

THE EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI January 14-17, 2010

President Obama has promised extensive aid to help earthquake-ravaged Haiti - where up to 200,000 deaths are being predicted due to the magnitude 7.0 earthquake that hit Port-au-Prince on January 12th - and Americans believe that the U.S. has a responsibility to help and approve of the president's handling of the U.S. response to the crisis so far.

Eight in ten Americans approve of President Obama's response; just 8% disapprove. Unlike many political issues today, there is no partisan divide on this - Republicans, Democrats and independents all give the President strong marks, with at least three in four approving.

OBAMA HANDLING OF HAITI CRISIS

	All	Reps	Dems	Inds
Approve	80%	77%	87%	75%
Disapprove	8	8	5	10

Presidential approval ratings can - but don't always -- rise as a result of a crisis or disaster. In January 2005, 81% approved of how President George W. Bush was handling the U.S. response to the tsunami in South Asia, and in the aftermath of the September 2001 terrorist attacks his approval rating rose to 90%, the highest recorded for a modern President. But President Bush's approval rating dropped in the aftermath of his administration's handling of Hurricane Katrina.

Overwhelmingly, Americans say the U.S. has a responsibility to provide humanitarian assistance to the victims of the devastating earthquake in Haiti. This, too, spans the political spectrum.

DOES U.S. HAVE RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP HAITI?

	All	Liberals	Moderates	Conservatives
Yes	84%	88%	88%	78%
No	11	9	9	16

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1090 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone January 14-17, 2010. Phone numbers were dialed from random digit dial samples of both standard land-line 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.

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

CBS News Poll
The Earthquake in Haiti
January 14-17, 2010

q1-10 SEPARATE RELEASE

q11 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the U.S. response to the earthquake in Haiti?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
	*** Party ID ***			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Approve	80	77	87	75
Disapprove	8	8	5	10
DK/NA	12	15	8	15

q12-45 SEPARATE RELEASE

q45 Do you think the United States has a responsibility to provide humanitarian assistance to the victims of the earthquake in Haiti, or doesn't the United States have this responsibility?

Has responsibility	84	85	88	80
Doesn't have responsibility	11	10	9	15
DK/NA	5	5	3	5

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1,090	
Total Republicans	311	302 (28%)
Total Democrats	361	389 (36%)
Total Independents	418	399 (33%)