

## Initial Center for Working-Class Studies online survey pegs Obama approval rating in high 80s despite pessimism about economy and uneasiness about the future

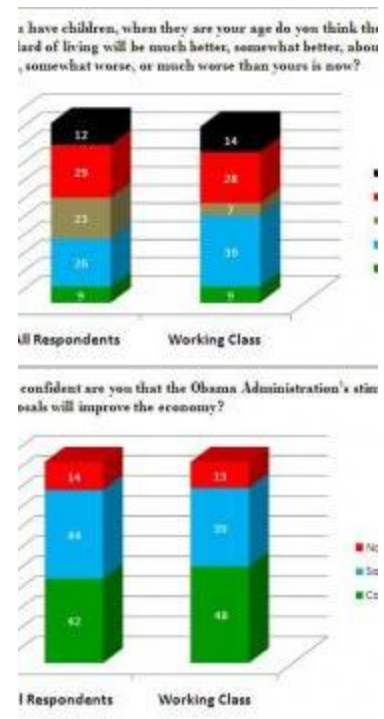
President Barack Obama received a resounding round of applause in the initial online public opinion survey conducted by the Center for Working-Class Studies (CWCS) at Youngstown State University. According to the survey, Fifty-three percent (52.6%) of the 891 respondents strongly approve and thirty-five percent (35%) approve of the President's job performance during his first 100 days in office. Mirroring their approval of the President's job performance, seventy-three percent (73%) said they believe the country is moving in the right direction.

That figure stands in stark contrast to the ninety-two percent (92%) who believe the national economy is bad or very bad and shows no signs of recovering quickly. When asked how long they expected the current recession to last, thirty-five percent (35%) said one year, and twenty-six percent (26%) said the downturn would continue for two years. Only nine percent (9%) said they believed the economy would recover in the next six months.

Working-class respondents—defined as those between the ages of thirty (30) and sixty (60) with annual incomes of \$10,000 to \$50,000 who lack college degrees—also gave the President an eighty-seven percent (87%) approval rating, although a slightly smaller number; forty-six percent (46%) strongly approve of his performance. Seventy-four percent (74%) of this group believes the country is moving in the right direction.

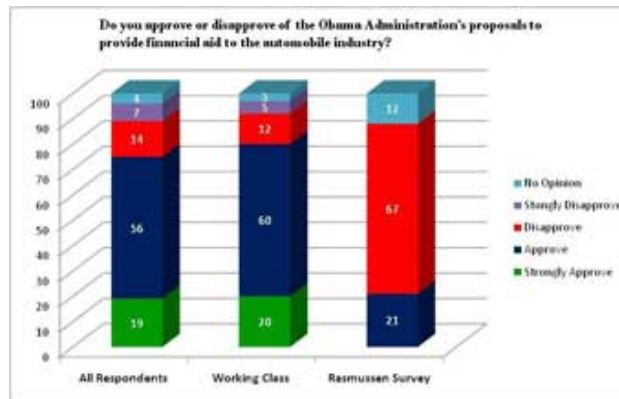
Those positive numbers contrast with the ninety-four percent (94%) of working-class respondents who said the economy is bad or very bad. And this group is even more pessimistic about the prospects for a speedy recovery. More than seventy-eight percent (78%) said they believe the recession will last one year or more, with more than forty-six percent (46%) saying it will last for two years or longer. Only six percent (6%) say they see light at the end of the economic tunnel this year.

The dichotomy between respondents' views of the President's performance and their concerns about the economy are underscored by their uncertainty about whether the administration's stimulus plan will be effective. While forty-two percent (42%) said they are confident the stimulus proposals will work, forty-four percent (44%) said they are only somewhat confident, and fourteen percent (14%) said they are not confident at all.



Working-class respondents were slightly more optimistic, with forty-eight percent (48%) expressing confidence in the President's plan, thirty-eight percent (38%) saying they were somewhat confident, and thirteen percent (13%) saying they were not confident at all that the stimulus package would turn the economy around. Dr. John Russo, CWCS co-director, said he believes the contrast between the respondents' optimism about the president and their pessimism about the state of the economy and its future can be explained by a number of factors:

"First of all, the President is clearly in a honeymoon period. The people who voted for him—and that includes eighty-five percent (85%) of the respondents who revealed their choice when asked—are confident he can lead the nation out of the economic morass he inherited," Dr. Russo said. "And to a lesser extent they, like all voters, are loath to admit that they may have made a mistake last November, so they are willing to give him the benefit of the doubt for the foreseeable future."



"At the same time, they cannot ignore the economic conditions that surround them. Chrysler's filed bankruptcy, and GM is about to do so. The value of existing homes continues to erode, jobs are hard to find, gas prices are rising, the stock market's falling, and despite all the talk about stimulus the economy appears to be stuck in neutral at best," Dr. Russo said. "So while people remain hopeful that the President's plan will work, they're also very worried about the future."

