



Interviews with 484 adult Americans who watched the presidential speech conducted by telephone by Opinion Research Corporation on February 24, 2009. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 4.5 percentage points.

Survey respondents were first interviewed as part of a random national sample on February 18-22, 2009. In those interviews, respondents indicated they planned to watch tonight's speech and were willing to be re-interviewed after the speech.

Some questions were asked of each respondent both in the pre-speech questionnaire on February 18-22 and on tonight's questionnaire. Where applicable, results for tonight's respondents from both the pre-speech survey and the post-speech survey are reported.

21% of the respondents who participated in tonight's survey identified themselves as Republicans, 47% identified themselves as Democrats, and 30% identified themselves as Independents.

1. What was your overall reaction to President Obama’s speech tonight – very positive, somewhat positive, somewhat negative or very negative?

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Very positive	68%
Somewhat positive	24%
Somewhat negative	6%
Very negative	2%
Both/mixed	*
No opinion	*

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	Very positive	Somewhat positive	Somewhat negative	Very negative	Both/mixed (vol.)	No opinion
<u>GEORGE W. BUSH</u>						
Jan. 23, 2007	41%	37%	16%	4%	1%	1%
Jan. 31, 2006	48%	27%	14%	9%	2%	*
Feb. 2, 2005	60%	26%	10%	3%	1%	--
Jan. 20, 2004	45%	31%	13%	10%	1%	--
Jan. 28, 2003	50%	34%	11%	3%	2%	*
Jan. 29, 2002	74%	20%	3%	2%	1%	*
Feb. 27, 2001	66%	26%	6%	1%	*	1%
<u>BILL CLINTON</u>						
Jan. 19, 1999	56%	27%	9%	7%	1%	*
Jan. 27, 1998	52%	32%	11%	5%	*	*

2007 trend from CNN/Opinion Research Corporation polls; 1998-2006 trends from CNN/USA Today/Gallup polls

2. Do you think the policies being proposed by Barack Obama will move the country in the right direction or the wrong direction?

	(Post-Speech) Feb. 24 <u>2009</u>	(Pre-Speech) Feb. 18-22 <u>2009</u>
Right direction	88%	71%
Wrong direction	11%	26%
No opinion	1%	3%

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	<u>Right direction</u>	<u>Wrong direction</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<u>GEORGE W. BUSH</u>			
Jan. 23, 2007 (Post-speech)	67%	27%	6%
Jan. 19-22, 2007 (Pre-speech)	43%	48%	9%
Jan 31, 2006 (Post-speech)	68%	28%	4%
Jan 29-30, 2006 (Pre-speech)	52%	40%	8%
Feb 2, 2005 (Post-speech)	77%	20%	3%
Jan 31-Feb 1, 2005 (Pre-speech)	67%	29%	4%
Jan 20, 2004 (Post-speech)	70%	26%	4%
Jan 18-19, 2004 (Pre-speech)	60%	33%	7%
Jan 28, 2003 (Post-speech)	71%	20%	9%
Jan 23-27, 2003 (Pre-speech)	52%	40%	8%
Jan 29, 2002 (Post-speech)	91%	7%	2%
Jan 25-27, 2002 (Pre-speech)	77%	16%	7%
Feb 27, 2001 (Post-speech)	84%	12%	4%
Feb 25-26, 2001 (Pre-speech)	73%	12%	15%
<u>BILL CLINTON</u>			
Jan 24, 1995 (Post-speech)	83%	15%	2%
Jan 23, 1995 (Pre-speech)	51%	35%	14%
Jan 25, 1994 (Post-speech)	84%	11%	5%
Jan 22-24, 1994 (Pre-speech)	67%	27%	6%

2001 WORDING: Thinking about the policies of President Bush and his administration, in your view, is George W. Bush leading the country in the right direction or in the wrong direction?

1994-1995 WORDING: Thinking about the policies of President Clinton and his administration, in your view, is Bill Clinton leading the country in the right direction or in the wrong direction?

2007 trend from CNN/Opinion Research Corporation polls; 1998-2006 trends from CNN/USA Today/Gallup polls

3. How confident are you in Barack Obama's abilities to carry out his duties as president -- very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not confident at all?

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Very confident	55%
Somewhat confident	32%
Not too confident	10%
Not confident at all	3%
No opinion	*

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	<u>Very confident</u>	<u>Somewhat confident</u>	<u>Not too confident</u>	<u>Not confident at all</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<u>GEORGE W. BUSH</u> 2001 Feb 27	52%	34%	12%	2%	*
<u>BILL CLINTON</u> 1999 Jan 19	55%	24%	10%	11%	--
1998 Jan 28	48%	30%	14%	8%	--

4. Do you generally support or oppose the economic plan that President Obama outlined tonight?

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Support	82%
Oppose	17%
No opinion	*

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	<u>Support</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<u>GEORGE W. BUSH *</u> 2001 Feb 27	85%	12%	3%
<u>BILL CLINTON</u> 1993 Feb 17	79%	16%	5%

*2001 WORDING: "Do you generally support or oppose the proposals that President Bush outlined tonight?"

5. Do you think that President Obama's plan will or will not succeed in: (RANDOM ORDER)

	<u>Will succeed</u>	<u>Will not Succeed</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
Improving the economy February 24, 2009	80%	18%	1%
Reducing the federal budget deficit February 24, 2009	68%	30%	2%
Improving the nation's health care system February 24, 2009	75%	23%	2%
Creating or saving millions of jobs February 24, 2009	82%	17%	1%

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

<u>BILL CLINTON</u>	<u>Will succeed</u>	<u>Will not Succeed</u>	<u>Opinion</u>
Improving the economy February 17, 1993	72%	25%	3%
Reducing the federal budget deficit February 17, 1993	68%	28%	4%

6. In his speech tonight, did Barack Obama make you feel more optimistic or more pessimistic about the direction the country is headed in over the next few years?

	<u>Feb. 24 2009</u>
More optimistic	85%
More pessimistic	11%
Neither	3%
No opinion	1%