



Obama Approval Rating At Lowest Point
Deficit Top Priority for Next Congress
WikiLeaks Viewed As More Harm Than Good
*** Complete Tables for Poll Appended ***

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This McClatchy-Marist Poll Reports:

Obama Approval Rating Lowest Since Taking Office

According to this national McClatchy-Marist Poll, President Barack Obama's approval rating has dipped to its lowest point since taking office. Currently, 42% of registered voters approve of the job the president is doing while half -- 50% -- disapprove. Eight percent are unsure. When McClatchy-Marist last asked this question in its November 24th survey, 45% thought his performance was on the mark while 48% thought it was subpar, and 7% were unsure. Prior to this survey, voters gave Mr. Obama his lowest approval rating in early October. At that time, 43% of registered voters thought he was performing well in office.

The change has occurred among members of the president's own party. 74% of Democrats think Obama is performing well in office while 21% do not, and 5% are unsure. Late last month, those proportions stood at 83%, 11%, and 6%, respectively. Among Republicans, most -- 87% -- *disapprove* of Mr. Obama's job performance while 7% approve. Six percent are unsure. Similar proportions of Republicans held these views late last month when 84% disapproved, 11% approved, and 5% were unsure. There has also been little movement among independent voters. Currently, 52% disapprove, 39% approve, and 9% are unsure. Late last month, those proportions were 54%, 38%, and 9%, respectively.

"President Obama's recent criticism of both Democrats and Republicans and his attempts to move to the center haven't exactly endeared him with independents," says Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, Director of The Marist College Institute for Public Opinion. "Instead, it's ended up costing him support with his Democratic base."

Obama Beats Out Palin in 2012 Tossup... Race Close Against Romney and Huckabee

Looking ahead to the 2012 presidential election, President Obama has the advantage over former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin but faces greater competition against other prominent Republicans.

In a hypothetical tossup between Obama and Palin, a majority of registered voters -- 52% -- say they would support the president in 2012 while 40% report they would cast their ballot for Palin. Nine percent are undecided.

Not surprisingly, there are wide partisan differences in support for the candidates between Democrats and Republicans. Against Palin, Obama has the advantage among independent voters. The president receives majority support among these all-important voters with 52% saying they would back Obama and 35% declaring Palin would be their candidate. 12% are undecided.

However, the president faces a much different reality when he is paired against former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney or former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee. Against Romney, a plurality -- 46% -- say they would vote for *Romney* while 44% would support the president. One-tenth -- 10% -- are unsure.

When asked to choose between President Obama and former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee, 47% say they would back the president, 43% would tout Huckabee, and 11% are undecided.

In both contests, independent voters are the key. In the matchup between Obama and Romney, nearly half of independents -- 47% -- would support Romney while almost four in ten -- 39% -- say they would vote for Obama. 14% are undecided. Huckabee holds his own against Obama among independents. 40% back Huckabee, and 42% support the president. 18% are undecided.

Lessons Learned from the Midterm Elections

Most voters think President Obama learned at least a little from this year's midterm elections. A plurality of registered voters -- 44% -- think President Obama learned a lot from this year's midterm elections, and 30% report he learned a little. 22% believe he learned nothing at all, and only 4% are unsure.

More Americans View Nation as Moving in the Wrong Direction

Nearly six in ten U.S. residents -- 58% -- believe the country is moving in the wrong direction while 34% say it is moving along the correct path, and 8% are unsure. When McClatchy-Marist last asked this question in late November, 53% thought the country needed to be re-directed, 41% said it was headed on the right path, and 6% were unsure.

Cutting the Deficit Should Be Next Session's Main Concern

Regardless of the current focus on the Bush-era tax cuts, voters do not want taxes to be the top priority of the next Congress. According to 47% of voters, reducing the deficit should be the first item on their agenda. Maintaining services and benefits is viewed by nearly three in ten voters -- 28% -- as the key item on the next Congress' list while 22% think cutting taxes should be their priority. Only 3% are unsure.

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Although majorities of Republicans -- 55% -- and independents -- 55% -- want Congress to focus on reducing the deficit, a plurality of Democrats -- 42% -- think they should concentrate on maintaining services and benefits.

There is an age gap on this question. Older voters are much more concerned with cutting the deficit than are those between the ages of 18 to 29. 50% of those 45 and older think Congress should put its energies toward cutting the deficit while 38% of those younger than 30 agree.

