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Sample:

222 Political Insiders (Recruited by James A. Barnes)

YOUGOV/JIM BARNES POLITICAL INSIDERS SURVEY

FINAL

All numbers represent percentages unless otherwise labeled.

JIM BARNES POLITICAL INSIDERS PANEL SURVEY

JB1. Looking back on the whole body of work of Congress in its 2013 session, which ONE Member of the Senate or House had the biggest impact on what Congress did or did not do this year?

	<u>All Insiders</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>
John Boehner	27	21	34
Ted Cruz.....	24	25	24
John McCain	-	-	-
Mitch McConnell.....	4	5	3
Patty Murray	3	1	5
Nancy Pelosi	-	1	-
Harry Reid	27	27	26
Paul Ryan.....	10	17	2
Chuck Schumer.....	1	-	2
Elizabeth Warren.....	-	-	1
Other (<i>Write in answer here</i>)	4	3	3

JB11. Why do you say that? What was the specific impact **[DISPLAY RESPONDENT'S CHOICE HERE]** had on Congress this past year?

Respondents who said Harry Reid:	Respondents who said John Boehner:	Respondents who said Ted Cruz:
<p>The most important accomplishment was getting rid of the filibuster.</p> <p>The surly anti social master had his way with a very slim majority and a dis functional Republican House</p> <p>Filibuster Reform!</p> <p>Moving court nominations has an impact for decades plus he kept the Sen Dems together!!!</p> <p>Nuclear Option. Pushing legislation important for the Country as a whole.</p> <p>Filibuster change will have the most lasting impact.</p> <p>He's the leader, he sets the course, and he's not afraid to make a decision and stick to it. Also, he's willing to take the heat.</p> <p>The standard is accomplishment, not obfuscation. Any mule can knock down a barn door - it takes a carpenter to build one.</p> <p>The shutdown stance by Sen. Reid was defining. He shut down all of the Republican shenanigans and stood his ground.</p> <p>Reid has made the House Republicans, rather than Senate Democrats, out to be the obstructionists, even though neither House will pass the other's legislation.</p> <p>Had the guts to go nuclear</p> <p>Bypassing filibuster</p> <p>Involved in all issues but the filibuster</p>	<p>Things moved or did not move based on his judgment, right or wrong.</p> <p>He helped brand the Republicans as "spoiled children" as voters like to say.</p> <p>John Boehner was able to stop everything that the President wanted done.</p> <p>Gatekeeper for the House, the toughest obstacle for any legislation</p> <p>he finally stood up to the Tea Party wing to avoid another government shutdown</p> <p>He got pushed around by the fringe radical element of his own do-nothing party and he came out looking like a pathetic wimp.</p> <p>His obstinance on key issues like immigration has been hugely detrimental to accomplishing anything significant.</p> <p>Like it or not he controls what goes to the house floor, the only path for anything. Its not happening if he doesn't let it</p> <p>Kowtowing to his most conservative members resulted in merciless gridlock - or, maybe, better said, "inertia."</p> <p>He finally stepped up to the plate to break the logjam on spending</p> <p>Boehner ran the "do nothing" House, or rather it ran him. Boehner believed he was the Speaker of the GOP rather than of the US House of Representatives. His final news conference told the story.</p> <p>He was unable to move meaningful legislation through the House because he felt the need to fulfill the agenda of the</p>	<p>He was the driving force behind the government shutdown which defined the right wing of the GOP.</p> <p>The shutdown and his influence over tea party members of the House.</p> <p>Corralled the tea party and those scared of it into shutting down the government. The media gave him too much coverage and credit.</p> <p>With his fake filibuster He found a way to unify the middle and bring McConnell Boehner Reid and Pelosi for long enough to pass the only significant bill of the year</p> <p>He brought about the totally unnecessary and counterproductive shutdown of the government.</p> <p>His ill-fated filibuster caused even members of his own party to abandon him and the issue he was fighting for. This emboldened previously-silent others as well as those in the majority party to take new approaches to achieving legislative progress.</p> <p>2013's 16-day government shutdown is this year's Congressional legacy. After dozens of failed attempts to repeal ObamaCare, Ted Cruz succeeded in harming Americans and our economy in yet another.</p> <p>He kept the shut down going long enough to seriously tarnish the republican brand</p> <p>Caused the shutdown, just a very big anti everything</p> <p>His actions led to the government shutdown.</p>

