

Sample 1000 General Population Respondents  
Conducted September 27-29, 2009  
Margin of Error  $\pm 4.7\%$

## 1. Do you think the United Nations is doing a good job or a poor job in trying to solve the problems it has had to face?

Good job .....	16%
Poor job .....	53%
Not sure .....	30%

## 2. What do you think are the chances of a terrorist attack against the United States in the next 12 months?

Very likely (more than 50%) .....	19%
Somewhat likely (10% to 50%) .....	44%
Not very likely (1% to 10%) .....	22%
Very unlikely (less than 1%) .....	8%
Not sure .....	7%

## 3. Do you think the policies of the Obama Administration have made the United States more or less safe from terrorism?

More safe .....	26%
No effect .....	39%
Less safe .....	34%

## 4. How serious a threat do you think Iran poses to the United States? (Asked of half of respondents)

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S. ....	20%
A somewhat serious threat to the U.S. ....	46%
A minor threat to the U.S. ....	19%
Not a threat to the U.S. ....	6%
Not sure .....	8%

**5. How serious a threat do you think Iran’s nuclear program poses to the United States? (Asked of half of respondents)**

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S. ....	23%
A somewhat serious threat to the U.S. ....	39%
A minor threat to the U.S. ....	22%
Not a threat to the U.S. ....	9%
Not sure ....	6%

**6. Would you say the U.S. is winning the war in Afghanistan?**

Yes ....	10%
No ....	56%
Not sure ....	33%

**7. Do you favor increasing the number of troops in Afghanistan?**

Increase ....	40%
Keep the same ....	23%
Decrease ....	37%

**8. Overall, do you think the economy is getting better or worse?**

Getting better ....	25%
About the same ....	40%
Getting worse ....	30%
Not sure ....	4%

**9. Which comes closer to your view?**

Because the U.S. economy is only part of the global economy, improvements in the U.S. economy require that the economies of other countries also improve. ....	55%
It’s possible for the U.S. economy to improve on its own, whatever happens in the rest of the world. ....	45%

10. On balance, do you think trade with other countries - both buying and selling products - is... (Questions 10 and 11 rotated)

Good for the U.S. economy ..... 65%  
 Has no effect on the U.S. economy ..... 9%  
 Bad for the U.S. economy ..... 27%

11. On balance, do you think trade with other countries - both buying and selling products - is... (Questions 10 and 11 rotated)

Good for you and your family ..... 56%  
 Has no effect on you and your family ..... 22%  
 Bad for you and your family ..... 22%

12. Do you think trade with foreign countries helps or hurts the countries the United States trades with?

Helps ..... 62%  
 Neither helps nor hurts ..... 14%  
 Hurts ..... 11%  
 Not sure ..... 13%

13. Do you think the United States should increase or decrease trade with the following countries?

	Increase	Keep the same	Decrease	Not sure
Mexico	21%	31%	28%	20%
China	11%	23%	51%	15%
India	18%	34%	26%	22%
Canada	43%	35%	5%	17%
Germany	28%	40%	9%	23%
Poland	28%	33%	9%	29%
Saudi Arabia	9%	21%	48%	22%
South Africa	22%	34%	18%	26%

14. How likely is it that Congress will pass health care reform legislation this year?

Very likely .....	14%
Somewhat likely .....	35%
Somewhat unlikely .....	23%
Very unlikely .....	18%
Not sure .....	10%

15. Overall, given what you know about them, do you support or oppose the proposed changes to the health care system being developed by Congress and the Obama Administration?

Support strongly .....	21%
Support somewhat .....	28%
Oppose somewhat .....	17%
Oppose strongly .....	34%

16. If President Obama and Congress pass a health care reform plan, do you think you personally would receive better or worse care than you receive now?

Better care .....	18%
About the same .....	33%
Worse care .....	38%
Not sure .....	11%

17. Do you think you personally would pay more, either in taxes or insurance costs, if President Obama and Congress pass a health care reform plan?

Pay more .....	56%
About the same .....	24%
Pay less .....	8%
Not sure .....	12%

18. Overall, if President Obama and Congress pass health care reform, do you think you personally would be better or worse off?

Better off .....	23%
About the same .....	23%
Worse off .....	43%
Not sure .....	10%

19. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under the age of 18?

