



CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
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PRESIDENT OBAMA: A DIFFERENT KIND OF POLITICIAN
April 22-26, 2009

As he approaches 100 days in office, more than two-thirds of Americans see President Barack Obama as a different kind of politician.

IS OBAMA A DIFFERENT OR TYPICAL KIND OF POLITICIAN?

Table with 2 columns: Response, Percentage. Rows: Different (68%), Typical (25%)

And the public says it is more his governing style than any specific policies that sets this President apart from other politicians.

WHY IS OBAMA A DIFFERENT POLITICIAN?

Table with 2 columns: Reason, Percentage. Rows: Governing style (40%), Policies (9%), Both style and policies (vol.) (13%), Other reason (6%), He's typical, not different (25%)

Still, many Republicans view the President as a typical politician. 44% of them say he is typical, compared to just 9% of Democrats who think that. Nine in 10 Democrats see President Obama as a different kind of politician.

While majorities of both whites and blacks think Barack Obama is a different kind of politician, whites are more than twice as likely as blacks to describe the President as a typical politician.

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 973 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone April 22-26, 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.

An oversample of African Americans was interviewed for a total of 212 interviews with African Americans. The results were then weighted in proportion to the racial composition of the adult population in the U.S. Census. The margin of error for the sample of African Americans is seven percentage points.

This poll release conforms to the Standards of Disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

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q20 Based on his first few months in office, do you think Barack Obama is a typical politician, or do you think he's a different kind of politician? IF DIFFERENT, ASK: Do you think it's mostly his policies that make him a different kind of politician, or is it mostly his style of governing and personal qualities that make him different, or is there some other reason?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
	*** Party ID ***			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Typical	25	44	9	30
Different	68	56	91	70
Different, policies	9	7	10	9
Different, style	40	29	52	36
Different, other	6	5	5	9
Different, both (vol.)	13	7	20	9
DK/NA	7	8	4	7

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	973	
Total Republicans	217	196
Total Democrats	411	372
Total Independents	345	405