<p>reform was big.</p> <p>Unlike most others, he got things done - passing the farm bill, immigration and now getting his appointments ratified.</p> <p>He did more than anyone else to control the flow of legislation -- as well as putting Patty Murray out front on the budget negotiations, orchestrating a majority vote on nominations and pulling in enough Republicans to move critical bills.</p> <p>Despite historic obstruction from GOP he got things done. Going nuclear wasn't my cup of tea but it broke the logjam.</p> <p>Breaking the appointments logjam by using the nuclear option is a permanent game changer.</p> <p>Kept the Senate on board for the important stuff and helped avert complete disaster.</p> <p>Every significant legislative event was Reid's - sheparding the budget deal, exercising the nuclear option, etc, etc</p> <p>Controlled the schedule. Held the Dem caucus together on virtually every vote.</p> <p>He was strong</p> <p>His use of the "nuclear option" was smart and timely.</p> <p>Anything that moved or did not move was up to him.</p> <p>By refusing to engage the GOP's extortion attempts in various budget standoffs and finally reforming Senate rules to stop the effort to filibuster a functioning federal government, Sen. Reid was the most consequential congressional leader in years (maybe decades).</p>	<p>Tea Party caucus and their sympathizers.</p> <p>He could have avoided the shutdown and he could have passed important legislation like the Farm Bill and immigration reform. But he caved to the Tea Party</p> <p>His specific choices to bring not bring legislation to the floor.</p> <p>Ultimately he is the guy in the toll booth that either stops legislation or lets it go</p> <p>He's the speaker. He could have exerted considerably more influence.</p> <p>For better or worse, he stalled many important issues, kept Issa in charge of Intelligence (which kept meaningless hearing after hearing alive) and showed incredibly poor leadership as Majority Leader. He is the picture all Americans see when they think o</p> <p>The power of the Republican Party was concentrated in his hands throughout 2013. Nothing got done without him.</p> <p>He caved to his far-right wing and shut down the government in October. When he stood up to them at the end of the year, the House easily passed the Ryan-Murray budget. He could do the same thing on immigration reform. If he wanted to, he could right now bring a bill to the floor that would pass. Maybe not as comprehensive as the Senate bill, but it would be significant nonetheless.</p> <p>While the Senate was more productive internally (immigration), nothing becomes law unless it got through the House for better or worse.</p> <p>Boehner sat at the helm during the shutdown and for the budget deal all in the same year. Remarkable flexibility</p> <p>The speaker decides what moves and</p>	<p>He played a critical role in the 2013 government shutdown.</p> <p>The ability for one member that is not even in leadership, to instigate his colleagues into a shutdown of the federal government is a dangerous abuse of power - but by definition, impactful.</p> <p>For better and worse, Cruz was the mouthpiece for Tea Party activism limiting Congressional compromise.</p> <p>Complete dysfunction propelled by ego.</p> <p>He rallied the tea party resulting in the least productive congress ever</p> <p>Gummed up the works. And inadvertently created breakthrough moment for bi-partisanship.</p> <p>He single handily hamstringed the federal government for weeks.</p> <p>Brought the government to a crashing halt. He had lots of accomplices, but he was the one who fired the starting gun for the shutdown.</p> <p>Personally embodied the utter dysfunction of the place.</p> <p>He mandated that his Caucus follow him into a stalemate over the ACA. They followed seemingly due to being worried he would create a primary for them. He basically ran the GOP caucus for the first 8 months.</p> <p>He put the spotlight on the health care before the ACA website crash and helped forced the government shutdown.</p> <p>He cowed certain R senators and whipped up even more hard lined R House members in opposing compromise.</p> <p>The biggest thing they did last year was shut down the government and he was</p>
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<p>He controls what the senate debates, what issues they take up and for the first time successfully changed the filibuster rules to make the maj stronger</p> <p>He changed the Senate rules on the filibuster, reopened the government and other things.</p>	<p>when in the legislative process. The speaker showed his willingness to accomplish things when they were acceptable to him and to allow inaction when they were not.</p> <p>In both not keeping his caucus together and shutting down the government as well as making the deal and getting the budget vote through -- Boehner is at the center of the failure of the House and once in a while he rises above it for the good of the country -- like the budget vote. I will be surprised if he remains in 2015.</p> <p>For the first time in history, it was more difficult to pass legislation in the House than in the Senate</p> <p>He was the point man on the hold up of congressional work</p> <p>He had the power to demand that his caucus function (keep govt open, cut deals, etc). He didn't use it until the very end of the year.</p> <p>He did not use his Speaker of the House position to put his right flank in line.</p> <p>House controls everything at this point.</p> <p>His steadfast, ideological, cater-to-the-fringe approach to leading the House left a number of important pieces of legislation, most notably immigration reform and extended UI, on the side of the road and yielded the first government shutdown in nearly two decades. Only at the end of 2013 did he begin to demonstrate the kind of pragmatism for which he has been widely respected during his congressional tenure. One can only hope that 2014 brings more of his pragmatic side.</p> <p>What good is a leader who can't or won't lead?</p> <p>Being too weak a leader to overcome the</p>	<p>the leader of the shutdown.</p> <p>he symbolizes the destructive ideas and just say no attitude of house and senate republicans</p>
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	<p>wackos in his party.</p> <p>Boehner is the weakest Speaker in modern history. His ineptness and inability to corale his members have hurt the nation.</p> <p>He had the power to avoid the government shutdown and he chose not to--resulting in a needless, politically driven economic nightmare for the American people.</p> <p>He allowed the extreme right of his party to set his agenda. He didn't show leadership and he failed to act as a national leader.</p>	
<p>Controlled the Senate in and in conjunction with White House PR determined what would pass.</p> <p>Was not concerned with "public perception" of his actions</p> <p>Reid finally inserted himself as the sole leader of Washington Democrats. He drove the agenda and strategy while the President sat on the sidelines.</p> <p>Reid refused to hold votes on several jobs bills passed by the House, and even blocked legislation during the government shutdown designed to keep critical parts of the government running.</p> <p>By dictating what gets voted (if it gets voted on) and when.</p> <p>Protecting Obama</p> <p>He decides whether the Senate will act -- either compromise or obstruct.</p> <p>Ran policy for Senate Democrats AND the White House</p> <p>He directed the narrative. Harry Reid is the Johnny Football of Congress.</p> <p>With the nuclear option, Reid has</p>	<p>In spite of a very divided Republican caucus, he was the key to whatever did pass.</p> <p>It all came through him</p> <p>He drove agenda - by limiting or allowing.</p> <p>He kept tea party in line -- some of the time.</p> <p>He is the House Majority Leader</p> <p>Boehner, maybe, has begun to get most of his team to read the same playbook.</p> <p>Brokering deals that avoided a continued shut down.</p> <p>Ultimately Boehner moved away from the government shutdown and brought some sanity back to the GOP</p> <p>His ability or inability to bring his conference together was determinative</p> <p>Telling the 40 some tea partiers to eff off.</p> <p>He decided what would or could get through the House.</p> <p>Speaker of the House drives the agenda</p>	<p>He forced a government shutdown, which only increased the disdain for Congress.</p> <p>Obamacare - shut down - coalescing conservatives for a cause.</p> <p>He brought progress and collaboration to a halt to the detriment of progress and collaboration. The action was pointless.</p> <p>As a vocal outlier w/ many followers he doesn't play well with others and hurts the GOP brand.</p> <p>Forcing the issue on Obamacare-- the legacy of that decision is still in doubt but it made him a hero to some and a villain to others in the GOP and dominated congressional action like no other single individual.</p> <p>his senate action and House influence resulted in shutting the government down</p> <p>Government shutdown</p> <p>SCREWED THINGS UP FOR THE GOP</p> <p>Freaked People out</p> <p>It was awful and negative, but his refusal to behave in a reasonable fashion had more to do with the government shutdown</p>

