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# McClatchy-Marist Poll <br> Half of Voters Trust Obama More than Republicans to Deal with Budget... <br> More Blame GOP for Gridlock <br> *** Complete Tables for Poll Appended *** <br> For Immediate Release: Thursday, April 4, 2013 

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## This McClatchy-Marist Poll Reports:

When it comes to the federal budget, $50 \%$ of registered voters nationally trust President Barack Obama to make the right decisions. This compares with $41 \%$ who have more faith in the Republicans in Congress to make the correct choices. Eight percent trust neither the president nor the Congressional GOP while only $1 \%$ of voters have confidence in both. Two percent are unsure.
"There are no winners when it comes to the budget battles in Washington," says Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, Director of The Marist College Institute for Public Opinion. "If forced to choose, more voters side with President Obama over the Congressional Republicans."

## By party:

- Voters' views fall along party lines. $88 \%$ of Democrats have more faith in the president to make the appropriate budgetary decisions.
- $85 \%$ of Republicans have more confidence in the Congressional GOP.
- Among independent voters, $46 \%$ express more trust in the president to decide on fiscal matters while 37\% place greater faith in the hands of the Republicans in Congress.

Who is to blame for the gridlock on the federal budget? Nearly half of registered voters -$48 \%$-- point a finger at the Republicans in Congress for the stalemate. 34\% place the onus on the president while $11 \%$ say both parties are responsible. Seven percent of voters report neither are to blame or are unsure.

## By party:

- While there is a partisan divide, about one in six Republicans blame the Congressional GOP for the stalemate. 68\% of Republicans say President Obama is at fault, but 17\% blame the Republicans in Congress.
- Among Democrats, 79\% place the blame on the Republicans in Congress and only 10\% fault the president.
- A plurality of independents -- 45\% -- say the Republicans in Congress are the cause of the gridlock while $32 \%$ point a finger at the president.


## No Winners in Budget Give and Take

President Obama, however, does not come out unscathed in the budget debate. A majority of voters -- 56\% -- disapprove of how he is handling the budget negotiations with the Republicans in Congress. 38\% approve, and 6\% are unsure.

## By party:

- $88 \%$ of Republicans believe the president is falling short in the negotiating process.
- While $67 \%$ of Democrats praise Mr. Obama's efforts, nearly one in four Democrats -$24 \%$-- disapprove of how the president is handling the process.
- More than six in ten independents -- 61\% -- think the president needs to revamp his negotiating skills.

The Republicans in Congress fare worse than the president. Almost seven in ten registered voters -- 69\% -- disapprove of how they are conducting themselves during the budget negotiations with President Obama. $24 \%$ approve of their actions, and $7 \%$ are unsure.

## By party:

- Even a slim majority of Republicans -- 51\% -- disapprove of how the GOP in Congress is handling budget negotiations while 45\% approve.
- $84 \%$ of Democrats are dissatisfied with how the Republicans are negotiating with the president.
- 70\% of independents disapprove of the way the Congressional Republicans are negotiating with the president.


## More Americans View Sequester Cuts as No Big Deal than a Month Ago

When it comes to the impact of the automatic spending cuts on the economy, 40\% of adults nationally say they have had no effect on the economy. 36\% believe they have had a negative impact while $14 \%$ say the sequester cuts have had a positive one. $10 \%$ are unsure. Similar proportions of registered voters share these views.

There has been an increase in the proportion of Americans who think these across-theboard spending cuts have had little impact on the nation's economy. When McClatchyMarist reported this question last month, $27 \%$ of residents thought sequestration would not
affect the economy. Nearly half -- 47\% -- said the economy would be adversely affected, and $19 \%$ thought it would be positively impacted. Seven percent, at that time, were unsure.

On the personal side, almost two-thirds of adults -- 65\% -- say these automatic budget cuts have not had any effect on their family. $26 \%$ report the sequestration has had a negative impact while $6 \%$ think it has had a positive one. Three percent are unsure. Registered voters reflect the views of Americans.

Here, too, there has been an increase in those who aren't feeling the impact of sequestration. Last month, $48 \%$ of Americans did not anticipate any effect on their family. $39 \%$ said the automatic spending cuts would have a negative impact on their personal finances while $10 \%$ thought it would have a positive impact on them. Three percent were unsure.

## Half Approve of Obama's Job Performance

$50 \%$ of registered voters nationally approve of how the president is doing his job. $46 \%$ disapprove, and $4 \%$ are unsure. When this question was last reported in March, $48 \%$ disapproved of President Obama's job performance. 45\% approved, and 7\% were unsure.

