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Washington, DC – The monthly Ipsos/McClatchy poll indicates the majority of Americans (63%) continue to approve of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president. This is similar to the 65% approval rating Obama received exactly one month ago in the Ipsos/McClatchy tracking poll.

Obama's approval rating continues to break heavily along political party lines, with 91% of Democrats approving the job he has done, while only 26% of Republicans approve of his work as president. Among independents, 57% approve how Obama has handled his job as president.

When it Comes to Economy, Americans More Likely to Trust Obama Than Private Sector or Congress

When asked who they trust most to improve the economy, Americans are more likely to choose Obama (47%) either the private sector (37%) or Congress (11%).

Americans' views on this issue vary greatly by political party, with 69% of Democrats saying they most trust Obama to improve the economy, compared to only 19% of Republicans who feel this way. Republicans are more likely to say they trust the private sector to improve the economy (62%). In contrast, only 17% of Democrats say they most trust the private sector to improve the economy.

Obama Gets Higher Grades for Diplomacy Than for Economy

When asked to assign a letter grade to Obama for his performance on diplomacy issues, nearly two out of three Americans (61%) give him an "A" or "B." Obama receives his next highest marks on how he has handled education issues (57% of Americans give him an "A" or "B" on education), and slightly lower marks for his performance on energy independence (54%), healthcare (50%), terrorism (49%) and the economy (47%).

Majority of Americans Say Economy Has Stabilized

In a change from last month, more than half of Americans (52%) now say the U.S. economy has stabilized, well up from the 35% of Americans who said that four weeks ago. Further, only one in three Americans (36%) say the worst is still yet to come with the economy, compared to 57% of Americans who felt that way last month.



Americans Remain Realistic About Stimulus Package

Half of all Americans (49%) WANT to see results from the economic stimulus package within six months. However, the public takes a realistic tack on the issue. Only a quarter of Americans (22%) EXPECT to see results from the economic stimulus package within the next six months, while nearly three quarters of Americans (72%) say it will take longer than that.

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted April 2 – April 6, 2009. For the survey, a nationally representative, randomly selected sample of exactly 1,138 adults aged 18 and older across the United States was interviewed by Ipsos. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate within 2.91 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's 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.

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