Voters to Blame Congress if Decision on Bush-Era Tax Cuts Not Reached

If Congress and President Obama do not reach a final agreement and let the Bush-era tax cuts expire at year's end, many registered voters nationwide will point a finger at Congress. According to this McClatchy-Marist Poll, 33% say Republicans in Congress will be mostly at fault while 29% say most of the blame rests on Congressional Democrats. About one in five -- 19% -- will hold President Obama accountable. 10% think all will share in the blame. Nine percent are unsure.

While nearly six in ten Democrats -- 58% -- will point a finger at Congressional Republicans, fewer than half of Republicans -- 47% -- will blame the Democrats in Congress. A notable 31% of Republicans will find the president at fault. Among independents, 32% will put the onus on the Republicans in Congress while 30% will blame the Democrats in Congress. 16% will point a finger at the president, and 11% blame all of them.

"Despite the expected passage of the tax cut issue, voters think there's plenty of blame to go around," says Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, Director of The Marist College Institute for Public Opinion. "There are many disgruntled feelings, not the least of which is that Congressional priorities are out of sync with public desires."

"Same old, Congress," Say Voters

The new Congress will be seated in January, but how do voters think the current Congress is doing in the wake of this year's midterm elections? Six in ten voters -- 60% -- say they are doing about the same. Almost one in five -- 19% -- think they are doing worse, and 16% report they are doing better. Just 5% are unsure.

And, so it's probably no surprise, then, that many voters don't believe Congress has learned a lot from this year's midterm elections. Looking at Republicans in Congress, nearly four in ten voters -- 37% -- think Congressional Republicans have learned a little from this year's midterm elections and an additional 22% believe they have learned nothing at all. 35%, however, say they have learned a lot, and 6% are unsure.

Democrats don't fare better in the minds of voters. 35% think Congressional Democrats have taken away a little from the elections while 26% take it a step further and report Democrats learned nothing. 35%, though, say they have been enlightened, and 4% are unsure.

WikiLeaks: Prosecution Warranted... Does More Harm than Good, Say Americans

The WikiLeaks scandal has renewed debate over the scope of the First Amendment. Should those who publish confidential or secret U.S. government documents be prosecuted, or are they protected by the First Amendment's guarantee of a free press? According to this national McClatchy-Marist Poll, nearly six in ten U.S. adult residents -- 59% -- think the publication of top secret documents is cause for prosecution while 31% say publishers are protected by their First Amendment rights. One in ten -- 10% -- are unsure.

Older Americans are more likely than younger Americans to say that individuals who publish confidential documents should be prosecuted. While the majority of younger Americans believe they should be protected, 66% of residents 45 and older believe that prosecution is warranted against WikiLeaks. 52% of those under 30 believe they should be protected under the First Amendment.

70% of Americans think WikiLeaks is doing more harm than good by allowing enemies of the U.S. to see confidential and secret information about foreign policy. This includes 64% of those under 30 years of age. 22% believe WikiLeaks is doing more good than harm by promoting transparency and accountability in the nation's foreign policy. Eight percent are unsure.

Almost Half Aware of WikiLeaks Controversy

49% of residents nationally have heard, at least, a good amount about the WikiLeaks scandal. In contrast, 50% know little, nothing at all, or are unsure about it.

Again, age and gender are factors. Those 45 and older -- 58% -- and men -- 56% -- are more likely to have some knowledge of the issue than are those younger than 45 -- 37% -- and women -- 44%.

How the Survey was Conducted

Nature of the Sample: National Poll of 1,029 Adults

This survey of 1,029 adults was conducted on December 2nd through December 8th, 2010. 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 land-line sample was supplemented by respondents reached through random dialing of cell phone numbers. The two samples were then combined. Results are statistically significant within ± 3.0 percentage points. There are 873 registered voters. The results for this subset are statistically significant within ± 3.5 percentage points. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

Nature of the Sample: Adults

Nature of the Sample - National Adults		
		National Adults
		Col %
National Adults		100%
Registered Voters		85%
Region	Northeast	19%
	Midwest	22%
	South	37%
	West	22%
Income	Less \$50,000	51%
	\$50,000-\$99,999	31%
	\$100,000 or more	18%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	51%
	\$50,000 or more	49%
Race	White	67%
	African American	10%
	Latino	11%
	Other	11%
Race	White	67%
	Non-white	33%
Age	Under 45	40%
	45 or older	60%
Gender	Men	49%
	Women	51%
Households with children under 18	Household with children	37%
	No children in household	63%
Interview Type	Landline	73%
	Cell Phone	27%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Adults N=1029
 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Nature of the Sample: Registered Voters

