

REG. Are you currently registered to vote?

Yes	100%
No	-
Not sure	-

P1. 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, and independent, or some other political party? [IF INDEPENDENT/OTHER] Do you think of yourself as closer to the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

Strong Democrat	26%
Weak Democrat	13
Independent / Closer to the Democrats	7
Independent	13
Independent / Closer to the Republicans	6
Weak Republican	15
Strong Republican	20
DEMOCRAT (NET)	39%
INDEPENDENT (NET)	26
REPUBLICAN (NET)	35
DEMOCRAT W/ LEANERS (NET)	46%
REPUBLICAN W/ LEANERS (NET)	41

Q1C. Some people say that addressing the national debt should be among the President and Congress's top 3 priorities. Do you agree or disagree that the national debt should be among the President and Congress's top 3 priorities? [IF AGREE] And do you strongly or just somewhat agree that the national debt should be among the President and Congress's top 3 priorities? [IF DISAGREE] And do you strongly or just somewhat disagree that the national debt should be among the President and Congress's top 3 priorities? [IF DON'T KNOW] If you had to choose, would you lean toward agreeing or disagreeing that the national debt should be among the President and Congress's top 3 priorities?

	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Jan 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Nov 23</u>	<u>Oct 23</u>	<u>Sep 23</u>	<u>Aug 23</u>	<u>Jul 23</u>	<u>Jun 23</u>	<u>May 23</u>
Strongly agree	53%	54%	52%	53%	51%	54%	55%	55%	52%	54%	49%	64%
Somewhat agree	24	24	26	25	25	23	24	25	28	27	29	20
Somewhat disagree	15	13	12	13	14	14	12	12	12	12	11	8
Strongly disagree	3	4	4	3	4	5	5	4	4	4	4	3
Don't know/Refused	5	5	6	5	6	5	5	5	4	3	6	5
AGREE (NET)	77%	78	77	79	77	76	79	80	80	81	79	85
DISAGREE (NET)	18	17	17	16	18	19	16	15	16	16	15	11

Q2C. Thinking about our national debt over the last few years, would you say your level of concern about our national debt has: [IF NO CHANGE/DON'T KNOW] If you had to choose, would you say that your level of concern about our national debt has probably increased a little or probably decreased a little over the last few years?

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Increased a lot	50%	53%	50%	51%	51%	55%	53%	50%	53%	52%	47%	58%
Increased a little	30	29	28	29	28	27	27	29	31	32	34	29
Decreased a little	5	4	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	5	4	3
Decreased a lot	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	1	2	2
No change	8	9	11	9	10	10	10	10	8	8	11	6
Don't know/Refused	4	2	3	4	4	2	4	3	2	2	3	2
INCREASED (NET)	80%	83	79	80	79	82	79	80	84	83	81	87
DECREASED (NET)	8	6	7	7	7	6	7	7	6	7	6	5

Q3C. Thinking about our national debt over the next few years, do you expect the problem to get: [IF THE SAME/DON'T KNOW] If you had to choose, do you think the national debt problem will probably get a little better or probably get a little worse over the next few years?

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Much better.....	8%	7%	9%	8%	8%	6%	5%	6%	4%	7%	5%	6%
Somewhat better	20	19	15	20	18	17	19	19	21	19	21	20
Somewhat worse	30	34	34	32	30	32	32	32	33	37	35	33
Much worse	35	33	34	33	34	38	36	36	35	30	32	35
No change	2	3	3	2	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	3
Don't know/Refused	5	4	5	5	6	4	5	4	3	3	5	3
BETTER (NET).....	28%	25	24	28	26	23	24	25	25	26	26	26
WORSE (NET)	65	67	67	65	64	70	68	67	68	68	67	68

Q4C. 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 NONE/DON'T KNOW] If you had to choose, would you say that things in the United States are probably heading in the right direction or probably off on the wrong track when it comes to addressing our national debt?

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Right direction - Strongly ...	9%	8%	12%	8%	9%	7%	7%	8%	6%	8%	7%	6%
Right direction-Somewhat...	19	18	16	19	18	19	18	20	23	23	23	18
Wrong track - Somewhat...	26	26	24	25	26	27	26	27	27	26	26	26
Wrong track - Strongly.....	42	44	43	41	41	43	44	42	42	40	38	46
Neither/Mixed	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	*	1	1	*
Don't know/Refused	3	4	4	5	4	3	3	3	2	3	5	2
RIGHT DIRECTION (NET)	28%	26	28	28	27	26	25	28	29	31	29	24
WRONG TRACK (NET)	68	69	68	67	67	70	70	69	69	66	64	73

Q5C. 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? And is that a lot [MORE/LESS] or a little [MORE/LESS] time? [IF THE SAME AMOUNT/DON'T KNOW] If you had to choose, would you say the President and Congress should probably spend more time addressing the national debt or probably spend less time addressing the national debt?

