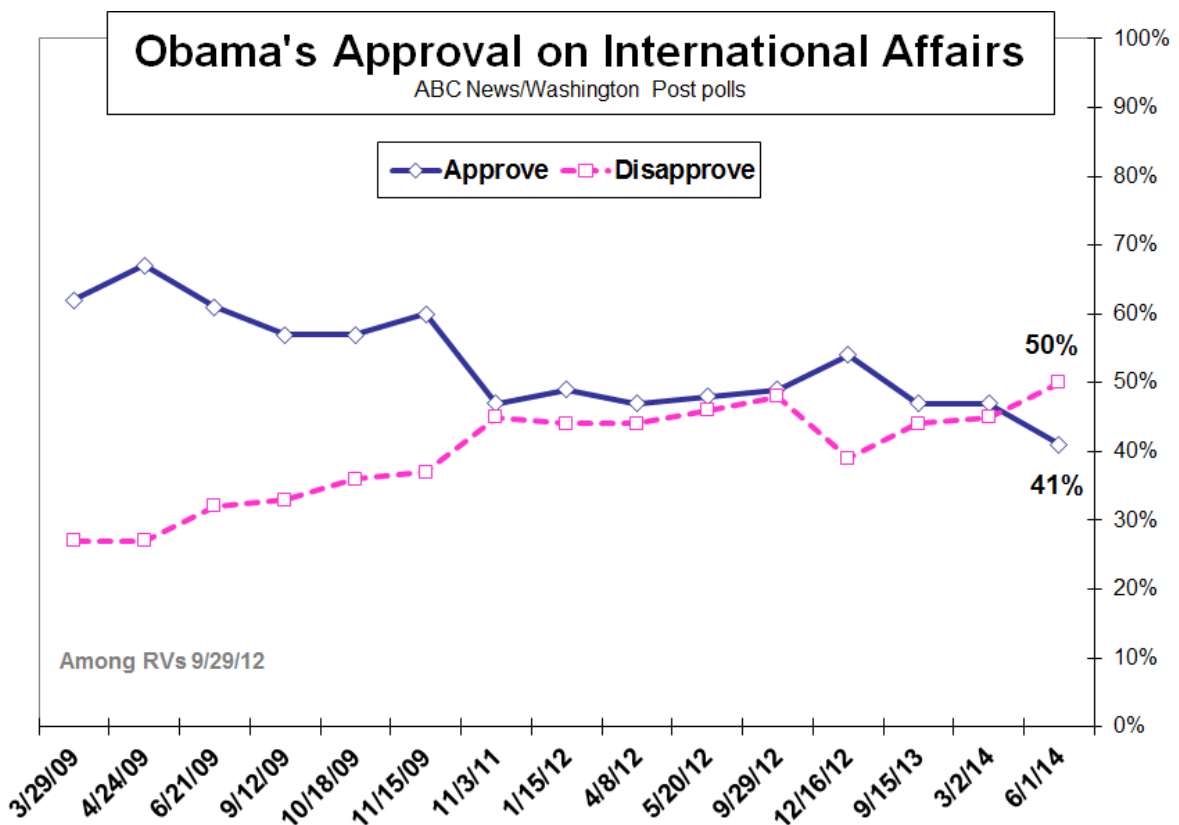


Obama Slips on International Affairs – A New Challenge on Top of the Old Ones

Barack Obama’s approval rating on handling international affairs has dropped under water for the first time in his presidency in a new ABC News/Washington Post poll, a further challenge as he seeks to regain his footing in his second term.

The shift is a blow particularly since it directly follows an attempt by Obama to redefine his foreign policy, including a major address at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point last week. He’s faced criticism on fronts ranging from Russia’s annexation of Crimea to newfound assertiveness by China, continued civil war in Syria and the challenges of Afghanistan’s future.

The reset effort looks unsuccessful so far: At 41 percent, Obama’s approval rating for handling international affairs is down slightly, by 6 points, from early March, and down further, by 13 points, since his re-election, to a career low. Fifty percent disapprove, a new high, with those who strongly disapprove outnumbering strong approvers by 2-1. (The president, as it happens, left last night for a four-day, three-country visit to Europe, including a G7 meeting in Brussels.)

