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information@publicpolicypolling.com, OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH
OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

Congress and Republicans continue to sink

Raleigh, N.C. – When PPP last polled the American electorate in early October, at the beginning of the shutdown, Republicans already trailed Democrats in the generic congressional ballot by five points, and their 29% approval rating was ten points lower than Congressional Democrats'. Now John Boehner and company are at 23%, with 72% disapproving of their job performance. That ten-point gulf between voters' opinion of them and Democrats is now 17 points, as Congressional Democrats have remained in place, at 40-56, almost identical to their 39-56 standing three weeks ago.

Congress has sunk to a new low of 6%, with 87% disapproving. But though Americans despise the body as a whole, it remains much harder to get them to blame the individual representative they elected. 41% approve and 45% disapprove of the job their own congressperson is doing. Democrats (48-37) like their representative much better than Republicans (41-41) or independents (31-59) do.

Similarly, despite blame for Congress' conduct being placed mostly at Republicans' feet, Democrats have not improved much if at all looking ahead to next year's midterm elections. What was a 46-41 lead in the generic ballot is now a similar 44-38.

A lot has been made of Republicans' search for a voice in the wake of Mitt Romney's loss last fall, and the 27% plurality of Americans who are not sure who the GOP's leader is is consistent with that. Overall, 21% of Americans think Chris Christie serves that role, to 17% for John Boehner and 10% for Ted Cruz, with six others at 7% or less. But among the GOP faithful, Cruz leads the way at 21% to Christie's 17%, Boehner's 15%, and the others at 9% or less.

“Republican voters nationally see Ted Cruz as the leader of their party,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “What might be good news for them though is that independents and Democrats actually see the GOP leader as Chris Christie, who's a much better face for the party. It's another example of the Republican base being its own worst enemy.”

PPP surveyed 649 American voters from October 29th to 31st, 2013. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.8. PPP's surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.





National Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

Approve 46%
Disapprove..... 50%
Not sure 4%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Congressional Democrats are doing?

Approve 40%
Disapprove..... 56%
Not sure 4%

Q3 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Congressional Republicans are doing?

Approve 23%
Disapprove..... 72%
Not sure 5%

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Congress overall is doing?

Approve 6%
Disapprove..... 87%
Not sure 6%

Q5 Do you approve or disapprove of the job your own member of Congress is doing?

Approve 41%
Disapprove..... 45%
Not sure 15%

Q6 If there was an election for the U.S. House today, would you vote for the Democratic or Republican candidate from your district?

Democrat 44%
Republican..... 38%
Not sure 18%

Q7 Who do you trust more to deal with the major issues facing the country: Barack Obama or Congressional Republicans?

Barack Obama..... 45%
Congressional Republicans 43%
Not sure 12%

Q8 Do you think the government shutdown was a good thing or bad thing for the country?

Good thing 25%
Bad thing..... 66%
Not sure 9%

Q9 Do you approve or disapprove of the Affordable Care Act?

Approve 40%
Disapprove..... 49%
Not sure 11%

Q10 Given the choices of John Boehner, Chris Christie, Ted Cruz, John McCain, Mitch McConnell, Sarah Palin, Rand Paul, and Mitt Romney, who do you see as being the current leader of the Republican Party?

John Boehner 14%
Chris Christie 21%
Ted Cruz 16%
John McCain..... 7%
Mitch McConnell 3%
Sarah Palin 2%
Rand Paul..... 6%
Mitt Romney..... 4%
Someone else/Not sure 27%





Q11 Which do you think is a more prestigious university: the University of Michigan or Michigan State University?

Michigan 77%
Michigan State 23%

Q12 Which do you think is a more prestigious university: the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill or North Carolina State University?

UNC 84%
NCSU 16%

Q13 In the last presidential election, did you vote for Barack Obama or Mitt Romney?

