



High Dissatisfaction with Washington

*** Complete Tables for Poll Appended ***

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Contact: Lee M. Miringoff
Barbara L. Carvalho
Mary E. Azzoli
Marist College
845.575.5050

This McClatchy-Marist Poll Reports:

According to this McClatchy-Marist Poll, many registered voters nationwide are not pleased with how President Barack Obama is handling the federal budget deficit. And, there's more bad news for the president. President Obama's job approval rating is stagnating, and his favorability rating isn't much better. Many voters also view the country as moving in the wrong direction. But, the dissatisfaction isn't being laid only at the gates of the White House. Most voters disapprove of the job both the Democrats and Republicans are doing in Congress.

"The approval ratings for the president and Congress continue to lag as voters grow increasingly dissatisfied with Washington politics," says Dr. Lee M. Miringoff, Director of the Marist College Institute for Public Opinion. "Voters are anxious to get things back on track, but the latest round of budget battles has been costly in the realm of public opinion."

Voters Low on Obama's Handling of Deficit

President Barack Obama wants to reduce the nation's deficit by four trillion dollars over a 12 year time frame. But, are registered voters nationally confident in the president's ability to do so?

According to this McClatchy-Marist Poll, 61% of registered voters nationally disapprove of how the president is handling the federal budget deficit. 34% approve, and only 5% are unsure.

Republicans are the most dissatisfied with how Mr. Obama is tackling the deficit. Most GOP voters -- 91% -- disapprove of his approach while just 5% approve. Among independent voters, more than two-thirds -- 68% -- are unhappy with how the president is addressing the issue compared with 28% who approve. And, while 64% of the president's own party approve of how Mr. Obama is dealing with the deficit, a significant 30% of Democrats would prefer he take on the issue in a different way.

President Obama laid out his plan to deal with the budget deficit last Wednesday. And, while there was a slight bounce in those who approve of how the president is handling the

federal deficit after his speech, voters remain pessimistic. Prior to the president's address at George Washington University, 31% approved of how he is dealing with the deficit compared with 38% who report the same after he outlined his plan.

When it comes to Mr. Obama's overall job performance, voters remain tepid. Currently, 44% of registered voters approve of how the president is doing in office compared with 49% who disapprove. Six percent are unsure.

In McClatchy-Marist's January survey, 48% of registered voters thought the president was doing well in office while 43% believed he missed the mark. Nine percent, at the time, were unsure.

Since that previous survey, there has been an increase in the proportion of independent voters who *disapprove* of the president's job performance. Currently, a slim majority -- 51% -- have this view compared with 44% in January.

There has been little change among Republicans. 87% now disapprove of the president's job performance while 83% did the same in January.

And, while most Democrats -- 77% -- approve of the president's job performance, there has been a slight decrease in the proportion who believe this to be the case. Three months ago, 84% of Democrats applauded the president.

Dip in Obama's Favorability

Voters nationally divide about how much they like President Obama. 48% think well of him while the same proportion -- 48% -- view him unfavorably. Only 5% are unsure.

When McClatchy-Marist last reported this question in January, a majority -- 53% -- rated Obama favorably while 40% had an unfavorable impression of him. Eight percent, at that time, were unsure.

Independents make the difference on this question. Currently, half -- 50% -- have a less than stellar impression of Mr. Obama while 45% perceive him positively. In January, 42% had an unfavorable impression of the president while a majority -- 53% -- had a favorable one.

Direction of Nation Takes Sharp Turn for the Worse

64% of Americans currently think the nation is moving in the wrong direction while just 31% believe it is moving in the right direction. Five percent are unsure. The proportion of voters who perceive the nation as moving in the wrong direction is the largest since November 2007. At that time, 67% shared this view while 23% thought the country was on track. 10% were unsure.

When McClatchy-Marist last reported this question in January, 47% thought the nation was on the wrong path while 41% said it was on the right one. 12% were unsure.

