

S1. Are you at least 18 years old and registered to vote at [ADDRESS ON FILE]?

Yes 100%
No -
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] Do you think of yourself as closer to the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

Strong Democrat 28%
Weak Democrat 6
Independent / Closer to the Democrats 8
Independent 16
Independent / Closer to the Republicans 10
Weak Republican 7
Strong Republican 21
VOL: (Don't Know/Refused) 3

DEMOCRAT (NET) 34%
INDEPENDENT (NET) 37
REPUBLICAN (NET) 28

DEMOCRAT W/ LEANERS (NET) 43%
REPUBLICAN W/ LEANERS (NET) 38

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>Jan 16</u>	<u>Dec 15</u>	<u>Nov 15</u>	<u>Oct 15</u>	<u>Sep 15</u>	<u>Aug 15</u>	<u>Jul 15</u>	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Apr 15</u>	<u>Mar 15</u>	<u>Feb 15</u>
Strongly agree	54%	54%	56%	58%	61%	57%	52%	55%	53%	56%	55%	55%
Somewhat agree	24	24	21	22	20	23	30	24	23	25	23	27
Somewhat disagree.....	10	12	11	10	8	10	9	10	12	9	10	8
Strongly disagree	8	7	7	6	6	7	6	6	6	8	8	7
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	4	3	5	5	4	4	3	4	5	2	4	3
AGREE (NET)	78%	78	77	80	81	80	82	79	76	80	78	82
DISAGREE (NET)	18	19	18	16	14	16	15	17	18	17	18	14

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>Jan 16</u>	<u>Dec 15</u>	<u>Nov 15</u>	<u>Oct 15</u>	<u>Sep 15</u>	<u>Aug 15</u>	<u>Jul 15</u>	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Apr 15</u>	<u>Mar 15</u>	<u>Feb 15</u>
Increase a lot	46%	43%	44%	46%	50%	46%	44%	46%	44%	45%	45%	47%
Increased a little	19	22	22	19	16	22	21	21	23	22	20	21
Decreased a little.....	10	11	10	10	11	7	11	10	10	10	12	10
Decreased a lot	7	6	5	8	6	5	6	6	5	7	6	6
VOL: (No change).....	17	16	17	16	15	19	17	17	16	14	16	14
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
INCREASED (NET)	65%	65	66	65	66	68	65	67	67	67	65	69
DECREASED (NET)	17	17	15	17	17	13	17	15	15	17	18	17

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>Jan 16</u>	<u>Dec 15</u>	<u>Nov 15</u>	<u>Oct 15</u>	<u>Sep 15</u>	<u>Aug 15</u>	<u>Jul 15</u>	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Apr 15</u>	<u>Mar 15</u>	<u>Feb 15</u>
Much better.....	9%	8%	7%	9%	8%	7%	8%	7%	6%	8%	5%	7%
Somewhat better	19	20	17	19	20	18	20	20	19	18	19	19
Somewhat worse	26	26	30	26	25	27	26	28	29	29	31	31
Much worse	26	26	29	25	28	30	27	30	30	31	33	32
VOL: (No change).....	7	7	5	7	5	9	8	7	5	5	6	5
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	13	13	11	14	13	9	11	8	10	9	6	6
BETTER (NET)	28%	28	25	28	28	25	28	26	26	26	25	26
WORSE (NET)	52	52	59	51	53	57	54	58	59	60	64	63

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>Jan 16</u>	<u>Dec 15</u>	<u>Nov 15</u>	<u>Oct 15</u>	<u>Sep 15</u>	<u>Aug 15</u>	<u>Jul 15</u>	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Apr 15</u>	<u>Mar 15</u>	<u>Feb 15</u>
Right direction - Strongly ...	12%	9%	10%	10%	10%	7%	10%	9%	8%	11%	11%	10%
Right direction - Somewhat.....	17	18	16	15	15	17	17	15	16	15	17	17
Wrong track - Somewhat.....	14	16	17	16	16	19	19	18	20	17	18	20
Wrong track - Strongly.....	44	44	44	44	47	45	42	44	44	45	45	43
VOL: (Neither/Mixed).....	7	9	7	8	7	7	7	9	6	9	8	7
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	6	5	6	6	5	5	5	5	6	3	2	4
RIGHT DIRECTION (NET)	29%	26	26	25	25	24	27	24	24	26	28	26
WRONG TRACK (NET)	58	60	62	60	63	64	61	62	64	62	62	63

