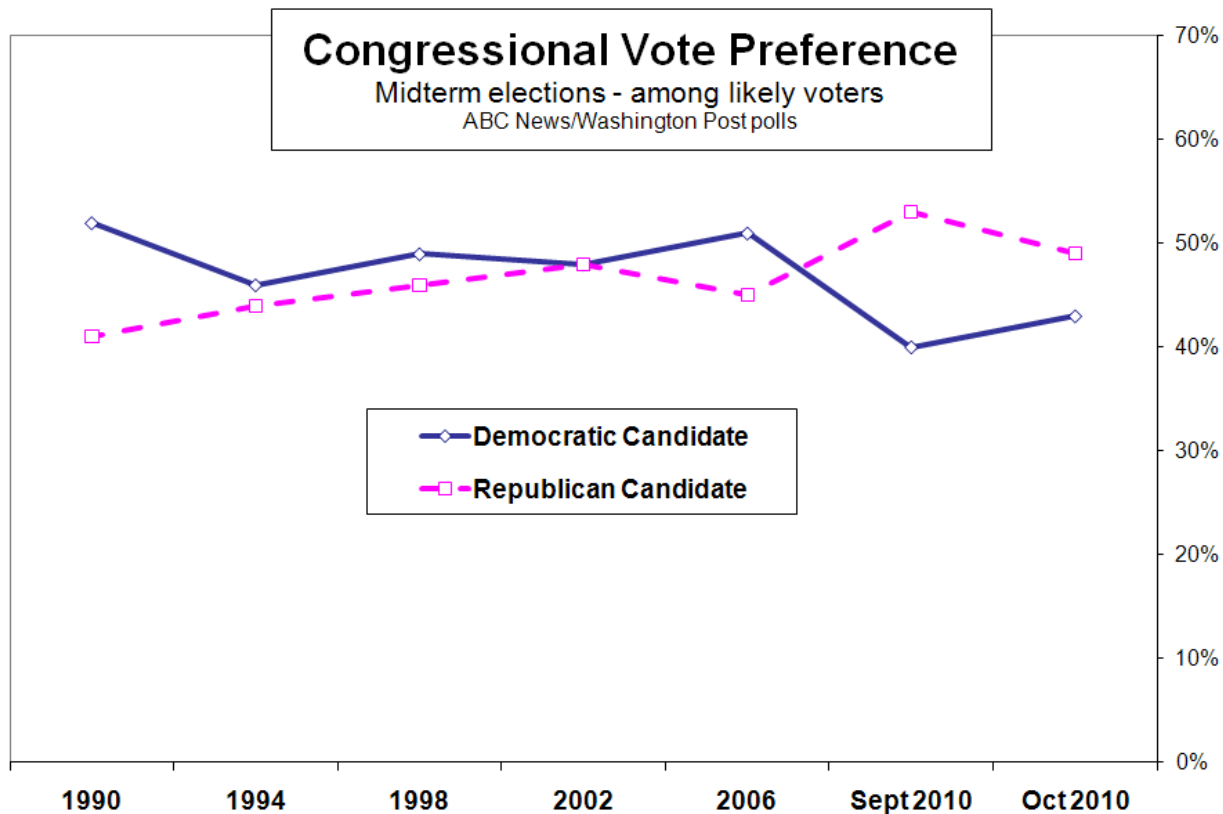


## **GOP Advantage Eases, but Still Large as Economic Optimism Shows a Pulse**

A gargantuan Republican advantage in the midterm elections subsided to merely a broad one in the latest ABC News/Washington Post poll, with the Democrats clawing back some support in tandem with an incipient sense that the economy at last may be turning the corner.

A month before Election Day, 31 percent of Americans say the economy's improving – far from a majority, but 7 points more than a month ago and among the most since the financial crisis of fall 2008. Dissatisfaction with the federal government, closely related to economic discontent, also has eased by 7 points, albeit to a still-high 71 percent.

It's hardly a sea change: Anti-incumbency and disapproval of Congress remain enormous. Republicans still are more charged up; they're 16 points more apt than Democrats to say they're certain to vote next month. And the ABC News Frustration Index, a strong predictor of election outcomes, stands at 68 on its scale out of 100, well in the danger zone for incumbent politicians.

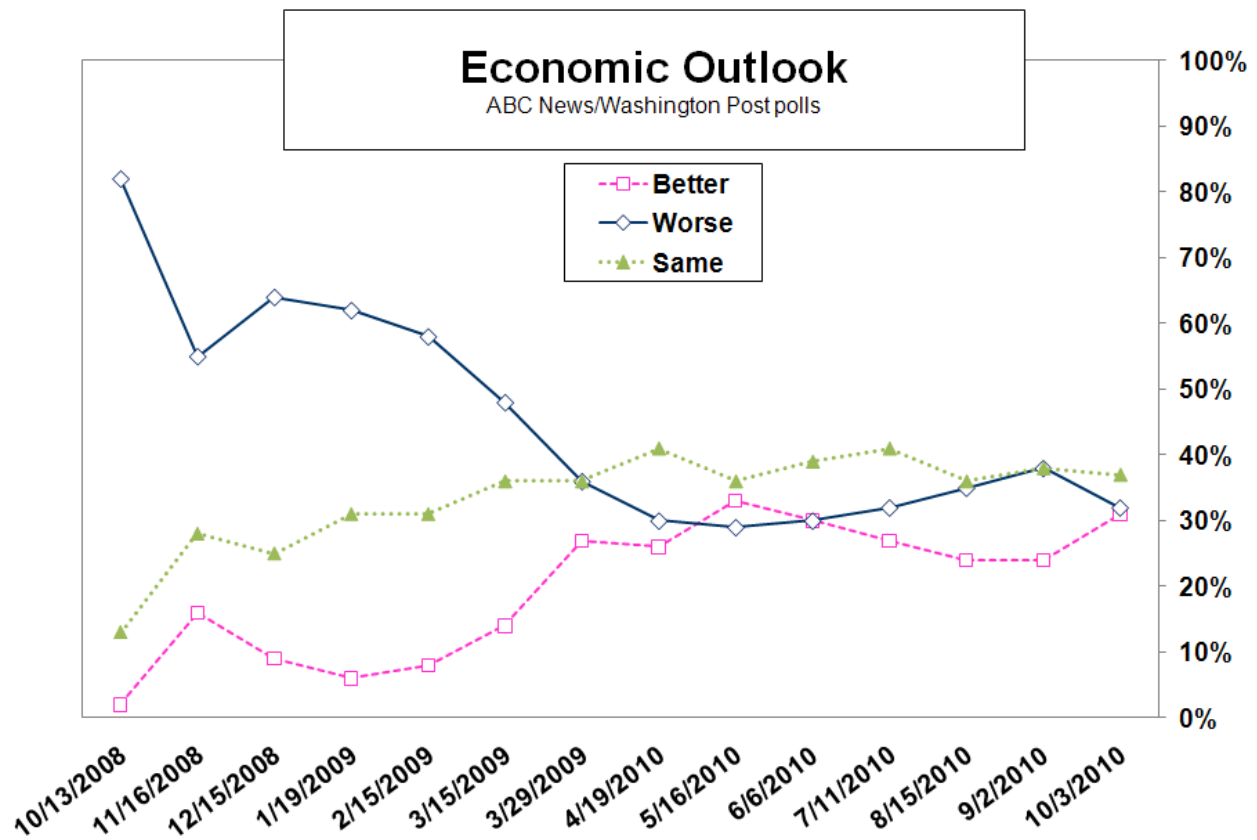


In congressional vote preference, likely voters now divide by 49-43 percent for the Republican vs. the Democratic candidate in their district. That's eased from a remarkable 53-40 percent last month, the largest GOP lead since ABC/Post polling began in 1982.

Still, the Republicans hold a sizable and unusual lead, bigger than they enjoyed at this time in 1994, when they last seized control of Congress. Notable in this poll, produced for ABC News by [Langer Research Associates](#), is the GOP's 20-point advantage among independent likely voters, who favor Republican candidates by 53-33 percent.

Last month's overall 13-point Republican advantage among all likely voters may have been so big as to be unsustainable; nonetheless, their move off that peak puts the Democrats back in the game – or at least within sight of the ballpark – for what's sure to be a frenetic last month of campaigning – and, especially, of get-out-the vote machinations.

