

# **Key Findings**

Public Opinion Strategies Election Night Survey

**Bill McInturff** 





# Providing Some Context For The 2014 Election

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Economic issues played a critical role heading into the election.



64%

Dissatisfied with the state of the U.S. economy



74%

Report that economic issues are extremely or very important to their vote\*

\*Source: POS Pre-Election Survey. All else NBC/WSJ.







63%

Mood of country = wrong track

40%

Someone in household has lost a job in the last five years

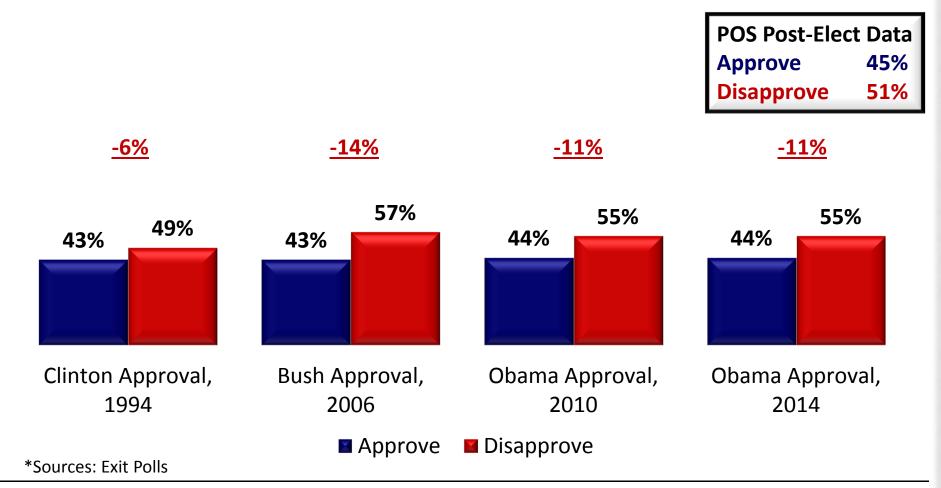
57%

Would carry a protest sign for a day



## In the 2014 exit polls, President Obama's job approval is consistent with other presidents who had mid-term election wipeouts.

<u>Presidential Job Approval—Wave Mid-Term Elections—Exit Poll Data</u>



Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as President?



## President Obama is the most damaging recent two-term president to his party's standing in the House.

#### Change in House Seats Held by the President's Party

	First Mid-Term	Second Mid-Term	Net
Barack Obama	-63	-12*	-75*
Richard Nixon	-12	-48	-60
Bill Clinton	-52	+5	-47
Ronald Reagan	-26	-5	-31
George W. Bush	+8	-30	-22

<sup>\*</sup>Estimate as of December 9 with 1 seat yet to be called. Source: CNN



### The same holds true for the Senate.

### Change in Senate Seats Held by the President's Party

	First Mid-Term	Second Mid-Term	Net
Barack Obama	-6	-9	-15
Bill Clinton	-8	0	-8
Ronald Reagan	+1	-8	-7
George W. Bush	+2	-6	-4
Richard Nixon	+2	-5	-3



# The 2014 Elections and The Affordable Care Act

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# Americans continue to have an unfavorable view of the health care law.

<u>Health Care Law Image Rating—Trend</u>

	October 2013	May 2014	November 2014
Favorable	30%	33%	35%
Half-and-Half	14%	16%	12%
Unfavorable	44%	45%	49%
Net Difference	-14%	-12%	-14%



Less than one-third of voters recall campaign commercials on the topic of the health care law this cycle. This is dramatically different than voter recall levels in 2010.

#### Recall Campaign Commercials About The ACA:

	2010	2014	
Recall – A Lot	30%	11%	
Recall – Some	39%	21%	
Total Recall	69%	32%	

Nearly six out of ten voters this election cycle said their Congressional vote was NOT a message about the ACA. This again differs from 2010 where a plurality of voters said their vote for Congress was a message opposing the ACA.

<u>Congressional Vote – Message About ACA?</u>

	2010	2014
Vote As Message Supporting ACA	28%	12%
Vote As Message Opposing ACA	45%	28%
Not a Message About the ACA	27%	59%



### The data, though, is very different in the key Senate states.

### Recall Campaign Commercials About The ACA:

	2010	2014	2014 Key Senate Seats (15%)
Total Recall	69%	32%	53%

### The data, though, is very different in the key Senate states.

### <u>Congressional Vote – Message About ACA?</u>

	2010	2014	2014 Key Senate Seats (15%)
Vote as Message Supporting ACA	28%	12%	18%
Vote as Message Opposing ACA	45%	28%	42%
Not a Message About the ACA	27%	59%	40%



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