Barack Obama 47%
Mitt Romney 46%
Someone else/Don't remember 7%

Q14 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal 8%
Somewhat liberal 16%
Moderate 35%
Somewhat conservative 26%
Very conservative 15%

Q15 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 51%
Man 49%

Q16 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat 38%
Republican 34%
Independent/Other 28%

Q17 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic 11%
White 72%
African-American 11%
Other 7%

Q18 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29 9%
30 to 45 25%
46 to 65 44%
Older than 65 22%





Crosstabs

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	46%	86%	8%	29%
Disapprove	50%	9%	89%	65%
Not sure	4%	4%	3%	6%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Cong. Dems Approval				
Approve	40%	75%	7%	26%
Disapprove	56%	19%	91%	65%
Not sure	4%	6%	2%	10%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Cong. GOP Approval				
Approve	23%	8%	39%	18%
Disapprove	72%	89%	55%	69%
Not sure	5%	3%	6%	14%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Cong. Approval				
Approve	6%	6%	6%	8%
Disapprove	87%	87%	88%	87%
Not sure	6%	7%	6%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Your Congressman Approval				
Approve	41%	45%	38%	30%
Disapprove	45%	42%	45%	60%
Not sure	15%	13%	17%	10%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Generic Cong. Ballot				
Democrat	44%	82%	8%	20%
Republican	38%	6%	73%	22%
Not sure	18%	12%	19%	58%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Trust Obama or Cong. GOP More?				
Barack Obama	45%	86%	7%	27%
Congressional Republicans	43%	8%	79%	34%
Not sure	12%	6%	14%	40%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Shutdown Good/Bad for US				
Good thing	25%	10%	38%	34%
Bad thing	66%	82%	52%	57%
Not sure	9%	7%	10%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
ACA Approval				
Approve	40%	76%	4%	27%
Disapprove	49%	10%	88%	56%
Not sure	11%	13%	8%	17%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
Who Leads GOP?				
John Boehner	14%	14%	14%	17%
Chris Christie	21%	26%	18%	16%
Ted Cruz	16%	10%	20%	21%
John McCain	7%	7%	6%	11%
Mitch McConnell	3%	4%	3%	2%
Sarah Palin	2%	1%	3%	1%
Rand Paul	6%	1%	10%	8%
Mitt Romney	4%	2%	7%	1%
Someone else/Not sure	27%	35%	19%	24%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
More Prestigious: UM or MSU				
Michigan	77%	81%	73%	74%
Michigan State	23%	19%	27%	26%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else/Don't remember
More Prestigious: UNC or NCSU				
UNC	84%	88%	81%	63%
NCSU	16%	12%	19%	37%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Obama Approval						
Approve	46%	75%	81%	61%	18%	8%
Disapprove	50%	17%	17%	36%	79%	85%
Not sure	4%	8%	2%	3%	3%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cong. Dems Approval						
Approve	40%	76%	74%	47%	16%	11%
Disapprove	56%	22%	22%	47%	80%	88%
Not sure	4%	2%	4%	6%	4%	1%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cong. GOP Approval						
Approve	23%	19%	9%	16%	32%	41%
Disapprove	72%	81%	88%	80%	62%	48%
Not sure	5%	1%	3%	4%	6%	11%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cong. Approval						
Approve	6%	13%	5%	5%	5%	8%
Disapprove	87%	80%	88%	89%	89%	85%
Not sure	6%	7%	7%	6%	6%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Your Congressman Approval						
Approve	41%	58%	51%	36%	34%	43%
Disapprove	45%	33%	36%	49%	46%	48%
Not sure	15%	9%	13%	15%	20%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Generic Cong. Ballot						
Democrat	44%	81%	80%	54%	16%	9%
Republican	38%	17%	15%	26%	58%	69%
Not sure	18%	2%	5%	21%	26%	22%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Trust Obama or Cong. GOP More?						
Barack Obama	45%	81%	79%	59%	16%	9%
Congressional Republicans	43%	19%	17%	25%	68%	81%
Not sure	12%	-	4%	16%	16%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Shutdown Good/Bad for US						
Good thing	25%	17%	17%	12%	31%	57%
Bad thing	66%	79%	75%	82%	57%	28%
Not sure	9%	4%	8%	6%	12%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
ACA Approval						
Approve	40%	71%	74%	52%	12%	4%
Disapprove	49%	16%	16%	37%	78%	83%
Not sure	11%	13%	10%	11%	10%	13%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Who Leads GOP?						
