

U.S. POLITICS

No Approval Bounce for Obama and Congress in the United States

Only two-in-five Americans are satisfied with the way the President is handling his duties, and Independents become more critical.

[NEW YORK – Oct. 24, 2011] - Public support for President Barack Obama remains low in the United States, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,031 American adults, 40 per cent of respondents (unchanged since September) approve of Obama's performance as president, while 52 per cent (-1) disapprove.

Obama is unable to reach the 50 per cent mark on approval in any of the country's four main regions, getting his best numbers in the West (47%). One third of Americans (34%) strongly disapprove of the president's performance, while 13 per cent strongly approve.

The approval rating for the U.S. Congress stands at 13 per cent (+1). Practically four-in-five Americans (78%, =) remain dissatisfied with its performance.

The level of strong approval for federal lawmakers in the U.S. remains at two per cent, while practically half of Americans (47%, -5) strongly disapprove of its actions.

The worst rating for Congress is in the Midwest, where only one-in-ten respondents (10%) approve of its performance.

KEY FINDINGS

- **40% (=) approve of Barack Obama's performance as president**
- **13% (+1) approve of the performance of the U.S. Congress**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

From October 19 to October 20, 2011, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,031 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.

CONTACT:

Mario Canseco, Vice President, Angus Reid Public Opinion, 877-730-3570, mario.canseco@angus-reid.com

Analysis

With an election year looming, the hostility towards Congress is widespread. While Democrats are slightly more likely to regard the work of federal lawmakers in a positive light (21%), fewer Republicans (12%) and Independents (7%) concur.

The situation is also complex for the incumbent president, who relied on the support of many Independents to win the 2008 election. As expected, many Democrats are still supportive of Obama (72%) and only 12 per cent of Republicans feel he is doing a good job. Among Independents, the level of strong disapproval for the American president outranks the level of strong approval by a 6-to-1 margin (42% to 7%).

Learn about our [electoral record](#) / Consult our [surveys](#) / Follow us on [Twitter](#)

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.

About Vision Critical®

[Vision Critical](#) is a global research and technology firm that creates software and services solutions for over 600 clients, including one third of the world's top 100 brands. The company has offices across North America, Europe and Australia as well as a Global Partner Program that provides other research companies and consultants with access to top-of-the-line technology. Its Sparq™ product is the most widely adopted community panel platform on the planet.

- 30 -

**For more information, please contact
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

CONTACT:

Mario Canseco, Vice President, Angus Reid Public Opinion, 877-730-3570, mario.canseco@angus-reid.com

U.S. Politics

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

	Region				
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Strongly approve	13%	14%	9%	13%	15%
Moderately approve	27%	30%	29%	22%	32%
Moderately disapprove	18%	17%	24%	16%	15%
Strongly disapprove	34%	32%	29%	40%	33%
Not sure	7%	7%	9%	8%	5%

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%	6%	0%	2%	2%
Moderately approve	11%	10%	10%	13%	11%
Moderately disapprove	31%	27%	33%	32%	30%
Strongly disapprove	47%	43%	48%	45%	53%
Not sure	9%	13%	10%	8%	5%

CONTACT:

Mario Canseco, Vice President, Angus Reid Public Opinion, 877-730-3570, mario.canseco@angus-reid.com

U.S. Politics				
Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's performance as president?				
Political ID				
	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly approve	13%	28%	2%	7%
Moderately approve	27%	44%	10%	25%
Moderately disapprove	18%	13%	20%	21%
Strongly disapprove	34%	7%	65%	42%
Not sure	7%	8%	2%	6%

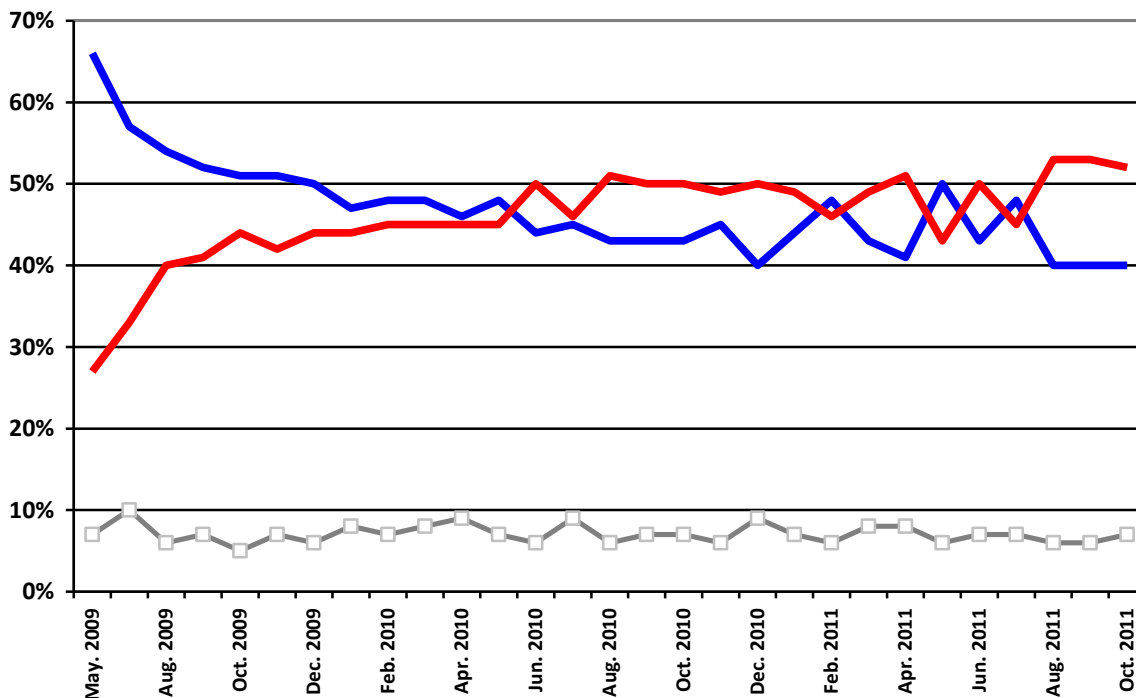
U.S. Politics				
Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of the United States Congress?				
Political ID				
	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly approve	2%	4%	2%	0%
Moderately approve	11%	17%	10%	7%
Moderately disapprove	31%	25%	38%	34%
Strongly disapprove	47%	44%	45%	54%
Not sure	9%	10%	5%	5%

