

Western New England University Polling Institute
Massachusetts Statewide Telephone Survey, Oct. 1 -- 7, 2013
TABLES

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

		Job Approval – Barack Obama			
		Approve	Disapprove	Don't know/ Refused (Vol.)	N*
Oct. 1-7, 2013	Adults	58%	34%	8%	468
	Registered voters	60%	34%	6%	431
Party ID**	Democrat	85%	8%	7%	152
	Republican	10%	87%	3%	49
	Independent	53%	42%	5%	218
Gender	Male	59%	33%	7%	227
	Female	57%	34%	9%	241
Age	18-34	56%	31%	13%	56
	35-49	62%	32%	6%	115
	50-64	61%	33%	6%	157
	65 and older	53%	40%	7%	130
Education	High school or less	46%	42%	13%	100
	Some college	42%	53%	6%	95
	College graduate	67%	25%	7%	270
Region	Western MA	49%	44%	7%	87
	Central MA	41%	45%	14%	77
	North / South Shore	60%	35%	5%	140
	Boston and suburbs	65%	27%	9%	163
June 16 – 20, 2013	Adults	54%	38%	8%	717
	Registered voters	54%	40%	7%	653
Oct. 26 – Nov. 1, 2012	Adults	59%	35%	6%	685
	Registered voters	58%	36%	6%	644
	Likely voters	58%	38%	4%	535
Sept. 28 – Oct. 4, 2012	Adults	61%	33%	6%	567
	Registered voters	60%	35%	5%	516
	Likely voters	60%	37%	3%	440

**Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults with the exception of the categories for party identification, which include only registered voters. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. ** Party identification was measured with the following question: "In politics today, do you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, Independent or something else?"*

The following two questions rotated in random order in the survey.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Democrats in Congress are handling their job?

		Job Approval – Democrats in Congress			
		Approve	Disapprove	Don't know/ Refused (Vol.)	N*
Oct. 1-7, 2013	Adults	43%	49%	8%	468
	Registered voters	44%	51%	6%	431
Party ID	Democrat	67%	31%	2%	152
	Republican	10%	89%	2%	49
	Independent	34%	58%	8%	218
Gender	Male	43%	51%	6%	227
	Female	44%	47%	9%	241
Age	18-34	44%	48%	8%	56
	35-49	45%	47%	9%	115
	50-64	41%	53%	6%	157
	65 and older	44%	49%	8%	130
Education	High school or less	31%	59%	10%	100
	Some college	33%	59%	8%	95
	College graduate	51%	43%	7%	270
Region	Western MA	40%	55%	5%	87
	Central MA	39%	54%	8%	77
	North / South Shore	41%	49%	10%	140
	Boston and suburbs	48%	46%	6%	163

**Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults with the exception of the categories for party identification, which include only registered voters. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Republicans in Congress are handling their job?

Job Approval – Republicans in Congress		Approve	Disapprove	Don't know/ Refused (Vol.)	N*
Oct. 1-7, 2013	Adults	13%	80%	7%	468
	Registered voters	14%	82%	5%	431
Party ID	Democrat	3%	97%	0%	152
	Republican	46%	52%	2%	49
	Independent	15%	79%	7%	218
Gender	Male	17%	78%	5%	227
	Female	9%	82%	9%	241
Age	18-34	13%	78%	9%	56
	35-49	13%	82%	6%	115
	50-64	14%	81%	5%	157
	65 and older	14%	79%	8%	130
Education	High school or less	17%	73%	10%	100
	Some college	21%	69%	10%	95
	College graduate	10%	86%	5%	270
Region	Western MA	8%	87%	5%	87
	Central MA	23%	68%	8%	77
	North / South Shore	16%	76%	9%	140
	Boston and suburbs	10%	83%	6%	163

**Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults with the exception of the categories for party identification, which include only registered voters. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

How familiar are you with the issues regarding the partial shutdown of the federal government that began on October 1st?

