

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, an 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 27%
Weak Democrat 11
Independent / Closer to the Democrats 6
Independent 13
Independent / Closer to the Republicans 5
Weak Republican 13
Strong Republican 25

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>Dec 25</u>	<u>Nov 25</u>	<u>Oct 25</u>	<u>Sep 25</u>	<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>
Strongly agree	55%	52%	54%	53%	54%	56%	52%	51%	51%	53%	51%	49%
Somewhat agree	24	27	23	24	21	24	24	25	24	24	24	25
Somewhat disagree.....	12	12	13	13	13	11	11	12	13	11	14	13
Strongly disagree	4	5	5	5	5	4	6	5	6	6	7	5
Don't know/Refused	5	5	5	5	7	5	6	6	6	6	5	8
AGREE (NET)	79%	79	77	77	75	80	76	76	75	77	74	74
DISAGREE (NET)	16	17	18	18	18	15	17	17	19	17	21	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?

	<u>Dec 25</u>	<u>Nov 25</u>	<u>Oct 25</u>	<u>Sep 25</u>	<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>
Increased a lot.....	50%	48%	49%	50%	47%	50%	50%	50%	49%	48%	50%	49%
Increased a little	27	31	30	31	33	30	31	27	27	28	28	30
Decreased a little.....	7	6	6	5	5	5	4	5	6	6	6	5
Decreased a lot	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	3	1
No change	9	8	8	7	9	9	9	11	11	12	10	10
Don't know/Refused	3	4	5	3	4	4	4	5	5	5	4	5
INCREASED (NET).....	77%	78	79	81	79	80	81	77	77	76	78	78
DECREASED (NET)	11	9	8	8	8	7	6	8	8	8	9	7

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?

	<u>Dec 25</u>	<u>Nov 25</u>	<u>Oct 25</u>	<u>Sep 25</u>	<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>
Much better.....	13%	14%	13%	11%	13%	12%	14%	14%	16%	18%	18%	17%
Somewhat better	24	23	18	21	21	20	21	24	22	25	27	26
Somewhat worse	25	24	24	27	23	27	26	23	23	19	20	22
Much worse	33	34	38	36	36	34	33	33	32	30	29	27
No change	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
Don't know/Refused	4	3	5	3	5	4	5	4	5	6	6	6
BETTER (NET).....	37%	37	31	31	34	32	36	38	38	43	44	43
WORSE (NET)	58	58	62	63	59	61	58	56	55	49	49	49

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	17%	18%	16%	15%	18%	16%	18%	18%	21%	23%	22%	18%
Right direction - Somewhat...	24	21	21	20	21	20	21	22	20	23	25	25
Wrong track - Somewhat	17	21	17	19	20	19	21	19	18	16	18	20
Wrong track - Strongly	38	37	42	41	37	40	37	38	36	33	31	28
Neither/Mixed.....	*	1	1	1	1	1	*	*	1	*	*	1
Don't know/Refused	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	5	5	4	7
RIGHT DIRECTION (NET) ...	41%	39	36	36	39	36	38	40	41	46	48	43
WRONG TRACK (NET)	55	58	59	60	57	59	58	56	54	49	48	49

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	50%	49%	51%	52%	48%	51%	51%	47%	49%	47%	49%	51%
A little more time	32	33	30	29	31	31	30	30	27	30	30	29
A little less time	6	5	8	8	7	6	7	7	8	7	7	6
A lot less time	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	6	6	6	7	4
The same amount of time	3	3	2	3	5	3	3	4	3	4	3	3
Don't know/Refused	5	4	5	4	5	5	5	6	7	6	5	8
 MORE TIME (NET)	 82%	 82	 81	 81	 79	 82	 80	 77	 76	 77	 78	 79
LESS TIME (NET)	9	10	12	12	11	9	12	13	13	13	13	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	10%	12%	9%	10%	11%	10%	12%	11%	13%	16%	15%	14%
Somewhat optimistic	36	34	34	32	34	32	33	34	33	35	37	37
Somewhat pessimistic	26	26	26	29	26	29	26	28	25	23	24	25
Very pessimistic	22	22	24	23	24	24	23	22	22	19	18	17
Neither/Mixed	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	2	2	2	3	2
Don't know/Refused	3	4	4	3	3	3	4	4	4	5	3	5
 OPTIMISTIC (NET)	 47%	 45	 43	 43	 45	 42	 45	 45	 46	 51	 52	 50
PESSIMISTIC (NET)	48	49	50	52	50	53	49	49	47	42	42	42

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 23
 Attended technical/vocational school 4
 Attended some college but no degree 21
 Graduated two-year college with Associate's degree 12
 Graduated four-year college with Bachelor's degree 25
 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	74
Hispanic/Latino	10
Asian-American	2
Native American	1
Other	1

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

Very liberal	15%
Somewhat liberal	16
Moderate	36
Somewhat conservative	18
Very conservative	15
LIBERAL (NET)	30%
CONSERVATIVE (NET)	33

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

Working class	26%
Lower middle class	22
Middle class	39
Upper middle class	11
Affluent	*
I'm not sure	2

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