<p>complete control of the Senate.</p> <p>Harry Reid has been successful in obstructing every effort of the House to pass a budget, health care reform/ repeal, budgetary reform, or anything else of consequence.</p> <p>He set the political tone of the Senate Democrats who drove the partisan confrontations</p> <p>He has neutered the committee chairs, allows exactly what he wishes, and has overturned the traditional filibuster process.</p> <p>As Senate Majority Leader, he had more control over what legislation moved -- or didn't -- than anyone on Capitol Hill.</p> <p>He announced a "no-negotiation" strategy and stuck to it, forcing Ted Cruz into a box canyon of his own making on the continuing resolution. And he's held the line on any substantive "fixes" to Obamacare - whether that helps his members or hurts them remains to be seen.</p> <p>Nuclear option totally changes dynamic of how the Senate floor operates both for nominations and legislation.</p> <p>By being overtly so partisan, he handcuffed Boehner, who had such problems in his own caucus, that nothing got done. You said pick one, but in reality Boehner and Reid share this one</p> <p>Obama's most reliable partisan partner successfully kept his finger in the dike, but his members, and other Democrats, are in for a tough political year in 2014.</p> <p>Failure to bring appropriation bills to a vote.</p> <p>Implemented the President's agenda</p>	<p>on the Hill. His ability (or lack thereof) to manage the majority party's unity is the year's story.</p> <p>Boehner was able to successfully corral House Republicans to a) hold votes on and b) advance various pieces of macro legislation. For example, he successfully ushered through a budget proposal that ultimately got passed, he in large part deserves credit</p> <p>Stood up to those in his party, ultimately brokering a budget deal.</p> <p>He was the key player in most major legislative battles - and where Boehner decided to go on the key issues was more impactful than any other lawmaker</p> <p>He inconsistent leadership caused the failure and success of many efforts during the year</p> <p>Keep the house in reasonable order.</p> <p>Head of GOP in congress, everything needed to go through him</p> <p>He could have been the firewall for conservatives. All of the bad legislation passed wouldn't have been possible without his compromising.</p> <p>He moved us off stupid</p> <p>He was ultimately made decisions to help end the government shutdown, despite not having a majority of his majority, and he was helpful in pushing the Ryan-Murray deal at the end of the year. Boehner was a facilitator.</p> <p>He was the most critical actor in determining what did and did not pass the Congress.</p> <p>Boehner was backed into corner by Tea Party leading to Govt. Shutdown. Boehner ended the year stronger and</p>	<p>than any other person.</p> <p>Helped cause the self-destruction of the GOP.</p> <p>His tactics may have been off but he was right on the policy - Obamacare was fatally flawed. But because his tactics were wrong, he ended up killing the GOP in the messaging war. He did more damage to undermine GOP efforts to draw attention to Obamacare's flaws than anyone.</p> <p>damn the torpedoes approach boxed in Senate colleagues and House GOP</p> <p>He was able to generate the outside support needed to shut down the government.</p> <p>He was the only one putting the conservative message out in the public square.</p> <p>He led the charge into the shutdown with no plan to get us out. Huge ramifications. Became a hero with the base, an enemy to the left, a mockery to the public, and a pain to any conservatives interested in governing</p> <p>He ensured that the tail wagged the dog - freezing many of his fellow GOP senators in their tracks, while also encouraging House GOPers to follow the talk-radio frenzy towards an ill-advised shutdown strategy</p> <p>He took over the agenda.</p> <p>His filibuster embedded in the public mind the depth of GOP opposition to Obamacare just as the program was about to meltdown. That clear line heightened the Democrats' post-launch panic, making them more amendable to producing a budget than they have been</p> <p>His efforts and leadership in shutting</p>
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<p>Controls the Senate. Until recently, Boehner did not fully control the House.</p> <p>He controls the Senate agenda and neither the house nor white house can really accomplish much if he is not playing ball.</p> <p>Lack of progress and willingness to compromise.</p> <p>By disproving the quaint notion that we can disagree without being disagreeable.</p> <p>Constantly refuses Senate floor votes on budget issues vis-a-vis debt-limit agreements.</p> <p>Refused to take up any Republican initiatives or pass a budget</p> <p>By exercising the nuclear option he both advanced and set back his own agenda for the remainder of this congress.</p> <p>As Majority Leader, Reid controlled the flow of legislation or lack thereof, stifling regular order, committee markups and minority rights.</p> <p>Harry Reid has been the President's puppet in the Senate. He has been the dutiful traffic cop on the Senate floor, stopping progress when it meant political pain for the President and the Democrats, and pushing agendas when it scored political points. His impact has been in foregoing any semblance of governance and constructive policy making, and instead controlling the messaging on behalf of the White House. Both parties have made their mistakes and are responsible, but Harry Reid bears the brunt of the blame for what has, and has not occurred in Congress. What's more, Reid has now completely transformed from a once soft-spoken, vote counter and floor leader, to a full-on political operative more interested in fixing the blame than fixing the problem. Ramming through the "nuclear option" which severely harmed</p>	<p>w/conservatives solidly behind him.</p> <p>He led by governing which sets the stage for more governing in the new session if Obama gets real and stands up to his left. Unfortunately, unlikely</p>	<p>down the government, without any plan, had a direct impact on the public's perception of the GOP - in the negative - a perception which played a key role in killing the GOP's chance in the VA Governors race - his actions hurt the GOP at a critical time when we should have been exploiting an advantage.</p> <p>Key in forcing a shut down</p> <p>He wielded the tea party influence in the Senate.</p> <p>Is everyone's choice for loser of the year and to a degree because immigration reform didn't become law, people think he had a bad year. In my view there isn't a question that his participation in the gang of 8 was what have the issue traction and as a result he had the biggest impact.</p> <p>His managing of the shutdown not only controlled that situation, but the backlash he instigated laid the foundation for the budget agreement between Murray and Ryan.</p> <p>He drove the narrative that actually made the casual voter take notice - to detriment to his party.</p> <p>Focused the whole country on Obamacare before it came crashing down.</p> <p>Congress didn't get a lot done but Cruz definitely changed the discussion. Changed the topic and tone.</p> <p>His actions prompted the government shutdown, tarnished the Republican brand and took media and public focus off the disastrous launch of Obamacare and its long-term consequences to the U.S. economy and millions of Americans.</p> <p>He closed the government.</p>
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<p>eternal".</p> <p>With Congress seeming to understand they are up for reelection a shutdown won't fly politically so I think he will be able to get more of his agenda passed and nominees approved.</p> <p>The economy will continue to improve, and the Affordable Care Act will become accepted by citizens.</p> <p>The bar is low based on 2013, everything will look better by comparison.</p> <p>The country is poised for a long awaited economic recovery and that will give the President some capital to expend on parts of his unfinished agenda. He should use his capital generated by the uptick in the economy wisely.</p> <p>Now that the GOP has bled the country into a negative approval rating and with elections pending in big states, the stakes are higher for them to cooperate.</p> <p>He had a small mandate coming out of the election, but he failed to capitalize. And the ACA rollout was a catastrophe.</p> <p>He has the bully pulpit and the economy will continue to grow. He will use a populist message to make his mark.</p> <p>In 2013 it was amazing that the President was able to keep ACA going despite GOP attacks and his own blunders. 2014 will be good because the president does a better job when he is in campaign mode.</p> <p>The economy will continue to improve and good things will trickle out about the ACA.</p> <p>He and his team will get the healthcare act message back on track and will show leadership on other issues that will help elect Democrats in November.</p> <p>Like John Lennon and Paul McCartney said, "It couldn't get much worse."</p>	<p>Starting out the same as 2013 and mid-terms offer little hope.</p> <p>He seems incapable of leading in a crisis - and we are in a crisis and for millions of Americans that crisis is entering its third decade. Obama will likely lose the Senate and his entire agenda will be threatened.</p>
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The glitch of the ObamaCare rollout will fade as more Americans avail themselves of coverage, and the one-note Republican messaging will cease to be scary. On other fronts: investors are happy and the economy is steady, gay rights will continue to explode, immigrants and women will continue to be dissed by the R base, even the Pope will lend a hand. The only R message still relevant in any way will be guns.

