



# Sinking Feeling

***On Issue After Issue, Obama's Polling Numbers Are Giving Democrats Up And Down The Ballot A Sinking Feeling About 2014***

## RECENT POLLS HAVE PEGGED POOR RATINGS ON OBAMA

**NBC: Obama's Poll Numbers Are "Tanking" And "Cratering."** NBC'S SAVANNAH GUTHRIE: "Let's get to NBC's poll because foreign policy which for many, many years was a strong suit of the President's in the polls, is now suddenly tanking." NBC'S CHUCK TODD: "It is. It's cratering. If you think about it, let's go back to September. Syria. Then you have the crisis in Ukraine and then you have the situation with the Bergdahl trade, then we can talk about Iranian negotiations, then we can talk about the Middle East flaring up and now this situation with Iraq. Everything is a negative, and these are now creating a situation, lowest ever, lowest job rating, lowest approval rating among foreign policy." (NBC's ["Today Show."](#) 6/18/14)

### ***Favorability And Job Performance***

**Bloomberg: "President Barack Obama's Favorability Ratings Hit The Lowest Point Of His Presidency In A Bloomberg National Poll, With Just 44 Percent Of Americans Saying They Have Positive Feelings About Him."** (Julianna Goldman, "Obama Popularity Hits Low In Poll After Prisoner Exchange," [Bloomberg](#), 6/10/14)

- **"Obama's 44 Percent Favorability Rating Is Down From His Previous Low Of 46 Percent, In December. Fifty-Two Percent See Him Unfavorably, Matching The December High."** (Julianna Goldman, "Obama Popularity Hits Low In Poll After Prisoner Exchange," [Bloomberg](#), 6/10/14)

**Bloomberg: "That Drop In Personal Popularity Has Become A Broader Drag On The Public's Perception Of His Performance In Office."** (Julianna Goldman, "Obama Popularity Hits Low In Poll After Prisoner Exchange," [Bloomberg](#), 6/10/14)

- **"His Job-Approval Rating Fell To 43 Percent -- Near The Level At The End Of 2013 After The Botched Rollout Of The Affordable Care Act, His Signature Health-Care Law."** (Julianna Goldman, "Obama Popularity Hits Low In Poll After Prisoner Exchange," [Bloomberg](#), 6/10/14)

**CNN/ORC Poll: 55 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of The Way Obama Is Handling His Job As President, While 43 Percent Approve.** ([CNN/ORC Poll](#), 1003A, MoE 3%, 5/29-6/1/14)

**Wall Street Journal/NBC News Poll: 53 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of The Job Obama Is Doing As President.** ([Wall Street Journal/NBC News Poll](#), 1000A, MoE 3.1%, 6/11-15/14)

- **Obama's Job Approval Rating Is At 41 Percent "Matching A Previous Low."** "As clouds gather abroad, a new Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll finds Mr. Obama's job approval rating at 41%, matching a previous low." (Patrick O'Connor, "Poll Shows Erosion In President's Support," [Wall Street Journal](#), 6/18/14)

**Wall Street Journal/NBC News Poll: 45 Percent Of Americans Feel Negatively About Obama, While 41 Percent Feel Positively About Him And 13 Percent Remain Neutral.** ([Wall Street Journal/NBC News Poll](#), 1000A, MoE 3.1%, 6/11-15/14)

**Wall Street Journal/NBC News Poll: “The Share Of Hispanics Who See Mr. Obama Favorably And Approve Of His Job Performance Has Dropped From 67% In January 2013 To 44% In The Latest Poll.”** (Patrick O’Connor, “Poll Shows Erosion In President’s Support,” [Wall Street Journal](#), 6/18/14)

### ***Ability To Lead And Govern***

**Wall Street Journal/NBC News Poll: “Obama Is Facing Growing Doubts About His Competence And Ability To Accomplish Anything In His Second Term — Even Among Groups That Have Been His Strongest Supporters.”** “President Barack Obama is facing growing doubts about his competence and ability to accomplish anything in his second term — even among groups that have been his strongest supporters, a new Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll has found.” (Janet Hook, “Obama’s Competence Questioned In WSJ/NBC Poll,” [Wall Street Journal](#), 6/18/14)

- **“At The Same Time, Americans Seem To Be Losing Faith In Mr. Obama’s Ability To Accomplish His Goals, With 54% Of Those Polled Saying They No Longer Feel The President ‘Is Able To Lead The Country And Get The Job Done,’ Compared With The 42% Who Said He Could.”** (Patrick O’Connor, “Poll Shows Erosion In President’s Support,” [Wall Street Journal](#), 6/18/14)
- **“And 41% Said His Administration’s Performance Has Gotten Worse Over The Past Year, Compared With The 15% Who Noted Improvement.”** (Patrick O’Connor, “Poll Shows Erosion In President’s Support,” [Wall Street Journal](#), 6/18/14)

**Bloomberg: “Obama’s Approval Rating Also Hit A Low Of 33 Percent When It Comes To Negotiating With The Republican Majority In The U.S. House Of Representatives. Fifty-Five Percent Don’t Care For The Way He Has Dealt With The Opposition Party.”** (Julianna Goldman, “Obama Popularity Hits Low In Poll After Prisoner Exchange,” [Bloomberg](#), 6/10/14)