Familiarity with the Issues Regarding the Partial Government Shutdown

		Very familiar	Somewhat familiar	Not very familiar	Not at all familiar	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
Oct. 1 – 7, 2013	Adults	37%	51%	9%	2%	1%	468
	Registered voters	39%	51%	8%	2%	1%	431
Party Identification	Democrat	40%	51%	7%	2%	0%	152
	Republican	55%	30%	14%	1%	0%	49
	Independent	36%	55%	7%	1%	1%	218
Gender	Male	43%	48%	7%	0%	1%	227
	Female	31%	54%	11%	4%	0%	241
Age	18-34	21%	60%	14%	3%	1%	56
	35-49	41%	50%	6%	3%	0%	115
	50-64	45%	47%	7%	0%	0%	157
	65 and older	46%	43%	9%	2%	0%	130
Education	High school or less	28%	52%	13%	5%	2%	100
	Some college	23%	68%	8%	1%	1%	95
	College graduate	44%	46%	8%	1%	0%	270

**Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults with the exception of the categories for party identification, which include only registered voters. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

Based on what you know, who is MOST responsible for the partial shutdown of the federal government? President Barack Obama, Republicans in Congress, Democrats in Congress? (*Response categories rotated in random order in the question.*)

Who is Most Responsible for the Partial Government Shutdown?		President Obama	Republicans in Congress	Democrats in Congress	All of the above (Vol.)	None of the above (Vol.)	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
Oct. 1-7, 2013	Adults	16%	56%	5%	18%	1%	4%	468
	Registered voters	16%	58%	5%	16%	1%	4%	431
Party Identification	Democrat	8%	76%	0%	7%	3%	6%	152
	Republican	42%	22%	21%	10%	0%	5%	49
	Independent	16%	53%	6%	23%	0%	1%	218
Gender	Male	15%	59%	7%	16%	2%	1%	227
	Female	17%	57%	3%	17%	1%	6%	241
Age	18-34	14%	61%	6%	13%	3%	2%	56
	35-49	13%	54%	5%	23%	0%	6%	115
	50-64	21%	61%	3%	14%	0%	1%	157
	65 and older	17%	59%	10%	11%	1%	2%	130
Education	High school or less	29%	40%	11%	13%	5%	2%	100
	Some college	23%	39%	4%	29%	1%	4%	95
	College graduate	11%	68%	4%	14%	0%	4%	270
Region	Western MA	18%	50%	7%	18%	1%	6%	87
	Central MA	25%	43%	10%	21%	0%	1%	77
	North / South Shore	12%	58%	8%	20%	0%	2%	140
	Boston and suburbs	16%	62%	2%	12%	2%	5%	163

**Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults with the exception of the categories for party identification, which include only registered voters. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

Survey respondents then heard questions regarding Governor Deval Patrick’s job approval, name recognition and favorability for candidates in the 2014 race for governor of Massachusetts, hypothetical general election matchups in the race, whether or not the state is on the right track, and the most important problem facing Massachusetts today. Survey respondents then heard questions concerning the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare. The complete text of the questionnaire is available at www1.wne.edu/pollinginst

Q. 8. Next, we would like to ask you a few questions about the health care reform legislation that passed in 2010, and is known as The Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare (*terms rotated randomly in the question*). Based on what you know or have heard about the legislation, do you support or oppose it?

(The text of the question in April 2010 was: *Next, we would like to ask you a few questions about the health care reform legislation that passed in Washington recently. Based on what you know or have heard about the legislation, do you support or oppose it?*)

Support or Oppose Health Care Reform					
		Support	Oppose	Don’t know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
Oct. 1-7, 2013	Adults	62%	31%	7%	468
	Registered voters	62%	31%	7%	431
April 11 – 15, 2010	Adults	46%	45%	8%	528
	Registered voters	46%	47%	7%	481

Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Q. 9. Which statement comes closest to describing why you oppose the health care legislation?
(Asked of the 158 adults and 144 registered voters who said they opposed the legislation.)

The legislation goes too far in making changes.
The legislation does not go far enough in making changes.

Reasons for Opposition to Health Care Reform					
		Legislation goes too far	Legislation does not go far enough	Don’t know/ Refused (Vol.)	N*
Oct. 1-7, 2013	Adults	89%	5%	6%	158
	Registered voters	89%	5%	6%	144
April 11 – 15, 2010	Adults	84%	13%	3%	238
	Registered voters	85%	13%	2%	221

Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Support or Oppose Health Care Reform (Q. 8 and Q. 9 combined)