That uncertainty about the future is underscored by the responses offered when people were asked whether or not they believe their children will enjoy a higher standard of living in the years ahead. Among all respondents, thirty-five percent (35%) believed their children's standard of living would be somewhat or much better than theirs while forty-one percent (41%) believed it would be somewhat or much worse and twenty-four percent (24%) believed it would be the same.

Members of the working class hold a somewhat brighter view. Forty-eight percent (48%) believe their children will do better, forty-two percent (42%) believe they will do worse and seven percent (7%) believe their children's standard of living will be about the same as theirs.

In any case, these results are consistent with those derived from a wide range of surveys that clearly show a growing erosion in one of the core American beliefs: that things would always be better for future generations. Whether President Obama can reverse this troubling trend will be one of the primary benchmarks for success that his administration must meet over the next three and one-half years.

Following is a synopsis of other key results:

### **President Obama**

- 85% approve of his handling of foreign policy. 11% disapprove.
- 82% approve of his handling of the economy. 15% disapprove.
- 81% approve of his handling of the situation in Iraq. 13% disapprove.
- 60% approve of his plans to deploy additional troops in Afghanistan with only 19% strongly approving the strategy. 31% disapprove.
- 78% trust him to deal with the country's economic crisis.
- 43% believe big business and Wall Street have too much influence over the Obama Administration.

### **Congress**

- 58% approve of Congress' performance, but only 4% strongly approve. 33% disapprove.
- Only 6% trust Congress to deal with the economic crisis.
- 93% believe big business and Wall Street have too much influence over Congressional Republicans. 78% believe the same about Congressional Democrats.

### **Issues**

When asked to name the three most important issues facing the nation today respondents chose the following:

- The economy 73%
- Health care 67%
- Jobs 47%
- 89% approve of President Obama's plan to roll back the Bush tax cuts for the wealthy.
- 48% approve of the banking bailout, with only 4% strongly approving. 45% disapprove.
- 75% approve of the auto industry bailout. 21% disapprove.
- 76% believe the federal government should spend money to stimulate the economy. 18.3% say the money should be used to reduce the deficit and national debt.

For more information, please contact Dr. John Russo at 330-941-2976 or [jbrusso@ysu.edu](mailto:jbrusso@ysu.edu).

### **Participation**

You can participate in upcoming surveys from the Center. Send your contact information to Patty LaPresta at [pmlapresta \(at\) ysu.edu](mailto:pmlapresta@ysu.edu), and you'll receive a direct link to upcoming surveys as they occur. (You can remove yourself from the list at any time.)

# First Hundred Days

**1. Please provide your e-mail to participate in future surveys. (Your e-mail will not be shared with any other party, and you may opt out at any time.)**

		Response Count
		691
<i>answered question</i>		691
<i>skipped question</i>		178

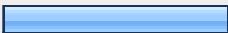


**2. Do you approve or disapprove of President Obama's performance in office?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Approve		52.6%	457
Approve		35.2%	306
Disapprove		5.2%	45
Strongly Disapprove		6.2%	54
No Opinion		0.8%	7
<i>answered question</i>			869
<i>skipped question</i>			0






**3. In general, would you say that things in the United States are headed in the right direction, or would you say things are off on the wrong track?**

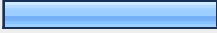
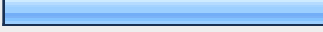



		Response Percent	Response Count
Right direction		73.3%	637
Wrong track		12.9%	112
Neither/mixed		13.8%	120
<i>answered question</i>			869
<i>skipped question</i>			0

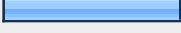
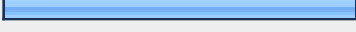



**4. In general, would you say that things in your community are headed in the right direction, or would you say things are off on the wrong track?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Right direction		34.2%	297
Wrong track		23.1%	201
Neither/mixed		42.7%	371
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>869</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>0</b>

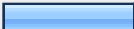
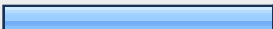
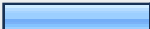


**5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Obama is handling foreign policy?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Approve		51.6%	448
Approve		34.1%	296
Disapprove		6.6%	57
Strongly Disapprove		5.8%	50
No Opinion		2.1%	18
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>869</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>0</b>






6. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Obama is handling the economy?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Approve		32.6%	283
<b>Approve</b>		<b>49.4%</b>	<b>429</b>
Disapprove		8.2%	71
Strongly Disapprove		7.6%	66
No Opinion		2.3%	20
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>869</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>0</b>

