The Economist/YouGov Poll

Weekly Tracking

For immediate release
1. Approval of Obama as President – Historical
Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Total Disapprove</th>
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<th>Somewhat Approve</th>
<th>Somewhat Disapprove</th>
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**Obama Approval**

"Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?"

- **Approve:** 41%
- **Disapprove:** 53%

Figure 1: Obama Approval – All Adults
Obama Approval

"Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?"

Approve: 44%
Disapprove: 55%

Figure 2: Obama Approval – Registered Voters
### 2. Approval of Obama as President – This Week – All Adults
Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

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### 3. Approval of U.S. Congress – Historical

Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the United States Congress is handling its job?

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Congress Approval
"Do you approve of the way the U.S. Congress is handling its job?"

Approve: 9%
Disapprove: 68%

Figure 3: Congress Approval – All Adults
Congress Approval

"Do you approve of the way the U.S. Congress is handling its job?"

Approve: 9%
Disapprove: 76%
4. Approval of U.S. Congress – This Week – All Adults

Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the United States Congress is handling its job?

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<td>Somewhat approve</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither approve nor disapprove</td>
<td>14%</td>
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<td>21%</td>
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<td>Somewhat disapprove</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<td>35%</td>
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5. Direction of country – Historical  
Would you say things in this country today are...

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 14-16, 2013</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 7-9, 2013</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 31-September 2, 2013</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 24-26, 2013</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 17-19, 2013</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 10-12, 2013</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 3-5, 2013</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 27-29, 2013</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 20-22, 2013</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 13-15, 2013</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Year Ago</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Direction of Country
"Would you say things in this country today are generally headed in the right direction or off on the wrong track?"

Right: 26%
Wrong: 57%

Figure 5: Direction of Country – All Adults
Direction of Country
"Would you say things in this country today are generally headed in the right direction or off on the wrong track?"

Figure 6: Direction of Country – Registered Voters
### 6. Direction of Country – This Week – All Adults
Would you say things in this country today are...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>18-29</th>
<th>30-44</th>
<th>45-64</th>
<th>65+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generally headed in the right direction</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off on the wrong track</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Unweighted N)</td>
<td>(997)</td>
<td>(108)</td>
<td>(287)</td>
<td>(413)</td>
<td>(189)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generally headed in the right direction</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off on the wrong track</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Unweighted N)</td>
<td>(757)</td>
<td>(140)</td>
<td>(100)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>HS or less</th>
<th>Some college</th>
<th>College graduate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generally headed in the right direction</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off on the wrong track</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Unweighted N)</td>
<td>(485)</td>
<td>(512)</td>
<td>(355)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party ID</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Ind</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generally headed in the right direction</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off on the wrong track</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Unweighted N)</td>
<td>(997)</td>
<td>(377)</td>
<td>(242)</td>
<td>(331)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Income</th>
<th>North-east</th>
<th>Midwest</th>
<th>South</th>
<th>West</th>
<th>Under 40</th>
<th>40-100</th>
<th>100+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generally headed in the right direction</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off on the wrong track</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Unweighted N)</td>
<td>(157)</td>
<td>(183)</td>
<td>(359)</td>
<td>(298)</td>
<td>(364)</td>
<td>(397)</td>
<td>(73)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sponsorship
*The Economist*

### Fieldwork
YouGov

### Interviewing Dates
September 14-16, 2013

### Target population
U.S. citizens, aged 18 and over.

### Sampling method
Respondents were selected from YouGov’s panel using sample matching. A random sample (stratified by age, gender, race, education, and region) was selected from the 2005–2007 American Community Study. Voter registration, turnout, religion, news interest, minor party identification, and non-placement on an ideology scale, were imputed from the 2008 Current Population Survey Registration and Voting Supplement and the Pew Religion in American Life Survey. Matching respondents were selected from the YouGov panel, an opt-in Internet panel.

### Weighting
The sample was weighted using propensity scores based on age, gender, race, education, news interest, voter registration, and non-placement on an ideology scale. The weights range from 0.24 to 8.01, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 1.1.

### Number of respondents
1,000

### Margin of error
± 4.5% (adjusted for weighting)

### Margin of error (Registered Voters)
± 4.8% (adjusted for weighting)

### Survey mode
Web-based interviews

### Full results