

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. 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? [IF INDEPENDENT/DON'T KNOW/REFUSED] Do you think of yourself as closer to the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?	Strong Democrat 22% Weak Democrat 12 Independent / Closer to the Democrats 10 Independent 14 Independent / Closer to the Republicans 11 Weak Republican 9 Strong Republican 20 VOL: (Don't Know/Refused) 2 DEMOCRAT (NET) 34% INDEPENDENT (NET) 38 REPUBLICAN (NET) 29 DEMOCRAT W/ LEANERS (NET) 44% REPUBLICAN W/ LEANERS (NET) 40
Q1A. [FORM A] When it comes to our national economy, are you optimistic or pessimistic that the next few years will be a period of significant growth for the American economy?	Very optimistic 14% Somewhat optimistic 32 Somewhat pessimistic 21 Very pessimistic 26 VOL: (Neither/Mixed) 5 VOL: (Don't know/Refused) 3 OPTIMISTIC (NET) 46% PESSIMISTIC (NET) 46
Q1B. [FORM B] If the government were able to come up with a plan that addresses the national debt, would you be optimistic or pessimistic that the next few years will be a period of significant growth for the American economy?	Very optimistic 18% Somewhat optimistic 38 Somewhat pessimistic 16 Very pessimistic 15 VOL: (Neither/Mixed) 6 VOL: (Don't know/Refused) 7 OPTIMISTIC (NET) 56% PESSIMISTIC (NET) 31
Q2. And given the current level of the national debt, do you think that the American economy...	Will grow significantly given the current level of the national debt 8% Will grow some, but not significantly, given the current level of the national debt 54 Will not grow at all given the current level of the national debt 18 Will shrink given the current level of the national debt 15 VOL: (Don't know/Refused) 4 WILL GROW (NET) 63% WILL NOT GROW (NET) 34

Thinking more about the national debt... Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

	AGREE		DISAGREE		(DK/Ref.)	NET	
	<u>Strong</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Strong</u>		<u>AGREE</u>	<u>DISAGREE</u>
• The American government has to make choices about how to save money and plan for the future, just like American families do.....	76%	17	3	3	1	93%	6
• The national debt is a threat to the prosperity of future generations of Americans.....	68%	17	7	7	1	84%	14
• We will have a more vibrant future economy if we address our long-term fiscal challenges now.....	66%	25	4	3	2	91%	7
• A stable fiscal foundation will help the economy grow.....	63%	28	2	3	3	91%	5
• The current level of the national debt makes our economy less stable.....	62%	21	7	7	2	83%	14
• There will be more opportunities for everyday Americans to be successful if the economy is less burdened by the national debt.....	59%	24	7	7	3	83%	14
• A stable fiscal foundation will make it easier for Americans to get loans to buy a home, pay for college, or start a business.....	55%	27	7	7	4	82%	15
• A more stable fiscal foundation will lead to be a more stable and secure middle class.....	55%	31	6	5	3	86%	11
• Because of the national debt, the United States will have less money to spend on areas like education, research, and infrastructure.....	55%	20	9	13	3	75%	22
• I support the government making the necessary choices now to reduce the national debt so that the economy will be stronger in the long run.....	50%	27	8	10	5	77%	17

Thinking more about the national debt... Now I am going to read you a list of things that some people have said could happen as a result of reducing the national debt. For each item on this list, please tell me how likely you think it is to happen if we reduce the national debt. Here's the first one....

	LIKELY		NOT LIKELY		(DK/Ref.)	NET	
	<u>Very</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not that</u>	<u>Not at all</u>		<u>LIKELY</u>	<u>NOT LIKELY</u>
• Consumers will have more confidence in the economy.....	56%	32	5	5	2	88%	9
• The United States will be better prepared to deal with the next economic or financial crisis.....	53%	32	7	6	2	86%	12
• The United States will be more competitive in the global economy.....	53%	31	8	6	2	84%	14
• Americans' retirements will be more secure.....	46%	32	10	8	3	78%	19
• It will be easier for American businesses to start up and grow.....	44%	39	8	5	3	83%	14
• Economic mobility and opportunity will be more attainable for everyday Americans.....	44%	37	10	7	2	80%	17

Thinking again about things that could happen as a result of reducing the national debt... I am now going to read another list of things that some people say could happen, and for each, please tell me how important it is that we reduce the national debt in order to do it. Here's the first one....