Americans' increased pessimism crosses party lines. The largest change has occurred among Democrats. 44% currently think the nation is moving in the wrong direction compared with 23% in January. About two-thirds of independents -- 67% -- now share this

view while 51% previously said the same. Most members of the GOP -- 82% -- report the nation needs to have its course redirected while 72% thought that way in January.

Perceptions of the nation's status inched up following President Obama's April 13th speech. Prior to his address, 29% reported the country was on the right path compared with 34% following his speech.

Congressional Democrats and Republicans in Voters' Doghouse

Both Democrats and Republicans in Congress need to step up their game in the eyes of voters. More than six in ten registered voters -- 63% -- disapprove of the job Republicans in Congress are doing. Three in ten -- 30% -- approve, and 7% are unsure.

While it's not surprising that most Democrats -- 81% -- are dissatisfied with the job of Congressional Republicans, a notable 36% of Republicans are unhappy with how members of their own party are doing on Capitol Hill. About two-thirds of independent voters -- 67% -- disapprove of Congressional Republicans' job performance.

It's a similar story for Congressional Democrats. 60% of voters nationally disapprove of the job Democrats in Congress are doing while 34% approve. Only 6% are unsure.

Here, most Republicans -- 91% -- disapprove of how Democratic members of Congress are carrying out their responsibilities. A notable 33% of Democrats and more than six in ten independent voters -- 62% -- share this view.

Reducing Deficit Should Be Top Priority of Congress, Say Voters

Voters want the deficit to be Congress' main priority. Nearly six in ten voters -- 57% -- believe Congress should focus on reducing the deficit. 27% report maintaining services and benefits should be the priority of Congress. 14% say cutting taxes should top their "to do" list, and just 2% are unsure.

Little has changed on this question since January. At that time, 53% thought slashing the deficit should be Congress' main concern while 23% believed their attention should be directed to maintaining services and benefits. Nearly one in five voters -- 19% -- wanted Congress to concentrate on cutting taxes. Five percent, at the time, were unsure.

Dealing with the Deficit: Voters Weigh the Options

Voters may want Congress to focus on the deficit, but there are certain tradeoffs American voters are and are not willing to make to deal with the federal budget deficit.

- Most voters -- 80% -- oppose cutting Medicare and Medicaid spending. While most Democrats -- 92% -- and three in four independent voters -- 75% -- are against slashing spending on these programs, even more than seven in ten Republicans -- 73% -- agree.
- About seven in ten registered voters nationally -- 69% -- oppose raising the federal debt ceiling to deal with the deficit. Republicans -- 79% -- and independent voters -- 74% -- are more opposed to this measure than are Democrats -- 53%.

- A majority of voters -- 54% -- are against reducing military spending to ease the nation's deficit. There is a partisan divide. 65% of Republicans oppose doing so while a majority of Democrats -- 53% -- support such a move. A majority of independents -- 53% -- are against cuts to military spending to reduce the federal deficit.
- However, nearly two-thirds of voters -- 64% -- support increasing taxes on the wealthiest Americans, those earning \$250,000 or more annually. Here too, partisan politics come into play. Democrats -- 83% -- and independents -- 63% -- are the most vocal in their support. A majority of Republicans -- 54% -- are opposed.

Budget Shutdown? It Depends on the Circumstances

President Obama and Congress may have reached a tentative budget deal to prevent a government shutdown, but the budget battle is not over. Looking ahead to the next round of budget talks, would registered voters support a government shutdown? 36% would not support such an action under any circumstances. 34% would favor a shutdown if it kept Democrats from increasing the budget deficit, and 23% would support a shutdown if it prevented Republicans from cutting Medicare and Medicaid spending. Seven percent are unsure.

Looking at party, a majority of Republicans -- 55% -- would favor a shutdown if it stopped Democrats from increasing the deficit. There is no consensus among Democrats. While 42% would favor a shutdown if it kept the Republicans from cutting Medicare and Medicaid spending, an additional 42% would not want a shutdown under any circumstances. Among independent voters, 39% say preventing an increase to the deficit would warrant a shutdown, while 38% would not support a shutdown under any circumstances. 16% report they would favor a shutdown if it kept Republicans from cutting Medicare and Medicaid spending.

