

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/OTHER] Do you think of yourself as closer to the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

Strong Democrat 29%
 Weak Democrat 8
 Independent / Closer to the Democrats 10
 Independent 15
 Independent / Closer to the Republicans 9
 Weak Republican 6
 Strong Republican 21
VOL: (Don't Know/Refused) 2

DEMOCRAT (NET) 37%
 INDEPENDENT (NET) 36
 REPUBLICAN (NET) 27

DEMOCRAT W/ LEANERS (NET) 47%
 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 17</u>	<u>Jul 17</u>	<u>Jun 17</u>	<u>May 17</u>	<u>Apr 17</u>	<u>Mar 17</u>	<u>Feb 17</u>	<u>Jan 17</u>	<u>Dec 16</u>	<u>Nov 16</u>	<u>Oct 16</u>	<u>Sep 16</u>
Strongly agree	49%	47%	45%	50%	48%	49%	51%	47%	49%	48%	60%	52%
Somewhat agree	24	25	27	24	27	25	22	27	28	27	21	22
Somewhat disagree	12	14	11	11	14	13	11	12	11	12	9	12
Strongly disagree	12	9	9	9	7	9	9	9	9	8	7	9
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	4	5	7	6	4	5	6	5	4	5	3	5
AGREE (NET)	72%	72	72	74	75	74	73	74	76	75	81	75
DISAGREE (NET)	23	23	21	20	21	22	21	21	20	21	15	20

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 17</u>	<u>Jul 17</u>	<u>Jun 17</u>	<u>May 17</u>	<u>Apr 17</u>	<u>Mar 17</u>	<u>Feb 17</u>	<u>Jan 17</u>	<u>Dec 16</u>	<u>Nov 16</u>	<u>Oct 16</u>	<u>Sep 16</u>
Increase a lot	39%	40%	40%	47%	39%	44%	45%	40%	39%	41%	46%	47%
Increased a little	21	24	25	21	25	20	22	23	26	22	20	19
Decreased a little	12	10	9	8	9	9	9	10	12	13	12	10
Decreased a lot	5	5	4	4	4	5	6	8	4	5	5	5
VOL: (No change)	20	18	19	17	22	20	16	19	17	17	15	15
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
INCREASED (NET)	61%	64	65	69	64	65	67	62	65	63	66	66
DECREASED (NET)	17	16	13	12	13	13	15	18	17	19	17	15

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 17</u>	<u>Jul 17</u>	<u>Jun 17</u>	<u>May 17</u>	<u>Apr 17</u>	<u>Mar 17</u>	<u>Feb 17</u>	<u>Jan 17</u>	<u>Dec 16</u>	<u>Nov 16</u>	<u>Oct 16</u>	<u>Sep 16</u>
Much better.....	12%	10%	13%	14%	8%	14%	16%	13%	15%	15%	8%	7%
Somewhat better	19	17	23	20	26	20	20	31	25	24	19	18
Somewhat worse	26	27	25	21	24	21	22	21	22	19	21	25
Much worse	33	32	28	35	31	35	29	24	24	28	24	22
VOL: (No change).....	5	6	6	4	6	4	5	4	6	5	7	6
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	5	8	6	7	5	5	8	7	8	9	21	22
BETTER (NET)	31%	28	36	34	34	34	36	44	41	39	27	25
WORSE (NET)	59	59	52	56	55	56	51	45	46	47	45	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? [FOLLOW UP] Do you feel that way strongly or just somewhat?