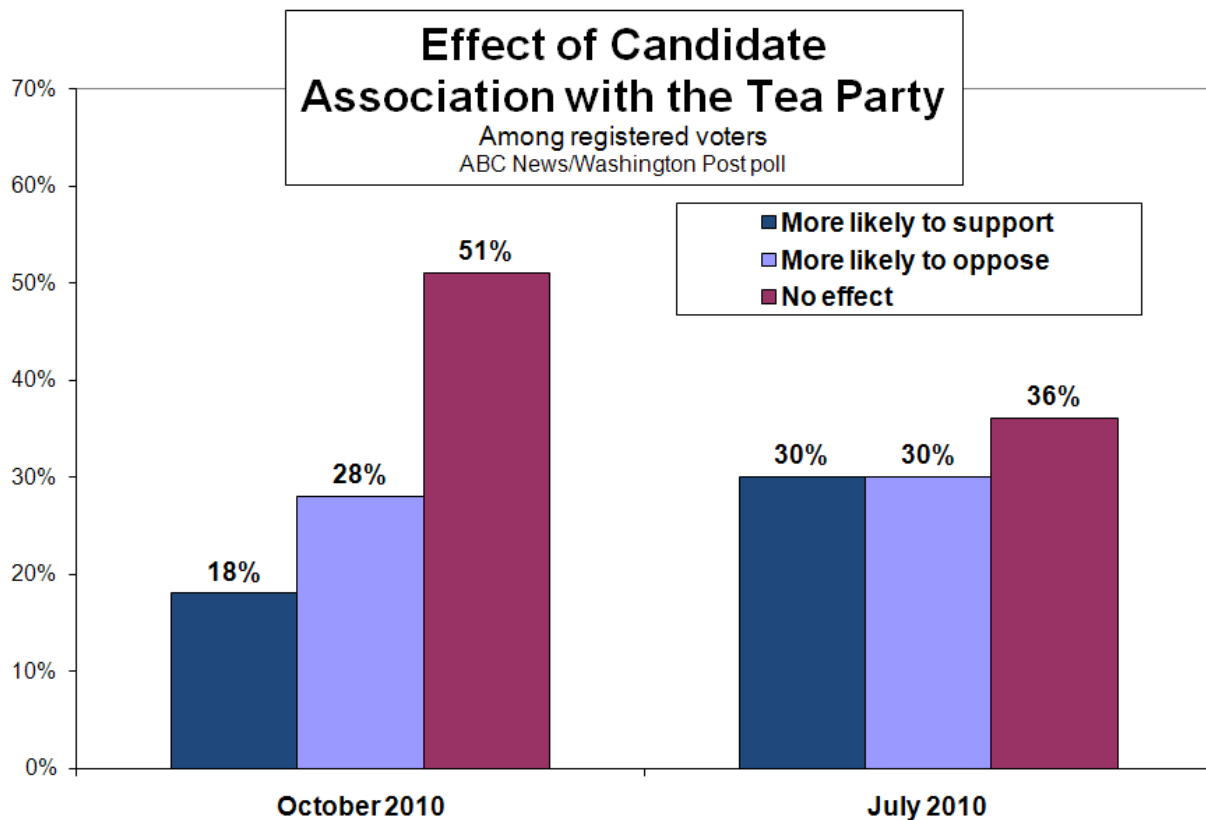
**ECONOMY** – The gain in economic expectations makes things a little less ugly for the Democrats because likely voters who say the economy's improving favor Democrats for Congress by 75-19 percent; those who say it's getting worse favor Republican candidates by 70-22 percent. In this poll there are 7 points more of the former (the better group for Democrats), and 6 points fewer of the latter (the better group for Republicans) than last month. Those who say the economy's staying the same, however, also favor GOP candidates, by 52-39 percent.



And “the same” is not good; ratings of current economic conditions have not improved. Ninety percent say the economy’s in bad shape (it was 92 percent last month). That vastly negative rating helps explain why the Obama administration’s economic stimulus gets so little applause: By more than 2-1, 68 percent to 29 percent, Americans are far more apt to say that money was wasted rather than well-spent.

It appears an improving economy would help this view. Among people who think the economy’s getting better, 56 percent say the stimulus money was well-spent. But among those who think it’s staying the same or getting worse, many more – 73 and 89 percent, respectively – think all that stimulus spending was mostly wasted.

TEA and PLEDGES – The economy’s not the sole factor to watch; another is the Tea Party political movement, whose influence looks to have faded. In July, 30 percent of registered voters said they’d be more apt to support a candidate if he or she were affiliated with the Tea Party. Today, with its candidates nominated and under scrutiny, that’s dropped to 18 percent. Opposition to such candidates, meanwhile, has held about steady at 28 percent, meaning Tea Party affiliation has gone from a neutral factor to a net negative. (The numbers are very similar among likely voters.)



Overall 40 percent of Americans say they support the Tea Party (13 percent “strongly”), while 47 percent oppose it (18 percent strongly); among likely voters this goes to an even split.

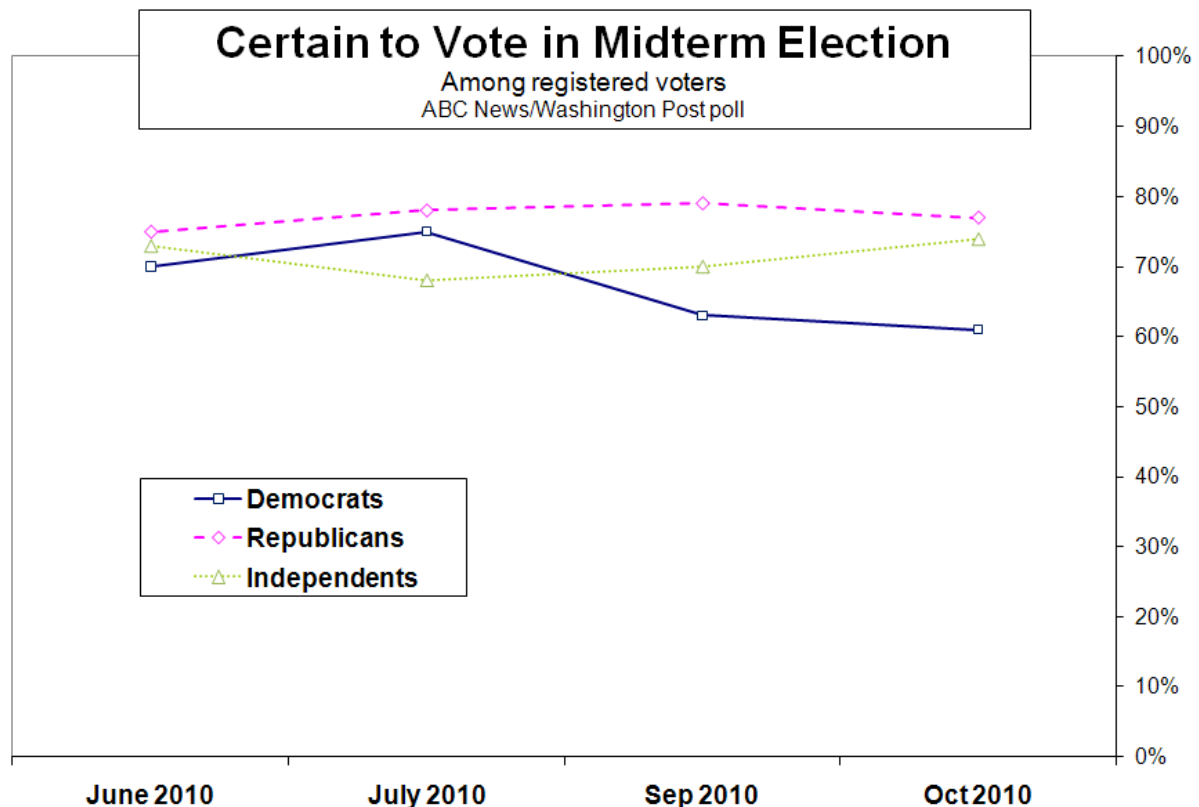
Regardless, there's widespread skepticism its candidates would be able to "change the culture of Washington" – 32 percent say so, 63 percent not.

At the same time, Tea Party supporters retain a big edge in commitment. Among registered voters who "strongly" support the movement, 92 percent say they're certain to vote next month. Voting intention drops to two-thirds of those who support it "somewhat," or oppose it.

The GOP "Pledge to America," meanwhile, is showing no traction: Just 34 percent of Americans say they've heard about it, and among those who have, 29 percent say it makes them less apt to support Republican candidates, vs. 23 percent more likely. The rest say it'll make no difference.

More likely voters have heard of the pledge, 46 percent. But they only divide evenly on whether it's a positive or negative motivator.

