

Tim Malloy, Assistant Director,  
Quinnipiac University Poll  
(203) 645-8043

Rubenstein Associates, Inc.  
Public Relations  
Contact: Pat Smith (212) 843-8026

# QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL

FOR RELEASE: JULY 2, 2014

## **OBAMA IS FIRST AS WORST PRESIDENT SINCE WWII, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY NATIONAL POLL FINDS; MORE VOTERS SAY ROMNEY WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER**

President Barack Obama is the worst president since World War II, 33 percent of American voters say in a Quinnipiac University National Poll released today. Another 28 percent pick President George W. Bush.

Ronald Reagan is the best president since WWII, 35 percent of voters say, with 18 percent for Bill Clinton, 15 percent for John F. Kennedy and 8 percent for Obama, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll finds. Among Democrats, 34 percent say Clinton is the best president, with 18 percent each for Obama and Kennedy.

Obama has been a better president than George W. Bush, 39 percent of voters say, while 40 percent say he is worse. Men say 43 – 36 percent that Obama is worse than Bush while women say 42 – 38 percent he is better. Obama is worse, Republicans say 79 – 7 percent and independent voters say 41 – 31 percent. Democrats say 78 – 4 percent that he is better.

Voters say by a narrow 37 – 34 percent that Obama is better for the economy than Bush.

America would be better off if Republican Mitt Romney had won the 2012 presidential election, 45 percent of voters say, while 38 percent say the country would be worse off.

Missing Mitt are Republicans 84 – 5 percent and independent voters 47 – 33 percent, while Democrats say 74 – 10 percent that the U.S. would be worse off with Romney.

“Over the span of 69 years of American history and 12 presidencies, President Barack Obama finds himself with President George W. Bush at the bottom of the popularity barrel,” said Tim Malloy, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

“Would Mitt have been a better fit? More voters in hindsight say yes.”

**-more-**

## Quinnipiac University Poll/July 2, 2014 – page 2

American voters say 54 – 44 percent that the Obama Administration is not competent running the government. The president is paying attention to what his administration is doing, 47 percent say, while 48 percent say he does not pay enough attention.

President Obama's job approval rating, inching up since a negative 38 – 57 percent in December, 2013, his all-time low, is stalled at a negative 40 – 53 percent. This compares to the president's negative 42 – 50 percent job approval in an April 2 national survey.

Today, the president gets negative scores of 10 – 88 percent from Republicans, 31 – 59 percent from independent voters, 37 – 57 percent from men and 42 – 49 percent from women. Democrats approve 79 – 13 percent.

The president gets mixed grades for character as voters say 48 – 48 percent that he is honest and trustworthy and 51 – 47 percent that he cares about their needs and problems. He gets a negative 47 – 51 percent for leadership qualities.

The economy and jobs are the most important problems facing the country today, 35 percent of voters say, with 12 percent listing politicians/campaigns/corruption, 6 percent each for healthcare and foreign affairs, 5 percent for the budget and 4 percent each for education and immigration.

Obama gets negative grades for his handling of most key issues:

- Negative 40 – 55 percent for handling the economy;
- Negative 37 – 57 percent for foreign policy;
- Negative 40 – 58 percent for health care;
- 50 – 40 percent for the environment;
- Negative 44 – 51 percent for terrorism;

From June 24 – 30, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,446 registered voters nationwide with a margin of error of +/- 2.6 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

**For more information, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on Twitter**

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	40%	10%	79%	31%	37%	42%	46%	45%	36%	36%
Disapprove	53	88	13	59	57	49	44	47	57	57
DK/NA	7	3	8	10	6	9	10	7	7	6

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? (\* High also 59% Mar 2009)

	Jul 02 2014	Apr 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Jan 08 2014	Dec 10 2013	APPROVE.....	
						High	Low
						Jun 04 2009*	Dec 10 2013
Approve	40	42	40	41	38	59	38
Disapprove	53	50	54	53	57	31	57
DK/NA	7	8	6	7	6	10	6

35. Thinking about the United States Presidents we have had since World War II: Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George Bush Senior, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama, which one would you consider the best president?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Harry Truman	4%	4%	4%	6%	6%	4%	2%	2%	4%	10%
Dwight Eisenhower	5	4	2	8	6	4	8	5	3	6
John Kennedy	15	6	18	17	14	15	21	9	15	17
Lyndon Johnson	3	-	6	1	4	2	2	2	4	2
Richard Nixon	1	2	-	1	1	1	4	1	-	-
Gerald Ford	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	-
Jimmy Carter	2	-	4	2	2	3	-	2	5	2
Ronald Reagan	35	66	6	36	37	33	18	36	42	34
George Bush Senior	3	6	1	4	2	4	1	6	3	2
Bill Clinton	18	3	34	16	18	18	21	24	14	14
George W. Bush	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Barack Obama	8	4	18	2	6	10	10	10	6	5
DK/NA	4	2	5	4	3	5	11	2	2	5

TREND: Thinking about the United States Presidents we have had since World War II: Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George Bush Senior, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama, which one would you consider the best president?