Yes .....	30%
No .....	70%

20. What type of school is your child or children currently enrolled in? Please check all that apply. (Asked of respondents who said they are a parents or guardians of children under the age of 18)

Public school .....	72%
Private school .....	10%
Homeschool .....	4%
None of the above .....	17%

21. Do you think the problems facing the country today are more serious in education or health care?

Education .....	19%
Health care .....	24%
Both are equally serious .....	54%
Neither is a serious problem .....	3%

22. Thinking about the country as a whole, are you generally satisfied with the quality of public schools in this country?

Very satisfied .....	4%
Somewhat satisfied .....	27%
Somewhat dissatisfied .....	37%
Very dissatisfied .....	32%

**23. How satisfied are you with the public schools in your neighborhood?**

Very satisfied .....	17%
Somewhat satisfied .....	35%
Somewhat dissatisfied .....	27%
Very dissatisfied .....	20%

**24. Which schools in the U.S. do the BEST job of educating their students?**

Elementary schools .....	42%
High schools .....	9%
Colleges and Universities .....	49%

**25. Which schools in the U.S. do the WORST job of educating their students?**

Elementary schools .....	20%
High schools .....	67%
Colleges and Universities .....	13%

**26. Who do you think is most to blame for the problems in public education today?**

Parents .....	20%
Teachers .....	7%
Students .....	5%
Teachers Unions .....	12%
School Administrators .....	13%
Politicians .....	32%
Other .....	11%

**27. Would you be willing to pay more in taxes to increase funding for public education?**

Yes .....	32%
No .....	47%
Not sure .....	21%

**28. Do you think most public school teachers are paid too much or too little?**

Too much ..... 11%  
 About right ..... 34%  
 Too little ..... 55%

**29. Would you favor or oppose making teachers' salaries be based on their students' performance, such as gains on standardized tests?**

Favor strongly ..... 19%  
 Favor somewhat ..... 29%  
 Oppose somewhat ..... 23%  
 Oppose strongly ..... 20%  
 No opinion ..... 10%

**30. Do you think American schools place too much or too little emphasis on the following things?**

	Too much	About right	Too little
Sports	57%	33%	9%
The arts	13%	35%	52%
Math and science	2%	31%	66%
Reading	1%	30%	68%
Discipline	5%	20%	75%
Grades	18%	43%	37%
Standardized tests	51%	28%	20%
Vocational education	4%	39%	56%

**31. Do you think the "No Child Left Behind" law has helped or hurt U.S. schools?**

Helped ..... 18%  
 No effect ..... 20%  
 Hurt ..... 41%  
 Not sure ..... 21%

32. Do you think private schools do a better or a worse job of educating their students than public schools?

Better .....	66%
Same .....	29%
Worse .....	4%

33. Why do you think private schools provide a better education than public schools? Check all that apply. (Asked of respondents who said private schools are better than public schools)

Have more money .....	40%
Are run more efficiently .....	76%
Have students with fewer problems .....	43%
Other .....	30%

34. Why do you think public schools provide a better education than private schools? Check all that apply. (Asked of respondents who said public schools are better than private schools)

Have more money .....	17%
Are run more efficiently .....	37%
Have students with fewer problems .....	18%
Other .....	47%

35. Do you think it's fair that wealthy parents can send their children to private schools?

Yes .....	59%
No .....	27%
Not sure .....	14%

36. Do you support or oppose providing parents in low-income families with tax money in the form of school vouchers to help pay for their children to attend private or religious schools?

Support .....	45%
Oppose .....	34%
Not sure .....	21%



37. Would you support or oppose providing parents of children with special needs with tax money in the form of school vouchers to help pay for their children to attend private or religious schools?

Support .....	53%
Oppose .....	24%
Not sure .....	23%

38. As you may know, charter schools are independent public schools that are freed from some of the rules and regulations that apply to other public schools. Do you think the number of charter schools should be increased or decreased?