I believe he will take on the do nothing and attack everything Republicans

The ACA rollout should have led to positive press throughout the second half of 2014.

Now that (hopefully) the difficulties in the implementation of Obamacare are behind him, he should be able to move onto other issues with fewer pitfalls.

Can't get worse.

Hopelessly optimistic Democrat.

The economy is the biggest issue, and it is improving. That in the end will determine his standing with the public.

Because he has no where to go but up.

Health care benefits will get better

His narrative referencing income inequality and economic injustice (which is a message shared by De Blasio and other major candidates) will be the defining theme of the next election for Democrats. Through his actions and messaging he can set a strong pop

Health care will end up not being the catastrophe the GOP predicts it will be.

While 2013 had plenty of challenges for the President, he had some victories. The launch of healthcare.gov was a disaster but he got through it and the Exchanges are operational.

The voters who supported the President in 2012 but became disaffected in 2013 are largely women

<p>and Obama-leaning voters. It is virtually impossible for the Republicans to appeal to this group and yet hold its rightward tilting coalition together.</p> <p>Failure to launch exchange site hurt him</p> <p>Foreign policy. Plus, once we get past primary day we might get something through the House.</p> <p>Economy will continue to improve, there will be some immigration reform, he will rein in NSA(a bit!), and ACA will begin to work.</p> <p>Two words: John Podesta</p> <p>Congress needs to do something or be crucified politically. Either outcome helps the President</p> <p>Continued improving economy, shot at immigration reform, Podesta and Schilliro</p> <p>Because it's hard to believe it can be worse than 2013 and Obamacare will start benefiting more people in 2014.</p> <p>Obama's year will be better because we've weathered the lowest ebb for Obamacare, the GOP has lost the ability to engage in extortion and may even be interested in legislating in some areas, and the economy seems to have finally turned the corner toward g</p> <p>His initiatives, especially healthcare, are moving forward. I also think we 'll see improvement in immigration and equality.</p> <p>Only one way to go --- up!</p> <p>It can't get any lower than 2013. The economy is truly rebounding - he should take credit and once ACA clatter goes away he will be seen as the leader he can be.</p> <p>Hopefully able to put Obamacare behind him. will be more in campaign mode. can get some things done</p> <p>Most Republicans wanted to block everything the President wanted to work on simply to make him look bad. It backfired making the Republicans look</p>	
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like poor sports	
<p>He came in riding a mandate. He fell flat on his face.</p> <p>The administration has shown that it can rebound from setbacks quickly. ACA proved to be a public relations nightmare, but the White House is working to redirect.</p> <p>I was expecting the launch of Obamacare to kill off one of the prime and primal rallying cries of the Conservative Republicans that Obamacare must be stopped. But the launch was so fumbled and bumbled that it wasn't able to take away that talking point -</p>	<p>Demise of Obamacare and lack of progress on other issues. Entering lame duck status.</p> <p>Lame duck, Obama care, mid term elections, the typical 2nd term erosion has started</p> <p>He still thinks he is campaigning and has no ability to be a factor in passing any legislation. Whiner in Chief!</p> <p>Obamacare rollout, total lack of leadership. Obamacare will continue to hurt him every time the roll out falters, premiums raise, people loose insurance, etc.</p> <p>Stubborn and arrogant and not willing to compromise</p> <p>His agenda has either been enacted and is under attack or has been rejected and does not have good prospects of being revived.</p> <p>Foreign policy and world affairs will dominate his time, away from a necessary domestic economic focus that he intends to do to try obscure Obamacare as a '14 dominate issue.</p> <p>He is not a leader. Can't even lead his own party. In fact, spends more time doing anything but building the relationships needed to lead.</p> <p>Lame Duck</p> <p>Obamacare is getting nothing but worse</p> <p>ObamaCare. This is what happens when you pass a bill that nobody knows what is in it, and then rigidly resist any change. All of us bureaucrats know that's a recipe for failure.</p> <p>Bad policies produce bad results</p> <p>The press has finally figured out that Obama is untrustworthy.</p> <p>Obama has demonstrated he has no interest or ability in actually governing, while at the same time he finds short-term rhetorical and partisan political</p>

