

**S1.** Are you at least 18 years old and registered to vote at this address [READ ADDRESS]?

	Yes .....	100%
	No .....	-
<b>VOL:</b>	(Don't Know/Refused) .....	-

**S2.** Do you or any member of your household currently work as a member of the news media or work for an elected official or candidate for political office in any capacity?

	Yes .....	-
	No .....	100
<b>VOL:</b>	(Don't Know/Refused) .....	-

**P1.** When it comes to politics, do you generally think of yourself as a strong Democrat, a not very strong Democrat, a strong Republican, a not very strong Republican, or an Independent? [IF INDEPENDENT/DON'T KNOW/REFUSED] Do you think of yourself as closer to the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

	Strong Democrat .....	25%
	Weak Democrat .....	10
	Independent / Closer to the Democrats .....	10
	Independent .....	13
	Independent / Closer to the Republicans .....	11
	Weak Republican .....	7
	Strong Republican .....	21
<b>VOL:</b>	(Don't Know/Refused) .....	3
	DEMOCRAT (NET) .....	35%
	INDEPENDENT (NET) .....	37
	REPUBLICAN (NET) .....	28
	DEMOCRAT W/ LEANERS (NET) .....	45%
	REPUBLICAN W/ LEANERS (NET) .....	39

**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>Mar 13</u>	<u>Feb 13</u>	<u>Jan 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>	<u>Apr 12</u>	<u>Aug 10</u>
Strongly agree .....	68%	66%	71%	71%	63%	58%
Somewhat agree .....	15	21	18	18	21	15
Somewhat disagree .....	7	5	4	4	9	14
Strongly disagree .....	7	4	3	4	5	11
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't Know/Refused) .....	4	4	3	4	2	1
AGREE (NET) .....	83%	87	89	89	84	74
DISAGREE (NET) .....	13	9	7	7	14	25

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

	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Feb 13</u>	<u>Jan 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Increase a lot .....	58%	52%	60%	51%
Increased a little .....	18	24	21	25
Decreased a little .....	7	7	4	7
Decreased a lot .....	5	3	2	3
<b>VOL:</b> (No change) .....	11	13	12	12
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't Know/Refused) .....	1	1	1	2
INCREASED (NET) .....	76%	76	81	77
DECREASED (NET) .....	11	10	7	10

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

	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Feb 13</u>	<u>Jan 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Much better .....	10%	11%	9%	14%
Somewhat better .....	21	20	21	30
Somewhat worse .....	22	25	21	16
Much worse .....	38	37	40	31
<b>VOL:</b> (No change) .....	3	2	4	2
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't Know/Refused) .....	6	5	5	6
BETTER (NET) .....	31%	31	31	44
WORSE (NET) .....	60	62	61	47

**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? [IF RESPONSE] Do you feel that way strongly or just somewhat?

	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Feb 13</u>	<u>Jan 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Right direction - Strongly .....	13%	11%	9%	17%
Right direction - Somewhat .....	19	20	19	23
Wrong track - Somewhat .....	14	17	17	14
Wrong track - Strongly .....	45	42	44	36
<b>VOL:</b> (Neither/Mixed) .....	4	6	7	5
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't Know/Refused) .....	4	5	5	5
RIGHT DIRECTION (NET) .....	32%	30	28	39
WRONG TRACK (NET) .....	60	59	60	51

**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? [IF RESPONSE] Would you say a lot [MORE/LESS] time or just a little?

	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Feb 13</u>	<u>Jan 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
A lot more time .....	67%	62%	68%	66%
A little more time.....	15	22	19	20
A little less time.....	5	6	4	5
A lot less time .....	5	3	3	1
<b>VOL:</b> (The same amount of time) .....	4	4	3	4
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't Know/Refused).....	3	3	3	3
<b>MORE TIME (NET)</b> .....	82%	84	87	87
<b>LESS TIME (NET)</b> .....	10	8	7	7

**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? [IF RESPONSE] Would you say you are very [OPTIMISTIC/PESSIMISTIC] or just somewhat?

