000-\$74,999	34	59	8	382
<\$30,000	44	47	9	263
Republican	12	86	2	349
Democrat	76	19	5	283
Independent	37	53	10	430
Northeast	47	44	9	206
Midwest	41	49	10	327
South	28	67	5	389
West	42	50	8	202

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**APRIL 2011 POLITICAL SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**March 30-April 3, 2011**  
**N=1507**

**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]**

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

**ASK ALL:**

Now, thinking about how Barack Obama is handling some issues...

Q.2 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>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
a. The economy			
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
b. The federal budget deficit			
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	33	59	8
Jan 6-9, 2011	35	53	12
Jun 16-20, 2010	35	56	9
Jan 6-10, 2010	32	58	11
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	31	58	11
Jul 22-26, 2009	32	53	15
April 14-21, 2009	50	38	12

**Q.2 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
c. The situation in Afghanistan			
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	43	45	11
Jan 6-9, 2011	44	42	13
Jun 16-20, 2010	45	46	9
Apr 21-26, 2010	41	42	17
Mar 10-14, 2010	51	35	15
Jan 6-10, 2010	45	43	12
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	36	49	15
Jul 22-26, 2009	47	33	19
d. The situation in Libya			
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	41	46	13

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=754]:**

e.F1 The environment			
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	51	35	14

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=753]:**

f.F2 Energy policy			
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	40	44	16
Jan 6-9, 2011	46	37	18
Jun 16-20, 2010	45	40	15
Apr 21-26, 2010	43	34	23
Jan 6-10, 2010	45	35	20
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	50	34	16
Jul 22-26, 2009	46	31	22

**ASK ALL:**

Q.3 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>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a. Republican leaders in Congress			
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	30	61	9
Feb 24-27, 2011	36	45	19
Jan 5-9, 2011 <sup>1</sup>	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

<sup>1</sup> Question wording for Jan. 5-9, 2011, was: "Do you approve or disapprove of Republican congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future?".

**Q.3 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
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
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 <sup>2</sup>	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

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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.3 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
December, 1994	52	28	20
b. Democratic leaders in Congress			
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
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 <sup>3</sup>	37	42	21
February, 2007	41	36	23
Mid-January, 2007	39	34	27
November, 2006 <sup>4</sup>	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

<sup>3</sup> In March 2007 the question was worded: "Do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Democratic leaders in Congress?"

<sup>4</sup> 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?"

**QUESTIONS 4-9 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****NO QUESTIONS 10-12****ASK ALL:**

Q.13 Are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party won control of the House of Representatives in last November's elections?

	<u>Happy</u>	<u>Unhappy</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	43	44	12
Nov 4-7, 2010 <sup>5</sup>	48	34	18
<b>Democrats</b>			
November, 2008 (RV)	51	41	6
October, 2007	54	29	17
July, 2007	50	35	15
March, 2007	54	32	14
November, 2006	60	24	16
<b>Republicans</b>			
November, 2004 (RV)	51	44	5
December, 2002	48	34	18
May, 2001	44	38	18
November, 2000 (RV)	48	39	13
November, 1998	47	32	21
November, 1996 (RV)	65	27	8
January, 1996	47	43	10
August, 1995	50	39	11
June, 1995	46	41	13
April, 1995	52	36	12
March, 1995	55	31	14
December, 1994	57	31	12

**ASK ALL:**

Q.14 Do you approve or disapprove of the way John Boehner [**pronounced BAY-ner**] is handling his job as Speaker of the House?

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	36	34	29
<b>Nancy Pelosi</b>			
March, 2007	48	22	30
<b>Newt Gingrich</b>			
April, 1995	43	42	15
March, 1995	44	37	19
February, 1995	38	29	33

**NO QUESTION 15**

<sup>5</sup> In November 2010 the question read "...the Republican Party won control of the House of Representatives?" In November 2006, the question read, "...the Democratic Party won control of Congress?" In December 2002 the question was worded: "In general, are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party won control of the U.S. Senate?" In November 1998 the question was worded: "Are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party maintained control of the U.S. Congress?" In December 1994 question was worded: "Generally, are you happy or unhappy that the Republican party won control of the U.S. Congress?"

**ASK ALL:**

Q.16 In dealing with Congress, do you think President Obama...**[RANDOMIZE: Should go along with the Republicans more often [OR] Should challenge the Republicans more often]** or is he handling this about right?

