



The Gallup Poll

FOR RELEASE:
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Boostered by Speech on TV

PRINCETON, N.J. — President Reagan's standing with the American people, which dropped sharply following

than it was last Fall, before the revelation of his Admin-

approve and 45% disapprove of the President's job performance.

Reagan's current approval rating is about the same

last December — with the exception of a post-Tower Report poll in which 40% approved and 53% disapproved. The President's March 4 speech on TV evoked an immediate and positive public reaction, with his job

and 51% of Americans approved of Reagan's handling

Although the President's job performance rating plunged in the wake of the Iran-contra revelations, his high level. Currently, 74% approve of Reagan as a per-

attested to by the fact that among persons who disapprove of his overall performance in office — 43% of the total

Reagan as a person. Among those who give the President a favorable job rating, his personal approval rating is a virtually unanimous 96%.

Impact of Iran-Contra Affair

The new survey also found evidence of a growing public perception that the Iran-Contra affair will impact the

while 36% thought it had not. By January, the negative

Following are the questions asked and the findings in table form:

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ronald Reagan is handling his job as president?

Here are highlights of the recent trends:

-Mar. 14-18	47	44	9
-Mar. 5-6	46	46	8
-Feb. 27	40	53	7
-Jan. 16-19	48	43	9
-Oct. 24-27	55	27	8
-Sept. 12-15	61	25	14

the way Reagan is handling his job as president, what do you think of Reagan as a person? Would you say

Here is the full trend:

Reagan, the Man

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
1987-Apr. 10-12	74	19	7
-Feb. 27	71	23	6
-Jan. 16-19	74	18	8
1986-December	75	18	7
-September	80	12	8
1985-November	81	10	9
1983-August	67	21	12
1982-April-May	69	19	12
-February	70	20	10
1981-November	73	17	10
-July	78	13	9

Do you think the controversy over the Iran-contra affair has made it very difficult for Ronald Reagan to be an effective president over the next two years, or not?

Impact of Iran-Contra Affair on Reagan's Effectiveness

	Apr. 1987	Jan. 1987	Dec. 1986
Very difficult	66%	63%	58%
Not very difficult	28	31	36
No opinion	6	6	6
	100%	100%	100%

The latest findings are based on in-person interviews with 1,197 adults conducted in scientifically selected locations across the nation during the period April 10-12. For results based on samples of this size

percentage points in either direction.

In addition to sampling error, the reader should bear in mind that question wording and other practical

Source: CNN/ABC News.