TURNOUT – What is working for the Republicans, above all, is a motivated base. Among all registered voters the Democrats lead in congressional vote preference, 47-43 percent. That switches to a Republican advantage among likely voters because of GOP supporters' greater propensity to say they'll turn out. Seventy-seven percent of Republican registered voters say they're "absolutely certain" to vote. Among Democratic registered voters that falls to 61 percent.



In another sign of their increased motivation, three-quarters of Republicans (74 percent) call this election more important than other congressional elections in their lifetimes; in 2006, just 49

percent said so – a vast change. (Two-thirds of Democrats and independents alike also express this view – unchanged among Democrats, but up markedly among independents vs. 2006.)

The Republicans' advantage is not assured, however, in part because it relies on their 20-point advantage among independents – and while that's the quintessential swing-voting group, it's also one whose turnout is difficult to ensure.

All this ties in with the ABC News Frustration Index, based on views of the economy, the president's job performance, anti-incumbency and dissatisfaction with the way the government's operating. While below its peak, 80 in 2008, at 68 the index is higher now than it was at this time in 1994 (63) or 2006 (62), the last two times control of Congress switched hands. The index, moreover, currently is 70 among likely voters, and 85 among Republicans – underscoring their motivation to wrest away the “change” mantra that President Obama wielded in 2008.

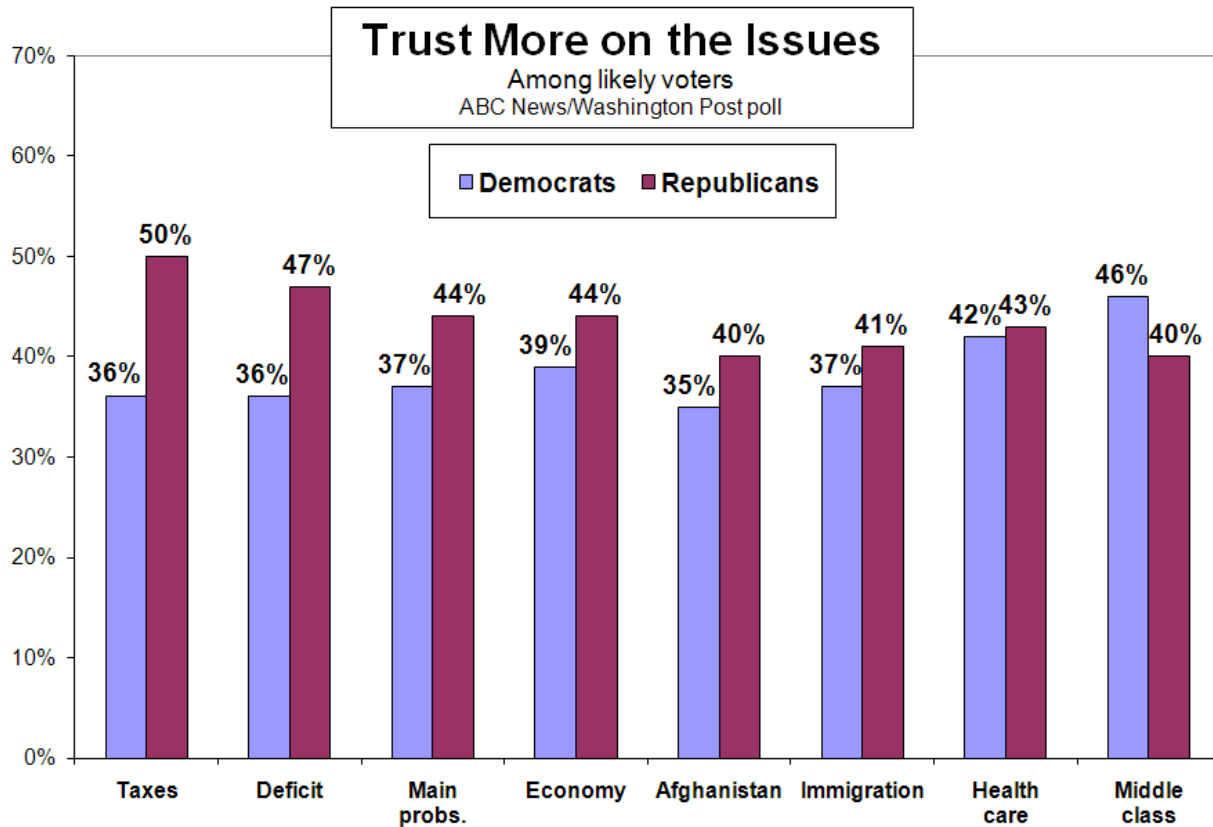
OBAMA – Obama, for his part, remains below majority approval, albeit slightly: Fifty percent of Americans approve of his job performance, 47 percent disapprove. This had gone negative for him last month for the first time in ABC/Post polls, 46-52 percent.

Nonetheless strength of sentiment's still against the president, with 34 percent “strongly” disapproving of his work overall, vs. 26 percent who strongly approve. Among likely voters, moreover, his approval rating worsens to 45-53 percent. And on the economy, 53 percent of all Americans disapprove, as do 58 percent of likely voters.

IRE AWAY – If other examples of the public's ire are required, they're here in abundance. Consider:

- A mere 24 percent of Americans approve of the way Congress is handling its job, while 73 percent disapprove. That's 7 points from the lowest congressional approval ever measured in ABC/Post polls, in spring 1992. Sixty-one percent disapprove, specifically, of the way the Democrats in Congress are performing – and 67 percent disapprove of the Republicans there.
- Fifty-one percent approve of their own Congress member's performance, well below the average, 61 percent, in ABC/Post polls since 1989, and near the lows – 47 percent in 1992, 49 percent in 1994 and again last month. And it's not a saving grace: Only 31 percent of registered voters are inclined to re-elect their representative, up 5 points from its low in July but still a very weak reading. Fifty-five percent are inclined, instead, to look around for someone else. It's the same among likely voters.
- While dissatisfaction with the government has eased to 71 percent, that's still very high – essentially the same as at this point in 1994. (The top was 81 percent in 1992, just before then-President George Bush lost re-election in a firestorm of economic unhappiness.) And 25 percent are downright angry with the government, unchanged from last month and matching the high, again set in fall 1992.

ISSUES and CHANGE – The GOP is numerically ahead among likely voters in trust to handle most key issues, and clearly leads on three – taxes, the deficit and the “main problems the nation faces.” (The Democrats lead in one, trust to protect the middle class – but they also did in fall 1994, and lost Congress nonetheless.) More broadly, the GOP holds a sizable advantage among likely voters in views of which party has the best ideas on the right size and role of government – 51 percent to 37 percent – a fruitful argument for the Republicans.



Another issue finds the public typically divided: a 47-48 percent split (support-oppose) on health care reform, with sharp partisanship. (Among opponents of reform, three-quarters would like to see the law canceled, either in Congress or the courts.) But this is another issue on which likely voters are different: They oppose the reform legislation by 55-42 percent.

In a sign of openness to change, Americans by 38-27 percent say it would be a good thing rather than a bad thing if the GOP took control of Congress – and among likely voters, that widens to a 46-29 percent margin. Meanwhile there’s pushback on the Democrats’ warnings of a return to the unpopular days of George W. Bush: Overall the public by 49-42 percent thinks a Republican-led Congress would take the country in a new direction, rather than returning to Bush’s policies. (On this, the result is similar among likely voters, 53-41 percent.)

Ideological ratings show a shortfall on all sides. Fewer than half of Americans think candidates of either major party, or the Tea Party, are “about right” ideologically. Forty-eight percent call the Democrats either too liberal or too conservative (38 percent and 10 percent, respectively).

Fifty-three percent call the Republicans either too conservative or too liberal (35 and 18 percent). And the Tea Party stacks up similarly to the GOP.

**THE BIG ONES** – At the end, on the national level, two key factors are driving this election. One is the economy’s perceived direction. The other, motivation among Republicans to make the contest a thumbs-down referendum on the Obama administration more broadly.

While voter preferences now are less bad for the Democrats than they were a month ago, a sharp and highly unusual difference between likely voters vs. all registered voters remains, and continues to work powerfully for the GOP. Whether the party peaked too early is the question that’ll be answered in a month.

**METHODOLOGY** – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by telephone Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2010, among a random national sample of 1,002 adults, including landline and cell-phone-only respondents. Results for the full sample have a 3.5-point error margin. Click [here](#) for a detailed description of sampling error. This survey was produced for ABC News by [Langer Research Associates](#) of New York, N.Y, with sampling, data collection and tabulation by TNS of Horsham, Pa.

Analysis by Gary Langer.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com at <http://abcnews.com/pollingunit>

Media contact: Cathie Levine, (212) 456-4934.

