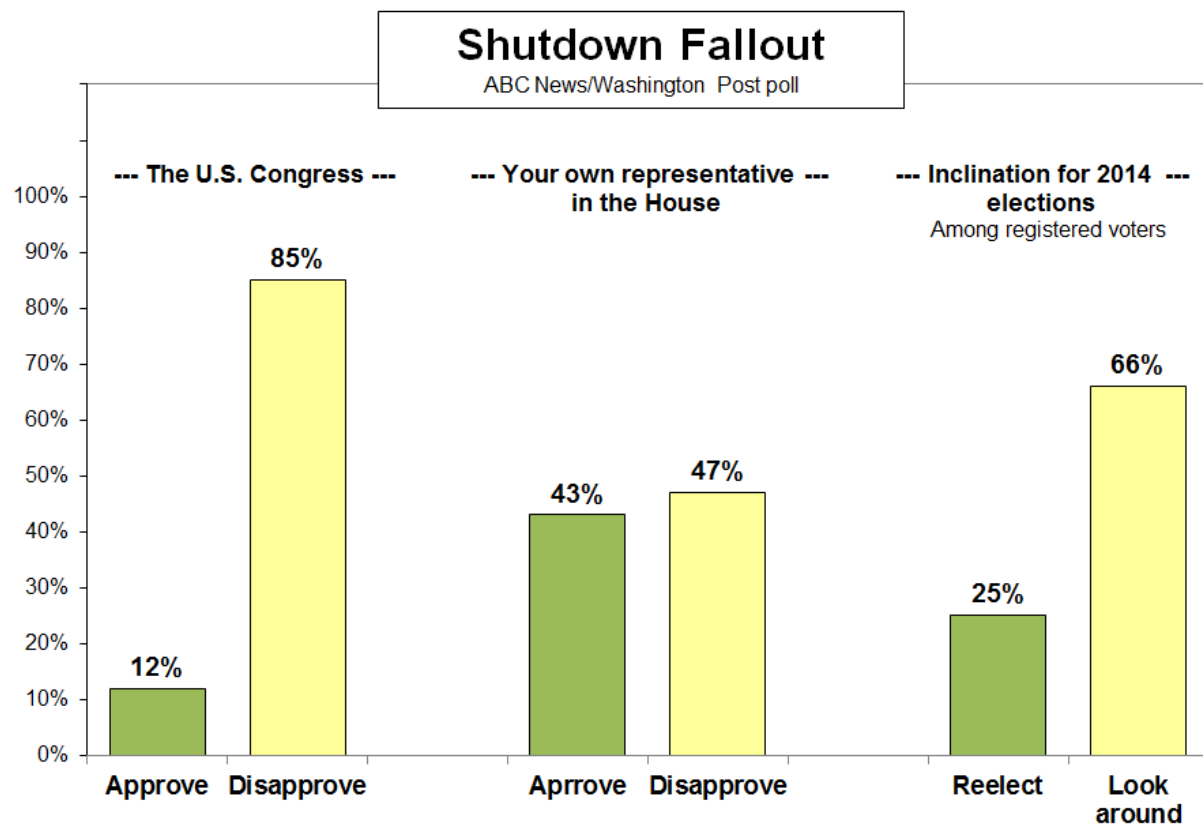


## **Congress Dives, Anti-Incumbency Soars In Deep Post-Shutdown Criticism**

Approval of Congress is at a new low in 40 years of polling, Americans' approval of their own representative in Washington is underwater for the first time and a record number of registered voters are inclined to look for someone new in 2014 – all signs of a powerful, palpable public antipathy following the budget spat that shut down much of the government for 16 days.

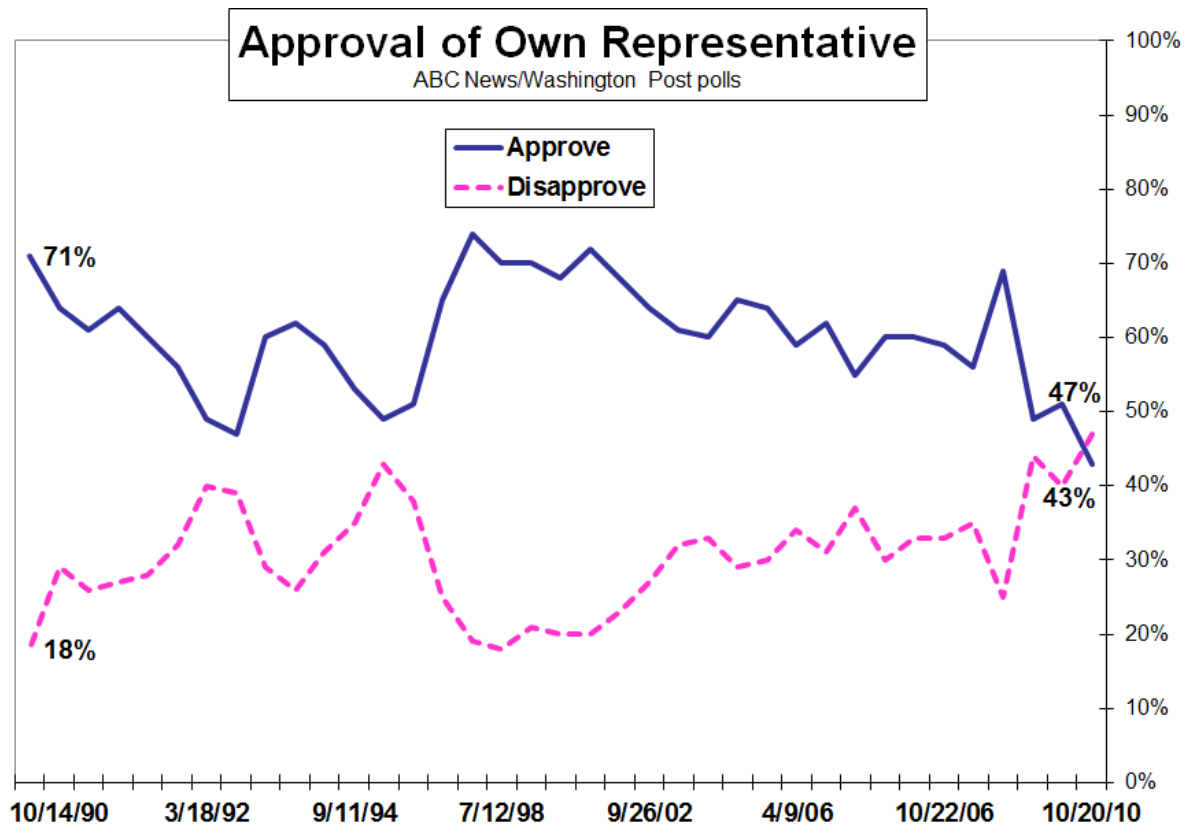
Among other results in the latest ABC News/Washington Post poll, a near-record 78 percent of Americans are dissatisfied with the way the federal government works, with downright anger at a new high in polls since 1992. Criticism over the shutdown is focused on the Republicans, now at their greatest unpopularity in data since 1984. But the Democrats are damaged too.



These and other results indicate severe self-inflicted wounds to Congress as a result of its budget brinksmanship – with Barack Obama, though hardly in stellar shape, largely escaping unscathed. His virtually dead-even job approval rating, 48-49 percent, is essentially the same now as it was a month ago, before the fur – and the furlough notices – flew.

Compare that to Congress: A mere 12 percent approve of its job performance, while 85 percent disapprove, its worst rating in ABC/Post polls since 1989 and Gallup polls before then dating to 1974. Seven in 10 disapprove “strongly” in this poll, produced for ABC by [Langer Research Associates](#), up 17 percentage points just since July – including 21- and 18-point jumps in strong disapproval in two centrist groups, independents and moderates.

It’s long been noted that Americans disapprove of Congress as an institution far more than they disapprove of their own representative. That’s still the case – but less so. Just 43 percent in this survey approve even of their own Congress member, while 47 percent disapprove – record low approval and the first underwater result to this question in ABC/Post polls back 24 years.



Another result may deepen the chill for current office-holders: Only 25 percent of registered voters now say they’re inclined to re-elect their representative in Congress; 66 percent are inclined to look around for someone else – the highest level of anti-incumbency in ABC/Post polls since 1989.