John Boehner	14%	24%	16%	13%	14%	9%
Chris Christie	21%	16%	30%	26%	20%	6%
Ted Cruz	16%	14%	5%	12%	16%	35%
John McCain	7%	6%	5%	13%	4%	2%
Mitch McConnell	3%	4%	5%	3%	4%	1%
Sarah Palin	2%	-	-	1%	3%	5%
Rand Paul	6%	-	-	3%	8%	17%
Mitt Romney	4%	6%	2%	2%	7%	6%
Someone else/Not sure	27%	30%	37%	26%	24%	19%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
More Prestigious: UM or MSU						
Michigan	77%	61%	82%	83%	73%	74%
Michigan State	23%	39%	18%	17%	27%	26%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
More Prestigious: UNC or NCSU						
UNC	84%	84%	76%	88%	80%	93%
NCSU	16%	16%	24%	12%	20%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	46%	48%	44%
Disapprove	50%	48%	52%
Not sure	4%	4%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cong. Dems Approval			
Approve	40%	42%	39%
Disapprove	56%	53%	58%
Not sure	4%	5%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cong. GOP Approval			
Approve	23%	20%	26%
Disapprove	72%	74%	70%
Not sure	5%	6%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cong. Approval			
Approve	6%	6%	6%
Disapprove	87%	87%	88%
Not sure	6%	7%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Your Congressman Approval			
Approve	41%	45%	36%
Disapprove	45%	38%	51%
Not sure	15%	17%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Cong. Ballot			
Democrat	44%	48%	39%
Republican	38%	33%	43%
Not sure	18%	19%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Trust Obama or Cong. GOP More?			
Barack Obama	45%	48%	43%
Congressional Republicans	43%	39%	47%
Not sure	12%	13%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Shutdown Good/Bad for US			
Good thing	25%	20%	30%
Bad thing	66%	69%	63%
Not sure	9%	11%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
ACA Approval			
Approve	40%	43%	36%
Disapprove	49%	45%	54%
Not sure	11%	12%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Who Leads GOP?			
John Boehner	14%	14%	15%
Chris Christie	21%	23%	19%
Ted Cruz	16%	15%	16%
John McCain	7%	7%	8%
Mitch McConnell	3%	2%	5%
Sarah Palin	2%	2%	2%
Rand Paul	6%	4%	8%
Mitt Romney	4%	6%	3%
Someone else/Not sure	27%	28%	25%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Prestigious: UM or MSU			
Michigan	77%	72%	81%
Michigan State	23%	28%	19%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
More Prestigious: UNC or NCSU			
UNC	84%	82%	85%
NCSU	16%	18%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	46%	82%	12%	41%
Disapprove	50%	13%	85%	56%
Not sure	4%	5%	3%	3%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cong. Dems Approval				
Approve	40%	76%	8%	31%
Disapprove	56%	20%	89%	62%
Not sure	4%	4%	2%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cong. GOP Approval				
Approve	23%	15%	39%	15%
Disapprove	72%	83%	53%	80%
Not sure	5%	3%	8%	5%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cong. Approval				
Approve	6%	8%	6%	4%
Disapprove	87%	85%	87%	91%
Not sure	6%	8%	6%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Your Congressman Approval				
Approve	41%	48%	41%	31%
Disapprove	45%	37%	41%	59%
Not sure	15%	15%	18%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Cong. Ballot				
Democrat	44%	83%	9%	33%
Republican	38%	8%	78%	29%
Not sure	18%	9%	13%	37%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Trust Obama or Cong. GOP More?				
Barack Obama	45%	81%	10%	40%
Congressional Republicans	43%	13%	79%	39%
Not sure	12%	6%	10%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Shutdown Good/Bad for US				
Good thing	25%	13%	39%	22%
Bad thing	66%	78%	50%	71%
Not sure	9%	9%	11%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
ACA Approval				
Approve	40%	70%	9%	37%
Disapprove	49%	15%	82%	55%
Not sure	11%	15%	9%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Who Leads GOP?				
John Boehner	14%	17%	15%	10%
Chris Christie	21%	23%	17%	25%
Ted Cruz	16%	10%	21%	17%
John McCain	7%	7%	7%	7%
Mitch McConnell	3%	3%	4%	2%
Sarah Palin	2%	1%	4%	1%
Rand Paul	6%	2%	9%	6%
Mitt Romney	4%	1%	8%	4%
Someone else/Not sure	27%	35%	16%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Prestigious: UM or MSU				
Michigan	77%	81%	71%	79%
Michigan State	23%	19%	29%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
More Prestigious: UNC or NCSU				