CONTACT:

Mario Canseco, Vice President, Angus Reid Public Opinion, 877-730-3570, mario.canseco@angus-reid.com

U.S. Politics							
Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's performance as president? - TREND							
	Oct. 2011	Sept. 2011	Aug. 2011	Jul. 2011	Jun. 2011	May 2011	Apr. 2011
Approve	40%	40%	40%	48%	43%	50%	41%
Disapprove	52%	53%	53%	45%	50%	43%	51%
Not sure	7%	6%	6%	7%	7%	6%	8%

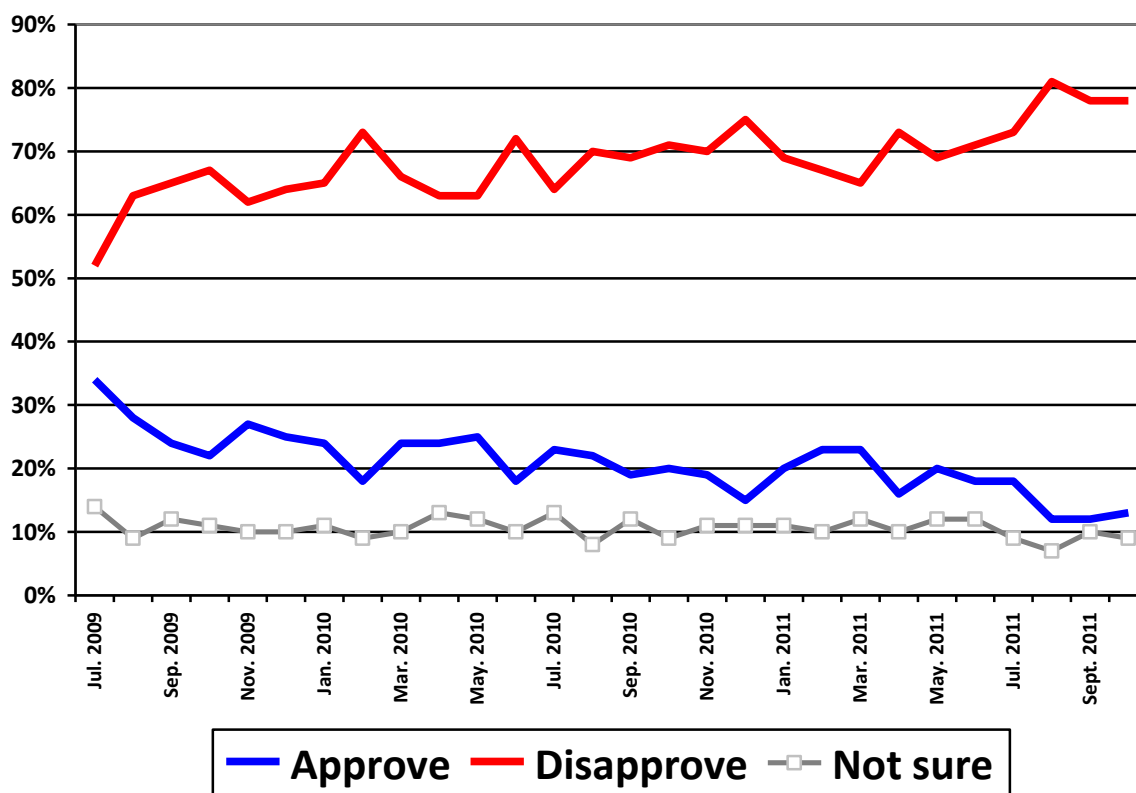
Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's performance as president?



— Approve — Disapprove — Not sure

U.S. Politics							
Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of the United States Congress? - TREND							
	Oct. 2011	Sept. 2011	Aug. 2011	Jul. 2011	Jun. 2011	May 2011	Apr. 2011
Approve	13%	12%	12%	18%	18%	20%	16%
Disapprove	78%	78%	81%	73%	71%	69%	73%
Not sure	9%	10%	7%	9%	12%	12%	10%

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



CONTACT:

Mario Canseco, Vice President, Angus Reid Public Opinion, 877-730-3570, mario.canseco@angus-reid.com