Ipsos Public Affairs

1146 19th St., NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 463-7300

Interview dates: October 6-10, 2011
Interviews: 1,113 adults; 934 registered voters
536 Democrats; 410 Republicans; 167 Independents
Margin of Error: ±3.0 for all adults; ±3.2 for registered voters; ±4.2% for Democrats; ±4.8 for Republicans; ±7.6 for Independents (based on all adults)

# Ipsos Poll conducted for Reuters, October 6-10, 2011

***NOTE: all results shown are percentages unless otherwise labeled.***

*These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted for Reuters from October 6th through 10th, 2011. For the survey, a nationally representative, randomly selected sample of exactly 1,113 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 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. Responses are based on the full sample of adults unless otherwise noted.*

## 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?

| | Right Direction | Wrong Track | (Not Sure) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 10/6-10/11 | 21 | 74 | 5 |
| 9/8-12/11 | 25 | 68 | 7 |
| 8/4-8/11 | 21 | 73 | 5 |
| 7/8-11/11 | 31 | 63 | 6 |
| 6/3-6/11 | 35 | 60 | 5 |
| 5/5-9/11 | 38 | 56 | 6 |
| 4/7-10/11 | 25 | 69 | 6 |
| 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 |

Ipsos Public Affairs

Q1 CONTINUED

| | Right Direction | Wrong Track | (Not Sure) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 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 b. IF MIXED FEELINGS/DK/REF, ASK c
b. Is that strongly (approve/disapprove) or somewhat (approve/disapprove)?
c. If you had to choose, do you lean more towards approve or disapprove?

| | Strongly approve | Somewhat approve | Lean toward approval | Still have mixed feelings | Lean toward disapproval | Somewhat disapprove | Strongly disapprove | (Not sure) | **TOTAL Approve** | **TOTAL Disapprove** | Mean Rating |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/6-10/11* | 20 | 17 | 10 | 3 | 6 | 10 | 34 | -- | **47** | **50** | 3.8 |
| 9/8-12/11 | 22 | 12 | 13 | 2 | 14 | 6 | 28 | 2 | **47** | **48** | 3.9 |
| 8/4-8/11 | 20 | 11 | 13 | 2 | 15 | 8 | 29 | 1 | **45** | **52** | 3.8 |
| 7/8-11/11 | 22 | 14 | 13 | 3 | 13 | 6 | 27 | 1 | **49** | **46** | 4.0 |
| 6/3-6/11 | 24 | 14 | 13 | 2 | 14 | 6 | 26 | 2 | **50** | **46** | 4.1 |
| 5/5-9/11 | 26 | 14 | 9 | 3 | 15 | 7 | 24 | 1 | **49** | **47** | 4.1 |
| 4/7-10/11 | 20 | 12 | 15 | 3 | 12 | 9 | 28 | 1 | **46** | **49** | 3.8 |
| 3/3-6/11 | 23 | 13 | 14 | 3 | 13 | 7 | 26 | 1 | **49** | **47** | 4.0 |
| 2/4-7/11 | 23 | 14 | 14 | 2 | 16 | 5 | 25 | 1 | **51** | **46** | 4.1 |
| 1/7-10/11 | 24 | 13 | 13 | 3 | 15 | 7 | 25 | * | **50** | **47** | 4.1 |
| 12/2-5/10 | 23 | 11 | 11 | 6 | 12 | 8 | 26 | 2 | **45** | **46** | 4.0 |
| 10/28-31/10 | 26 | 10 | 9 | 3 | 14 | 6 | 31 | 1 | **45** | **51** | 3.9 |
| 10/7-11/10 | 22 | 10 | 10 | 3 | 14 | 9 | 31 | 1 | **43** | **53** | 3.7 |
| 9/16-19/10 | 24 | 12 | 10 | 2 | 14 | 4 | 31 | 2 | **47** | **50** | 3.9 |
| 8/19-22/10 | 20 | 13 | 12 | 2 | 16 | 7 | 29 | 1 | **45** | **52** | 3.8 |
| 7/22-25/10 | 24 | 12 | 13 | 2 | 12 | 6 | 31 | 1 | **48** | **48** | 3.9 |
| 6/10-13/10 | 23 | 13 | 14 | 4 | 14 | 4 | 26 | 1 | **50** | **45** | 4.1 |
| 5/6-9/10 | 20 | 17 | 15 | 3 | 13 | 4 | 27 | 1 | **52** | **43** | 4.1 |
| 4/1-5/10 | 25 | 16 | 10 | 2 | 14 | 5 | 27 | 1 | **51** | **46** | 4.1 |
| 2/26-28/10 | 25 | 18 | 11 | 2 | 13 | 7 | 25 | 1 | **53** | **44** | 4.2 |
| 1/28-31/10 | 22 | 13 | 14 | 3 | 13 | 6 | 27 | 1 | **50** | **46** | 4 |
| 1/7-11/10 | 27 | 15 | 11 | 2 | 12 | 5 | 28 | 0 | **52** | **45** | 4.1 |
| 12/3-6/09 | 25 | 12 | 12 | 2 | 15 | 6 | 27 | 1 | **49** | **49** | 4 |
| 10/29-1/1/09 | 23 | 17 | 14 | 2 | 14 | 4 | 25 | 1 | **53** | **43** | 4.2 |
| 10/1-5/09 | 30 | 12 | 14 | 3 | 12 | 5 | 23 | 1 | **56** | **40** | 4.4 |
| 8/27-31/09 | 31 | 16 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 3 | 28 | 1 | **56** | **40** | 4.4 |
| 7/30-8/3/09 | 32 | 17 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 24 | 1 | **58** | **37** | 4.5 |
| 7/9-13/09 | 29 | 17 | 11 | 3 | 11 | 6 | 22 | 1 | **57** | **38** | 4.4 |
| 6/4-8/09 | 40 | 14 | 10 | 3 | 9 | 7 | 16 | 1 | **64** | **32** | 4.9 |
| 4/30-5/3/09 | 40 | 17 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 19 | 1 | **65** | **31** | 4.9 |
| 4/2-6/09 | 35 | 18 | 9 | 4 | 9 | 4 | 20 | 0 | **63** | **33** | 4.7 |
| 3/5 -9/09 | 39 | 15 | 10 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 17 | 1 | **65** | **29** | 4.9 |
| 2/6- 9/09 | 38 | 19 | 13 | 3 | 10 | 4 | 12 | 1 | **69** | **26** | 5.1 |