	<p>gains impossible to resist.</p> <p>Obamacare won't improve nor will the economy improve for the average worker. If you are in DC or NYC, you are doing great but the rest of the country hasn't recovered.</p> <p>Obamacare's meltdown will continue. The economy will continue to limp. His foreign policy will prove even more feckless. As Jimmy Carter learned, if your policies fail, all the spin in the world can't save you.</p> <p>Continued problems with the implementation of Obama Care - and the electorates final realization that the "change" they voted for isn't the kind of "change" they need - or want</p> <p>He has lost all credibility. He's going to have to make some wicked magic to accomplish anything other than what he decides to do through eyebrow-raising regulation or executive order.</p> <p>Obama has lost his "first term" magic. Staff departures and turnover will dampen the enthusiasm his intentional staff had.</p> <p>The rollout of Obamacare will keep his poll numbers down all year which will inhibit his ability to get anything done, that, and his own democrats running from his policies portends a very frustrating year for Obama.</p> <p>Because what the White House sees as a PR problem - Obamacare - is actually a policy problem that effects, in some way, every citizen.</p> <p>Because the ramifications of the Affordable Care Act will become more and more apparent to the American public, and they will become more angry with its impact on Americans' ability to have health care coverage.</p> <p>Even his own advisors have agreed that it's been a poor year, IRS, ACA, NSA , Benghazipolls</p> <p>He continues to harm our country with his misguided policies. Even his supporters are conceding how harmful Obamacare is and how he</p>
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	<p>knowingly mislead people about its impact.</p> <p>His credibility has been damaged with not only voters, but with members of his own party who are worried about the mid-term elections.</p> <p>Obamacare implementation is going to be an on-going problem, there doesn't seem to be any fix for it on the horizon.</p> <p>President Obama has proven himself a capable campaigner, but has failed in some many instances when it comes to governing and handling the politics of his agenda. He has failed to adequately address the country's deficit and debt - nearing crisis levels;</p> <p>The senate will flip, his signature bill will be a 55%+ net negative, and the debt will begin to harm the economy.</p> <p>Obamacare and Foreign Policy weakness will result in 14 defeat. He needs to cut a deal with Congress before the election to get his Administration back on track. Chances slim after election</p> <p>Obamacare is going to continue to be problematic and his agenda is going to be stalled as a result. Unless he continues to use his bureaucracy to push his agenda, there will be very little reason for his base to be motivated and turnout in November. Likely, that will cause Republicans to either tie or pick up the Senate and maintain the House. The last two years of his presidency will be a total lame duck as a result as people turn their attention toward the race to whom will be replacing him in January of 2017.</p> <p>ObamaCare is command and control policy in an era of decentralizing control of every area of modern life. It's an anachorism and his 2013 was dictated in when he signed the bill in 2010. Further, 2nd terms seem to be consistently terrible for the incumbent</p> <p>He cannot do anything in positive fashion to take away Obamacare. He has not shown capacity to build bipartisan coalition to pass anything of substance - so he will want to revert to what he's</p>
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	<p>good at: contrasting GOP on class warfare issues...</p> <p>Obamacare will continue to unravel and the victims are the American people, and he has no credibility with foreign heads of state.</p> <p>Obamacare will bring more bad news and Democrats stand to lose the Senate if Republicans don't self destruct with Buck-Angle-Akin-like candidates.</p> <p>His only solution to get his ratings up is economic growth. But his policies, including raising the minimum wage kills jobs. People are tired of a stagnant economy.</p> <p>Lame duck. Obamacare is a disaster and he shows zero sign of understanding the problems, much less how to fix them. Only going to get worse the further we get into this bill.</p> <p>More downside risk with health care roll out.</p> <p>Because Obamacare is a disaster and will get much worse.</p> <p>Obamacare is an albatross that will only get worse.</p> <p>Obamacare is a lead weight on his popularity.</p> <p>The bloom is off the rose. With the embarrassingly incompetent roll-out of Obamacare, the public's realization that he lied to them about the impact of his gutting of private health care, his shortcomings in foreign policy, his inability to work with others</p> <p>Once a president loses trust/credibility w/those he was elected to serve, game over.</p> <p>1. Second terms are nightmares for Presidents; 2. Obama is a massive lame duck and 2016 is already driving the news cycle; 3. Obama can wait to be out the job - he generally seems exhausted</p> <p>He's known for one thing---ObamaCare---and it's not working. Many of its worst features were delayed until after the re-elect and they're hitting now---and just wait until they bail out the big bad insurance companies.</p>
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Looking at efforts made to date by potential Presidential candidates to position for a presidential run in 2016, and **regardless of who might be the frontrunners right now**, indicate for each of the following whether you feel that person has mostly helped or hurt his or her chances for a successful presidential run in 2016.

