

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	28%
Weak Democrat	12
Independent / Closer to the Democrats	7
Independent	12
Independent / Closer to the Republicans	4
Weak Republican	10
Strong Republican	27
DEMOCRAT (NET)	40%
INDEPENDENT (NET)	23
REPUBLICAN (NET)	38
DEMOCRAT W/ LEANERS (NET)	46%
REPUBLICAN W/ LEANERS (NET)	42

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>Nov 24</u>	<u>Oct 24</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>	<u>Aug 24</u>	<u>Jul 24</u>	<u>Jun 24</u>	<u>May 24</u>	<u>Apr 24</u>	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Feb 24</u>	<u>Jan 24</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>
Strongly agree	54%	57%	55%	53%	50%	51%	54%	53%	54%	52%	53%	51%
Somewhat agree	25	23	22	22	24	25	24	24	24	26	25	25
Somewhat disagree	11	11	14	13	16	14	15	15	13	12	13	14
Strongly disagree	5	4	5	5	5	5	4	3	4	4	3	4
Don't know/Refused	5	4	4	6	6	5	4	5	5	6	5	6
AGREE (NET)	79%	80	77	76	74	76	77	77	78	77	79	77
DISAGREE (NET)	16	16	18	18	20	19	19	18	17	17	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	50%	50%	54%	50%	52%	49%	52%	50%	53%	50%	51%	51%
Increased a little	30	29	28	27	27	29	30	30	29	28	29	28
Decreased a little	4	5	6	5	5	6	3	5	4	5	5	5
Decreased a lot	3	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	2	2
No change	10	11	7	11	10	10	9	8	9	11	9	10
Don't know/Refused	3	3	3	5	4	3	3	4	2	3	4	4
INCREASED (NET)	80%	80	82	77	79	78	82	80	83	79	80	79
DECREASED (NET)	7	7	8	7	7	9	5	8	6	7	7	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?

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Much better	18%	12%	9%	11%	9%	7%	6%	8%	7%	9%	8%	8%
Somewhat better	28	26	26	25	25	21	19	20	19	15	20	18
Somewhat worse	20	30	29	27	31	31	32	30	34	34	32	30
Much worse.....	29	23	28	27	25	34	35	35	33	34	33	34
No change.....	1	3	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	2	3
Don't know/Refused.....	4	5	5	8	8	5	5	5	4	5	5	6
BETTER (NET)	46%	38	35	36	33	28	25	28	25	24	28	26
WORSE (NET).....	49	54	57	54	56	65	67	65	67	67	65	64

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....	14%	12%	10%	11%	9%	7%	7%	9%	8%	12%	8%	9%
Right direction - Somewhat	22	22	21	20	20	19	19	19	18	16	19	18
Wrong track - Somewhat ...	25	24	24	25	28	27	25	26	26	24	25	26
Wrong track - Strongly	34	37	42	39	37	43	45	42	44	43	41	41
Neither/Mixed.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Don't know/Refused.....	4	4	3	4	5	3	3	3	4	4	5	4
RIGHT DIRECTION (NET)	36%	34	31	30	29	26	26	28	26	28	28	27
WRONG TRACK (NET).....	59	61	66	65	65	71	70	68	69	68	67	67

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	53%	52%	54%	51%	47%	54%	54%	52%	52%	51%	53%	50%
A little more time	29	30	31	29	36	29	30	31	32	31	29	29
A little less time	6	6	6	7	6	6	5	5	5	6	5	6
A lot less time.....	4	5	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5
The same amount of time ..	3	4	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	4
Don't know/Refused.....	5	4	4	7	5	5	4	4	5	5	6	6
MORE TIME (NET)	82%	82	85	80	83	83	84	84	83	82	82	79
LESS TIME (NET).....	10	10	9	10	9	10	9	9	9	10	9	11

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	13%	10%	9%	9%	7%	7%	4%	8%	6%	9%	7%	7%
Somewhat optimistic	40	41	40	38	41	32	34	31	32	29	35	31
Somewhat pessimistic.....	24	28	31	29	34	36	37	34	35	34	33	36
Very pessimistic.....	17	15	15	15	12	20	19	22	20	22	19	17
Neither/Mixed.....	2	4	2	3	3	1	2	2	3	3	2	4
Don't know/Refused	3	3	4	6	4	4	4	3	3	4	4	5
OPTIMISTIC (NET)	53%	51	49	47	47	39	38	39	39	38	42	39
PESSIMISTIC (NET).....	41	43	46	44	46	56	56	55	55	55	51	53

Next year, the incoming President and Congress will face key decisions about tax policy. Specifically, lawmakers will have to decide whether to extend a range of expiring tax cuts. If lawmakers simply extend these tax cuts without offsetting their cost, it would add approximately \$4.5 trillion to the national debt.

Q7. Do you support or oppose extending these tax cuts, even if it would add to the national debt?

Strongly support	14%
Somewhat support.....	32
Somewhat oppose.....	33
Strongly oppose.....	22
SUPPORT (NET).....	45%
OPPOSE (NET).....	55

Mainstream economists agree that the rising national debt can contribute to higher inflation, driving up the cost of goods and services across the economy.

Q8. Knowing that increasing the national debt could lead to higher inflation, do you support or oppose extending these tax cuts, even if it would add to the national debt?

Strongly support	11%
Somewhat support.....	24
Somewhat oppose.....	35
Strongly oppose.....	29
SUPPORT (NET).....	36%
OPPOSE (NET).....	64

Q9. As a new President and Congress take office next year, how important is it that they consider the impact of debt on increasing inflation as they debate extending tax cuts?

Very important	57%
Somewhat important.....	37
Not that important.....	6
Not at all important	1
IMPORTANT (NET).....	93%
NOT IMPORTANT (NET)	7

Q10. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:

If lawmakers choose to extend some or all of the tax cuts, they should either cut spending or raise other revenue to ensure it does not add to the national debt.

Strongly agree	39%
Somewhat agree	48
Somewhat disagree.....	9
Strongly disagree.....	4
AGREE (NET)	87%
DISAGREE (NET)	13

Q11. Which of the following are you personally more concerned about?

Rising inflation	79%
Rising taxes.....	21

Economic experts also believe that increasing the national debt can lead to higher interest rates, which raises the cost of housing by making mortgages more expensive and increasing financing costs for homebuilders.

Q12. How concerned are you that adding to the national debt will increase the cost of housing?

Very concerned	38%
Somewhat concerned.....	46
Not that concerned.....	13
Not at all concerned.....	4
CONCERNED (NET).....	83%
NOT CONCERNED (NET)	17

Q13. As the new President and Congress take office next year, do you agree or disagree that they should begin to address the growing national debt during the first 100 days of the new administration?

Strongly agree	43%
Somewhat agree	44
Somewhat disagree	10
Strongly disagree.....	3
AGREE (NET)	87%
DISAGREE (NET)	13

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	5
Attended some college but no degree.....	22
Graduated two-year college with Associate's degree	11
Graduated four-year college with Bachelor's degree	26
Obtained Master's, PhD, or other professional degree (MD, DMD, etc.).....	10

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

Very liberal.....	13%
Somewhat liberal	17
Moderate	36
Somewhat conservative	17
Very conservative.....	16
LIBERAL (NET)	30%
CONSERVATIVE (NET).....	34

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

Working class	28%
Lower middle class.....	21
Middle class.....	39
Upper middle class.....	9
Affluent	1
I'm not sure.....	2

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	*
Other	1

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