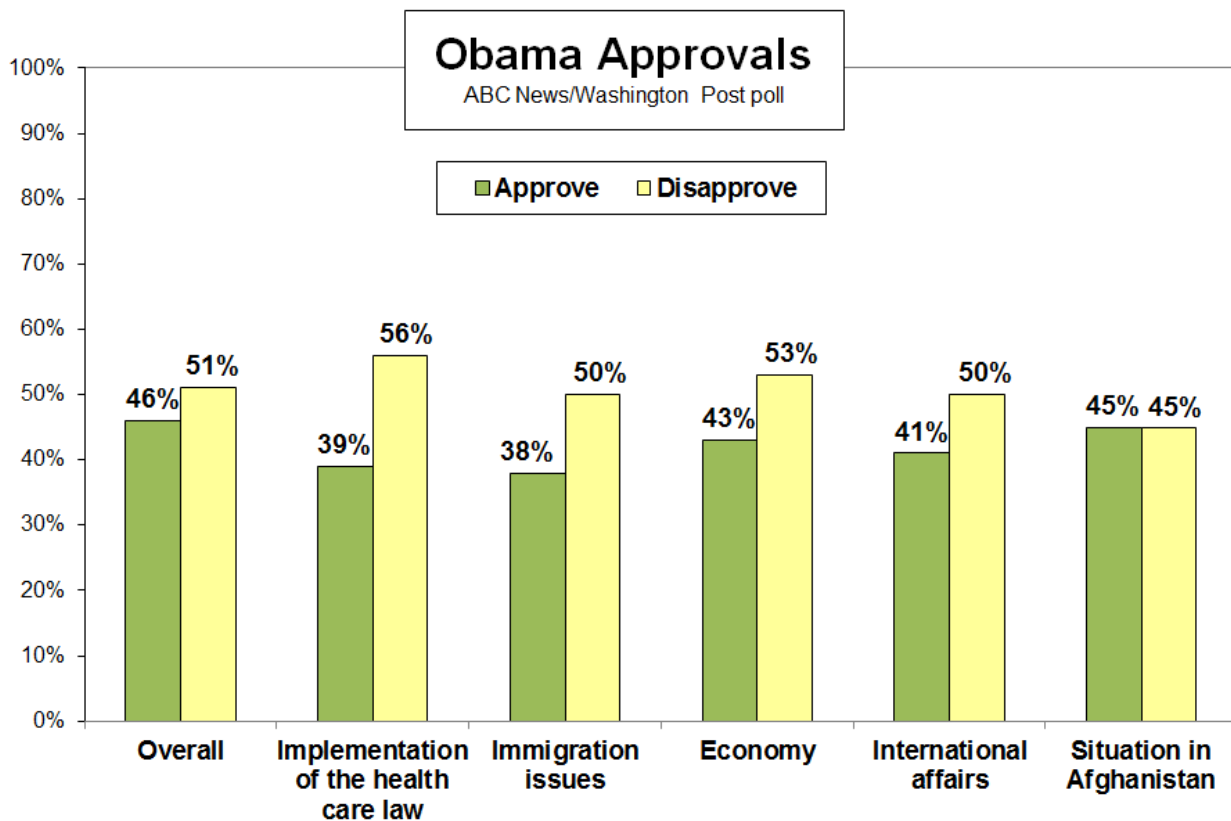


In further criticism on the international front, 58 percent say the Obama administration has tried to cover up the facts about the attack on the U.S. diplomatic compound in Benghazi, Libya, in 2012, essentially the same as sentiment on the issue a year ago. Fewer, but still half – 51 percent – favor a fresh round of congressional hearings.

Some respite may be in the offing: While Obama gets an even 45-45 percent rating on handling one central element of U.S. foreign policy, the situation in Afghanistan, that blossoms to 77 percent support – including 57 percent “strong” support – specifically for his plan, announced last week, to remove most U.S. forces there. Even among Republicans and strong conservatives, hardly Obama fans, six in 10 support the drawdown.

