

THE START OF THE OBAMA PRESIDENCY
 January 11-15, 2009

Amid an economic recession, two wars and with an unpopular outgoing president, most Americans say things in the U.S. are worse today than they were five years ago. But they are optimistic about the future, particularly about a Barack Obama presidency.

In fact, the President-Elect is the recipient of the highest levels of optimism, and expectations, of any modern president.

OPTIMISM ABOUT THE NEXT FOUR YEARS

| | Optimistic | Pessimistic |
|------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Barack Obama (1/2009) | 79% | 16 |
| Bill Clinton (1/1993) | 70% | 21 |
| Ronald Reagan (1/1981) | 69% | 13 |
| Jimmy Carter (1/1977) | 69% | 13 |
| George H. W. Bush (1/1989) | 68% | 23 |
| George W. Bush (1/2001) | 64% | 28 |

Expectations for Obama are exceptionally high overall. 68% think he will be a very good or a good president - higher than past expectations for both George W. Bush in 2001, and George H.W. Bush in 1989.

WHAT KIND OF PRESIDENT WILL ... BE?

| | Barack <u>Obama</u> | George W. <u>Bush</u> | George H.W. <u>Bush</u> |
|-----------|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Very good | 28% | 14% | 7% |
| Good | 40 | 29 | 31 |
| Average | 20 | 42 | 47 |
| Poor | 4 | 12 | 9 |

Obama enters the White House with the highest favorability ratings of any president in the last 30 years. 60% view Obama favorably and only 9% hold a negative opinion of him.

VIEWS OF INCOMING PRESIDENTS

(Pre-Inauguration)

| | Barack <u>Obama</u> | G.W. <u>Bush</u> | Bill <u>Clinton</u> | G.H.W. <u>Bush</u> | Ronald <u>Reagan</u> | Jimmy <u>Carter</u> |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Favorable | 60% | 44% | 45% | 50% | 47% | 16% |
| Not favorable | 9 | 30 | 19 | 23 | 21 | 8 |
| Undecided/ Haven't heard enough | 30 | 25 | 35 | 24 | 32 | 64 |

More than eight in 10 think things in the U.S. are worse now than they were five years ago, but 61% think things will be better five years from now.

| | <u>U.S. TODAY vs. FIVE YEARS AGO</u> | <u>U.S. TODAY VS. FIVE YEARS FROM NOW</u> |
|----------------|--|---|
| Better today | 5% | 61% |
| Worse today | 83 | 19 |
| About the same | 10 | 17 |

Seven in 10 Americans believe Obama will bring real change to the way things are done in Washington, a theme of his campaign. Nearly all Democrats (88%) and 49% of Republicans agree. Most Americans (71%) approve of Obama's cabinet appointments.

OBAMA AND THE ECONOMY

Americans also express a lot of confidence that a President Obama will be able to deal with all the nation's top problems - the economy, Iraq, the situation in the Mideast and the threat of terrorism. About seven in ten express confidence he'll make the right decisions on each of these matters.

CONFIDENT OBAMA WILL MAKE RIGHT DECISIONS ON..

| | Economy | Iraq | Mideast | Terrorism |
|--------------------|---------|------|---------|-----------|
| Very confident | 36% | 30% | 22% | 35% |
| Somewhat confident | 46 | 42 | 46 | 41 |
| Not confident | 15 | 24 | 27 | 21 |

Confidence in Obama's ability to handle the economy has even gone up among registered voters since he was elected. 75% were confident in October 2008 and 81% are today.

The economy is the top concern for Americans and it is the single most important thing they want Obama to address when he becomes president.

Improving the economy (40%) is followed by creating jobs (11%), the war in Iraq (10%), and the issue of health care (8%).

WHAT DO YOU WANT OBAMA TO ACCOMPLISH?

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Improve the economy | 40% |
| Create jobs | 11 |
| Address the Iraq war | 10 |
| Health care | 8 |

When they look ahead four years, Americans expect the economy to get better over the course of Obama's first term.

