

U.S. POLITICS

Americans Irritated as Rating for Obama and Congress Plummet

Only two-in-five respondents are satisfied with the President, and one-in-eight endorse the way Congress is handling its duties.

[NEW YORK – Aug. 22, 2011] – The approval rating for U.S. President Barack Obama has fallen to the lowest level of his tenure, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,002 American adults, 40 per cent of respondents (-8 since July) approve of Obama's performance as president, while 53 per cent (+8) disapprove.

The level of strong approval for the U.S. President practically trails the level of strong disapproval by a 3-to-1 margin (12% to 34%). Obama does not reach the 50 per cent mark on approval in any of the country's four main regions.

The approval rating for the U.S. Congress also dropped this month, reaching 12 per cent (-6), while four-in-five respondents (81%, +8) voice dissatisfaction with its performance.

The level of strong approval for federal lawmakers in the U.S. is two per cent, while half of Americans (52%) strongly disapprove.

The worst rating for Congress is in the West, where only 10 per cent of respondents approve of its performance.

KEY FINDINGS

- **40% (-8) approve of Barack Obama's performance as president**
- **12% (-6) approve of the performance of the U.S. Congress**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

From August 17 to August 18, 2011, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,002 American adults who are Springboard America panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of the United States. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

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Analysis

The eight-point drop in Obama's approval rating is the most dramatic since he took office. Also, it must be noted that the proportion of respondents who currently disapprove of his actions (53%) is the highest of his presidency.

Congress, which has been unable to reach the 20 per cent mark since March, has now descended to historic lows and is only supported by one-in-eight respondents.

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About Angus Reid Public Opinion

[Angus Reid Public Opinion](#) is a public affairs practice headed by Dr. Angus Reid: an industry visionary who has spent more than four decades asking questions to figure out what people feel, how they think and who they will vote for. A team of talented and experienced practitioners with a unique and profound understanding of global issues conduct high quality research throughout the world on a daily basis for corporations, governments, academic researchers, and non-profit organizations.

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**For more information, please contact
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U.S. Politics

Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's performance as president?

	Region				
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Strongly approve	12%	13%	10%	13%	10%
Moderately approve	28%	31%	26%	29%	29%
Moderately disapprove	19%	17%	18%	22%	20%
Strongly disapprove	34%	28%	38%	33%	35%
Not sure	6%	10%	8%	4%	6%

U.S. Politics

Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of the United States Congress?

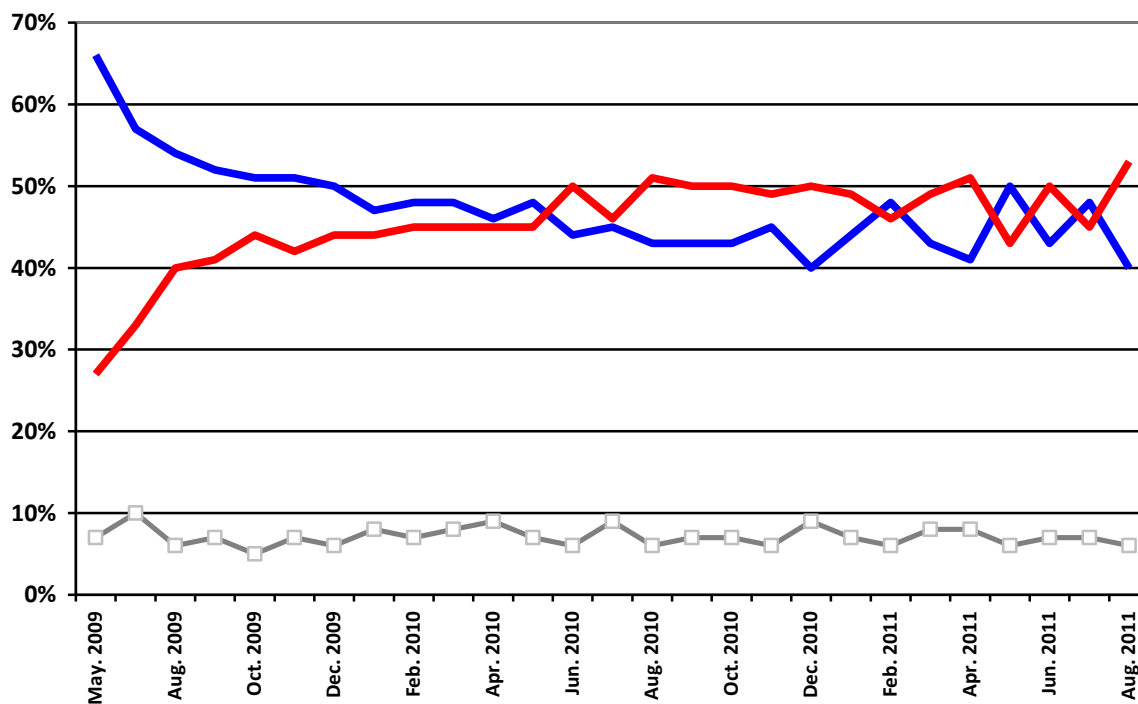
	Region				
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Strongly approve	2%	4%	3%	1%	1%
Moderately approve	10%	11%	9%	11%	9%
Moderately disapprove	29%	27%	30%	29%	28%
Strongly disapprove	52%	46%	52%	52%	57%
Not sure	7%	12%	7%	7%	5%