Here at home, further, the president escapes substantial blame for the veterans’ hospitals scandal that forced a Cabinet resignation last week. But his weak ratings on domestic issues, notably the economy and the health care law, continue to damage Obama and his party, and his lost ground on international affairs only adds to his to-do list.

Still, this poll, produced for ABC by [Langer Research Associates](#), suggests that Obama’s spring could be worse. Results released yesterday found broad support for proposed regulations to limit greenhouse gas emissions, a new initiative of Obama’s. And his job approval overall has ticked up to 46 percent, from a career-low 41 percent in late April. But 51 percent disapprove; the president hasn’t seen a net positive approval rating since last July, nearly a year ago.

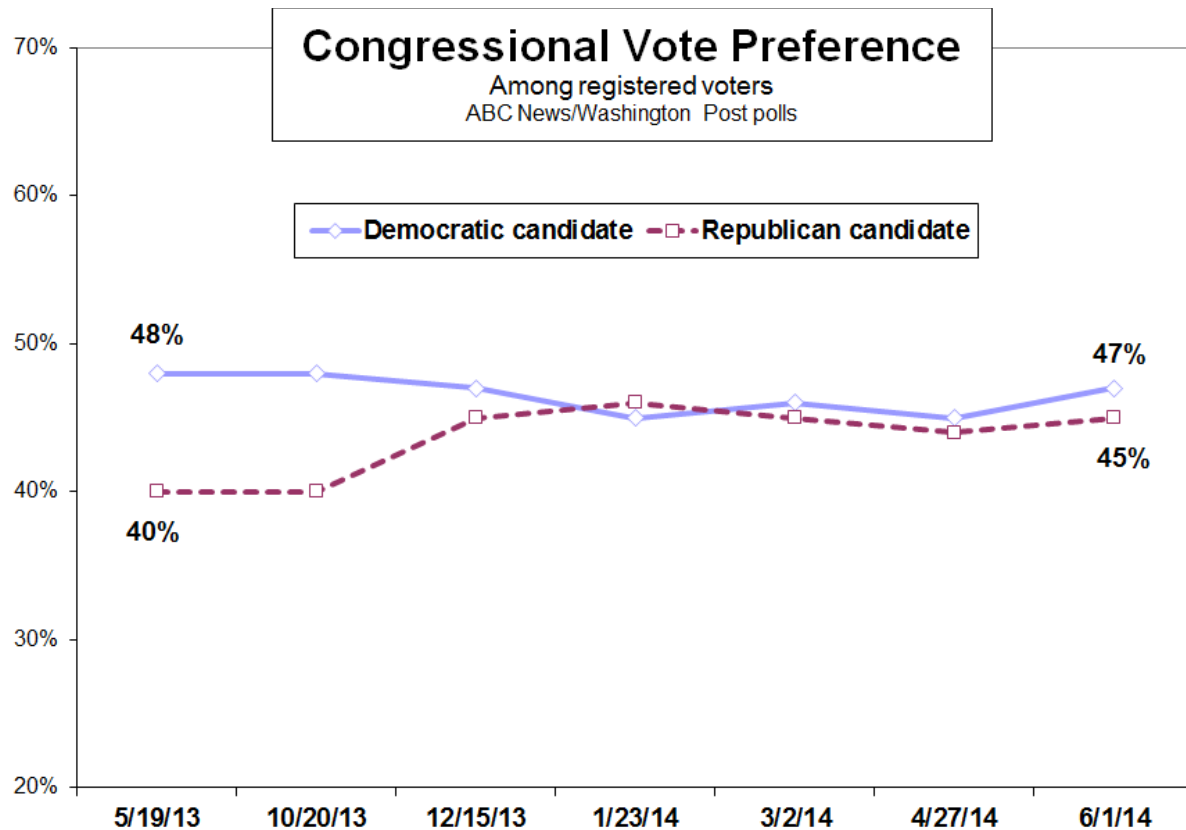


Domestic issues dominate public concerns, and here the president's performance remains more unpopular than popular. Fifty-three percent disapprove of his handling of the economy, vs. 43 percent who approve. Fifty-six percent disapprove of his handling of the implementation of the new health care law, vs. 39 percent approval. And half view his work on immigration negatively, up 9 points in the past year as the issue has bogged down in Congress. Just 38 percent approve.