Nature of the Sample - Registered Voters		
		Registered Voters
		Col %
Registered Voters		100%
Party ID	Democrat	37%
	Republican	28%
	Independent	33%
	Other	2%
Support Tea Party	Yes	29%
Political Party	Liberal	19%
	Moderate	34%
	Conservative	46%
Region	Northeast	18%
	Midwest	22%
	South	37%
	West	22%
Income	Less \$50,000	48%
	\$50,000-\$99,999	33%
	\$100,000 or more	19%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	48%
	\$50,000 or more	52%
Race	White	69%
	African American	11%
	Latino	10%
	Other	11%
Race	White	69%
	Non-white	31%
Age	Under 45	35%
	45 or older	65%
Gender	Men	49%
	Women	51%
Households with children under 18	Household with children	36%
	No children in household	64%
Interview Type	Landline	75%
	Cell Phone	25%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Registered Voters
 N=873 MOE +/- 3.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters		
		Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as president?		
		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		42%	50%	8%
Party ID	Democrat	74%	21%	5%
	Republican	7%	87%	6%
	Independent	39%	52%	9%
Tea Party Supporters		12%	86%	2%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	72%	23%	5%
	Democrat women	76%	19%	4%
	Republican men	8%	86%	6%
	Republican women	6%	88%	6%
	Independent men	35%	57%	8%
	Independent women	43%	46%	11%
Political Party	Liberal	69%	22%	8%
	Moderate	54%	38%	9%
	Conservative	22%	73%	5%
Region	Northeast	43%	47%	10%
	Midwest	48%	44%	8%
	South	35%	57%	8%
	West	46%	49%	6%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	47%	41%	12%
	\$50,000 or more	39%	57%	4%
Education	Not college graduate	45%	46%	9%
	College graduate	38%	56%	6%
Age	Under 45	50%	42%	8%
	45 or older	37%	55%	8%
Age	18 to 29	55%	36%	9%
	30 to 44	47%	46%	7%
	45 to 59	41%	53%	7%
	60 or older	33%	57%	9%
Race	White	33%	59%	8%
	Non-white	62%	30%	8%
Gender	Men	39%	53%	8%
	Women	44%	48%	8%
Interview Type	Landline	39%	52%	8%
	Cell Phone	50%	45%	6%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Registered Voters N=873 MOE +/- 3.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters		
		If the 2012 presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:		
		Barack Obama, the Democrat	Sarah Palin, the Republican	Undecided
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		52%	40%	9%
Party ID	Democrat	85%	11%	4%
	Republican	12%	78%	10%
	Independent	52%	35%	12%
Tea Party Supporters		12%	82%	6%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	90%	7%	3%
	Democrat women	81%	15%	4%
	Republican men	14%	78%	8%
	Republican women	9%	78%	12%
	Independent men	53%	38%	9%
	Independent women	52%	32%	16%
Political Party	Liberal	83%	13%	4%
	Moderate	68%	26%	6%
	Conservative	26%	64%	11%
Region	Northeast	58%	36%	7%
	Midwest	52%	39%	10%
	South	45%	47%	8%
	West	58%	32%	10%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	57%	37%	6%
	\$50,000 or more	50%	42%	7%
Education	Not college graduate	54%	39%	7%
	College graduate	49%	40%	11%
Age	Under 45	55%	40%	4%
	45 or older	50%	39%	11%
Age	18 to 29	60%	36%	4%
	30 to 44	52%	44%	4%
	45 to 59	51%	38%	11%
	60 or older	49%	40%	11%
Race	White	43%	46%	11%
	Non-white	71%	26%	3%
Gender	Men	53%	40%	6%
	Women	50%	39%	11%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	91%	6%	3%
	Disapprove	19%	71%	11%
Interview Type	Landline	51%	39%	10%
	Cell Phone	52%	43%	5%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Registered Voters N=873 MOE +/- 3.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters		
		If the 2012 presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:		
		Barack Obama, the Democrat	Mitt Romney, the Republican	Undecided
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		44%	46%	10%
Party ID	Democrat	81%	11%	8%
	Republican	6%	87%	7%
	Independent	39%	47%	14%
Tea Party Supporters		12%	81%	7%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	83%	9%	8%
	Democrat women	80%	12%	8%
	Republican men	10%	84%	6%
	Republican women	3%	90%	8%
	Independent men	37%	51%	11%
	Independent women	41%	41%	18%
Political Party	Liberal	78%	13%	9%
	Moderate	53%	38%	9%
	Conservative	23%	67%	10%
Region	Northeast	49%	43%	9%
	Midwest	47%	43%	9%
	South	36%	53%	11%
	West	50%	38%	12%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	50%	40%	10%
	\$50,000 or more	43%	49%	7%
Education	Not college graduate	46%	43%	11%
	College graduate	42%	49%	9%
Age	Under 45	50%	43%	7%
	45 or older	41%	47%	12%