How the Survey was Conducted

Nature of the Sample: National Poll of 1,274 Adults

This survey of 1,274 adults was conducted on April 10th through April 14th, 2011. Adults 18 years of age and older residing in the continental United States were interviewed by telephone. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout the nation. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each region was represented in proportion to its population. To increase coverage, this land-line sample was supplemented by respondents reached through random dialing of cell phone numbers. The two samples were then combined. Results are statistically significant within ± 3.0 percentage points. There are 1,084 registered voters. The results for this subset are statistically significant within ± 3.0 percentage points. There are 551 registered voters who completed the survey before President Obama's April 13th speech and 470 registered voters who completed the survey after his speech. The results for these subsets are statistically significant within ± 4.5 percentage points. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

Nature of the Sample: Adults

Nature of the Sample - National Adults		
		National Adults
		Col %
National Adults		100%
Registered Voters		80%
Region	Northeast	19%
	Midwest	22%
	South	37%
	West	22%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	51%
	\$50,000 or more	49%
Race	White	67%
	African American	10%
	Latino	11%
	Other	11%
Race	White	67%
	Non-white	33%
Age	Under 45	40%
	45 or older	60%
Generation	Millennials (18-30)	20%
	Gen X (31-46)	24%
	Baby Boomers (47-65)	37%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 65)	19%
Gender	Men	49%
	Women	51%
Interview Type	Landline	74%
	Cell Phone	26%

Marist Poll National Adults: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=1274 MOE +/- 3%.
 Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Nature of the Sample: Registered Voters

Nature of the Sample - Registered Voters		
		Registered Voters
		Col %
Registered Voters		100%
President Obama's April 13th Speech	Before	54%
	After	46%
Party ID	Democrat	35%
	Republican	27%
	Independent	36%
	Other	2%
Support Tea Party	Yes	28%
Political Ideology	Liberal	21%
	Moderate	39%
	Conservative	40%
Region	Northeast	20%
	Midwest	21%
	South	37%
	West	22%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	46%
	\$50,000 or more	54%
Race	White	70%
	African American	11%
	Latino	9%
	Other	10%
Race	White	70%
	Non-white	30%
Age	Under 45	34%
	45 or older	66%
Generation	Millennials (18-30)	14%
	Gen X (31-46)	24%
	Baby Boomers (47-65)	39%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 65)	22%
Gender	Men	50%
	Women	50%
Interview Type	Landline	79%
	Cell Phone	21%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=1084 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

President Obama's Handling of the Deficit

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Do you approve or disapprove of how President Barack Obama is handling the federal budget deficit?

		Registered Voters		
		Do you approve or disapprove of how President Barack Obama is handling the federal budget deficit?		
		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		34%	61%	5%
Party ID	Democrat	64%	30%	6%
	Republican	5%	91%	4%
	Independent	28%	68%	4%
Tea Party Supporters		14%	85%	1%
Political Ideology	Liberal	58%	38%	4%
	Moderate	39%	55%	5%
	Conservative	17%	80%	4%
President Obamas April 13th Speech	Before	31%	64%	5%
	After	38%	57%	5%
Region	Northeast	40%	54%	6%
	Midwest	30%	63%	7%
	South	33%	63%	4%
	West	34%	61%	4%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	37%	59%	4%
	\$50,000 or more	33%	63%	4%
Education	Not college graduate	33%	61%	6%
	College graduate	36%	60%	4%
Age	Under 45	37%	58%	5%
	45 or older	32%	63%	5%
Age	18 to 29	36%	59%	5%
	30 to 44	38%	57%	5%
	45 to 59	30%	66%	4%
	60 or older	35%	60%	5%
Generation	Millennials (18-30)	36%	59%	5%
	Gen X (31-46)	37%	58%	5%
	Baby Boomers (47-65)	30%	65%	4%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 65)	36%	59%	5%
Race	White	27%	68%	5%
	Non-white	52%	45%	3%
Gender	Men	33%	62%	4%
	Women	35%	59%	6%
Interview Type	Landline	32%	62%	6%
	Cell Phone	41%	57%	2%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=1084 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

President Obama Approval Rating

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as president?