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Obama is handling the situation in Iraq?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Approve		27.0%	235
<b>Approve</b>		<b>54.0%</b>	<b>469</b>
Disapprove		10.0%	87
Strongly Disapprove		3.7%	32
No Opinion		5.3%	46
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>869</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>0</b>

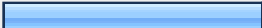
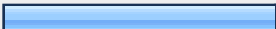



**8. Do you approve or disapprove of President Obama's plan to increase the U.S. military presence in Afghanistan?**


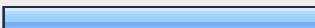
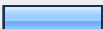

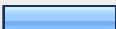
		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Approve		19.7%	171
<b>Approve</b>		<b>41.2%</b>	<b>358</b>
Disapprove		22.3%	194
Strongly Disapprove		8.9%	77
No Opinion		7.9%	69
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>869</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>0</b>

**9. Some members of Congress want to conduct an investigation into interrogation tactics, including waterboarding, used by the Bush Administration during the questioning of suspected terrorists. Do you agree or disagree that such an investigation should take place and that anyone found to have violated the law should be prosecuted?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Strongly Agree</b>		<b>48.8%</b>	<b>424</b>
Agree		21.5%	187
Disagree		13.2%	115
Strongly Disagree		12.1%	105
No Opinion		4.4%	38
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>869</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>0</b>



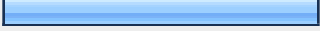

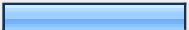





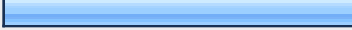



10. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Hillary Clinton is doing as Secretary of State?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Approve		39.8%	346
<b>Approve</b>		<b>41.5%</b>	<b>361</b>
Disapprove		5.5%	48
Strongly Disapprove		2.4%	21
No Opinion		10.7%	93
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>869</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>0</b>

11. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Timothy Geithner is doing as Secretary of the Treasury?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Approve		8.7%	76
<b>Approve</b>		<b>47.9%</b>	<b>416</b>
Disapprove		15.1%	131
Strongly Disapprove		11.3%	98
No Opinion		17.0%	148
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>869</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>0</b>

<b>12. Do you believe President Obama is respected by other world leaders?</b>			
		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Yes		88.3%	767
No		7.9%	69
No Opinion		3.8%	33
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>869</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>13. A number of people President Obama has appointed to positions in his administration have failed to pay all the federal income taxes they owe. Are you concerned, very concerned, or not all at all concerned about this situation?</b>			
		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Concerned		43.8%	381
Very Concerned		18.2%	158
Not Concerned at all		38.0%	330
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>869</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

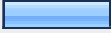

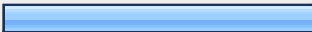
14. In order to stimulate the economy quickly, the Obama Administration should focus on: (Select up to three [3])			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Infrastructure projects like bridges, roads, and public buildings		74.7%	649
Making college more affordable		29.5%	256
Training for workers who have lost their jobs		48.4%	421
<b>New energy technology that will reduce America's reliance on foreign oil</b>		<b>75.0%</b>	<b>652</b>
Protecting American workers by restricting free trade		27.5%	239
Cutting taxes		14.2%	123
Providing financial aid to banks in order to make credit available		9.1%	79
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>869</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

15. Do you approve or disapprove of Congress's performance?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Approve		4.3%	37
<b>Approve</b>		<b>53.6%</b>	<b>466</b>
Disapprove		21.3%	185
Strongly Disapprove		12.2%	106
No Opinion		8.6%	75
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>869</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

16. How would you rate the condition of the national economy today?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Very Good		0.0%	0
Good		7.5%	65
<b>Bad</b>		<b>69.4%</b>	<b>603</b>
Very Bad		23.1%	201
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>869</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

17. How would you rate the condition of the economy in your community today?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Very Good		0.6%	5
Good		16.8%	146
<b>Bad</b>		<b>54.9%</b>	<b>477</b>
Very Bad		27.7%	241
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>869</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>




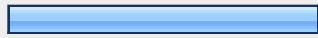



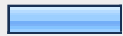
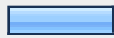



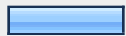

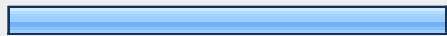

18. Do you think the U.S. economy is:			
		Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Getting better</b>		<b>41.2%</b>	<b>358</b>
Getting worse		22.8%	198
Staying about the same		36.0%	313
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>869</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

19. Do you think the economy in your community is:			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Getting better		16.0%	139
Getting worse		36.5%	317
<b>Staying about the same</b>		<b>47.5%</b>	<b>413</b>
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>869</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>0</b>

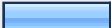
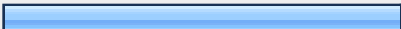
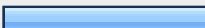









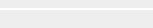

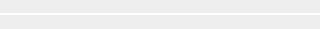

20. How much longer do you believe the current recession will last in the U.S.?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Six months		9.1%	75
<b>One year</b>		<b>35.3%</b>	<b>291</b>
Two years		26.4%	218
Longer than two years		15.5%	128
Don't know		13.7%	113
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>825</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>44</b>