Age	18 to 29	55%	38%	7%
	30 to 44	46%	46%	8%
	45 to 59	48%	41%	11%
	60 or older	34%	53%	13%
Race	White	34%	55%	10%
	Non-white	66%	26%	8%
Gender	Men	44%	47%	9%
	Women	44%	44%	12%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	87%	7%	6%
	Disapprove	10%	80%	9%
Interview Type	Landline	44%	46%	10%
	Cell Phone	44%	45%	11%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Registered Voters N=873 MOE +/- 3.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters		
		If the 2012 presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:		
		Barack Obama, the Democrat	Mike Huckabee, the Republican	Undecided
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		47%	43%	11%
Party ID	Democrat	83%	10%	6%
	Republican	7%	86%	7%
	Independent	42%	40%	18%
Tea Party Supporters		10%	82%	8%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	87%	8%	5%
	Democrat women	80%	12%	8%
	Republican men	11%	84%	5%
	Republican women	3%	88%	8%
	Independent men	42%	42%	16%
	Independent women	42%	38%	20%
Political Party	Liberal	80%	10%	10%
	Moderate	55%	31%	13%
	Conservative	25%	67%	8%
Region	Northeast	53%	37%	10%
	Midwest	47%	42%	11%
	South	42%	49%	9%
	West	48%	36%	15%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	53%	37%	10%
	\$50,000 or more	45%	46%	8%
Education	Not college graduate	51%	39%	10%
	College graduate	41%	47%	12%
Age	Under 45	54%	38%	9%
	45 or older	43%	45%	12%
Age	18 to 29	59%	34%	8%
	30 to 44	50%	40%	10%
	45 to 59	47%	40%	13%
	60 or older	38%	50%	12%
Race	White	34%	54%	12%
	Non-white	75%	20%	5%
Gender	Men	49%	42%	9%
	Women	44%	43%	12%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	87%	7%	6%
	Disapprove	13%	76%	11%
Interview Type	Landline	45%	43%	12%
	Cell Phone	52%	41%	7%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Registered Voters N=873 MOE +/- 3.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters			
		Do you think each of the following learned a lot, a little, or nothing at all from the elections this past November: President Obama			
		A lot	A little	Nothing at all	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		44%	30%	22%	4%
Party ID	Democrat	56%	30%	10%	5%
	Republican	34%	31%	32%	4%
	Independent	42%	30%	25%	3%
Tea Party Supporters		28%	31%	39%	2%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	51%	36%	8%	5%
	Democrat women	60%	24%	12%	4%
	Republican men	35%	32%	28%	5%
	Republican women	32%	30%	34%	3%
	Independent men	44%	31%	23%	2%
	Independent women	40%	29%	27%	4%
Political Party	Liberal	46%	33%	16%	4%
	Moderate	48%	29%	19%	4%
	Conservative	37%	31%	27%	4%
Region	Northeast	48%	30%	17%	5%
	Midwest	51%	29%	17%	3%
	South	41%	27%	26%	5%
	West	38%	33%	24%	4%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	49%	26%	20%	5%
	\$50,000 or more	40%	34%	23%	3%
Education	Not college graduate	47%	28%	20%	5%
	College graduate	40%	31%	25%	4%
Age	Under 45	47%	31%	20%	3%
	45 or older	43%	29%	23%	5%
Age	18 to 29	48%	34%	13%	5%
	30 to 44	46%	28%	24%	1%
	45 to 59	46%	29%	22%	3%
	60 or older	39%	29%	25%	7%
Race	White	40%	32%	25%	3%
	Non-white	54%	25%	15%	6%
Gender	Men	43%	32%	22%	3%
	Women	45%	28%	23%	5%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	60%	28%	7%	5%
	Disapprove	29%	32%	36%	2%
Interview Type	Landline	41%	32%	23%	5%
	Cell Phone	54%	23%	21%	2%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Registered Voters N=873 MOE +/- 3.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		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		34%	58%	8%
Registered Voters		35%	58%	7%
Party ID	Democrat	56%	37%	7%
	Republican	17%	79%	5%
	Independent	32%	62%	6%
Tea Party Supporters		15%	83%	2%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	58%	39%	3%
	Democrat women	54%	35%	11%
	Republican men	22%	74%	4%
	Republican women	12%	83%	5%
	Independent men	33%	60%	7%
	Independent women	32%	63%	5%
Political Party	Liberal	53%	44%	3%
	Moderate	42%	51%	8%
	Conservative	22%	73%	5%
Region	Northeast	31%	63%	6%
	Midwest	38%	53%	9%
	South	30%	63%	7%
	West	39%	51%	10%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	37%	54%	9%
	\$50,000 or more	36%	60%	5%
Education	Not college graduate	34%	56%	10%
	College graduate	33%	62%	5%
Age	Under 45	41%	54%	6%
	45 or older	30%	61%	10%
Age	18 to 29	47%	48%	5%
	30 to 44	36%	58%	6%
	45 to 59	33%	60%	7%
	60 or older	26%	62%	12%
Race	White	27%	66%	7%
	Non-white	50%	42%	8%
Gender	Men	36%	57%	7%
	Women	32%	59%	9%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	66%	28%	7%
