Poll Shows Drop in Ford's Popularity

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In a survey conducted after his cabinet shakeup but before his recent trip to China, President Ford's popularity rating slipped to 41 per cent approval, the lowest point since May.

those who approved of his job performance in the survey were outweighed by those who disapproved (46 per cent). In the previous (early November) survey, equalproportions (44 per cent) approved and disapproved.

The President's current rating is only four points above his low point since taking office — 37 per cent, recorded in April and January of the current year.

Following is the question asked to determine presidential popularity:

"Do you approve or disapprove of the way Gerald Ford is handling his job as president?"

| • | | 140 | |
|--|------------|----------------|---|
| Approve | Disapprove | Opinion ' | ١ |
| % | . % | % | |
| Nov. 21-24 41 | 46 | 13 | |
| Nov. 1-3 44 | 44 | 12 | |
| Oct. 17-20 47 | 40 | 13 | |
| Oct. 3-6 47 | 37 | 16 | |
| Sept. 5-8, 12-15 47 | 36 | 17 | |
| Aug. 15-18 46 | 37 | 17 | |
| Aug. 1-4 | 37 | 18 | |
| June 27-30 52 | 33 | 15 | |
| May 30-June 2 51 | 33 | 16 | |
| May 2-5 40 | 43 | 17 | |
| Current Average in current year Average since taking office High while in office (recorded August, 1974) Low while in office (recorded January, April, 1975) | | 43 46 71 | |
| OTHER PRESID | DENTS | | |
| HIGH | LOW | AVERAGE | |
| | % | % | |
| Nixon 68 | 24 | 48 | |
| Johnson 80 | 35 | 54 | |
| Kennedy 83 | 57 | 70 | |
| Eisenhower 79 | 49 | 66 | |
| Truman | 23 | 47 | |
| Roosevelt 84 | 54 | 68 | |
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