



1146 19th St., NW, Suite 200
 Washington, DC 20036
 (202) 463-7300

Interview dates: October 1st – 5th, 2009
 Interviews: 1,296 adults; 1,098 registered voters
 628 Democrats/Lean Democrats; 456 Republicans/Lean Republicans
 Margin of error: ± 2.72 for all adults; 2.96 for registered voters
 ± 3.91 for Democrats; ± 4.59 for Republicans

**Ipsos/McClatchy Poll
 PROJECT #81-4621-23**

NOTE: all results shown are percentages unless otherwise labeled.

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted October 1 - 5, 2009. For the survey, a nationally representative, randomly selected sample of exactly 1,296 adults aged 18 and older across the United States was interviewed by Ipsos. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate within 2.72 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult population in the U.S. been polled. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error. These data were weighted to ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the actual U.S. population according to U.S. Census figures. Respondents had the option to be interviewed in English or Spanish.

POLITICAL TRACKER

1. Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track?

	<u>10/1- 5/09</u>	<u>8/27- 31/09</u>	<u>7/30- 8/3/09</u>	<u>7/9- 13/09</u>	<u>6/4- 8/09</u>	<u>4/30- 5/3/09</u>	<u>4/2- 6/09</u>	<u>3/5- 9/09</u>	<u>2/6- 9/09</u>
Right direction.....	40	40	46	40	52	55	45	44	42
Wrong track.....	56	54	48	54	42	38	48	48	50
(Not sure).....	5	6	6	6	6	7	7	8	8

ASK OF ½ SAMPLE

1b. In your opinion, what is the most important problem facing the U.S. today? **(RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE.)**

(IF THE RESPONDENT CAN'T THINK OF ONLY ONE PROBLEM, PROBE:) If you had to choose, which would you say is the most important problem facing the U.S. today?

Economy (all mentions).....	35
Economy (unspecified)(poor, stagnant, unspecified)	24
Unemployment/ Lack of jobs(jobs leaving country/going overseas)	10
Other 'economy' mentions.....	1
Domestic Issues Excluding Economy (all mentions)	24
Health care/ Coverage.....	10
Government/ politicians (other mentions)	3
Morality	2
The president/ Barack Obama/ Obama administration.....	2
Government spending/ deficit/ budget.....	2
Poverty/ Hunger/ Homelessness.....	1
Education	1
Improve defense/ Military readiness (homeland security, national defense)	1
Crime	1
Drugs/ Issues related to drug use/ abuse.....	1
Other 'domestic issues' mentions.....	2
Foreign affairs (all mentions)	7
Wars/ Unrest throughout the world (incl. war unspecified)	3
War with Iraq (any mentions about Iraq)	1
Other 'foreign affairs' mentions.....	3
Other.....	5
(Don't know/not sure)	30

2a. Overall, do you approve, disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? (IF 'APPROVE' OR 'DISAPPROVE' ASK:) Is that strongly (approve/disapprove) or somewhat (approve/disapprove)? (IF HAVE 'MIXED FEELINGS' OR 'NOT SURE' ASK:) If you had to choose, do you lean more toward approve or disapprove?

	<u>10/1- 5/09</u>	<u>8/27- 31/09</u>	<u>7/30- 8/3/09</u>	<u>7/9- 13/09</u>	<u>6/4- 8/09</u>	<u>4/30- 5/3/09</u>	<u>4/2- 6/09</u>	<u>3/5 - 9/09</u>	<u>2/6 - 9/09</u>
Strongly approve.....	30	31	32	29	40	40	35	39	38
Somewhat approve.....	12	16	17	17	14	17	18	15	19
Lean toward approval.....	14	9	9	11	10	8	9	10	13
Still have mixed feelings.....	3	3	4	3	3	2	4	5	3
Lean toward disapproval.....	12	8	8	11	9	9	9	8	10
Somewhat disapprove.....	5	3	5	6	7	3	4	5	4
Strongly disapprove.....	23	28	24	22	16	19	20	17	12
(Not sure).....	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
Total Approve.....	56	56	58	57	64	65	63	65	69
Total Disapprove.....	40	40	37	38	32	31	33	29	26
Mean Rating.....	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.9	4.9	4.7	4.9	5.1
Democrats: Total Approve.....	86	88	82	84	89	95	91	89	92
Democrat s: Total Disapprove...	12	10	15	13	10	4	6	8	6
Independents: Total Approve.....	47	54	57	50	58	56	57	58	70
Independents: Total Disapprove	41	37	34	36	31	34	21	31	19
Republicans: Total Approve.....	18	18	24	24	27	29	26	29	34
Republicans: Total Disapprove..	80	78	70	73	67	67	72	66	60

