



**Interviews with 1,019 adult Americans, conducted by telephone by Opinion Research Corporation on March 12-15, 2009. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points.**

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

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>	Feb. 18-19 <u>2009</u>	Feb. 7-8 <u>2009</u>
Approve	64%	67%	76%
Disapprove	34%	29%	23%
No opinion	2%	4%	1%

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling:

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
The economy March 12-15, 2009	59%	40%	2%
Foreign affairs March 12-15, 2009	66%	28%	6%

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling: (ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE. RESULTS BASED ON 497 INTERVIEWS IN VERSION A. SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.) (RANDOM ORDER)

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
The situation in Iraq March 12-15, 2009	63%	35%	2%
The situation in Afghanistan March 12-15, 2009	67%	29%	5%
Terrorism March 12-15, 2009	61%	35%	4%
Health care policy March 12-15, 2009	57%	41%	2%
Education March 12-15, 2009	65%	30%	5%
Energy policy March 12-15, 2009	63%	33%	4%

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling: (ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE. RESULTS BASED ON 522 INTERVIEWS IN VERSION B. SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.) (RANDOM ORDER)

Taxes March 12-15, 2009	62%	37%	1%
Unemployment March 12-15, 2009	64%	33%	3%
Helping the middle class March 12-15, 2009	67%	32%	1%
The federal budget deficit March 12-15, 2009	52%	47%	2%
The problems facing U.S. automobile manufacturers March 12-15, 2009	46%	49%	5%
The problems facing banks and other financial institutions March 12-15, 2009	47%	52%	1%
The problems facing homeowners who have trouble paying their mortgages March 12-15, 2009	54%	44%	2%

(NO QUESTION 3)

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Hillary Clinton is handling her job as Secretary of State?

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Approve	71%
Disapprove	23%
No opinion	5%

FOR COMPARISON:

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Condoleezza Rice is handling her job as Secretary of State?

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
Dec. 15-17, 2006	57%	35%	8%
Aug. 2-3, 2006	62%	27%	10%
Mar. 18-20, 2005	61%	24%	15%

5. Which of the following is the most important issue facing the country today? (RANDOM ORDER)

Mar. 12-15  
2009

The economy	63%
Health care	9%
The federal budget deficit	8%
The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan	6%
Education	5%
Terrorism	5%
Energy policy	2%
Other (vol.)	1%
No opinion (vol.)	*

6. Which of the following economic problems concerns you the MOST -- rising prices and the rate of inflation, the unemployment rate, the condition of the stock market, high taxes, or the problems due to the mortgage crisis and falling home values?

Mar. 12-15      Apr. 28-30  
2009              2008

Unemployment	36%	13%
Inflation	20%	47%
Mortgage and housing crisis	16%	19%
Stock market	14%	5%
Taxes	11%	13%
Other (vol.)	1%	2%
No opinion	1%	1%

7. In general, do you hope that Barack Obama's policies will succeed or do you hope that his policies will fail?

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Succeed	86%
Fail	11%
Mixed (vol.)	2%
No opinion	*

8. And in general, do you think it is more likely that Obama's policies will succeed or more likely that his policies will fail?

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Succeed	64%
Fail	32%
Mixed (vol.)	3%
No opinion	1%

9. Since he became president, do you think Barack Obama has tried to handle more issues than he should have, or hasn't he done that?

Mar. 12-15  
2009

More issues than he should have	55%
Has not done that	43%
No opinion	2%

FOR COMPARISON:

<u>CNN/TIME TRENDS</u>			
	<u>More issues than should have</u>	<u>Has not done that</u>	<u>Not sure</u>
<u>Bill Clinton</u>			
1993 Apr. 28-29	49%	40%	11%

10. In general, would you say that President Obama's views and proposed programs for the country are too liberal, not liberal enough, or just about right for the country?

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Too liberal	36%
Not liberal enough	5%
Just about right	58%
No opinion	1%

FOR COMPARISON:

<u>CNN/TIME TRENDS</u>				
	<u>Too liberal</u>	<u>Not liberal enough</u>	<u>Just about right</u>	<u>Not sure</u>
<u>Bill Clinton</u>				
1993 May 26-27	41%	15%	35%	9%
1993 Jan. 13-14	24%	10%	58%	8%

11. Do you think leaders of other countries around the world have respect for Barack Obama, or do you think they don't have much respect for him?