Mar 30-Apr 3 <u>2011</u>		<b>Bush and Democrats</b>	<b>Clinton and Republicans</b>		
		Mar <u>2007</u> <sup>6</sup>	Mar <u>1996</u>	Aug <u>1995</u>	Apr <u>1995</u>
29	Should go along with the Republicans more often	43	30	26	25
27	Should challenge the Republicans more often	18	23	27	27
34	Is he handling this about right	27	41	38	41
1	Neither <b>(VOL.)</b>	3	2	2	2
9	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	9	4	7	5

**ASK ALL:**

Q.17 From what you have seen or heard about events in the new Congress, in general, do you think the Republicans in the House are keeping the promises they made during the campaign, or not?

Mar 30-Apr 3 <u>2011</u>		<b>Democrats</b>	<b>--- Republicans ---</b>	
		Mar <u>2007</u>	Apr <u>1995</u>	Newsweek <u>Jan 1995</u>
33	Yes, keeping promises	40	59	41
52	No, not keeping promises	38	30	30
14	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	22	11	29

**ASK ALL:**

Q.18 Do you think of the Tea Party movement as **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]** OR as **[NEXT]**?

Mar 30-Apr 3 <u>2011</u>		<b>Registered Voters who have heard of the Tea Party</b>	
		Nov 4-7 <u>2010</u>	<i>NBC/WSJ</i> <u>Aug 2010</u>
36	A part of the Republican Party	38	45
50	A separate and independent movement from the Republican Party	47	45
1	Depends <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	1
13	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	15	8

**ASK ALL:**

Q.19 So far, are Republican leaders in Congress paying too much attention, too little attention, or the right amount of attention to the ideas and positions of the Tea Party?

Mar 30-Apr 3 <u>2011</u>		Nov 4-7 <u>2010</u>
27	Too much	22
32	Too little	28
23	Right amount	25
19	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	25

**NO QUESTIONS 20-30**

<sup>6</sup> In March 2007 and before, answer choices were not randomized, and the third answer choice read "...or is handling the situation about right?"

**RANDOMIZE Q.31/Q.32 IN BLOCK WITH Q.33/Q.34 BLOCK****ASK ALL:**

Thinking now about the nation's economy...

Q.31 How would you rate economic conditions in this country today... as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	1	7	38	53	1
Feb 2-7, 2011	1	11	45	42	1
Dec 1-5, 2010	1	8	44	45	1
Oct 13-18, 2010	1	7	38	54	1
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	1	7	43	48	1
Jun 3-6, 2010	1	8	48	43	1
Apr 21-26, 2010	*	11	39	49	1
Mar 10-14, 2010	1	6	39	53	1
Feb 3-9, 2010	1	7	38	53	1
Dec 9-13, 2009	1	7	41	50	1
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	*	8	41	50	1
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	1	8	43	48	1
Aug 11-17, 2009	*	8	38	52	2
Jun 10-14, 2009	1	8	39	52	1
Mar 9-12, 2009	*	6	25	68	1
Feb 4-8, 2009	*	4	24	71	1
December, 2008	*	7	33	59	1
November, 2008	1	6	28	64	1
Late October, 2008	*	7	25	67	1
Early October, 2008	1	8	32	58	1
Late September, 2008	*	7	27	65	1
July, 2008	1	9	39	50	1
April, 2008	1	10	33	56	*
March, 2008	1	10	32	56	1
Early February, 2008	1	16	36	45	2
January, 2008	3	23	45	28	1
November, 2007	3	20	44	32	1
September, 2007	3	23	43	29	2
June, 2007	6	27	40	25	2
February, 2007	5	26	45	23	1
December, 2006	6	32	41	19	2
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	9	35	37	17	2
Late October, 2006	6	27	40	25	2
September, 2006	5	32	41	20	2
March, 2006	4	29	44	22	1
January, 2006	4	30	45	19	2
Early October, 2005	2	23	45	29	1
Mid-September, 2005	3	28	44	24	1
Mid-May, 2005	3	29	47	20	1
January, 2005	3	36	45	15	1
December, 2004	3	33	43	20	1
Early November, 2004 (RVs)	5	31	37	26	1
Mid-September, 2004	4	34	40	20	2
August, 2004	3	30	45	21	1
Late April, 2004	4	34	38	22	2
Late February, 2004 <sup>7</sup>	2	29	42	26	1

7

Earlier trends available from Gallup.