Full results follow (\*= less than 0.5 percent).

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

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
10/3/10	50	26	24	47	13	34	3
9/2/10	46	24	22	52	14	38	3
7/11/10	50	28	22	47	12	35	3
6/6/10	52	30	22	45	12	33	4
4/25/10	54	31	23	44	11	33	3
3/26/10	53	34	20	43	8	35	3
2/8/10	51	29	22	46	12	33	3
1/15/10	53	30	24	44	13	32	2
12/13/09	50	31	18	46	13	33	4
11/15/09	56	32	23	42	13	29	2
10/18/09	57	33	23	40	11	29	3
9/12/09	54	35	19	43	12	31	3
8/17/09	57	35	21	40	11	29	3
7/18/09	59	38	22	37	9	28	4
6/21/09	65	36	29	31	10	22	4
4/24/09	69	42	27	26	8	18	4
3/29/09	66	40	26	29	9	20	5
2/22/09	68	43	25	25	8	17	7

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Obama is handling the economy? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
10/3/10	45	22	23	53	13	41	2
9/2/10	41	20	21	57	13	44	2
7/11/10	43	20	23	54	13	41	4
6/6/10	50	26	24	49	12	37	2
4/25/10	49	24	25	49	10	39	2
3/26/10	45	23	22	52	12	40	3
2/8/10	45	22	23	53	15	38	2
1/15/10	47	22	24	52	13	39	1
12/13/09	46	23	24	52	12	40	2
11/15/09	51	26	25	47	12	36	2
10/18/09	50	29	22	48	13	35	1
9/12/09	51	28	24	46	13	33	2
8/17/09	52	27	25	46	13	33	2
7/18/09	52	29	23	46	10	35	3
6/21/09	56	28	28	41	13	27	3
4/24/09	58	31	28	38	13	25	4
3/29/09	60	34	25	38	12	26	3
2/22/09	60	NA	NA	34	NA	NA	6

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the U.S. Congress is doing its job? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
10/3/10	24	6	18	73	22	51	3
9/2/10	25	5	20	72	21	51	4
6/6/10	26	7	20	71	20	51	2
3/26/10	24	7	18	72	18	54	4
2/8/10	26	NA	NA	71	NA	NA	3
7/13/08	23			71			6
2/1/08	33			59			8
12/9/07	32			60			8
11/1/07	28			65			7
9/30/07	29			65			6
7/21/07	37			60			4
6/1/07	39	"	"	53	"	"	8
4/15/07	44	8	36	54	25	29	3
2/25/07	41	NA	NA	54	NA	NA	5
1/19/07	43			50			8
12/11/06	37	"	"	57	"	"	6
11/4/06 RV	36	7	29	60	25	35	4
10/22/06	31	5	25	65	27	38	4
10/8/06	32	5	27	66	29	37	2
9/7/06	40	NA	NA	55	NA	NA	5
8/6/06	36			60			4
5/15/06	33			63			4
4/9/06	35			62			3
3/5/06	36			62			3
1/26/06	43			53			4
1/8/06	41			55			5
12/18/05	43			53			4
11/2/05	37			59			4
8/28/05	37			59			4
6/5/05	41			54			4
10/29/03	40			52			9
4/30/03	57			37			6
9/26/02	51			43			6
7/15/02	57			36			7
2/21/02	57			39			4



1/27/02	58	35	7
12/19/01	59	34	7
9/9/01	45	48	7
7/30/01	48	48	4
4/22/01	58	33	8
10/31/99	42	53	6
9/2/99	46	47	7
6/6/99	48	46	6
3/14/99	44	49	7
2/14/99	46	50	4
12/20/98	44	51	5
12/19/98	45	50	5
12/13/98	49	46	5
11/7/98	41	55	4
11/1/98	49	47	5
10/25/98	45	44	11
10/18/98	46	45	8
9/28/98	52	44	4
8/21/98	55	39	6
7/12/98	46	44	11
5/12/98	45	45	9
4/4/98	47	45	8
1/31/98	55	35	10
1/30/98	55	35	10
1/25/98	56	37	8
1/24/98	55	38	7
1/19/98	47	49	5
10/13/97	36	57	7
8/27/97	39	54	7
7/8/97	40	53	6
4/24/97	40	53	7
3/9/97	35	60	5
8/5/96	42	52	7
6/30/96	35	58	7
5/22/96	35	60	5
3/10/96	30	64	6
1/7/96	31	65	5
11/19/95	27	68	5
10/1/95	32	65	3
7/17/95	34	63	3
3/19/95	39	56	5
1/29/95	42	52	6
10/31/94	21	72	8
10/23/94	18	78	4
9/11/94	24	70	5
6/26/94	34	61	5
3/27/94	35	62	3
2/27/94	32	64	4
1/23/94	29	60	11
11/14/93	28	66	6
8/8/93	33	64	3
4/26/93	30	69	2
1/17/93	29	66	6
4/9/92	17	78	5
3/18/92	19	76	5
3/8/92	22	73	6
2/2/92	32	64	4
12/15/91	35	59	6
10/21/91	45	50	5
6/2/91	49	46	5
10/14/90	34	63	3
2/4/90	41	55	4
1/16/90	39	55	6

8/21/89	42			53			5
5/23/89	54			44			2
2/14/89	53			44			3
1/23/88*	43			53			4
6/1/87	56			40			4
6/22/85	54			37			9
5/83	33			43			24
6/81	38			40			22
6/79	19			61			20
9/78	29			49			22
6/77	34			42			24
6/75	29			54			17
8/74	48	"	"	35	"	"	17
*1/23/88 and previous: Gallup							

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way (ITEM) are doing their job?

10/3/10 - Summary Table

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
a. The Democrats in Congress	36	61	3
b. The Republicans in Congress	30	67	3

Trend:

a. The Democrats in Congress

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
10/3/10	36	61	3
7/18/09	47	48	5
4/24/09	45	49	6
2/22/09	50	44	6
7/13/08	35	57	8
2/1/08	39	54	7
12/9/07	40	53	6
11/1/07	36	58	6
9/30/07	38	57	5
7/21/07	46	51	2
6/1/07	44	49	6
4/15/07	54	44	2
10/8/06	48	50	3
5/15/06	39	58	4
11/2/05	41	54	5
6/5/05	42	56	3
6/6/99	51	42	7
3/14/99	51	42	7
7/8/97	45	49	6
4/5/95	36	60	4
10/31/94	39	53	8
10/23/94	36	59	5
9/11/94	41	53	6

b. The Republicans in Congress

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
10/3/10	30	67	3
7/18/09	36	58	6
4/24/09	30	64	6
2/22/09	38	56	6
7/13/08	25	69	6
2/1/08	30	63	7
12/9/07	32	63	5

11/1/07	32	63	6
9/30/07	29	67	4
7/21/07	34	64	2
6/1/07	36	58	6
4/15/07	39	59	2
10/8/06	35	63	2
5/15/06	33	64	3
11/2/05	35	61	4
6/5/05	42	56	2
6/6/99	41	52	7
3/14/99	40	56	4
7/8/97	40	54	6
9/15/96	RV	48	6
6/30/96	38	56	6
4/5/95	45	50	5
10/31/94	33	59	7
10/23/94	31	64	5
9/11/94	35	59	6

5. Overall, which party, the (Democrats) or the (Republicans), do you trust to do a better job in coping with the main problems the nation faces over the next few years?