21. How much longer do you believe the current recession will last in your community?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Six months		6.7%	55
One year		22.1%	182
Two years		21.3%	176
<b>Longer than two years</b>		<b>31.9%</b>	<b>263</b>
Don't know		18.1%	149
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>825</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>44</b>

22. What would you say are the three (3) most important issues or problems facing the United States today?

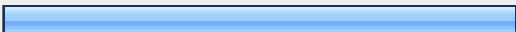


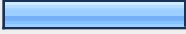
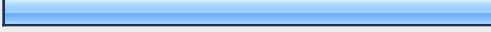


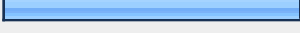
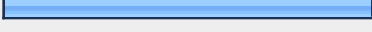
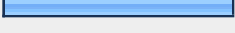
		Response Percent	Response Count
Crime		3.5%	29
<b>The economy</b>		<b>73.2%</b>	<b>604</b>
Home foreclosures		11.8%	97
Jobs		47.4%	391
The automobile industry		6.1%	50
The banking crisis		8.1%	67
Foreign trade		4.4%	36
Afghanistan/Iraq		17.1%	141
Political corruption		15.5%	128
Stock-market collapse		2.3%	19
White-collar crime		6.8%	56
Taxes		5.0%	41
Education		17.2%	142
Illegal immigration		9.3%	77
Health care		67.4%	556
Social Security		4.0%	33
		<b><i>answered question</i></b>	<b>825</b>
		<b><i>skipped question</i></b>	<b>44</b>


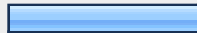

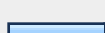



23. What would you say are the three (3) most important issues or problems facing your community today?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Crime		16.1%	133
The economy		61.1%	504
Home foreclosures		31.2%	257
<b>Jobs</b>		<b>70.3%</b>	<b>580</b>
The automobile industry		12.1%	100
The banking crisis		5.1%	42
Foreign trade		1.6%	13
Afghanistan/Iraq		1.8%	15
Political corruption		9.0%	74
Stock-market collapse		3.2%	26
White-collar crime		1.5%	12
Taxes		10.2%	84
Education		22.9%	189
Illegal immigration		3.6%	30
Health care		48.7%	402
Social Security		1.7%	14
		<b><i>answered question</i></b>	<b>825</b>
		<b><i>skipped question</i></b>	<b>44</b>




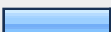




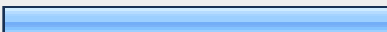
24. What persons, groups, or factors are responsible for America's economic crisis? (You may make multiple selections)


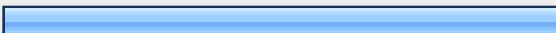

		Response Percent	Response Count
Former President Bush		78.9%	651
President Obama		5.7%	47
Congressional Republicans		70.2%	579
Congressional Democrats		27.9%	230
Failure of federal regulators		75.2%	620
<b>Corporate greed</b>		<b>84.4%</b>	<b>696</b>
Labor unions		12.6%	104
Wall Street investors		45.5%	375
Large banks		56.7%	468
Foreign trade/NAFTA		35.3%	291
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>825</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>44</b>

25. What person, group or factor is most responsible for America's home foreclosure crisis?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Large banks		4.5%	37
Predatory lenders		29.1%	240
Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac		4.0%	33
People borrowing more than they could afford		14.3%	118
Wall Street speculators		5.8%	48
<b>Lack of federal regulation</b>		<b>38.4%</b>	<b>317</b>
The recession/job loss		3.9%	32
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>825</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>44</b>

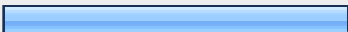


26. What person, group, or factor is most responsible for the problems being experienced by the Big Three automakers?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
The United Autoworkers union		8.6%	71
<b>Management</b>		<b>60.7%</b>	<b>501</b>
Foreign competition		8.0%	66
The recession		10.8%	89
Health care costs		9.9%	82
Pension costs		1.9%	16
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>825</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>44</b>

27. Whom do you trust most to deal with the nation's economic crisis?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
President Obama		77.9%	643
Congressional Republicans		2.8%	23
Congressional Democrats		3.0%	25
None of the above		16.2%	134
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>825</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>44</b>

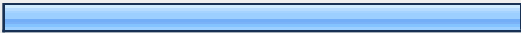




28. In general, do you believe you pay too much, too little, or the right amount of federal taxes?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Too much		33.2%	274
Too little		7.5%	62
The right amount		59.3%	489
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>825</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>44</b>






29. In general do you believe the wealthiest Americans pay too much, too little, or the right amount of federal taxes?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Too much		6.5%	54
Too little		85.7%	707
The right amount		7.8%	64
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>825</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>44</b>