### ***Economy***

**CNN/ORC Poll: 61 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of The Way Obama Is Handling The Economy, While 38 Percent Approve.** ([CNN/ORC Poll](#), 1003A, MoE 3%, 5/29-6/1/14)

- **58 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of Obama’s Progress On Helping The Middle Class, While 40 Percent Approve.** ([CNN/ORC Poll](#), 1003A, MoE 3%, 5/29-6/1/14)
- **67 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of The Way Obama Is Handling The Federal Budget Deficit, While 31 Percent Approve.** ([CNN/ORC Poll](#), 1003A, MoE 3%, 5/29-6/1/14)

**Bloomberg: “Fifty-Seven Percent Disapprove Of His Management Of The Economy, With Just 38 Percent Approving.”** (Julianna Goldman, “Obama Popularity Hits Low In Poll After Prisoner Exchange,” [Bloomberg](#), 6/10/14)

- **63 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of Obama’s Handling Of The Budget Deficit, While 28 Percent Approve.** ([Bloomberg Poll](#), 1005 A, MoE 3.1%, 6/6-9/14)

**Wall Street Journal/NBC News Poll: 54 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of Obama’s Handling Of The Economy, While 41 Percent Approve.** ([Wall Street Journal/NBC News Poll](#), 1000A, MoE 3.1%, 6/11-15/14)

### ***Health Care***

**CNN/ORC Poll: 63 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of The Way Obama Is Handling Health Care Policy, While 36 Percent Approve.** ([CNN/ORC Poll](#), 1003A, MoE 3%, 5/29-6/1/14)

**Bloomberg: Up 4 Percent From March – 58 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of Obama’s Handling Of Health Care.** “Fifty-eight percent of Americans disapprove of Obama’s handling of health care, 4 percentage points higher than in March, even as the law exceeded its original signup targets.” (Julianna Goldman, “Obama Popularity Hits Low In Poll After Prisoner Exchange,” [Bloomberg](#), 6/10/14)

### **Foreign Affairs**

**Bloomberg: 58 Percent Of Americans Say The United States Is “In Decline As A World Leader,” While 31 Percent Say It’s “About The Same” And Just 9 Percent Say Its “On The Rise.”** ([Bloomberg Poll](#), 1005 A, MoE 3.1%, 6/6-9/14)

**CNN/ORC Poll: 57 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of The Way Obama Is Handling Foreign Affairs, While 40 Percent Approve.** ([CNN/ORC Poll](#), 1003A, MoE 3%, 5/29-6/1/14)

**Wall Street Journal/NBC News Poll: The Percentage Of Americans Who Disapprove Of Obama’s Handling Of Foreign Policy “Hit A Record High Of 57% — Up From 53% In April.”** “People are not so forgiving about international affairs, as disapproval of the president’s handling of foreign policy hit a record high of 57% — up from 53% in April.” (Janet Hook, “Obama’s Competence Questioned In WSJ/NBC Poll,” [Wall Street Journal](#), 6/18/14)

- **“Approval Of His Handling Of Foreign Policy Hit A New Low Of 37%.”** (Patrick O’Connor, “Poll Shows Erosion In President’s Support,” [Wall Street Journal](#), 6/18/14)

**Bloomberg: “As The President Draws Fire From Republicans And Democratic Leaders For The Agreement That Swapped Five Taliban Prisoners For Army Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl, 51 Percent Of Americans Said They Disapproved Of His Handling Of The Deal.”** (Julianna Goldman, “Obama Popularity Hits Low In Poll After Prisoner Exchange,” [Bloomberg](#), 6/10/14)

- **Just 31 Percent Of Americans Approve Of The Way Obama Handled The Prisoner Swap.** “As Republicans call for hearings on the issue, almost one in five Americans hasn’t reached a conclusion. While only 31 percent approved of how Obama handled the prisoner swap and 51 percent didn’t, 18 percent said they aren’t sure how they feel.” (Julianna Goldman, “Obama Popularity Hits Low In Poll After Prisoner Exchange,” [Bloomberg](#), 6/10/14)
- **“Fifty-Four Percent Of Respondents Likely To Vote In The Midterm Elections -- Including 61 Percent Of Those Who Describe Themselves As Independents -- Said They Disapproved Of Obama’s Handling Of The Exchange.”** (Julianna Goldman, “Obama Popularity Hits Low In Poll After Prisoner Exchange,” [Bloomberg](#), 6/10/14)

**Wall Street Journal/NBC News Poll: 44 Percent Of Americans Said Obama Should Not Have Made The Bergdahl Exchange, While 30 Percent Said He Should Have.** “He didn’t win confidence with his decision to swap five Taliban prisoners for the release of U.S Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl: 44% said he should not have made the exchange, and 30% said he should.” (Janet Hook, “Obama’s Competence Questioned In WSJ/NBC Poll,” [Wall Street Journal](#), 6/18/14)