	Democrats	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/3/10	42	38	3	15	2
9/2/10	40	37	3	18	2
6/6/10	44	32	2	18	4
4/25/10	46	32	2	18	3
2/8/10	43	37	2	17	2
11/15/09	47	31	2	17	3
9/12/09	48	28	3	19	2
2/22/09	56	30	3	9	3
12/14/08	56	23	3	15	3
5/11/08	53	32	2	10	2
10/8/06	54	35	2	7	2
9/7/06	47	38	1	10	4
6/25/06	48	38	1	10	3
5/15/06	50	36	1	11	3
4/9/06	51	37	1	9	2
3/5/06	42	40	2	14	2
1/26/06	51	37	1	8	3
12/18/05	47	42	1	8	2
11/2/05	49	37	3	9	3
6/5/05	46	41	1	9	2
8/11/03	39	40	3	10	7
12/15/02	41	44	2	11	2
10/27/02	LV	51	2	5	2
9/26/02	39	46	3	8	4
7/15/02	42	45	2	7	4
1/27/02	40	44	3	10	4
4/22/01	47	40	4	7	3
7/23/00	42	42	2	9	6
9/2/99	45	39	4	9	4
6/6/99	45	35	3	13	5
3/14/99	47	37	5	9	3
2/14/99	48	37	4	7	4
10/18/98	44	36	3	12	6
9/28/98	49	38	2	8	3
8/21/98	48	36	4	9	3
7/12/98	45	38	3	8	6
1/31/98	47	37	4	6	7
1/19/98	45	42	2	7	4

7/8/97		44	37	2	14	3
9/15/96	RV	45	38	3	11	3
9/4/96	RV	45	41	2	8	4
8/5/96		43	38	3	11	3
6/30/96		46	37	3	12	3
5/22/96		47	38	3	10	3
11/6/94	RV	41	39	2	12	6
10/31/94		43	43	2	8	4
10/23/94		39	40	3	15	3
9/11/94		43	40	4	11	3
8/16/94		44	35	2	15	4
6/26/94		41	36	3	14	5
2/27/94		46	32	4	16	3
11/14/93		42	39	3	11	4
1/17/93		49	28	5	13	5
7/8/92		48	38	1	8	4
6/7/92		43	37	3	11	6
3/11/92		45	37	1	11	5
3/8/92		51	36	1	7	5
2/2/92		49	39	2	7	3
12/15/91		39	37	3	15	6
10/21/91		39	40	3	13	5
6/2/91		37	42	5	10	6
3/4/91		34	47	5	9	5
11/4/90	LV	42	40	3	11	4
10/14/90		46	41	1	8	4
5/21/90		41	45	3	8	2
1/16/90		38	50	3	6	3
8/21/89		42	43	4	9	2
10/10/88	RV	45	45	1	4	5
8/17/88		40	43	2	8	8
8/14/88		47	36	1	11	5
7/20/88		51	36	1	7	6
7/17/88		43	39	1	10	7
5/25/88		45	40	2	7	7
3/21/88		45	42	1	7	4
1/23/88		43	44	1	9	2
12/17/87		49	39	1	6	5
10/19/87		44	43	2	8	3
6/1/87		47	41	3	6	3
3/9/87		47	38	3	9	3
1/18/87		46	38	3	8	6
9/8/86		38	47	2	8	5
6/23/86		41	46	2	8	4
3/24/86		40	46	NA	8	7
2/12/86		40	46	2	8	5
10/28/85		37	45	NA	11	7
9/23/85		39	45		10	6
7/29/85		41	43	"	10	6
6/22/85		36	47	10	NA	6
2/26/85		40	52	5		3
1/16/85		33	49	11		7
7/8/84		44	43	9		5
5/22/84		41	40	12		7
2/15/84		41	45	8		6
1/17/84		42	37	11		10
12/13/83		38	38	14	"	10
8/1/83		45	36	9	2	8
10/11/82		44	38	10	NA	9
9/13/82		45	37	10	NA	8

6. Which political party, the (Democrats) or the (Republicans), do you trust to do a better job handling (ITEM)?

10/3/10 - Summary Table\*

	Democrats	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
a. The economy	44	37	4	14	2
b. Health care	46	38	1	12	3
c. Immigration issues	37	37	3	17	6
d. The situation in Afghanistan	39	34	4	19	4
e. The federal budget deficit	39	40	2	18	1
f. Taxes	40	43	3	13	2
g. Helping the middle class	50	34	2	11	2

\*Half sample asked items a-c; other half sample asked items d-f, full sample g.

Trend:

a. The economy

	Democrats	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/3/10	44	37	4	14	2
9/2/10	42	40	2	15	2
7/11/10	42	34	3	17	5
3/26/10	44	36	3	16	1
2/1/08	52	33	2	10	3
12/9/07	51	33	2	9	5
11/1/07	50	35	3	9	4
9/30/07	51	33	2	11	3
10/22/06 RV	50	41	2	5	2
10/8/06	54	37	3	6	1
9/7/06	50	39	1	7	4
6/25/06	52	39	1	5	3
5/15/06	52	34	3	9	2
4/9/06	49	43	1	4	3
3/5/06	49	40	2	8	2
1/26/06	55	37	2	5	2
11/2/05	56	34	1	8	1
12/15/02	44	45	4	6	1
10/27/02* LV	43	48	3	3	2
9/26/02*	47	39	3	6	5
7/15/02**	38	48	3	6	5
1/27/02**	39	48	5	6	3
4/22/01***	47	43	4	4	3
9/28/98	53	40	NA	NA	7
7/12/98	49	37	4	5	6
1/19/98	45	44	3	6	3
7/8/97	43	39	5	12	2
10/23/94	38	43	3	14	2
9/11/94	39	43	3	11	4
2/27/94	47	36	3	11	3
2/2/92	49	38	2	7	4
12/15/91	43	36	4	11	5
3/4/91	32	49	5	10	4
1/16/90	33	52	4	7	4

\*\*The economy and jobs"

\*\*"Improving the economy"

\*\*\*4/22/01 and previous: "The nation's economy"

b. Health care

	Democrats	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/3/10	46	38	1	12	3
9/2/10	44	39	2	13	3
3/26/10	47	34	2	15	3
2/1/08	56	29	2	10	4
11/1/07	54	29	2	10	5
9/30/07	56	26	2	12	5
10/8/06	61	28	1	7	2
5/15/06	61	28	1	7	2
4/9/06	61	29	*	6	3
11/2/05	54	29	2	12	3
12/15/02*	53	33	3	7	4
10/27/02* LV	50	39	3	5	3
9/26/02*	50	35	4	5	6
7/15/02**	47	37	3	9	5
1/27/02**	50	35	5	5	4
1/19/98***	54	33	2	7	4
10/23/94	46	29	2	21	2
9/11/94	51	29	3	12	5
2/27/94	58	22	5	11	3
2/2/92	60	25	3	8	4
12/15/91	57	23	3	11	5

\*"The cost, availability, and coverage of health insurance"

\*\*"improving the health care system"

\*\*\*1/19/98 and previous: "Providing affordable health care"

c. Immigration issues

	Democrats	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/3/10	37	37	3	17	6
9/2/10	37	40	5	14	4
3/26/10	38	35	3	16	8
2/1/08	40	37	2	12	9
11/1/07	42	35	4	13	6
10/8/06	49	36	4	10	3
6/25/06	45	40	1	9	5
5/15/06	48	34	1	14	4
4/9/06	50	38	1	7	4

d. The situation in Afghanistan

	Democrats	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/3/10	39	34	4	19	4
9/2/10	38	42	3	13	4
3/26/10	43	33	4	13	6

e. The federal budget deficit

	Democrats	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/3/10	39	40	2	18	1
9/2/10	38	44	1	14	3
3/26/10	43	35	2	18	2
2/1/08	52	31	2	10	6
9/30/07	52	29	2	12	5

Compare to:

The federal budget

	Democrats	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
5/15/06	54	34	1	8	3

11/2/05	48	34	2	13	2
7/15/02*	44	41	5	6	4
1/27/02****	38	46	5	7	3
3/14/99*	43	40	5	10	3
9/28/98*	49	42	NA	NA	9
7/12/98*	42	39	4	7	8
1/19/98**	41	43	3	8	4
7/8/97**	39	36	5	17	3
10/23/94***	36	37	3	21	3
9/11/94	39	40	4	14	4
2/27/94	44	28	5	20	3
2/2/92	40	39	4	14	3
3/4/91	35	43	5	14	3
1/16/90	35	42	4	15	4

\*"Managing the federal budget"

\*\*"Balancing the federal budget"

\*\*\*10/23/94 and previous: "Reducing the federal budget"

\*\*\*\*"Keeping the federal budget balanced"

f. Taxes

	Democrats	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/3/10	40	43	3	13	2
9/2/10	39	45	2	12	2
3/26/10	41	39	4	14	3
2/1/08	48	40	1	8	4
11/1/07	46	40	2	8	4
5/15/06	52	38	1	5	2
11/2/05	48	38	1	11	1
12/15/02	46	44	2	6	2
9/26/02	44	44	3	6	4
4/22/01*	38	52	2	6	3
9/2/99*	40	49	2	6	3
3/14/99**	43	41	2	10	4
9/28/98**	47	44	NA	NA	9
7/12/98**	42	39	3	8	8
1/19/98**	45	44	2	6	2
7/8/97**	41	38	3	15	4
10/30/95*	45	40	10	3	3
10/23/94**	37	42	2	17	2
9/11/94**	36	47	2	11	4
2/27/94**	35	41	4	18	2
2/2/92**	41	45	3	8	3
12/15/91**	40	38	3	14	5
3/4/91**	35	44	5	13	3
1/16/90**	37	47	2	10	4

\*"Cutting taxes"