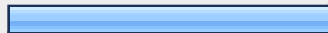
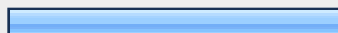
**30. In general do you believe middle class Americans pay too much, too little, or the right amount of federal taxes?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Too much		53.1%	438
Too little		5.3%	44
The right amount		41.6%	343
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>825</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>44</b>

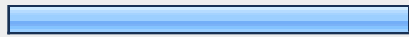
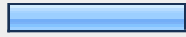



**31. During his administration, President Bush reduced taxes on the wealthy. President Obama has proposed rolling back those tax cuts in order to provide tax relief for working families. Do you agree, strongly agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with President Obama's proposal?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		79.8%	658
Agree		9.9%	82
Disagree		4.5%	37
Strongly Disagree		4.7%	39
No Opinion		1.1%	9
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>825</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>44</b>

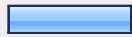

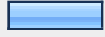


<b>32. Do you approve or disapprove of the Obama Administration's proposals to provide financial aid to the banking industry?</b>			
		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Strongly Approve		3.9%	32
<b>Approve</b>		<b>44.2%</b>	<b>365</b>
Disapprove		31.2%	257
Strongly Disapprove		13.7%	113
No Opinion		7.0%	58
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>825</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>44</b>

<b>33. Do you believe the Obama Administration's proposals to aid the banking industry will benefit all Americans or only bankers?</b>			
		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
All Americans		49.3%	407
<b>Bankers</b>		<b>50.7%</b>	<b>418</b>
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>825</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>44</b>

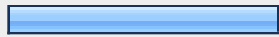
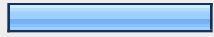
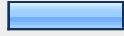

34. Do you agree or disagree that in exchange for financial aid the government is entitled to make decisions about how banks operate, including setting executive pay and dividends for stockholders?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		61.5%	507
Agree		26.7%	220
Disagree		5.1%	42
Strongly Disagree		5.1%	42
No Opinion		1.7%	14
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>825</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>44</b>

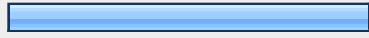
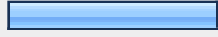



35. Do you approve or disapprove of the Obama Administration's proposals to provide financial aid to the automobile industry?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Approve		18.8%	151
Approve		56.1%	451
Disapprove		13.9%	112
Strongly Disapprove		7.2%	58
No Opinion		4.0%	32
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>804</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>65</b>

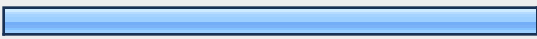


**36. How important is it for the Obama Administration to provide financial aid to the auto industry in order to save jobs?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Very important		41.2%	331
Important		31.0%	249
Somewhat important		17.5%	141
Not important at all		10.3%	83
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>804</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>65</b>

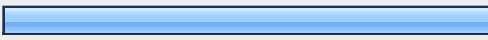



**37. Do you agree or disagree that in exchange for financial aid the government is entitled to make decisions about how the auto industry operates, including setting executive pay and dividends for stockholders?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		55.5%	446
Agree		32.0%	257
Disagree		5.6%	45
Strongly Disagree		5.6%	45
No Opinion		1.4%	11
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>804</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>65</b>

38. In exchange for financial aid, the Obama Administration has made specific demands on the auto industry but has not made similar demands on the banking and financial services industry. Do you believe the auto industry and the financial services industry should be subject to the same conditions in order to receive financial aid?

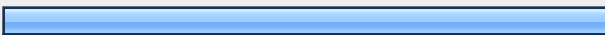


		Response Percent	Response Count
Same conditions		82.3%	662
Different conditions		12.2%	98
Don't know		5.5%	44
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>804</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>65</b>

39. Which do you believe is being treated better by the Obama Administration, the financial industry or the auto industry?

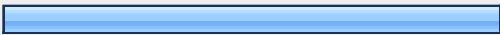


		Response Percent	Response Count
Financial industry is being treated better		74.9%	602
Auto industry is being treated better		2.6%	21
They are being treated the same		12.9%	104
No opinion		9.6%	77
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>804</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>65</b>



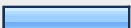






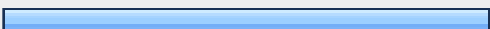

**40. Regarding regulation of the banking industry and Wall Street, which of these statements best reflects your opinion:**




		Response Percent	Response Count
There needs to be more regulation to prevent abuses in the future		93.2%	749
Current regulations are sufficient		3.9%	31
Regulation should be reduced to promote investment and economic growth		3.0%	24
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>804</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>65</b>


