

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

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

P1. No matter how you are planning to vote, 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? Do you think of yourself as closer to the [ROTATE] Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

Strong Democrat	23%
Weak Democrat	10
Lean Democrat	13
Independent	10
Lean Republican	12
Weak Republican	9
Strong Republican	20
VOL: (Don't Know/Refused)	2
DEMOCRAT (NET)	33%
INDEPENDENT (NET)	38
REPUBLICAN (NET)	29
DEMOCRAT W/ LEANERS (NET)	46%
REPUBLICAN W/ LEANERS (NET)	41

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?

	2012	2010
Strongly agree	63%	58%
Somewhat agree	21	15
Somewhat disagree	9	14
Strongly disagree	5	11
Don't know/Refused	2	1
AGREE (NET)	84%	74
DISAGREE (NET)	14	25

Q2. Which of the following statements about the national debt comes closest to your own views?

It is a major problem that the country needs to address now	81%
It is a major problem that can be addressed later	17
It is not much of a problem for the country	2
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	1

Q3. Overall, do you think that reducing the deficit over time will help the economy?

Yes	86%
No	10
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	4

Q4. Here is a list of programs that some people say could be cut back as part of a comprehensive effort to reduce our national debt burden. For each, I'd like you to tell me if that program should be cut back a great deal, some, not that much or not at all as part of a comprehensive effort to reduce our national debt burden.

	MAJOR/SOME		LITTLE/NONE		DK/Ref	TOTAL	
	A great deal	Some	Not that much	Not at all		MAJOR/SOME	LITTLE/NONE
• Social Security and Medicare benefits for those with higher incomes ..	20%	44	12	20	3	65%	32
• Defense	12%	41	16	29	2	53%	45
• [FORM B] Medicaid	7%	30	18	42	2	37%	60
• [FORM A] Medicare	3%	24	18	54	2	27%	72

Q5. Currently our national debt is more than 15 trillion dollars. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the national debt. [IF AGREE/DISAGREE] Do you feel that way strongly or just somewhat?

	AGREE		DISAGREE		DK/Ref.	TOTAL	
	Strong	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strong		AGREE	DISAGREE
• [FORM B] We have a responsibility to reduce the national debt burden so it is not left on the shoulders of our children and future generations.	76%	18	4	2	1	93%	6
• [FORM A] The national debt is a burden on our children and future generations.	75%	18	3	3	1	92%	6
• [FORM A] We must address the national debt in order to ensure our economic prosperity in the future.	72%	23	3	1	1	94%	4
• [FORM B] This kind of massive borrowing hurts our economy.	65%	24	6	3	2	89%	9
2010	64%	20	6	6	3	84%	12

Q6. Here is a list of some things that people say could happen if we do not address our national debt. For each, I'd like you to tell me whether it concerns you a great deal, some, not that much or not at all.

	CONCERNED		NOT CONCERNED		DK/Ref.	TOTAL	
	A great deal	Some	Not that much	Not at all		CONCERNED	NOT CONCERNED
• [FORM B] The government will have to cut spending on important programs like education and health care.	63%	24	7	6	1	87%	12
• [FORM B] Interest on our debt could become so large that we will have to cut spending on Social Security and Medicare, which could reduce the safety net for those who need it.	63%	30	2	5	*	92%	7
• [FORM A] Interest on our debt could become so large that we will have to cut spending on important programs like education, research and training, which we need to compete in today's world.	58%	27	7	6	1	86%	14
• Taxes will have to be raised to a high level.	57%	28	8	6	1	84%	14
• [FORM A] The government will have to raise taxes to avoid cutting spending on important programs like education and health care.	52%	27	10	9	2	79%	19
• [FORM B] Concerns from lenders will cause interest rates to skyrocket, making credit card, home and auto loans and college loans more expensive.	48%	33	11	6	1	82%	17
• [FORM A] We could risk a serious financial crisis similar to the one that bankrupted Greece and sent other European economies into a tailspin.	47%	33	11	7	1	81%	18

Q7. Now I'm going to read you a list of people and groups. For each, I'd like you to tell me whether you approve or disapprove of the job they are doing when it comes to addressing our national debt. [IF APPROVE/DISAPPROVE] Do you feel that way strongly or just somewhat?

	APPROVE		DISAPPROVE		DK/Ref.	TOTAL	
	Strong	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strong		APPROVE	DISAPPROVE
• President Obama.	23%	22	11	40	3	45%	52
• [FORM B] Your member of Congress.	11%	25	20	33	12	35%	53
• [FORM A] Congress.	3%	16	25	51	4	19%	76

Q8. Thinking now about what you are hearing from candidates for political office...do you think they are [ROTATE] not focused enough on the issue of the national debt, too focused on the issue of the national debt or do you think they spend the right amount of time talking about the issue of the national debt?