\*\*"Holding taxes down"

g. Helping the middle class

	Democrats	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/3/10	50	34	2	11	2
3/14/99	55	28	4	8	4
9/28/98	57	34	NA	NA	8
9/28/98 LV	52	40	NA	NA	8
7/12/98	55	29	2	8	7
1/19/98	57	34	1	6	2
7/8/97	51	30	3	14	3
10/23/94	48	33	2	14	3
9/11/94	46	36	3	10	4
2/27/94	47	34	2	14	3

2/2/92	55	34	2	7	3
12/15/91	56	28	3	10	4
3/4/91	48	34	5	9	4
1/16/90	53	32	3	9	4

8. Do you approve or disapprove of the way your own representative to the U.S. House of Representatives in Congress is handling his or her job? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
10/3/10	51	18	33	40	19	21	9
6/6/10	49	17	32	44	18	25	7
4/15/07*	69	NA	NA	25	NA	NA	6
11/4/06 RV	56			35			8
10/22/06 RV	62			32			6
10/22/06 All	59			33			8
10/8/06	60			33			6
9/7/06	60			30			9
8/6/06	55			37			7
5/15/06	62			31			7
4/9/06	59			34			6
1/26/06	64			30			6
12/18/05	65			29			6
11/2/05	60			33			7
6/5/05	61			32			8
9/26/02	64			27			9
7/15/02	68			23			9
11/1/98	72			20			8
11/1/98 LV	73			23			5
10/18/98	68			20			11
10/18/98 LV	67			25			9
9/28/98	70			21			10
9/28/98 LV	71			23			6
7/12/98	70			18			12
1/19/98	74			19			7
4/5/95	65			25			9
10/31/94	51			38			11
10/23/94	49			43			8
9/11/94	53			35			12
6/26/94	59			31			10
3/27/94	62			26			12
1/17/93	60			29			11
4/9/92	47			39			13
3/18/92	49			40			11
2/2/92	56			32			12
12/15/91	60			28			12
10/21/91	64			27			9
6/2/91	61			26			14
10/14/90	64			29			7
5/23/89	71	"	"	18	"	"	11

\*4/15/07 and previous: No "strongly" or "somewhat" follow up.

9. Did you happen to hear about Republican congressional candidates signing something called a "Pledge to America" that pledges them to keep certain campaign promises if they are elected, or haven't you heard about this?

	Heard	Didn't hear	No opin.
10/3/10	34	66	*

Compare to:



	Heard	Didn't hear/DK/Ref
10/24/1994	29	71
Pew, "Contract with America"		

10. (ASKED OF AWARE OF "PLEDGE TO AMERICA") Does this pledge make you more likely to vote for Republican candidates this fall, less likely to vote for Republican candidates this fall, or doesn't it matter to you?

	More	Less	Doesn't matter	No opinion
10/3/10	23	29	45	3

Compare to:

	More	Less	Doesn't matter	DK/Ref
10/24/1994 RV	24	21	52	3
Pew, "Contract with America"				

11. Right now, are you inclined to vote to re-elect your representative in Congress in the next election or are you inclined to look around for someone else to vote for?

		Re-elect	Look around	Depends (vol.)	No opinion
10/3/10	All	29	55	9	7
10/3/10	RV	31	55	8	6
9/2/10	All	31	58	5	6
9/2/10	RV	33	57	5	5
7/11/10	All	25	60	6	8
7/11/10	RV	26	62	6	6
6/6/10	All	29	60	5	6
6/6/10	RV	30	59	5	5
4/25/10	RV	32	57	7	4
2/8/10	RV	37	56	5	3
11/15/09	All	38	50	6	5
5/15/06	RV	37	54	6	3
6/5/05	All	40	50	8	3
2/21/02	RV	43	47	7	4
10/31/99	RV	43	47	9	2
9/28/98	LV	52	42	NA	6
7/12/98	RV	46	43	5	6
1/19/98	RV	49	41	7	3
8/27/97	All	34	52	9	5
11/6/94	RV	37	47	7	8
10/31/94	RV	37	56	2	5
10/23/94	RV	34	58	4	5
9/11/94	RV	39	52	4	5
6/26/94	RV	38	53	6	3
3/27/94	RV	34	55	6	5
1/23/94	RV	35	44	10	10
11/14/93	RV	40	51	5	4
8/21/92	RV	35	48	5	12
7/8/92	RV	36	54	3	6
6/7/92	RV	39	53	4	5
4/9/92	RV	35	56	3	7
3/18/92	RV	36	56	4	4
3/11/92	All	36	54	3	7
2/2/92	RV	41	49	4	5
10/21/91	RV	32	56	8	5
6/2/91	All	37	49	5	9
11/4/90	LV	41	50	NA	8
10/14/90	All	36	57	NA	7
5/21/90	All	43	50	3	3

5/23/89 All 45 44 4 6

12. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) Thinking about November's election for the U.S. House and some U.S. Senate and governor seats, are you following the election very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely or not closely at all?

		----- Closely -----			----- Not closely -----			No
		NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all	op.
10/3/10	RV	71	24	46	29	18	11	*
11/4/06*	RV	80	38	42	20	13	7	*
10/22/06	RV	78	29	50	22	13	8	*
10/8/06	RV	75	26	49	25	17	8	0
9/7/06	RV	66	20	46	34	20	14	*
8/6/06	RV	66	21	45	34	23	11	*
5/15/06	RV	60	20	40	39	23	16	*

\*"next week's election"

13. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) I'd like you to rate the chances that you will vote in the Congressional election in November: Are you absolutely certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or less than that?

		Certain	Probably	Chances	Less than	Don't think	Already	No
		to vote	vote	50/50	50/50	will vote	voted	opin.
						(vol.)	(vol.)	
10/3/10	RV	70	15	9	5	2	NA	*
9/2/10	RV	70	14	14	1	1		0
7/11/10	RV	73	13	11	2	*		*
6/6/10	RV	72	14	11	3	*	"	0
11/4/06*	RV	70	11	7	4	2	5	*
10/22/06	RV	75	14	7	3	*	1	2

\*"next week's Congressional election"

14/14a. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) If the election for the U.S. House of Representatives in November were being held today, would you vote for (the Democratic candidate) or (the Republican candidate) in your congressional district? (IF OTHER, NEITHER, DK, REF) Would you lean toward the (Democratic candidate) or toward the (Republican candidate)?

NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE - LIKELY VOTERS (V2 - Reg/Certain)

	Dem	Rep	Other	Neither	Will not	No
	cand.	cand.	(vol.)	(vol.)	vote	opinion
					(vol.)	
10/3/10	43	49	1	2	0	4
9/2/10	40	53	1	1	*	5
7/11/10	45	49	*	1	*	5
6/6/10	44	48	2	2	*	4
11/4/06	51	45	1	1	*	2
10/22/06	55	41	*	1	*	3
10/8/06	54	42	*	2	*	3
9/7/06	50	43	*	3	*	3
11/4/02	48	48	1	1	0	2
11/3/02	48	48	*	1	0	2
11/2/02	50	49	*	1	0	2
10/27/02	47	49	1	1	0	3
9/26/02	49	47	1	2	0	2
11/1/98*	49	46	NA	3	*	1
10/25/98	49	47		1	*	2
10/18/98	48	47		2	*	2
9/28/98	46	49		2	*	3
11/3/96	53	42		3	1	3

11/2/96	53	42	2	0	3	
11/1/96	53	43	2	0	3	
10/31/96	52	44	2	0	4	
10/30/96	50	45	1	0	5	
10/29/96	51	42	2	0	4	
10/28/96	54	41	2	1	3	
10/27/96	53	41	2	0	4	
10/26/96	50	44	1	1	4	
10/25/96	50	45	2	1	4	
10/24/96	47	47	2	0	4	
10/23/96	48	47	3	0	3	
10/22/96	49	47	2	0	3	
10/21/96	50	45	2	0	4	
10/20/96	50	43	3	0	4	
10/19/96	50	45	2	0	3	
10/18/96	50	46	1	0	3	
10/17/96	50	45	2	0	3	
10/16/96	52	44	2	1	3	
10/15/96	51	43	2	1	4	
10/14/96	50	44	2	1	4	
10/13/96	51	43	2	1	4	
11/6/94	46	44	4	1	4	
10/31/94	48	45	3	*	3	
10/23/94	49	47	1	*	2	
10/9/94	47	49	3	1	1	
11/4/90	52	41	5	*	3	
10/14/90	48	43	5	*	3	
9/9/90	47	45	3	*	4	
7/24/90	52	40	"	4	*	3

