

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Voters to anti-Obamacare congressmen: decline health benefits

Raleigh, N.C. – A monkey wrench on the GOP mandate narrative: Three weeks after voters swept Democrats out of power in the U.S. House, both parties' congressmen are very unpopular with American voters. But Democrats remain better liked than Republicans now, as they were before this month's elections, by 16 points on the margin, with a 36-56 approval rating to Republicans' 25-61. At 24-61, Democrats do marginally better than Republicans' 17-60 among independents, but the real difference is a 35-point chasm between the two party bases. Democrats approve of their representatives, 69-22, but Republicans of theirs by only a 50-38 edge.

A 53% majority of registered voters also think that those who came into power campaigning on Obamacare repeal should decline their federal health plan, and only a third think they should accept it. Many Democrats have been pushing Republicans to deny their benefits, but among all voters, the pressure is actually by far stronger with Republicans and independents than with Democrats.

Voters' desire for change this year extends to the current minority leadership team that will ascend another rung come January. By more than 2:1 (55-27), Americans also would prefer that the GOP replace its leadership instead of elevating John Boehner and the others. Independents prefer a different group by a 57-20 margin, and even Republicans are split, just 43-40 in favor of the status quo. Americans are less certain about Boehner specifically becoming Speaker, splitting 38-37 against. But most of that is because of expected Democratic disapproval. Republicans support him over any other Republican, 61-17, and independents only narrowly fall against him, 40-38.

“Republicans should not forget that 2010 was not an endorsement of Republicanism but the third in a series of change elections amid a fickle, ever-shifting electorate, and Republicans are not so fond of their own leadership,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Americans also think anti-health care reform congressmen should be principled and refuse to accept the health plan Congressmen usually get for free.”

PPP surveyed 707 American voters from November 19th to 21st. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.7%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

[Complete results are attached, and can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.](http://www.publicpolicypolling.com)



National Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Democrats in Congress are doing?

Approve..... 36% Not sure 8%
Disapprove..... 56%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Republicans in Congress are doing?

Approve..... 25% Not sure 14%
Disapprove..... 61%

Q3 Do you think Republicans should keep the leaders they've had in the US House of Representatives for the last two years or replace them?

Keep current leadership 27% Replace them 55%
Not sure 18%

Q4 Do you want John Boehner to become Speaker of the House or would you prefer that a different Republican was chosen?

Boehner 37% Not sure 25%
Different Republican 38%

Q5 Do you think the Democratic Party is too liberal, too conservative, or about right?

Too liberal..... 48% About right..... 34%
Too conservative... 11% Not sure 7%

Q6 Do you think the Republican Party is too liberal, too conservative, or about right?

Too liberal..... 21% About right..... 31%
Too conservative... 43% Not sure 5%

Q7 Do you think newly elected members of Congress who campaigned against the health care bill should accept or decline government provided health care now that they're in office?

Accept..... 33% Not sure 15%
Decline..... 53%

Q8 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 45%
Barack Obama..... 50%
Someone else/Don't remember 5%

Q9 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 17%
Moderate..... 45%
Conservative..... 39%

Q10 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 53%
Man..... 47%

Q11 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat..... 42%
Republican..... 35%
Independent/Other..... 23%

Q12 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 10%
White 74%
African-American 12%
Other..... 4%

Q13 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29..... 10%
30 to 45..... 33%
46 to 65..... 41%
Older than 65..... 16%



Q14 If you live in the Northeast, press 1. If the South, press 2. If the Midwest, press 3. If the West, press 4.