DURING OBAMA'S PRESIDENCY, ECONOMY WILL...

| | |
|------------|-----|
| Get better | 75% |
| Get worse | 5 |
| Stay same | 17 |

Similarly, three-quarters of Americans expect jobs to be created. Most (59%) also expect a middle class tax-cut, which Obama made a central part of his 2008 campaign - though Americans are not as optimistic about that as job creation.

WILL BARACK OBAMA...

| | | |
|------------------------|-----|----|
| | Yes | No |
| Cut middle-class taxes | 59% | 30 |
| Create jobs | 75% | 17 |

But Americans don't expect things to change overnight. Most think it will take two years or more, for the economy to turn around. They suspect progress on another pocketbook issue, health care, will take a lot longer. Most think that is at least four years off.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE OBAMA TO MAKE REAL PROGRESS ON...

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Fixing the economy | Providing affordable healthcare |
| One year | 17% | 9% |
| Two years | 38 | 26 |
| Four years-plus | 35 | 38 |
| Won't be able | 7 | 22 |

OBAMA, IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

The economy overtook foreign policy concerns in 2008. But an important Obama campaign promise was to end the Iraq war. And most Americans (61%) think the new Administration will make progress toward ending the war within two years.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE OBAMA TO MAKE PROGRESS ENDING IRAQ WAR?

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| One year | 22% |
| Two years | 39 |
| Four years-plus | 26 |
| Will never | 7 |

If Obama does make progress ending the war, that would please the 73% of Americans who want to see troops decreased or removed from Iraq altogether.

Meanwhile, Obama has talked of increasing the number of troops in Afghanistan. 34% favor that. Another 28% would keep levels as they are.

U.S. TROOPS LEVELS IN AFGHANISTAN

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Increased | 34% |
| Kept same | 28 |
| Decreased | 26 |

CLOSING GUANTANAMO AND THE THREAT OF TERRORISM

Obama has also promised to close down the U.S.' Guantanamo Bay detention center. More Americans are in favor of keeping it operational than of closing it, though the number in support of closure has risen somewhat in the last two years. These views divide on partisan lines, with Democrats more in favor of closing it.

SHOULD GUANTANAMO BAY...

| | | |
|--------------|-----|--------|
| | Now | 7/2006 |
| Be kept open | 48% | 51% |
| Be closed | 40 | 34 |

Americans don't expect another terrorist attack soon; just 34% think one is at least somewhat likely soon.

The number who feel an attack is very likely is now the lowest since this poll started asking the question in the fall of 2001.

LIKELIHOOD OF TERROR ATTACK IN U.S. SOON?

| | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-------|-------|--------|
| | Now | 12/08 | 12/07 | 1/2002 |
| Very likely | 5% | 9% | 11% | 23% |
| Somewhat likely | 29 | 36 | 29 | 48 |
| Not likely | 63 | 53 | 55 | 25 |

GAYS IN THE MILITARY

Another possible change the Obama administration is contemplating is eliminating the so-called "Don't ask don't tell" policy pertaining to gays and lesbians in the military.

Unlike opinion early in President Bill Clinton's first term, today there is clear public support for allowing gays to serve. Today 67% favor it, nearly half do so strongly.

FAVOR OR OPPOSE GAYS SERVING IN MILITARY?

| | | |
|-----------------|-----|--------|
| | Now | 2/1993 |
| Strongly favor | 46% | 21% |
| Somewhat favor | 21 | 21 |
| Somewhat oppose | 6 | 13 |
| Strongly oppose | 11 | 29 |

Both Republicans and Democrats favor allowing gays to serve. Most Americans of all age groups favor it, though the strongest support comes from those under age 45.

Moreover, most (62%) Americans now think gays should be allowed to serve openly. This was not the case in 1993.

GAYS ALLOWED TO SERVE OPENLY

| | Now | 1/1993 |
|--------|-----|--------|
| Favor | 62% | 37% |
| Oppose | 26 | 56 |

WORRYING ABOUT OBAMA

When Americans are asked what worries them most about Obama being president, 12% cite his inexperience, the same number (12%) are concerned about his safety, and 5% say he won't be able to deliver on his campaign promises. 7% say nothing worries them about Obama being president.

VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT JOE BIDEN

Joe Biden, elected to the Senate in 1972, prepares to assume the vice presidency with a 36% favorable rating. This rating is similar to that of incoming VPs Dick Cheney (37%) and Al Gore (36%), but higher than that of Dan Quayle (19%).

VIEWS OF INCOMING VICE PRESIDENTS

| | Biden 1/2009 | Cheney 1/2001 | Gore 1/1993 | Quayle 1/1989 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Favorable | 36% | 37% | 36% | 19% |
| Not favorable | 13 | 17 | 7 | 23 |
| Undecided/Haven't heard | 50 | 45 | 56 | 56 |

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1,112 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone January 11-15, 2009. Phone numbers were dialed from RDD samples of both standard land-lines and cell phones. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points. The error for subgroups is higher.

CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
The Start of the Obama Presidency
January 11-15, 2009

q1 I'd like you to compare the way things are going in the United States to the way they were going five years ago. Generally, would you say things are going better today, worse today, or about the same today as they were going five years ago?

| | ** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ** | | | | Mar08c |
|--------|-------------------------|------------------|-----|-----|--------|
| | Total | *** Party ID *** | | | |
| | % | Rep | Dem | Ind | % |
| Better | 5 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| Worse | 83 | 80 | 87 | 82 | 78 |
| Same | 10 | 13 | 7 | 12 | 17 |
| DK/NA | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

q2 And what is your best guess about the United States five years from now? Generally, if things go pretty much as you now expect, do you think things will be better, worse, or about the same as they are today?

| | | | | | |
|--------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Better | 61 | 46 | 75 | 53 | 39 |
| Worse | 19 | 26 | 12 | 21 | 34 |
| Same | 17 | 20 | 9 | 22 | 19 |
| DK/NA | 3 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 8 |

q3 Do you feel things in this country are generally going in the right direction or do you feel things have pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?

| | | | | | Dec08a |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Right direction | 15 | 13 | 19 | 12 | 12 |
| Wrong track | 79 | 77 | 77 | 83 | 83 |
| DK/NA | 6 | 10 | 4 | 5 | 5 |

q4-6 SEPARATE RELEASE

q7 Is your opinion of Barack Obama favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Barack Obama yet to have an opinion?

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Favorable | 60 | 21 | 90 | 51 | 55 |
| Not favorable | 9 | 24 | 1 | 8 | 12 |
| Undecided | 22 | 41 | 5 | 28 | 24 |
| Haven't heard enough | 8 | 13 | 3 | 10 | 7 |
| Refused | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 |

q8 Is your opinion of Joe Biden favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Joe Biden yet to have an opinion?

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Favorable | 36 | 9 | 61 | 25 | 33 |
| Not favorable | 13 | 33 | 3 | 12 | 15 |
| Undecided | 18 | 26 | 12 | 21 | 22 |
| Haven't heard enough | 32 | 32 | 24 | 40 | 29 |
| Refused | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 |

q9 HELD FOR RELEASE

q10 Are you generally optimistic or pessimistic about the next four years with Barack Obama as President?

| ** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ** | | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| | *** Party ID *** | | | | |
| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind | Dec08a |
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Optimistic | 79 | 56 | 92 | 78 | 75 |
| Pessimistic | 16 | 37 | 5 | 16 | 17 |
| Don't know/No answer | 5 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 8 |

q11 What kind of President do you think Barack Obama will be -- a very good President, a good President, an average President, or a poor President?

| | | | | | |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Very good | 28 | 9 | 48 | 19 | 29 |
| Good | 40 | 29 | 42 | 44 | 34 |
| Average | 20 | 40 | 8 | 21 | 23 |
| Poor | 4 | 10 | 1 | 4 | 7 |
| DK/NA | 8 | 12 | 1 | 12 | 7 |

q12 Do you think of Barack Obama as more of a liberal, a moderate or a conservative?

| | | | | | Reg. Voters Oct08e |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|-----------------------|
| Liberal | 40 | 59 | 30 | 40 | 57 |
| Moderate | 34 | 24 | 42 | 33 | 28 |
| Conservative | 13 | 6 | 15 | 14 | 8 |
| Don't know/No answer | 13 | 11 | 13 | 13 | 7 |

q13 What is the single most important thing you would like to see Barack Obama accomplish in the next four years as President?

