



**Interviews with 1,160 adult Americans, including an oversample of African-Americans, conducted by telephone by Opinion Research Corporation on December 16-20, 2009. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points. The sample also includes 259 interviews among African-Americans (plus or minus 6 percentage points) and 786 non-Hispanic whites (plus or minus 3.5 percentage points).**

**Columns in this document labeled "Whites" show results only for respondents who described themselves as white in a question on racial background and did not describe themselves as Hispanic or Latino in a separate question on ethnicity. Columns in this document labeled "Blacks" refer to all respondents who described themselves as black or African-American regardless of their ethnic background.**

**Trend results for racial groups are shown only for polls which had enough African-American respondents to produce statistically valid results.**

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**FOR RELEASE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29 AT NOON**

*(NOTE: Results for all Americans for Question 1 were released on December 21. Results for blacks and whites for Question 1 have not been previously released.)*

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

BLACKS

	<u>Dec. 16-20</u> <u>2009</u>	<u>July 31-Aug. 3</u> <u>2009</u>	<u>May 16-18</u> <u>2009</u>	<u>Apr. 23-26</u> <u>2009</u>
Approve	91%	92%	96%	98%
Disapprove	8%	6%	2%	2%
No opinion	1%	2%	2%	*

WHITES

	<u>Dec. 16-20</u> <u>2009</u>	<u>July 31-Aug. 3</u> <u>2009</u>	<u>May 16-18</u> <u>2009</u>	<u>Apr. 23-26</u> <u>2009</u>
Approve	42%	49%	58%	56%
Disapprove	54%	47%	37%	40%
No opinion	3%	4%	5%	4%

*(NOTE: Results for all Americans for Question 1 were released on December 21. Results for blacks and whites for Question 1 have not been previously released.)*

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?
2. (IF DISAPPROVE) Do you disapprove because you think his policies and actions since he became president have been too liberal, or because you think his policies and actions have not been liberal enough?

QUESTIONS 1 AND 2 COMBINED

	<u>Dec. 16-20, 2009</u>			<u>Dec. 2-3</u> <u>2009</u>
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Blacks</u>	<u>Whites</u>	
Approve (from Question 1)	54%	91%	42%	48%
Disapprove, too liberal	34%	2%	42%	40%
Disapprove, not liberal enough	8%	7%	11%	8%
Disapprove, unsure on Question 2	2%	*	2%	2%
No opinion	2%	1%	3%	2%

3. How do you personally feel about the fact that Barack Obama is president? If you had to choose one of the following descriptions, would you say you feel thrilled, happy, don't care, unhappy or depressed?

	<u>ALL AMERICANS</u>			
	Dec. 16-20 <u>2009</u>	July 31-Aug. 3 <u>2009</u>	Apr. 23-26 <u>2009</u>	Jan. 12-15 <u>2009*</u>
Thrilled	15%	15%	19%	28%
Happy	37%	41%	42%	40%
Don't care	15%	12%	11%	15%
Unhappy	22%	22%	20%	12%
Depressed	10%	9%	7%	4%
No opinion	*	2%	1%	*

	<u>BLACKS</u>			
	Dec. 16-20 <u>2009</u>	July 31-Aug. 3 <u>2009</u>	Apr. 23-26 <u>2009</u>	Jan. 12-15 <u>2009*</u>
Thrilled	42%	40%	53%	61%
Happy	49%	47%	46%	36%
Don't care	4%	8%	1%	2%
Unhappy	2%	3%	*	*
Depressed	2%	2%	*	*
No opinion	*	1%	*	*

	<u>WHITES</u>			
	Dec. 16-20 <u>2009</u>	July 31-Aug. 3 <u>2009</u>	Apr. 23-26 <u>2009</u>	Jan. 12-15 <u>2009*</u>
Thrilled	9%	13%	14%	24%
Happy	33%	38%	40%	38%
Don't care	17%	13%	12%	17%
Unhappy	28%	26%	25%	15%
Depressed	13%	10%	9%	5%
No opinion	*	2%	1%	*

*\*QUESTION WORDING FOR JAN., 2009: How do you personally feel about the fact that Barack Obama will soon be inaugurated as president? If you had to choose one of the following descriptions, would you say you feel thrilled, happy, don't care, unhappy or depressed?*

9. Thinking specifically about the effect of Barack Obama's presidency on relations between blacks and whites in this country, do you think his presidency has started a new era of better race relations, or do you think his presidency has resulted in some improvement in race relations but not started a new era, or do you think his presidency has created no real change in race relations in this country, or do you think that his presidency has made race relations worse?

	<u>Dec. 16-20, 2009</u>		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Blacks</u>	<u>Whites</u>
New era	12%	18%	11%
Some improvement	42%	51%	39%
No real improvement	31%	23%	34%
Worse	14%	7%	15%
No opinion	1%	1%	1%

29. Do you think race relations in this country will ever get better than they are, or don't you think so?

	<u>Dec. 16-20 2009</u>	<u>Oct. 12-14 2007</u>
<b>ALL AMERICANS</b>		
Yes, will get better	71%	62%
No, don't think so	28%	36%
No opinion	1%	2%
<b>BLACKS</b>		
Yes, will get better	75%	49%
No, don't think so	24%	51%
No opinion	1%	*
<b>WHITES</b>		
Yes, will get better	72%	66%
No, don't think so	27%	33%
No opinion	1%	1%

CNN/TIME TRENDS

	<u>Oct. 1-2 1997</u>	<u>Oct. 18-19 1995</u>	<u>Oct. 4-5 1995</u>
<b>ALL AMERICANS</b>			
Yes, will get better	57%	62%	51%
No, don't think so	36%	30%	40%
No opinion	7%	8%	9%
<b>BLACKS</b>			
Yes, will get better	43%	44%	31%
No, don't think so	52%	47%	59%
No opinion	5%	9%	10%
<b>WHITES</b>			
Yes, will get better	60%	65%	54%
No, don't think so	33%	27%	37%
No opinion	7%	8%	9%