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Respect him	72%
Don't have much respect	24%
No opinion	4%

FOR COMPARISON:

<u>CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS</u>			
	Respect <u>him</u>	Don't have much <u>respect</u>	No <u>opinion</u>
<b><i>George W. Bush</i></b>			
2005 Feb 25-27	38	57	5
2005 Feb 7-10	35	60	5
2004 Jul 19-21 ^	43	52	5
2004 Feb 9-12	39	57	4
2003 Apr 14-16	46	48	6
2003 Mar 22-23	44	48	8
2003 Feb 17-19	40	55	5
2003 Feb 3-6	46	48	6
2002 Apr 29-May 1	63	31	6
2002 Feb 4-6	75	21	4
2001 Jul 19-22 ^	45	47	8
2001 Jun 8-10	40	46	14
2001 Feb 1-4	49	38	13
<b><i>Bill Clinton</i></b>			
2000 May 18-21	44	51	5
1994 Sep 23-25	41	55	5
^ Asked of a half sample.			

12. As you may know, later this month Barack Obama will make his first overseas trip since he became president. Do you think Obama will do a good job or a poor job representing the United States to the world on that trip?

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Good job	86%
Poor job	13%
No opinion	1%

13. Do you generally support or oppose President Obama's overall economic plan?

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Support	65%
Oppose	34%
No opinion	1%

FOR COMPARISON:

<u>CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS</u>				
	<u>Support</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Mixed (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><i>Bill Clinton</i></b>				
1993 June 29-30	44%	49%	2%	5%
1993 May 21-23	44%	45%	5%	6%
1993 Apr 22-24	55%	39%	2%	4%
1993 March 22-24	55%	34%	6%	5%
1993 Feb 26-28	59%	29%	6%	6%
1993 Feb 17	79%	16%	4%	1%

14. If the economy does not improve over the next 12 months, whose policies would you blame for that -- the policies of George W. Bush and the Republicans, or the policies of Barack Obama and the Democrats?

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Bush and the Republicans	54%
Obama and the Democrats	32%
Both (vol.)	9%
Neither (vol.)	4%
No opinion	1%

FOR COMPARISON:

<u>CNN/TIME TRENDS</u>					
	<u>Bush and the Republicans</u>	<u>Clinton and the Democrats</u>	<u>Both equal (vol.)</u>	<u>Neither (vol.)</u>	<u>Not sure</u>
<b><i>Bill Clinton</i></b>					
1993 May 12-13	39%	39%	10%	7%	5%

QUESTION WORDING: If the economy does not improve over the next twelve months, whose policies would you blame for that -- the policies of George Bush and the Republicans, or the policies of Bill Clinton and the Democrats?

15. How would you rate the economic conditions in the country today -- as very good, somewhat good, somewhat poor, or very poor?

	<u>Mar. 12-15</u> <u>2009</u>	<u>Jan. 12-15</u> <u>2009</u>			
Very good	1%	2%			
Somewhat good	10%	11%			
Somewhat poor	41%	36%			
Very poor	48%	50%			
No opinion	*	*			
	<u>Dec. 19-21</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Oct. 30-Nov. 1</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Oct. 3-5</u> <u>2008*</u>	<u>Sept. 19-21</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Aug 23-24</u> <u>2008</u>
Very good	2%	3%	2%	1%	4%
Somewhat good	6%	13%	14%	18%	21%
Somewhat poor	27%	29%	31%	34%	32%
Very poor	66%	54%	53%	47%	43%
No opinion	*	2%	*	*	*
	<u>June 4-5</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Mar. 14-16</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Jan. 14-17</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Dec. 6-9</u> <u>2007</u>	<u>Sept. 7-9</u> <u>2007</u>
Very good	3%	4%	4%	6%	9%
Somewhat good	19%	22%	36%	40%	45%
Somewhat poor	39%	35%	40%	33%	28%
Very poor	39%	40%	19%	21%	17%
No opinion	*	*	*	1%	*
	<u>Aug. 6-8</u> <u>2007</u>	<u>May 4-6</u> <u>2007</u>	<u>Mar. 9-11</u> <u>2007</u>	<u>Jan. 19-21</u> <u>2007</u>	<u>Nov. 3-5</u> <u>2006</u>
Very good	11%	18%	10%	15%	8%
Somewhat good	45%	43%	42%	48%	41%
Somewhat poor	26%	25%	31%	23%	32%
Very poor	17%	14%	15%	13%	18%
No opinion	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	<u>Oct. 27-29</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>Sep. 23-24</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>Aug.30-Sep. 2</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>Jun. 14-15</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>May 7-9</u> <u>2006</u>
Very good	13%	12%	9%	9%	10%
Somewhat good	49%	47%	35%	42%	42%
Somewhat poor	24%	26%	34%	31%	26%
Very poor	13%	15%	22%	16%	21%
No opinion	1%	*	*	2%	1%