**RANDOMIZE Q.31/Q.32 IN BLOCK WITH Q.33/Q.34 BLOCK****ASK ALL:**

Q.32 Which of these best describes your opinion: **[READ; READ CATEGORIES IN REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF THE SAMPLE]**?

	<u>The economy is recovering</u>	<u>The economy is not yet recovering but will recover soon</u>	<u>It will be a long time before the economy recovers</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	20	24	54	2
Feb 2-7, 2011	24	33	42	2
Dec 1-5, 2010	17	33	48	2
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 <sup>8</sup>	10	37	52	2
Jun 3-6, 2010	13	35	50	2
Mar 10-14, 2010	13	37	48	2

**RANDOMIZE Q.31/Q.32 IN BLOCK WITH Q.33/Q.34 BLOCK****ASK ALL:**

Thinking now about your own personal finances...

Q.33 How would you rate your own personal financial situation? Would you say you are in excellent shape, good shape, only fair shape or poor shape financially?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Only fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	7	29	36	26	2
Feb 2-7, 2011	7	29	41	22	1
Dec 1-5, 2010	5	30	40	23	2
Oct 13-18, 2010	6	33	36	23	1
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	6	30	40	23	1
Jun 3-6, 2010	6	32	38	20	4
Mar 10-14, 2010	6	31	39	22	2
Dec 9-13, 2009	7	28	39	24	2
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	5	30	40	25	1
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	6	32	38	22	1
Aug 11-17, 2009	6	31	36	26	2
Jun 10-14, 2009	6	32	39	22	1
Feb 4-8, 2009	5	33	41	20	1
December, 2008	6	32	40	21	1
Early October, 2008	6	35	40	18	1
July, 2008	9	33	37	19	2
April, 2008	8	35	39	16	2
March, 2008	8	39	34	17	2
Early February, 2008	9	36	37	16	2
January, 2008	10	39	34	15	2
November, 2007	9	41	34	15	1
September, 2007	10	38	34	16	2
February, 2007	8	41	36	14	1
December, 2006	8	40	35	16	1
Late October, 2006	9	40	33	16	2
March, 2006	9	39	36	15	1
January, 2006	7	39	37	15	2
Mid-May, 2005	7	37	39	16	1
January, 2005	10	41	34	14	1
August, 2004	9	42	34	14	1
September, 2003	10	38	36	15	1
Late March, 2003	10	43	31	12	4
January, 2003	7	38	39	15	1
Early October, 2002	7	39	37	16	1
June, 2002	5	40	37	16	2
Late September, 2001	7	40	37	14	2
June, 2001	6	38	39	16	1

<sup>8</sup> In September 2010 and earlier, the first answer choice read "The economy is now recovering."

**Q.33 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	Only <u>fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
June, 2000	9	43	35	11	2
August, 1999	6	43	41	9	1
May, 1997	7	43	38	11	1
September, 1996 (RVs)	8	47	34	10	1
February, 1995	8	39	38	14	1
March, 1994	5	41	40	13	1
December, 1993	5	34	45	15	1
U.S. News:January, 1993	4	33	46	16	1
U.S. News:October, 1992	6	34	40	19	1
U.S. News:August, 1992	5	30	47	17	1
U.S. News:May, 1992	4	35	45	15	1
U.S. News:January, 1992	4	32	45	18	1

**RANDOMIZE Q.31/Q.32 IN BLOCK WITH Q.33/Q.34 BLOCK****ASK ALL:**

Q.34 Over the course of the next year, do you think the financial situation of you and your family will improve a lot, improve some, get a little worse or get a lot worse?