		Registered Voters		
		Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as president?		
		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		44%	49%	6%
Party ID	Democrat	77%	18%	4%
	Republican	8%	87%	5%
	Independent	42%	51%	8%
Tea Party Supporters		16%	80%	3%
Political Ideology	Liberal	68%	24%	8%
	Moderate	55%	39%	5%
	Conservative	22%	73%	5%
President Obamas April 13th Speech	Before	45%	49%	6%
	After	44%	49%	7%
Region	Northeast	49%	44%	7%
	Midwest	44%	52%	4%
	South	41%	51%	8%
	West	46%	49%	5%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	42%	50%	8%
	\$50,000 or more	48%	48%	4%
Education	Not college graduate	41%	51%	8%
	College graduate	49%	47%	4%
Age	Under 45	53%	40%	7%
	45 or older	40%	54%	6%
Age	18 to 29	56%	35%	9%
	30 to 44	51%	43%	6%
	45 to 59	38%	55%	7%
	60 or older	42%	53%	5%
Generation	Millennials (18-30)	58%	34%	8%
	Gen X (31-46)	46%	48%	7%
	Baby Boomers (47-65)	39%	55%	6%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 65)	43%	52%	5%
Race	White	37%	57%	6%
	Non-white	62%	29%	8%
Gender	Men	46%	48%	6%
	Women	43%	50%	7%
Interview Type	Landline	41%	52%	7%
	Cell Phone	55%	40%	5%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=1084 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

President Obama Approval Rating Over Time

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as president?

	Registered Voters		
	Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as president?		
	Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
	Row%	Row %	Row%
April 2011	44%	49%	6%
January 2011	48%	43%	9%
December 2010	42%	50%	8%
November 23, 2010	45%	48%	7%
October 28, 2010	48%	43%	9%
October 8, 2010	43%	50%	7%
September 22, 2010	45%	50%	5%
June 30, 2010	44%	45%	11%
March 31, 2010	46%	43%	11%
February 8, 2010	44%	47%	9%
December 8, 2009	46%	44%	10%
October 14, 2009	53%	41%	6%
August 12, 2009	55%	35%	10%
June 8, 2009	56%	32%	12%
April 27, 2009	55%	31%	14%
April 8, 2009	56%	30%	14%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters

President Obama Favorability

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Overall, do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of Barack Obama?

		Registered Voters		
		Overall, do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of Barack Obama?		
		Favorable	Unfavorable	Unsure- Never Heard
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		48%	48%	5%
Party ID	Democrat	80%	16%	4%
	Republican	12%	86%	2%
	Independent	45%	50%	5%
Tea Party Supporters		18%	76%	5%
Political Ideology	Liberal	72%	22%	6%
	Moderate	58%	38%	4%
	Conservative	25%	72%	3%
President Obamas April 13th Speech	Before	47%	48%	5%
	After	48%	48%	4%
Region	Northeast	52%	42%	6%
	Midwest	47%	51%	2%
	South	44%	50%	6%
	West	49%	47%	4%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	47%	47%	7%
	\$50,000 or more	49%	49%	2%
Education	Not college graduate	45%	50%	5%
	College graduate	52%	44%	3%
Age	Under 45	55%	40%	5%
	45 or older	44%	52%	4%
Age	18 to 29	57%	34%	9%
	30 to 44	54%	44%	3%
	45 to 59	43%	53%	4%
	60 or older	45%	51%	4%
Generation	Millennials (18-30)	60%	32%	8%
	Gen X (31-46)	49%	48%	3%
	Baby Boomers (47-65)	44%	53%	3%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 65)	46%	50%	4%
Race	White	40%	56%	4%
	Non-white	65%	29%	6%
Gender	Men	47%	48%	5%
	Women	48%	48%	4%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	95%	3%	2%
	Disapprove	5%	91%	3%
Interview Type	Landline	45%	50%	5%
	Cell Phone	57%	39%	4%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=1084 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

President Obama Favorability Over Time

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Overall, do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of Barack Obama?