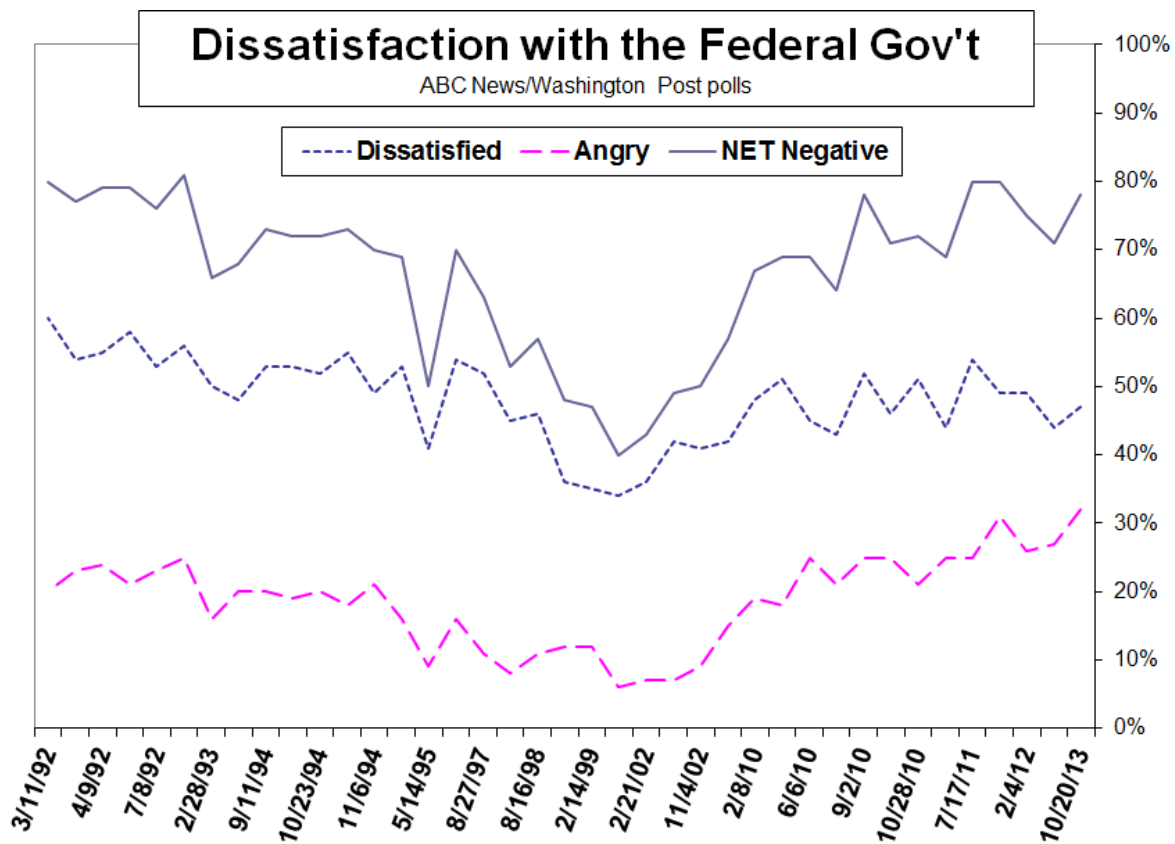
The Republicans may be at particular risk; just 32 percent of Americans express a favorable view of the party, vs. 63 percent unfavorable – their worst rating, as noted, in at least 29 years. The Democrats, by contrast, manage about an even split in this basic measure of popularity.

That said, anti-incumbency is not taking a strong partisan direction. Registered voters split 48-40 percent between the Democrat and the Republican in their House district, unchanged from May

and a fairly typical result. It was much better for the Democrats leading into the 2006 midterms and much better for the Republicans leading into 2010.

Open questions include whether this level of anti-incumbency – if it lingers for a full year – gains a more partisan cast, as well as how it plays out not only in the midterm general election, but in the primaries as well. Currently, the inclination to find someone new to support for Congress next year peaks among some groups, but with no clear direction – independents (74 percent of whom express anti-incumbent sentiment), less-educated whites (73 percent), political moderates (72 percent); those in Mitt-Romney supporting red states (72 percent) and those personally inconvenienced by the partial shutdown (72 percent).

**DISAFFECTION** – One clear element of political attitudes today is the extent of disaffection with government in the shutdown fallout. Notably, for example, the nearly eight in 10 Americans who are dissatisfied with the way the federal government works includes 32 percent who say they're angry about it.

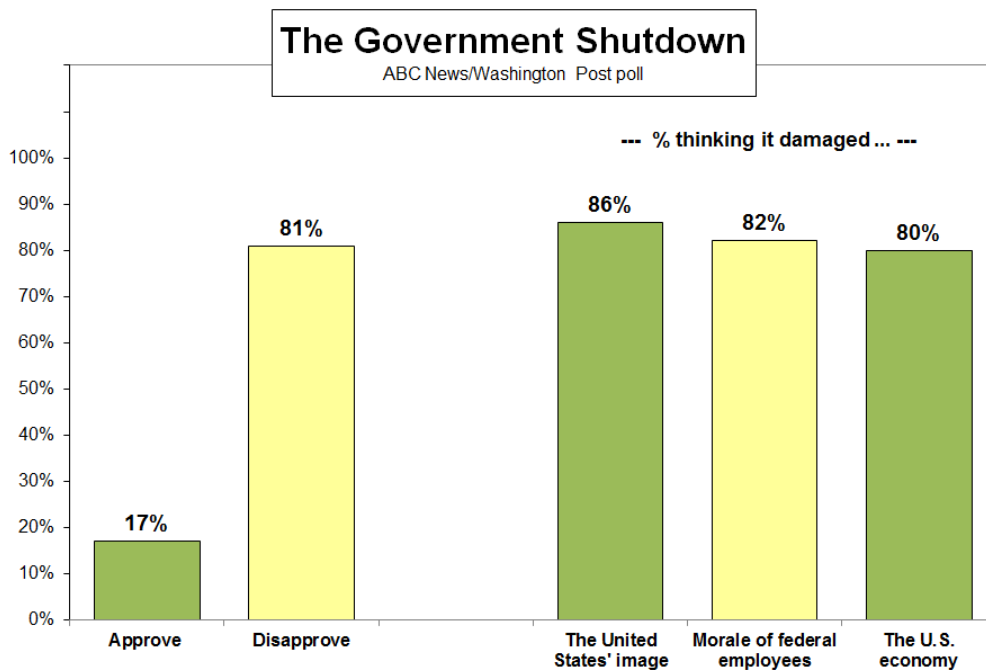


That's a 21-year record in anger directed at the government, albeit by a single point from its level in November 2011. The difference is that the previous high came during a period of especially deep economic discontent. Ratings of the economy's condition, while not at all good, are 14 points better now than they were two years ago – underscoring the more self-inflicted nature of current anger at government.

Notably, anger at the government is lower among Democrats (22 percent) than it is among Republicans or independents (40 and 36 percent, respectively), reflecting both the fact that a Democrat runs it, and that his party largely prevailed in the budget dispute. Perhaps not surprisingly, anger at the government peaks, at a remarkable 56 percent, among the one in 10 Americans who describe themselves as strong supporters of the Tea Party political movement.