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Improve the economy | 40 | 44 | 40 | 36 |
| Create jobs in the U.S. | 11 | 10 | 14 | 9 |
| Address/end Iraq war | 10 | 6 | 11 | 11 |
| Health insurance plan | 8 | 3 | 9 | 9 |
| Make the U.S. better (general) | 5 | 4 | 4 | 6 |
| Change foreign policy | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Keep country safe | 2 | 6 | 1 | 1 |
| Bring bipartisanship | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Other | 16 | 18 | 15 | 20 |
| DK/NA | 4 | 6 | 2 | 5 |

q14 Regardless of how you voted, what worries you most about Barack Obama being President?

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Inexperienced | 12 | 19 | 11 | 9 |
| Won't finish his term/safety | 12 | 4 | 19 | 9 |
| Can't deliver on promises | 5 | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| Race relations | 5 | 3 | 7 | 3 |
| Too liberal | 4 | 8 | 2 | 4 |
| Foreign policy | 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Won't end Iraq war | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| Nothing | 7 | 4 | 11 | 7 |
| Other | 25 | 36 | 16 | 28 |
| DK/NA | 25 | 17 | 27 | 28 |

q15-16 BLANK

q17-18 SEPARATE RELEASE

q19 When he is President, do you think Barack Obama will bring about real change in the way things are done in Washington, or won't he do that?

| | ** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ** | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| | *** Party ID *** | | | | |
| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind | Dec08a |
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Will | 70 | 49 | 88 | 63 | 64 |
| Will not | 21 | 37 | 7 | 25 | 27 |
| Don't know/No answer | 9 | 14 | 5 | 12 | 9 |

q20 BLANK

q21 How confident are you in Barack Obama's ability to make the right decisions about the economy -- very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Very confident | 36 | 10 | 59 | 28 | 31 |
| Somewhat confident | 46 | 48 | 39 | 51 | 46 |
| Not too confident | 11 | 27 | 2 | 12 | 14 |
| Not at all confident | 4 | 10 | 0 | 3 | 7 |
| Don't know/No answer | 3 | 5 | 0 | 6 | 2 |

q22 How confident are you in Barack Obama's ability to make the right decisions about the war in Iraq -- very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Very confident | 30 | 9 | 47 | 25 | 28 |
| Somewhat confident | 42 | 35 | 44 | 45 | 41 |
| Not too confident | 16 | 29 | 6 | 18 | 17 |
| Not at all confident | 8 | 23 | 2 | 7 | 12 |
| Don't know/No answer | 4 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 2 |

q23 How confident are you in Barack Obama's ability to make the right decisions about the situation in the Middle East -- very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?

| | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Very confident | 22 | 3 | 36 | 18 |
| Somewhat confident | 46 | 37 | 50 | 48 |
| Not too confident | 19 | 37 | 9 | 20 |
| Not at all confident | 8 | 18 | 1 | 9 |
| Don't know/No answer | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 |

q24 How confident are you in Barack Obama's ability to make the right decisions when it comes to protecting the country from a terrorist attack--are you very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Very confident | 35 | 16 | 53 | 28 | 29 |
| Somewhat confident | 41 | 33 | 42 | 45 | 43 |
| Not too confident | 15 | 30 | 4 | 17 | 16 |
| Not at all confident | 6 | 18 | 1 | 5 | 10 |
| Don't know/No answer | 3 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 2 |

q25 By the end of Barack Obama's term in office, do you expect the economy to be better than it is today, worse than it is today, or about the same?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind |
|--------|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| | % | % | % | % |
| Better | 75 | 62 | 90 | 66 |
| Worse | 5 | 10 | 2 | 7 |
| Same | 17 | 27 | 7 | 23 |
| DK/NA | 3 | 1 | 1 | 4 |

q26 Do you think Barack Obama will or will not create a significant number of new jobs in the next four years?

| | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|
| Will | 75 | 58 | 90 | 69 |
| Will not | 17 | 34 | 4 | 22 |
| DK/NA | 8 | 8 | 6 | 9 |

q27 Do you think Barack Obama will or will not cut taxes for the middle class?

| | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|
| Will | 59 | 42 | 71 | 57 |
| Will not | 30 | 47 | 19 | 32 |
| DK/NA | 11 | 11 | 10 | 11 |

q28 SEPARATE RELEASE

q29 How long do you think it will take the Obama Administration to make real progress on fixing the nation's economy -- a year, two years, four years, more than four years, or won't they be able to?

| | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|
| A year | 17 | 13 | 21 | 15 |
| Two years | 38 | 37 | 42 | 34 |
| Four years | 18 | 16 | 16 | 21 |
| More than four years | 17 | 16 | 19 | 16 |
| Won't be able to | 7 | 15 | 1 | 10 |
| DK/NA | 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 |

q30 How long do you think it will take the Obama Administration to make real progress on providing affordable health care to all Americans -- a year, two years, four years, more than four years, or won't they be able to?

| | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|
| A year | 9 | 5 | 13 | 8 |
| Two years | 26 | 15 | 35 | 22 |
| Four years | 20 | 17 | 19 | 23 |
| More than four years | 18 | 22 | 16 | 19 |
| Won't be able to | 22 | 36 | 13 | 23 |
| DK/NA | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 |

q31 How long do you think it will take the Obama Administration to make real progress in ending the war in Iraq --- a year, two years, four years, more than four years, or won't they be able to?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind |
|----------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| | % | % | % | % |
| A year | 22 | 15 | 27 | 22 |
| Two years | 39 | 39 | 43 | 35 |
| Four years | 15 | 14 | 15 | 15 |
| More than four years | 11 | 13 | 7 | 13 |
| Won't be able to | 7 | 12 | 4 | 8 |
| DK/NA | 6 | 7 | 4 | 7 |

q32 How closely have you been following news about the people Barack Obama has selected for positions in his administration? Have you been following that very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, or not at all?

| | | | | | Dec08a |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| | | | | | % |
| Very closely | 19 | 17 | 19 | 20 | 34 |
| Somewhat closely | 52 | 57 | 56 | 46 | 47 |
| Not too closely | 22 | 18 | 19 | 26 | 15 |
| Not at all | 7 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 4 |
| DK/NA | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

q33 From what you've heard or read, do you approve or disapprove of the Cabinet selections Barack Obama has made so far?

| | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Approve | 71 | 45 | 90 | 66 | 72 |
| Disapprove | 12 | 31 | 2 | 13 | 12 |
| DK/NA | 17 | 24 | 8 | 21 | 16 |

q34-35 BLANK

q36-68 SEPARATE RELEASE

q69 Do you favor or oppose permitting homosexuals to serve in the military? Do you favor/oppose that strongly or not so strongly?

| | | | | | Feb93a |
|------------------------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| | | | | | % |
| Favor strongly | 46 | 31 | 57 | 44 | 21 |
| Favor not so strongly | 21 | 22 | 17 | 24 | 21 |
| Oppose strongly | 11 | 19 | 6 | 13 | 29 |
| Oppose not so strongly | 6 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 13 |
| DK/NA | 16 | 20 | 11 | 16 | 16 |

q70 What if they openly announce their sexual orientation? In that case would you favor or oppose permitting homosexuals to serve in the military?

| | | | | | |
|--------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Favor | 62 | 45 | 70 | 64 | 37 |
| Oppose | 26 | 38 | 20 | 24 | 56 |
| DK/NA | 12 | 17 | 10 | 12 | 7 |

q71-75 SEPARATE RELEASE

q76 From what you have seen or heard about the situation in Iraq, what should the United States do now -- should the U.S. increase the number of U.S. troops in Iraq, keep the same number of U.S. troops in Iraq as there are now, decrease the number of troops in Iraq, or remove all its troops from Iraq?