**For this wave, Ipsos utilized a split sample and combined the results in this table. Split Frame 1: Overall, do you approve, disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?; Split Frame 2: Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as president? N=559 for Frame 1 and 554 for Frame 2*

Ipsos Public Affairs

## APPROVAL BY PARTY ID

| | DEMOCRATS: Approve | DEMOCRATS: Disapprove | INDEPENDENTS: Approve | INDEPENDENTS Disapprove | REPUBLICANS: Approve | REPUBLICANS: Disapprove |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/6-10/11* | 74 | 23 | 44 | 49 | 9 | 90 |
| 9/8-12/11 | 77 | 19 | 42 | 43 | 13 | 86 |
| 8/4-8/11 | 71 | 27 | 47 | 44 | 9 | 88 |
| 7/8-11/11 | 83 | 14 | 39 | 51 | 15 | 82 |
| 6/3-6/11 | 78 | 18 | 44 | 46 | 18 | 80 |
| 5/5-9/11 | 82 | 15 | 41 | 48 | 17 | 80 |
| 4/7-10/11 | 73 | 23 | 37 | 53 | 17 | 80 |
| 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 |

***For this wave, Ipsos utilized a split sample and combined the results in this table. Split Frame 1: Overall, do you approve, disapprove or have mixed feelings about the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?; Split Frame 2: Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as president? N=559 for Frame 1 and 554 for Frame 2*

Ipsos Public Affairs

## REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

3. Several commentators have said the Republican presidential field for the 2012 presidential election is becoming clear. If the 2012 Republican presidential primaries were being held today, for whom of the following would you vote?
BASE: INDEPENDENTS AND REPUBLICANS ONLY (N=505)

**ALL INDEPENDENTS & REPUBLICANS (N=505)**

| | Mitt Romney | Jon Huntsman | Newt Gingrich | Michelle Bachmann | Ron Paul | Rick Perry | Herman Cain | (Wouldn't vote) | (None/ other) | (DK/ REF) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/6-10/11 | 21 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 12 | 9 | 19 | 3 | 9 | 13 |
| 6/3-6/11 | 18 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 30 | 18 |

**REPUBLICANS ONLY (N=410)**

| | Mitt Romney | Jon Huntsman | Newt Gingrich | Michelle Bachmann | Ron Paul | Rick Perry | Herman Cain | (Wouldn't vote) | (None/ other) | (DK/ REF) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/6-10/11 | 23 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 13 | 10 | 19 | 2 | 7 | 13 |
| 6/3-6/11 | 20 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 30 | 13 |

## CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION COVERAGE

4. I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the elections in 2012, if the election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you vote for the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate in your district where you live?