In similar readings, all vastly negative:

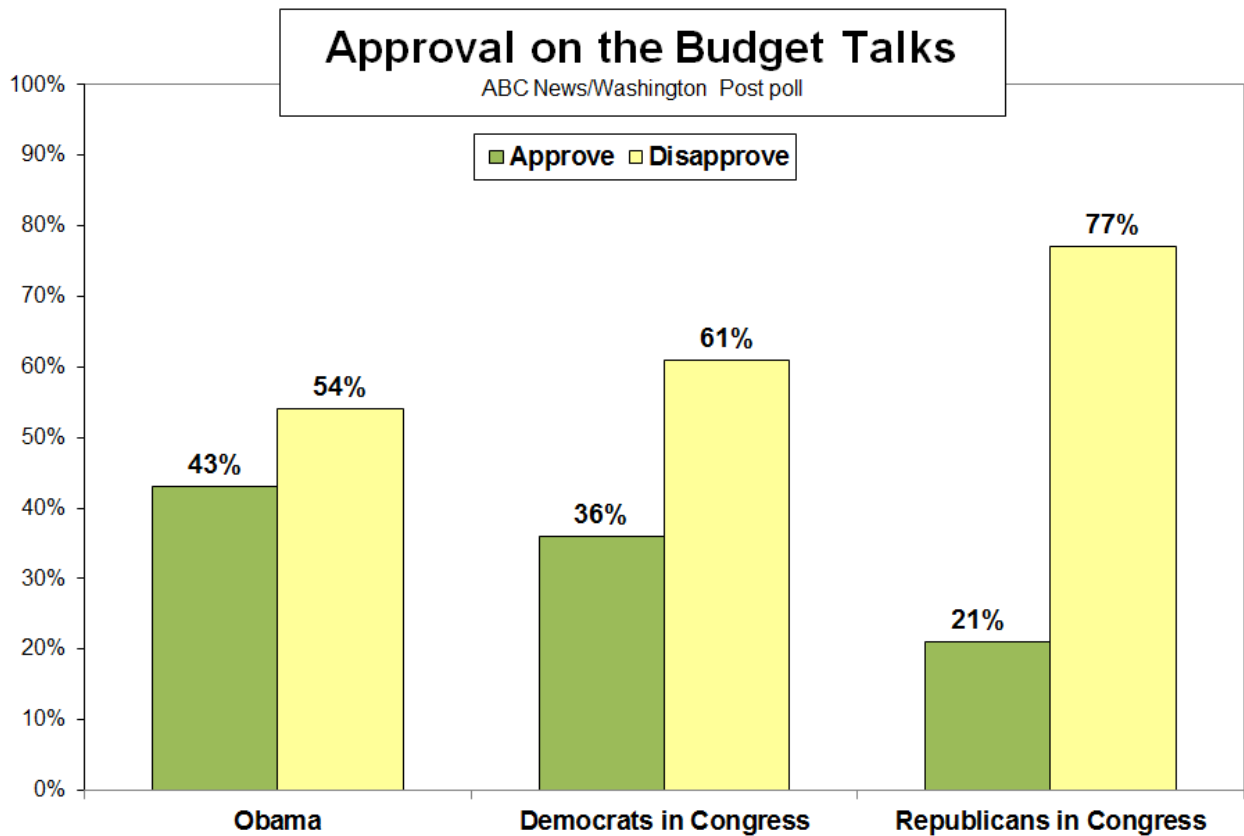
- Seventy-five percent of all Americans are dissatisfied with the way the political system is working. More, 87 percent, call the shutdown a sign of broader problems in the political process, including 42 percent overall who say these problems amount to a crisis.
- Eighty-one percent disapprove of the shutdown – 71 percent, “strongly.” Anywhere from 80 to 86 percent say it damaged the U.S. economy, the United States’ image in the world and the morale of federal employees. Twenty-two percent were personally inconvenienced, 10 points more than said so in the shutdowns of 1995-96.
- Seventy-two percent are not confident that Obama and the Republicans will avoid another budget crisis when the agreement to end this one runs out this winter.
- Sixty-eight percent say the country’s headed seriously off on the wrong track, up 8 points since summer. That’s an unusually negative score in a period of economic growth, however sluggish.



**BLAME** – While there’s criticism for all, the Republicans in Congress, and their party, are taking the brunt of the public’s ire. Seventy-seven percent disapprove of the GOP’s handling of

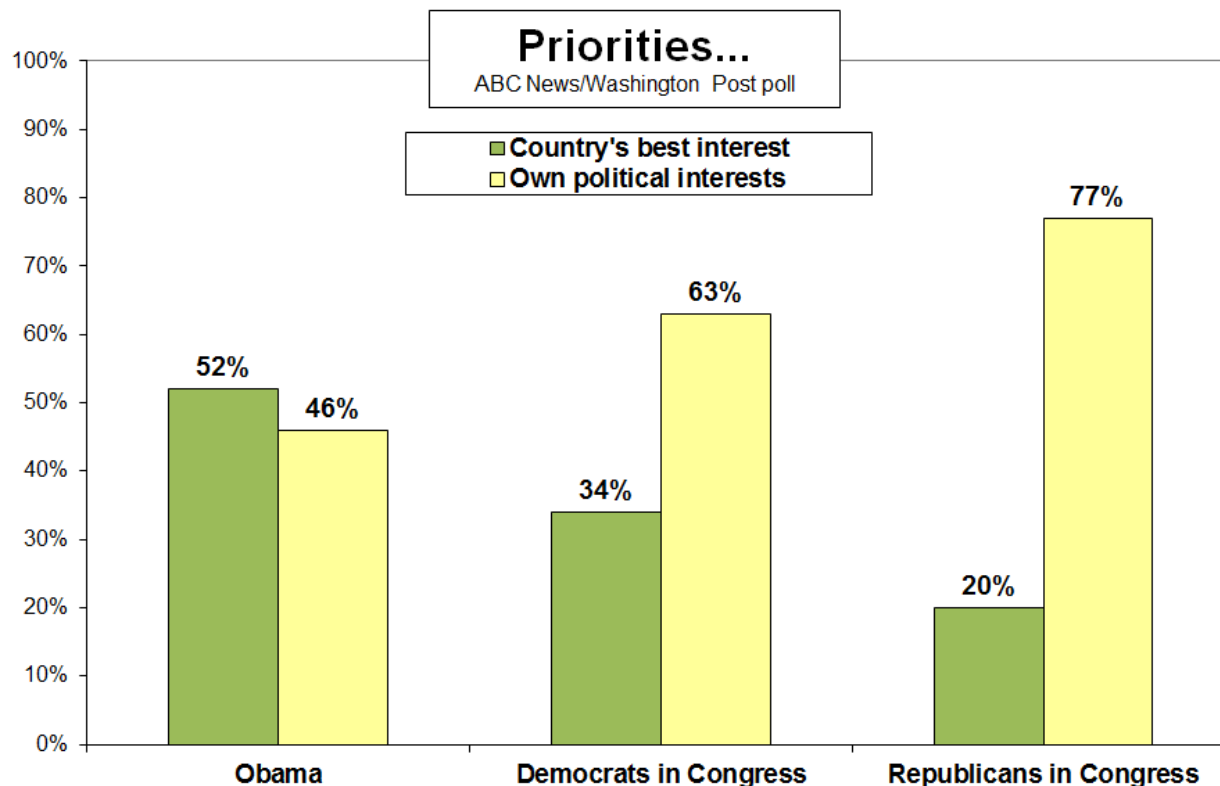
the budget dispute, a new high. That rose by 14 points from the start to the end of the shutdown, vs. Obama's +4 (to 54 percent disapproval) and the Democrats' +5 (to 61 percent, itself roundly negative).

Disapproval of the GOP's work on the shutdown advanced most sharply among two groups: It rose by 20 points among Republicans themselves; 58 percent in this survey disapprove of how their own party's representatives in Congress handled the issue. And it rose by 24 points, to 79 percent, among a generally more Democratic-oriented group, adults under age 30.



Measured head-to-head, the public blames the Republicans in Congress for the shutdown over Obama by 53-29 percent – similar to the result measuring then-President Bill Clinton vs. the Republicans in January 1996, after their own shutdown battle. Clinton went on to win re-election the next November, but the Republicans held control of Congress, suggesting it'd be a mistake to take current blame directed against the GOP as determinative of November 2014 outcomes.

That said, the criticism is vast. Americans by 77-20 percent, for example, think the Republicans in Congress are more interested in doing what's best for themselves politically than what's best for the country. That compares with an only somewhat-less-awful 63-34 percent for the Democrats in Congress. Again it's much better for Obama (if not great), 46-52 percent.



