

PRESIDENT OBAMA AND DOMESTIC ISSUES

March 29 - April 1, 2010

Last week, President Barack Obama signed historic health care reform legislation into law - but his legislative success has not helped his image with the American public. The latest CBS News Poll finds Americans unhappier than ever with his performance handling health care - and still worried about the state of the economy.

President Obama's overall job approval rating has fallen to an all-time low of 44%, down five points from late March, just before the bill's passage in the House of Representatives. It is down 24 points since his all-time high last April. 41% now disapprove.

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S JOB APPROVAL RATING

	Now	3/2010	2/2010	1/2010	4/2009
Approve	44%	49%	46%	50%	68%
Disapprove	41	41	45	40	23
Don't know	15	10	9	10	9

When it comes to health care, the President's approval rating is even lower - and is also a new all-time low. Only 34% approve, while a majority of 55% disapprove.

OBAMA HEALTH CARE APPROVAL

	Now	3/2010	2/2010	1/2010	7/2009
Approve	34%	41%	35%	40%	49%
Disapprove	55	51	55	54	37

But Americans are still worried about the economy: 84% say it is in bad condition. As high as that is, it is still an improvement: nine in ten thought the economy was bad during the last half of 2008 and at the beginning of 2009, when Barack Obama assumed the Presidency.

CONDITION OF THE ECONOMY

	Now	12/2009	2/2009	10/2008
Good	16%	22%	5%	11%
Bad	84	77	93	89

Concern about job loss remains high; slightly more Americans now (35%) than in February (31%) are very concerned that someone in their household will lose a job. Nearly six in ten Americans are concerned about a job loss.

CONCERN ABOUT HOUSEHOLD JOB LOSS

	Now	2/2010	4/2009
Very concerned	35%	31%	44%
Somewhat concerned	24	26	26
Not concerned	41	41	30

As has often been the case, lower-income Americans tend to be the most concerned about job loss.

This concern is reflected in yet another low approval rating - this time for the President's handling of the economy. Just 42% approve of how President Obama is handling the economy, only one point above January's all-time low. Half the public disapproves.

OBAMA HANDLING THE ECONOMY

	Now	3/2010	1/2010	4/2009
Approve	42%	45%	41%	61%
Disapprove	50	45	47	29

More results from this CBS News Poll will be released at 6:30 p.m. ET on the CBS Evening News with Katie Couric.

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 858 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone March 29-April 1, 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.