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Interview dates: March 3-6, 2011  
Interviews: 1,040 adults; 776 registered voters  
478 Democrats; 381 Republicans; 181 Independents  
Margin of Error:  $\pm 3.1$  for all adults;  $\pm 3.5$  for registered voters;  $\pm 4.4\%$  for Democrats;  
 $\pm 4.9$  for Republicans;  $\pm 7.4$  for Independents (based on all adults)

**Ipsos Poll conducted for Reuters, March 3-6, 2011**  
**NOTE: all results shown are percentages unless otherwise labeled.**

*These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted for Reuters from March 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> 2011. For the survey, a nationally representative, randomly selected sample of exactly 1,040 adults aged 18 and older across the United States was interviewed by Ipsos via live telephone interviewing on landlines and cell phones. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate within 3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult population in the U.S. been polled.*

*All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. These data were weighted to ensure that the sample composition reflects that of the actual U.S. population according to U.S. Census figures. Respondents had the option to be interviewed in English or Spanish. Please note that throughout this document, figures based on Independent voters are indicative only due to very small sample size. Figures marked by an asterisk (\*) indicate a percentage value of greater than zero but less than one half of a per cent. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding.*

**POLITICAL TRACKER**

1. Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track? ENTER SINGLE RESPONSE. IF UNSURE, ENCOURAGE BEST GUESS.

	<u>Right Direction</u>	<u>Wrong Track</u>	<u>(Not Sure)</u>
3/3-6/11	31	64	5
2/4-7/11	38	57	5
1/7-10/11	36	59	6
12/2-5/10	29	62	9
10/28-31/10	33	62	5
10/7-11/10	31	63	6
9/16-19/10	33	61	5
8/19-22/10	31	62	7
7/22-25/10	34	60	6
6/10-13/10	33	61	6
5/6-9/10	34	60	6
4/1-5/10	40	54	5
2/26-28/10	34	60	6
1/28-31/10	37	57	5
1/7-11/10	39	55	6
12/3-6/09	36	60	4
10/29-11/1/09	38	57	4
10/1-5/09	40	56	5
8/27-31/09	40	54	6
7/30-8/3/09	46	48	6
7/9-13/09	40	54	6
6/4-8/09	52	42	6
4/30-5/3/09	55	38	7
4/2-6/09	45	48	7
3/5-9/09	44	48	8
2/6-9/09	42	50	8



2. a. Overall, do you approve, disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? IF APPROVE/ DISAPPROVE, ASK Q4b. IF MIXED FEELINGS / DK / REFUSED, ASK Q4c
- b. Is that strongly (approve/disapprove) or somewhat (approve/disapprove)?
- c. If you had to choose, do you lean more towards approve or disapprove?

	<u>Strongly</u> <u>approve</u>	<u>Somewhat</u> <u>approve</u>	<u>Lean</u> <u>toward</u> <u>approval</u>	<u>Still have</u> <u>mixed</u> <u>feelings</u>	<u>Lean</u> <u>toward</u> <u>disapproval</u>	<u>Somewhat</u> <u>disapprove</u>	<u>Strongly</u> <u>disapprove</u>	<u>(Not sure)</u>	<b>TOTAL</b> <b>Approve</b>	<b>TOTAL</b> <b>Disapprove</b>	<b>Mean</b> <b>Rating</b>
3/3-6/11	23	13	14	3	13	7	26	1	<b>49</b>	<b>47</b>	4.0
2/4-7/11	23	14	14	2	16	5	25	1	<b>51</b>	<b>46</b>	4.1
1/7-10/11	24	13	13	3	15	7	25	*	<b>50</b>	<b>47</b>	4.1
12/2-5/10	23	11	11	6	12	8	26	2	<b>45</b>	<b>46</b>	4.0
10/28-31/10	26	10	9	3	14	6	31	1	<b>45</b>	<b>51</b>	3.9
10/7-11/10	22	10	10	3	14	9	31	1	<b>43</b>	<b>53</b>	3.7
9/16-19/10	24	12	10	2	14	4	31	2	<b>47</b>	<b>50</b>	3.9
8/19-22/10	20	13	12	2	16	7	29	1	<b>45</b>	<b>52</b>	3.8
7/22-25/10	24	12	13	2	12	6	31	1	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	3.9
6/10-13/10	23	13	14	4	14	4	26	1	<b>50</b>	<b>45</b>	4.1
5/6-9/10	20	17	15	3	13	4	27	1	<b>52</b>	<b>43</b>	4.1
4/1-5/10	25	16	10	2	14	5	27	1	<b>51</b>	<b>46</b>	4.1
2/26-28/10	25	18	11	2	13	7	25	1	<b>53</b>	<b>44</b>	4.2
1/28-31/10	22	13	14	3	13	6	27	1	<b>50</b>	<b>46</b>	4
1/7-11/10	27	15	11	2	12	5	28	0	<b>52</b>	<b>45</b>	4.1
12/3-6/09	25	12	12	2	15	6	27	1	<b>49</b>	<b>49</b>	4
10/29-1/1/09	23	17	14	2	14	4	25	1	<b>53</b>	<b>43</b>	4.2
10/1-5/09	30	12	14	3	12	5	23	1	<b>56</b>	<b>40</b>	4.4
8/27-31/09	31	16	9	3	8	3	28	1	<b>56</b>	<b>40</b>	4.4
7/30-8/3/09	32	17	9	4	8	5	24	1	<b>58</b>	<b>37</b>	4.5
7/9-13/09	29	17	11	3	11	6	22	1	<b>57</b>	<b>38</b>	4.4
6/4-8/09	40	14	10	3	9	7	16	1	<b>64</b>	<b>32</b>	4.9
4/30-5/3/09	40	17	8	2	9	3	19	1	<b>65</b>	<b>31</b>	4.9
4/2-6/09	35	18	9	4	9	4	20	0	<b>63</b>	<b>33</b>	4.7
3/5 -9/09	39	15	10	5	8	5	17	1	<b>65</b>	<b>29</b>	4.9
2/6- 9/09	38	19	13	3	10	4	12	1	<b>69</b>	<b>26</b>	5.1