	Registered Voters		
	Overall, do you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of Barack Obama?		
	Favorable	Unfavorable	Unsure-Never Heard
	Row %	Row %	Row %
April 2011	48%	48%	5%
January 2011	53%	40%	8%
November 23, 2010	47%	49%	4%
October 28, 2010	54%	41%	5%
October 8, 2010	50%	47%	3%
September 22, 2010	49%	48%	3%
June 30, 2010	50%	43%	7%
March 31, 2010	53%	41%	6%
February 8, 2010	50%	44%	6%
December 8, 2009	55%	41%	4%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters

Direction of the Country

Asked of National Adults:

Question Wording: In general, thinking about the way things are going in the country, do you feel things are going in the right direction or that things are going in the wrong direction?

		National Adults		
		In general, thinking about the way things are going in the country, do you feel things are going in the right direction or that things are going in the wrong direction?		
		Right direction	Wrong direction	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
National Adults		31%	64%	5%
Registered Voters		32%	63%	5%
Party ID	Democrat	51%	44%	5%
	Republican	15%	82%	3%
	Independent	29%	67%	4%
Tea Party Supporters		15%	83%	2%
Political Ideology	Liberal	42%	55%	3%
	Moderate	42%	54%	4%
	Conservative	18%	78%	4%
President Obamas April 13th Speech	Before	29%	66%	6%
	After	34%	61%	5%
Region	Northeast	37%	57%	6%
	Midwest	27%	68%	5%
	South	31%	65%	4%
	West	31%	63%	6%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	31%	65%	4%
	\$50,000 or more	32%	64%	4%
Education	Not college graduate	29%	66%	5%
	College graduate	35%	60%	5%
Age	Under 45	33%	61%	6%
	45 or older	30%	66%	5%
Age	18 to 29	39%	57%	4%
	30 to 44	28%	65%	7%
	45 to 59	29%	68%	3%
	60 or older	30%	63%	7%
Race	White	27%	68%	5%
	Non-white	40%	54%	6%
Gender	Men	30%	66%	4%
	Women	32%	62%	6%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	59%	35%	6%
	Disapprove	9%	88%	3%
Interview Type	Landline	28%	67%	5%
	Cell Phone	40%	55%	6%

Marist Poll National Adults: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=1274 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Direction of the Country Over Time

Asked of National Adults:

Question Wording: In general, thinking about the way things are going in the country, do you feel things are going in the right direction or that things are going in the wrong direction?

	National Adults		
	In general, thinking about the way things are going in the country, do you feel things are going in the right direction or that things are going in the wrong direction?		
	Right direction	Wrong direction	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %
April 2011	31%	64%	5%
January 2011	41%	47%	12%
December 2010	34%	58%	8%
November 23, 2010	41%	53%	6%
October 28, 2010	38%	52%	10%
September 22, 2010	41%	56%	3%
July 6, 2010	37%	56%	7%
March 31, 2010	43%	53%	4%
February 8, 2010	38%	54%	8%
December 8, 2009	46%	46%	8%
October 14, 2009	47%	47%	6%
August 12, 2009	50%	42%	8%
June 8, 2009	50%	40%	10%
April 27, 2009	44%	44%	12%
April 15, 2009	49%	40%	11%
November 2007	23%	67%	10%
May 2007	26%	65%	9%
February 2007	29%	63%	8%
December 2006	31%	60%	9%
October 2006	33%	58%	9%
February 2006	34%	61%	5%
October 2005	31%	62%	7%
May 2005	38%	56%	6%
February 2005	47%	48%	5%
October 21, 2004	42%	55%	3%
October 07, 2004	39%	53%	8%
September 2004	38%	52%	10%
August 2004	40%	48%	12%
July 2004	37%	52%	11%
April 2004	43%	51%	6%
March 2004	43%	52%	5%
November 2003	45%	48%	7%
April 2003	55%	34%	11%
January 2003	42%	48%	10%
October 2002	45%	46%	9%
April 2002	60%	32%	8%
January 2002	60%	30%	10%
March 2001	41%	44%	15%
January 2001	56%	32%	12%

Marist Poll National Adults

Congressional Republicans' Approval Rating

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republicans in Congress are doing in office?