The president's image has improved, as well. 53\% have a favorable impression of President Obama while $45 \%$ have an unfavorable one. Two percent are unsure. In March, voters divided. $48 \%$ had a positive opinion of the president. 48\% had an unfavorable view of him, and $4 \%$ were unsure.

The Democrats and Republicans in Congress continue to struggle to make inroads with U.S. voters. $32 \%$ of registered voters approve of how the Democrats in Congress are performing in office while $62 \%$ disapprove. Six percent are unsure.

There has been little change on this question since McClatchy-Marist's previous survey when $31 \%$ approved of how Congressional Democrats were doing their job. 62\% disapproved, and $7 \%$ were unsure.

Congressional Republicans are also swimming against the tide of public opinion. $24 \%$ of voters approve of how they are performing in office. $71 \%$ disapprove, and $6 \%$ are unsure. Last month, $68 \%$ of voters disapproved of the Congressional GOP's job performance. $26 \%$ approved, and $7 \%$ were unsure.

## Majority Still Disapproves of Obama's Handling of the Economy

When it comes to how President Obama is handling the nation's economy, 53\% disapprove of how he is tackling the issue. $44 \%$ approve, and $2 \%$ are unsure. Last month, $57 \%$ of registered voters gave the president's handling of the economy a thumbs-down while $40 \%$ thought he was doing a good job in this area. Four percent were unsure.

## Mixed Reviews for Obama's Handling of Foreign Policy

48\% of registered voters approve of how President Obama is handling foreign policy. 46\% disapprove, and $6 \%$ are unsure. When McClatchy-Marist last reported this question, voters also divided. $47 \%$ disapproved of how the president was dealing with the issue while $46 \%$ approved. Eight percent were unsure.

## Nearly Six in Ten Think the Nation Needs a Course Correction

$58 \%$ of adults nationally think the country is moving in the wrong direction. $38 \%$ believe it is traveling in the right one, and $4 \%$ are unsure. Little has changed on this question since last month when $60 \%$ said the nation was off track. $35 \%$ believed it was on the correct path, and $5 \%$ were unsure.

## Nature of the Sample: McClatchy-Marist National Poll of 1,219 Adults

This survey of 1,219 adults was conducted March $25^{\text {th }}$ through March $27^{\text {th }}, 2013$. Adults 18 years of age and older residing in the continental United States were interviewed by telephone. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region was represented in proportion to its population. To increase coverage, this landline sample was supplemented by respondents reached through random dialing of cell phone numbers. The two samples were then combined and balanced to reflect the 2010 census results for age, gender, income, race, and region. Results are statistically significant within $\pm 2.8$ percentage points. There are 1,061 registered voters. The results for this subset are statistically significant within $\pm 3.0$ percentage points. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

Nature of the Sample

|  |  | National Adults | National Registered Voters |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Col \% | Col \% |
| National Adults |  | 100\% |  |
| National Registered Voters |  | 87\% | 100\% |
| Party Identification | Democrat | n/a | 35\% |
|  | Republican | n/a | 28\% |
|  | Independent | n/a | 35\% |
|  | Other | n/a | 1\% |
| Party Identification | Strong Democrats | n/a | 21\% |
|  | Not strong Democrats | n/a | 14\% |
|  | Democratic leaning independents | n/a | 14\% |
|  | Just Independents | n/a | 9\% |
|  | Republican leaning independents | n/a | 13\% |
|  | Not strong Republicans | n/a | 12\% |
|  | Strong Republicans | n/a | 16\% |
|  | Other | n/a | 1\% |
| Political Ideology | Very conservative | n/a | 11\% |
|  | Conservative | n/a | 27\% |
|  | Moderate | n/a | 41\% |
|  | Liberal | n/a | 17\% |
|  | Very liberal | n/a | 4\% |
| Gender | Men | 49\% | 48\% |
|  | Women | 51\% | 52\% |
| Age | Under 45 | 38\% | 33\% |
|  | 45 or older | 62\% | 67\% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 18\% | 14\% |
|  | 30 to 44 | 21\% | 19\% |
|  | 45 to 59 | 30\% | 33\% |
|  | 60 or older | 31\% | 34\% |
| Race | White | 69\% | 72\% |
|  | African American | 11\% | 12\% |
|  | Latino | 13\% | 13\% |
|  | Other | 6\% | 3\% |
| Region | Northeast | 18\% | 19\% |
|  | Midwest | 22\% | 22\% |
|  | South | 37\% | 37\% |
|  | West | 23\% | 22\% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 51\% | 49\% |
|  | \$50,000 or more | 49\% | 51\% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 58\% | 56\% |
|  | College graduate | 42\% | 44\% |
| Interview Type | Landline | 73\% | 75\% |
|  | Cell Phone | 27\% | 25\% |