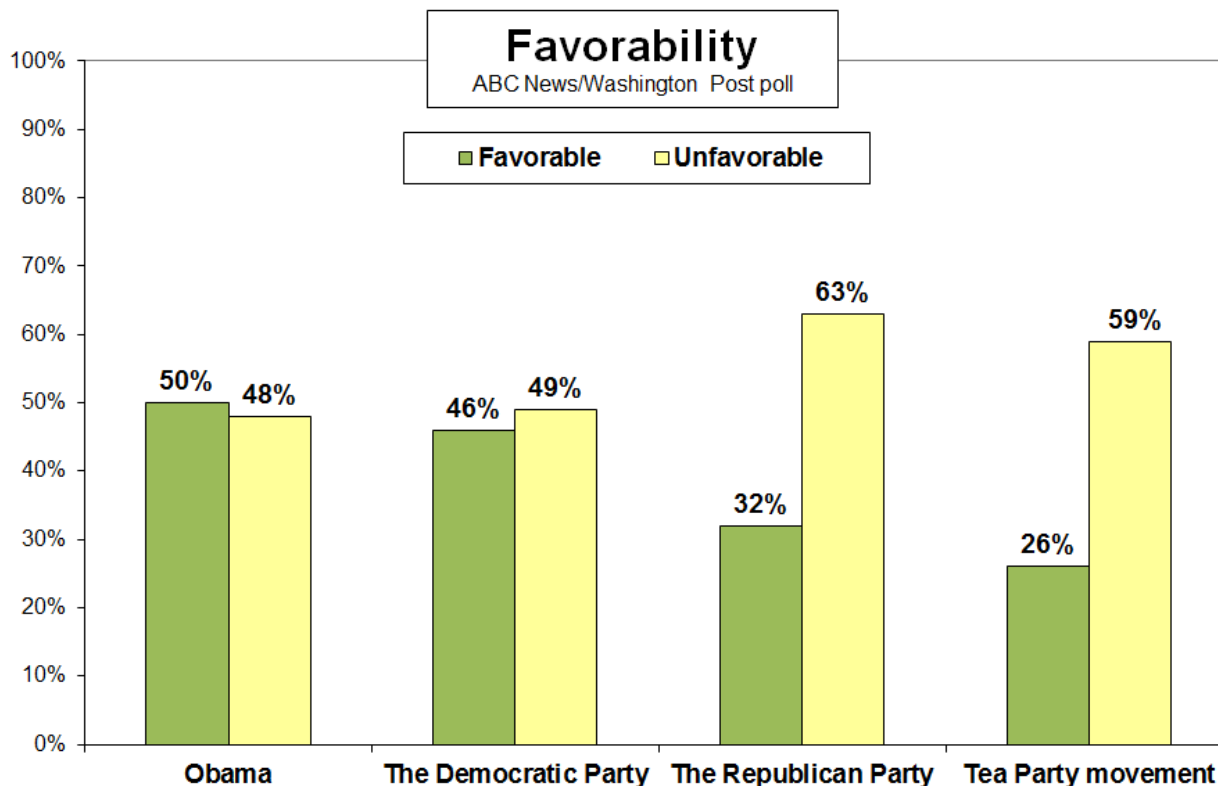
FAVES – The Republicans, as noted, are underwater in overall favorability, 32-63 percent, nearly a precise reversal from their most recent height of popularity 11 years ago. Their favorability rating once was 1 point lower, in late 1998, but their unfavorable score is 6 points higher than its previous peak in data back to 1984.

Unfavorable views of the Republican Party are up 10 points from the last ABC/Post measure in September 2012, particularly so among very conservatives (up 21 points), college graduates (19 points), political independents (17 points) and, in a bit of self-flagellation, up 15 points among Republicans themselves.

In a related result, 26 percent see the Tea Party favorably, a new low, down from its peak of 41 percent in March 2010. In another measure, 36 percent describe themselves as Tea Party supporters – another low.

At 46-49 percent favorable-unfavorable, the Democratic Party is much less poorly rated than the Republicans – but that’s their own worst rating (lowest favorable and highest unfavorable alike) since 1984, and numerically under water for the first time.

Obama, for his part, is showing much less damage, but is hardly in great shape. His job approval rating, as noted, is 48-49 percent, not much changed from 47-47 percent in September, with “strong” disapproval, 39 percent, tying its highest since October 2011. He’s 50-48 percent on favorability. And the president’s 54 percent disapproval on the economy is its highest in more than a year.



**BUDGET AHEAD** – Support for the agreement that ended the shutdown is tepid, with approval at 51-41 percent, likely reflecting the kick-the-can approach and broad skepticism that yet another showdown can be avoided. Indeed, among those who express confidence that Obama and the Republicans can avoid another budget crisis, 61 percent approve of the current agreement; that falls to 47 percent of those who lack that confidence.

In terms of general preferences, Obama leads the GOP by 11 points in trust to find the right balance between cuts and spending – a weak lead, perhaps, given the Republicans’ general unpopularity. However, Americans by a broader 59-37 percent prefer a combination of tax increases and spending cuts, not just spending cuts, in an agreement to trim the deficit.

The public by 54-40 percent also prefers no linkage between cutting the deficit and raising the debt limit, again favoring Obama’s position, but again by less of a margin than the GOP’s current unpopularity might imply. That suggests their basic battles – and the fallout – may well continue, to the public’s considerable chagrin.

**METHODOLOGY** – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by telephone Oct. 17-20, 2013, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 1,002 adults, including landline and cell-phone-only respondents. Results have a margin of [sampling error](#) of 3.5 points, including design effect. Partisan divisions are 30-24-40 percent, Democrats-Republicans-independents.

The survey was produced for ABC News by [Langer Research Associates](#) of New York, N.Y., with sampling, data collection and tabulation by Abt-SRBI of New York, N.Y.

Analysis by Gary Langer.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com at <http://abcnews.com/pollingunit>.

Media contact: [Julie Townsend](#), (212) 456-4934.

Full results follow.

\*= less than 0.5 percent

2b, 22-25 previously released.

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/20/13	48	28	20	49	10	39	3
9/15/13	47	25	22	47	11	37	6
7/21/13	49	25	24	44	12	32	7
5/19/13	51	32	20	44	10	33	5
4/14/13	50	27	23	45	10	35	5
3/10/13	50	29	21	46	11	36	4
1/13/13	55	32	23	41	8	33	4
12/16/12	54	33	21	42	9	32	5
11/4/12 RV	52	33	10	46	10	36	2
11/3/12 RV	51	33	10	47	10	37	2
11/2/12 RV	51	32	11	47	11	36	2
11/1/12 RV	50	31	11	48	11	37	2
10/31/12 RV	50	30	11	48	11	37	2
10/30/12 RV	50	28	12	48	12	37	2
10/29/12 RV	50	28	11	48	11	36	2
10/28/12 RV	51	28	11	46	11	36	3
10/27/12 RV	50	28	11	46	11	36	3
10/26/12 RV	51	29	10	46	10	36	3
10/25/12 RV	50	29	9	47	9	37	3
10/24/12 RV	50	29	10	48	10	38	3
10/23/12 RV	50	29	21	47	9	37	3
10/22/12 RV	50	30	20	47	10	38	3
10/21/12 RV	51	31	20	47	10	37	2
10/13/12	50	30	21	44	10	34	6
9/29/12	50	26	24	46	12	34	4
9/9/12	49	29	20	45	11	35	6
8/25/12	50	27	23	46	13	33	4
7/8/12	47	24	24	49	15	34	4
5/20/12	47	26	21	49	13	36	3
4/8/12	50	30	20	45	10	35	6
3/10/12	46	28	18	50	11	39	4
2/4/12	50	29	22	46	11	36	3
1/15/12	48	25	23	48	11	37	4
12/18/11	49	25	24	47	13	34	4
11/3/11	44	22	22	53	15	37	3
10/2/11	42	21	21	54	14	40	4
9/1/11	43	21	22	53	16	38	3
8/9/11*	44	18	26	46	9	37	10
7/17/11	47	25	22	48	14	35	5
6/5/11	47	27	20	49	13	37	4



