



## Obama's Ohio Approval Rating Falls To Historic Low

Wednesday, November 7, 2013

COLUMBUS, Ohio - One year after winning Ohio with 51 percent of the vote, President Barack Obama's job approval rating in Ohio has fallen to a record low 34 percent.

"This is a state considered to be a national bellwether where he got 51 percent of the vote just 12 months ago," said Peter Brown, Quinnipiac University pollster. "Only 30 percent of men, 38 percent of women and 27 percent of white voters, along with 83 percent of black voters, give him a thumbs up."

Brown says Obama's approval rating in Ohio is the lowest score in any Quinnipiac University poll nationally or in any state.

"Clearly much of the reason for the president's decline in Ohio is 'Obamacare,'" said Brown. "Ohio voters oppose the Affordable Care Act - 59 percent to 35 percent. Perhaps more significantly, voters say by a 45 percent to 16 percent margin they expect their own health care to be worse rather than better a year from now."

Just weeks after Republicans were blamed by a majority of Ohioans for shutting the federal government down, GOP strategists now say they are focused and health care, as it was in 2010, will be the central campaign issue in 2014.

"Obama's number is going to get lower," said Bob Clegg, a Republican strategist. "He's already been exposed on the lie of 'if you like you're health care plan you can keep it.' Now we have the lie of 'if you like your doctor you can keep your doctor.' People now realize that's not true. This is only going to get worse."

Ohio Democrats say they are not in denial about the unpopularity of the new health care law. They say the 2014 election will be more about Gov. John Kasich.

"We're not concerned, we think voters are very smart," said Liz Brown, executive director of the Ohio Democratic Party. "They'll focus on whether they're tired of Governor Kasich's tax raises, lack of transparency in government and policies that benefit the wealthy and well connected."

"Let's remember the President's approval rating is still 30 points higher than congressional Republicans," said Dale Butland of the progressive think-tank Innovation Ohio. "The election is still a year away. Once the ACA website is fixed and Obamacare is a success, the President's numbers will bounce right back."

Conservatives say they are willing to take that gamble. They point out that the health care issue lead to big Republican gains in 2010.

"Obama's broken promises are what America is talking about," said Mike Gonidakis, president of Ohio Right to Life. "Thousands of women have lost their health care because their employer had to get rid of it because of Obamacare. This will be a referendum in 2014."

Obama's numbers with Independents in Ohio have also dropped dramatically in one year - 64 percent now have a negative view of his leadership with 30 percent positive.

On the question of whether Obama is honest and trustworthy, 57 percent of Ohio voters say no. Brown says that is the President's lowest score on honesty in any Quinnipiac poll.

There is a bit of good news for Democrats in the poll.

In a hypothetical matchup between Governor John Kasich and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in 2016 presidential race, Clinton has 49 percent, Kasich 38 percent.

Clinton also leads Gov. Chris Christie, Senator Marco Rubio, former governor Jeb Bush, Senator Rand Paul and Senator Ted Cruz in Ohio.

**Original Article:**

<http://www.10tv.com/content/stories/2013/11/27/ohio-poll-numbers-president-obama.html>