

Marist College Institute for Public Opinion

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McClatchy-Marist Poll

Half of Voters Trust Obama More than Republicans to Deal with Budget... More Blame GOP for Gridlock

*** Complete Tables for Poll Appended ***
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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 McClatchy-Marist 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.

How the Survey was Conducted

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

This survey of 1,219 adults was conducted March 25th through March 27th, 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 ±2.8 percentage points. There are 1,061 registered voters. The results for this subset are statistically significant within ±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 Vo	oters	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: N=1061 MOE +/- 3.0 percentage points. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Who do you trust more to make the right decisions about the federal budget:

		The Congressional Republicans	President Obama	Both	Neither	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Registered	Voters	41%	50%	1%	8%	2%
Party Identification	Democrat	8%	88%	0%	1%	3%
	Republican	85%	9%	0%	5%	1%
	Independent	37%	46%	1%	14%	2%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	7%	92%	0%	0%	1%
	Soft Democrats	8%	83%	1%	5%	3%
	Just Independents	26%	38%	1%	29%	5%
	Soft Republicans	80%	10%	0%	9%	1%
	Strong Republicans	86%	9%	0%	5%	0%
Political Ideology	Very liberal-Liberal	11%	82%	1%	4%	2%
	Moderate	28%	61%	0%	8%	2%
	Conservative-Very conservative	70%	22%	0%	8%	1%
Region	Northeast	26%	64%	1%	7%	2%
	Midwest	44%	47%	2%	6%	2%
	South	46%	44%	0%	8%	3%
	West	40%	49%	0%	9%	1%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	38%	54%	1%	6%	2%
	\$50,000 or more	43%	47%	0%	8%	1%
Education	Not college graduate	41%	49%	0%	7%	3%
	College graduate	40%	51%	0%	8%	1%
Race	White	49%	41%	0%	8%	2%
	African American	2%	91%	1%	3%	3%
	Latino	35%	54%	0%	9%	2%
Age	18 to 29	32%	63%	0%	5%	1%
	30 to 44	39%	46%	1%	13%	2%
	45 to 59	40%	51%	0%	6%	3%
	60 or older	44%	47%	1%	7%	1%
Age	Under 45	36%	53%	0%	9%	2%
	45 or older	42%	49%	1%	7%	2%
Gender	Men	43%	46%	1%	10%	1%
	Women	39%	53%	0%	5%	3%
Interview Type	Landline	42%	49%	1%	7%	2%
	Cell Phone	37%	52%	0%	8%	2%

^{*}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 Republicans independents.

Who do you think is more to blame for the gridlock on the federal budget:

		The Congressional Republicans	President Obama	Both	Neither-Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Registered	Voters	48%	34%	11%	7%
Party Identification	Democrat	79%	10%	7%	5%
	Republican	17%	68%	11%	4%
	Independent	45%	32%	13%	10%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	84%	9%	5%	2%
	Soft Democrats	70%	12%	10%	7%
	Just Independents	41%	24%	11%	23%
	Soft Republicans	20%	56%	17%	7%
	Strong Republicans	15%	77%	7%	1%
Political Ideology	Very liberal-Liberal	69%	14%	8%	9%
	Moderate	59%	23%	12%	5%
	Conservative-Very conservative	26%	58%	10%	6%
Region	Northeast	62%	20%	13%	6%
	Midwest	48%	34%	11%	6%
	South	40%	41%	9%	9%
	West	51%	34%	10%	5%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	47%	35%	8%	9%
	\$50,000 or more	49%	34%	12%	5%
Education	Not college graduate	47%	35%	10%	7%
	College graduate	50%	33%	11%	6%
Race	White	41%	39%	13%	7%
	African American	72%	13%	1%	14%
	Latino	59%	30%	10%	2%
Age	18 to 29	64%	25%	3%	8%
	30 to 44	49%	28%	14%	8%
	45 to 59	46%	35%	13%	6%
	60 or older	44%	40%	10%	6%
Age	Under 45	55%	27%	10%	8%
	45 or older	45%	37%	11%	6%
Gender	Men	46%	35%	11%	8%
	Women	50%	33%	10%	7%
Interview Type	Landline	46%	36%	11%	6%
	Cell Phone	54%	27%	9%	10%

^{*}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.

Do you approve or disapprove of how President Obama is handling budget negotiations with the Congressional 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%

^{*}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.