5/2/11**	56	29	27	38	14	24	6
4/17/11	47	27	21	50	12	37	3
3/13/11	51	27	24	45	12	33	4
1/16/11	54	30	23	43	15	28	3
12/12/10	49	24	25	47	15	32	4
10/28/10	50	27	23	45	11	34	5
10/3/10	50	26	24	47	13	34	3
9/2/10	46	24	22	52	14	38	3
7/11/10	50	28	22	47	12	35	3
6/6/10	52	30	22	45	12	33	4
4/25/10	54	31	23	44	11	33	3
3/26/10	53	34	20	43	8	35	3
2/8/10	51	29	22	46	12	33	3
1/15/10	53	30	24	44	13	32	2
12/13/09	50	31	18	46	13	33	4
11/15/09	56	32	23	42	13	29	2
10/18/09	57	33	23	40	11	29	3
9/12/09	54	35	19	43	12	31	3
8/17/09	57	35	21	40	11	29	3
7/18/09	59	38	22	37	9	28	4
6/21/09	65	36	29	31	10	22	4
4/24/09	69	42	27	26	8	18	4
3/29/09	66	40	26	29	9	20	5
2/22/09	68	43	25	25	8	17	7

\*Washington Post

\*\*Washington Post/Pew Research Center

2a. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Obama is handling the economy? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/20/13	44	23	20	54	12	42	2
9/15/13	45	25	20	51	14	37	4
7/21/13	45	22	22	49	14	35	6
5/19/13	48	26	22	48	10	37	4
4/14/13	44	22	22	53	12	41	3
3/10/13	44	24	20	52	10	42	4
1/13/13	50	24	25	47	10	37	3
12/16/12	50	27	23	48	10	38	3
10/13/12 RV	47	26	21	51	10	41	2
9/29/12 RV	47	23	25	52	10	41	1
9/9/12 RV	45	24	21	53	8	45	2
8/25/12	44	20	23	54	12	42	3
7/8/12	44	21	23	54	13	41	2
5/20/12	42	20	22	55	11	44	2
4/8/12	44	23	21	54	12	42	2
3/10/12	38	20	18	59	9	50	2
2/4/12	44	23	22	53	11	41	3
1/15/12	41	19	22	57	11	46	2
12/18/11	41	17	24	56	13	43	2
11/3/11	38	18	20	61	13	48	2
10/2/11	35	17	19	61	13	48	4
9/1/11	36	15	21	62	15	47	2
7/17/11	39	18	22	57	15	43	3
6/5/11	40	20	20	59	10	49	2
5/2/11*	40	18	22	55	16	39	4
4/17/11	42	23	19	57	11	46	2
3/13/11	43	22	21	55	13	41	2
1/16/11	46	22	24	51	13	38	2
12/12/10	43	21	22	54	15	39	3
10/28/10 RV	44	21	23	54	15	39	3

10/3/10	45	22	23	53	13	41	2
9/2/10	41	20	21	57	13	44	2
7/11/10	43	20	23	54	13	41	4
6/6/10	50	26	24	49	12	37	2
4/25/10	49	24	25	49	10	39	2
3/26/10	45	23	22	52	12	40	3
2/8/10	45	22	23	53	15	38	2
1/15/10	47	22	24	52	13	39	1
12/13/09	46	23	24	52	12	40	2
11/15/09	51	26	25	47	12	36	2
10/18/09	50	29	22	48	13	35	1
9/12/09	51	28	24	46	13	33	2
8/17/09	52	27	25	46	13	33	2
7/18/09	52	29	23	46	10	35	3
6/21/09	56	28	28	41	13	27	3
4/24/09	58	31	28	38	13	25	4
3/29/09	60	34	25	38	12	26	3
2/22/09	60	NA	NA	34	NA	NA	6

\*Washington Post/Pew Research Center

3. Do you think things in this country (are generally going in the right direction) or do you feel things (have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track)?

	Right direction	Wrong track	No opinion
10/20/13	28	68	4
7/21/13	36	60	4
5/19/13	39	57	4
1/13/13	39	57	5
10/31/12 LV	43	55	2
10/13/12 RV	42	56	3
9/29/12 RV	38	60	2
8/25/12 RV	29	69	2
7/8/12	33	63	4
4/8/12	33	64	3
1/15/12	30	68	2
11/3/11	22	74	3
9/1/11	20	77	3
6/5/11	32	66	2
1/16/11	38	60	3
12/12/10	31	67	2
10/28/10 RV	27	71	2
6/6/10	37	60	3
3/26/10	38	60	2
1/15/10	37	62	1
11/15/09	44	55	2
10/18/09	44	54	2
8/17/09	44	55	1
6/21/09	47	50	3
4/24/09	50	48	2
3/29/09	42	57	1
2/22/09	31	67	2
1/16/09	19	78	3
12/14/08	15	82	3
10/25/08 LV	13	85	2
10/11/08 RV	8	90	2
9/22/08 RV	14	83	3
8/22/08	19	78	2
6/15/08	14	84	2
5/11/08	16	82	2
1/12/08	21	77	2
11/1/07	24	74	2

6/1/07	25	73	2
1/19/07	26	71	3
11/4/06 RV	39	59	2
10/22/06	30	68	2
10/8/06	32	66	2
5/15/06	29	69	2
11/2/05	30	68	2
10/24/04 LV	41	55	4
4/18/04	42	57	1
4/30/03	52	46	2
9/26/02	43	53	4
2/21/02	54	42	4

Call for full trend.

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the U.S. Congress is doing its job? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
10/20/13	12	4	8	85	15	70	3
7/21/13	21	5	16	73	20	53	7
3/10/13	16	3	12	80	22	58	4
1/13/13	19	4	15	76	21	55	4
1/15/12	13	3	11	84	19	65	3
10/2/11	14	3	11	82	20	62	4
3/13/11	27	7	20	69	24	45	4
1/16/11	28	6	21	66	24	43	7
10/28/10 RV	23	6	17	74	21	53	3
10/3/10	24	6	18	73	22	51	3
9/2/10	25	5	20	72	21	51	4
6/6/10	26	7	20	71	20	51	2
3/26/10	24	7	18	72	18	54	4
2/8/10	26	NA	NA	71	NA	NA	3
7/13/08	23			71			6
2/1/08	33			59			8
12/9/07	32			60			8
11/1/07	28			65			7
9/30/07	29			65			6
7/21/07	37			60			4
6/1/07	39	"	"	53	"	"	8
4/15/07	44	8	36	54	25	29	3
2/25/07	41	NA	NA	54	NA	NA	5
1/19/07	43			50			8
12/11/06	37	"	"	57	"	"	6
11/4/06 RV	36	7	29	60	25	35	4
10/22/06	31	5	25	65	27	38	4
10/8/06	32	5	27	66	29	37	2
9/7/06	40	NA	NA	55	NA	NA	5
8/6/06	36			60			4
5/15/06	33			63			4
4/9/06	35			62			3
3/5/06	36			62			3
1/26/06	43			53			4
1/8/06	41			55			5
12/18/05	43			53			4
11/2/05	37			59			4
8/28/05	37			59			4
6/5/05	41			54			4
10/29/03	40			52			9
4/30/03	57			37			6
9/26/02	51			43			6
7/15/02	57			36			7

2/21/02	57	39	4
1/27/02	58	35	7
12/19/01	59	34	7
9/9/01	45	48	7
7/30/01	48	48	4
4/22/01	58	33	8

Call for full trend.

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way your own representative to the U.S. House of Representatives in Congress is handling his or her job? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/20/13	43	15	28	47	19	28	10
10/28/10 RV	53	19	34	40	18	21	7
10/3/10	51	18	33	40	19	21	9
6/6/10	49	17	32	44	18	25	7
4/15/07*	69	NA	NA	25	NA	NA	6
11/4/06 RV	56			35			8
10/22/06	59			33			8
10/8/06	60			33			6
9/7/06	60			30			9
8/6/06	55			37			7
5/15/06	62			31			7
4/9/06	59			34			6
1/26/06	64			30			6
12/18/05	65			29			6
11/2/05	60			33			7
6/5/05	61			32			8
9/26/02	64			27			9
7/15/02	68			23			9
11/1/98	72			20			8
10/18/98	68			20			11
9/28/98	70			21			10
7/12/98	70			18			12
1/19/98	74			19			7
4/5/95	65			25			9
10/31/94	51			38			11
10/23/94	49			43			8
9/11/94	53			35			12
6/26/94	59			31			10
3/27/94	62			26			12
1/17/93	60			29			11
4/9/92	47			39			13
3/18/92	49			40			11
2/2/92	56			32			12
12/15/91	60			28			12
10/21/91	64			27			9
6/2/91	61			26			14
10/14/90	64			29			7
5/23/89	71	"	"	18	"	"	11

\*4/15/07 and previous: No "strongly" or "somewhat" follow-up.