\*Asked of half sample

(CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS ON FOLLOWING PAGE)

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

	<u>Very good</u>	<u>Some- what good</u>	<u>Some- what poor</u>	<u>Very poor</u>	<u>No opinion</u>	<u>Total good</u>	<u>Total poor</u>
2006 Mar 10-12	13	46	26	15	*	59	41
2005 Sep 8-11*	7	46	34	13	*	53	47
2005 Apr 29-May 1	5	45	33	16	1	50	49
2004 Dec 17-19	8	45	28	19	*	53	47
2004 Jan 29-Feb 1	5	47	28	19	1	52	47
2003 Dec 5-7	7	50	30	12	1	57	42
2003 Oct 10-12	4	40	37	19	*	44	56
2003 Mar 14-15	2	33	39	25	1	35	64
2003 Feb 24-26	3	31	43	22	1	34	65
2002 Dec 9-10	3	41	41	14	1	44	55
2002 Oct 21-22	3	38	42	16	1	41	58
2002 Sep 20-22	5	49	35	11	*	54	46
2002 Jul 26-28	5	46	37	12	*	51	49
2002 Jun 28-30	5	53	33	9	*	58	42
2002 Apr 5-7	6	55	30	9	*	61	39
2002 Jan 11-14	7	50	32	10	1	57	42
2001 Dec 14-16	5	45	37	12	1	50	49
2001 Sep 21-22	7	50	34	8	1	57	42
2001 Apr 20-22	10	57	25	7	1	67	32
2001 Feb 9-11	16	64	16	3	1	80	19
2001 Jan 15-16	24	58	14	4	*	82	18
2000 Jun 6-7	39	46	9	5	1	85	14
2000 Mar 10-12	42	44	10	3	1	86	13
1999 Jun 25-27	34	50	10	6	*	84	16
1999 Jan 8-10	41	48	8	3	*	89	11
1998 Jul 7-8	29	50	15	5	1	79	20
1998 Jan 25-26	24	57	14	4	1	81	18
1998 Jan 24-25	24	57	13	5	1	81	19
1998 Jan 23-24	24	57	15	4	*	81	19
1997 Oct 27-29	24	55	15	4	2	79	19
1997 Aug 22-25	17	52	21	9	1	69	30

\*Asked of a half sample.

16. How long do you think it will take for the economy to recover from its current problems -- within the next six months, six months to a year, one to two years, two to three years, three to four years, or longer than four years?

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>	Jan. 12-15 <u>2009</u>
Within the next six months	1%	1%
Six months to a year	9%	12%
One to two years	32%	27%
Two to three years	24%	23%
Three to four years	12%	12%
Longer than four years	22%	24%
No opinion	*	*

17. As you may know, the U.S. went through a depression in the 1930s in which roughly one out of four workers were unemployed, banks failed across the country, and millions of ordinary Americans were temporarily homeless or unable to feed their families. Do you think it is very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not likely at all that another depression like that will occur in the U.S. within the next 12 months?

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>	Dec. 1-2 <u>2008</u>	Oct. 17-19 <u>2008</u>
Very likely	12%	10%	12%
Somewhat likely	33%	28%	29%
Not very likely	36%	41%	35%
Not likely at all	18%	20%	24%
No opinion	1%	*	1%

*(NO QUESTION 18)*

*(NO QUESTION 19)*

20. As you may know, Congress passed and President Obama has signed a bill that will attempt to stimulate the economy by increasing federal government spending and cutting taxes at a total cost to the government of about eight hundred billion dollars. Based on what you have read or heard about this, do you favor or oppose that bill?