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, 2012, N=1219 MOE +/- 2.8 percentage points. National Registered Voters: $\mathrm{N}=1061$ MOE $+/-3.0$ percentage points. Totals may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding.

|  |  |  |  | National Registered Voters |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  | Who do you trust more to make the right decisions about the federal budget: |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Registered Voters. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, N=1061 MOE +/- 3.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding.
*Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.

|  |  |  | National Registered Voters |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  | Who do you think is more to blame for the gridlock on the federal budget: |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Registered Voters. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, N=1061 MOE +/- 3.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding.
*Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.

|  |  | National Registered Voters |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Do you app handling budget | approve of how ns with the | Obama is al Republicans? |
|  |  | Approve | Disapprove | Unsure |
|  |  | Row \% | Row \% | Row \% |
| National Registered Voters |  | 38\% | 56\% | 6\% |
| Party Identification | Democrat | 67\% | 24\% | 8\% |
|  | Republican | 10\% | 88\% | 2\% |
|  | Independent | 32\% | 61\% | 7\% |
| Party Identification* | Strong Democrats | 76\% | 16\% | 7\% |
|  | Soft Democrats | 56\% | 34\% | 10\% |
|  | Just Independents | 26\% | 68\% | 6\% |
|  | Soft Republicans | 8\% | 88\% | 4\% |
|  | Strong Republicans | 10\% | 89\% | 1\% |
| Political Ideology | Very liberal-Liberal | 59\% | 32\% | 9\% |
|  | Moderate | 45\% | 47\% | 7\% |
|  | Conservative-Very conservative | 18\% | 78\% | 3\% |
| Region | Northeast | 50\% | 41\% | 10\% |
|  | Midwest | 33\% | 62\% | 5\% |
|  | South | 35\% | 61\% | 4\% |
|  | West | 39\% | 53\% | 9\% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 41\% | 51\% | 8\% |
|  | \$50,000 or more | 35\% | 61\% | 4\% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 37\% | 56\% | 7\% |
|  | College graduate | 39\% | 55\% | 6\% |
| Race | White | 29\% | 66\% | 5\% |
|  | African American | 78\% | 13\% | 9\% |
|  | Latino | 44\% | 45\% | 10\% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 49\% | 39\% | 12\% |
|  | 30 to 44 | 35\% | 63\% | 2\% |
|  | 45 to 59 | 36\% | 58\% | 5\% |
|  | 60 or older | 38\% | 55\% | 7\% |
| Age | Under 45 | 41\% | 53\% | 6\% |
|  | 45 or older | 37\% | 57\% | 6\% |
| Gender | Men | 34\% | 59\% | 7\% |
|  | Women | 41\% | 53\% | 6\% |
| Interview Type | Landline | 40\% | 55\% | 5\% |
|  | Cell Phone | 33\% | 58\% | 9\% |

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Registered Voters. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, N=1061 MOE +/- 3.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding.
*Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft
Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.


|  |  |  |  | National Adults |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |  |

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, $\mathrm{N}=1219 \mathrm{MOE}+/-2.8$ percentage points.
$\wedge$ National Registered Voters: $\mathrm{N}=1061 \mathrm{MOE}+/-3.0$ percentage points. Totals may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding.
*Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, N=1219 MOE +/- 2.8 percentage points.
${ }^{\wedge}$ National Registered Voters: N $=1061$ MOE $+/-3.0$ percentage points. Totals may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding.
*Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.

|  |  | National Registered Voters |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Do you approve | prove of the job as president? | Obama is doing |
|  |  | Approve | Disapprove | Unsure |
|  |  | Row \% | Row \% | Row \% |
| National Registered Voters |  | 50\% | 46\% | 4\% |
| Party Identification | Democrat | 84\% | 12\% | 4\% |
|  | Republican | 12\% | 87\% | 2\% |
|  | Independent | 47\% | 47\% | 6\% |
| Party Identification* | Strong Democrats | 92\% | 7\% | 2\% |
|  | Soft Democrats | 78\% | 16\% | 7\% |
|  | Just Independents | 37\% | 52\% | 11\% |
|  | Soft Republicans | 14\% | 83\% | 2\% |
|  | Strong Republicans | 9\% | 91\% | 1\% |
| Political Ideology | Very liberal-Liberal | 81\% | 16\% | 3\% |
|  | Moderate | 63\% | 34\% | 4\% |
|  | Conservative-Very conservative | 20\% | 75\% | 5\% |
| Region | Northeast | 60\% | 38\% | 2\% |
|  | Midwest | 43\% | 51\% | 6\% |
|  | South | 44\% | 51\% | 5\% |
|  | West | 57\% | 39\% | 3\% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 52\% | 42\% | 6\% |
|  | \$50,000 or more | 48\% | 49\% | 3\% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 47\% | 48\% | 5\% |
|  | College graduate | 53\% | 44\% | 3\% |
| Race | White | 39\% | 57\% | 4\% |
|  | African American | 90\% | 4\% | 6\% |
|  | Latino | 63\% | 31\% | 5\% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 72\% | 26\% | 2\% |
|  | 30 to 44 | 48\% | 46\% | 6\% |
|  | 45 to 59 | 47\% | 49\% | 4\% |
|  | 60 or older | 45\% | 50\% | 5\% |
| Age | Under 45 | 58\% | 37\% | 4\% |
|  | 45 or older | 46\% | 49\% | 4\% |
| Gender | Men | 49\% | 48\% | 4\% |
|  | Women | 51\% | 44\% | 5\% |
| Interview Type | Landline | 47\% | 49\% | 4\% |
|  | Cell Phone | 57\% | 38\% | 5\% |