\*11/1/98 and previous: No "other candidate" option recorded

NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE - REGISTERED VOTERS

	Dem cand.	Rep cand.	Other (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	Will not vote (vol.)	No opinion
10/3/10	47	43	1	3	1	5
9/2/10	45	47	1	2	1	5
7/11/10	46	47	*	2	*	5
6/6/10	47	44	2	2	1	4
4/25/10	48	43	1	2	1	6
3/26/10	48	44	1	2	*	4
2/8/10	45	48	*	3	*	4
10/22/06	54	41	*	1	*	3
10/8/06	54	41	*	1	1	3
9/7/06	50	42	*	3	2	4
8/6/06	52	39	*	2	1	5
6/25/06	52	39	1	3	1	4
5/15/06	52	40	1	3	1	4
4/9/06	55	40	*	2	*	3
1/26/06	54	38	1	3	1	5
12/18/05	51	41	1	3	1	4
11/2/05	52	37	1	4	2	6
7/15/02	47	46	1	1	1	4
1/27/02*	43	50	NA	2	1	5
9/6/00	49	42		2	1	6
7/23/00	46	45		3	1	5
2/27/00	45	46		2	1	5
10/31/99	50	43		3	1	3
9/2/99	48	44		3	*	5
3/14/99	50	41		2	1	6
2/14/99	48	41		3	1	7
1/30/99	49	39		8	1	3

11/1/98	51	43	4	*	2
10/25/98	48	43	3	1	4
10/18/98	49	44	3	1	4
9/28/98	49	44	2	*	4
9/13/98	49	43	3	1	4
8/21/98	48	45	3	1	3
7/12/98	47	45	2	*	6
1/31/98	49	40	2	1	8
1/19/98	47	44	3	1	5
10/8/96	51	41	2	1	5
9/29/96	48	41	3	1	7
9/22/96	50	43	2	1	4
9/15/96	49	45	1	1	4
9/4/96	48	44	3	*	5
8/29/96	53	39	3	1	5
8/28/96	51	40	3	1	5
8/27/96	51	41	3	0	5
8/26/96	51	41	3	0	5
8/25/96	48	43	3	1	6
8/24/96	47	43	2	1	6
8/19/96	49	42	3	0	6
8/18/96	45	46	3	0	6
8/15/96	46	43	4	1	5
8/14/96	48	42	3	1	6
8/13/96	49	43	3	0	5
8/12/96	49	42	3	1	5
8/11/96	49	40	4	1	6
8/10/96	49	41	4	1	5
8/5/96	48	45	2	1	4
6/30/96	49	44	3	*	3
5/22/96	52	41	3	1	3
3/17/96	48	48	2	*	2
3/10/96	51	43	2	*	4
1/21/96	52	43	3	1	1
11/13/95	51	43	4	*	2
10/1/95	49	44	3	*	3
11/6/94	47	42	5	2	5
10/31/94	48	44	4	1	3
10/23/94	50	45	2	1	2
10/9/94	46	47	3	2	2
9/11/94	50	45	1	1	4
8/7/94	49	42	4	1	4
3/27/94	49	35	6	1	9
2/27/94	50	40	8	1	2
10/21/91	51	41	4	*	4
7/28/91	49	41	6	*	3
6/2/91	48	42	4	1	5
11/4/90	51	41	5	*	3
10/14/90	50	41	5	*	3
9/9/90	47	46	3	*	3
7/24/90	51	41	4	1	4
5/21/90	47	45	5	1	2
10/10/88	52	41	2	1	4
9/19/88	51	39	3	1	6
6/22/85	48	44	5	*	3
10/16/84	52	44	2	NA	5
9/11/84	53	45	2		1
7/8/84	58	40	2		1
10/27/82	58	39	NA		3
10/11/82	55	36			9
9/13/82	58	36			6
11/22/81	53	41	"	"	7

\*1/27/02 and previous: No "other candidate" option recorded

15a. (IF LEANED VOTE FOR DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE) Do you support the Democratic candidate strongly, or somewhat?

	Strongly	Somewhat	No opinion
10/3/10 RV	48	52	*

15b. (IF LEANED VOTE FOR REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE) Do you support the Republican candidate strongly, or somewhat?

	Strongly	Somewhat	No opinion
10/3/10 RV	44	55	1

16a. (IF LEANED VOTE FOR DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE) Is your vote more FOR the Democratic candidate in your congressional district, or more AGAINST the Republican candidate?

		For the Dem. cand.	Against the Rep. cand.	No opinion
10/3/10 RV		63	33	4
10/22/06* RV		55	43	3
*(Is/Was) "				

16b. (IF LEANED VOTE FOR REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE) Is your vote more FOR the Republican candidate in your congressional district, or more AGAINST the Democratic candidate?

		For the Rep. cand.	Against the Dem. cand.	No opinion
10/3/10 RV		60	39	2
10/22/06* RV		70	25	x
*(Is/Was) "				

17. (IF CERTAIN TO VOTE) As you know, this is a midterm election, with no presidential contest. Is voting in mid-term elections something you do always, nearly always, usually, or just sometimes?

		-Always/Nearly always-	----- Less often -----			Never done before (vol.)	No opin.
	NET	Always	Nearly always	NET	Usually	Sometimes	
10/3/10 RV	79	61	17	21	9	11	1
11/4/06 RV	88	71	17	12	7	4	1

18. Compared to past congressional elections in your lifetime, do you see the 2010 election as (more important) to the country, (less important), or about as important as past congressional elections?

		More	Less	Same	No opin.
10/3/10 RV		70	3	26	2
	All	68	3	27	2
10/22/06 RV		58	2	39	*
	All	56	3	41	1

19. If control of the Congress switched from the Democrats to the Republicans after November's election, do you think that would be a good thing, a bad thing, or wouldn't it make any difference?

Good	Bad	No difference	No opinion
------	-----	---------------	------------

10/3/10	All	38	27	32	2
	RV	40	28	29	3
3/26/10	All	36	32	30	2
	RV	36	34	29	1

Compare to: If control of the Congress switched from the Republicans to the Democrats after next month's election, do you think that would be a good thing, a bad thing, or wouldn't it make any difference?

		Good	Bad	No difference	No opinion
10/22/06	All	45	21	32	3
	RV	47	23	27	2

Compare to: If control of the Congress switched from the Democrats to the Republicans after next month's election, do you think that would be a good thing, a bad thing, or wouldn't it make any difference?

		Good	Bad	No difference	No opinion
10/31/94	All	32	20	45	2
	LV	36	23	39	2
10/23/94		31	18	49	1

20. If the Republicans win control of Congress in November, do you think they would mainly (lead the country in a new direction), or mainly (return to the policies of George W. Bush)? Is that a good thing or a bad thing?

		--New direction-		--Bush policies-			No	
		NET	Good	Bad	NET	Good	Bad	opinion
10/3/10		49	45	4	42	6	36	9

22. Thinking about most of the (Democratic) candidates for Congress you've been hearing about, would you say their views on most issues are too (liberal) for you, too (conservative) for you, or just about right?

		Too liberal	Too conservative	About right	No opinion
10/3/10		38	10	45	7

23. Thinking about most of the (Republican) candidates for Congress you've been hearing about, would you say their views on most issues are too (liberal) for you, too (conservative) for you, or just about right?

		Too liberal	Too conservative	About right	No opinion
10/3/10		18	35	40	7

24. Thinking about most of the Republican candidates for Congress you've been hearing about who are associated with the Tea Party political movement, would you say their views on most issues are too (liberal) for you, too (conservative) for you, or just about right?

		Too liberal	Too conservative	About right	No opinion
10/3/10		13	35	42	10

25. Regardless of your other political views, overall which party do you think has better ideas about the right size and role of the federal government - the (Democratic Party) or the (Republican Party)?

	Democratic	Republican	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/3/10	42	44	3	8	4
6/6/10	45	40	1	10	4

26. I am going to mention four phrases and ask you which one best describes how you feel about the way the federal government works. Do you feel enthusiastic, satisfied but not enthusiastic, dissatisfied but not angry, or angry?