Increased .....	44%
Kept the same .....	18%
Decreased .....	10%
Not sure .....	28%

39. Do you favor or oppose allowing parents to educate their children at home and not attend a formal school?

Favor allowing home schooling .....	56%
Oppose allowing home schooling .....	24%
Not sure .....	19%

40. Do you favor or oppose the teaching of evolution in public schools?

Favor .....	51%
Oppose .....	26%
Not sure .....	23%

41. Do you favor or oppose allowing voluntary prayer in public schools?

Favor .....	70%
Oppose .....	19%
Not sure .....	12%

42. Do you think the following countries spend more or less per pupil on education than the U.S.?

	More	Same	Less	Don't know
Canada	26%	25%	13%	36%
United Kingdom	28%	23%	12%	37%
Japan	53%	8%	11%	28%
Mexico	2%	5%	62%	30%
France	28%	18%	14%	39%
Germany	35%	16%	12%	36%

43. Do you think student math test scores are better or worse in the following countries than in the U.S.?

	Better	Same	Worse	Don't know
Canada	36%	29%	2%	30%
United Kingdom	36%	26%	4%	33%
Japan	73%	4%	2%	20%
Mexico	9%	13%	46%	30%
France	36%	26%	4%	32%
Germany	51%	15%	2%	29%

44. Below are some issues facing the country. For each one, indicate whether you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling that issue.

	Strongly Approve	Somewhat Approve	Somewhat Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove	No Opinion
The war in Iraq	15%	29%	18%	25%	12%
The economy	17%	26%	14%	35%	7%
Immigration	9%	18%	16%	35%	21%
The environment	17%	26%	15%	23%	18%
Terrorism	16%	29%	13%	29%	13%
Gay rights	9%	21%	16%	23%	31%
Education	16%	27%	16%	22%	18%
Health care	23%	20%	14%	37%	6%
Social security	13%	19%	15%	30%	22%
The war in Afghanistan	9%	28%	23%	29%	11%

45. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Unimportant
The war in Iraq	46%	40%	11%	3%
The economy	84%	14%	1%	0%
Immigration	47%	32%	17%	3%
The environment	47%	35%	13%	5%
Terrorism	61%	28%	8%	3%
Gay rights	24%	21%	26%	28%
Education	68%	26%	4%	2%
Health care	74%	18%	5%	1%
Social security	64%	29%	6%	1%
The budget deficit	62%	29%	7%	2%

**46. Which of these is the most important issue for you?**

The war in Iraq .....	2%
The economy .....	37%
Immigration .....	5%
The environment .....	5%
Terrorism .....	5%
Gay rights .....	2%
Education .....	7%
Health care .....	20%
Social security .....	9%
The budget deficit .....	7%

**47. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?**

Strongly approve .....	25%
Somewhat approve .....	24%
Somewhat disapprove .....	15%
Strongly disapprove .....	29%
Not sure .....	7%

**48. Overall, do you approve of the way the U.S. Congress is handling its job?**

Strongly approve .....	3%
Somewhat approve .....	14%
Neither approve nor disapprove .....	14%
Somewhat disapprove .....	22%
Strongly disapprove .....	39%
Not sure .....	8%

49. If the 2010 elections for U.S. Congress were being held today, who would you vote for in the district where you live?

Republican .....	34%
Lean Republican .....	7%
Lean Democrat .....	8%
Democrat .....	40%
Not Sure .....	11%

50. Would you say things in this country today are ...

Generally headed in the right direction .....	39%
Off on the wrong track .....	49%
Not sure .....	12%

51. What do you think is more of a threat?

Big business .....	38%
Big government .....	62%

52. Would you say that you and your family are...

Better off financially than you were a year ago .....	10%
About the same financially as you were a year ago .....	38%
Worse off financially than you were a year ago .....	49%
Not sure .....	3%

53. Do you think the stock market will be higher or lower 12 months from now?

Higher .....	38%
About the same .....	32%
Lower .....	13%
Not sure .....	17%

**54. Which of these words would you use to describe Barack Obama?**

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Honest	37%	32%	31%
Intelligent	67%	24%	9%
Religious	16%	55%	29%
Inspiring	46%	36%	18%
Patriotic	34%	38%	28%
Strong	43%	41%	17%
Bold	41%	46%	13%
Experienced	14%	39%	46%
Sincere	41%	33%	26%
Partisan	26%	51%	24%
Effective	28%	47%	25%
Unifying	28%	44%	28%
In Touch	33%	42%	25%
Realistic	33%	38%	29%
Decisive	30%	49%	21%

**55. Would you say Barack Obama is ...**

Very liberal	34%
Somewhat liberal	20%
Moderate	22%
Somewhat conservative	4%
Very conservative	1%
Not sure	18%

**56. Do you think Barack Obama ...**

Says what he believes	50%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	50%

57. Regardless of whether you agree with him, do you like Barack Obama as a person?

Like a lot .....	40%
Like somewhat .....	29%
Dislike .....	22%
Not sure .....	8%