	<u>Aug 17</u>	<u>Jul 17</u>	<u>Jun 17</u>	<u>May 17</u>	<u>Apr 17</u>	<u>Mar 17</u>	<u>Feb 17</u>	<u>Jan 17</u>	<u>Dec 16</u>	<u>Nov 16</u>	<u>Oct 16</u>	<u>Sep 16</u>
Right direction - Strongly ...	13%	9%	13%	15%	11%	16%	16%	15%	11%	11%	12%	10%
Right direction - Somewhat.....	19	17	18	18	21	17	17	22	19	19	17	14
Wrong track - Somewhat.....	17	17	18	14	17	14	14	17	19	17	14	14
Wrong track - Strongly.....	38	40	35	39	33	37	33	24	33	37	44	49
VOL: (Neither/Mixed).....	8	9	10	7	11	8	10	13	13	8	6	7
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	4	8	6	8	7	8	10	10	6	8	6	6
RIGHT DIRECTION (NET)	32%	26	31	33	31	33	33	37	29	30	29	24
WRONG TRACK (NET)	56	57	53	53	51	51	47	41	52	54	59	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>Aug 17</u>	<u>Jul 17</u>	<u>Jun 17</u>	<u>May 17</u>	<u>Apr 17</u>	<u>Mar 17</u>	<u>Feb 17</u>	<u>Jan 17</u>	<u>Dec 16</u>	<u>Nov 16</u>	<u>Oct 16</u>	<u>Sep 16</u>
A lot more time	52%	49%	47%	55%	50%	51%	55%	51%	51%	54%	62%	59%
A little more time.....	25	28	29	23	30	25	25	29	29	24	23	22
A little less time.....	8	7	7	6	7	6	6	5	5	6	5	8
A lot less time	4	5	3	3	2	4	3	4	4	5	3	3
VOL: (The same amount of time).....	6	6	8	7	6	7	5	5	6	6	5	3
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	5	6	7	6	5	6	6	6	4	5	3	5
MORE TIME (NET)	76%	77	76	78	80	77	80	80	81	78	85	81
LESS TIME (NET)	13	12	10	10	9	11	9	9	9	11	7	11

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%	20%	22%	24%	21%	24%	28%	26%	25%	25%	23%	19%
Somewhat optimistic	27	27	27	27	30	29	26	33	28	30	30	27
Somewhat pessimistic.....	19	18	20	16	20	16	14	16	18	17	13	15
Very pessimistic.....	24	26	22	26	22	23	23	16	19	21	20	21
VOL: (Neither/Mixed).....	4	5	5	4	5	4	6	5	6	3	6	6
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	3	4	4	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	8	12
OPTIMISTIC (NET)	50%	47	49	51	50	53	53	59	54	55	53	46
PESSIMISTIC (NET)	43	44	42	42	42	40	36	32	37	38	33	36

D101. What is your age?	18-29	17%	
	30-44	24	
	45-54	18	
	55-64	18	
	65+.....	22	
	VOL: (Refused).....	1	
D102. What is the last grade that you completed in school?	Some grade school.....	1%	
	Some high school	6	
	Graduated high school	18	
	Technical/Vocational	3	
	Some college.....	20	
	Graduate college	30	
	Graduate professional	20	
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.....	13%	
	Somewhat liberal	14	
	Moderate	31	
	Somewhat conservative	17	
	Very conservative	20	
	VOL: (Refused).....	4	
	LIBERAL (NET)	27%	
	CONSERVATIVE (NET).....	38	
	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.....	7%
		Somewhat favorable.....	16
Somewhat unfavorable.....		15	
Strongly unfavorable.....		29	
VOL: (Heard of, but can't rate).....		20	
Haven't heard of		8	
VOL: (Don't Know/Refused)		6	
FAVORABLE (NET)		23%	
UNFAVORABLE (NET)		44	
FAMILIAR (NET)		67	
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	30%	
	Lower middle class	9	
	Middle class.....	43	
	Upper middle class.....	10	
	Affluent	5	
	VOL: (Don't Know/Refused)	3	

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	71
Hispanic/Latino	8
Asian-American	1
Other	2
VOL: (Refused)	4

Gender [BY OBSERVATION]

Male	47%
Female	53

Region [FROM SAMPLE]

Northeast	18%
Midwest	23
South	38
West	21