UNC	84%	87%	83%	81%
NCSU	16%	13%	17%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval					
Approve	46%	68%	36%	84%	60%
Disapprove	50%	31%	60%	12%	33%
Not sure	4%	1%	4%	4%	7%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Cong. Dems Approval					
Approve	40%	58%	31%	74%	58%
Disapprove	56%	37%	65%	20%	40%
Not sure	4%	4%	4%	6%	2%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Cong. GOP Approval					
Approve	23%	33%	25%	7%	11%
Disapprove	72%	64%	70%	85%	83%
Not sure	5%	2%	5%	8%	6%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Cong. Approval					
Approve	6%	9%	6%	9%	3%
Disapprove	87%	80%	90%	76%	89%
Not sure	6%	11%	4%	15%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Your Congressman Approval					
Approve	41%	54%	38%	49%	35%
Disapprove	45%	30%	48%	32%	54%
Not sure	15%	15%	14%	19%	11%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Generic Cong. Ballot					
Democrat	44%	59%	34%	81%	59%
Republican	38%	18%	48%	3%	17%
Not sure	18%	23%	18%	16%	23%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Trust Obama or Cong. GOP More?					
Barack Obama	45%	64%	37%	80%	54%
Congressional Republicans	43%	21%	52%	13%	21%
Not sure	12%	15%	11%	8%	25%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Shutdown Good/Bad for US					
Good thing	25%	22%	28%	13%	18%
Bad thing	66%	72%	64%	75%	72%
Not sure	9%	6%	9%	12%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
ACA Approval					
Approve	40%	62%	32%	60%	49%
Disapprove	49%	27%	58%	17%	37%
Not sure	11%	11%	9%	23%	14%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Who Leads GOP?					
John Boehner	14%	17%	15%	12%	8%
Chris Christie	21%	28%	21%	13%	28%
Ted Cruz	16%	15%	16%	18%	9%
John McCain	7%	7%	7%	5%	10%
Mitch McConnell	3%	2%	3%	7%	-
Sarah Palin	2%	1%	3%	-	-
Rand Paul	6%	1%	7%	2%	5%
Mitt Romney	4%	7%	5%	2%	-
Someone else/Not sure	27%	21%	24%	42%	40%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
More Prestigious: UM or MSU					
Michigan	77%	71%	79%	73%	74%
Michigan State	23%	29%	21%	27%	26%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
More Prestigious: UNC or NCSU					
UNC	84%	81%	85%	75%	86%
NCSU	16%	19%	15%	25%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	46%	67%	42%	43%	50%
Disapprove	50%	33%	55%	51%	47%
Not sure	4%	-	3%	5%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cong. Dems Approval					
Approve	40%	67%	35%	36%	44%
Disapprove	56%	33%	60%	59%	52%
Not sure	4%	-	5%	5%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cong. GOP Approval					
Approve	23%	45%	15%	23%	24%
Disapprove	72%	55%	80%	72%	69%
Not sure	5%	-	5%	5%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cong. Approval					
Approve	6%	14%	5%	3%	11%
Disapprove	87%	76%	89%	92%	82%
Not sure	6%	10%	6%	5%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Your Congressman Approval					
Approve	41%	52%	32%	40%	48%
Disapprove	45%	29%	52%	45%	41%
Not sure	15%	19%	15%	15%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Cong. Ballot					
Democrat	44%	67%	40%	39%	47%
Republican	38%	24%	37%	41%	39%
Not sure	18%	10%	23%	20%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Trust Obama or Cong. GOP More?					
Barack Obama	45%	62%	45%	42%	46%
Congressional Republicans	43%	33%	48%	43%	40%
Not sure	12%	5%	8%	15%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Shutdown Good/Bad for US					
Good thing	25%	24%	31%	24%	20%
Bad thing	66%	62%	65%	68%	67%
Not sure	9%	14%	5%	8%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
ACA Approval					
Approve	40%	57%	34%	40%	39%
Disapprove	49%	33%	55%	51%	45%
Not sure	11%	10%	11%	9%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Who Leads GOP?					
John Boehner	14%	24%	18%	12%	11%
Chris Christie	21%	33%	23%	17%	23%
Ted Cruz	16%	19%	15%	17%	12%
John McCain	7%	-	12%	6%	7%
Mitch McConnell	3%	-	2%	4%	5%
Sarah Palin	2%	-	2%	2%	3%
Rand Paul	6%	-	3%	8%	5%
Mitt Romney	4%	5%	2%	5%	6%
Someone else/Not sure	27%	19%	23%	29%	29%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Prestigious: UM or MSU					
Michigan	77%	67%	91%	71%	73%
Michigan State	23%	33%	9%	29%	27%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
More Prestigious: UNC or NCSU					
UNC	84%	100%	84%	83%	82%
NCSU	16%	-	16%	17%	18%