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>	Feb. 18-19 <u>2009</u>
Favor	54%	60%
Oppose	44%	39%
No opinion	2%	1%

21. Some of the money in that bill is meant to go to the state governments in all 50 states, but some governors have said that they will refuse to take that money from the federal government. Do you think the governors who refuse the money in the stimulus bill that is meant for their state are acting appropriately or inappropriately?

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>
Acting appropriately	47%
Acting inappropriately	52%
No opinion	2%

22. Do you think that bill will or will not result in a significant improvement in the nation's economy?

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>	Feb. 18-19 <u>2009</u>
Significant improvement	52%	53%
No significant improvement	47%	44%
No opinion	1%	2%

23. If that bill does not improve economic conditions, would you favor or oppose another bill that would increase government spending even further in an attempt to stimulate the economy?

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>
Favor	32%
Oppose	66%
No opinion	3%

24. Do you favor or oppose the federal government providing assistance to homeowners who cannot pay their mortgages?

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>	Feb. 18-19 <u>2009</u>	Oct. 17-19 <u>2008</u>
Favor	56%	63%	58%
Oppose	43%	36%	40%
No opinion	1%	2%	3%

25. What should the federal government do about the nation's largest banks if they are in danger of going out of business? Do you think the government should take over those banks temporarily, provide those banks with more money but not take them over, or allow them to go out of business?

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>
Take over temporarily	39%
Provide with money but not take over	18%
Allow them to go out of business	41%
No opinion	1%

26. Would you favor or oppose a proposal for the federal government to spend several billion dollars to help other countries whose economies are in danger of collapsing?

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>
Favor	17%
Oppose	81%
No opinion	1%

27. In the past six months, have you and your family had to do any of the following as a result of recent changes in economic conditions? (RANDOM ORDER)

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>	Dec. 1-2 <u>2008</u>	Mar. 14-16 <u>2008</u>
<b>a. Cut back on daily necessities such as food or medicine</b>			
Yes	32%	31%	30%
No	68%	69%	70%
No opinion	*	*	*
<b>b. Cut back on purchases of clothes or other apparel</b>			
Yes	58%	54%	59%
No	42%	46%	41%
No opinion	*	*	*
<b>c. Postponed making major purchases such as furniture or appliances</b>			
Yes	62%	52%	61%
No	38%	47%	39%
No opinion	*	*	*

*(NO QUESTION 28)*

*(NO QUESTION 29)*

*(NO QUESTION 30)*

31. Please tell me whether you are very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not confident at all about each of the following?

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>	Mar. 14-16 <u>2008</u>
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a. (ASKED OF ALL) Your ability to maintain your current standard of living over the next year

Very confident	39%	45%
Somewhat confident	42%	38%
Not too confident	15%	12%
Not confident at all	4%	4%
No opinion	*	*

b. (ASKED OF ALL) Your ability to maintain your current standard of living over the next ten years

Very confident	38%	34%
Somewhat confident	43%	40%
Not too confident	14%	18%
Not confident at all	4%	6%
No opinion	1%	1%

c. (IF NOT RETIRED) Your ability to save enough money to live comfortably when you retire (BASED ON 704 WHO ARE CURRENTLY EMPLOYED -- SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 3.5% PERCENTAGE POINTS.)

Very confident	22%	29%
Somewhat confident	37%	32%
Not too confident	25%	24%
Not confident at all	16%	15%
No opinion	*	*

d. Your ability to pay for your children to attend the college of their choice (BASED ON 305 WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18 -- SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 5.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.)

Very confident	24%	23%
Somewhat confident	36%	35%
Not too confident	19%	26%
Not confident at all	21%	16%
No opinion	*	*

e. Your ability to meet your monthly mortgage payments for the duration of that mortgage (BASED ON 483 WHO HAVE A MORTGAGE -- SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.)