ROTATE ORDER

JB31. For each of these six potential Democratic presidential candidates, indicate whether that person has mostly helped or hurt his or her chances so far?

	Mostly Hurt His/Her Chances for a Successful Presidential Run in 2016	Some of Both/ Neither	Mostly Helped His/Her Chances for a Successful Presidential Run in 2016
Joe Biden			
<i>All Political Insiders</i>	25	54	22
<i>Republicans</i>	36	49	15
<i>Democrats</i>	9	61	30
Hillary Clinton			
<i>All Political Insiders</i>	5	21	73
<i>Republicans</i>	5	24	71
<i>Democrats</i>	4	18	78
Martin O'Malley			
<i>All Political Insiders</i>	14	71	15
<i>Republicans</i>	15	68	16
<i>Democrats</i>	11	74	15
Elizabeth Warren			
<i>All Political Insiders</i>	17	45	38
<i>Republicans</i>	18	51	31
<i>Democrats</i>	14	39	47
Kirsten Gillibrand			
<i>All Political Insiders</i>	7	66	27
<i>Republicans</i>	9	74	16
<i>Democrats</i>	2	56	42
Andrew Cuomo			
<i>All Political Insiders</i>	14	73	14
<i>Republicans</i>	14	73	14
<i>Democrats</i>	12	74	14

ROTATE ORDER

JB32. For each of these six potential Republican presidential candidates, indicate whether that person has mostly **[ROTATE]** helped or hurt his or her chances so far?

	Mostly Hurt His/Her Chances for a Successful Presidential Run in 2016	Some of Both/ Neither	Mostly Helped His/Her Chances for a Successful Presidential Run in 2016
Chris Christie			
<i>All Political Insiders</i>	17	18	65
<i>Republicans</i>	16	19	65
<i>Democrats</i>	19	17	64
Ted Cruz			
<i>All Political Insiders</i>	54	19	27
<i>Republicans</i>	49	21	30
<i>Democrats</i>	59	16	25
Jeb Bush			
<i>All Political Insiders</i>	10	67	23
<i>Republicans</i>	7	70	23
<i>Democrats</i>	15	63	22
Rand Paul			
<i>All Political Insiders</i>	24	41	35
<i>Republicans</i>	20	36	44
<i>Democrats</i>	30	48	22
Marco Rubio			
<i>All Political Insiders</i>	48	35	17
<i>Republicans</i>	42	42	16
<i>Democrats</i>	53	28	19
Paul Ryan			
<i>All Political Insiders</i>	18	45	36
<i>Republicans</i>	20	45	35
<i>Democrats</i>	17	46	37

JB4. Of all the people we've discussed as well as other political leaders around the country, who do you think will be the most interesting to watch in 2016?

	<u>All Insiders</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>
Chris Christie.....	28	30	26
Hillary Clinton	15	7	24
Rand Paul	9	13	6
Jeb Bush	9	8	10
Scott Walker.....	6	9	2
Ted Cruz	5	5	6
Marco Rubio.....	4	6	1
Elizabeth Warren.....	3	-	6
Paul Ryan.....	2	3	2
Martin O'Malley	1	-	3
John Kasich.....	1	3	-
Bill de Blasio.....	1	1	2
John Boehner.....	1	2	-
Kirsten Gillbrand.....	1	-	2
Barack Obama	1	1	1
Bill Clinton	1	1	1
Joe Biden	-	-	1
Howard Dean	-	-	1
Brian Sandoval.....	-	1	-
Harry Reid	-	-	1
Rick Snyder.....	-	1	-
Mike Huckabee.....	-	-	-
Mike Pence	-	1	-
Mitch McConnell.....	-	1	-
Mike Bloomberg	-	-	1
Bobby Jindal.....	-	1	-
Kelly Ayotte	-	1	-
Jerry Brown	-	1	-
Rick Perry.....	-	1	-
Rob Portman	-	1	-
John Thune	-	1	-
Susana Martinez	-	1	-
Tim Kaine	-	-	1
Deval Patrick	-	-	1
Pete Sessions	-	1	-
Pope Francis	-	-	1
None.....	1	-	3

JB41. Why do you think that?

