

U.S. POLITICS

# Approval for President Obama Reaches 48%; Congress Still Low

*Independents appear to be shifting their support back to the president, but remain deeply dissatisfied with the legislature.*

[NEW YORK – May 28, 2010] – The approval rating for U.S. President Barack Obama has improved slightly, while the U.S. Congress continues to post considerably lower numbers, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,005 American adults, 48 per cent of respondents (+2 since April) approve of Obama's performance, while 45 per cent (=) disapprove.

The level of strong approval for the U.S. President (15%) continues to trail the level of strong disapproval by double digits (28%).

Most Republicans (80%, +3) are dissatisfied with Obama, while most Democrats are content with the American president (79%, -3).

Independents are more likely to disapprove of Obama's performance (53%, -4) than to approve of it (42%, +5). However, they do show a shift towards satisfaction with the president.

The approval rating for the U.S. Congress stands at 25 per cent this month (+1), while 63 per cent of respondents disapprove of its actions (=). The level of strong approval is four per cent (=), while more than a third of Americans (36%, -2) are strongly dissatisfied.

Only 14 per cent of both Republicans and Independents approve of Congress. This month, two-in-five Democrats (45%, +2) provide a positive assessment of the legislative branch.

## KEY FINDINGS

- **48% (+2) approve of Barack Obama's performance as president**
- **25% (+1) approve of the performance of the U.S. Congress**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

*From May 25 to May 26, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,005 American adults who are Springboard America panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of the United States.*

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## CONTACT:

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U.S. Politics					
Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's performance as president?					
Region					
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Strongly approve	15%	18%	11%	15%	17%
Moderately approve	33%	37%	37%	32%	29%
Moderately disapprove	17%	20%	17%	15%	18%
Strongly disapprove	28%	16%	28%	33%	28%
Not sure	7%	9%	7%	6%	9%

U.S. Politics				
Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's performance as president?				
Party ID				
	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly approve	15%	29%	7%	9%
Moderately approve	33%	50%	11%	33%
Moderately disapprove	17%	11%	16%	24%
Strongly disapprove	28%	4%	64%	29%
Not sure	7%	5%	2%	5%

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U.S. Politics					
Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of the United States Congress?					
Region					
	Total	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Strongly approve	4%	9%	1%	3%	4%
Moderately approve	21%	20%	20%	21%	21%
Moderately disapprove	27%	33%	26%	27%	24%
Strongly disapprove	36%	24%	42%	39%	35%
Not sure	12%	14%	10%	10%	15%

U.S. Politics				
Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of the United States Congress?				
Party ID				
	Total	Democrat	Republican	Independent
Strongly approve	4%	7%	4%	1%
Moderately approve	21%	38%	10%	13%
Moderately disapprove	27%	26%	23%	35%
Strongly disapprove	36%	19%	58%	42%
Not sure	12%	10%	6%	9%

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**U.S. Politics**

Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's performance as president? - TREND

	May 2010	Apr. 2010	Mar. 2010	Feb. 2010	Jan. 2010
<b>Approve</b>	48%	46%	48%	48%	47%
<b>Disapprove</b>	45%	45%	45%	45%	44%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	9%	8%	7%	8%

**U.S. Politics**

Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of the United States Congress? - TREND

	May 2010	Apr. 2010	Mar. 2010	Feb. 2010	Jan. 2010
<b>Approve</b>	25%	24%	24%	18%	24%
<b>Disapprove</b>	63%	63%	66%	73%	65%
<b>Not sure</b>	12%	13%	10%	9%	11%

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*Angus Reid Public Opinion is a practice of Vision Critical—a global research and technology company specializing in custom online panels, private communities, and innovative online methods. Vision Critical is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Public Opinion team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995*

*Vision Critical is now one of the largest market research enterprises in the world. In addition to its five offices in Canada—located in Vancouver, Calgary, Regina, Toronto, and Montreal—the firm also has offices in San Francisco, Chicago, New York, London, Paris and Sydney. Its team of specialists provides solutions across every type and sector of research, and currently serves over 200 international clients.*

*Angus Reid Public Opinion polls are conducted using the Angus Reid Forum ([www.angusreidforum.com](http://www.angusreidforum.com)), Springboard America ([www.springboardamerica.com](http://www.springboardamerica.com)) and Springboard UK ([www.springboarduk.com](http://www.springboarduk.com)) online panels, which are carefully recruited to ensure representation across all demographic and psychographic segments of these populations. Panel members pass through rigorous screening and a double opt-in process ensuring highly motivated and responsive members. These premier online survey platforms present respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses. Each survey is actively sampled and weighted to model that characteristics of the universe required and employs the latest in quality control techniques to ensure data validity.*

*Since 2006, Angus Reid has covered eight provincial elections in Canada—more than any other pollster in the country—and the results have accurately predicted the outcome of each of these democratic processes.*

*Angus Reid, the only public opinion firm to exclusively use online methods to follow the views of the electorate during the 2008 federal campaign, offered the most accurate prediction of the results of Canada's 40th election. More information on our electoral record can be found at:*  
<http://www.visioncritical.com/record-of-accuracy>

*More information on the way Angus Reid conducts public opinion research can be found at*  
<http://www.visioncritical.com/what-we-do/practices/angus-reid-public-opinion/>

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**For more information, please contact  
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

**Copies of this poll are available on our website:**  
<http://www.visioncritical.com/category/global-opinions-and-trends>

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