

Newsweek Poll
Obama Demographics
Princeton Survey Research Associates International

Final Topline Results
(1/16/09)

N = 1,200 adults, 18+
Margin of error: plus or minus 3.5 percentage points
Interviewing dates: 1/14-15/09

Notes: Data are weighted so that sample demographics match Census Current Population Survey parameters for gender, age, education, race, region, and population density.

Results based on smaller subgroups are subject to larger margins of sampling error. Sample size and margins of error for these subgroups are included in a separate methodology statement.

An asterisk () indicates a value less than 1%.*

1. Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in the United States at this time?

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>DK</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	20	72	8	=100
TRENDS ¹				
12/3-4/08	21	72	7	=100
10/08-09/08 Financial meltdown	10	86	4	=100
6/18-19/08	14	80	6	=100
2/6-7/08	24	69	7	=100
8/1-2/07	24	69	7	=100
7/11-12/07	27	68	5	=100
7/2-3/07	24	67	9	=100
6/18-19/07	26	68	6	=100
5/2-3/07 Bush veto of Iraq funding bill	25	71	4	=100
3/28-29/07	28	66	6	=100
3/14-15/07	28	64	8	=100
1/24-25/07	30	61	9	=100
1/17-18/07	30	62	8	=100
12/6-7/06	31	59	10	=100
11/9-10/06	29	63	8	=100
10/26-27/06	31	61	8	=100
10/5-6/06 Foley scandal	25	67	8	=100
8/10-11/06	26	67	7	=100
5/11-12/06 NSA wiretapping	23	71	6	=100
3/16-17/06	30	64	6	=100
11/10-11/05	26	68	6	=100
9/8-9/05 Hurricane Katrina	28	66	6	=100
8/2-4/05	36	54	10	=100
12/2-3/04	46	46	8	=100
10/21-22/04	40	56	4	=100
5/13-14/04 Prisoner abuse scandal	30	62	8	=100
4/8-9/04	36	59	5	=100
1/8-9/04	46	47	7	=100
12/18-19/03 Saddam's capture	46	47	7	=100
10/9-10/03	40	54	6	=100
4/03 Iraq War begins	50	41	9	=100
7/02	46	46	8	=100
9/01 Terrorist attacks	57	34	9	=100
6/01	43	52	5	=100
1/01	55	41	4	=100
6/00	47	45	8	=100
8/99	56	39	5	=100
9/98	54	42	4	=100
1/97	38	58	4	=100
3/96	28	70	2	=100
6/95	25	73	2	=100
8/94	24	71	5	=100
6/92 Recession	14	84	2	=100
3/91 Gulf War Victory	66	31	3	=100
9/90	37	58	5	=100
9/88	56	40	4	=100
11/85	51	46	3	=100

¹ Full trendline from 11/06 to present; earlier trends selected. Trends from 4/03, 6/00-6/01 and 6/95-8/99 from Pew Research Center; 11/85-6/92 from Gallup.

2. How optimistic or pessimistic are you that the new Obama administration will be able to improve the way things are going in this country? Are you... **(READ)**?

<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Independents</u>
28	Very optimistic	7	49	19
38	Somewhat optimistic	29	39	44
14	Somewhat pessimistic	27	4	16
13	Very pessimistic	28	5	11
3	Mixed/Neither optimistic nor pessimistic (VOL.)	6	1	5
<u>4</u>	Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100	100

3. All things considered, do you have a more favorable or less favorable opinion of Barack Obama since he became President-elect?

	<u>More Favorable</u>	<u>Less Favorable</u>	<u>No Change (VOL.)</u>	<u>DK</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	51	13	29	7	=100
Republicans	29	29	37	5	=100
Democrats	69	4	23	4	=100
Independents	48	10	30	12	=100
TRENDS					
George W. Bush (2001)	38	33	20	9	=100
Ronald Reagan (1981)	48	16	25	11	=100

4. In general, how do you think REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS should deal with the new president ON MOST ISSUES? Should they ... **(READ AND ROTATE 1-2)**?