[^0]\left.|  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |$\right]$.


|  |  | National Registered Voters |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Overall, do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of Barack Obama? |  |  |
|  |  | Favorable | Unfavorable | Unsure-Never Heard |
|  |  | Row \% | Row \% | Row \% |
| National Registered Voters |  | 53\% | 45\% | 2\% |
| Party Identification | Democrat | 87\% | 11\% | 1\% |
|  | Republican | 13\% | 86\% | 1\% |
|  | Independent | 51\% | 46\% | 2\% |
| Party Identification* | Strong Democrats | 94\% | 6\% | 0\% |
|  | Soft Democrats | 82\% | 16\% | 2\% |
|  | Just Independents | 43\% | 51\% | 5\% |
|  | Soft Republicans | 17\% | 81\% | 2\% |
|  | Strong Republicans | 9\% | 90\% | 1\% |
| Political Ideology | Very liberal-Liberal | 85\% | 13\% | 2\% |
|  | Moderate | 64\% | 34\% | 1\% |
|  | Conservative-Very conservative | 23\% | 75\% | 1\% |
| Region | Northeast | 63\% | 35\% | 2\% |
|  | Midwest | 49\% | 49\% | 2\% |
|  | South | 48\% | 49\% | 2\% |
|  | West | 56\% | 43\% | 1\% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 55\% | 42\% | 3\% |
|  | \$50,000 or more | 51\% | 48\% | 1\% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 50\% | 47\% | 3\% |
|  | College graduate | 56\% | 43\% | 1\% |
| Race | White | 42\% | 56\% | 2\% |
|  | African American | 97\% | 2\% | 1\% |
|  | Latino | 65\% | 34\% | 1\% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 75\% | 23\% | 1\% |
|  | 30 to 44 | 53\% | 44\% | 2\% |
|  | 45 to 59 | 49\% | 49\% | 1\% |
|  | 60 or older | 48\% | 50\% | 2\% |
| Age | Under 45 | 63\% | 36\% | 2\% |
|  | 45 or older | 49\% | 49\% | 2\% |
| Gender | Men | 51\% | 47\% | 2\% |
|  | Women | 54\% | 44\% | 2\% |
| Interview Type | Landline | 50\% | 49\% | 1\% |
|  | Cell Phone | 61\% | 36\% | 4\% |
| McClatchy-Marist Poll National Registered Voters. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, N=1061 MOE +/- 3.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding. <br> *Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents. |  |  |  |  |


|  | Registered Voters |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Overall, do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of Barack Obama? |  |  |
|  | Favorable | Unfavorable | Unsure-Never Heard |
|  | Row \% | Row \% | Row \% |
| March 2013 | 53\% | 45\% | 2\% |
| March 2013 | 48\% | 48\% | 4\% |
| December 2012 | 53\% | 44\% | 3\% |
| July 2012 | 49\% | 46\% | 3\% |
| March 2012 | 50\% | 46\% | 3\% |
| November 2011 | 47\% | 49\% | 4\% |
| September 2011 | 46\% | 48\% | 5\% |
| August 2011 | 52\% | 41\% | 8\% |
| June 2011 | 50\% | 44\% | 6\% |
| April 2011 | 48\% | 48\% | 5\% |
| January 2011 | 53\% | 40\% | 8\% |
| November 23, 2010 | 47\% | 49\% | 4\% |
| October 28, 2010 | 54\% | 41\% | 5\% |
| October 8, 2010 | 50\% | 47\% | 3\% |
| September 22, 2010 | 49\% | 48\% | 3\% |
| June 30, 2010 | 50\% | 43\% | 7\% |
| March 31, 2010 | 53\% | 41\% | 6\% |
| February 8, 2010 | 50\% | 44\% | 6\% |
| December 8, 2009 | 55\% | 41\% | 4\% |
| Marist Poll National Registered Voters |  |  |  |


