



The Associated Press-NORC  
Center for Public Affairs Research

# Obama's Legacy as President: Depends on Who You Ask

Conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

*Interviews: 12/14-19/2016*

*1,017 adults*

*Margin of error: 3.7 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults*

*NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.*

OBAMA'S LEGACY AS PRESIDENT: DEPENDS ON WHO YOU ASK

*Some questions held for future release.*

**Q5. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of Barack Obama? If you don't know enough about Barack Obama to have an opinion, you can say that too.**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
<b>Very/Somewhat favorable NET</b>	<b>57</b>
Very favorable	30
Somewhat favorable	26
<b>Very/Somewhat unfavorable NET</b>	<b>37</b>
Somewhat unfavorable	12
Very unfavorable	25
Don't know enough to say	6
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N= 1,017

**Q6. Do you think Barack Obama has been a great, good, average, poor or terrible president?**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
<b>Great/Good NET</b>	<b>52</b>
Great	23
Good	29
<b>Average</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Poor/Terrible NET</b>	<b>28</b>
Poor	14
Terrible	14
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	*

N= 1,017

**Q7. Do you think Barack Obama has...**

**[HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
Kept the promises he made while running for president	32
Tried but failed to keep his promises	44
Not kept his promises	22
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N= 1,017

**Q8. Overall, would you say that you and your family are better off or worse off than you were when Barack Obama became president in 2009, or has there not been much difference?**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
<b>Much/Somewhat better off NET</b>	<b>41</b>
Much better off	14
Somewhat better off	27
<b>Not much difference</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Much/Somewhat worse off NET</b>	<b>26</b>
Somewhat worse off	16
Much worse off	10
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	*

N=

1,017

**Q9. Overall, would you say that the country as a whole is better off or worse off than it was when Barack Obama became president in 2009, or has there not been much difference?**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
<b>Much/Somewhat better off NET</b>	<b>46</b>
Much better off	19
Somewhat better off	27
<b>Not much difference</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Much/Somewhat worse off NET</b>	<b>33</b>
Somewhat worse off	17
Much worse off	16
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N=

1,017

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**Q10. Do you think Barack Obama's presidency made the country more united, more divided, or neither more united nor more divided?**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
<b>Much/Somewhat more united NET</b>	<b>27</b>
Much more united	9
Somewhat more united	18
<b>Neither more united nor more divided</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Much/Somewhat more divided NET</b>	<b>44</b>
Somewhat more divided	19
Much more divided	25
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N= 1,017

**Q11. Do you think that the things Barack Obama has done as President of the United States has made most Black Americans better off, worse off, or made them neither better off nor worse off overall?**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
Better off	28
Worse off	24
Neither better nor worse	46
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N= 1,017

**PID1. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
Democrat	34
Republican	23
Independent	27
None of these	15
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N= 1,017

OBAMA'S LEGACY AS PRESIDENT: DEPENDS ON WHO YOU ASK

*If Democrat in PID1...*

**PIDA. Do you consider yourself a strong Democrat or a moderate Democrat?**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
Strong Democrat	43
Moderate Democrat	57
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	-
<i>N=</i>	348

*If Republican in PID1...*

**PIDB. Do you consider yourself a strong Republican or a moderate Republican?**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
Strong Republican	34
Moderate Republican	66
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	243

*If Independent, None of these, or Don't Know/Skip/Refused in PID1...*

**PIDi. Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
Lean Democrat	28
Lean Republican	27
Don't lean	44
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	426

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**POLITICS. Combines PID1, PIDI, PIDa, and PIDb.**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
<b>Democrat NET</b>	<b>46</b>
Strong Democrat	15
Moderate Democrat	20
Lean Democrat	12
<b>Independent/None – Don't lean</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Republican NET</b>	<b>34</b>
Lean Republican	11
Moderate Republican	15
Strong Republican	8
Unknown	*

N=

1,017

**DM5. Which one of the following best describes where you live?**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
Urban area	25
Suburban area	49
Rural area	25
DON'T KNOW	1
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N=

1,017

**AGE**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
18-24	12
25-34	19
35-44	15
45-54	18
55-64	16
65-74	14
75+	6

N=

1,017

# OBAMA'S LEGACY AS PRESIDENT: DEPENDS ON WHO YOU ASK

## GENDER

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
Male	48
Female	52

*N=* 1,017

## RACE/ETHNICITY

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
White	64
Black or African American	12
Hispanic	16
Other	8

*N=* 1,017

## MARITAL STATUS

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
Married	49
Widowed	5
Divorced	11
Separated	2
Never married	25
Living with partner	7

*N=* 1,017

## EMPLOYMENT STATUS

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
Employed	57
Not employed	43

*N=* 1,017

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**EDUCATION**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
Less than a high school diploma	12
High school graduate or equivalent	29
Some college	26
College graduate or above	33

N=

1,017

**INCOME**

	AP-NORC 12/14-19/2016
Under \$10,000	6
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	9
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	11
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	11
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	7
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	18
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	12
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	16
\$150,000 or more	8

N=

1,017



## **AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research Poll**

### **Study Methodology**

This survey was conducted by The Associated Press NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and with funding from NORC at the University of Chicago. Data were collected using AmeriSpeak Omnibus®, a monthly multi-client survey using NORC at the University of Chicago's probability based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. The survey was part of a larger study that included questions about other topics not included in this report. During the initial recruitment phase of the panel, randomly selected U.S. households were sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame and then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, and field interviewers (face to face). The panel provides sample coverage of approximately 97 percent of the U.S. household population. Those excluded from the sample include people with P.O. Box only addresses, some addresses not listed in the USPS Delivery Sequence File, and some newly constructed dwellings.

Interviews for this survey were conducted between December 14 and 19, 2016, with adults age 18 and over representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 1,017 completed the survey—846 via the web and 171 via telephone. The final stage completion rate is 30.5 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 34.3 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 95.0 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 9.9 percent. The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 3.7 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups.

Once the sample has been selected and fielded, and all the study data have been collected and made final, a poststratification process is used to adjust for any survey nonresponse as well as any non-coverage or under and oversampling resulting from the study specific sample design. Poststratification variables included age, gender, census division, race/ethnicity, and household phone status. Weighting variables were obtained from the 2016 Current Population Survey. The weighted data, which reflect the U.S. population of adults age 18 and over, were used for all analyses.

### **About the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research**

The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research taps into the power of social science research and the highest-quality journalism to bring key information to people across the nation and throughout the world.

- The Associated Press (AP) is the world's essential news organization, bringing fast, unbiased news to all media platforms and formats.
- NORC at the University of Chicago is one of the oldest and most respected, independent research institutions in the world.

The two organizations have established the AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals.

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The founding principles of the AP-NORC Center include a mandate to carefully preserve and protect the scientific integrity and objectivity of NORC and the journalistic independence of AP. All work conducted by the Center conforms to the highest levels of scientific integrity to prevent any real or perceived bias in the research. All of the work of the Center is subject to review by its advisory committee to help ensure it meets these standards. The Center will publicize the results of all studies and make all datasets and study documentation available to scholars and the public.