	Disapprove	10%	86%	4%
Interview Type	Landline	31%	59%	10%
	Cell Phone	43%	55%	2%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Adults N=1029 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters			
		If you had to choose, which one of the following should be the top priority for the next Congress:			
		Reduce the deficit	Cut taxes	Maintain services and benefits	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		47%	22%	28%	3%
Party ID	Democrat	36%	21%	42%	1%
	Republican	55%	26%	16%	3%
	Independent	55%	20%	21%	4%
Tea Party Supporters		51%	35%	12%	2%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	38%	17%	45%	1%
	Democrat women	34%	25%	39%	2%
	Republican men	64%	24%	10%	1%
	Republican women	48%	28%	20%	4%
	Independent men	54%	20%	22%	5%
	Independent women	55%	21%	21%	3%
Political Party	Liberal	37%	18%	41%	3%
	Moderate	50%	17%	31%	2%
	Conservative	53%	27%	18%	2%
Region	Northeast	43%	24%	31%	2%
	Midwest	54%	20%	22%	4%
	South	43%	25%	30%	3%
	West	52%	19%	27%	2%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	40%	23%	35%	2%
	\$50,000 or more	54%	21%	24%	1%
Education	Not college graduate	45%	25%	29%	2%
	College graduate	51%	19%	26%	3%
Age	Under 45	43%	23%	32%	1%
	45 or older	50%	21%	26%	3%
Age	18 to 29	38%	24%	36%	1%
	30 to 44	47%	23%	29%	1%
	45 to 59	48%	20%	28%	3%
	60 or older	51%	22%	23%	4%
Race	White	52%	22%	24%	2%
	Non-white	38%	24%	35%	3%
Gender	Men	51%	20%	27%	2%
	Women	44%	25%	28%	3%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	41%	19%	37%	2%
	Disapprove	54%	27%	17%	2%
Interview Type	Landline	47%	23%	27%	3%
	Cell Phone	49%	20%	30%	1%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Registered Voters N=873 MOE +/- 3.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters				
		If the current Congress and the president fail to reach an agreement and let the Bush era tax cuts expire on December 31st, who will be most to blame:				
		President Obama	Republicans in Congress	Democrats in Congress	All of them	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		19%	33%	29%	10%	9%
Party ID	Democrat	15%	58%	11%	7%	9%
	Republican	31%	6%	47%	9%	6%
	Independent	16%	32%	30%	11%	10%
Tea Party Supporters		29%	10%	50%	7%	4%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	22%	57%	11%	4%	6%
	Democrat women	10%	58%	12%	10%	11%
	Republican men	27%	5%	54%	9%	4%
	Republican women	35%	6%	42%	9%	8%
	Independent men	16%	32%	32%	11%	8%
	Independent women	16%	33%	28%	11%	12%
Political Party	Liberal	14%	51%	20%	7%	8%
	Moderate	12%	40%	23%	13%	11%
	Conservative	28%	19%	38%	8%	7%
Region	Northeast	21%	38%	23%	8%	10%
	Midwest	20%	36%	24%	13%	8%
	South	20%	29%	36%	8%	7%
	West	15%	32%	29%	11%	13%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	22%	37%	26%	7%	9%
	\$50,000 or more	17%	33%	33%	10%	7%
Education	Not college graduate	21%	32%	28%	10%	9%
	College graduate	17%	34%	32%	9%	8%
Age	Under 45	19%	32%	34%	9%	7%
	45 or older	20%	34%	27%	10%	10%
Age	18 to 29	22%	30%	38%	5%	5%
	30 to 44	16%	33%	31%	12%	8%
	45 to 59	23%	35%	24%	9%	9%
	60 or older	16%	32%	30%	11%	11%
Race	White	22%	26%	32%	10%	10%
	Non-white	15%	48%	22%	8%	7%
Gender	Men	20%	33%	33%	8%	6%
	Women	19%	33%	26%	11%	11%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	8%	60%	15%	9%	7%
	Disapprove	30%	11%	42%	10%	8%
Interview Type	Landline	20%	32%	28%	11%	9%
	Cell Phone	17%	35%	33%	7%	7%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Registered Voters N=873 MOE +/- 3.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters			
		The new Congress will take office in January. Overall, do you think the current Congress is working better, worse, or about the same as it did before the elections this past November?			
		Better	Worse	About the same	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		16%	19%	60%	5%
Party ID	Democrat	15%	19%	60%	6%
	Republican	20%	16%	59%	5%
	Independent	15%	18%	63%	4%
Tea Party Supporters		18%	20%	58%	4%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	14%	21%	62%	3%
	Democrat women	16%	17%	59%	8%
	Republican men	26%	13%	58%	3%
	Republican women	15%	18%	60%	7%
	Independent men	14%	19%	67%	1%
	Independent women	16%	18%	58%	9%
Political Party	Liberal	18%	25%	55%	2%
	Moderate	11%	18%	65%	6%
	Conservative	18%	16%	60%	6%
Region	Northeast	13%	14%	65%	8%
	Midwest	16%	18%	60%	6%
	South	16%	23%	58%	3%
	West	18%	15%	60%	7%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	17%	15%	63%	4%