	Jul 02 2014	Jun 01 2006
Harry Truman	4	7
Dwight Eisenhower	5	5
John Kennedy	15	18
Lyndon Johnson	3	1
Richard Nixon	1	1
Gerald Ford	1	1
Jimmy Carter	2	5
Ronald Reagan	35	28
George Bush Senior	3	2
Bill Clinton	18	25
George W. Bush	1	3
Barack Obama	8	na
DK/NA	4	4

36. Which of these twelve presidents we have had since World War II would you consider the worst president: Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George Bush Senior, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush or Barack Obama?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Harry Truman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dwight Eisenhower	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	-
John Kennedy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lyndon Johnson	3	4	3	2	4	3	5	4	2	3
Richard Nixon	13	5	20	14	11	15	12	12	16	13
Gerald Ford	2	-	2	2	3	-	2	1	1	2
Jimmy Carter	8	14	1	9	11	6	4	7	8	13
Ronald Reagan	3	-	6	3	4	3	4	4	4	2
George Bush Senior	2	-	4	1	1	2	-	3	1	2
Bill Clinton	3	4	1	3	2	3	2	2	4	2
George W. Bush	28	5	54	23	26	30	38	34	21	22
Barack Obama	33	63	4	36	34	32	24	29	39	34
DK/NA	4	3	4	4	4	4	10	3	1	5

TREND: Which of these twelve presidents we have had since World War II would you consider the worst president: Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George Bush Senior, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush or Barack Obama?

	Jul 02 2014	Jun 01 2006
Harry Truman	-	1
Dwight Eisenhower	1	-
John Kennedy	-	1
Lyndon Johnson	3	4
Richard Nixon	13	17
Gerald Ford	2	2
Jimmy Carter	8	13
Ronald Reagan	3	3
George Bush Senior	2	3
Bill Clinton	3	16
George W. Bush	28	34
Barack Obama	33	na
DK/NA	4	5

37. Do you think Barack Obama has been a better President than George W. Bush, worse, or about the same as President Bush?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Better	39%	7%	78%	31%	36%	42%	45%	45%	35%	34%
Worse	40	79	4	41	43	38	25	32	48	49
About the same	20	13	16	27	21	19	28	22	17	16
DK/NA	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2

TREND: Do you think Barack Obama has been a better President than George W. Bush, worse, or about the same as President Bush?

	Jul 02 2014	Jan 13 2011	Nov 17 2010	Jul 21 2010	Jan 13 2010
Better	39	46	43	42	43
Worse	40	30	37	32	30
About the same	20	22	19	23	23
DK/NA	1	3	2	3	4

38. How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right; almost all of the time, most of the time, only some of the time, or hardly ever?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Almost all the time	2%	1%	4%	-	2%	1%	2%	3%	1%	1%
Most of the time	12	5	21	9	12	11	18	11	11	10
Some of the time	49	48	56	45	43	54	50	48	47	50
Hardly ever	37	45	17	45	42	33	29	37	41	39
DK/NA	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	1

TREND: How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right; almost all of the time, most of the time, only some of the time, or hardly ever?

	Jul 02 2014	Jan 21 2014	Dec 10 2013	Nov 12 2013	Oct 01 2013	ALMST+MOST....	
						High Mar 24 2010	Low Dec 10 2013
Almost all the time	2	2	1	2	3	2	1
Most of the time	12	13	11	13	14	17	11
Some of the time	49	50	46	49	51	50	46
Hardly ever	37	33	41	35	31	30	41
DK/NA	1	2	1	1	2	1	1

39. Would you say that Barack Obama - is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	48%	15%	85%	42%	42%	53%	57%	51%	45%	44%
No	48	81	12	53	53	43	35	45	53	51
DK/NA	4	4	3	5	4	4	9	3	2	5

TREND: Would you say that Barack Obama is honest and trustworthy or not? (\* Low also 44% Nov 2013)

	Jul 02 2014	Apr 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Jan 08 2014	Dec 10 2013	YES.....	
						High Jan 13 2011	Low Dec 10 2013*
Yes	48	48	46	46	44	63	44
No	48	47	49	49	52	31	52
DK/NA	4	5	5	4	4	6	4

40. Would you say that Barack Obama - has strong leadership qualities or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	47%	21%	78%	41%	44%	50%	65%	53%	41%	38%
No	51	77	21	57	54	48	32	47	56	59
DK/NA	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	-	2	2

TREND: Would you say that Barack Obama has strong leadership qualities or not?

