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**AMERICAN VOTERS SPLIT ON OBAMA’S IMMIGRATION MOVE,  
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY NATIONAL POLL FINDS;  
PRESIDENT’S APPROVAL NEAR ALL-TIME LOW**

American voters are divided on whether President Barack Obama should take action to address the immigration issue if Congress fails to act, as 45 percent say the president should issue an executive order while 48 percent say he should not, according to a Quinnipiac University National poll released today.

At the same time, support for immigrants is at its lowest level ever measured by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll. Offered three choices on what to do about illegal immigrants:

- 48 percent of American voters say they should be allowed to stay, with a path to citizenship, down from 57 percent November 13, 2013, and the lowest this number ever has been;
- 11 percent say immigrants should be allowed to stay, but not be allowed to apply for citizenship, consistent with previous surveys;
- 35 percent say illegal immigrants should be required to leave the U.S., up from 26 percent 12 months ago and higher than this number ever has been.

There is a wide gender gap on Obama’s action, as women support it 50 – 39 percent, while men oppose it 57 – 39 percent. Support is 59 – 33 percent among voters 18 to 29 years old, but drops among older voters, with voters over 65 years old opposed 53 – 36 percent.

Democrats support Obama’s immigration move 74 – 18 percent, with opposition at 75 – 20 percent among Republicans and 51 – 40 percent among independent voters.

“While President Barack Obama’s popularity wallows, support for immigrants wanes as Americans look at immigration reform with ambivalence,” said Tim Malloy, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

American voters oppose 68 – 25 percent Congress shutting down “major activities of the federal government” as a way to block Obama’s immigration move.

**-more-**

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Only 44 percent of Republicans support a shutdown, with 47 percent opposed.

“Americans seem divided on immigration, but they agree on one thing: They don’t want a government shutdown over President Obama’s action on immigration,” Malloy added.

### **President’s Approval Rating**

American voters give Obama a negative 39 – 54 percent approval rating, close to his lowest-ever 38 – 57 percent score in a December 10, 2013, Quinnipiac University poll.

Democrats and voters under 30 years old are the only party, gender or age groups who approve of the president.

Only 42 percent of American voters trust Obama more than Republicans in Congress to do what is best for the nation, while 47 percent trust Republicans more.

It’s good for the country that Republicans have taken over control of the U.S. Senate, voters say 51 – 37 percent, but 67 percent of voters expect more gridlock in the next two years. Gridlock will be Obama’s fault, 44 percent of voters say, as 42 percent would blame Republicans.

“American voters are happy the Republicans have the ball, but don’t feel confident there will be a lot of scoring on the deal-making front,” Malloy said.

“If that’s the case, the numbers say blame will fall on Obama as much as Republicans.

“With the exception of voters born after 1985, Obama’s approval is deep under water.”

### **Ransom for Hostages**

The U.S. should never pay ransom to terrorists who are holding American hostages, voters say 70 – 21 percent, with support among all listed groups, including 77 – 16 percent among voters in military households. American voters agree 83 – 13 percent that paying ransom to terrorists encourages more hostage taking.

Former Navy SEAL Robert O’Neill should have remained quiet about his involvement in the mission to kill Osama bin Laden, voters say 69 – 19 percent, but only 10 percent of voters, including 16 percent of voters in military households, say he should be prosecuted.

From November 18 – 23, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,623 registered voters nationwide with a margin of error of +/- 2.4 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 @QuinnipiacPoll.**

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	39%	6%	78%	34%	32%	45%	56%	41%	33%	33%
Disapprove	54	93	15	54	60	48	30	53	62	59
DK/NA	8	1	7	11	8	8	14	6	6	8

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

	Nov 25 2014	Jul 02 2014	Apr 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Jan 08 2014	APPROVE.....	
						High	Low
						Jun 04 2009*	Dec 10 2013
Approve	39	40	42	40	41	59	38
Disapprove	54	53	50	54	53	31	57
DK/NA	8	7	8	6	7	10	6

6. In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in the nation today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Very satisfied	2%	1%	3%	3%	2%	3%	5%	2%	3%	1%
Smwht satisfied	23	7	41	22	23	24	30	25	20	22
Smwht dissatisfied	32	29	34	33	30	34	41	36	28	27
Very dissatisfied	42	62	21	43	45	39	25	36	49	50
DK/NA	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	1

TREND: In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in the nation today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	Nov 25 2014	Jul 08 2014	Apr 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Jan 08 2014	VERY+SMWHT SAT	
						High	Low
						Dec 11 2001	Nov 13 2008
Very satisfied	2	2	2	2	1	21	2
Smwht satisfied	23	24	24	22	24	47	14
Smwht dissatisfied	32	31	33	32	31	19	38
Very dissatisfied	42	43	40	43	43	10	44
DK/NA	1	-	1	1	1	3	2

30. Who do you trust more to make decisions that are good for the country, President Obama or the Republicans in Congress?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Obama	42%	4%	85%	42%	35%	48%	60%	42%	37%	36%
Reps in Congress	47	90	8	41	53	41	26	47	52	52
DK/NA	12	6	8	17	12	12	13	12	11	12