|  |  | National Registered Voters |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democrats in Congress are doing in office? |  |  |
|  |  | Approve | Disapprove | Unsure |
|  |  | Row \% | Row \% | Row \% |
| National Registered Voters |  | 32\% | 62\% | 6\% |
| Party Identification | Democrat | 57\% | 37\% | 6\% |
|  | Republican | 7\% | 91\% | 2\% |
|  | Independent | 28\% | 65\% | 7\% |
| Party Identification* | Strong Democrats | 68\% | 28\% | 5\% |
|  | Soft Democrats | 47\% | 46\% | 7\% |
|  | Just Independents | 20\% | 66\% | 13\% |
|  | Soft Republicans | 6\% | 89\% | 5\% |
|  | Strong Republicans | 6\% | 94\% | 0\% |
| Political Ideology | Very liberal-Liberal | 53\% | 44\% | 3\% |
|  | Moderate | 38\% | 57\% | 5\% |
|  | Conservative-Very conservative | 15\% | 80\% | 6\% |
| Region | Northeast | 39\% | 55\% | 7\% |
|  | Midwest | 30\% | 63\% | 7\% |
|  | South | 27\% | 68\% | 5\% |
|  | West | 36\% | 59\% | 5\% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 36\% | 56\% | 8\% |
|  | \$50,000 or more | 28\% | 68\% | 3\% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 32\% | 60\% | 8\% |
|  | College graduate | 31\% | 66\% | 3\% |
| Race | White | 23\% | 71\% | 6\% |
|  | African American | 68\% | 26\% | 6\% |
|  | Latino | 44\% | 53\% | 3\% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 45\% | 51\% | 4\% |
|  | 30 to 44 | 32\% | 58\% | 9\% |
|  | 45 to 59 | 30\% | 67\% | 4\% |
|  | 60 or older | 30\% | 64\% | 6\% |
| Age | Under 45 | 38\% | 55\% | 7\% |
|  | 45 or older | 30\% | 65\% | 5\% |
| Gender | Men | 29\% | 67\% | 4\% |
|  | Women | 35\% | 59\% | 7\% |
| Interview Type | Landline | 31\% | 64\% | 5\% |
|  | Cell Phone | 34\% | 58\% | 8\% |
| McClatchy-Marist Poll National Registered Voters. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, $\mathrm{N}=1061 \mathrm{MO}$ +/- 3.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding. <br> *Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents. |  |  |  |  |


|  |  | tered Voters |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Do you approve or | f the job the g in office? | n Congre |
|  | Approve | Disapprove | Unsure |
|  | Row \% | Row \% | Row \% |
| April 2013 | 32\% | 62\% | 6\% |
| March 2013 | 31\% | 62\% | 7\% |
| December 2012 | 35\% | 58\% | 7\% |
| March 2012 | 34\% | 59\% | 7\% |
| November 2011 | 28\% | 65\% | 7\% |
| September 2011 | 30\% | 63\% | 7\% |
| August 2011 | 35\% | 55\% | 11\% |
| June 2011 | 30\% | 60\% | 10\% |
| April 2011 | 34\% | 60\% | 6\% |
| Marist Poll National Registered Voters |  |  |  |


|  |  | National Registered Voters |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republicans in Congress are doing in office? |  |  |
|  |  | Approve | Disapprove | Unsure |
|  |  | Row \% | Row \% | Row \% |
| National Registered Voters |  | 24\% | 71\% | 6\% |
| Party Identification | Democrat | 9\% | 86\% | 5\% |
|  | Republican | 44\% | 50\% | 6\% |
|  | Independent | 22\% | 72\% | 6\% |
| Party Identification* | Strong Democrats | 6\% | 89\% | 5\% |
|  | Soft Democrats | 14\% | 82\% | 5\% |
|  | Just Independents | 13\% | 76\% | 10\% |
|  | Soft Republicans | 36\% | 59\% | 5\% |
|  | Strong Republicans | 50\% | 43\% | 6\% |
| Political Ideology | Very liberal-Liberal | 12\% | 86\% | 2\% |
|  | Moderate | 17\% | 79\% | 4\% |
|  | Conservative-Very conservative | 37\% | 54\% | 8\% |
| Region | Northeast | 16\% | 79\% | 5\% |
|  | Midwest | 26\% | 68\% | 6\% |
|  | South | 27\% | 68\% | 4\% |
|  | West | 21\% | 70\% | 9\% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 24\% | 69\% | 7\% |
|  | \$50,000 or more | 23\% | 73\% | 4\% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 27\% | 66\% | 7\% |
|  | College graduate | 20\% | 77\% | 4\% |
| Race | White | 24\% | 70\% | 6\% |
|  | African American | 18\% | 73\% | 9\% |
|  | Latino | 27\% | 68\% | 5\% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 23\% | 68\% | 9\% |
|  | 30 to 44 | 25\% | 68\% | 7\% |
|  | 45 to 59 | 22\% | 74\% | 4\% |
|  | 60 or older | 25\% | 70\% | 5\% |
| Age | Under 45 | 24\% | 68\% | 8\% |
|  | 45 or older | 24\% | 72\% | 4\% |
| Gender | Men | 24\% | 73\% | 3\% |
|  | Women | 23\% | 69\% | 8\% |
| Interview Type | Landline | 26\% | 69\% | 5\% |
|  | Cell Phone | 17\% | 76\% | 7\% |