	Improve <u>a lot</u>	Improve <u>some</u>	Get a <u>little worse</u>	Get a lot <u>worse</u>	(VOL.) <u>Stay the same</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	7	44	23	10	13	3
Dec 1-5, 2010	7	49	20	6	14	4
Oct 13-18, 2010	9	48	16	6	17	5
Mar 10-14, 2010	9	52	15	8	12	4
Dec 9-13, 2009	9	44	19	8	15	4
Oct 28-Nov 8, 2009	6	50	19	8	13	4
Sep 30-Oct 4, 2009	10	49	17	6	13	4
Aug 11-17, 2009	8	47	17	8	15	5
Jun 10-14, 2009	9	54	17	7	9	4
Feb 4-8, 2009	7	47	22	7	13	4
December, 2008	7	49	21	6	13	4
Early October, 2008	8	51	20	6	9	6
July, 2008	7	44	21	7	14	7
March, 2008	10	45	20	7	13	5
January, 2008	11	49	16	6	14	4
September, 2007	10	52	14	4	16	4
February, 2007	11	52	12	3	19	3
December, 2006	10	57	13	3	14	3
January, 2006	10	51	14	5	16	4
Mid-May, 2005	10	51	15	5	15	4
January, 2005	10	54	14	4	15	3
August, 2004	13	57	9	3	12	6
September, 2003	11	53	15	4	14	3
Late March, 2003	12	51	15	4	11	7
January, 2003	9	51	18	5	13	4
Early October, 2002	10	54	13	5	12	6
June, 2002	11	55	15	4	11	4
January, 2002	12	53	15	5	11	4
Late September, 2001	9	46	16	4	17	8
June, 2001	11	52	15	4	14	4
January, 2001	11	46	18	9	12	4
January, 1999	17	55	7	3	14	4
May, 1997	12	56	10	2	17	3
February, 1995	11	53	13	3	17	3
March, 1994	10	57	11	3	16	3
U.S. News:October, 1992	9	51	14	3	15	8
U.S. News:August, 1992	6	50	20	5	14	5
U.S. News:May, 1992	8	49	22	4	13	4
U.S. News:January, 1992	9	46	19	5	16	5

**ASK ALL:**

Q.35 Not all people face the same financial pressures. Please tell me how much each of the following affects your own household's financial situation. First, **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]** – does this affect your household's financial situation a lot, a little, or not at all? How about **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**? **[REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Does this affect your household's financial situation a lot, a little or not at all]**

		<u>A lot</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	The job situation Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	42	26	30	1
b.	How the stock market is doing Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	24	37	34	5
c.	Real estate values Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	35	28	34	3
d.	Gas prices Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	69	23	7	1
e.	Prices for food and consumer goods Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	58	34	7	1
f.	The federal budget deficit Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	43	34	19	4

**NO QUESTIONS 36-42****QUESTIONS 43-46 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****NO QUESTIONS 47-49****ASK ALL:**

Thinking more generally about the political parties for a moment...

**RANDOMIZE Q.50 AND Q.51****ASK ALL:**

Q.50 Please tell me if you think each phrase I read better describes the REPUBLICAN Party and its leaders or the DEMOCRATIC Party and its leaders (First,) which party do you think is better described by the phrase... **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE. OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]** How about **[NEXT ITEM]**?

		<u>Republican</u> <u>Party</u>	<u>Democratic</u> <u>Party</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>Both</u> <u>equally</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>Neither</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
<b>ASK ALL FORM 1 [N=754]:</b>						
a.F1	Can better manage the federal government					
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	41	39	2	8	9
	Oct 13-18, 2010	43	36	2	11	8
	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	41	41	3	8	7
	Jun 16-20, 2010	41	37	3	12	7
	Feb 3-9, 2010	40	40	4	9	8
	Aug 27-30, 2009	34	38	4	14	10
	October, 2007	32	44	5	9	10
	March, 2007	31	47	3	8	11
	Early October, 2006	34	44	3	9	10
	April, 2006 <sup>9</sup>	35	39	3	15	8
	January, 2006	34	40	4	12	10
	Early October, 2005	35	41	3	13	8

<sup>9</sup> In April 2006 and earlier, the item was worded: "Able to manage the federal government well."