6. Do you approve or disapprove of the way [ITEM] is/are handling negotiations over the federal budget? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

10/20/13 - Summary Table

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
NET	Strngly	Smwht	NET	Smwht	Strngly	op.	

a. Obama	43	26	17	54	12	42	3
b. The Republicans in Congress	21	7	14	77	19	59	2
c. The Democrats in Congress	36	15	21	61	18	43	3
d. Republicans in Congress who are affiliated with the Tea Party political movement	23	9	14	67	18	49	10

Trend:

a. Obama

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/20/13	43	26	17	54	12	42	3
10/13/13	42	25	17	53	14	39	5
10/6/13	45	24	21	51	12	39	4
9/29/13	41	21	19	50	15	35	10

b. The Republicans in Congress

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/20/13	21	7	14	77	19	59	2
10/13/13	21	10	11	74	20	54	5
10/6/13	24	11	14	70	19	51	5
9/29/13	26	9	17	63	21	42	11

c. The Democrats in Congress

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/20/13	36	15	21	61	18	43	3
10/13/13	33	17	16	61	17	44	6
10/6/13	35	15	21	61	16	45	4
9/29/13	34	14	19	56	20	36	11

d. No trend.

7. Overall, do you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of (ITEM)? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

10/20/13 - Summary Table

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No
	NET	Strngly	Smwht	NET	Smwht	Strngly	op.
a. Barack Obama	50	31	19	48	11	37	2
b. The Republican Party	32	10	22	63	25	38	6
c. The Democratic Party	46	19	27	49	18	31	5
d. The political movement known as the Tea Party	26	9	17	59	17	42	16

Trend:

a. Barack Obama

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/20/13	50	31	19	48	11	37	2
6/23/13	53	31	22	44	11	33	3
3/24/13	57	34	23	41	11	30	2
1/27/13	60	39	21	37	11	26	3
11/2/12 LV	54	38	16	45	11	34	1

10/21/12	LV	52	37	15	46	10	36	2
10/7/12		56	32	24	42	11	31	2
9/9/12		54	34	21	42	13	29	4
9/2/12		51	29	22	45	14	31	4
8/26/12		50	27	24	44	14	29	6
8/5/12		53	29	24	43	12	31	4
5/27/12		52	29	23	45	14	31	3
4/15/12		56	30	26	40	14	26	5
3/25/12		53	31	23	43	15	28	3
2/26/12		51	26	25	45	13	32	3
1/22/12		53	27	25	43	14	29	4
12/11/11		48	23	25	49	16	33	3
9/18/11		47	22	25	46	15	31	7
4/17/11		52	33	20	45	13	32	2
4/25/10		57	37	21	41	12	29	2
1/15/10		58	38	20	40	13	27	2
11/15/09		61	39	21	38	11	27	1
9/12/09		63	40	23	35	12	24	2
4/24/09		72	46	26	26	11	15	2
1/16/09		79	50	29	18	9	9	3
11/2/08	LV	63	47	16	33	7	26	4
10/23/08	LV	63	47	16	34	7	27	3
10/11/08	RV	64	44	20	33	12	21	3
9/7/08	RV	58	35	23	36	12	24	7
8/22/08	RV	62	37	25	34	13	21	4
6/15/08		63	35	28	33	12	21	4
4/13/08		56	28	28	39	14	25	5
1/10/08		63	31	32	30	14	16	7
11/1/07		51	21	30	36	16	20	13
2/25/07		53	21	33	30	16	14	16
1/19/07		45	NA	NA	29	NA	NA	25
12/11/06		44	21	22	23	17	6	33

b. The Republican Party

		----- Favorable -----		----- Unfavorable -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/20/13	32	10	22	63	25	38	6
9/30/12	39	18	21	53	19	33	8
10/30/11	40	13	27	53	21	32	7
3/26/10	40	17	23	55	24	30	5
2/8/10	44	19	25	52	23	29	4
6/21/09	36	NA	NA	56	NA	NA	8
8/22/08	RV	47		49			4
11/1/07	39			56			5
3/5/06	51			46			3
6/5/05	49			49			2
12/15/02	56			38			5
1/27/02	63			30			7
7/30/01	51			46			3
12/15/00	54			35			11
1/16/00	53			37			10
1/10/00*	53			41			6
1/10/00	LV	56		39			5
11/21/99	50			44			6
5/2/99	47			44			9
2/21/99	45			46			9
2/13/99	40			54			5
2/8/99	45			47			8
1/10/99	40			52			8
12/20/98	31			57			12
12/16/98	43			47			10
10/29/97	50			42			8

9/1/96	RV	50		45			5
8/18/96	RV	55		41			4
8/7/96	RV	51		44			5
4/10/96		52		41			7
4/19/95		52		42			6
7/8/92	RV	53		39			8
6/6/91**		62		28			10
4/2/90		58		34			8
1/15/90		63		28			9
11/16/88		57		34			9
11/4/84		58		33			9
10/4/84		53	"	36	"	"	11

\*1/10/00 to 7/8/92: Gallup  
\*\*6/6/91 and previous: CBS News/New York Times

c. The Democratic Party

	----- Favorable -----			----- Unfavorable -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/20/13	46	19	27	49	18	31	5
9/30/12	49	28	22	42	14	28	9
10/30/11	48	21	26	46	21	25	7
3/26/10	50	25	24	45	14	31	5
2/8/10	50	24	26	46	17	28	4
6/21/09	53	NA	NA	40	NA	NA	6
8/22/08	RV	58		36			5
11/1/07		51		45			5
3/5/06		55		41			4
6/5/05		51		47			2
12/15/02		56		37			6
1/27/02		56		36			8
7/30/01		60		36			4
12/15/00		64		25			11
1/16/00		56		35			9
1/10/00*		61		33			6
1/10/00	LV	58		37			5
11/21/99		51		41			8
5/2/99		53		37			10
2/21/99		55		37			8
2/13/99		56		38			6
2/8/99		57		37			6
1/10/99		57		35			8
12/20/98		57		30			13
12/16/98		58		32			10
10/29/97		54		39			7
9/1/96	RV	60		36			4
8/18/96	RV	55		41			4
8/7/96	RV	57		38			5
4/10/96		55		38			7
4/19/95		51		43			6
7/8/92	RV	54		38			8
6/6/91**		52		34			14
4/2/90		54		35			11
1/15/90		58		32			10
11/16/88		54		36			10
11/4/84		47		42			11
10/4/84	RV	50	"	39	"	"	11

\*1/10/00 to 7/8/92: Gallup  
\*\*6/6/91 and previous: CBS News/New York Times

d. The political movement known as the Tea Party

----- Favorable -----      ----- Unfavorable -----      No

	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/20/13	26	9	17	59	17	42	16
9/30/12	32	12	20	46	15	30	23
3/13/11	36	18	18	48	18	30	16
1/16/11	35	16	19	52	21	31	13
9/2/10	38	18	19	45	24	21	18
6/6/10	36	17	19	50	25	24	14
3/26/10	41	21	21	39	16	23	20
2/8/10	35	20	15	40	20	20	25

8. How satisfied are you with the way this country's political system is working - would you say very satisfied, mostly satisfied, mostly dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	---- Satisfied ----			--- Dissatisfied --			No
	NET	Very	Mostly	NET	Mostly	Very	opinion
10/20/13	23	2	21	75	35	40	1
8/5/12	32	6	26	67	29	38	2
10/2/11*	20	2	18	79	38	41	1
8/9/11	21	2	19	78	33	45	1
11/23/09	38	4	34	61	30	31	1
6/3/07	34	5	29	64	34	30	1

\*Washington Post/ABC News, all others Washington Post/Kaiser Family Foundation

9. I am going to mention four phrases and ask you which one best describes how you feel about the way the federal government works. Do you feel enthusiastic, satisfied but not enthusiastic, dissatisfied but not angry, or angry?