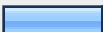



**41. Should the federal government spend money to stimulate the economy even if it increases the deficit or should the government concentrate on reducing the deficit and the national debt?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Spend money to stimulate the economy		76.5%	615
Reduce the deficit and the debt		18.3%	147
No opinion		5.2%	42
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>804</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>65</b>


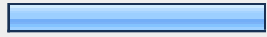
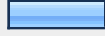


42. Along with the economy, what other issues should the Obama Administration and Congress focus on?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Health care		64.8%	521
Social Security		5.1%	41
Energy		19.0%	153
Education		6.3%	51
Other		4.7%	38
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>804</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>65</b>

43. So far, do you believe the Obama Administration is trying to do too much, too little, or the right amount?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Too much		12.1%	97
Too little		10.0%	80
Right amount		74.8%	601
No opinion		3.2%	26
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>804</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>65</b>



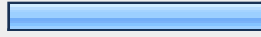


44. Do you think President Obama cares more about working families or big business?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Working families		77.0%	619
Big business		9.7%	78
No opinion		13.3%	107
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>804</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>65</b>




45. Do you agree or disagree that big business and Wall Street have too much influence over Congressional Republicans?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		78.6%	632
Agree		15.0%	121
Disagree		3.5%	28
Strongly Disagree		1.2%	10
No Opinion		1.6%	13
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>804</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>65</b>


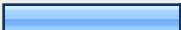
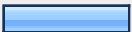
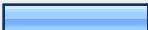

**46. Do you agree or disagree that big business and Wall Street have too much influence over Congressional Democrats?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		39.6%	318
Agree		39.3%	316
Disagree		14.4%	116
Strongly Disagree		2.9%	23
No Opinion		3.9%	31
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>804</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>65</b>





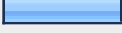
**47. Do you agree or disagree that big business and Wall Street have too much influence over the Obama Administration?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		12.1%	97
Agree		31.1%	250
Disagree		38.7%	311
Strongly Disagree		9.8%	79
No Opinion		8.3%	67
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>804</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>65</b>


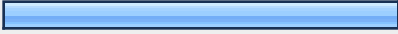
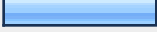

48. How confident are you that the Obama Administration's stimulus proposals will improve the economy?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Confident		42.3%	340
<b>Somewhat confident</b>		<b>43.9%</b>	<b>353</b>
Not at all confident		13.8%	111
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>804</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>65</b>

49. Compared to your parents when they were the age you are now, do you think your own standard of living is much better, somewhat better, about the same, somewhat worse, or much worse than theirs was?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Much better		23.6%	188
<b>Somewhat better</b>		<b>26.9%</b>	<b>214</b>
About the same		18.8%	150
Somewhat worse		21.7%	173
Much worse		8.9%	71
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>796</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>73</b>

**50. If you have children, when they are your age do you think their standard of living will be much better, somewhat better, about the same, somewhat worse, or much worse than yours is now?**





		Response Percent	Response Count
Much better		7.6%	60
Somewhat better		21.4%	169
About the same		18.8%	148
<b>Somewhat worse</b>		<b>24.3%</b>	<b>192</b>
Much worse		10.1%	80
Not applicable		17.7%	140
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>789</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>80</b>



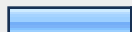
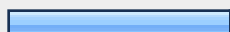
**51. How would you describe your personal financial situation?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Very good		9.7%	77
<b>Fairly good</b>		<b>60.8%</b>	<b>484</b>
Fairly bad		23.2%	185
Very bad		6.3%	50
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>796</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>73</b>

52. In the past year have you or someone in your household been laid off or lost their job?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, laid off		12.2%	97
Yes, lost job		16.7%	133
<b>No</b>		<b>71.1%</b>	<b>566</b>
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>796</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>73</b>

53. If you own a home, in the past year have you been unable to make your house payment:			
		Response Percent	Response Count
One to three times		2.4%	19
Four to six times		0.6%	5
More than six times		0.8%	6
<b>I have made all payments</b>		<b>56.8%</b>	<b>452</b>
Not applicable		39.4%	314
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>796</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>73</b>

54. If you own a home, in the past year have you been threatened with or is your home now in foreclosure?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Threatened		2.5%	20
In foreclosure		0.6%	5
<b>Neither threatened nor in foreclosure</b>		<b>60.3%</b>	<b>480</b>
Not applicable		36.6%	291
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>796</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>73</b>

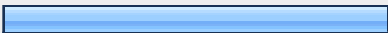



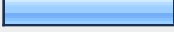

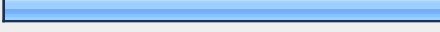
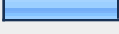

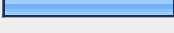
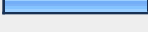
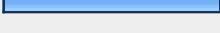