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U.S. Politics							
Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's performance as president? - TREND							
	Aug. 2011	Jul. 2011	Jun. 2011	May 2011	Apr. 2011	Mar. 2011	Feb. 2011
Approve	40%	48%	43%	50%	41%	43%	48%
Disapprove	53%	45%	50%	43%	51%	49%	46%
Not sure	6%	7%	7%	6%	8%	8%	6%

Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's performance as president?



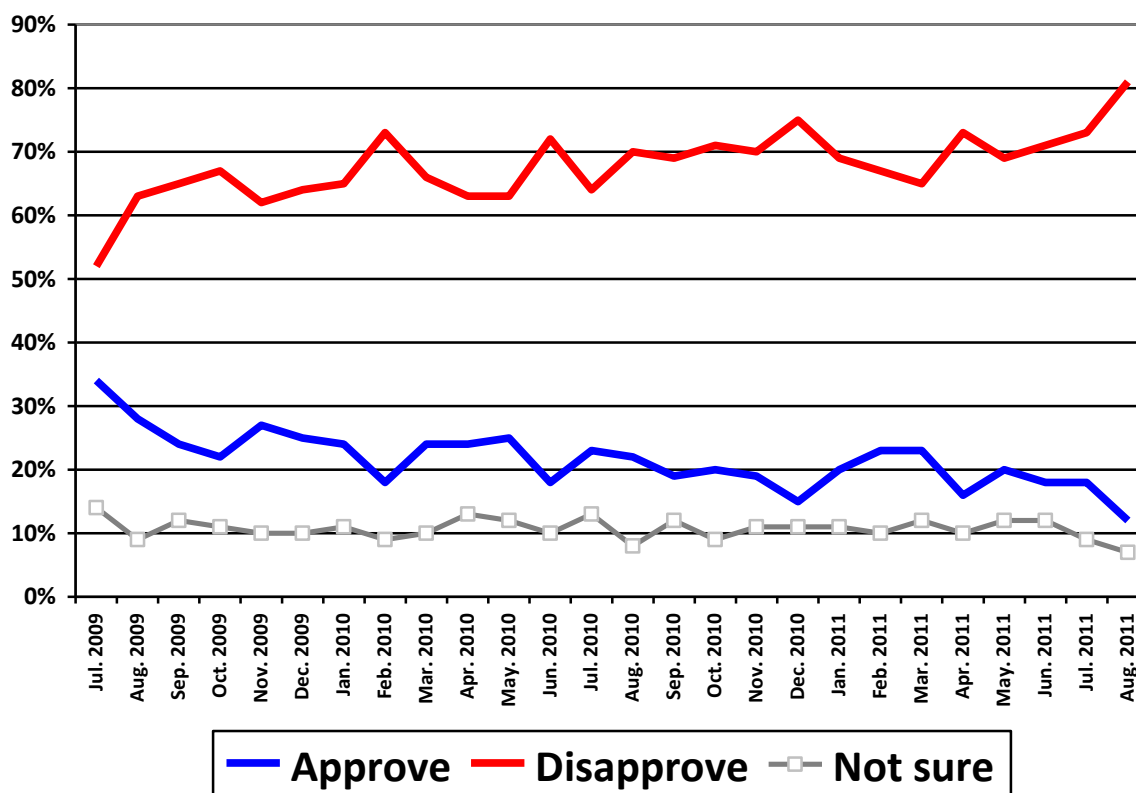
— Approve — Disapprove — Not sure

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U.S. Politics							
Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of the United States Congress? - TREND							
	Aug. 2011	Jul. 2011	Jun. 2011	May 2011	Apr. 2011	Mar. 2011	Feb. 2011
Approve	12%	18%	18%	20%	16%	23%	23%
Disapprove	81%	73%	71%	69%	73%	65%	67%
Not sure	7%	9%	12%	12%	10%	12%	10%

Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of the United States Congress?



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