## Q.50 CONTINUED ...

	Republican	Democratic	(VOL.) Both	(VOL.) Neither	(VOL.) DK/Ref
	<u>Party</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>equally</u>		
July, 2004	37	40	4	9	10
Early September, 1998	37	32	8	12	11
August, 1997	39	33	4	16	8
July, 1996	45	32	4	12	7
April, 1995	49	30	3	13	5
July, 1994	43	31	4	17	5
May, 1993	36	32	2	17	13
July, 1992	30	36	1	23	10
May, 1990	28	20	12	31	9
May, 1988	33	30	10	17	10
January, 1988	30	28	12	20	10
May, 1987	24	25	13	28	10
b.F1 Is more concerned with the needs of people like me					
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	32	54	2	5	8
Oct 13-18, 2010	36	46	2	8	9
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	33	53	2	7	5
Jun 16-20, 2010	34	50	2	9	5
Feb 3-9, 2010	31	51	3	8	7
Aug 27-30, 2009	27	51	4	10	7
October, 2007	25	54	4	8	9
March, 2007	26	55	2	7	10
Early October, 2006	27	55	3	8	7
April, 2006 <sup>10</sup>	28	52	3	10	7
Early October, 2005	30	52	5	7	6
July, 2004	30	50	5	8	7
Early September, 1998	31	46	5	9	9
March, 1998	30	51	4	8	7
August, 1997	31	49	3	10	7
July, 1996	35	50	2	7	6
April, 1995	39	49	2	7	3
July, 1994	35	49	4	8	4
May, 1990	21	42	12	18	7
May, 1988	23	51	8	11	7
January, 1988	22	47	11	13	7
c.F1 Governs in a more honest and ethical way					
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	33	42	3	14	8
Oct 13-18, 2010	35	35	4	16	9
Jun 16-20, 2010	31	41	4	18	6
August 27-30, 2009	26	42	4	20	9
October, 2007	26	40	6	19	9
March, 2007	25	43	4	18	10
Early October, 2006	27	41	4	18	10
April, 2006 <sup>11</sup>	28	36	4	23	9
January, 2006	30	37	4	19	10
Early October, 2005	30	40	6	18	6
July, 2004	34	37	5	15	9
Early September, 1998	31	28	6	23	12
March, 1998	28	32	7	24	9
August, 1997	28	33	5	26	8
July, 1996	38	37	2	18	5
April, 1995	35	36	4	19	6
July, 1994	32	35	6	21	6

<sup>10</sup> In April 2006 and earlier, the item was worded: "Is concerned with the needs of people like me."

<sup>11</sup> In April 2006 and earlier, the item was worded: "Governs in an honest and ethical way."

## Q.50 CONTINUED...

		Republican	Democratic	(VOL.) Both	(VOL.)	(VOL.)
		Party	Party	equally	Neither	DK/Ref
<b>ASK ALL FORM 2 [N=753]:</b>						
d.F2	Can bring about the kind of changes the country needs					
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	41	44	2	8	5
	Oct 13-18, 2010	35	41	3	10	10
	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	35	46	4	8	6
	Jun 16-20, 2010	33	45	3	12	7
	Feb 3-9, 2010	34	46	4	9	7
	Aug 27-30, 2009	25	47	5	13	9
	October, 2007	26	48	5	11	10
	March, 2007	26	52	4	9	9
	Early October, 2006	28	48	4	10	10
	April, 2006	32	47	2	12	7
	Early October, 2005	32	48	4	9	7
	July, 2004	35	46	3	7	9
	Early September, 1998	34	40	7	8	11
	March, 1998	32	45	7	8	8
	August, 1997	38	40	4	11	7
	July, 1996	39	46	2	7	6
	April, 1995	51	34	4	7	4
	July, 1994	39	42	4	10	5
	May, 1993	30	49	2	10	9
	July, 1992	24	47	2	16	11
	May, 1990	27	31	13	18	11
	May, 1988	27	43	9	11	10
	January, 1988	28	37	14	11	10
	May, 1987	26	36	14	14	10
e.F2	Is more influenced by lobbyists and special interests					
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	44	34	11	2	9
	Feb 3-9, 2010	40	32	14	2	11
	Aug 27-30, 2009	37	31	17	3	12
	March, 2007	40	30	15	1	14
	Early October, 2006	41	27	16	2	14
	April, 2006	45	28	14	2	11
f.F2	Is more willing to work with political leaders from the other party					
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	32	49	2	10	6

## RANDOMIZE Q.50 AND Q.51

## ASK ALL:

Q.51 Please tell me if you think the REPUBLICAN Party or the DEMOCRATIC Party could do a better job in each of the following areas... (First,) which party could do a better job of... **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE. OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]** How about **[NEXT ITEM]**?