	<u>Mar 13</u>	<u>Feb 13</u>	<u>Jan 13</u>	<u>Dec 12</u>
Very optimistic .....	22%	18%	19%	23%
Somewhat optimistic.....	26	32	29	32
Somewhat pessimistic.....	18	16	18	13
Very pessimistic.....	30	30	30	26
<b>VOL:</b> (Neither/Mixed) .....	3	2	3	2
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't Know/Refused).....	2	3	2	3
<b>OPTIMISTIC (NET)</b> .....	47%	49	48	55
<b>PESSIMISTIC (NET)</b> .....	48	46	47	40

How likely is it that the President and Congress will reach an agreement on each of the following issues? [READ ISSUE] Is it very likely, somewhat likely, not that likely or not likely at all that the President and Congress will reach an agreement on [ISSUE]?

	<u>LIKELY</u>		<u>NOT LIKELY</u>		<u>(DK/Ref.)</u>	<u>NET</u>	
	<u>Very</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not that</u>	<u>Not at all</u>		<u>LIKELY</u>	<u>NOT LIKELY</u>
• Immigration .....	16%	36	20	23	5	52%	43
• Gun control .....	13%	28	22	31	6	40%	54
• Long-term debt reduction.....	9%	31	25	32	4	39%	57

**Q10.** Over the course of the last several days the President has met with both Democratic and Republican members of Congress to discuss the budget and possible long-term debt reduction plans.

Some people say that these meetings are an important show of bipartisanship and a significant step toward compromising and finding a solution to our long-term debt problems.

Other people say that this is just typical political posturing and Republicans and Democrats are no closer to compromising and making real progress on our long-term debt problems.

Which statement comes closest to your own views? [IF RESPONSE] Do you feel that way strongly or just somewhat?

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 .....	25
45-54 .....	19
55-64 .....	17
65+.....	20
<b>VOL:</b> (Refused).....	2

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

Some grade school.....	1%
Some high school.....	5
Graduated high school .....	22
Technical/Vocational .....	4
Some college.....	23
Graduate college .....	28
Graduate professional .....	16
<b>VOL:</b> (Refused).....	1

Important show of bipartisanship and significant step - Strongly .....	15%
Important show of bipartisanship and significant step - Somewhat.....	16
Typical political posturing - Somewhat.....	21
Typical political posturing - Strongly.....	40
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't Know/Refused) .....	7
<b>SIGNIFICANT STEP (NET)</b> .....	31%
<b>TYPICAL POSTURING (NET)</b> .....	61

**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 .....	9%
Somewhat liberal .....	15
Moderate .....	29
Somewhat conservative .....	19
Very Conservative .....	22
<b>VOL:</b> (Refused) .....	5
LIBERAL (NET) .....	25%
CONSERVATIVE (NET) .....	41

**Q11.** 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 .....	12%
Somewhat favorable .....	20
Somewhat unfavorable .....	13
Strongly unfavorable .....	26
<b>VOL:</b> (Heard of, but can't rate) .....	17
Haven't heard of .....	8
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't Know/Refused) .....	4
FAVORABLE (NET) .....	33%
UNFAVORABLE (NET) .....	38
FAMILIAR (NET) .....	71

**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 .....	33%
Lower middle class .....	10
Middle class .....	40
Upper middle class .....	8
Affluent .....	4
<b>VOL:</b> (Don't Know/Refused) .....	4

**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 .....	12%
White/Caucasian .....	73
Hispanic/Latino .....	9
Asian-American .....	1
Other (SPECIFY) .....	2
<b>VOL:</b> (Refused) .....	3

**Region [FROM SAMPLE]**

Northeast .....	18%
Midwest .....	24
South .....	38
West .....	20

**Gender [BY OBSERVATION]**

Male .....	46%
Female .....	54