<i>Northeast</i>	27%
<i>South</i>	27%
<i>Midwest</i>	32%
<i>West</i>	15%



Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Congress Dem Approval				
Approve	36%	5%	66%	9%
Disapprove	56%	92%	23%	65%
Not sure	8%	3%	11%	26%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Congress GOP Approval				
Approve	25%	46%	6%	21%
Disapprove	61%	39%	83%	46%
Not sure	14%	15%	11%	33%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
House GOP Keep/Replace Leadership?				
Keep current leadership	27%	42%	15%	16%
Replace them	55%	41%	68%	44%
Not sure	18%	17%	17%	40%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Boehner or Other Republican?				
Boehner	37%	61%	16%	25%
Different Republican	38%	19%	56%	34%
Not sure	25%	20%	28%	40%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Dem Ideology				
Too liberal	48%	84%	15%	58%
Too conservative	11%	3%	20%	2%
About right	34%	7%	60%	18%
Not sure	7%	6%	6%	22%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
GOP Ideology				
Too liberal	21%	26%	15%	28%
Too conservative	43%	15%	70%	23%
About right	31%	55%	10%	25%
Not sure	5%	4%	5%	24%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Anti-HCR Congressmen Accept/Decline Gov't Health Care?				
Accept	33%	28%	37%	32%
Decline	53%	58%	49%	39%
Not sure	15%	14%	14%	28%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Congress Dem Approval				
Approve	36%	82%	41%	9%
Disapprove	56%	13%	45%	88%
Not sure	8%	5%	14%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Congress GOP Approval				
Approve	25%	5%	15%	45%
Disapprove	61%	90%	69%	40%
Not sure	14%	5%	16%	15%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
House GOP Keep/Replace Leadership?				
Keep current leadership	27%	16%	22%	38%
Replace them	55%	68%	60%	44%
Not sure	18%	16%	19%	18%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Boehner or Other Republican?				
Boehner	37%	9%	29%	58%
Different Republican	38%	62%	46%	18%
Not sure	25%	29%	25%	24%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Dem Ideology				
Too liberal	48%	9%	33%	83%
Too conservative	11%	31%	11%	3%
About right	34%	52%	47%	11%
Not sure	7%	8%	9%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
GOP Ideology				
Too liberal	21%	7%	13%	36%
Too conservative	43%	84%	58%	7%
About right	31%	7%	22%	52%
Not sure	5%	2%	7%	5%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Anti-HCR Congressmen Accept/Decline Gov't Health Care?				
Accept	33%	39%	35%	28%
Decline	53%	48%	52%	55%
Not sure	15%	14%	13%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Congress Dem Approval			
Approve	36%	40%	31%
Disapprove	56%	51%	62%
Not sure	8%	9%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Congress GOP Approval			
Approve	25%	22%	28%
Disapprove	61%	64%	58%
Not sure	14%	14%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
House GOP Keep/Replace Leadership?			
Keep current leadership	27%	21%	34%
Replace them	55%	57%	53%
Not sure	18%	22%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Boehner or Other Republican?			
Boehner	37%	31%	44%
Different Republican	38%	38%	38%
Not sure	25%	31%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dem Ideology			
Too liberal	48%	43%	54%
Too conservative	11%	10%	13%
About right	34%	40%	28%
Not sure	7%	7%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
GOP Ideology			
Too liberal	21%	18%	24%
Too conservative	43%	45%	40%
About right	31%	31%	31%
Not sure	5%	6%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Anti-HCR Congressmen Accept/Decline Gov't Health Care?			
Accept	33%	37%	29%
Decline	53%	46%	59%
Not sure	15%	17%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Congress Dem Approval				
Approve	36%	69%	5%	24%
Disapprove	56%	22%	93%	61%
Not sure	8%	9%	2%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Congress GOP Approval				
Approve	25%	8%	50%	17%
Disapprove	61%	82%	38%	60%
Not sure	14%	10%	12%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
House GOP Keep/Replace Leadership?				
Keep current leadership	27%	17%	43%	20%
Replace them	55%	67%	40%	57%
Not sure	18%	17%	17%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Boehner or Other Republican?				
Boehner	37%	16%	61%	38%
Different Republican	38%	54%	17%	40%
Not sure	25%	30%	21%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dem Ideology				
Too liberal	48%	17%	83%	51%
Too conservative	11%	17%	4%	12%
About right	34%	62%	8%	26%
Not sure	7%	5%	5%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
GOP Ideology				
Too liberal	21%	17%	25%	22%
Too conservative	43%	67%	16%	40%
About right	31%	11%	56%	30%
Not sure	5%	6%	3%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Anti-HCR Congressmen Accept/Decline Gov't Health Care?				
Accept	33%	40%	28%	27%
Decline	53%	46%	58%	56%
Not sure	15%	14%	14%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Congress Dem Approval					
Approve	36%	40%	27%	78%	58%
Disapprove	56%	40%	66%	18%	39%
Not sure	8%	20%	7%	5%	3%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Congress GOP Approval					
Approve	25%	12%	30%	10%	16%
Disapprove	61%	68%	56%	80%	84%
Not sure	14%	20%	14%	10%	-