**APPROVAL BY PARTY ID**

	<u>DEMOCRATS:</u> <u>Approve</u>	<u>DEMOCRATS:</u> <u>Disapprove</u>	<u>INDEPENDENTS:</u> <u>Approve</u>	<u>INDEPENDENTS:</u> <u>Disapprove</u>	<u>REPUBLICANS:</u> <u>Approve</u>	<u>REPUBLICANS:</u> <u>Disapprove</u>
3/3-6/11	80	16	37	53	15	82
2/4-7/11	79	19	47	47	18	81
1/7-10/11	77	20	50	45	17	80
12/2-5/10	71	22	42	37	12	83
10/28-31/10	76	22	42	49	13	82
10/7-11/10	70	27	41	48	14	83
9/16-19/10	78	20	47	37	11	87
8/19-22/10	74	24	37	53	11	86
7/22-25/10	76	21	52	41	14	84
6/10-13/10	82	15	47	39	13	84
5/6-9/10	84	14	40	47	18	80
4/1-5/10	84	14	40	50	16	83
2/26-28/10	80	18	54	42	23	75
1/28-31/10	79	19	53	31	19	79
1/7-11/10	81	17	49	46	18	80
12/3-6/09	77	21	41	55	16	81
10/29-1/1/09	82	15	45	41	21	78
10/1-5/09	86	12	47	41	18	80
8/27-31/09	88	10	54	37	18	78
7/30-8/3/09	82	15	57	34	24	70
7/9-13/09	84	13	50	36	24	73
6/4-8/09	89	10	58	31	27	67
4/30-5/3/09	95	4	56	34	29	67
4/2-6/09	91	6	57	21	26	72
3/5 -9/09	89	8	58	31	29	66
2/6- 9/09	92	6	70	19	34	60



**POLITICAL FIGURE FAVORABILITY**

3. Would you say your overall opinion of ... is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable or very unfavorable? How about... ?

	<u>Very fav</u>	<u>Mostly fav</u>	<u>Mostly unfav</u>	<u>Very unfav</u>	<u>DK/NS</u>	<u>Total fav</u>	<u>Total unfav</u>	<u>Net fav</u>
<b>Barack Obama</b>								
3/3-6/11	24	30	18	24	3	55	42	+13
12/2-5/10	29	26	22	21	2	55	43	+12
<b>Mitt Romney</b>								
3/3-6/11	8	28	20	12	32	36	32	+6
12/2-5/10	14	28	20	11	28	41	31	+10
<b>Tim Pawlenty</b>								
3/3-6/11	5	17	12	7	59	22	19	+3
12/2-5/10	6	14	14	8	58	20	22	2
<b>John Boehner</b>								
3/3-6/11	9	22	19	11	40	31	29	+2
<b>Newt Gingrich</b>								
3/3-6/11	10	25	19	20	26	35	38	3

**US BUDGET**

4. The two main ways of reducing the budget deficit are to cut existing programs and to raise taxes. If you had to choose, which approach would you prefer?

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Independents</u>	<u>Republicans</u>
Cut existing programs	56	41	49	79
Raise taxes	30	46	21	14
Both	3	4	4	3
Neither	8	8	17	3
DK/NS	3	1	9	2

5. The following three programs account for over 60% of the total federal budget. In which of the following areas would you recommend cuts in order to reduce the federal budget deficit?  
*BASE: 544 who say 'cut existing programs' or 'both' at Q4*

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Independents</u>	<u>Republicans</u>
Defense spending	51	71	66	36
Medicare/Medicaid	28	15	14	37
Social Security	18	11	13	24
Other	4	4	4	5
None	10	6	6	12
DK/NS	2	1	3	2



- 6. Republicans in Congress have proposed cutting 61 billion dollars from the budget. Some people believe that cuts of this size are essential to balance the budget. Others believe that cuts of this size could cause job losses. Which of these comes closer to your personal view?

	Total	Democrats	Independents	Republicans
Essential to balance the budget	45	27	45	67
Could cause job losses	48	67	39	28
DK/NS	7	6	15	5

- 6. As you may know, the federal government may shutdown because Republicans and Democrats in Congress have been unable to agree on a budget for the rest of 2011. In your view, to what extent would a government shutdown affect you personally? Would it affect you...?

	Total	Democrats	Independents	Republicans
A lot	36	41	42	26
Some	22	23	13	25
A little	20	21	16	21
Not at all	19	13	19	26
DK/NS	3	2	10	1
A lot/Some	58	64	55	51
A little/not at all	39	34	35	47

<b>DEMOGRAPHICS</b>
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- 1. Are you currently registered to vote at this address, or not?

Yes	74
No	25
(Not sure)	1

- 2. VOTING INTENTION

- a. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these? IF "DEMOCRAT" ASK Qb. IF "REPUBLICAN" ASK Qc. IF "INDEP." / "NONE" ASK Qd.
- b. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Democratic Party?
- c. Do you lean strongly or only moderately toward the Republican Party?
- d. Do your beliefs tend to lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

Strongly Democrat	17
Moderately Democrat	12
Lean Democrat	17
Strongly Republican	12
Moderately Republican	8
Lean Republican	17
Independent (No lean)	17
<b>Initial Democrats</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Total Democrats</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Initial Republicans</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Total Republicans</b>	<b>37</b>