	NET	----- Positive -----		----- Negative -----			None/ Other	No opinion
		Enthusi- astic	Satis- fied	NET	Dissat- isfied	Angry		
10/20/13	21	2	19	78	47	32	NA	*
9/29/12 RV	28	4	25	71	44	27	NA	1
2/4/12	24	2	22	75	49	26		*
11/3/11	20	2	18	80	49	31		*
7/17/11	20	2	18	80	54	25		1
6/5/11	30	3	27	69	44	25		1
10/28/10	27	4	23	72	51	21		1
10/3/10	29	4	25	71	46	25		*
9/2/10	22	2	20	78	52	25		*
7/11/10	36	4	32	64	43	21		1
6/6/10	30	2	28	69	45	25		1
4/25/10	30	4	26	69	51	18		1
2/8/10	32	3	29	67	48	19		*
10/29/03	42	2	41	57	42	15		*
11/4/02 LV	49	4	45	50	41	9		1
11/3/02 LV	50	5	45	49	40	9		1
11/2/02 LV	51	6	45	49	40	9		1
10/27/02	50	4	47	49	42	7		1
2/21/02	56	7	49	43	36	7		1
12/15/00	59	4	55	39	34	6		1
2/14/99	52	3	48	47	35	12		1
9/28/98	50	4	46	49	36	12		1
8/16/98*	41	2	39	57	46	11	"	1
1/19/98	46	2	43	53	45	8	1	*
8/27/97	34	2	33	64	52	11	2	1
3/17/96	29	2	27	70	54	16	NA	*
5/14/95	48	3	45	50	41	9	"	1
1/4/95	29	2	27	69	53	16	*	1
11/6/94 RV	28	2	26	70	49	21	1	1
10/31/94	26	1	25	73	55	18	1	1



10/23/94	28	1	26	71	52	20	*	*
10/9/94	25	2	24	72	53	19	2	*
9/11/94	26	2	25	73	53	20	NA	*
3/27/94	30	1	29	68	48	20	1	1
2/28/93	33	4	29	66	50	16	*	*
10/4/92	RV 17	1	16	81	56	25	1	1
7/8/92	23	1	22	76	53	23	*	1
6/7/92	21	1	20	79	58	21	*	1
4/9/92	21	1	20	79	55	24	1	*
3/18/92	22	1	21	77	54	23	1	*
3/11/92	18	1	17	80	60	20	1	1

\*After 8/16/98: No "None/other" option recorded.

10. Generally, do you think [ITEM] is/are more interested in doing what's best for the country or what's best for himself/themselves politically?

10/20/13 - Summary Table

	Best for the country	Best for himself/themselves	No opinion
a. Obama	52	46	2
b. The Republicans in Congress	20	77	3
c. The Democrats in Congress	34	63	3

Trend:

a. Obama

	Best for the country	Best for himself	No opinion
10/20/13	52	46	2

Compare to: Bill Clinton

9/11/94	54	41	4
---------	----	----	---

b. The Republicans in Congress

	Best for the country	Best for themselves	No opinion
10/20/13	20	77	3
9/11/94	20	77	3

c. The Democrats in Congress

	Best for the country	Best for themselves	No opinion
10/20/13	34	63	3
9/11/94	26	71	3

11. Do you approve or disapprove of the partial shutdown of the U.S. government this month? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	Approve			Disapprove			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
10/20/13	17	9	9	81	10	71	2

12. Who do you think was mainly responsible for the partial shutdown of the federal government - (Obama) or the (Republicans in Congress)?

Both      Neither      No

	Obama	Republicans	(vol.)	(vol.)	opinion
10/20/13	29	53	15	1	2

Compare to: As you may know, the federal government might have to partially shut down later this month if (the Obama administration) and (the Republicans in Congress) cannot agree on a plan to keep it running while they work on a new budget. Who do you think is mainly responsible for this situation - (the Obama administration) or (the Republicans in Congress)?

	Obama	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
3/13/11	31	45	17	2	4

Compare to: If the federal government shuts down because (Republicans) and (the Obama administration) can't agree on a budget, who do you think would be more to blame:

	Obama	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
2/27/11	35	36	17	1	10

Compare to: As you may know, the Clinton administration and the Republicans have agreed to temporarily reopen the government offices that were closed for nearly three weeks while they worked on a new budget. Whose fault do you think this partial government shutdown mainly was -- Clinton's or the Republicans' in Congress?

	Clinton	GOP	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
1/7/96*	27	50	20	1	2
1/3/96**	25	44	24	3	3
11/19/95	24	51	20	1	4
11/13/95***	27	46	20	2	5

\*Reworded and phrased in past tense

\*\*"many" changed to "some"

\*\*\*Phrased in future tense

13. Were you personally inconvenienced by the partial shutdown of the federal government or not? (IF INCONVENIENCED) Was it a major inconvenience or a minor inconvenience?

	----- Yes -----					
	NET	Major	Minor	No op.	No	No opinion
10/20/13	22	11	11	0	78	*
1/7/96	12	4	8	NA	88	*
1/3/96*	12	5	6		88	1
11/19/95*	12	6	6	"	88	*

\*Phrased in current tense

14. Do you think the partial shutdown is an isolated incident, or a sign of broader problems in the political process in Washington? (IF BROADER PROBLEMS) Would you call these problems a crisis, serious but not a crisis, not so serious or not serious at all?

	----- Broader problems -----						
	NET	Crisis	Serious but not a crisis	Not so serious	Not serious at all	Isolated incident	No opinion
10/20/13	87	42	42	3	1	9	3

15. Do you think the budget dispute in Washington has or has not damaged [ITEM]? (IF YES) Is this serious damage, or damage, but not serious?

10/20/13 - Summary Table

	----- Yes -----		
	Serious	Damage but	No

	NET	damage	not serious	No	opinion
a. The United States' image in the world	86	56	30	11	2
b. The morale of federal government employees	82	49	33	13	5
d. The U.S. economy	80	48	32	17	3

16. Congress has agreed to end the government shutdown and raise the nation's debt limit through early next year. This agreement drops Republican efforts to change the federal health care law and sets up a commission to negotiate budget issues. Overall, do you support or oppose this agreement? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/20/13	51	16	34	41	14	27	8

17. When the current agreement runs out early next year, how confident are you that (Obama) and (the Republicans in Congress) will avoid another budget crisis over the debt limit - very confident, somewhat confident, not so confident or not confident at all?

	----- Confident -----			----- Not confident -----			No
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not so	Not at all	opinion
10/20/13	27	4	23	72	31	41	1

18. On another subject, would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good or poor?

	----- Positive -----			----- Negative -----			No
	NET	Excellent	Good	NET	Not so good	Poor	opinion
10/20/13	24	2	23	75	45	30	1
9/29/12 RV	18	2	16	81	42	39	*
8/25/12	15	1	14	84	39	45	1
8/5/12*	13	1	12	87	42	44	*
5/20/12	17	1	16	83	47	36	*
2/4/12	11	*	11	89	46	42	*
11/3/11	10	1	9	89	43	47	*
7/17/11	10	1	9	90	40	50	*
6/5/11	11	1	10	89	46	44	*
1/16/11	13	1	12	87	45	41	*
10/28/10	9	*	9	90	41	49	1
10/3/10	9	1	8	90	40	50	*
9/2/10	8	*	7	92	40	53	0
7/11/10	10	1	9	90	44	46	0
6/6/10	12	*	11	88	43	45	0
1/16/09	5	1	5	94	32	62	*
9/22/08	9	*	9	91	34	57	*
4/13/08	10	1	9	90	39	51	*
2/1/08	19	1	18	81	43	38	0
12/9/07	28	3	25	72	40	32	*
11/1/07	35	3	32	64	39	26	*
4/15/07	42	5	37	57	37	20	*
12/11/06	50	7	42	50	36	14	*
10/22/06	55	10	45	45	28	17	*
10/8/06	47	7	40	53	37	16	*
3/5/06	43	5	38	57	37	19	*
1/26/06	40	5	35	60	37	23	*
12/18/05	45	5	39	55	38	17	*
11/2/05	35	3	32	65	36	29	*
9/11/05	40	3	37	59	37	22	1
6/5/05	44	3	40	56	38	19	*