<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Independents</u>
83	Look for ways to work with Obama	69	95	81
10	Challenge Obama and his policies	20	3	10
<u>7</u>	Don't know	<u>11</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>
100		100	100	100

5. In general, do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's choices to fill Cabinet-level positions in his new administration so far?

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>		<u>12/3-4/08</u>	Bush <u>1/10-12/01</u>
68	Approve	72	57
18	Disapprove	18	28
<u>14</u>	Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>15</u>
100		100	100

6. How confident are you that, as president, Barack Obama will have success in each of the following areas?
How confident are you that Obama will be able to... **(INSERT--READ AND ROTATE)?**

READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN REPEAT AS NECESSARY: very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?

	<u>Very Confident</u>	<u>Somewhat Confident</u>	<u>Not too Confident</u>	<u>Not at all Confident</u>	<u>DK</u>	
a. Turn around the economy	23	48	17	9	3	=100
b. Bring U.S. troops home from Iraq without seriously destabilizing the situation there	25	37	19	14	5	=100
c. Defeat Al-Qaeda and the Taliban in Afghanistan	14	34	26	19	7	=100
d. Improve relations with U.S. allies around the world	39	40	11	6	4	=100
e. Make the U.S. less dependent on oil for energy	23	43	17	12	5	=100
f. Make health care more accessible and affordable	28	41	17	10	4	=100

7. In general, do you think the federal government is doing too much to try to stimulate the economy at a time of recession, not enough, or about the right amount?

TOTAL

22	Too much
42	Not enough
25	Right amount
<u>11</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

8. Now I'm going to read you some areas where federal spending might be increased to try to stimulate the economy or improve economic conditions over the long term. Please tell me if you would favor or oppose each of the following spending increases, even if it means raising the federal budget deficit.
(First,) would you favor or oppose increased spending ... **(INSERT—READ AND RANDOMIZE)** even if it means raising the deficit?

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK</u>	
a. To build and repair roads, bridges and other infrastructure	75	23	2	=100
b. To provide loans and other financial support to U.S. industries hurt by the mortgage crisis and problems on Wall Street	36	58	6	=100
c. To develop new clean energy technology	74	23	3	=100
d. To make health care more accessible and affordable	76	21	3	=100

9. Now thinking about priorities for the new president OTHER THAN the economy... Which ONE of the following five issues do you think should have the HIGHEST priority for Barack Obama's attention... **(READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-5)?**
IF R SAYS "THE ECONOMY" OR "JOBS", PROBE: We'd like to know what issue, besides the economy (and jobs), should have the highest priority for Obama's attention. The choices are... **(RE-READ 1-5).**

<u>TOTAL</u>	
36	Health care
22	Energy
15	Iraq
13	Relations with U.S. allies
9	Afghanistan
5	Don't know
100	

10. Now on another subject... How would you rate your own personal financial situation today? Would you say you are in excellent shape, good shape, only fair shape, or poor shape?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>DK</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	7	35	37	20	1	=100
TRENDS						
11/6-7/03	9	41	34	15	1	=100
5/1-2/03	8	38	37	16	1	=100
3/15-16/01	7	42	37	14	*	=100
12/00	9	38	36	15	2	=100
3/00	7	41	40	11	1	=100
9/99	6	43	41	9	1	=100
5/97	7	43	38	11	1	=100
3/94	5	41	40	13	1	=100
12/93	5	34	45	15	1	=100
1/93	4	33	46	16	1	=100
10/92	6	34	40	19	1	=100

11. We're interested in how your personal finances may have changed in recent years. Please tell me if each of the following is higher, lower, or about the same as it was FIVE YEARS AGO. (First,) what about... **(INSERT—READ AND RANDOMIZE)?** Is this higher than it was five years ago, lower, or about the same?