		Support (Q. 8)	Oppose (bill goes too far – Q. 9)	Oppose (bill does not go far enough – Q. 9)	Oppose (but responds Don't know / Refused to Q. 9)	Don't know / Refused for general question (Q. 8)	N*
Oct. 1 – 7, 2013	Adults	62%	28%	2%	2%	7%	468
	Registered voters	62%	27%	2%	2%	7%	431
Obama job approval	Approve	92%	3%	0%	0%	5%	260
	Disapprove	16%	68%	4%	4%	8%	175
Party identification	Democrat	84%	9%	0%	1%	6%	152
	Republican	18%	70%	4%	5%	3%	49
	Independent	59%	31%	2%	2%	7%	218
Gender	Male	61%	31%	1%	1%	5%	227
	Female	62%	24%	2%	2%	9%	241
Age	18-34	66%	28%	1%	1%	4%	56
	35-49	63%	30%	1%	1%	4%	115
	50-64	63%	26%	2%	2%	6%	157
	65 and older	53%	25%	2%	2%	18%	130
Education	High school or less	44%	33%	4%	3%	16%	100
	Some college	44%	43%	2%	4%	7%	95
	College graduate	73%	21%	1%	1%	4%	270
Region	Western MA	52%	32%	6%	2%	8%	87
	Central MA	56%	38%	2%	0%	4%	77
	North / South Shore	60%	27%	0%	3%	10%	140
	Boston and suburbs	69%	24%	1%	2%	4%	163
April 11 – 15, 2010	Adults	46%	38%	6%	2%	8%	528
	Registered voters	46%	40%	6%	1%	7%	481

**Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults with the exception of the categories for party identification, which include only registered voters. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

Do you think the health care reform legislation will improve the quality of care that you receive, reduce the quality of care, or make no difference?

		Will Health Care Reform Improve or Reduce Quality of Care?				
		Improve quality	Reduce quality	Make no difference	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
Oct. 1 – 7, 2013	Adults	19%	27%	49%	4%	468
	Registered voters	20%	29%	48%	4%	431
Party identification	Democrat	25%	9%	61%	5%	152
	Republican	6%	60%	32%	2%	49
	Independent	19%	36%	42%	2%	218
Gender	Male	19%	30%	48%	3%	227
	Female	20%	25%	50%	5%	241
Age	18-34	18%	25%	51%	7%	56
	35-49	15%	28%	56%	1%	115
	50-64	23%	27%	45%	5%	157
	65 and older	19%	30%	48%	3%	130
Education	High school or less	19%	30%	39%	12%	100
	Some college	20%	44%	31%	4%	95
	College graduate	19%	22%	58%	2%	270
Region	Western MA	16%	32%	46%	6%	87
	Central MA	15%	29%	51%	5%	77
	North / South Shore	18%	25%	52%	4%	140
	Boston and suburbs	22%	28%	48%	2%	163
April 11 – 15, 2010	Adults	16%	40%	38%	6%	528
	Registered voters	16%	42%	37%	5%	481

**Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults with the exception of the categories for party identification, which include only registered voters. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*

Do you think the health care reform legislation will increase the amount of money that you pay for health care, reduce the amount of money that you pay for health care, or will it make no difference?

Will Health Care Reform Increase or Reduce the Amount You Pay for Health Care?						
		Increase the amount you pay	Reduce the amount you pay	Make no difference	Don't know / Refused (Vol.)	N*
Oct. 1 – 7, 2013	Adults	48%	14%	34%	5%	468
	Registered voters	47%	15%	33%	5%	431
Party identification	Democrat	29%	22%	46%	3%	152
	Republican	74%	1%	19%	5%	49
	Independent	54%	14%	27%	5%	218
Gender	Male	45%	17%	35%	3%	227
	Female	48%	12%	33%	7%	241
Age	18-34	49%	17%	32%	2%	56
	35-49	50%	14%	34%	2%	115
	50-64	45%	17%	35%	3%	157
	65 and older	48%	12%	33%	7%	130
Education	High school or less	45%	17%	32%	6%	100
	Some college	49%	10%	33%	7%	95
	College graduate	47%	14%	35%	4%	270
Region	Western MA	40%	12%	41%	7%	87
	Central MA	48%	15%	33%	3%	77
	North / South Shore	50%	12%	32%	6%	140
	Boston and suburbs	47%	16%	33%	5%	163
April 11 – 15, 2010	Adults	54%	10%	29%	7%	528
	Registered voters	55%	9%	29%	7%	481

**Subsamples are unweighted N's, and consist of all adults with the exception of the categories for party identification, which include only registered voters. Row percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.*