*4a.* *(ASK ALL UNSURE/DK/OTHER): If you had to choose, would you lean more towards the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?*
BASE: 934 REGISTERED VOTERS

| | Democrats | Republicans | (Other party) | (Not voting) | (DK/NS) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/6-10/11 | 48 | 40 | 2 | 2 | 8 |

5. Next, please tell me if you think the [INSERT PARTY] could do a better job in each of the following areas. Which party could do a better job of....

| | Democratic Party | Republican Party | (Both) | (Neither) | (Not sure) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Dealing with the economy** | | | | | |
| 10/6-10/11 | 40 | 42 | 7 | 7 | 5 |
| 12/3-6/09 | 40 | 39 | 8 | 10 | 3 |
| 11/20-23/08 | 58 | 27 | 5 | 8 | 3 |
| **Dealing with taxes** | | | | | |
| 10/6-10/11 | 42 | 41 | 5 | 7 | 5 |
| 12/3-6/09 | 39 | 41 | 8 | 8 | 4 |
| 11/20-23/08 | 52 | 35 | 5 | 6 | 2 |
| **Reducing the federal budget deficit** | | | | | |
| 10/6-10/11 | 35 | 44 | 5 | 10 | 6 |
| 12/3-6/09 | 34 | 41 | 8 | 14 | 3 |
| 11/20-23/08 | 56 | 26 | 5 | 10 | 4 |

Q5 CONTINUED

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Generating economic growth** | | | | | |
| 10/6-10/11 | 38 | 43 | 6 | 8 | 5 |
| 12/3-6/09 | 38 | 41 | 9 | 8 | 4 |
| 11/20-23/08 | 58 | 28 | 6 | 6 | 3 |
| **Making America more competitive in the world economy** | | | | | |
| 10/6-10/11 | 36 | 43 | 6 | 8 | 6 |
| 12/3-6/09 | 40 | 37 | 11 | 9 | 3 |
| 11/20-23/08 | 53 | 33 | 4 | 7 | 3 |
| **Generating job growth** | | | | | |
| 10/6-10/11 | 41 | 41 | 5 | 7 | 5 |

## OCCUPY WALL STREET

6. How familiar are you with the protests going on in New York City and other locations around the country referred to as "Occupy Wall Street'? Are you…

| | Total | Democrats | Independents | Republicans |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Very familiar | 17 | 17 | 13 | 18 |
| Somewhat familiar | 33 | 33 | 27 | 36 |
| Not very familiar | 13 | 14 | 6 | 14 |
| Heard of it, but know nothing about it | 19 | 20 | 27 | 14 |
| Never heard of it | 17 | 15 | 24 | 17 |
| (DK/REF) | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| **TOTAL: Familiar (very + somewhat)** | **50** | **50** | **41** | **54** |
| **TOTAL: At least heard of** | **82** | **84** | **73** | **82** |

7. How favorable or unfavorable are you towards the "Occupy Wall Street" protests, as far as you understand them? Are you …
BASE: ALL AT LEAST HEARD OF AT Q6 (N=977)

| | Total | Democrats | Independents | Republicans |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Very favorable | 17 | 25 | 19 | 6 |
| Somewhat favorable | 21 | 26 | 18 | 16 |
| Undecided | 35 | 35 | 44 | 32 |
| Somewhat unfavorable | 10 | 8 | 5 | 13 |
| Very unfavorable | 14 | 3 | 9 | 30 |
| (DK/REF) | 3 | 2 | 5 | 2 |
| **TOTAL: Favorable** | **38** | **51** | **37** | **22** |
| **TOTAL: Unfavorable** | **24** | **11** | **14** | **44** |

## DEMOGRAPHICS

1. Are you currently registered to vote at this address, or not?

| | |
|---|---|
| Yes | 77 |
| No | 22 |
| (Not sure) | 1 |

2. PARTY IDENTIFICATION
   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 | 18 |
| Moderately Democrat | 11 |
| Lean Democrat | 16 |
| Strongly Republican | 14 |
| Moderately Republican | 6 |
| Lean Republican | 18 |
| Independent (No lean) | 16 |
| **Initial Democrats** | **30** |
| **Total Democrats** | **46** |
| **Initial Republicans** | **20** |
| **Total Republicans** | **38** |