31. Do you think it is good for the country or bad for the country that the Republicans have taken over control of the United States Senate from the Democrats?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Good	51%	96%	9%	49%	59%	44%	36%	53%	54%	54%
Bad	37	3	79	33	30	44	52	37	36	31
DK/NA	12	2	12	18	10	13	12	10	11	15

32. Do you believe there will be more gridlock or less gridlock in the final two years of the Obama presidency?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
More	67%	64%	72%	66%	67%	68%	63%	72%	68%	62%
Less	19	24	15	20	22	17	20	21	19	18
SAME (VOL)	4	3	4	4	4	3	2	3	5	5
DK/NA	10	9	9	9	6	12	15	5	7	16

33. If there is continued gridlock in Washington, who do you believe will be to blame, President Obama or Republicans in Congress?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Obama	44%	77%	18%	39%	47%	42%	32%	42%	48%	48%
Reps in Congress	42	11	74	42	39	44	55	42	39	36
DK/NA	14	12	7	19	14	15	13	16	13	16

34. 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	2%	1%	4%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%
Good	31	15	48	32	32	30	39	35	27	27
Not so good	38	45	31	39	38	39	38	37	37	41
Poor	28	39	15	28	28	28	22	25	33	28
DK/NA	1	1	2	-	1	1	-	2	1	1

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

	Nov 25 2014	Jul 02 2014	Apr 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Dec 10 2013	EXLNT+GOOD....	
						High Dec 10 2003	Low Mar 04 2009
Excellent	2	1	-	1	-	3	-
Good	31	22	26	21	20	37	3
Not so good	38	43	44	44	44	42	28
Poor	28	34	30	33	36	16	68
DK/NA	1	-	-	1	1	1	-

35. 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	34%	17%	52%	36%	36%	31%	43%	34%	33%	28%
Worse	22	34	10	21	20	24	11	18	29	25
The same	43	48	37	42	43	43	46	47	37	45
DK/NA	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	2

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

	Nov 25 2014	Jul 02 2014	Apr 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Dec 10 2013	BETTER.....	
						High Jan 18 2011	Low Oct 06 2011*
Better	34	26	29	28	29	36	11
Worse	22	31	29	26	28	20	44
The same	43	43	42	44	42	43	44
DK/NA	1	1	1	1	1	2	1

38. 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	40%	8%	77%	38%	34%	46%	57%	39%	38%	33%
Oppose	54	89	16	54	62	46	38	56	56	57
DK/NA	6	2	7	8	4	9	4	5	6	10

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

	Nov 25 2014	Jul 02 2014	Apr 02 2014	Jan 22 2014	Jan 08 2014	SUPPORT.....	
						High Oct 01 2013	Low Jan 22 2014
Support	40	43	41	38	40	45	38
Oppose	54	55	55	56	56	47	56
DK/NA	6	2	5	7	4	8	7

39. Do you think Congress should try to repeal the health care law, or should they let it stand?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Should repeal it	48%	82%	12%	48%	54%	42%	35%	50%	49%	50%
Should let it stand	46	14	82	45	40	50	64	47	44	37
DK/NA	6	4	6	8	5	8	1	3	7	13

TREND: Do you think Congress should try to repeal the health care law, or should they let it stand?

	Nov 25 2014	Jul 12 2012	Apr 20 2012	Feb 23 2012	Nov 23 2011	May 04 2011	Jan 18 2011
Should repeal it	48	49	51	52	47	44	48
Should let it stand	46	43	38	39	41	45	43
DK/NA	6	8	11	10	12	11	8

40. Do you think Congress will try to repeal the health care law or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	75%	68%	83%	74%	74%	75%	82%	71%	77%	71%
No	17	21	11	20	21	13	15	21	16	14
DK/NA	8	11	6	6	5	12	3	7	7	15

41. If Congress tries to repeal the health care law, do you think it will be successful or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	30%	39%	24%	27%	31%	29%	32%	32%	32%	24%
No	56	51	62	58	59	54	53	62	55	52
DK/NA	14	10	14	15	10	17	14	6	14	24

42. Do you think the United States military should have combat troops on the ground in Iraq or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes/Should	37%	53%	24%	30%	44%	31%	33%	37%	40%	36%
No	55	39	68	61	49	60	60	58	53	48
DK/NA	8	7	8	9	7	10	7	5	7	16

Mltry  
HsHld

Yes/Should	45%
No	49
DK/NA	7

43. Do you believe the international coalition put together by the White House to defeat ISIS is working or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	19%	13%	29%	16%	21%	17%	15%	24%	19%	14%
No	61	78	41	64	64	58	53	60	65	61
DK/NA	21	10	29	19	16	25	33	17	16	25

Mltry  
HsHld

Yes	18%
No	63
DK/NA	19

44. Do you think there are circumstances when the United States government should pay ransom to international terrorists who are holding American hostages, or should the United States government never pay ransom to terrorists under any circumstances?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes/Should pay	21%	14%	31%	17%	16%	25%	41%	22%	14%	16%
No/Never pay	70	80	56	74	80	61	46	71	77	72
DK/NA	10	5	13	9	4	14	14	7	8	13

