

Polling News & Notes

Overlooked Recent Polling and Insights • September 11, 2014

Majority Of Americans Say Obama Weak And Indecisive: On the same day President Barack Obama addressed the nation to outline his strategy to deal with the threat of ISIL, a new Fox News poll showed a majority of Americans say they do not consider him to be a strong, decisive leader on foreign policy. Only 34% describe Mr. Obama as a “strong and decisive leader,” while 57% describe him as “weak and indecisive leader.” It is virtually impossible for a president to rebuild a public sense of strength and decisiveness.

The only demographic groups that consider the president to be a strong leader on foreign affairs are liberals (59%), Democrats (63%), and black voters (76%). Almost all Republicans (88%), Tea Partiers (85%), and conservatives (76%) have a negative opinion of Mr. Obama, labeling him a “weak and indecisive leader” on foreign policy. This sentiment is shared by a most white voters (66%), 35-54 year olds (62%), independents (62%), men (60%), those making \$50,000 or more (60%), and strong majorities of those with no college degree (58%), those with a college degree (55%), young voters (55%), women (54%), those making less than \$50,000 (54%), and older voters (53%).

In his speech last night, President Obama said, “Abroad, American leadership is the one constant in an uncertain world” and asked for public support. These numbers show he needs to show the American people he is a strong leader first if he expects their backing.