Do you approve or disapprove of how the Congressional Republicans are handling budget negotiations with President Obama?

		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Registered V	Voters	24%	69%	7%
Party Identification	Democrat	10%	84%	6%
	Republican	45%	51%	4%
	Independent	20%	70%	9%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	9%	87%	3%
	Soft Democrats	13%	76%	10%
	Just Independents	12%	75%	13%
	Soft Republicans	32%	63%	5%
	Strong Republicans	54%	42%	4%
Political Ideology	Very liberal-Liberal	12%	82%	6%
	Moderate	19%	73%	7%
	Conservative-Very conservative	36%	58%	6%
Region	Northeast	17%	73%	10%
	Midwest	23%	70%	6%
	South	27%	67%	6%
	West	24%	68%	8%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	24%	69%	7%
	\$50,000 or more	24%	71%	5%
Education	Not college graduate	26%	67%	7%
	College graduate	21%	73%	7%
Race	White	25%	68%	8%
	African American	17%	78%	6%
	Latino	28%	63%	9%
Age	18 to 29	18%	70%	12%
	30 to 44	24%	70%	6%
	45 to 59	26%	68%	6%
	60 or older	24%	69%	7%
Age	Under 45	22%	70%	8%
	45 or older	25%	69%	6%
Gender	Men	26%	66%	7%
	Women	21%	72%	7%
Interview Type	Landline	25%	69%	6%
	Cell Phone	21%	69%	11%

^{*}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

\$85 billion in automatic across-the-board spending cuts to the federal budget took effect on March 1st. Do you think these spending cuts have had a positive effect on the economy, a negative effect, or no effect at all on the economy?

		Positive effect on the economy		No effect at all on the economy	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		14%	36%	40%	10%
National Registered V	Voters	13%	36%	42%	9%
Party Identification^	Democrat	13%	41%	37%	9%
	Republican	13%	37%	45%	5%
	Independent	12%	33%	44%	11%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	15%	47%	27%	11%
	Soft Democrats	10%	32%	48%	11%
	Just Independents	11%	40%	34%	15%
	Soft Republicans	13%	35%	47%	5%
	Strong Republicans	15%	32%	48%	5%
Political Ideology^	Very liberal-Liberal	9%	54%	31%	6%
	Moderate	13%	31%	45%	10%
	Conservative-Very conservative	16%	32%	46%	6%
Region	Northeast	12%	39%	37%	12%
	Midwest	15%	30%	45%	10%
	South	17%	38%	36%	9%
	West	11%	36%	44%	9%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	15%	37%	37%	11%
	\$50,000 or more	13%	38%	43%	7%
Education	Not college graduate	16%	36%	38%	10%
	College graduate	12%	37%	42%	8%
Race	White	10%	37%	44%	8%
	African American	25%	38%	23%	13%
	Latino	21%	33%	34%	12%
Age	18 to 29	20%	39%	27%	14%
	30 to 44	16%	29%	43%	12%
	45 to 59	13%	38%	43%	6%
	60 or older	13%	37%	41%	9%
Age	Under 45	18%	34%	36%	13%
	45 or older	13%	38%	42%	8%
Gender	Men	19%	30%	43%	8%
	Women	10%	42%	36%	12%
Interview Type	Landline	14%	38%	39%	9%
	Cell Phone	14%	33%	41%	12%

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 Adults

What about for you and your family. Since these automatic across-the-board spending cuts took effect, do you think they have had a positive effect on you and your family, a negative effect, or no effect at all on you and your family?