3. Has the U.S. economy turned the corner on the current crisis, is the worst yet to come, or have things stabilized but not yet begun to improve?

	<u>10/1- 5/09</u>	<u>8/27- 31/09</u>	<u>7/30- 8/3/09</u>	<u>7/9- 13/09</u>	<u>6/4- 8/09</u>	<u>4/30- 5/3/09</u>	<u>4/2- 6/09</u>	<u>3/5 - 9/09</u>	<u>2/6 - 9/09</u>
Turned the corner.....	11	11	9	6	9	10	8	3	7
Worst yet to come.....	31	35	32	39	37	38	36	57	54
Stabilized, but not yet begun to improve.....	55	49	56	49	48	48	52	35	35
(Not sure).....	3	4	3	5	6	4	4	4	4

HEALTH CARE REFORM

4a. As of right now, do you favor or oppose the healthcare reform proposals presently being discussed?

	10/1- 5/09	8/27- 31/09
Favor.....	40	40
Oppose.....	42	45
(Don't have an opinion)	14	14
(Don't know/Not sure).....	4	1

One of the points being debated is whether or not the government should create a public health insurance plan as an alternative to private insurance plans.

4b. Which of the following is closest to your opinion?

	10/1- 5/09	8/27- 31/09	7/9- 13/09
It is necessary to create a public health insurance plan to make sure that all Americans have access to quality healthcare.....	53	49	52
Access to quality healthcare for all Americans can be achieved without having to create a public health insurance plan.....	42	46	44
(Don't know/Not sure).....	5	5	4

IRAN

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing in dealing with Iran?

Approve.....	49
Disapprove.....	39
(Don't know/Not sure)	13

6. Do you think the United States should or should not take any economic or diplomatic action against Iran?

Should.....	56
Should not.....	31
(Don't know/Not sure)	13

7. Do you think the United States should or should not take any military action against Iran?

Should.....	29
Should not.....	61
(Don't know/Not sure)	10

8. Would you say that Iran represents a very serious threat to the United States, a moderately serious threat, a slight threat, or no threat at all?

Very serious threat.....	30
Moderately serious threat.....	36
Slight threat.....	19
No threat at all.....	12
(Don't know/Not sure).....	4

Threat.....	66
Not a threat.....	30

PARTY AFFILIATION / IDEOLOGY

1. Are you currently registered to vote at this address, or not?

Yes.....	85
No.....	15
(Not sure)...	0

2a. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?

(IF "DEMOCRAT" TO Q.2a, Q.2b ASKED. IF "REPUBLICAN" TO Q.2a, Q.2c ASKED. IF "INDEPENDENT" or "NONE OF THESE" TO Q.2a, Q.2d ASKED. RESULTS SHOWN IN SUMMARY BELOW.)

- 2b. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Democratic Party?
- 2c. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Republican Party?
- 2d. Do your beliefs tend to lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

Strongly Democrat.....	21
Moderately Democrat....	12
Lean Democrat.....	16
Strongly Republican.....	10
Moderately Republican...	9
Lean Republican.....	16
Independent (No lean)...	16

Initial Democrats.....	33
Total Democrats.....	48

Initial Republicans.....	19
Total Republicans.....	35