	\$50,000 or more	15%	21%	59%	4%
Education	Not college graduate	17%	15%	62%	6%
	College graduate	14%	24%	57%	4%
Age	Under 45	14%	19%	63%	3%
	45 or older	17%	18%	58%	6%
Age	18 to 29	21%	11%	67%	1%
	30 to 44	9%	25%	61%	5%
	45 to 59	15%	21%	58%	5%
	60 or older	19%	15%	59%	7%
Race	White	16%	18%	61%	6%
	Non-white	17%	19%	59%	4%
Gender	Men	16%	20%	62%	2%
	Women	16%	17%	59%	8%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	18%	18%	59%	5%
	Disapprove	15%	20%	59%	5%
Interview Type	Landline	15%	19%	60%	7%
	Cell Phone	20%	19%	59%	2%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Registered Voters N=873 MOE +/- 3.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters			
		Do you think each of the following learned a lot, a little, or nothing at all from the elections this past November: The Republicans in Congress			
		A lot	A little	Nothing at all	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		35%	37%	22%	6%
Party ID	Democrat	26%	36%	32%	5%
	Republican	50%	39%	7%	4%
	Independent	31%	37%	25%	7%
Tea Party Supporters		49%	39%	8%	4%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	32%	31%	33%	4%
	Democrat women	22%	41%	31%	6%
	Republican men	45%	43%	10%	3%
	Republican women	54%	36%	5%	5%
	Independent men	34%	38%	26%	3%
	Independent women	27%	37%	24%	12%
Political Party	Liberal	26%	33%	35%	6%
	Moderate	34%	39%	22%	5%
	Conservative	39%	38%	16%	7%
Region	Northeast	34%	35%	23%	7%
	Midwest	31%	41%	22%	7%
	South	39%	35%	21%	5%
	West	31%	37%	25%	7%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	34%	36%	25%	5%
	\$50,000 or more	37%	37%	20%	6%
Education	Not college graduate	34%	36%	23%	7%
	College graduate	35%	37%	22%	5%
Age	Under 45	35%	41%	22%	2%
	45 or older	35%	34%	23%	8%
Age	18 to 29	38%	42%	20%	<1%
	30 to 44	33%	40%	23%	4%
	45 to 59	35%	32%	27%	6%
	60 or older	34%	37%	19%	11%
Race	White	34%	40%	20%	6%
	Non-white	37%	32%	27%	4%
Gender	Men	37%	36%	24%	3%
	Women	33%	38%	21%	9%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	26%	37%	32%	5%
	Disapprove	43%	38%	14%	5%
Interview Type	Landline	33%	36%	24%	8%
	Cell Phone	40%	40%	19%	1%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Registered Voters N=873 MOE +/- 3.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters			
		Do you think each of the following learned a lot, a little, or nothing at all from the elections this past November: The Democrats in Congress			
		A lot	A little	Nothing at all	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		35%	35%	26%	4%
Party ID	Democrat	47%	38%	12%	3%
	Republican	30%	37%	29%	3%
	Independent	31%	31%	34%	4%
Tea Party Supporters		26%	30%	41%	3%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	52%	39%	7%	2%
	Democrat women	44%	37%	15%	4%
	Republican men	36%	33%	30%	1%
	Republican women	26%	41%	29%	4%
	Independent men	31%	29%	36%	3%
	Independent women	30%	33%	31%	6%
Political Party	Liberal	37%	43%	17%	3%
	Moderate	41%	34%	21%	4%
	Conservative	31%	33%	32%	4%
Region	Northeast	37%	38%	21%	4%
	Midwest	38%	37%	22%	4%
	South	35%	31%	31%	3%
	West	31%	37%	27%	5%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	37%	37%	22%	4%
	\$50,000 or more	36%	34%	27%	3%
Education	Not college graduate	38%	35%	23%	5%
	College graduate	33%	33%	30%	3%
Age	Under 45	37%	38%	25%	1%
	45 or older	35%	33%	26%	6%
Age	18 to 29	39%	48%	14%	<1%
	30 to 44	35%	32%	32%	1%
	45 to 59	38%	34%	25%	2%
	60 or older	31%	32%	28%	9%
Race	White	33%	37%	26%	4%
	Non-white	42%	30%	25%	3%
Gender	Men	37%	33%	28%	2%
	Women	33%	37%	24%	6%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	45%	37%	15%	3%
	Disapprove	29%	31%	37%	3%
Interview Type	Landline	32%	36%	27%	5%
	Cell Phone	46%	32%	22%	<1%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Registered Voters N=873 MOE +/- 3.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		National Adults		
		The WikiLeaks website obtains and distributes confidential or secret government documents to the public and the press. It has most recently released thousands of documents about diplomatic conversations and relationships. Which comes closer to your opinion:		
		The publication of the confidential or secret U.S. government documents is protected under the First Amendment's guarantee of a free press	Those who publish confidential or secret U.S. government documents should be prosecuted	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		31%	59%	10%