	IMPORTANT			NOT IMPORTANT		(DK/Ref.)	NET	
	<u>Extremely</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Somewhat</u>	<u>Not that</u>	<u>Not at all</u>		<u>IMPORTANT</u>	<u>NOT IMPORTANT</u>
• Create more better paying jobs with incomes that keep up with the cost of living.....	35%	37	16	5	6	1	72%	11
• Keep tax rates low so the United States is competitive with the rest of the world.....	31%	38	19	5	5	2	69%	10
• Create more opportunities in the economy for everyday Americans to work their way up.....	31%	39	18	6	5	2	70%	10
• Keep the United States competitive in math, science, and technology.....	29%	38	18	6	7	2	67%	13
• [FORM B] Increase companies' confidence in the economy so they make more investments and hire new workers....	29%	41	19	4	5	2	70%	10
• Create a more highly educated and better trained American workforce.....	28%	39	18	6	6	2	68%	13
• [FORM A] Enable more small businesses to get loans that they need to start up and grow.....	26%	37	25	6	5	1	63%	11
• Maintain the safety net for vulnerable populations.....	21%	35	27	5	6	5	56%	11
• Help maintain high quality transportation and infrastructure.....	19%	38	28	8	5	3	57%	13

I am now going to read you a list of people and groups that could benefit from a plan to reduce the national debt. For each, please tell me whether you think that reducing the national debt will benefit them a great deal, some, not that much, or not at all.

	WILL BENEFIT		WILL NOT BENEFIT		(DK/Ref.)	NET	
	<u>A great deal</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not that much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>		<u>WILL BENEFIT</u>	<u>WILL NOT BENEFIT</u>
• [FORM B] Future generations.....	67%	22	4	5	2	89%	9
• [FORM A] The national economy.....	55%	30	9	4	2	85%	13
• [FORM A] Younger Americans.....	55%	27	9	7	1	82%	16
• [FORM B] American workers.....	50%	34	8	6	2	84%	14
• [FORM B] American industry.....	50%	36	7	5	2	86%	12
• [FORM A] Small businesses.....	48%	35	10	5	2	83%	15
• [FORM A] The middle class.....	46%	36	11	6	1	82%	17
• [FORM B] Entrepreneurs.....	46%	33	9	9	4	78%	18
• [FORM A] Unemployed Americans.....	43%	30	13	12	2	73%	25
• [FORM B] Retired Americans.....	42%	31	15	9	2	74%	24
• [FORM B] Average Americans.....	42%	40	10	6	2	82%	17
• [FORM B] Lower-income Americans.....	40%	30	13	14	3	70%	27
• [FORM A] Seniors.....	39%	34	14	12	1	73%	26
• [FORM A] Large businesses.....	31%	37	16	14	2	68%	30

Q34. 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.....	29%
Very important	35
Somewhat important.....	22
Not that important.....	6
Not important at all	6
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	1
IMPORTANT (NET).....	86%
NOT IMPORTANT (NET)	12

Q35. 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? **[FOLLOW UP]** Would that be much **[MORE/LESS]** likely or just somewhat **[MORE/LESS]** likely?

Much more likely.....	24%
Somewhat more likely	21
Somewhat less likely	9
Much less likely	15
Make no difference.....	24
VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	7
MORE LIKELY (NET).....	45%
LESS LIKELY (NET).....	24

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	23
45-54	19
55-64	18
65+.....	21
VOL: (Refused).....	2

D102. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

Some grade school.....	-
Some high school.....	5
Graduated high school	22
Technical/Vocational	3
Some college.....	22
Graduate college	29
Graduate professional	18
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.....	9%
Somewhat liberal.....	16
Moderate	29
Somewhat conservative	22
Very conservative	20
VOL: (Refused).....	5
LIBERAL (NET)	25%
CONSERVATIVE (NET).....	41

Q36. 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.....	16
Strongly unfavorable.....	28
VOL: (Heard of, but can't rate).....	12
Haven't heard of	4
VOL: (Don't Know/Refused)	6
FAVORABLE (NET)	34%
UNFAVORABLE (NET).....	44
FAMILIAR (NET)	78

D170. Thinking of your socio-economic status, would you describe yourself as working class, middle class, or as affluent?

Working class	31%
Lower middle class.....	12
Middle class.....	40
Upper middle class.....	9
Affluent	5
VOL: (Don't Know/Refused)	4

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	13%
White/Caucasian	74
Hispanic/Latino	8
Asian-American	1
Other (SPECIFY).....	1
VOL: (Refused).....	3

Region [FROM SAMPLE]

Northeast	18%
Midwest	24
South	37
West	21

Gender [BY OBSERVATION]

Male.....	47%
Female.....	53