55. To your knowledge, have homes been placed in foreclosure in your neighborhood over the past year?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Yes, one to three homes</b>		<b>36.1%</b>	<b>287</b>
Yes, four to six homes		11.6%	92
Yes, more than six homes		18.5%	147
No		33.9%	270
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>796</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>73</b>



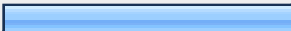
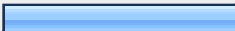
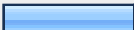
56. Do you believe that the Obama Administration should impose trade restrictions in order to protect U.S. jobs or do you believe free trade is important to the health of the economy?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Impose trade restrictions		51.8%	412
Support free trade		32.4%	258
No opinion		15.8%	126
		<b><i>answered question</i></b>	<b>796</b>
		<b><i>skipped question</i></b>	<b>73</b>

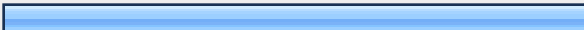


57. When you think about your current financial situation, what, if anything, worries you the most? (Select all that apply)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Retirement/Social Security		58.9%	468
Losing job		24.7%	196
Economy getting worse		58.2%	462
Rising interest rates		14.7%	117
Can't pay bills		26.1%	207
Housing costs		14.2%	113
<b>Health care costs</b>		<b>67.4%</b>	<b>535</b>
Paying for college		17.5%	139
Fear of spouse dying		12.5%	99
Credit cards and other debt		25.9%	206
Taxes		21.9%	174
Investments		33.2%	264
Other		3.4%	27
Everything		8.2%	65
Nothing		1.0%	8
Don't Know/Not Applicable		0.8%	6
		<b><i>answered question</i></b>	<b>794</b>
		<b><i>skipped question</i></b>	<b>75</b>


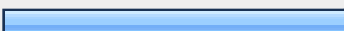
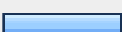
**58. Over the past ten years has your household income increased, decreased or stayed the same?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Increased		44.3%	353
Decreased		35.7%	284
Stayed the same		20.0%	159
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>796</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>73</b>


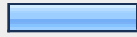
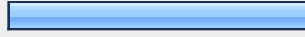



**59. Over the past ten years do you believe the incomes of the wealthy Americans have increased, decreased, or stayed the same?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Increased		89.8%	715
Decreased		6.2%	49
Stayed the same		4.0%	32
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>796</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>73</b>



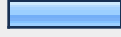



**60. Today, does your household income enable you to pay your bills, save and buy some extras, just meet your bills and obligations, or is it not enough to pay your bills and meet your obligations?**

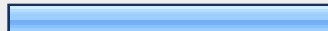

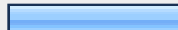





		Response Percent	Response Count
Save and buy extras		29.8%	237
Enough to pay bills and meet obligations		52.4%	417
Not enough to pay bills and meet obligations		17.8%	142
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>796</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>73</b>

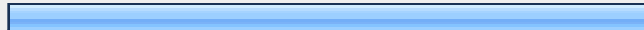


61. If you were asked to use one of these five names for your social class, which would you say you belong in — upper class, upper-middle class, middle class, working class, or lower class?

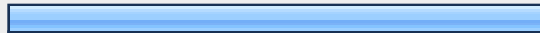





		Response Percent	Response Count
Upper class		1.1%	9
Upper middle class		19.5%	155
<b>Middle class</b>		<b>46.0%</b>	<b>366</b>
Working class		27.5%	219
Lower class		4.9%	39
No opinion		1.0%	8
		<b><i>answered question</i></b>	<b>796</b>
		<b><i>skipped question</i></b>	<b>73</b>

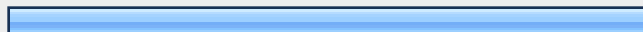

62. To which Political Party do you belong?







		Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Democrat</b>		<b>72.0%</b>	<b>558</b>
Republican		6.7%	52
Independent		16.9%	131
Green		2.2%	17
Libertarian		0.5%	4
Other		1.7%	13
		<b><i>answered question</i></b>	<b>775</b>
		<b><i>skipped question</i></b>	<b>94</b>

63. Would you describe yourself as a:			Response Percent	Response Count
Strong Democrat			49.4%	383
Not very strong Democrat			1.9%	15
Independent Democrat			26.1%	202
Independent			13.0%	101
Independent Republican			4.0%	31
Not very strong Republican			0.5%	4
Strong Republican			2.3%	18
Other			2.7%	21
			<i>answered question</i>	<b>775</b>
			<i>skipped question</i>	<b>94</b>

64. Are you a registered voter?			Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			98.7%	765
No			1.0%	8
Don't know			0.3%	2
			<i>answered question</i>	<b>775</b>
			<i>skipped question</i>	<b>94</b>