		Republican	Democratic	(VOL.) Both	(VOL.)	(VOL.)
		Party	Party	equally	Neither	DK/Ref
a.	Improving the job situation					
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	39	39	10	6	6
	Oct 13-18, 2010	35	31	8	13	13
	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	39	41	6	8	7
	Apr 21-26, 2010	36	37	8	9	10
	September, 2006	29	47	6	5	13
	March, 1998	30	51	7	5	7
	October, 1994	37	42	6	7	8

## Q.51 CONTINUED...

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>	
b.	Reducing the federal budget deficit					
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	46	34	8	6	7
	Oct 13-18, 2010	35	28	7	16	14
	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	43	36	5	9	7
	May 20-23, 2010	33	30	8	16	12
	Apr 21-26, 2010	38	35	6	11	10
	Feb 3-9, 2010	42	36	6	8	7
	Aug 27-30, 2009	35	36	6	13	10
	September, 2006	27	47	4	8	14
	February, 2006	33	45	6	9	7
	Early October, 2005 <sup>12</sup>	29	47	6	10	8
	June, 1999	37	41	5	8	9
	July, 1994	42	36	2	13	7
	December, 1993	31	36	--	18	15
<b>ASK ALL FORM 1 [N=754]:</b>						
c.F1	Dealing with health care					
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	40	42	6	5	7
	Oct 13-18, 2010	32	39	5	11	13
	Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	36	46	5	7	6
<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b>						
<i>Reforming the U.S. health care system</i>						
	Feb 3-9, 2010	32	45	6	10	7
	Aug 27-30, 2009	27	46	4	14	9
	February, 2008	26	56	3	8	7
	October, 2006	25	46	4	8	17
	September, 2006	24	48	5	10	13
	February, 2006	27	49	6	9	9
	Mid-September, 2005	28	51	4	10	7
	July, 2004	23	50	4	10	13
	Early July, 2003	31	38	6	10	15
<i>Regulating health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and managed health care plans</i>						
	January, 2002	20	45	--	6	29
	January, 2001	30	47	--	7	16
	January, 1999	25	46	--	7	22
<i>Reforming the U.S. health care system</i>						
	Early September, 1998	31	43	7	7	12
	March, 1998	25	53	6	8	8
	October, 1994	34	41	5	10	10
	July, 1994	34	48	2	8	8
<i>Reforming health care</i>						
	December, 1993	25	47	--	10	18
<i>Improving health care in the U.S.</i>						
	January, 1992	21	56	--	8	15
	May, 1990	20	50	--	16	14
d.F1	Dealing with the nation's energy problems					
	Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	37	42	7	5	9
	Oct 13-18, 2010	28	38	8	11	15
	May 20-23, 2010	28	35	10	12	15
	Apr 21-26, 2010	32	40	8	9	12
	Feb 3-9, 2010	32	44	8	6	10

<sup>12</sup> In Early October 2005, the item was asked as a stand alone question. In June 1999, the item was worded: "Keeping the federal budget balanced." In December 1993 the item was worded: "Reducing the budget deficit."

**Q.51 CONTINUED...**

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) <u>Both equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
Aug 27-30, 2009	25	47	7	9	12
February, 2008	23	57	5	5	10
September, 2006	27	47	4	7	15
February, 2006	32	45	6	7	10
Mid-September, 2005	31	44	6	8	11
May, 2001	36	34	10	7	13
October, 2006	28	44	5	6	17
<b>e.F1</b> Improving the education system					
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	32	46	7	6	9
Feb 3-9, 2010	29	48	8	8	8
Aug 27-30, 2009	22	47	8	12	10
February, 2008	26	55	6	6	7
October, 2006	27	45	5	6	17
September, 2006	28	46	7	6	13
February, 2006	33	44	8	7	8
Mid-September, 2005	35	44	6	7	8
July, 2004	29	45	7	7	12
January, 2002	37	34	--	6	23
May, 2001	36	38	11	6	9
January, 2001	40	41	--	7	12
June, 1999	29	52	7	5	7
March, 1999	33	46	6	5	10
January, 1999	26	46	--	7	21
Early September, 1998	34	42	10	4	10
March, 1998	29	49	10	5	7
July, 1994	37	46	4	5	8
January, 1992	28	48	--	10	14
May, 1990	30	42	--	14	14
<b>ASK ALL FORM 2 [N=753]:</b>					
<b>f.F2</b> Making wise decisions about foreign policy					
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	40	38	10	4	7
Apr 21-26, 2010	39	34	8	8	11
August 27-30, 2009	31	44	7	8	9
February, 2008	40	45	4	4	7
July, 2004	38	40	4	4	14
Early September, 2002	40	30	10	6	14
May, 2001	39	34	11	3	13
June, 1999	37	36	7	6	14
March, 1999	42	37	6	4	11
Early September, 1998	40	31	11	5	13
March, 1998	41	33	12	4	10
October, 1994	47	30	7	5	11
July, 1994 <sup>13</sup>	51	31	4	6	8
December, 1993	49	23	--	10	18
May, 1990	39	28	--	17	16
<b>g.F2</b> Taking steps to make the Social Security system financially sound					
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	39	39	9	6	7
Sep 16-19, 2010	35	35	9	11	11
September, 2006	26	46	4	11	13
September, 2005	33	45	6	9	7
Late October, 2002 (RVs)	31	42	6	9	12
Early September, 2002	30	38	8	10	14

