

S1. Are you at least 18 years old and registered to vote in [STATE]?

Yes	100%
No	-
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	-

P1. No matter how you may be planning to vote this year, when it comes to politics, do you generally think of yourself as a strong Democrat, not very strong Democrat, strong Republican, not very strong Republican, or Independent? [IF INDEPENDENT/OTHER] Do you think of yourself as closer to the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

Strong Democrat	26%
Weak Democrat	10
Independent / Closer to the Democrats	11
Independent	15
Independent / Closer to the Republicans	9
Weak Republican	6
Strong Republican	21
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	2
DEMOCRAT (NET)	35%
INDEPENDENT (NET)	38
REPUBLICAN (NET)	27
DEMOCRAT W/ LEANERS (NET)	46%
REPUBLICAN W/ LEANERS (NET)	36

Q1. Some people say that addressing the national debt should be among the President and Congress's top 3 priorities. Do you agree or disagree? [IF AGREE/DISAGREE] Do you feel that way strongly or just somewhat?

	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Jul 18</u>	<u>Jun 18</u>	<u>May 18</u>	<u>Apr 18</u>	<u>Mar 18</u>	<u>Feb 18</u>	<u>Jan 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>Nov 17</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>
Strongly agree	47%	44%	45%	48%	52%	46%	51%	51%	50%	49%	50%	48%
Somewhat agree	26	27	27	27	27	28	25	26	24	25	23	22
Somewhat disagree	13	15	14	14	10	14	13	11	13	13	13	11
Strongly disagree	8	7	7	6	7	7	6	8	7	9	7	13
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	6	7	8	5	5	5	5	5	6	4	7	6
AGREE (NET)	73%	71	71	74	78	73	76	76	74	75	73	70
DISAGREE (NET)	21	22	21	20	16	21	19	18	20	22	20	24

Q2. Thinking about our national debt over the last few years, would you say your level of concern has increased or decreased? [FOLLOW UP] Is that [INCREASED/DECREASED] a lot or just a little?

	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Jul 18</u>	<u>Jun 18</u>	<u>May 18</u>	<u>Apr 18</u>	<u>Mar 18</u>	<u>Feb 18</u>	<u>Jan 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>Nov 17</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>
Increase a lot	37%	38%	38%	42%	42%	43%	41%	43%	41%	38%	40%	40%
Increased a little	24	24	25	23	24	25	26	23	25	26	27	22
Decreased a little	13	12	12	11	8	10	8	9	8	11	8	9
Decreased a lot	7	6	6	5	6	4	4	5	4	6	4	5
VOL: (No change)	15	16	15	16	17	15	20	17	19	18	19	22
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	4	4	5	3	2	4	2	3	2	2	2	2
INCREASED (NET)	61%	62	63	65	66	68	67	66	66	64	67	62
DECREASED (NET)	20	18	18	16	14	14	11	15	13	17	12	14

Q3. And thinking about our national debt over the next few years, do you expect the problem to get better or worse? [FOLLOW UP] Is that much [BETTER/WORSE] or just somewhat [BETTER/WORSE]?

	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Jul 18</u>	<u>Jun 18</u>	<u>May 18</u>	<u>Apr 18</u>	<u>Mar 18</u>	<u>Feb 18</u>	<u>Jan 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>Nov 17</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>
Much better.....	15%	11%	12%	11%	10%	13%	10%	12%	14%	10%	13%	8%
Somewhat better	17	19	19	19	16	16	18	18	18	17	18	16
Somewhat worse	26	27	26	24	27	26	23	24	23	26	24	29
Much worse	33	36	35	37	35	34	38	35	37	38	35	35
VOL: (No change).....	2	3	3	5	5	5	6	5	3	3	5	7
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	7	4	5	5	7	6	5	6	6	5	6	6
BETTER (NET).....	32%	30	31	29	26	29	28	30	32	27	31	23
WORSE (NET)	59	63	61	61	63	60	62	59	60	64	58	64

Q4. When it comes to addressing our national debt, would you say things in the United States are heading in the right direction or do you think things are off on the wrong track? [FOLLOW UP] Do you feel that way strongly or just somewhat?