Chris Christie	Hillary Clinton	Rand Paul	Jeb Bush
<p>He's masterful at getting the media's attention -- for better or worse.</p> <p>He is one of the few that is being discussed for President that can truly be described as a centrist.</p> <p>He's just so likable, even though I think he'd be a bad president.</p> <p>Larger than life character!</p> <p>To see if he becomes unelectable due to his temper.</p> <p>Strongest potential GOP general election candidate in 2016, but has tortuous, tricky path to nomination</p> <p>He's interesting.</p> <p>He defies conventional wisdom and operates outside the box. John McCain should hand over his Maverick mantle to him.</p> <p>It is going to be fascinating watching him navigate the primaries</p> <p>Curious to see how he manages the right. Almost as curious to see if Cruz goes to the center on anything</p> <p>Should he decide to run, and should he put together a good campaign team, he'll be positioned best nationally. So, whether he can keep his cool and make his personality fit the race will be fascinating.</p> <p>Like a lot of politicians, I think</p>	<p>She is positioned to win but needs to run a very different campaign from 2008</p> <p>Win or lose, she's always the center of attention.</p> <p>History-making candidate.</p> <p>She determines the Dem field</p> <p>She is the clear frontrunner</p> <p>she's the most interesting candidate</p> <p>Most formidable</p> <p>Begins and ends with her</p> <p>She is the most experience and talented of all potentials</p> <p>She's excelled in every office</p> <p>Nomination is hers if she wants it.</p> <p>She will dictate the Democratic primary and the overall state of politics for 2016</p> <p>Because if Hillary runs she will be the frontrunner. Will be interesting to see if she can maintain that. And could be intriguing if Warren decides to run, but I don't think she will.</p> <p>History is on her shoulders -- what will Hillary do?</p> <p>Virtually the entire dynamic of the '16 race is currently about her. How she navigates that will be</p>	<p>The views most out of step with his party on a host of issues.</p> <p>He is such a quirky guy.</p> <p>Makes sense to middle from time to time.</p> <p>Odd yet consistent and inconsistent</p> <p>His efforts to garner young voters is worth watching</p> <p>Interesting to see if he can meld together the government-hating Tea Party ideologues with the conservative principled Goldwater conservatives into a lasting political force.</p>	<p>If he runs, he'll vault to near the top of the pack. But he may not run.</p> <p>He has the chance to be the adult in the GOP -- either as the candidate or as the kingmaker</p> <p>He seems reluctant to run but he could be formidable</p> <p>Interesting guy. Biggest problem is his last name.</p> <p>Biggest name on GOP side and GOP's newfound tolerance for reasonable people opens a door to him.</p> <p>He is the only Republican who could win in 2016. It will be interesting to see if he can navigate the primary seas in his party.</p> <p>Dark horse candidate</p> <p>He is in a position to unite Republicans, and reach out to indies</p>

<p>we'll see him continue to rise at a fairly steady pace...and then fall quickly.</p> <p>He's the clear Republican front runner and the only R who can beat Hillary. But it will be interesting to watch him position himself versus the field (who are constantly taking potshots)</p> <p>He has the potential to bring the GOP better into alignment with the political center. Absent that, the GOP is likely doomed in national elections despite strong congressional prospects.</p> <p>He has the tools and the potential.</p> <p>He is straddling both sides. How will that play in a GOP primary?</p> <p>Ability to appeal to Repub base and also draw undecideds</p> <p>Biggest upside, biggest downside.</p> <p>To see if he implodes</p> <p>He is a work in progress; will he soar or crash and burn?</p> <p>He would be toughest opponent for Clinton</p> <p>he's incredibly watchable and also a better chameleon than most realize. he'll adapt as he goes forward.</p> <p>Navigating base v record</p> <p>He will either soar or sink like a rock and I don't know which.</p> <p>Can he crack the code and win</p>	<p>fascinating to watch</p> <p>We'll learn whether she's learned anything about how to win elections since 2008. If so, she'll stand a real chance of winning. If not, it'll be 2008 redux</p> <p>She's a Clinton.</p> <p>She is the giant among mortals.</p> <p>Will be fascinating to watch how she makes decision, how she sets up the campaign, deals with Bill, former staff, manages Biden relationship, etc.</p> <p>Hillary Clinton is 2 people. Brand Clinton, bigger than the entire Kardashian clan plus Joe Biden</p> <p>She has it all - talent, accomplishment, lineage, gender - wow.</p> <p>Whatever she does, she'll be the story.</p> <p>Biggest intrigue</p>		
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<p>the nomination as a moderate</p> <p>He leads where others either don't or just follow.</p>			
<p>Fascinating Character who also gets things done.</p> <p>He is a force</p> <p>He's got it.</p> <p>Christie is literally and figuratively the 800 pound gorilla in the GOP.</p> <p>Republican front runner - will he mess it up?</p> <p>All eyes are on him as the frontrunner</p> <p>Has "Nixon to China" moments while trying to appeal to the conservative GOP base</p> <p>B/c polarized country and yet as Republican he can win in a very blue state.</p> <p>Actually interesting with less fear than other GOP national figures</p> <p>They seem to be able to lead</p> <p>He is unpredictable</p> <p>Most likely to be in nomination mix</p> <p>It is no secret what he wants, the fun will be watching how he goes after it.</p> <p>everyone wants to hear what he has to say</p> <p>He is interesting and never know what he is going to do.</p>	<p>Does she or doesn't she run</p> <p>She is the most interesting. Won't change.</p> <p>Highest expectations, most downside.</p> <p>There is mystery surrounding her plans.</p> <p>She will get the most attention, is perceived as front runner</p> <p>Press loves her but she will self district.</p> <p>Massive expectations.</p> <p>That is where she is vulnerable</p>	<p>He's been the most provocative.</p> <p>He's done the most work. To bridge the divide within the GOP factions</p> <p>LIBERTARIAN PLUS YOUNG VOTERS...NON TRADITIONAL FOLKS TOO</p> <p>He has the daunting task of retaining his father's base while adding more mainstream Republicans. So far, he has done a good job, but he has to go much further.</p> <p>The mature leader most willing to thoughtfully take on party establishment</p> <p>He is an iconoclast.</p> <p>He has started a process of pocketing his father's backers while expanding his own support, while showing an ability to navigate through the Washington political swamp</p> <p>Taking your question literally, he has a knack for doing interesting things, most of which satisfy a base too small to win but big enough to be relevant.</p> <p>Question is "who will be most interesting." Paul keeps coming up with surprises.</p> <p>If Rand Paul can move beyond and expand his coalitions - and his team -he may have a shot at the nomination - but right now, a very small, circular and 3rd tier operation controls Paul</p>	<p>Right guy, right time?</p> <p>Jeb is the only potential candidate in the field that checks all the boxes - donors, grassroots activists, social conservatives, the ability to bring Hispanics back to the GOP - and not just Cubans but Mexican Americans and others - he's the complete pa</p> <p>Will he make a move?</p> <p>He is the best</p> <p>He has the most serious national money base if he turns it on.</p> <p>There is a growing sense that we might need a statesman model of executive governance</p> <p>Gets greater return for doing least of anyone</p> <p>He's very talented and capable, but has to navigate the political system with the baggage of Bush fatigue.</p> <p>He brings a different perspective.</p> <p>If Jeb runs he has a clear path to the nomination. He doesn't seem to know what he wants to do, so reading Jeb Bush tea leaves is the most important pastime for 2014/2015 for all of the other potential candidates.</p> <p>Bush has an old brand name, but a new style of Republican politics. His network and political abilities are superior to other in the field. But, everyone will</p>