Not focused enough	53%
Too focused	12
Spend the right amount of time	29
Don't know/Refused	6

Q9. And thinking about this year's Congressional election...How important is the issue of the national debt when it comes to your vote for Congress this year?

Extremely important.....	31%
Very important	32
Somewhat important.....	29
Not that important.....	5
Not important at all	3
Don't know/Refused	1
IMPORTANT (NET).....	91%
NOT IMPORTANT (NET).....	8

Q10. If you knew that a candidate for Congress supported a bipartisan agreement to address the national debt that included both spending cuts and tax increases, would that make you more likely to vote for that candidate, less likely to vote for that candidate, or would it make no difference in your vote? [IF MORE/LESS LIKELY] Would that be much [MORE/LESS] likely or just somewhat [MORE/LESS] likely?

Much more likely.....	25%
Somewhat more likely	28
Somewhat less likely	8
Much less likely	7
Make no difference.....	29
Don't know/Refused	3
MORE LIKELY (NET).....	53%
LESS LIKELY (NET).....	15

Q11. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. [IF AGREE/DISAGREE] Do you feel that way strongly or just somewhat?

	AGREE		DISAGREE		DK/Ref.	TOTAL	
	Strong	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strong		AGREE	DISAGREE
• [FORM A] I would like to see Republicans and Democrats work together to solve our long-term fiscal and economic problems.....	89%	8	2	*	1	96%	3
• [FORM B] Politicians care more about getting re-elected than about doing what is in the best interest of the American people.....	71%	22	5	1	1	93%	7
• [FORM A] Partisan gridlock is a serious problem in Washington.....	69%	18	5	2	6	87%	8
• [FORM B] To solve our long-term debt problem, Republicans will have to agree to some tax increases and Democrats will have to agree to some spending cuts.....	58%	29	6	6	1	87%	11

Q12. Thinking now about what you can do...Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the national debt. [IF AGREE/DISAGREE] Do you feel that way strongly or just somewhat?

	AGREE		DISAGREE		DK/Ref.	TOTAL	
	Strong	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strong		AGREE	DISAGREE
• [FORM B] I am willing to do my part to reduce the national debt, as long as other people also do their part to reduce the national debt.....	67%	24	4	4	2	91%	7
• [FORM B] Reducing the national debt will require a shared sacrifice by all Americans.....	66%	22	6	6	1	88%	12
• [FORM A] We each have a responsibility to do our part to reduce the national debt.....	55%	30	5	8	2	85%	13
• [FORM A] I am willing to do my part to reduce the national debt.....	54%	35	3	6	2	89%	9

Q13. Now I'd like to read you a list of some people and groups. For each, I'd like you to tell me how much you believe that person or group should be asked to contribute when it comes to addressing the national debt. [READ ITEM] Should [READ ITEM] be asked to contribute a great deal, some, a little or not at all to addressing the national debt?

	MAJOR/SOME		LITTLE/NONE		DK/Ref	TOTAL	
	A great deal	Some	Not that much	Not at all		MAJOR/SOME	LITTLE/NONE
• [FORM B] The wealthiest 10 percent.....	56%	37	3	3	1	93%	6
• [FORM A] The wealthiest 1 percent.....	54%	36	4	3	2	90%	8
• Corporations.....	54%	38	3	3	2	92%	6
• [FORM A] You.....	9%	62	17	11	1	71%	28
• [FORM B] People who earn about what you do.....	7%	63	17	11	1	70%	28
• The middle class.....	7%	67	18	6	1	74%	24
• [FORM B] The non-working poor.....	4%	27	28	40	1	31%	68
• [FORM A] The working poor.....	3%	32	35	28	1	36%	63
• Seniors.....	3%	34	32	29	2	37%	61

Q14. Changing topics...How comfortable are you with the amount of taxes that you currently pay?

Very comfortable.....	21%
Somewhat comfortable.....	50
Not that comfortable.....	17
Not comfortable at all.....	11
Don't know/Refused.....	1
COMFORTABLE (NET).....	71%
NOT COMFORTABLE (NET).....	28

As you may know, in order to reduce our national debt burden, we will need to cut spending, raise taxes or do some combination of the two. Here are some things individuals said they would be willing to do to do their part to help reduce the national debt burden. For each, please tell me if this is something you personally would be willing to do.

Q15. [FORM A] Would you be willing to pay up to 1% more of your income in taxes to help reduce our national debt burden?

Yes.....	66%
No.....	32
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	2

Q16. [FORM B] Would you be willing to pay up to 1% more of your income in taxes to help protect Social Security and Medicare?