Heard about WikiLeaks	A great deal-A good amount	26%	69%	5%
	Not very much-Not at all-Unsure	36%	50%	14%
Registered Voters		28%	63%	9%
Party ID	Democrat	37%	54%	9%
	Republican	15%	79%	6%
	Independent	30%	64%	6%
Tea Party Supporters		20%	74%	6%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	45%	49%	6%
	Democrat women	30%	59%	11%
	Republican men	10%	85%	5%
	Republican women	19%	75%	6%
	Independent men	31%	62%	7%
Political Party	Independent women	29%	66%	6%
	Liberal	48%	47%	5%
	Moderate	26%	60%	15%
Region	Conservative	21%	74%	5%
	Northeast	34%	59%	7%
	Midwest	32%	59%	9%
	South	26%	62%	12%
Household Income	West	37%	55%	8%
	Less than \$50,000	33%	56%	10%
Education	\$50,000 or more	29%	63%	8%
	Not college graduate	33%	56%	10%
Age	College graduate	27%	64%	9%
	Under 45	44%	49%	8%
Age	45 or older	23%	66%	11%
	18 to 29	52%	47%	1%
	30 to 44	37%	50%	13%
	45 to 59	25%	65%	10%
Race	60 or older	20%	68%	12%
	White	29%	65%	7%
Gender	Non-white	37%	49%	14%
	Men	33%	57%	10%
Interview Type	Women	29%	62%	9%
	Landline	27%	62%	11%
	Cell Phone	42%	53%	6%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Adults N=1029 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		National Adults		
		Which comes closer to your opinion:		
		WikiLeaks is doing more good than harm by making the U.S. government more transparent and accountable in foreign policy	WikiLeaks is doing more harm than good by allowing enemies of the U.S. to see confidential and secret information about foreign policy	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		22%	70%	8%
Heard about WikiLeaks	A great deal-A good amount	21%	74%	5%
	Not very much-Not at all-Unsure	23%	66%	11%
Registered Voters		20%	72%	8%
Party ID	Democrat	23%	67%	10%
	Republican	11%	81%	7%
	Independent	25%	71%	4%
Tea Party Supporters		14%	83%	3%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	35%	57%	8%
	Democrat women	14%	75%	11%
	Republican men	13%	81%	6%
	Republican women	10%	81%	9%
	Independent men	29%	66%	5%
	Independent women	19%	77%	4%
Political Party	Liberal	35%	58%	7%
	Moderate	18%	76%	6%
	Conservative	15%	77%	7%
Region	Northeast	19%	73%	9%
	Midwest	23%	67%	10%
	South	20%	74%	7%
	West	29%	64%	7%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	26%	66%	8%
	\$50,000 or more	20%	74%	6%
Education	Not college graduate	23%	68%	9%
	College graduate	22%	73%	6%
Age	Under 45	28%	66%	6%
	45 or older	18%	72%	9%
Age	18 to 29	30%	64%	5%
	30 to 44	26%	68%	6%
	45 to 59	21%	72%	8%
	60 or older	16%	73%	11%
Race	White	19%	74%	7%
	Non-white	29%	63%	8%
Gender	Men	29%	64%	7%
	Women	16%	75%	9%
Interview Type	Landline	19%	72%	9%
	Cell Phone	30%	65%	5%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Adults N=1029 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		National Adults				
		Have you heard a great deal, a good amount, not very much, or nothing at all about the release of confidential U.S. government documents by the WikiLeaks website?				
		A great deal	A good amount	Not very much	Nothing at all	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		29%	20%	23%	25%	2%
Registered Voters		31%	22%	24%	22%	1%
Party ID	Democrat	26%	21%	24%	27%	2%
	Republican	34%	24%	27%	15%	<1%
	Independent	35%	23%	23%	18%	2%
Tea Party Supporters		42%	20%	19%	18%	1%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	27%	22%	20%	30%	2%
	Democrat women	26%	21%	27%	24%	2%
	Republican men	39%	27%	25%	8%	<1%
	Republican women	30%	21%	28%	20%	<1%
	Independent men	32%	30%	21%	15%	3%
	Independent women	38%	16%	24%	22%	<1%
Political Party	Liberal	39%	22%	18%	21%	<1%
	Moderate	28%	22%	29%	19%	3%
	Conservative	31%	23%	23%	23%	<1%
Region	Northeast	29%	22%	25%	22%	2%
	Midwest	27%	20%	23%	30%	<1%
	South	31%	19%	21%	28%	2%
	West	29%	22%	26%	20%	2%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	24%	17%	25%	33%	2%
	\$50,000 or more	34%	24%	23%	19%	<1%
Education	Not college graduate	25%	17%	24%	33%	2%
	College graduate	36%	27%	22%	13%	2%
Age	Under 45	21%	16%	25%	37%	1%
	45 or older	35%	23%	22%	18%	2%
Age	18 to 29	14%	16%	18%	51%	2%
	30 to 44	27%	16%	30%	26%	1%
	45 to 59	35%	23%	22%	18%	1%
	60 or older	35%	24%	22%	17%	2%
Race	White	33%	22%	23%	22%	<1%
	Non-white	20%	19%	22%	35%	4%
Gender	Men	31%	25%	20%	23%	2%
	Women	28%	16%	26%	28%	1%
Interview Type	Landline	31%	22%	24%	21%	2%
	Cell Phone	26%	16%	22%	36%	1%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Adults N=1029 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