Across these, moreover, intensity of sentiment is sharply against the president, with strong disapproval exceeding strong approval by roughly 2-1 margins.

Other presidents have done worse. At roughly this point in 2006, Obama's predecessor, George W. Bush, had a then career-low 33 percent approval rating overall, 13 points lower than Obama's today, with 38 percent approval on handling the economy, 34 percent on immigration and 32 percent on the war in Iraq.

2014 ELECTION/ISSUES – Those comparisons may be cold comfort to Democrats today. In mid-May 2006, en route to their midterm takeover of the House and Senate, Democratic candidates for Congress led Republicans by 52-40 percent among registered voters. Today the same matchup is an essentially even 47-45 percent, and it's +2 Republican, 48-46 percent, among those who say they'll vote for sure.



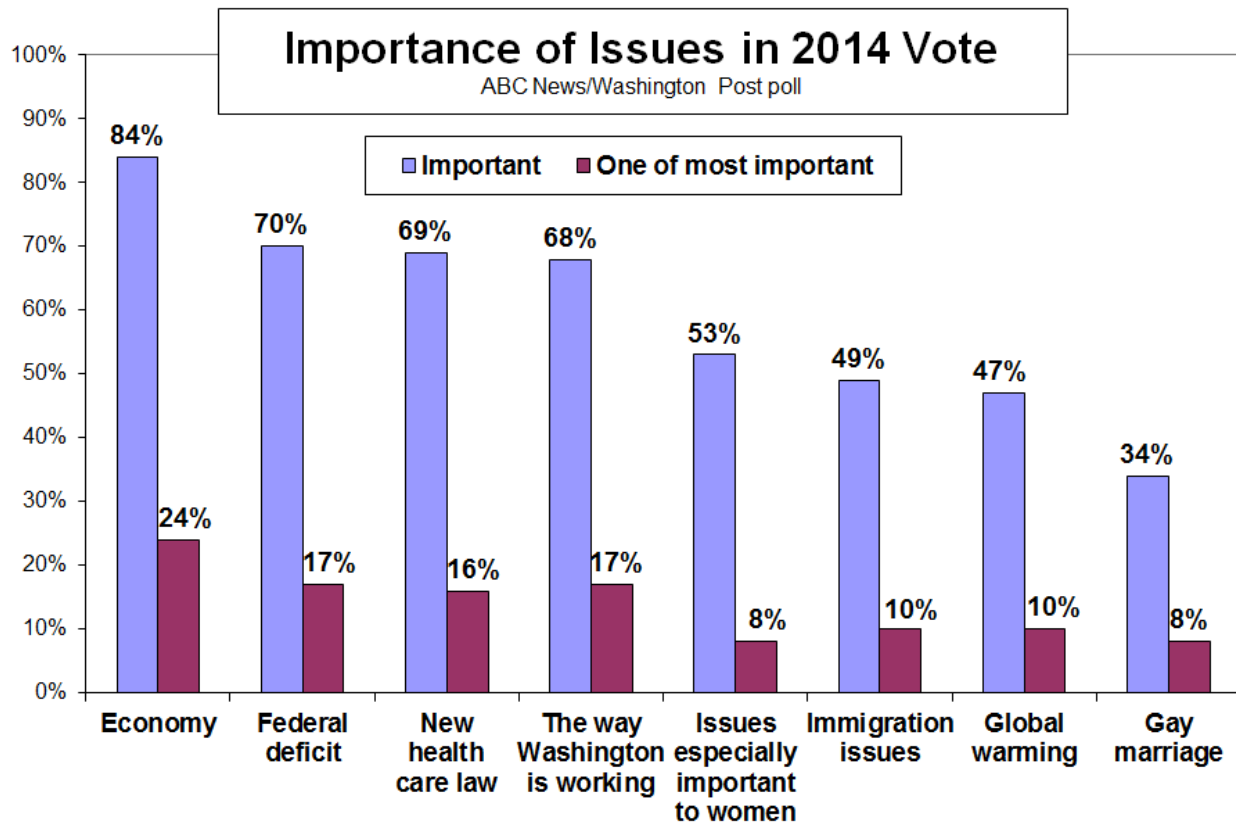
Narrowing further, to the likeliest midterm voters, customarily favors the GOP. That means the Democrats, given their usual deficit in turnout, want a substantial lead among registered voters to

stave off midterm losses. They've been nowhere near it since the partial federal government shutdown last fall.