Mltry  
HsHld

Yes/Should pay	16%
No/Never pay	77
DK/NA	7

45. Some people say the United States should not pay ransom to terrorists because it encourages more hostage taking. Do you agree or disagree?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Agree	83%	89%	76%	84%	87%	79%	69%	84%	88%	83%
Disagree	13	8	20	11	12	14	23	14	8	12
DK/NA	4	3	4	5	2	7	9	2	4	6

Mltry  
HsHld

Agree	88%
Disagree	9
DK/NA	2

46. Do you think that Robert O'Neill, the former Navy SEAL who claims to have fired the shots that killed Osama bin Laden, should have publicly disclosed his involvement or do you think he should have remained quiet about the mission?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes/Disclosed	19%	25%	13%	19%	21%	18%	19%	21%	18%	18%
No/Remained quiet	69	66	77	69	69	70	63	70	73	67
DK/NA	12	10	10	12	10	13	18	9	9	15

Mltry  
HsHld

Yes/Disclosed	20%
No/Remained quiet	71
DK/NA	9

47. Do you think Robert O'Neill should be prosecuted for publicly disclosing that he killed Bin Laden or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	10%	6%	12%	10%	10%	9%	9%	11%	10%	7%
No	81	88	76	80	82	80	87	81	81	78
DK/NA	9	6	12	10	8	11	3	8	9	15

	Mltry HsHld
Yes	16%
No	75
DK/NA	9

48. Do you think abortion should be legal in all cases, legal in most cases, illegal in most cases or illegal in all cases?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Legal all cases	23%	15%	37%	20%	21%	25%	34%	25%	23%	16%
Legal most cases	33	25	36	42	32	35	36	33	33	34
Illegal most cases	24	39	11	21	26	22	15	24	26	25
Illegal all cases	12	16	8	8	12	12	13	11	11	13
DK/NA	8	6	8	8	9	7	3	6	7	13

TREND: Do you think abortion should be legal in all cases, legal in most cases, illegal in most cases or illegal in all cases?

	Nov 25 2014	Oct 04 2013	Aug 02 2013	Feb 07 2013	Feb 23 2012	COMBINED LEGAL ALL & MOST CASES	
						High	Low
						Aug 02 2013	Apr 21 2010
Legal all cases	23	20	20	24	22	20	18
Legal most cases	33	36	38	32	33	38	33
Illegal most cases	24	23	25	25	25	25	27
Illegal all cases	12	14	12	14	14	12	16
DK/NA	8	7	5	6	6	5	6

49. As you may know, in 2013 the House of Representatives approved legislation that would ban virtually all abortions nationwide after 20 weeks of pregnancy, except in cases of rape and incest that are reported to authorities. Would you support or oppose such legislation?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Support	60%	76%	46%	56%	61%	59%	57%	61%	63%	58%
Oppose	33	20	47	36	32	35	38	35	30	32
DK/NA	7	4	7	8	7	6	5	5	6	10



50. Which comes closest to your view about illegal immigrants who are currently living in the United States? A) They should be allowed to stay in the United States and to eventually apply for U.S. citizenship. B) They should be allowed to remain in the United States, but not be allowed to apply for U.S. citizenship. C) They should be required to leave the U.S.

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
A) Stay/Citizenship	48%	27%	67%	53%	44%	51%	64%	47%	47%	42%
B) Stay/Not citizen	11	15	11	8	12	11	11	14	10	10
C) Not stay	35	54	17	31	39	31	23	35	38	38
DK/NA	6	5	5	7	4	7	3	4	6	10

TREND: Which comes closest to your view about illegal immigrants who are currently living in the United States? A) They should be allowed to stay in the United States and to eventually apply for U.S. citizenship. B) They should be allowed to remain in the United States, but not be allowed to apply for U.S. citizenship. C) They should be required to leave the U.S.

	Nov 25 2014	Nov 13 2013	Jul 12 2013	May 31 2013	May 02 2013	STAY/CITIZENSHIP	
						High Apr 04 2013	Low Nov 25 2014
A) Stay/Citizenship	48	57	54	54	52	59	48
B) Stay/Not citizen	11	12	12	12	11	11	11
C) Not stay	35	26	28	29	30	25	35
DK/NA	6	4	6	5	6	5	6

51. If Congress does not act to address the immigration issue, do you think Barack Obama should or should not take action using executive orders?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes/Should	45%	20%	74%	40%	39%	50%	59%	48%	41%	36%
No/Should not	48	75	18	51	57	39	33	45	54	53
DK/NA	8	5	8	9	4	11	8	7	5	11

52. Do you support or oppose Congress shutting down major activities of the federal government as a way to stop President Obama from using executive orders to address the immigration issue?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Support	25%	44%	6%	22%	33%	17%	21%	24%	29%	22%
Oppose	68	47	89	71	62	72	70	71	64	66
DK/NA	8	9	5	7	5	10	9	5	7	12