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>Jan 16</u>	<u>Dec 15</u>	<u>Nov 15</u>	<u>Oct 15</u>	<u>Sep 15</u>	<u>Aug 15</u>	<u>Jul 15</u>	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Apr 15</u>	<u>Mar 15</u>	<u>Feb 15</u>
A lot more time	57%	58%	57%	60%	62%	61%	59%	55%	57%	56%	58%	55%
A little more time.....	22	23	24	22	22	23	24	25	23	27	24	27
A little less time.....	6	6	6	5	5	4	6	6	7	6	5	5
A lot less time	3	3	4	4	3	3	3	2	5	3	4	4
VOL: (The same amount of time).....	7	6	4	6	4	5	5	8	4	5	6	6
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	4	5	4	3	4	3	3	4	4	2	3	3
MORE TIME (NET)	80%	80	81	82	84	85	83	80	80	83	82	82
LESS TIME (NET)	9	9	10	9	9	7	9	8	12	9	9	9

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?

	<u>Jan 16</u>	<u>Dec 15</u>	<u>Nov 15</u>	<u>Oct 15</u>	<u>Sep 15</u>	<u>Aug 15</u>	<u>Jul 15</u>	<u>Jun 15</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>Apr 15</u>	<u>Mar 15</u>	<u>Feb 15</u>
Very optimistic.....	21%	17%	16%	21%	20%	18%	15%	19%	15%	18%	18%	20%
Somewhat optimistic	32	36	31	30	32	30	31	30	31	27	29	26
Somewhat pessimistic.....	17	17	21	17	18	18	21	19	18	19	19	17
Very pessimistic.....	19	21	22	21	21	24	25	25	24	27	26	29
VOL: (Neither/Mixed).....	6	5	6	4	5	6	4	5	6	4	5	6
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	5	4	4	7	4	5	5	3	6	4	4	2
OPTIMISTIC (NET)	52%	53	47	51	51	47	46	49	46	45	47	46
PESSIMISTIC (NET)	36	38	43	38	39	42	46	43	42	47	45	46

Finally I would like to ask you a few final questions for statistical purposes only.

D101. What is your age?	18-29	17%
	30-44	24
	45-54	18
	55-64	18
	65+	22
	VOL: (Refused)	2
D102. What is the last grade that you completed in school?	Some grade school	1%
	Some high school	5
	Graduated high school	19
	Technical/Vocational	3
	Some college	19
	Graduate college	34
	Graduate professional	18
VOL: (Refused)	1	
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	11%
	Somewhat liberal	14
	Moderate	31
	Somewhat conservative	21
	Very conservative	19
	VOL: (Refused)	4
	LIBERAL (NET)	25%
	CONSERVATIVE (NET)	40
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	16
	Somewhat unfavorable	11
	Strongly unfavorable	29
	VOL: (Heard of, but can't rate)	24
	VOL: Haven't heard of	7
	VOL: (Don't Know/Refused)	3
	FAVORABLE (NET)	25%
	UNFAVORABLE (NET)	40
	FAMILIAR (NET)	65
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	32%
	Lower middle class	8
	Middle class	43
	Upper middle class	12
	Affluent	4
	VOL: (Don't Know/Refused)	2
D300. And just to make sure we have a representative sample of voters, could you please tell me your race? [IF BLACK/WHITE/OTHER] Do you consider yourself a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking American?	Black/African-American	13%
	White/Caucasian	72
	Hispanic/Latino	8
	Asian-American	2
	Other (SPECIFY)	1
	VOL: (Refused)	3

Gender [BY OBSERVATION]

Male..... 47%
Female..... 53

Region [FROM SAMPLE]

Northeast..... 18%
Midwest..... 23
South..... 38
West..... 21