<sup>13</sup>

In July 1994 and May 1990, the item was worded "Making wise decisions about the country's defense policies."

**Q.51 CONTINUED...**

	Republican <u>Party</u>	Democratic <u>Party</u>	(VOL.) Both <u>equally</u>	(VOL.) <u>Neither</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
May, 2002	32	38	--	9	21
January, 2002	28	40	--	6	26
May, 2001 <sup>14</sup>	35	43	6	5	11
January, 2001	36	44	--	7	13
June, 1999	33	41	4	9	13
January, 1999	27	46	--	7	20
Early September, 1998	37	42	7	5	9
May, 1990	28	41	--	16	15
h.F2 Ensuring that the government can handle major disasters					
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	37	37	13	5	7
September, 2005	34	40	8	9	9

**NO QUESTION 52-55****QUESTIONS 56-59 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****NO QUESTIONS 60-65****QUESTIONS 66-73 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****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 <i>Rep</i>	Lean <i>Dem</i>
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	25	32	37	3	*	3	17	16
Mar 8-14, 2011	24	33	38	3	*	2	17	15
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	24	33	37	3	*	3	15	16
Feb 2-7, 2011	24	31	39	3	*	2	16	16
Jan 5-9, 2011	27	32	35	4	*	2	15	14
Dec 1-5, 2010	25	33	34	5	1	2	13	14
Nov 4-7, 2010	26	30	37	4	*	2	17	13
Oct 27-30, 2010	25	34	31	6	1	4	13	11
Oct 13-18, 2010	25	31	36	4	*	3	16	13
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	24	32	39	2	*	2	15	17
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	26	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
Mar 11-21, 2010	28	34	32	3	*	3	13	12
Mar 10-14, 2010	22	33	37	6	*	3	14	13
<b>Yearly Totals</b>								
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

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For May 2001, June 1999, Early September 1998 and May 1990, the question was worded, "Please tell me if you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party could do a better job in each of the following areas ... keeping Social Security financially sound?"

## PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No preference	Other party	DK/Ref	Rep	Dem
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 ALL:

TEAPARTY2 From what you know, do you agree or disagree with the Tea Party movement, or don't you have an opinion either way?

	Agree	Disagree	No opinion either way	(VOL.) Haven't heard of	(VOL.) Refused	Not heard of/DK
Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011	22	29	47	1	1	--
Mar 8-14, 2011	19	25	54	1	1	--
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	20	25	52	2	2	--
Feb 2-7, 2011 <sup>15</sup>	22	22	53	2	2	--
Jan 5-9, 2011	24	22	50	2	1	--
Dec 1-5, 2010	22	26	49	2	2	--
Nov 4-7, 2010	27	22	49	1	1	--
Oct 27-30, 2010 (RVs)	29	25	32	--	1	13
Oct 13-18, 2010 (RVs)	28	24	30	--	1	16
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010 (RVs)	29	26	32	--	1	13
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	22	18	37	--	1	21
Jun 16-20, 2010	24	18	30	--	*	27
May 20-23, 2010	25	18	31	--	1	25
Mar 11-21, 2010	24	14	29	--	1	31

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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 through October, 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 it was described as "the Tea Party protests that have taken place in the U.S. over the past year."