Yes.....	76%
No.....	22
Don't know/Refused.....	2

Q17. [FORM A] Would you be willing to give up 1% of your future Social Security benefits to help reduce our national debt burden?

Yes.....	45%
No.....	52
Don't know/Refused.....	2

Q18. [FORM B] Would you be willing to give up 1% of your future Social Security benefits so that Social Security is stronger and available for future generations?

Yes.....	66%
No.....	31
Don't know/Refused.....	3

Q19. Here is a list of proposals that could be part of a comprehensive plan to help reduce our national debt burden. Please tell me whether you approve or disapprove of each of the following proposals. **[IF APPROVE/DISAPPROVE]** Do you feel that way strongly or just somewhat?

	APPROVE		DISAPPROVE		DK/Ref.	TOTAL	
	Strong	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strong		APPROVE	DISAPPROVE
• [FORM B] Close tax loopholes for corporations.....	65%	20	6	8	2	85%	14
• [FORM B] Increase taxes on the wealthiest Americans.....	57%	21	9	12	2	77%	21
• [FORM A] Increase taxes on higher income Americans.....	51%	24	9	14	1	76%	23
• Provide smaller, but more accurate cost of living adjustments for Social Security benefits each year.....	35%	41	10	12	3	76%	21
• [FORM B] Eliminate tax deductions for interest paid on home mortgages that are greater than 500 thousand dollars.....	31%	26	18	22	2	57%	40
• [FORM A] Reduce eligibility for assistance programs like unemployment, welfare and food stamps.....	28%	28	19	24	1	56%	43
• Reduce military personnel by 10%.....	21%	23	16	37	3	44%	53
• [FORM A] Increasing taxes on all Americans.....	15%	35	20	29	1	50%	49
• [FORM B] Reduce spending in areas like education, transportation and research.....	14%	18	19	47	1	32%	66
• [FORM A] Eliminate tax deductions for interest paid on home mortgages.....	12%	28	25	30	5	40%	55

Q20. Now I'd like to read you a list of some other proposals that could be part of a comprehensive plan to help reduce our national debt burden. These proposals will only affect people that are currently under the age of 55. Again, please tell me whether you approve or disapprove of each of the following proposals. **[IF APPROVE/DISAPPROVE]** Do you feel that way strongly or just somewhat?

	APPROVE		DISAPPROVE		DK/Ref.	TOTAL	
	Strong	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strong		APPROVE	DISAPPROVE
• [FORM B] Make more of high-earners' income subject to the Social Security payroll tax.....	39%	34	13	10	4	73%	22
• [FORM A] Reduce Social Security benefits for seniors with higher incomes.....	32%	33	15	18	1	65%	34
• Gradually raise the age at which people can begin receiving Social Security benefits.....	22%	24	16	37	2	46%	52

Q21. Thinking more about taxes, please tell me if you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. [IF AGREE/DISAGREE] Do you feel that way strongly or just somewhat?

	AGREE		DISAGREE		DK/Ref.	TOTAL	
	Strong	Somewhat	Somewhat	Strong		AGREE	DISAGREE
• [FORM A] The current tax system is unfair and too complex and needs to be reformed.	64%	25	5	3	2	90%	9
• [FORM B] Everyone should be required to pay at least some income taxes.	59%	21	10	10	1	79%	20
• [FORM B] Americans making more than 1 million dollars should pay more in taxes to help reduce the national debt.	57%	21	8	13	1	77%	22
• [FORM A] Too many people don't pay any income tax at all.	50%	21	11	9	9	71%	20
• [FORM A] Americans making more than 250 thousand dollars should pay more in taxes to help reduce the national debt.	46%	24	11	18	1	70%	29
• [FORM B] The current tax system does not do enough to bring in revenues.	36%	29	15	15	6	65%	30

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
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	4
Some college	21
Graduate college	35
Graduate professional	13
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	8%
Somewhat liberal	20
Moderate	25
Somewhat conservative	27
Very Conservative	16
VOL: (Refused)	5
LIBERAL (NET)	28%
CONSERVATIVE (NET)	42

Q22. 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	22
Somewhat unfavorable	14
Strongly unfavorable	24
Heard of, but can't rate	14
Haven't heard of	10
Don't Know/Refused	4
FAVORABLE (NET)	34%
UNFAVORABLE (NET)	38
FAMILIAR (NET)	72

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	37%
Lower middle class	11
Middle class	36
Upper middle class	9
Affluent	4
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? **[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	2
Other (SPECIFY).....	2
VOL: (Refused).....	2

Gender [BY OBSERVATION]

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

Region [FROM SAMPLE]

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