	<u>Higher</u>	<u>Lower</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>N/A (VOL.)</u>	<u>DK</u>	
a. Your total household income						
CURRENT	39	32	26	*	3	=100
2000 ²	53	15	27	2	3	=100
b. Your pay or salary from your job						
CURRENT	36	22	24	16	2	=100
2000	48	11	23	16	2	=100
c. Your retirement savings benefits at work ³						
CURRENT	15	35	30	17	3	=100
2000	27	9	32	28	4	=100

² 2000 interview dates: 2/18-3/15. Response categories were branched. Higher and lower percentages reported here have been collapsed.

³ Modified wording. Previous wording was "Your pension benefits at work".

Q11 Continued

We're interested in how your personal finances may have changed in recent years. Please tell me if each of the following is higher, lower, or about the same as it was FIVE YEARS AGO.

(First,) what about... **(INSERT—READ AND RANDOMIZE)**? Is this higher than it was five years ago, lower, or about the same?

		<u>Higher</u>	<u>Lower</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>N/A (VOL.)</u>	<u>DK</u>	
d. Your savings	CURRENT	19	43	30	6	2	=100
	2000	35	19	35	9	2	=100
e. The value of any stocks, bonds, or other investments you may have – including any in a 401-K or pension plan	CURRENT	7	53	23	14	3	=100
	2000	40	8	25	24	3	=100

12. Looking ahead... Over the next 12 months, do you think your own financial situation will get better, get worse, or stay about the same?

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>DK</u>	
CURRENT TOTAL	32	17	48	3	=100
TRENDS					
11/6-7/03	36	8	54	2	=100
5/1-2/03	40	8	50	2	=100
3/15-16/01	34	15	51	*	=100
12/00	45	6	44	5	=100
3/00	42	7	49	2	=100
1/96	37	8	53	2	=100

13. Now, we'd like your views on immigration to this country – that is, people coming from other countries to live in the United States. On the whole, do you think immigration has been a good thing or a bad thing for the United States IN THE PAST?

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>		<u>7/29-30/93</u>
57	Good thing	59
32	Bad thing	31
7	Some good/Some bad (VOL.)	6
4	Don't Know	4
100		100

14. On the whole, do you think immigration is a good thing or a bad thing for this country TODAY?

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>		<u>7/29-30/93</u>
44	Good thing	29
44	Bad thing	60
7	Some good/Some bad (VOL.)	7
5	Don't Know	4
100		100

15. Thinking about where immigrants to this country come from these days, please tell me if you think there are too many, too few, or about the right number of immigrants now entering the U.S. from each of the following parts of the world. (First,) what about the number of immigrants coming here from... **(READ ITEMS IN ORDER)**

READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Are there too many, too few, or about the right amount?

	<u>Too Many</u>	<u>Too Few</u>	<u>About Right</u>	<u>DK</u>	
a. European countries					
CURRENT	19	13	53	15	=100
TRENDS					
1995	31	5	45	19	=100
1992	36	7	52	5	=100
1984 ⁴	26	11	50	13	=100
b. Latin American countries					
CURRENT	55	3	31	11	=100
TRENDS					
1995	56	3	27	14	=100
1992	69	5	22	4	=100
1984	53	5	30	12	=100
c. African countries					
CURRENT	21	14	50	15	=100
TRENDS					
1995	33	8	42	17	=100
1992	47	10	36	7	=100
1984	31	12	37	20	=100
d. Asian countries					
CURRENT	32	8	48	12	=100
TRENDS					
1995	44	3	38	15	=100
1992	58	4	32	6	=100
1984	49	6	33	12	=100

16a. Were you, yourself, born in the United States or in another country?

16b. Were EITHER of your parents born in another country?

16c. Were ANY of your GRANDparents born in another country?

<u>CURRENT TOTAL</u>		<u>7/29-30/93</u>
8	Current immigrants	5
11	First generation	12
22	Second generation	24
57	Third generation or more	57
<u>2</u>	Undesignated	<u>2</u>
100		100

⁴ 1984 percentages from Gallup Poll.