4/24/05		37	2	35	63	44	20	*
9/26/04	RV	46	3	43	53	38	15	1
8/29/04	RV	45	3	41	55	37	18	*
7/25/04		46	4	42	53	39	14	*
6/20/04		45	4	41	55	38	17	*
4/18/04		43	4	39	57	39	18	*
3/7/04		39	2	37	60	38	22	1
1/18/04		42	3	39	58	42	16	0
12/21/03		42	4	39	57	41	16	1
10/29/03		33	1	32	67	45	23	*
9/13/03		30	2	27	70	45	25	*
8/11/03		32	2	30	68	43	25	*
4/30/03		35	1	34	64	46	19	*
2/9/03		28	1	27	72	49	23	*
1/20/03		25	1	25	74	48	26	1
12/15/02		35	1	33	65	44	21	1
11/4/02	LV	28	1	27	72	55	17	1
11/3/02	LV	27	1	26	72	56	17	1
11/2/02	LV	29	1	28	71	54	17	*
9/26/02		31	2	28	69	50	19	*
7/15/02		39	3	36	61	44	17	1
2/21/02		30	1	29	69	51	18	*
1/27/02		31	1	29	69	50	19	*
9/20/01		38	3	35	60	47	14	2
9/9/01		33	1	32	66	47	19	*
7/30/01		50	3	46	50	39	12	*
4/22/01		50	3	47	50	40	9	*
1/15/01		70	10	59	29	24	6	1
10/27/00	LV	86	24	61	14	11	3	*
10/26/00	LV	86	24	61	14	11	3	*
6/11/00		74	17	57	26	19	6	*
2/27/00		80	25	55	20	14	5	*
10/31/99		74	18	56	26	18	7	1
9/2/99		76	19	57	23	16	6	1
3/14/99		80	22	58	19	15	4	1
11/1/98		73	12	61	26	21	5	1
11/1/98	LV	78	13	65	22	19	3	*
10/13/97		61	12	49	39	27	11	*

\*Washington Post-Kaiser Family Foundation

19. When it comes to finding the right balance between [cutting government spending that is not needed] and [continuing government spending that is needed], who do you trust to do a better job - (Obama) or (the Republicans in Congress)?

	Obama	Reps	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/20/13	47	36	2	12	3
3/10/13	43	44	1	9	3
10/2/11	44	39	1	14	2
6/5/11	41	44	2	11	2
4/17/11	45	44	2	7	2
3/13/11	43	42	2	10	3

20. Do you think an agreement between Obama and Republicans in Congress to reduce the federal budget deficit should include only spending cuts, or a combination of spending cuts and tax increases? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	-- Only spending cuts --			----- Combination -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/20/13	37	29	7	59	23	35	5

Compare to: Overall, what do you think is the best way to reduce the federal budget deficit - (by cutting federal spending), (by increasing taxes), or by a combination of both?

	Cutting federal spending	Increasing taxes	Combination of both	No opinion
12/16/12	29	4	65	2
7/17/11	32	4	62	3
6/5/11	37	4	57	2
4/17/11	36	3	59	2
3/13/11	31	3	64	3
12/12/10	36	2	60	1

21. Some Republicans in Congress say reducing the federal deficit needs to be a part of an agreement to increase the debt ceiling in the future. Obama has said that increasing the debt ceiling should not be used as a tool in budget negotiations. Whose position do you agree with more, Obama's or that of some of the Republicans' in Congress?

	Obama	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
10/20/13	54	40	1	4	2

Compare to: Some Republicans in Congress say they've wanted to keep the government partially shut down to pressure Clinton into agreeing to balance the budget in seven years. Clinton has said partially shutting the government should not be used as a tool in budget negotiations. Whose position do you agree with more, Clinton's or that of some of the Republicans in Congress?

	Clinton	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
1/7/96	72	24	1	2	1

Changing topics...

26. Thinking about the next election in November 2014, right now, are you inclined to vote to re-elect your representative in Congress, or are you inclined to look around for someone else to vote for?

	Re-elect	Look around	Depends (vol.)	No opinion
10/20/13	24	66	4	6
2/4/12	34	53	3	9
11/3/11	31	59	3	8
7/17/11	30	63	2	5
6/5/11	34	55	4	6
10/28/10	32	50	7	11
10/3/10	29	55	9	7
9/2/10	31	58	5	6
7/11/10	25	60	6	8
6/6/10	29	60	5	6
4/25/10 RV	32	57	7	4
2/8/10	36	56	4	4
11/15/09	38	50	6	5
5/15/06	35	55	6	4
6/5/05	40	50	8	3
2/21/02	40	48	7	6
10/31/99	41	47	8	3
9/28/99	44	46	NA	10
7/12/98	42	44	5	10
1/19/98	47	41	7	4
8/27/97	34	52	9	5
11/6/94 RV	37	47	7	8

10/31/94	35	56	2	7
10/23/94	32	58	4	6
9/11/94	36	53	4	7
6/26/94	35	54	6	5
3/27/94	32	56	6	7
1/23/94	32	46	10	12
11/14/93	38	52	5	5
8/21/92 RV	35	48	5	12
7/8/92	34	54	3	9
6/7/92	36	53	4	7
4/9/92	33	56	3	8
3/18/92	35	56	3	5
3/11/92	36	54	3	7
2/2/92	38	51	4	7
10/21/91	31	55	7	6
6/2/91	37	49	5	9
11/4/90 LV	41	50	NA	8
10/14/90	36	57	"	7
5/21/90	43	50	3	3
5/23/89	45	44	4	6

27. If the election for the U.S. House of Representatives were being held today, would you vote for (the Democratic candidate) or (the Republican candidate) in your congressional district? (IF OTHER, NEITHER, DK, REF) Would you lean toward the (Democratic candidate) or toward the (Republican candidate)?

NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE

	Dem cand.	Rep cand.	Other (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	Would not vote (vol.)	No opinion
10/20/13 All	49	38	1	5	1	6
10/20/13 RV	48	40	1	5	1	4
5/19/13***	48	40	2	4	1	6
10/28/10	49	44	1	2	*	3
10/3/10	47	43	1	3	1	5
9/2/10**	45	47	1	2	1	5
7/11/10	46	47	*	2	*	5
6/6/10	47	44	2	2	1	4
4/25/10	48	43	1	2	1	6
3/26/10	48	44	1	2	*	4
2/8/10	45	48	*	3	*	4
10/22/06	54	41	*	1	*	3
10/8/06	54	41	*	1	1	3
9/7/06	50	42	*	3	2	4
8/6/06	52	39	*	2	1	5
6/25/06	52	39	1	3	1	4
5/15/06	52	40	1	3	1	4
4/9/06	55	40	*	2	*	3
1/26/06	54	38	1	3	1	5
12/18/05	51	41	1	3	1	4
11/2/05	52	37	1	4	2	6
7/15/02	47	46	1	1	1	4
1/27/02*	43	50	NA	2	1	5

Call for full trend.

\*1/27/02 and previous: No "other candidate" option recorded

\*\*9/2/10 and previous: "Will not vote (vol.)"

\*\*\*5/19/13 and previous: Among registered voters

28. What's your view of the Tea Party political movement - would you say you support it strongly, support it somewhat, oppose it somewhat or oppose it strongly?

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
10/20/13	36	9	27	54	20	34	10
5/19/13	40	10	30	43	21	22	17
8/25/12	44	13	31	42	18	24	14
8/5/12*	41	12	29	46	19	27	13
4/8/12	41	12	29	45	21	24	14
3/10/12	44	15	29	43	17	26	13
2/4/12	43	12	31	45	20	25	12
1/15/12	40	13	28	50	23	27	10
12/18/11	42	13	28	45	20	26	13
11/3/11	43	14	29	44	20	24	13
10/2/11	42	12	30	47	20	27	11
9/1/11	47	13	35	45	18	27	8
7/17/11	44	13	31	46	23	24	10
6/5/11	46	13	33	44	21	24	10
4/17/11	42	16	26	49	21	27	10

\*Washington Post/Kaiser Family Foundation

\*\*\* END \*\*\*