Very confident	50%	58%
Somewhat confident	39%	32%
Not too confident	5%	6%
Not confident at all	5%	4%
No opinion	1%	1%

- f. Your ability to pay off all of your debts, including college loans, car payments and credit cards, but not including any mortgage (ASKED OF THOSE WITH A MORTGAGE)
- g. Your ability to pay off all of your debts, including college loans, car payments and credit cards(ASKED OF THOSE WITH NO MORTGAGE)

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>	Mar. 14-16 <u>2008</u>
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COMBINED RESPONSE FOR ITEMS F AND G:

Very confident	50%	56%
Somewhat confident	34%	27%
Not too confident	7%	10%
Not confident at all	6%	4%
No opinion	3%	2%

- h. The chances that your current employer will NOT have to lay off any workers in the next six months (BASED ON 517 WHO ARE CURRENTLY EMPLOYED -- SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.)

Very confident	38%	55%
Somewhat confident	28%	18%
Not too confident	16%	18%
Not confident at all	14%	7%
No opinion	4%	2%

- i. The chances that your current employer will NOT have to lay YOU off in the next six months (BASED ON 517 WHO ARE CURRENTLY EMPLOYED -- SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.)

Very confident	57%	69%
Somewhat confident	29%	16%
Not too confident	9%	10%
Not confident at all	3%	5%
No opinion	2%	1%

- j. Your ability to find a good job that pays as much as the job you have now if you had to leave your current place of employment (BASED ON 517 WHO ARE CURRENTLY EMPLOYED -- SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.)

Very confident	22%	31%
Somewhat confident	27%	26%
Not too confident	24%	26%
Not confident at all	27%	15%
No opinion	1%	2%

k. Your ability to pay your bills if someone in your family had a major medical emergency

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Very confident	29%
Somewhat confident	35%
Not too confident	19%
Not confident at all	17%
No opinion	*

l. The chances that no one in your household will lose health insurance coverage in the next six months

Very confident	52%
Somewhat confident	26%
Not too confident	12%
Not confident at all	9%
No opinion	2%

*(NO QUESTION 32)*

33. We'd like to know how you feel about different aspects of health care for you and your family. Are you generally satisfied, or dissatisfied with each of the following: (RANDOM ORDER)

	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>	Nov. 2-4 <u>2007</u>
The quality of health care you receive		
Satisfied	82%	79%
Dissatisfied	17%	20%
No opinion	1%	1%
Your health insurance coverage		
Satisfied	73%	69%
Dissatisfied	26%	30%
No opinion	1%	2%
The total cost to you of health care, including insurance premiums and other expenses		
Satisfied	52%	
Dissatisfied	48%	
No opinion	1%	
The total cost of health care in this country		
Satisfied	23%	
Dissatisfied	77%	
No opinion	1%	

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<u><i>The quality of the health care you receive</i></u> 1993 May 10-12	81	17	2
<u><i>Your health insurance coverage</i></u> 1993 May 10-12	70	25	5
<u><i>The total cost to you of health care, including insurance premiums and other expenses</i></u> 1993 May 10-12	49	48	3
<u><i>The total cost of health care in this country*</i></u> 1993 May 10-12	8	90	2

\* QUESTION WORDING: Now, thinking about health care in the country as a whole, are you generally satisfied, or dissatisfied, with ...

(NO QUESTION 34)

35. In general, would you favor or oppose increasing the amount of money the federal government spent on the public schools in your area if it would increase the federal government's influence over education policies at those schools?

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Favor	56%
Oppose	43%
No opinion	1%

36. Do you think that teachers whose students perform well on tests should or should not get paid more than teachers whose students perform poorly on those tests?

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Should get paid more	50%
Should not get paid more	48%
No opinion	2%

37. Do you favor or oppose proposals which would increase the number of hours each day that students spend in school? (ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE. RESULTS BASED ON 497 INTERVIEWS IN VERSION A. SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.)

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Favor	44%
Oppose	55%
No opinion	1%

38. Do you favor or oppose proposals which would increase the number of days each year that students spend in school? (ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE. RESULTS BASED ON 522 INTERVIEWS IN VERSION B. SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.)

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Favor	57%
Oppose	42%
No opinion	1%

39. Barack Obama has announced that he will remove most U.S. troops from Iraq by August of next year but keep 35,000 to 50,000 troops in that country longer than that. Do you favor or oppose this plan?

Mar. 12-15  
2009

Favor	70%
Oppose	29%
No opinion	1%