**CNN/ORC Poll: According To A New Poll, Six In 10 Americans Are Dissatisfied With The Obama Administration’s Handling Of The Benghazi Attack.** “Six in 10 Americans are dissatisfied with the way the Obama administration has handled the deadly terror attack on the U.S. diplomatic compound in Benghazi, Libya, a new poll shows.” (“CNN/ORC Poll: Majority Dissatisfied With Handling Of Benghazi,” [CNN](#), 6/16/14)

- **Only 37 Percent Of Americans Are Satisfied With The Obama Administration’s Handling Of The Benghazi Attack.** ([CNN/ORC Poll](#), 1,003 A, MoE 3%, 5/29/14-6/1/14)

- **61 Percent Of Americans Think The Obama Administration Has Been Dishonest In Providing Information About The Benghazi Attack, While 37 Percent Think They Have Been Honest.** ([CNN/ORC Poll](#), 1,003 A, MoE 3%, 5/29/14-6/1/14)
- **58 Percent Think “The Obama Administration Has Covered Up What It Knows About” Benghazi And “Half Favor Further Congressional Investigation.”** “Given that 58 percent also think the Obama administration has covered up what it knows about the attack – and half favor a further congressional investigation – the issue could present challenges.” (Gary Langer, “Clinton Shows Strengths For 2016 – Yet With Some Chinks In Her Armor,” [ABC News](#), 6/8/14)

**CNN/ORC Poll: 56 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of The Way Obama Is Handling The Situation In Afghanistan, While 42 Percent Approve.** ([CNN/ORC Poll](#), 1003A, MoE 3%, 5/29-6/1/14)

**CNN/ORC Poll: 53 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of The Way Obama Is Handling The Situation In Ukraine, While 39 Percent Approve.** ([CNN/ORC Poll](#), 1003A, MoE 3%, 5/29-6/1/14)

**Bloomberg: 46 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of Obama’s Handling Of The Situation In Ukraine, While 31 Percent Approve.** ([Bloomberg Poll](#), 1005 A, MoE 3.1%, 6/6-9/14)

### ***Immigration***

**Gallup: “Americans’ Approval Of President Barack Obama’s Handling Of Immigration Has Dropped To 31%, One Of The Lowest Readings Since 2010...”** “Americans’ approval of President Barack Obama’s handling of immigration has dropped to 31%, one of the lowest readings since 2010, when Gallup began polling on his handling of the issue. Meanwhile, two in three Americans (65%) disapprove of his handling of immigration.” (Justin McCarthy, “Approval Of Obama’s Handling Of Immigration Falls To 31%,” [Gallup](#), 6/20/14)

- **Disapproval Of Obama’s Handling Of Immigration Has Climbed 10 Points Since August 2013 To 65%.** “These data are from a June 5-8 Gallup poll. Disapproval of the president’s handling of immigration has climbed 10 points since August 2013, when more than half of Americans (55%) disapproved.” (Justin McCarthy, “Approval Of Obama’s Handling Of Immigration Falls To 31%,” [Gallup](#), 6/20/14)
- **Among Democrats And Independents, Approval Of Obama’s Handling Has Dropped 8 Points.** “Obama’s approval on immigration has dropped since last August across all political affiliations, even among those in his own party. Democrats’ approval has fallen eight points to the current 60%. Approval among independents has also fallen eight points, to 25%.” (Justin McCarthy, “Approval Of Obama’s Handling Of Immigration Falls To 31%,” [Gallup](#), 6/20/14)

### **AND IN 2014 BATTLEGROUND STATES, OBAMA’S APPROVAL RATINGS ARE EVEN WORSE**

**NPR Battleground Poll: Obama’s Approval Ratings In “Key Battleground States That Will Decide Control Of The Senate...Are Lower Than They Are Nationally.”** “In the key battleground states that will decide control of the Senate this November, President Obama’s approval numbers are lower than they are nationally — but not much lower.” (Mara Liasson, “NPR Poll: In Senate Battleground States, Obama Ratings Lag,” [NPR](#), 6/19/14)

**“In The 12 States With Competitive Senate Races This Fall, Only 38 Percent Of Likely Voters Said They Approved Of The Way The President Is Handling His Job.”** (Mara Liasson, “NPR Poll: In Senate Battleground States, Obama Ratings Lag,” [NPR](#), 6/19/14)

- **58 Percent Disapprove Of The Way Obama Is Handling His Job.** ([NPR Poll](#), 1,000 LV, MoE 3.1%, 6/6-11/14)

**57 Percent Of Likely Battleground State Voters Have An Unfavorable Opinion Of Obama, Compared To 41 Percent Who Have A Favorable Opinion.** ([NPR Poll](#), 1,000 LV, MoE 3.1%, 6/6-11/14)

**58 Percent Of Battleground State Likely Voters Disapprove Of The Way Obama Is Handling The Economy, While 39 Approve.** ([NPR Poll](#), 1,000 LV, MoE 3.1%, 6/6-11/14)

**58 Percent Of Battleground State Likely Voters Oppose ObamaCare, Compared To 40 Percent Who Support It.** ([NPR Poll](#), 1,000 LV, MoE 3.1%, 6/6-11/14)