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Registered Voters. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, N=1061 MOE +/- 3.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding.
*Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.

|  | Registered Voters |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republicans <br> in Congress are doing in office? |  |  |
|  | Approve | Disapprove | Unsure |
|  | Row \% | Row \% | Row \% |
| April 2013 | $24 \%$ | $71 \%$ | $6 \%$ |
| March 2013 | $26 \%$ | $68 \%$ | $7 \%$ |
| December 2012 | $26 \%$ | $67 \%$ | $7 \%$ |
| March 2012 | $31 \%$ | $62 \%$ | $8 \%$ |
| November 2011 | $23 \%$ | $70 \%$ | $7 \%$ |
| September 2011 | $26 \%$ | $67 \%$ | $8 \%$ |
| August 2011 | $27 \%$ | $62 \%$ | $11 \%$ |
| June 2011 | $27 \%$ | $63 \%$ | $10 \%$ |
| April 2011 | $30 \%$ | $63 \%$ | $7 \%$ |
| Marist Poll National Registered Voters |  |  |  |


|  |  | National Registered Voters |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Do you approve or disapprove of how President Barack Obama is handling the economy? |  |  |
|  |  | Approve | Disapprove | Unsure |
|  |  | Row \% | Row \% | Row \% |
| National Registered Voters |  | 44\% | 53\% | 2\% |
| Party Identification | Democrat | 75\% | 22\% | 3\% |
|  | Republican | 10\% | 89\% | 1\% |
|  | Independent | 42\% | 56\% | 2\% |
| Party Identification* | Strong Democrats | 86\% | 12\% | 3\% |
|  | Soft Democrats | 69\% | 29\% | 2\% |
|  | Just Independents | 28\% | 67\% | 5\% |
|  | Soft Republicans | 11\% | 87\% | 2\% |
|  | Strong Republicans | 8\% | 92\% | 0\% |
| Political Ideology | Very liberal-Liberal | 74\% | 24\% | 2\% |
|  | Moderate | 55\% | 43\% | 2\% |
|  | Conservative-Very conservative | 18\% | 81\% | 2\% |
| Region | Northeast | 54\% | 44\% | 3\% |
|  | Midwest | 39\% | 58\% | 3\% |
|  | South | 38\% | 61\% | 2\% |
|  | West | 53\% | 44\% | 3\% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 47\% | 50\% | 3\% |
|  | \$50,000 or more | 42\% | 56\% | 1\% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 42\% | 55\% | 3\% |
|  | College graduate | 47\% | 51\% | 1\% |
| Race | White | 35\% | 62\% | 3\% |
|  | African American | 80\% | 19\% | 1\% |
|  | Latino | 55\% | 45\% | 1\% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 64\% | 35\% | 1\% |
|  | 30 to 44 | 44\% | 54\% | 2\% |
|  | 45 to 59 | 40\% | 58\% | 2\% |
|  | 60 or older | 42\% | 55\% | 3\% |
| Age | Under 45 | 52\% | 46\% | 2\% |
|  | 45 or older | 41\% | 56\% | 3\% |
| Gender | Men | 45\% | 53\% | 2\% |
|  | Women | 44\% | 54\% | 3\% |
| Interview Type | Landline | 43\% | 55\% | 3\% |
|  | Cell Phone | 49\% | 50\% | 2\% |
| McClatchy-Marist Poll National Registered Voters. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, N=1061 MOE +/- 3.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding. <br> *Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents. |  |  |  |  |


|  | Registered Voters |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Do you approve or disapprove of how President Barack Obama is |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |


|  |  | National Registered Voters |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Do you approve or disapprove of how President Barack Obama is handling foreign policy? |  |  |
|  |  | Approve | Disapprove | Unsure |
|  |  | Row \% | Row \% | Row \% |
| National Registered Voters |  | 48\% | 46\% | 6\% |
| Party Identification | Democrat | 76\% | 16\% | 7\% |
|  | Republican | 15\% | 79\% | 6\% |
|  | Independent | 47\% | 48\% | 5\% |
| Party Identification* | Strong Democrats | 85\% | 8\% | 7\% |
|  | Soft Democrats | 73\% | 22\% | 6\% |
|  | Just Independents | 36\% | 55\% | 9\% |
|  | Soft Republicans | 20\% | 75\% | 5\% |
|  | Strong Republicans | 8\% | 87\% | 5\% |
| Political Ideology | Very liberal-Liberal | 79\% | 17\% | 4\% |
|  | Moderate | 57\% | 36\% | 7\% |
|  | Conservative-Very conservative | 21\% | 73\% | 6\% |
| Region | Northeast | 62\% | 31\% | 7\% |
|  | Midwest | 45\% | 50\% | 5\% |
|  | South | 42\% | 52\% | 6\% |
|  | West | 49\% | 44\% | 7\% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 48\% | 43\% | 9\% |
|  | \$50,000 or more | 48\% | 48\% | 3\% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 45\% | 48\% | 8\% |
|  | College graduate | 52\% | 44\% | 4\% |
| Race | White | 39\% | 54\% | 7\% |
|  | African American | 86\% | 5\% | 8\% |
|  | Latino | 51\% | 45\% | 4\% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 64\% | 29\% | 7\% |
|  | 30 to 44 | 51\% | 44\% | 6\% |
|  | 45 to 59 | 46\% | 49\% | 5\% |
|  | 60 or older | 44\% | 48\% | 8\% |
| Age | Under 45 | 56\% | 38\% | 6\% |
|  | 45 or older | 45\% | 49\% | 7\% |
| Gender | Men | 46\% | 48\% | 6\% |
|  | Women | 49\% | 44\% | 7\% |
| Interview Type | Landline | 47\% | 47\% | 6\% |
|  | Cell Phone | 50\% | 43\% | 7\% |
| McClatchy-Marist Poll National Registered Voters. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, N=1061 MOE +/- 3.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding. <br> *Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents. |  |  |  |  |


|  | Registered Voters |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Do you approve or disapprove of how President <br> Barack Obama is handling foreign policy? |  |  |
|  | Approve | Disapprove | Unsure |
|  | Row \% | Row \% | Row \% |
| April 2013 | $48 \%$ | $46 \%$ | $6 \%$ |
| March 2013 | $46 \%$ | $47 \%$ | $8 \%$ |
| December 2012 | $51 \%$ | $42 \%$ | $7 \%$ |
| March 2012 | $50 \%$ | $45 \%$ | $5 \%$ |
| November 2011 | $49 \%$ | $45 \%$ | $6 \%$ |
| April 2011 | $46 \%$ | $48 \%$ | $6 \%$ |
| November 2010 | $44 \%$ | $47 \%$ | $9 \%$ |
| June 2009 | $54 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $14 \%$ |
| April 2009 | $55 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $21 \%$ |
| Marist Poll National Registered Voters |  |  |  |


|  |  | National Adults |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | In general, thinking about the way things are going in the country, do you feel things are going in the right direction or that things are going in the wrong direction? |  |  |
|  |  | Right direction | Wrong direction | Unsure |
|  |  | Row \% | Row \% | Row \% |
| National Adults |  | 38\% | 58\% | 4\% |
| National Registered Voters |  | 37\% | 60\% | 3\% |
| Party Identification^ | Democrat | 64\% | 31\% | 6\% |
|  | Republican | 10\% | 90\% | 1\% |
|  | Independent | 31\% | 66\% | 3\% |
| Party Identification* | Strong Democrats | 72\% | 21\% | 7\% |
|  | Soft Democrats | 55\% | 41\% | 4\% |
|  | Just Independents | 19\% | 75\% | 7\% |
|  | Soft Republicans | 10\% | 89\% | 0\% |
|  | Strong Republicans | 8\% | 91\% | 1\% |
| Political Ideology^ | Very liberal-Liberal | 59\% | 36\% | 5\% |
|  | Moderate | 45\% | 52\% | 4\% |
|  | Conservative-Very conservative | 17\% | 82\% | 2\% |
| Region | Northeast | 49\% | 49\% | 2\% |
|  | Midwest | 40\% | 57\% | 3\% |
|  | South | 34\% | 62\% | 5\% |
|  | West | 34\% | 58\% | 8\% |
| Household Income | Less than \$50,000 | 39\% | 57\% | 5\% |
|  | \$50,000 or more | 38\% | 59\% | 2\% |
| Education | Not college graduate | 36\% | 58\% | 5\% |
|  | College graduate | 41\% | 56\% | 3\% |
| Race | White | 30\% | 67\% | 3\% |
|  | African American | 75\% | 19\% | 6\% |
|  | Latino | 39\% | 53\% | 8\% |
| Age | 18 to 29 | 52\% | 42\% | 5\% |
|  | 30 to 44 | 36\% | 59\% | 4\% |
|  | 45 to 59 | 36\% | 61\% | 3\% |
|  | 60 or older | 35\% | 60\% | 5\% |
| Age | Under 45 | 44\% | 52\% | 5\% |
|  | 45 or older | 35\% | 60\% | 4\% |
| Gender | Men | 40\% | 58\% | 2\% |
|  | Women | 36\% | 57\% | 6\% |
| Interview Type | Landline | 36\% | 59\% | 4\% |
|  | Cell Phone | 42\% | 53\% | 4\% |