	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Jul 18</u>	<u>Jun 18</u>	<u>May 18</u>	<u>Apr 18</u>	<u>Mar 18</u>	<u>Feb 18</u>	<u>Jan 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>Nov 17</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>
Right direction - Strongly ...	21%	17%	18%	15%	13%	14%	12%	15%	17%	14%	14%	10%
Right direction - Somewhat.....	17	17	16	16	15	15	17	16	14	15	16	17
Wrong track - Somewhat... ..	18	16	17	18	19	18	17	16	19	18	19	18
Wrong track - Strongly.....	35	38	38	39	42	41	41	40	39	40	36	36
VOL: (Neither/Mixed)	4	6	5	8	7	8	9	7	7	7	8	11
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	7	6	6	5	5	5	4	7	5	5	8	7
RIGHT DIRECTION (NET)	37%	34	34	30	27	29	29	31	30	29	30	27
WRONG TRACK (NET)	53	54	55	57	61	58	58	56	58	58	55	54

Q5. And when it comes to our national debt, do you think it is an issue that the President and Congress should spend more time addressing or less time addressing? [FOLLOW UP] Would you say a lot [MORE/LESS] time or just a little?

	<u>Aug 18</u>	<u>Jul 18</u>	<u>Jun 18</u>	<u>May 18</u>	<u>Apr 18</u>	<u>Mar 18</u>	<u>Feb 18</u>	<u>Jan 18</u>	<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>Nov 17</u>	<u>Oct 17</u>	<u>Sep 17</u>
A lot more time	56%	56%	54%	54%	58%	52%	54%	58%	49%	51%	52%	48%
A little more time.....	26	26	24	25	23	24	26	25	26	27	25	25
A little less time.....	5	7	6	5	4	6	4	4	6	6	6	7
A lot less time	4	4	6	6	3	4	3	4	5	4	3	6
VOL: (The same amount of time).....	3	3	4	6	8	7	10	5	7	7	7	7
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	6	5	6	5	5	6	3	5	7	5	5	6
MORE TIME (NET)	82%	82	79	79	81	77	80	82	75	78	78	73
LESS TIME (NET)	9	10	11	10	6	10	6	8	11	10	10	13

Q6. And when it comes to our national debt, are you optimistic or pessimistic that the United States will be able to make progress on our national debt over the next few years? **[FOLLOW UP]** Would you say you are very **[OPTIMISTIC/PESSIMISTIC]** or just somewhat?

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Very optimistic	22%	17%	19%	20%	19%	21%	19%	19%	20%	18%	20%	17%
Somewhat optimistic	30	31	27	25	25	25	28	29	24	26	28	28
Somewhat pessimistic	16	18	19	20	21	18	16	17	17	22	19	17
Very pessimistic.....	24	25	25	26	25	27	28	27	31	28	25	27
VOL: (Neither/Mixed)	2	3	4	5	5	4	6	3	4	4	4	6
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	5	5	6	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	5	5
OPTIMISTIC (NET)	52%	49	46	45	45	46	46	48	45	44	48	45
PESSIMISTIC (NET)	41	43	44	46	46	46	44	44	48	50	44	45

D101. What is your age?

18-29	16%
30-44	24
45-54	18
55-64	17
65+	22
VOL: (Refused)	3

D102. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

Some grade school.....	1%
Some high school	8
Graduated high school	18
Technical/Vocational	2
Some college	20
Graduate college	35
Graduate professional	14
VOL: (Refused)	2

D105. When it comes to politics, do you generally think of yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal	12%
Somewhat liberal	15
Moderate	27
Somewhat conservative	18
Very conservative	21
VOL: (Refused)	7
LIBERAL (NET)	27%
CONSERVATIVE (NET)	39

QT. Do you have a strongly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or strongly unfavorable opinion of the Tea Party Movement? If you haven't heard of them, please tell me and we'll move on.

Strongly favorable.....	9%
Somewhat favorable.....	13
Somewhat unfavorable.....	12
Strongly unfavorable.....	25
VOL: (Heard of, but can't rate).....	13
Haven't heard of	19
VOL: (Don't Know/Refused)	8
FAVORABLE (NET)	22%
UNFAVORABLE (NET)	37
FAMILIAR (NET)	59

D170. Thinking of your socio-economic status, would you describe yourself as working class, middle class, or as affluent? **[IF MIDDLE CLASS]** And would you describe yourself as lower middle class, upper middle class, or somewhere in between?

Working class	34%
Lower middle class	6
Middle class	42
Upper middle class	8
Affluent	6
VOL: (Don't Know/Refused)	5

D300. And just to make sure we have a representative sample of voters, could you please tell me your race?

Black/African-American	13%
White/Caucasian	72
Hispanic/Latino	8
Asian-American	1
Other	3
VOL: (Refused)	3

Gender [BY OBSERVATION]

Male	47%
Female	53

Region [FROM SAMPLE]

Northeast	18%
Midwest	23
South	38
West	21