

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 24%
Weak Democrat 13
Independent / Closer to the Democrats 6
Independent 13
Independent / Closer to the Republicans 5
Weak Republican 12
Strong Republican 26

DEMOCRAT (NET) 38%
INDEPENDENT (NET) 25
REPUBLICAN (NET) 38

DEMOCRAT W/ LEANERS (NET) 44%
REPUBLICAN W/ LEANERS (NET) 43

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>Aug 25</u>	<u>July 25</u>	<u>June 25</u>	<u>May 25</u>	<u>Apr 25</u>	<u>Mar 25</u>	<u>Feb 25</u>	<u>Jan 25</u>	<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Nov 24</u>	<u>Oct 24</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>
Strongly agree	54%	56%	52%	51%	51%	53%	51%	49%	56%	54%	57%	55%
Somewhat agree	21	24	24	25	24	24	24	25	22	25	23	22
Somewhat disagree.....	13	11	11	12	13	11	14	13	12	11	11	14
Strongly disagree	5	4	6	5	6	6	7	5	5	5	4	5
Don't know/Refused	7	5	6	6	6	6	5	8	5	5	4	4
AGREE (NET)	75%	80	76	76	75	77	74	74	78	79	80	77
DISAGREE (NET)	18	15	17	17	19	17	21	18	17	16	16	18

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.....	47%	50%	50%	50%	49%	48%	50%	49%	52%	50%	50%	54%
Increased a little	33	30	31	27	27	28	28	30	26	30	29	28
Decreased a little.....	5	5	4	5	6	6	6	5	5	4	5	6
Decreased a lot	3	2	2	3	2	2	3	1	3	3	2	2
No change	9	9	9	11	11	12	10	10	9	10	11	7
Don't know/Refused	4	4	4	5	5	5	4	5	4	3	3	3
INCREASED (NET).....	79%	80	81	77	77	76	78	78	78	80	80	82
DECREASED (NET)	8	7	6	8	8	8	9	7	9	7	7	8

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.....	13%	12%	14%	14%	16%	18%	18%	17%	17%	18%	12%	9%
Somewhat better	21	20	21	24	22	25	27	26	24	28	26	26
Somewhat worse	23	27	26	23	23	19	20	22	24	20	30	29
Much worse	36	34	33	33	32	30	29	27	27	29	23	28
No change	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	3	1	3	3
Don't know/Refused	5	4	5	4	5	6	6	6	5	4	5	5
BETTER (NET).....	34%	32	36	38	38	43	44	43	42	46	38	35
WORSE (NET)	59	61	58	56	55	49	49	49	50	49	54	57

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	18%	16%	18%	18%	21%	23%	22%	18%	12%	14%	12%	10%
Right direction - Somewhat...	21	20	21	22	20	23	25	25	23	22	22	21
Wrong track - Somewhat	20	19	21	19	18	16	18	20	26	25	24	24
Wrong track - Strongly	37	40	37	38	36	33	31	28	33	34	37	42
Neither/Mixed.....	1	1	*	*	1	*	*	1	1	1	1	1
Don't know/Refused	4	4	4	4	5	5	4	7	5	4	4	3
RIGHT DIRECTION (NET) ...	39%	36	38	40	41	46	48	43	35	36	34	31
WRONG TRACK (NET)	57	59	58	56	54	49	48	49	59	59	61	66

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	48%	51%	51%	47%	49%	47%	49%	51%	53%	53%	52%	54%
A little more time	31	31	30	30	27	30	30	29	26	29	30	31
A little less time	7	6	7	7	8	7	7	6	7	6	6	6
A lot less time	4	4	5	6	6	6	7	4	5	4	5	3
The same amount of time	5	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	3	4	2
Don't know/Refused	5	5	5	6	7	6	5	8	6	5	4	4
 MORE TIME (NET)	 79%	 82	 80	 77	 76	 77	 78	 79	 79	 82	 82	 85
LESS TIME (NET)	11	9	12	13	13	13	13	9	12	10	10	9

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	11%	10%	12%	11%	13%	16%	15%	14%	13%	13%	10%	9%
Somewhat optimistic	34	32	33	34	33	35	37	37	35	40	41	40
Somewhat pessimistic	26	29	26	28	25	23	24	25	29	24	28	31
Very pessimistic	24	24	23	22	22	19	18	17	15	17	15	15
Neither/Mixed	2	1	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	4	2
Don't know/Refused	3	3	4	4	4	5	3	5	4	3	3	4
 OPTIMISTIC (NET)	 45%	 42	 45	 45	 46	 51	 52	 50	 49	 53	 51	 49
PESSIMISTIC (NET)	50	53	49	49	47	42	42	42	45	41	43	46

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

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

Did not complete high school 2%
 Graduated high school 24
 Attended technical/vocational school 3
 Attended some college but no degree 20
 Graduated two-year college with Associate's degree 13
 Graduated four-year college with Bachelor's degree 24
 Obtained Master's, PhD, or other professional degree (MD, DMD, etc.) 12

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	10
Asian-American	2
Native American	1
Other	*

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

Very liberal.....	14%
Somewhat liberal	16
Moderate	37
Somewhat conservative	18
Very conservative	16
LIBERAL (NET)	30%
CONSERVATIVE (NET).....	33

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

Working class	28%
Lower middle class	21
Middle class	37
Upper middle class	10
Affluent	1
I'm not sure	3

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