<b>65. Please describe your voting habits:</b>			
		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
<b>Vote in every election</b>		<b>82.3%</b>	<b>638</b>
Vote in some primary elections and most general elections		12.9%	100
Vote in most general elections		1.8%	14
Vote only in presidential elections		1.7%	13
Rarely Vote		0.4%	3
Never Vote		0.9%	7
		<b><i>answered question</i></b>	<b>775</b>
		<b><i>skipped question</i></b>	<b>94</b>





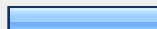
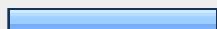
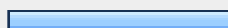
<b>66. Did you vote in the 2008 Presidential election?</b>			
		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
<b>Yes</b>		<b>98.3%</b>	<b>762</b>
<b>No</b>		1.7%	13
		<b><i>answered question</i></b>	<b>775</b>
		<b><i>skipped question</i></b>	<b>94</b>




67. For which candidate did you vote?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Barack Obama		85.5%	663
John McCain		9.4%	73
Bob Barr		0.6%	5
Ralph Nader		0.9%	7
Cynthia McKinney		0.6%	5
Other		2.8%	22
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>775</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>94</b>

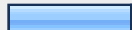
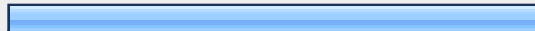
68. What is your age?			Response Percent	Response Count
18-24			2.5%	19
25-29			3.7%	29
30-34			3.4%	26
35-39			5.3%	41
40-44			7.0%	54
45-49			11.9%	92
50-54			14.6%	113
<b>55-59</b>			<b>17.5%</b>	<b>136</b>
60-64			15.4%	119
65-69			8.4%	65
70+			10.5%	81
	<b><i>answered question</i></b>			<b>775</b>
	<b><i>skipped question</i></b>			<b>94</b>

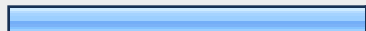

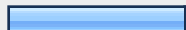




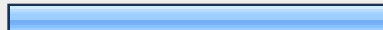

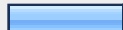


69. What is your annual household income?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Less than \$10,000		3.6%	28
\$10,000 to \$20,000		7.6%	59
\$20,000 to \$30,000		10.6%	82
\$30,000 to \$40,000		11.0%	85
\$40,000 to \$50,000		10.1%	78
<b>\$50,000 to \$75,000</b>		<b>21.3%</b>	<b>165</b>
\$75,000 to \$100,000		15.7%	122
\$100,000 to \$125,000		8.5%	66
\$125,000 to \$150,000		3.5%	27
\$150,000 to \$175,000		2.5%	19
\$175,000 to \$200,000		1.0%	8
\$200,000 and above		4.6%	36
		<b><i>answered question</i></b>	<b>775</b>
		<b><i>skipped question</i></b>	<b>94</b>






70. What is the last level that you completed in school?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Grade school		0.3%	2
Some high school		0.5%	4
Graduated high school		6.2%	48
Graduated Technical/Vocational school		4.5%	35
Some college		22.6%	175
Graduated college		32.0%	248
<b>Post-graduate degree</b>		<b>33.9%</b>	<b>263</b>
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>775</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>94</b>

71. Are you or is any member of your household a member or retiree of a labor union?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
I belong		22.6%	175
Household member belongs		12.1%	94
<b>No member</b>		<b>68.8%</b>	<b>533</b>
		<i>answered question</i>	<b>775</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>	<b>94</b>

72. Do you currently have any children under the age of 18 living at home with you?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		18.6%	144
No		81.4%	631
		<i>answered question</i>	775
		<i>skipped question</i>	94

73. In terms of your job status, are you employed, unemployed but looking for work, retired, a student, or a homemaker?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Employed		55.1%	427
Unemployed		10.5%	81
Retired		26.7%	207
Student		3.4%	26
Homemaker		4.4%	34
		<i>answered question</i>	775
		<i>skipped question</i>	94

74. What is your current marital status?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Married		57.8%	448
Not married, but living with partner		8.5%	66
Single, never married		17.5%	136
Divorced or separated		12.4%	96
Widowed		3.7%	29
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>775</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>94</b>

75. For statistical purposes, could you please indicate your race?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Black/African American		4.1%	32
White/Caucasian		92.0%	713
Hispanic/Latino		0.9%	7
Asian American		0.8%	6
Other		2.2%	17
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>775</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>94</b>

76. Gender			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Male		48.0%	372
Female		52.0%	403
		<i>answered question</i>	775
		<i>skipped question</i>	94

77. How frequently do you attend church or religious services?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Weekly		25.4%	197
Monthly		7.1%	55
Infrequently		14.7%	114
Rarely		22.8%	177
Never		29.9%	232
		<i>answered question</i>	775
		<i>skipped question</i>	94

78. Please enter your ZIP code (five-digit, only)			
		Response Count	
			775
		<i>answered question</i>	775
		<i>skipped question</i>	94