17. Please tell me which of the following, if any, apply to you. Do you... **(READ ITEMS IN ORDER)?**

	Yes, Applies	No/ DK	
a. Consider yourself to be of mixed race			
CURRENT	16	84	=100
2/1-3/95	16	84	=100
b. Have a child of mixed race			
CURRENT	11	89	=100
2/1-3/95	8	92	=100
c. Personally know an adult or child of mixed race			
CURRENT	82	18	=100
2/1-3/95	74	26	=100
d. Personally know an interracial couple			
CURRENT	79	21	=100
2/1-3/95	58	42	=100
e. Personally speak a language other than English well enough to hold a conversation ⁵			
CURRENT	27	73	=100
3/26-28/01	26	74	=100

18. Are you, or is a close family member now married to or living with a partner who has a different race or a very different religious or ethnic background? **(IF “YES,” PROBE FOR SPECIFICS: Is that a different race, religious, or ethnic background? ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES.)**

CURRENT TOTAL		6/19-25/95 ⁶
TOTAL YES⁷	34	25
Other Race	24	14
Other Religion	15	13
Other Ethnicity	15	7
Total No	65	74
DK	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100

19. Please tell me if you approve or disapprove of marriages between people with the following different racial and ethnic backgrounds. (First,) do you approve or disapprove of marriages between... **(READ ITEM a FIRST, THEN ROTATE ORDER OF ITEM b & c)?**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK</u>	
a. Blacks and whites	80	14	6	=100
TRENDS				
2/2-25/97 ⁸	63	29	8	=100
2/1-3/95	54	34	12	=100

⁵ 2001 percentages from Gallup Poll.

⁶ Modified wording. 1995 question wording was “Are you, or is a close family member, now married to someone of another race OR with a very different religious or ethnic background?”.

⁷ Multiple responses accepted.

⁸ 1997 trends from PSRAI for Knight Ridder Newspapers.

Q19 Continued

Please tell me if you approve or disapprove of marriages between people with the following different racial and ethnic backgrounds. (First,) do you approve or disapprove of marriages between... **(READ ITEM a FIRST, THEN ROTATE ORDER OF ITEM b & c)?**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK</u>	
b. Hispanics and non-Hispanic whites	83	12	5	=100
TREND				
5/2-25/97	72	19	9	=100
c. Asians and whites	84	10	6	=100
TREND				
5/2-25/97	70	21	9	=100

20. Which of these statements best describes you... **(READ 1-3 IN ORDER)?**

CURRENT TOTAL		<u>7/10-24/2002⁹</u>
16	I have lived in a country other than the U.S. for an extended period of time, OR	18
52	I have traveled outside the U.S., but have never lived in another country, OR	51
32	I have never been outside the U.S	31
<u>*</u>	Don't know	<u>*</u>
100		100

21. What is your employment status? Are you, yourself, now employed full-time, part-time, retired, or NOT employed for pay?

CURRENT TOTAL		<u>2/18-3/15/00</u>
46	Full-time	49
13	Part-time	15
22	Retired	19
14	Not employed	11
5	Other (Disabled, student, homemaker, etc.)	6
<u>*</u>	Don't know	<u>*</u>
100		100

22. In a typical week, about how many hours do you work, including all the paying jobs you have?
[INTERVIEWER: READ IF NECESSARY].

Based on Employed Adults [n= 655]

CURRENT TOTAL		<u>2000</u>	<u>1997¹⁰</u>	<u>1991¹¹</u>	<u>1989</u>
22	Under 35 hours	21	14	15	15
41	35-44 hours	37	40	45	46
23	45-59 hours	25	33	27	26
13	60 hours or more	16	12	12	13
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>
100		100	100	100	100

⁹ 2002 percentages from Public Agenda for the National Constitution Center.

¹⁰ 1997 percentages from PSRAI for Wisconsin Public Television.

¹¹ 1991 and 1989 percentages from the Gallup Poll.

23. Some people live from paycheck to paycheck, which means just being able to pay regular bills and other expenses with money from each paycheck, with almost nothing left over for savings. How often, if ever, do you and your family live from paycheck to paycheck... **(READ)**?