	YES.....							
	High		Low					
	Jul 02	Apr 02	Jan 22	Jan 08	Dec 10	Jan 13	Jan 08	
	2014	2014	2014	2014	2013	2010	2014	
Yes	47	49	49	46	47	66	46	
No	51	48	48	51	51	32	51	
DK/NA	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	

41. Would you say that Barack Obama - cares about the needs and problems of people like you or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	51%	19%	86%	47%	49%	53%	62%	56%	48%	47%
No	47	79	12	51	49	45	36	42	51	51
DK/NA	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2

TREND: Would you say that Barack Obama cares about the needs and problems of people like you or not?

	YES.....							
	High		Low					
	Jul 02	Apr 02	Jan 22	Jan 08	Dec 10	Nov 12	Dec 10	
	2014	2014	2014	2014	2013	2008	2013	
Yes	51	51	51	50	48	70	48	
No	47	45	46	48	49	22	49	
DK/NA	2	3	3	2	3	7	3	

42. In the Presidential election of 2012, if Mitt Romney had become President instead of Barack Obama, do you think that, in general, the nation would be better off than it is today or worse off than it is today?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Better off	45%	84%	10%	47%	48%	42%	35%	41%	49%	51%
Worse off	38	5	74	33	36	40	44	43	35	35
SAME (VOL)	10	4	9	13	10	9	13	13	7	7
DK/NA	7	7	7	6	6	8	8	4	8	7

TREND: In the Presidential election of 2012, if Mitt Romney had become President instead of Barack Obama, do you think that, in general, the nation would be better off than it is today or worse off than it is today? (\* election of 2008, if John McCain)

	ROMNEY MCCAIN.....			
	Jul 02	Jan 13	Jul 21	Jan 13
	2014	2011*	2010*	2010*
Better off	45	32	37	35
Worse off	38	41	35	37
SAME (VOL)	10	14	15	17
DK/NA	7	13	13	11

43. What do you think is the most important problem facing the country today?

	Tot
Economy and Jobs Total	35%
Unemployment/Jobs	15
Economy general	14
Cost of living	2
Minimum wage too low	1
Business leaving/Outsourcing	1
Economy other	2
Politicians/Campaigns Total	12%
Politicians/Campaigns genrl	3
Obama administration	2
Political corruption	2
Politicians leadership	1
Politicians/Campaigns other	4
Healthcare Costs/Ins/HMO's	6%
Foreign Affairs/Policy Total	6%
Foreign affairs/Policy gen	2
Priorities home, not abroad	1
Middle East	1
Military issues	1
Foreign Affairs/policy other	1
Budget Total	5%
Budget deficits	2
Gov too big/Gov spending	1
Budget general	1
Budget other	1
Immigration	4%
Education Total	4%
Education general	2
Funding education	1
Education other	1
War total	3%
War general	2
War/Iraq	1
Terrorism Total	3%
Terrorism general	1
Security/Safety	1
Terrorism other	1
Lack of ethics/Morality	3%
Environment/Pollution	2%
Lack of religion	1%
Class inequality	1%
Crime/Violence	1%
Family breakdown/Family values	1%
Taxes	1%
Energy crisis/Gas prices	1%
Middle class/Working class	1%
Poverty/Homeless	1%
Other	5%
DK/NA	4%

44. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling - the economy?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	40%	9%	76%	34%	37%	43%	40%	48%	37%	38%
Disapprove	55	88	18	61	59	52	52	50	60	58
DK/NA	4	3	6	4	4	5	9	3	3	5

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the economy?  
 (\* Low also 32% Sep 2011)

	Jul 02 2014	Apr 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Jan 08 2014	Dec 10 2013	APPROVE.....	
						High	Low
						Mar 04 2009	Oct 06 2011*
Approve	40	40	39	39	37	57	32
Disapprove	55	55	56	58	59	33	64
DK/NA	4	4	5	4	4	10	4

45. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling - foreign policy?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	37%	9%	70%	31%	36%	39%	45%	40%	36%	32%
Disapprove	57	86	23	63	60	54	45	55	60	61
DK/NA	6	5	7	6	4	8	10	5	4	7

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling foreign policy?

	Jul 02 2014	Apr 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Jan 08 2014	Dec 10 2013	APPROVE.....	
						High	Low
						Apr 29 2009	Jul 02 2014
Approve	37	39	40	41	42	57	37
Disapprove	57	55	49	51	49	32	57
DK/NA	6	6	11	8	9	11	6

46. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling - health care?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	40%	7%	78%	32%	39%	40%	38%	45%	38%	39%
Disapprove	58	92	20	64	58	57	61	52	60	56
DK/NA	3	1	2	4	3	2	1	3	2	5

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling health care?