Issue concerns underscore the Democrats' challenges and the Republicans' opportunities. Obama's ratings are weak both on the top issue that Americans say will inform their midterm vote choices – the economy – and on one of the next-tier issues, the Affordable Care Act.

Alongside Obamacare are the federal budget deficit and “the way Washington is working,” fraught ground for both parties. Others, some of them potentially more helpful to the Democrats, receive lower priorities, including issues of special concern to women, immigration, global warming and gay marriage.

All these provide plenty of room for the to-and-fro of the midterms. For example, Obama's approval rating for handling the economy, while still weak, is 8 points better than his career low, 35 percent in October 2011, and strong disapproval of his economic performance is 12 points off its peak. Economic progress – or its absence – should prove crucial.



Divisions among groups, naturally, are of interest as well. The gender gap is wider than it customarily winds up in midterms; among women, registered voters favor Democrats over Republicans for Congress by a 10-point margin, while among men, it's Republicans +9.

Whites favor GOP candidates by 16 points, with one exception; college-educated white women provide a continued toehold for Democratic candidates. Nonwhites, for their part, prefer Democrats by 67-23 percent.

There's also the potential influence of the Tea Party political movement. Thirty-nine percent of Americans support the Tea Party, about average in the past three years, including 11 percent who do so strongly. But more are opposed – 46 percent – including 24 percent strongly opposed.

By beating back Tea Party candidates in a number of high-profile primaries this season, more traditional Republicans may bolster their chances in the political center. That said, their Democratic opponents may have pushback in suggesting that the GOP's mainstream has moved in the Tea Party's direction.

Come Election Day, though, a central factor is likely to be Obama himself. Among registered voters who approve of his job performance, 81 percent currently favor the Democrat in their congressional district. Among those who disapprove of the president, 72 percent back their local Republican candidate. As goes the president's popularity, then, so, to a large degree, go his party's fortunes.

HEAT OR LIGHT? – Two specific issues of the day remain wildcards in political terms, with, at least so far, more heat than light in terms of their impact.

One is a new congressional investigation focused on the attack that killed a U.S. diplomat and three others in Benghazi. As noted, echoing Republican criticisms, 58 percent think the Obama administration has tried to cover up the facts rather than honestly disclosing what happened (it was 55 percent a year ago). Somewhat fewer, however, either support launching a new investigation, 51 percent, or disapprove of the way then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton handled the issue, 50 percent.

Next is the scandal over the concealment of long patient wait times at Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals: Nearly all, 97 percent, call this a serious issue (82 percent, very serious), and 65 percent say Eric Shinseki, the secretary of veterans affairs, did the right thing by resigning. At the same time, 60 percent say Obama himself deserves at most only limited blame – “just some” or none – for these problems; 38 percent assign him more blame, but few – 19 percent – give him “a great deal” of it.

One question that summarizes these competing issues asks Americans whom they trust more to handle the main problems the nation faces – Obama or the Republicans in Congress. A year and half ago, on a roll after his re-election, Obama led in this measure by 15 points. Six months ago that had contracted to an even split, 41-41 percent. Today it's almost as close – 43 percent for Obama, 38 percent for the Republicans – tight enough to leave control of the political high ground, up to the midterms and beyond, very much up for grabs.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by telephone May 29-June 1, 2014, 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 33-24-35 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: [Van Scott Jr.](#), (212) 456-7423.

Full results follow.