<p>Popular Governor - Repubs looking for leader</p> <p>He doesn't fit the mold of a GOP presidential candidate or the image of a president in general.</p> <p>Governor of a blue state, outside of DC, clearly positioning himself for a run</p> <p>They all have the most potential and can be very controversial.</p> <p>Is the most interesting personality</p> <p>As a governor, he can wage a "DC outsider" campaign for the presidency, and won't pull any punches doing it.</p> <p>He's a straight talker. It'll be interesting to see if he can draw enough Rs to get primary momentum given that despite his non-traditional efforts.</p> <p>He is the only Republican candidate that polls better than Hillary Clinton, so if he can rally part of the conservative base he has a chance for a significant victory</p> <p>Chair of RGA. In a position to help a lot of Governors in important swing states. Recent election has proved he can appeal to other than the base, while needing to prove he can also appeal to the base.</p> <p>No nonsense leader who needs to keep his independent streak but yet still woo the GOP base - won't be easy</p> <p>He breaks the political mold</p>		<p>world...an operation incapable and unwilling to expand</p> <p>He's generally doing something interesting - and you can't pigeonhole him, much as people like to try. Start with the fact he is leading the fight against the NSA, a move that will be controversial in Washington but probably wildly popular in real America</p> <p>Everything he has done to date is because he created the issue and made others follow. When he has to start playing defense it will be interesting how he and the media react.</p> <p>He has thoughtfully reached out to a wide audience, has taken some positions that surprised people and has quietly broadened his foreign policy horizons.</p> <p>As an insider who is perceived as an outlier he has the ability to reshape his party</p> <p>Because he will have to determine if he has enough support from the Liberty folks or if he needs to reach out to other Republicans</p>	<p>question whether or not another 'Bush' family member can win a national election. A Bush versus</p> <p>If he goes, he'll be the nominee.</p>
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The Republican party appears to finally have grown tired of the Tea Party's antics and is looking for someone who can govern without being a moderate. Christie may be in the right place at the right time. Tough and ability to win in a blue state He sounds different from most politicians Expectations within a GOP primary - and authenticity attributes. Ability to lead Leader Big personality, a record to tout You never, ever know what he will say. New style of politics			
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JB5. On which legislation would you most want your party to compromise to achieve bi-partisan agreement in 2014? [Pick ONE or TWO pieces of legislation where you'd MOST like to see bi-partisan agreement this year. If none of these are areas where you want your party to compromise, just choose None of the Above]?

	<u>All Insiders</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>
Entitlement reform	36	41	30
Gun control.....	11	3	21
Immigration reform	55	61	48
Raising the debt ceiling	18	19	17
Tax reform.....	29	26	33
None of the above	7	5	9

DEMOGRAPHICS

NOTE: Results for demographic questions represent all respondents unless otherwise indicated.

Finally, just a few more questions for statistical purposes:

21. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as **(RANDOMIZE:)** a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent?

	<u>All Insiders</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>
Democrat	45		100
Independent	2		
Republican	53	100	
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>			
Strong Democrat	42		94
Not very strong Democrat	3		6
Independent/neither/lean Democrat	-		
Independent/neither/do not lean.....	-		
Independent/neither/lean Republican...	2		
Not very strong Republican	6	12	
Strong Republican.....	46	88	
Refused/not sure	-		

GENDER:

	<u>All Insiders</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>
Male	84	85	82
Female.....	16	15	18

AGE:

	<u>All Insiders</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>
18-29.....	3	4	2
30-44.....	31	36	25
45-64.....	55	50	61
65 and older.....	11	10	12

REGION I: Do you live in the Washington, D.C. metro area?

	<u>All Insiders</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>
Yes.....	41	35	47
No.....	59	65	53

REGION II: [ASK ONLY IF “NO” ON Q.REGION I, DO NOT LIVE IN WASHINGTON D.C. Metro Area]

	<u>All Insiders</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>
Washington, D.C. Area	41	35	47
NORTHEAST	14	17	12
MIDWEST	19	22	15
SOUTH	21	21	20
WEST	5	4	6

JB15. Thinking about politics these days, how would you describe your own political viewpoint?
(ROTATE, START FROM BOTTOM EVERY OTHER INTERVIEW.)

	<u>All Insiders</u>	<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>
Total Liberal.....	24	-	54
Total Conservative.....	46	85	-
Very liberal.....	8	-	17
Liberal.....	17	-	37
Moderate.....	29	14	46
Conservative.....	38	72	-
Very conservative.....	8	14	-
Refused/not sure.....	-	1	-