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
House GOP Keep/Replace Leadership?					
Keep current leadership	27%	16%	31%	15%	19%
Replace them	55%	68%	51%	68%	61%
Not sure	18%	16%	18%	18%	19%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Boehner or Other Republican?					
Boehner	37%	36%	41%	18%	26%
Different Republican	38%	44%	34%	56%	42%
Not sure	25%	20%	25%	26%	32%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Dem Ideology					
Too liberal	48%	40%	56%	13%	32%
Too conservative	11%	16%	10%	15%	13%
About right	34%	28%	29%	68%	42%
Not sure	7%	16%	5%	5%	13%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
GOP Ideology					
Too liberal	21%	32%	17%	35%	19%
Too conservative	43%	40%	41%	50%	61%
About right	31%	16%	37%	10%	19%
Not sure	5%	12%	5%	5%	-

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Anti-HCR Congressmen Accept/Decline Gov't Health Care?					
Accept	33%	40%	28%	53%	48%
Decline	53%	32%	58%	35%	48%
Not sure	15%	28%	14%	13%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Congress Dem Approval					
Approve	36%	43%	37%	37%	25%
Disapprove	56%	49%	56%	54%	68%
Not sure	8%	9%	7%	9%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Congress GOP Approval					
Approve	25%	28%	23%	24%	29%
Disapprove	61%	58%	61%	65%	56%
Not sure	14%	14%	16%	11%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
House GOP Keep/Replace Leadership?					
Keep current leadership	27%	27%	21%	27%	41%
Replace them	55%	52%	63%	56%	36%
Not sure	18%	21%	16%	17%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Boehner or Other Republican?					
Boehner	37%	37%	31%	37%	48%
Different Republican	38%	42%	39%	39%	29%
Not sure	25%	22%	30%	23%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dem Ideology					
Too liberal	48%	44%	50%	45%	54%
Too conservative	11%	10%	16%	9%	9%
About right	34%	40%	29%	38%	32%
Not sure	7%	6%	5%	9%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
GOP Ideology					
Too liberal	21%	33%	27%	17%	11%
Too conservative	43%	30%	39%	51%	36%
About right	31%	32%	29%	26%	48%
Not sure	5%	5%	6%	6%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Anti-HCR Congressmen Accept/Decline Gov't Health Care?					
Accept	33%	42%	32%	33%	28%
Decline	53%	39%	51%	54%	61%
Not sure	15%	19%	17%	13%	11%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Congress Dem Approval					
Approve	36%	42%	33%	35%	31%
Disapprove	56%	51%	54%	59%	62%
Not sure	8%	7%	13%	6%	7%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Congress GOP Approval					
Approve	25%	23%	25%	25%	28%
Disapprove	61%	67%	60%	60%	58%
Not sure	14%	10%	15%	15%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
House GOP Keep/Replace Leadership?					
Keep current leadership	27%	26%	32%	26%	21%
Replace them	55%	54%	50%	57%	62%
Not sure	18%	20%	18%	17%	17%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Boehner or Other Republican?					
Boehner	37%	32%	40%	36%	43%
Different Republican	38%	47%	39%	32%	31%
Not sure	25%	21%	21%	31%	26%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Dem Ideology					
Too liberal	48%	42%	48%	48%	57%
Too conservative	11%	15%	13%	9%	8%
About right	34%	35%	35%	36%	28%
Not sure	7%	8%	4%	8%	6%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
GOP Ideology					
Too liberal	21%	16%	21%	24%	23%
Too conservative	43%	49%	43%	38%	41%
About right	31%	30%	30%	32%	33%
Not sure	5%	5%	7%	6%	3%



Crosstabs

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Anti-HCR Congressmen Accept/Decline Gov't Health Care?					
Accept	33%	38%	35%	27%	31%
Decline	53%	46%	53%	58%	53%
Not sure	15%	16%	12%	15%	16%