* in data columns = less than 0.5 percent

8-12, 19-23, 28-33 held for release.
24-26 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
6/1/14	46	23	23	51	14	37	3
4/27/14	41	23	19	52	12	40	6
3/2/14	46	25	22	50	12	38	3
1/23/14	46	23	23	50	9	41	4
12/15/13	43	23	20	55	14	41	3
11/17/13	42	22	21	55	11	44	3
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

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Obama is handling [ITEM]? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

6/1/14 - Summary Table

	----- Approve -----			---- Disapprove ----			No op.
	NET	Strngly	Smwht	NET	Smwht	Strngly	
a. The economy	43	21	21	53	15	38	4
b. Immigration issues	38	17	21	50	15	35	12
c. The situation in Afghanistan	45	21	24	45	16	29	10
d. Implementation of the new health care law	39	22	17	56	12	44	5
e. International affairs	41	19	21	50	13	36	10

*Full sample asked item a; half sample asked items b-c; other half sample asked items d-e.

Trend:

a. The economy

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
6/1/14	43	21	21	53	15	38	4

4/27/14	42	20	21	54	13	41	4
3/2/14	43	23	20	54	14	41	2
1/23/14	43	22	21	55	13	42	3
12/15/13	42	24	18	55	14	40	4
11/17/13	41	22	20	57	14	42	2
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

b. Immigration issues

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
6/1/14	38	17	21	50	15	35	12
7/21/13	43	23	20	44	13	31	13
5/19/13	46	25	21	41	11	30	13
4/14/13	44	24	21	43	12	30	13

2/3/13	49	27	22	43	15	28	8
7/8/12	38	20	18	52	18	34	10
6/6/10	39	17	23	51	14	37	10
3/26/10	33	14	19	43	15	28	23
4/24/09	48	NA	NA	35	NA	NA	18

c. The situation in Afghanistan

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
6/1/14	45	21	24	45	16	29	10
5/20/12	47	23	24	44	17	27	9
4/8/12	48	23	25	43	14	29	9
3/10/12	46	26	20	47	17	29	7
7/17/11	53	24	29	43	14	29	5
6/5/11	52	23	29	41	15	26	7
5/2/11*	60	28	32	29	15	14	11
4/17/11	44	17	27	49	17	31	7
1/16/11	49	19	30	41	17	24	10
12/12/10	45	17	28	46	16	30	10
7/11/10	45	20	25	45	14	31	10
4/25/10	56	20	36	36	16	20	7
3/26/10	53	25	29	35	15	20	12
1/15/10	50	22	28	45	18	27	6
12/13/09	52	24	28	44	13	32	4
11/15/09	45	23	23	48	16	32	6
10/18/09	45	22	23	47	17	31	7
9/12/09	55	23	33	37	17	21	7
8/17/09	60	25	35	33	14	19	7
7/18/09	62	33	29	30	13	17	8
4/24/09	63	NA	NA	26	NA	NA	11

*Washington Post/Pew Research Center

d. Implementation of the new health care law

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
6/1/14	39	22	17	56	12	44	5
4/27/14	37	24	14	57	11	46	6
3/30/14	44	19	25	54	15	39	2
3/2/14	38	20	19	57	11	47	4
1/23/14	37	19	17	59	10	50	4
12/15/13	34	18	15	62	13	50	4
11/17/13	33	18	16	63	12	52	3
10/20/13	41	25	15	53	10	43	6
9/15/13	34	20	14	55	12	43	11

e. International affairs

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No opinion
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	
6/1/14	41	19	21	50	13	36	10
3/2/14	47	25	22	45	15	30	8
9/15/13	47	25	22	44	11	33	9
12/16/12	54	32	22	39	11	28	7
9/29/12 RV	49	28	20	48	12	36	3
5/20/12	48	30	18	46	15	31	6
4/8/12	47	24	23	44	11	33	9
1/15/12	49	26	23	44	10	33	7
11/3/11	47	26	21	45	13	31	8
11/15/09	60	30	30	37	13	23	3
10/18/09	57	34	23	36	15	21	7
9/12/09	57	32	25	33	12	21	10

6/21/09	61	NA	NA	32	NA	NA	7
4/24/09	67			27			6
3/29/09	62	"	"	27	"	"	11

3. Obama has said he will reduce U.S. troop levels in Afghanistan to 9,800 by the end of this year, half of that next year and near zero by 2016. Do you support or oppose this troop-reduction plan? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
6/1/14	77	57	21	19	8	11	4

4. Overall, who do you trust to do a better job coping with the main problems the nation faces over the next few years, (Obama) or (the Republicans in Congress)?