	NET	Positive Enthusi- astic	Satis- fied	NET	Negative Dissat- isfied	Angry	None/ Other	No opinion
10/3/10*	29	4	25	71	46	25	NA	*
9/2/10	22	2	20	78	52	25		*
7/11/10	36	4	32	64	43	21		1
6/6/10	30	2	28	69	45	25		1
4/25/10	30	4	26	69	51	18		1
2/8/10	32	3	29	67	48	19		*
10/29/03	42	2	41	57	42	15		*
11/4/02 LV	49	4	45	50	41	9		1
11/3/02 LV	50	5	45	49	40	9		1
11/2/02 LV	51	6	45	49	40	9		1
10/27/02	50	4	47	49	42	7		1
10/27/02 LV	53	3	50	47	41	6		1
2/21/02	56	7	49	43	36	7		1
12/15/00	59	4	55	39	34	6		1
2/14/99	52	3	48	47	35	12		1
9/28/98	50	4	46	49	36	12		1
9/28/98 LV	48	4	44	50	37	14		1
8/16/98*	41	2	39	57	46	11	"	1
1/19/98	46	2	43	53	45	8	1	*
8/27/97	34	2	33	64	52	11	2	1
3/17/96	29	2	27	70	54	16	NA	*
5/14/95	48	3	45	50	41	9	NA	1
1/4/95	29	2	27	69	53	16	*	1
11/6/94 RV	28	2	26	70	49	21	1	1
10/31/94	26	1	25	73	55	18	1	1
10/23/94	28	1	26	71	52	20	*	*
10/9/94	25	2	24	72	53	19	2	*
9/11/94	26	2	25	73	53	20	NA	*
3/27/94	30	1	29	68	48	20	1	1
2/28/93	33	4	29	66	50	16	*	*
10/4/92 LV	17	1	16	81	56	25	1	1
10/4/92 RV	17	1	16	81	56	25	1	1
7/8/92	23	1	22	76	53	23	*	1
6/7/92	21	1	20	79	58	21	*	1
4/9/92	21	1	20	79	55	24	1	*
3/18/92	22	1	21	77	54	23	1	*
3/11/92	18	1	17	80	60	20	1	1

\*After 8/16/98: No "None/other" option recorded

27. On another subject, would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good or poor?

	NET	Positive Excellent	Good	NET	Negative Not so good	Poor	No opinion
10/3/10	9	1	8	90	40	50	*
9/2/10	8	*	7	92	40	53	0
7/11/10	10	1	9	90	44	46	0
6/6/10	12	*	11	88	43	45	0

1/16/09	5	1	5	94	32	62	*
9/22/08	9	*	9	91	34	57	*
4/13/08	10	1	9	90	39	51	*
2/1/08	19	1	18	81	43	38	0
12/9/07	28	3	25	72	40	32	*
11/1/07	35	3	32	64	39	26	*
4/15/07	42	5	37	57	37	20	*
12/11/06	50	7	42	50	36	14	*
10/22/06	55	10	45	45	28	17	*
10/8/06	47	7	40	53	37	16	*
3/5/06	43	5	38	57	37	19	*
1/26/06	40	5	35	60	37	23	*
12/18/05	45	5	39	55	38	17	*
11/2/05	35	3	32	65	36	29	*
9/11/05	40	3	37	59	37	22	1
6/5/05	44	3	40	56	38	19	*
4/24/05	37	2	35	63	44	20	*
9/26/04	RV	3	43	53	38	15	1
8/29/04	RV	3	41	55	37	18	*
7/25/04	46	4	42	53	39	14	*
6/20/04	45	4	41	55	38	17	*
4/18/04	43	4	39	57	39	18	*
3/7/04	39	2	37	60	38	22	1
1/18/04	42	3	39	58	42	16	0
12/21/03	42	4	39	57	41	16	1
10/29/03	33	1	32	67	45	23	*
9/13/03	30	2	27	70	45	25	*
8/11/03	32	2	30	68	43	25	*
4/30/03	35	1	34	64	46	19	*
2/9/03	28	1	27	72	49	23	*
1/20/03	25	1	25	74	48	26	1
12/15/02	35	1	33	65	44	21	1
11/4/02	LV	1	27	72	55	17	1
11/3/02	LV	1	26	72	56	17	1
11/2/02	LV	1	28	71	54	17	*
9/26/02	31	2	28	69	50	19	*
7/15/02	39	3	36	61	44	17	1
2/21/02	30	1	29	69	51	18	*
1/27/02	31	1	29	69	50	19	*
9/20/01	38	3	35	60	47	14	2
9/9/01	33	1	32	66	47	19	*
7/30/01	50	3	46	50	39	12	*
4/22/01	50	3	47	50	40	9	*
1/15/01	70	10	59	29	24	6	1
10/27/00	LV	24	61	14	11	3	*
10/26/00	LV	24	61	14	11	3	*
6/11/00	74	17	57	26	19	6	*
2/27/00	80	25	55	20	14	5	*
10/31/99	74	18	56	26	18	7	1
9/2/99	76	19	57	23	16	6	1
3/14/99	80	22	58	19	15	4	1
11/1/98	73	12	61	26	21	5	1
11/1/98	LV	13	65	22	19	3	*
10/13/97	61	12	49	39	27	11	*

See also ABC CCI trend.

28. Do you think the nation's economy is getting better, getting worse or staying the same?

	Getting better	Getting worse	Staying the same	No opinion
10/3/10	31	32	37	*



9/2/10	24	38	38	1
7/11/10	27	32	41	*
6/6/10	30	30	39	1
3/29/09	27	36	36	1
3/15/09	14	48	36	2
2/15/09	8	58	31	3
1/19/09	6	62	31	1
12/15/08	9	64	25	1
11/16/08	16	55	28	1
10/13/08	2	82	13	2

Call for full trend.

29. Do you think the money the federal government has spent on the economic stimulus has been mostly (well spent) or mostly (wasted)?

	Well spent	Wasted	No opinion
10/3/10	29	68	4

30. Changing topics: overall, given what you know about them, would you say you support or oppose the changes to the health care system that have been enacted by (Congress) and (the Obama administration)? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/3/10	47	26	21	48	13	35	5
3/26/10	46	32	13	50	10	40	4
2/8/10*	46	22	25	49	11	38	5
1/15/10	44	22	22	51	12	39	5
12/13/09	44	25	19	51	11	40	5
11/15/09	48	30	18	49	10	39	3
10/18/09	45	26	19	48	12	36	7
9/12/09	46	30	16	48	12	36	6
8/17/09	45	27	18	50	10	40	5

\*2/8/10 and prior: "proposed changes...that are being developed by"

30a. (IF OPPOSE/DON'T KNOW HC CHANGES) Would you support or oppose an effort to cancel these changes in the health care system, either by a new vote in Congress or through the courts?

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/3/10	77	58	19	14	5	10	9
3/26/10	86	71	15	9	5	4	5

30/30A NET:

	Support changes to HC	----- Oppose/Don't know changes to HC -----		No	
		Support effort to cancel	Oppose effort to cancel	opinion	
	NET				
10/3/10	47	53	40	8	5
3/26/10	46	54	46	5	3

32/32a. On another subject: overall would you say you support the political movement known as the Tea Party, you oppose the Tea Party, or that you neither support nor oppose it? (IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE) Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat? (IF NEITHER) Would you say you lean towards supporting or opposing the Tea Party movement?

	----- Support -----					----- Oppose -----				No opin.
	NET	Strgly	Smwht	Lean	Neither	NET	Lean	Smwht	Strgly	
10/3/10	40	13	9	17	10	47	22	7	18	3

33. Say a candidate for Congress associates him or herself with the political movement known as the Tea Party. Would that make you more likely to (support) that candidate for Congress, more likely to (oppose) that candidate, or wouldn't it make much difference in your vote? IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE: Would you be MUCH more likely to support/oppose that candidate, or SOMEWHAT more?

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No diff.	No opin.
	NET	Much	Smwht	NET	Smwht	Much		
10/3/10 RV	18	11	8	28	10	18	51	3
7/11/10 RV	30	18	12	30	10	20	36	4
4/25/10 RV	15	9	6	24	7	17	58	3

34. If elected, how much do you think Tea Party candidates would change the culture of Washington - a great deal, a good amount, only some or not much at all?

	- Grt deal/Good amt- Great Good			----- Some/Not much/None ----- Only Not Not at				No opinion
	NET	deal	amount	NET	some	much	all (vol.)	
10/3/10	32	16	16	63	32	28	3	5

Compare to:

(ASKED OF LIKELY VOTERS) If elected, how much do you think [NAME] would change the culture of Washington - a great deal, a good amount, only some or not much at all?

10/31/08 - Summary Table

	--Grt deal/Good amt-- Great Good			--Some/Not much-- Only Not Not at				No opinion
	NET	deal	amount	NET	some	much	all (vol.)	
a. Obama	58	34	24	38	21	17	2	2
b. McCain	26	9	17	67	27	40	6	1

34a. (IF GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT/ONLY SOME) Do you think that change would be for the BETTER, or for the WORSE?

	Better	Worse	No opinion
10/3/10	66	29	5

\*\*\*END\*\*\*