		Registered Voters			
		Do you consider yourself to be a supporter of the Tea Party Movement?			
		Strongly support Tea Party	Support Tea Party	Does not support Tea Party	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		10%	19%	62%	9%
Party ID	Democrat	1%	6%	87%	6%
	Republican	21%	34%	34%	11%
	Independent	12%	18%	62%	8%
Party ID by Gender	Democrat men	1%	6%	86%	7%
	Democrat women	2%	5%	88%	5%
	Republican men	25%	33%	34%	8%
	Republican women	17%	36%	33%	14%
	Independent men	16%	14%	63%	6%
	Independent women	8%	22%	61%	9%
Political Party	Liberal	4%	10%	83%	4%
	Moderate	3%	14%	74%	9%
	Conservative	19%	26%	45%	10%
Region	Northeast	11%	15%	69%	5%
	Midwest	8%	18%	63%	11%
	South	12%	23%	57%	7%
	West	9%	15%	65%	12%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	9%	19%	64%	9%
	\$50,000 or more	12%	20%	62%	7%
Education	Not college graduate	10%	17%	62%	11%
	College graduate	11%	21%	64%	5%
Age	Under 45	5%	19%	66%	9%
	45 or older	13%	18%	60%	8%
Age	18 to 29	4%	21%	60%	15%
	30 to 44	6%	18%	70%	6%
	45 to 59	13%	15%	65%	6%
	60 or older	13%	21%	55%	11%
Gender	Men	13%	18%	62%	7%
	Women	8%	19%	62%	10%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	1%	7%	85%	7%
	Disapprove	20%	30%	42%	8%
Interview Type	Landline	11%	19%	62%	8%
	Cell Phone	7%	18%	64%	10%

December 2010 Marist Poll National Registered Voters N=873 MOE +/- 3.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.