	Obama	Reps	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
6/1/14	43	38	1	14	5
12/15/13	41	41	1	15	3
12/16/12	50	35	1	11	3
12/12/10	43	38	2	12	4

Compare to:

	Bush	Democrats	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
12/11/06	31	57	1	8	2
1/18/04	45	44	1	6	3
4/30/03	55	37	1	4	3
10/27/02 LV	53	37	1	5	4
9/26/02	54	38	3	3	3
7/15/02	53	37	4	3	3
1/27/02	62	31	2	3	2

	Clinton	Republicans	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	No opinion
1/26/00	45	46	*	7	2
2/14/99*	52	35	2	7	3
2/12/99	53	30	3	11	4
1/19/99	50	32	3	8	7
11/7/98	47	38	4	9	2
9/28/98	51	38	2	6	3
8/21/98	48	38	2	9	3
7/12/98	48	38	1	6	6
5/12/98	47	39	3	8	3
1/31/98	52	35	3	4	6
1/19/98	48	40	2	8	2
3/9/97	49	38	4	8	2
1/15/97**	51	37	3	7	2
1/29/95	40	46	4	8	2
1/4/95	30	54	3	9	4
12/15/94	34	49	3	9	6

*1999 and previous: "next few years"

**"The Clinton administration"

5. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) I'd like you to rate the chances that you will vote in the Congressional election in November: Are you absolutely certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or less than that?

	Certain	Probably	Chances	Less than	Don't think will vote	Already voted	No
--	---------	----------	---------	-----------	--------------------------	------------------	----

		to vote	vote	50/50	50/50	(vol.)	(vol.)	opin.
6/1/14	RV	74	12	9	4	1	NA	*
4/27/14	RV	68	15	12	4	1	"	*
10/28/10*	RV	64	13	11	5	1	7	0
10/3/10	RV	70	15	9	5	2	NA	*
9/2/10	RV	70	14	14	1	1		0
7/11/10	RV	73	13	11	2	*		*
6/6/10	RV	72	14	11	3	*	"	0
11/4/06*	RV	70	11	7	4	2	5	*
10/22/06	RV	75	14	7	3	*	1	2

*"next week's Congressional election"

6. (ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS) 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? Would you lean toward the (Democratic candidate) or toward the (Republican candidate)?

NET LEANED VOTE PREFERENCE - REGISTERED VOTERS

	Dem cand.	Rep cand.	Other (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	Would not vote (vol.)	No opinion
6/1/14	47	45	1	3	1	4
4/27/14	45	44	1	2	1	7
3/2/14	46	45	1	3	*	5
1/23/14	45	46	1	3	1	5
12/15/13	47	45	1	4	1	3
10/20/13	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
9/6/00	49	42		2	1	6
7/23/00	46	45		3	1	5
2/27/00	45	46		2	1	5

Call for full trend.

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

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

7. For each item I name, please tell me how important it will be in your vote for Congress this year. The first is [ITEM]. Will it be one of the single most important issues, very important, somewhat important or less important than that?

6/1/14 - Summary Table*

	----- Important -----			-- Not as important --			No
	NET	1 of most	Very	NET	Somewhat	Less	op.
a. The economy	84	24	60	15	12	3	1
b. The new federal health care law	69	16	53	28	20	8	4
c. Immigration issues	49	10	39	49	33	16	2
d. The federal budget deficit	70	17	53	28	21	7	2
e. The way Washington is working	68	17	51	29	23	6	3
f. The issue of gay marriage	34	8	26	64	26	38	2
g. The issue of global warming, also known as climate change	47	10	37	52	26	26	2
h. Issues that are especially important to women	53	8	45	45	33	12	2

*Half sample asked items a-d; other half sample asked items e-h.