		Positive effect on you and your family	Negative effect on you and your family	No effect at all on you and your family	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		6%	26%	65%	3%
National Registered	Voters	5%	26%	66%	3%
Party Identification^	Democrat	6%	26%	66%	3%
	Republican	5%	29%	63%	3%
	Independent	4%	25%	69%	3%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	8%	25%	63%	3%
	Soft Democrats	3%	23%	71%	4%
	Just Independents	0%	36%	63%	1%
	Soft Republicans	6%	25%	67%	2%
	Strong Republicans	6%	29%	64%	2%
Political Ideology^	Very liberal-Liberal	6%	31%	60%	3%
	Moderate	4%	23%	71%	2%
	Conservative-Very conservative	6%	27%	66%	2%
Region	Northeast	6%	26%	62%	5%
	Midwest	6%	22%	68%	3%
	South	7%	29%	61%	4%
	West	4%	24%	71%	2%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	6%	29%	60%	4%
	\$50,000 or more	5%	24%	69%	2%
Education	Not college graduate	8%	28%	60%	4%
	College graduate	3%	22%	72%	3%
Race	White	4%	27%	66%	3%
	African American	16%	28%	50%	6%
	Latino	8%	23%	69%	0%
Age	18 to 29	8%	24%	61%	7%
	30 to 44	6%	23%	68%	4%
	45 to 59	4%	30%	64%	2%
	60 or older	6%	24%	67%	3%
Age	Under 45	7%	23%	64%	5%
	45 or older	5%	27%	66%	2%
Gender	Men	6%	23%	69%	2%
	Women	6%	29%	61%	4%
Interview Type	Landline	6%	25%	66%	3%
	Cell Phone	5%	26%	64%	4%

McClatchy-Marist Poll National Adults. Interviews conducted March 25th through March 27th, 2013, N=1219 MOE +/- 2.8 percentage points.

[^]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.

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

		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Registered V	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%

^{*}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 Barack Obama is doing as president?				
	Approve	Disapprove	Unsure		
	Row%	Row %	Row%		
April 2013	50%	46%	4%		
March 2013	45%	48%	7%		
December 2012	50%	44%	6%		
November 2012	50%	46%	4%		
July 2012	47%	47%	6%		
March 2012	48%	47%	5%		
November 2011	43%	50%	7%		
September 2011	39%	52%	9%		
August 2011	44%	46%	10%		
June 2011	45%	47%	8%		
April 2011	44%	49%	6%		
January 2011	48%	43%	9%		
December 2010	42%	50%	8%		
November 23, 2010	45%	48%	7%		
October 28, 2010	48%	43%	9%		
October 8, 2010	43%	50%	7%		
September 22, 2010	45%	50%	5%		
June 30, 2010	44%	45%	11%		
March 31, 2010	46%	43%	11%		
February 8, 2010	44%	47%	9%		
December 8, 2009	46%	44%	10%		
October 14, 2009	53%	41%	6%		
August 12, 2009	55%	35%	10%		
June 8, 2009	56%	32%	12%		
April 27, 2009	55%	31%	14%		
April 8, 2009	56%	30%	14%		
Marist Poll National Regi	stered 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%

^{*}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.

Overall, do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of $$\operatorname{Barack}$$ 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%

National Registered Voters

Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democrats in Congress are doing in office?

		Approve Disapprove Unsu		Unsure
		Approve Row %	Row %	Row %
National Registered V	Voters	32%	62%	6%
Party Identification	Democrat	57%	37%	6%
rarty identification	Republican	7%	91%	2%
	Independent	28%	65%	7%
Donty Identification*	-	68%	28%	5%
Party Identification*	Strong Democrats	47%	46%	3% 7%
	Soft Democrats			
	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%

^{*}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 disapp	Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democrats in Congress are doing in office?		
	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 I	Registered Voters			
Marist Poll National I	Registered Voters			

National Registered Voters

Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republicans in

Congress are doing in office?

		Congress are doing in office?		
		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Registered V	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%

^{*}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 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 Natio	onal Registered Vot	ers	

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 V	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%

^{*}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
approve or disapprove of how President Barack Obama is handling the economy?

	Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %
April 2013	44%	53%	2%
March 2013	40%	57%	4%
December 2012	44%	52%	4%
March 2012	46%	51%	3%
November 2011	36%	59%	4%
September 2011	33%	61%	6%
June 2011	37%	58%	5%
April 2011	40%	57%	3%
January 2011	44%	48%	8%
November 23, 2010	42%	55%	4%
September 21, 2010	41%	56%	3%
June 30, 2010	46%	48%	6%
March 31, 2010	46%	49%	5%
December 8, 2009	45%	51%	4%
October 14, 2009	48%	47%	5%
August 12, 2009	52%	41%	7%
June 8, 2009	53%	41%	6%
April 8, 2009	54%	37%	9%

Do you

National Registered Voters

Do you approve or disapprove of how President Barack Obama is handling foreign policy?

		nandling foreign policy?		
		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Registered V	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.

^{*}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 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%

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.

[^]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 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?

	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%	
	50%		10%	
June 8, 2009		40%		
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%	
		32%	12%	