CURRENT TOTAL		<u>2/18-3/15/00</u>
23	Always	23
16	Most of the time	17
20	Sometimes	23
17	Hardly ever, OR	16
21	Never?	19
2	No job/Not currently employed	1
<u>1</u>	Don't know	<u>1</u>
100		100

24. Are you now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan? This would include health coverage through an employer, a private plan you bought yourself, and coverage through a government program like Medicare or Medicaid.

CURRENT TOTAL	<u>Yes, Covered</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK</u>	
	85	14	1	=100
TRENDS ¹²				
2/3-6/05	83	17	*	=100
5/30-6/3/01	86	14	*	=100
12/12-30/97	82	18	*	=100
9/3-10/5/93	81	19	0	=100

25. In general, would you describe your OWN political views as... **(READ)**?

TOTAL	
9	Very conservative
30	Conservative
34	Moderate
16	Liberal, OR
6	Very liberal?
<u>5</u>	Don't know
100	

Summary Table with Trends from Inauguration Years

	<u>Total Conservative</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Total Liberal</u>
CURRENT	39	34	22
TRENDS ¹³			
January 2005	34	42	20
January 2001	35	38	20
June 1997	38	40	18
July 1994	39	39	19

¹² All trends from PSRAI for Kaiser Family Foundation/The Harvard School of Public Health.

¹³ All trends from the Pew Research Center. First asked July 1994. No 1993 results available.

26. In voting for major political offices like President, Governor, or U.S. Senator please tell me if you would be willing to vote for a candidate who did NOT share your views on each of the following issues. (First,) what if a candidate did NOT share your views on... **(INSERT—READ AND RANDOMIZE)?**

READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Would you be willing to vote for the candidate if you agreed on other issues, OR would that keep you from voting for them?

	Yes, <u>Willing</u>	No, <u>Would keep me from voting for the candidate</u>	<u>DK</u>	
a. Abortion	46	48	6	=100
b. Gay marriage	48	48	4	=100
c. The war in Iraq	45	48	7	=100
d. Economic policy	42	50	8	=100

- D2. Now I have just a few more questions so we can describe the people who took part in our survey... Regardless of how you might have voted in recent elections, in politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

TOTAL	
26	Republican
40	Democrat
30	Independent
1	No party/Not interested in politics (VOL.)
*	Other party (VOL.)
<u>3</u>	Don't know
100	

**Summary Table with Newsweek Poll averages for 1st Quarter
Past Presidential Inauguration Years:**

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>
CURRENT	26	40	30
TRENDS			
1 st Quarter 2005	31	34	28
1 st Quarter 2001	28	34	34
1 st Quarter 1997	30	31	33
1 st Quarter 1993	29	38	31

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Princeton Survey Research Associates International

Methodology Statement
(1/16/09)

This poll was conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates International from January 14-15, 2009. Telephone interviews were conducted with 1,200 adults, 18 or older. Results are weighted so that the sample demographics match Census Current Population Survey parameters for gender, age, education, race, region, and population density. The overall margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for results based on 1,200 adults. Results based on smaller subgroups are subject to larger margins of sampling error.

SAMPLE SIZE/MARGIN OF ERROR FOR SUBGROUPS:

347 Republicans (plus or minus 6.4)
465 Democrats (plus or minus 5.5)
337 Independents (plus or minus 6.6)

In addition to sampling error, the practical difficulties of conducting surveys can also introduce error or bias to poll results.

NEWSWEEK POLL: Obama Demographics DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	
	<u>Total</u> (n= 1,200) %
<u>Gender</u>	
Men	49
Women	51
<u>Age</u>	
18-34	26
35-44	19
45-64	35
65+	17
Undesignated	3
<u>Party ID</u>	
Republican	26
Democrat	40
Independent	30
Other/Don't know	4
<u>Education</u>	
College graduate	29
Some college	22
No college	48
Undesignated	1
<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>	
White, non-Hispanic	72
Total Non-White	27
Black	11
Hispanic	10
Asian	2
Other/Mixed race	4
Undesignated	1