| *** TOTAL RESPONDENTS *** | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| *** Party ID *** | | | | | |
| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind | Sep07b |
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Increase | 3 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| Keep the same | 18 | 40 | 7 | 18 | 21 |
| Decrease | 45 | 38 | 53 | 40 | 39 |
| Remove all troops | 28 | 10 | 35 | 31 | 29 |
| Don't know/No answer | 6 | 7 | 4 | 7 | 5 |

q77 What if removing troops meant Iraq would become a base of operations for terrorists, then would you still favor removing U.S. troops from Iraq, or not?

| WANT A DECREASE OR REMOVAL OF TROOPS IN IRAQ | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|--|
| Favor removal | 42 | 26 | 46 | 44 | |
| Not favor removal | 51 | 67 | 48 | 50 | |
| Don't know/No answer | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 | |

q78 From what you have seen or heard about the situation in Afghanistan, what should the United States do now--should the U.S. increase the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan, keep the same number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan as there are now or decrease the number of troops in Afghanistan?

| *** TOTAL RESPONDENTS *** | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|----|--|
| Increase | 34 | 42 | 29 | 34 | |
| Keep the same | 28 | 28 | 30 | 27 | |
| Decrease | 26 | 19 | 30 | 27 | |
| Don't know/No answer | 12 | 11 | 11 | 12 | |

q79 What if additional troops in Afghanistan would result in substantially more U.S. casualties? Then would you favor or oppose additional efforts in Afghanistan?

| WANT A DECREASE OR REMOVAL OF TROOPS IN AFGHANISTAN | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|--|
| Favor | 75 | 73 | 68 | 83 | |
| Oppose | 17 | 17 | 26 | 9 | |
| DK/NA | 8 | 10 | 6 | 8 | |

q80 How closely have you been following news about accusations that the Governor of Illinois, Rod Blagojevich, tried to sell Barack Obama's Senate seat in exchange for money or political favors? Have you been following that very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely or not at all?

| ** TOTAL RESPONDENTS ** | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----|----|----|----|--|
| Very closely | 25 | 29 | 28 | 21 | |
| Somewhat closely | 42 | 46 | 42 | 40 | |
| Not too closely | 21 | 17 | 23 | 22 | |
| Not at all | 11 | 7 | 8 | 15 | |
| DK/NA | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | |

q81 BLANK

q82 How likely do you think it is that there will be another terrorist attack in the United States within the next few months - very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind | Dec08a |
|-------------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| Very likely | 5 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Somewhat likely | 29 | 36 | 23 | 31 | 36 |
| Not very likely | 42 | 40 | 46 | 39 | 38 |
| Not at all likely | 21 | 14 | 26 | 20 | 15 |
| Already happened (Vol.) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -- |
| DK/NA | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 |

q83-85 SEPARATE RELEASE

q86-95 HELD FOR RELEASE

q96 SEPARATE RELEASE

q97 How much have you heard or read about the United States government holding suspected terrorists at the U.S. military prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba -- a lot, some, not much, or nothing at all?

| | Total | Rep | Dem | Ind | Jul06a |
|----------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| A lot | 27 | 25 | 29 | 25 | 32 |
| Some | 37 | 45 | 30 | 39 | 37 |
| Not much | 19 | 20 | 18 | 20 | 18 |
| Nothing at all | 17 | 10 | 22 | 15 | 11 |
| DK/NA | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |

q98 As you may know, for the past seven years the United States has been holding a number of suspected terrorists at a U.S. military prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Based on what you have heard or read, do you think the U.S. should continue to operate the prison, or do you think the U.S. should close the prison and transfer the prisoners somewhere else?

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Continue to operate | 48 | 68 | 39 | 46 | 51 |
| Close it | 40 | 19 | 51 | 39 | 34 |
| DK/NA | 12 | 13 | 10 | 15 | 5 |

| | UNWEIGHTED | WEIGHTED |
|--------------------|------------|----------|
| Total Respondents | 1112 | |
| Total Republicans | 281 | 237 |
| Total Democrats | 416 | 439 |
| Total Independents | 415 | 436 |