	Jul 02 2014	Apr 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Jan 08 2014	Dec 10 2013	APPROVE.....	
						High	Low
						Jul 02 2009	Dec 10 2013
Approve	40	39	36	35	34	46	34
Disapprove	58	58	59	61	62	42	62
DK/NA	3	3	5	4	4	13	4



47. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling - the environment?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	50%	27%	80%	45%	49%	52%	68%	57%	42%	42%
Disapprove	40	60	14	44	44	37	24	34	49	47
DK/NA	10	13	6	11	8	12	9	10	9	11

48. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling - terrorism?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	44%	17%	77%	38%	42%	46%	55%	47%	42%	38%
Disapprove	51	78	18	56	54	47	43	46	54	55
DK/NA	5	5	5	6	3	7	2	8	4	7

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling terrorism?

	Jul 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Jan 08 2014	Dec 10 2013	Nov 12 2013	APPROVE.....	
						High	Low
						May 05 2011	Jul 02 2014
Approve	44	48	52	50	52	67	44
Disapprove	51	41	41	41	42	27	51
DK/NA	5	10	6	8	6	7	5

52. Would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Excellent	1%	1%	1%	-	1%	-	1%	1%	-	1%
Good	22	11	34	22	23	21	25	20	22	24
Not so good	43	41	50	39	41	45	41	50	40	40
Poor	34	47	15	39	35	33	32	30	38	35
DK/NA	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	1

TREND: Would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Jul 02 2014	Apr 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Dec 10 2013	Nov 12 2013	EXLNT+GOOD....	
						High	Low
						Dec 10 2003	Mar 04 2009
Excellent	1	-	1	-	1	3	-
Good	22	26	21	20	21	37	3
Not so good	43	44	44	44	41	42	28
Poor	34	30	33	36	36	16	68
DK/NA	-	-	1	1	1	1	-

53. Do you think the nation's economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Better	26%	10%	47%	20%	28%	24%	29%	30%	23%	23%
Worse	31	43	12	35	29	32	28	24	36	34
The same	43	46	40	43	41	44	43	45	41	42
DK/NA	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	1

TREND: Do you think the nation's economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same? (\* Low also 11% Sep 2011)

	Jul 02 2014	Apr 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Dec 10 2013	Nov 12 2013	BETTER.....	
						High Jan 18 2011	Low Oct 06 2011*
Better	26	29	28	29	28	36	11
Worse	31	29	26	28	31	20	44
The same	43	42	44	42	40	43	44
DK/NA	1	1	1	1	1	2	1

54. Do you think Barack Obama has been better for the economy than George W. Bush, worse, or about the same as George W. Bush?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Better	37%	8%	74%	28%	35%	38%	43%	41%	34%	33%
Worse	34	65	4	36	35	34	28	28	38	40
The same	27	26	20	34	29	26	27	30	25	25
DK/NA	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	2

55. Do you think that in general the Obama administration has been competent in running the government, or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	44%	13%	80%	36%	38%	48%	50%	47%	41%	39%
No	54	86	17	62	59	49	45	51	57	58
DK/NA	3	2	2	2	3	2	5	2	2	3

TREND: Do you think that in general the Obama administration has been competent in running the government, or don't you think so?

	Jul 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Jan 08 2014	Dec 10 2013	Nov 12 2013
Yes	44	42	43	40	43
No	54	53	55	56	53
DK/NA	3	5	2	3	3

56. Do you think President Barack Obama is paying enough attention to what his administration is doing, or don't you think so?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	47%	23%	78%	37%	44%	49%	54%	54%	45%	35%
No	48	72	19	57	52	45	39	43	50	57
DK/NA	5	5	3	5	4	6	7	3	4	8

TREND: Do you think President Barack Obama is paying enough attention to what his administration is doing, or don't you think so?

	Jul 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Jan 08 2014	Dec 10 2013	Nov 12 2013
Yes	47	45	45	41	43
No	48	47	50	52	51
DK/NA	5	8	6	6	6

57. Do you support or oppose the health care law passed by Barack Obama and Congress in 2010?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Support	43%	9%	83%	35%	43%	43%	46%	48%	41%	40%
Oppose	55	90	15	62	56	54	51	51	58	56
DK/NA	2	1	2	3	2	3	2	1	2	4

TREND: Do you support or oppose the health care law passed by Barack Obama and Congress in 2010?

	Jul 02 2014	Apr 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Jan 08 2014	Dec 11 2013	Nov 12 2013	Oct 01 2013
Support	43	41	38	40	39	39	45
Oppose	55	55	56	56	57	55	47
DK/NA	2	5	7	4	4	6	8