



CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
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AMERICANS' OUTLOOK ON THE ECONOMY AND THE PRESIDENT

April 28-May 2, 2010

Americans are more optimistic about the future of the economy than they were last month. 41% of Americans now say the economy is improving, up eight points from April and more than at any time during this recession. Just 15% think the economy is getting worse.

ECONOMY IS ...

Table with 4 columns: Category, Now, 4/2010, 1/2009. Rows: Getting Better, Getting Worse, Staying the Same.

There has also been a small bump in President Barack Obama's approval rating on the economy. 48% now approve of the job he's doing on the economy - up five points in the last month, and the highest figure since last November.

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S HANDLING OF THE ECONOMY

Table with 4 columns: Category, Now, 4/2010, 11/2009. Rows: Approve, Disapprove.

Most Democrats (77%) approve of the President's handling the economy, while most Republicans disapprove (86%). Independents are divided: 46% approve, while 45% disapprove. Last month, more independents disapproved than approved of how President Obama was handling the economy.

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1079 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone April 28-May 2, 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.

Sample sizes:

Table with 2 columns: Category, Total Respondents. Rows: Total Respondents, Total Republicans, Total Democrats, Total Independents.