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A lot more time	52%	52%	51%	53%	50%	52%	53%	53%	53%	50%	51%	61%
A little more time.....	31	32	31	29	29	30	30	30	31	33	33	26
A little less time.....	5	5	6	5	6	6	4	5	6	7	5	3
A lot less time	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	3	3	5
The same amount of time..	3	3	3	3	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	2
Don't know/Refused	4	5	5	6	6	4	5	5	3	3	5	3
MORE TIME (NET)	84%	83	82	82	79	82	83	83	84	83	84	88
LESS TIME (NET)	9	9	10	9	11	10	9	9	10	10	8	8

Q6C. And when it comes to our national debt, how optimistic or pessimistic are you that the U.S. will make progress on the national debt over the next few years? **[IF TOTALLY MIXED/DON'T KNOW]** If you had to choose, would you say you lean toward being optimistic or lean toward being pessimistic that the U.S. will make progress on the national debt over the next few years?

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Very optimistic.....	8%	6%	9%	7%	7%	6%	7%	6%	4%	6%	6%	8%
Somewhat optimistic	31	32	29	35	31	30	34	36	37	38	34	34
Somewhat pessimistic.....	34	35	34	33	36	36	34	33	34	35	38	35
Very pessimistic.....	22	20	22	19	17	21	19	18	18	18	17	18
Neither/Mixed	2	3	3	2	4	3	3	3	4	1	3	3
Don't know/Refused	3	3	4	4	5	3	3	4	3	2	3	3
OPTIMISTIC (NET)	39%	39	38	42	39	37	41	42	42	44	40	42
PESSIMISTIC (NET)	55	55	55	51	53	57	53	51	52	53	54	52

B1. Looking ahead to the November election, the leaders we elect this fall will face a number of critical issues related to the national debt, the economy and the daily lives of millions of Americans. As you consider your vote, how important is it that the leaders we elect this fall are committed to:

	IMPORTANT		NOT IMPORTANT		NET	
	<u>Very</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not that important</u>	<u>Not important at all</u>	<u>IMPORTANT</u>	<u>NOT IMPORTANT</u>
• Strengthening Social Security to avoid automatic cuts to beneficiaries	67%	27	4	1	95%	5
• Strengthening Medicare to avoid automatic cuts that impact patient care options and costs	61%	32	6	2	92%	8
• Reducing deficits to help lower interest rates and control inflation.....	60%	35	3	1	96%	4
• Addressing our \$34 trillion national debt	58%	34	6	2	92%	8
• Reforming our tax system to ensure tax fairness	58%	34	6	2	92%	8
• Dealing with the debt ceiling responsibly, without risking economic damage.....	57%	37	4	2	94%	6
• Reforming our tax system to improve our fiscal outlook.....	46%	45	9	1	90%	10
• Ensuring the future of Affordable Care Act subsidies	43%	37	12	8	80%	20
• Reforming Medicaid to find savings in the program.....	42%	43	11	4	84%	16

Q16. Before today, did you know that if lawmakers fail to reform Social Security, all recipients will face an automatic benefit cut in just a handful of years?

Yes 49%
No 51

Q17. Knowing this, how important is it to you that the leaders we elect this fall work to strengthen Social Security so it is available to both current retirees and younger generations?

Very important 76%
Somewhat important 19
Not that important 3
Not important at all 1

IMPORTANT (NET) 96%
NOT IMPORTANT (NET) 4

For statistical purposes only, please answer the following questions.

D100. What is your gender?

Male 47%
Female 53
Self-describe *

DAGE. What is your age?

18-29 17%
30-44 24
45-54 17
55-64 18
65+ 23

D105. When it comes to politics, do you generally think of yourself as:

Very liberal 13%
Somewhat liberal 17
Moderate 37
Somewhat conservative 20
Very conservative 13

D108. Which of the following best describes you and your family?

Working class 27%
Lower middle class 18
Middle class 41
Upper middle class 10
Affluent 1
I'm not sure 3

D102. What is the last grade of school or level of education you completed?

Did not complete high school 2%
Graduated high school 23
Attended technical/vocational school 3
Attended some college but no degree 24
Graduated two-year college with Associate's degree 12
Graduated four-year college with Bachelor's degree 26
Obtained Master's, PhD, or other professional degree (MD, DMD, etc.) 10

DRACE. To ensure we have a representative sample, please indicate your race. [IF BLACK/WHITE/OTHER] Do you consider yourself a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking American?

Black/African-American 12%
White/Caucasian 75
Hispanic/Latino 9
Asian-American 2
Native American 1
Other 1

REGION. What state do you live in?

Northeast	18%
Midwest	23
South	38
West	21

REGION9. Coded National Region [9-WAY]

New England	5%
Middle Atlantic	13
East North Central	16
West North Central	7
South Atlantic	21
East South Central	6
West South Central	11
Mountain	7
Pacific	14