Trend:

a. The economy

	----- Important -----			-- Not as important --			No
	NET	1 of most	Very	NET	Somewhat	Less	op.
6/1/14	84	24	60	15	12	3	1
1/23/14	86	24	62	13	12	1	*
9/2/10 RV	93	31	62	7	7	*	*
10/8/06 RV	77	12	65	23	20	3	*
4/9/06	80	16	64	20	18	2	*

b. The new federal health care law

	----- Important -----			-- Not as important --			No
	NET	1 of most	Very	NET	Somewhat	Less	op.
6/1/14	69	16	53	28	20	8	4
1/23/14	69	15	54	30	23	7	1
9/2/10* RV	82	19	63	18	15	3	*
10/8/06 RV	71	11	61	28	22	6	*
4/9/06	75	16	60	25	20	4	*

*2010 and previous: "health care"

c. Immigration issues

	----- Important -----			-- Not as important --			No
	NET	1 of most	Very	NET	Somewhat	Less	op.
6/1/14	49	10	39	49	33	16	2
1/23/14	48	8	39	52	38	14	1
9/2/10 RV	55	12	43	45	30	15	0
10/8/06 RV	54	7	47	45	29	16	1
4/9/06	60	12	48	40	32	8	*

d. The federal budget deficit

	----- Important -----			-- Not as important --			No
	NET	1 of most	Very	NET	Somewhat	Less	op.
6/1/14	70	17	53	28	21	7	2
1/23/14	73	16	57	26	21	6	1
9/2/10 RV	76	15	61	24	18	6	*

e. The way Washington is working

	----- Important -----			-- Not as important --			No
	NET	1 of most	Very	NET	Somewhat	Less	op.
6/1/14	68	17	51	29	23	6	3
1/23/14	71	17	53	29	24	4	1

9/2/10 RV 65 9 56 33 27 6 1

f. The issue of gay marriage

	----- Important -----	NET	1 of most	Very	NET	Not as important -	Somewhat	Less	No
6/1/14	34	8	26	64	26	38	2		

Compare to: Social issues such as gay marriage and abortion
 1/23/14 40 7 33 59 32 27 1

g-h. No trend.

13. On another subject, it's been reported that some military veteran hospitals did not offer timely appointments for some patients, then falsified their records to hide this fact. Do you think this is a very serious issue, somewhat serious, not so serious or not serious at all?

	----- Serious -----	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not serious	Not so	Not at all	No
6/1/14	97	82	15	2	2	1	*		

14. How much, if at all, do you think Obama is personally responsible for these problems at the Department of Veterans Affairs? Do you think he deserves a great deal of the blame, a good amount, just some or none?

	---- Great deal/good amt. ----	NET	Great deal	Good amount	NET	Some/No blame	Just some	None	No
6/1/14	38	19	19	60	41	20	2		

15. Do you think the Secretary of Veteran Affairs, Eric Shinseki, was right to resign because of the VA hospitals issue, or should he have kept his job?

	Was right	Should have	No
6/1/14*	65	22	13

*Interviews on 5/29 asked: "Do you think the Secretary of Veteran Affairs, Eric Shinseki, should resign because of the VA hospitals issue, or should he keep his job?"

16. Changing topics: An attack in September 2012 in Benghazi, Libya, killed a U.S. ambassador and three other Americans. Do you support an additional congressional investigation into the way the Obama administration handled this incident, or do you think it's been investigated enough?

	Support an additional	Investigated	No
6/1/14	51	42	7

17. Do you think the Obama administration (has honestly disclosed what it knows about what occurred in Benghazi) or (has tried to cover up the facts)?

	Has honestly disclosed	Has tried to	No
6/1/14	32	58	10
5/19/13*	33	55	13

**"Is honestly disclosing" and "is trying to cover up."

18. The Benghazi attack occurred when Hillary Clinton was secretary of state. Do you approve or disapprove of the way she handled this incident? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	----- Approve -----			----- Disapprove -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opinion
6/1/14	37	17	20	50	17	33	13

27. What is 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
6/1/14	39	11	28	46	22	24	15
3/2/14	40	8	33	48	20	28	12
1/23/14	41	11	30	50	21	29	9
11/17/13	38	9	28	53	22	31	9
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 ***