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, N=1219 MOE +/- 2.8 percentage points.
${ }^{\wedge}$ National Registered Voters: $\mathrm{N}=1061$ MOE $+/-3.0$ percentage points. Totals may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding.
*Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.

|  | National Adults |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | In general, thinking about the way things are going in the country, do you feel things are going in the right direction or that things are going in the wrong direction? |  |  |
|  | Right direction | Wrong direction | Unsure |
|  | Row \% | Row \% | Row \% |
| April 2013 | 38\% | 58\% | 4\% |
| March 2013 | 35\% | 60\% | 5\% |
| December 2012 | 40\% | 55\% | 5\% |
| March 2012 | 43\% | 53\% | 4\% |
| November 2011 | 25\% | 70\% | 4\% |
| September 2011 | 22\% | 73\% | 5\% |
| August 2011 | 21\% | 70\% | 10\% |
| June 2011 | 32\% | 59\% | 9\% |
| April 2011 | 31\% | 64\% | 5\% |
| January 2011 | 41\% | 47\% | 12\% |
| December 2010 | 34\% | 58\% | 8\% |
| November 23, 2010 | 41\% | 53\% | 6\% |
| October 28, 2010 | 38\% | 52\% | 10\% |
| September 22, 2010 | 41\% | 56\% | 3\% |
| July 6, 2010 | 37\% | 56\% | 7\% |
| March 31, 2010 | 43\% | 53\% | 4\% |
| February 8, 2010 | 38\% | 54\% | 8\% |
| December 8, 2009 | 46\% | 46\% | 8\% |
| October 14, 2009 | 47\% | 47\% | 6\% |
| August 12, 2009 | 50\% | 42\% | 8\% |
| June 8, 2009 | 50\% | 40\% | 10\% |
| April 27, 2009 | 44\% | 44\% | 12\% |
| April 15, 2009 | 49\% | 40\% | 11\% |
| November 2007 | 23\% | 67\% | 10\% |
| May 2007 | 26\% | 65\% | 9\% |
| February 2007 | 29\% | 63\% | 8\% |
| December 2006 | 31\% | 60\% | 9\% |
| October 2006 | 33\% | 58\% | 9\% |
| February 2006 | 34\% | 61\% | 5\% |
| October 2005 | 31\% | 62\% | 7\% |
| May 2005 | 38\% | 56\% | 6\% |
| February 2005 | 47\% | 48\% | 5\% |
| October 21, 2004 | 42\% | 55\% | 3\% |
| October 07, 2004 | 39\% | 53\% | 8\% |
| September 2004 | 38\% | 52\% | 10\% |
| August 2004 | 40\% | 48\% | 12\% |
| July 2004 | 37\% | 52\% | 11\% |
| April 2004 | 43\% | 51\% | 6\% |
| March 2004 | 43\% | 52\% | 5\% |
| November 2003 | 45\% | 48\% | 7\% |
| April 2003 | 55\% | 34\% | 11\% |
| January 2003 | 42\% | 48\% | 10\% |
| October 2002 | 45\% | 46\% | 9\% |
| April 2002 | 60\% | 32\% | 8\% |
| January 2002 | 60\% | 30\% | 10\% |
| March 2001 | 41\% | 44\% | 15\% |
| January 2001 | 56\% | 32\% | 12\% |
| Marist Poll National |  |  |  |


[^0]:    McClatchy-Marist Poll National Registered Voters. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, N=1061 MOE +/- 3.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding.
    *Soft Democrats include registered voters who identify as "not strong Democrats" or Democratic leaning independents. Soft Republicans include those registered voters who identify as "not strong Republicans" or Republican leaning independents.