		Registered Voters		
		Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republicans in Congress are doing in office?		
		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		30%	63%	7%
Party ID	Democrat	13%	81%	6%
	Republican	55%	36%	8%
	Independent	27%	67%	7%
Tea Party Supporters		51%	42%	7%
Political Ideology	Liberal	12%	83%	5%
	Moderate	28%	64%	8%
	Conservative	41%	51%	8%
President Obamas April 13th Speech	Before	28%	66%	7%
	After	32%	60%	8%
Region	Northeast	29%	61%	11%
	Midwest	28%	68%	4%
	South	34%	59%	7%
	West	25%	67%	8%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	31%	61%	8%
	\$50,000 or more	29%	64%	6%
Education	Not college graduate	34%	59%	7%
	College graduate	24%	69%	7%
Age	Under 45	33%	61%	6%
	45 or older	29%	63%	8%
Age	18 to 29	36%	53%	11%
	30 to 44	31%	66%	3%
	45 to 59	28%	66%	6%
	60 or older	30%	60%	10%
Generation	Millennials (18-30)	34%	56%	9%
	Gen X (31-46)	31%	65%	4%
	Baby Boomers (47-65)	28%	66%	6%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 65)	30%	58%	11%
Race	White	31%	62%	7%
	Non-white	27%	65%	8%
Gender	Men	28%	65%	7%
	Women	31%	61%	8%
Interview Type	Landline	30%	63%	7%
	Cell Phone	31%	62%	7%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=1084 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Congressional Democrats' Approval Rating

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democrats in Congress are doing in office?

		Registered Voters		
		Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democrats in Congress are doing in office?		
		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		34%	60%	6%
Party ID	Democrat	62%	33%	5%
	Republican	3%	91%	6%
	Independent	31%	62%	7%
Tea Party Supporters		17%	80%	3%
Political Ideology	Liberal	61%	34%	5%
	Moderate	36%	57%	7%
	Conservative	18%	76%	6%
President Obamas April 13th Speech	Before	34%	60%	7%
	After	34%	60%	6%
Region	Northeast	34%	56%	10%
	Midwest	34%	61%	5%
	South	34%	60%	6%
	West	33%	61%	5%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	39%	54%	7%
	\$50,000 or more	32%	62%	5%
Education	Not college graduate	34%	59%	7%
	College graduate	34%	61%	5%
Age	Under 45	42%	53%	5%
	45 or older	29%	63%	7%
Age	18 to 29	49%	43%	9%
	30 to 44	38%	59%	3%
	45 to 59	28%	66%	6%
	60 or older	31%	61%	8%
Generation	Millennials (18-30)	49%	43%	8%
	Gen X (31-46)	35%	60%	4%
	Baby Boomers (47-65)	29%	65%	6%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 65)	30%	61%	10%
Race	White	26%	67%	7%
	Non-white	52%	43%	5%
Gender	Men	32%	64%	4%
	Women	36%	56%	9%
Interview Type	Landline	31%	62%	7%
	Cell Phone	44%	51%	5%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=1084 MOE +/- 3%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Top Priority for Congress

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: If you had to choose, which one of the following should be the top priority for Congress:

		Registered Voters			
		If you had to choose, which one of the following should be the top priority for Congress:			
		Reduce the deficit	Cut taxes	Maintain services and benefits	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		57%	14%	27%	2%
Party ID	Democrat	43%	9%	43%	4%
	Republican	66%	24%	10%	<1%
	Independent	64%	11%	25%	<1%
Tea Party Supporters		66%	21%	9%	4%
Political Ideology	Liberal	36%	14%	45%	5%
	Moderate	57%	10%	32%	2%
	Conservative	68%	19%	12%	<1%
President Obama's April 13th Speech	Before	55%	14%	29%	2%
	After	59%	15%	25%	1%
Region	Northeast	54%	17%	28%	1%
	Midwest	60%	11%	28%	1%
	South	57%	14%	27%	1%
	West	55%	17%	24%	4%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	48%	13%	37%	3%
	\$50,000 or more	62%	14%	23%	1%
Education	Not college graduate	53%	15%	31%	1%
	College graduate	61%	13%	23%	3%
Age	Under 45	58%	10%	29%	2%
	45 or older	56%	16%	26%	1%
Race	White	62%	12%	25%	1%
	Non-white	44%	20%	33%	3%
Gender	Men	63%	12%	23%	2%
	Women	52%	16%	30%	2%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	45%	10%	43%	1%
	Disapprove	65%	18%	14%	2%
Interview Type	Landline	57%	15%	26%	2%
	Cell Phone	56%	13%	30%	1%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters Split Sample: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=555 MOE +/- 4.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Top Priority for Congress Over Time

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: If you had to choose, which one of the following should be the top priority for Congress:

	Registered Voters			
	If you had to choose, which one of the following should be the top priority for Congress:			
	Reduce the deficit	Cut taxes	Maintain services and benefits	Unsure
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
April 2011	57%	14%	27%	2%
1/1/2011 *	53%	19%	23%	5%
12/13/2010 *	47%	22%	28%	3%

Marist Poll Registered Voters

*(If you had to choose, which one of the following should be the top priority for the next Congress:)

Dealing with the Federal Budget Deficit -- Cutting Medicare and Medicaid Spending

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Do you support or oppose doing each of the following to deal with the federal budget deficit: Cut Medicare and Medicaid?

		National Adults		
		Do you support or oppose doing each of the following to deal with the federal budget deficit: Cut Medicare and Medicaid?		
		Support	Oppose	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		18%	80%	2%
Party ID	Democrat	5%	92%	2%
	Republican	25%	73%	2%
	Independent	23%	75%	2%
Tea Party Supporters		28%	70%	2%
Political Ideology	Liberal	8%	92%	<1%
	Moderate	11%	88%	2%
	Conservative	29%	68%	4%
President Obama's April 13th Speech	Before	19%	79%	1%
	After	15%	83%	2%
Region	Northeast	13%	86%	<1%
	Midwest	22%	75%	3%
	South	18%	81%	1%
	West	14%	84%	2%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	13%	85%	2%
	\$50,000 or more	20%	79%	1%
Education	Not college graduate	15%	84%	2%
	College graduate	20%	78%	2%
Age	Under 45	17%	82%	1%
	45 or older	18%	80%	2%
Race	White	17%	81%	2%
	Non-white	16%	83%	1%
Gender	Men	22%	76%	2%
	Women	13%	86%	1%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	8%	91%	<1%
	Disapprove	26%	71%	3%
Interview Type	Landline	17%	81%	2%
	Cell Phone	18%	81%	1%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters Split Sample: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=555 MOE +/- 4.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Dealing with the Federal Budget Deficit -- Raising the Debt Ceiling

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Do you support or oppose doing each of the following to deal with the federal budget deficit: Raise the federal debt ceiling?

		National Adults		
		Do you support or oppose doing each of the following to deal with the federal budget deficit: Raise the federal debt ceiling?		
		Support	Oppose	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		24%	69%	7%
Party ID	Democrat	36%	53%	11%
	Republican	16%	79%	5%
	Independent	22%	74%	4%
Tea Party Supporters		16%	81%	3%
Political Ideology	Liberal	43%	50%	7%
	Moderate	24%	70%	6%
	Conservative	19%	76%	5%
President Obama's April 13th Speech	Before	26%	64%	10%
	After	21%	73%	6%
Region	Northeast	28%	64%	8%
	Midwest	22%	73%	5%
	South	21%	68%	11%
	West	25%	67%	8%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	26%	64%	10%
	\$50,000 or more	19%	74%	6%
Education	Not college graduate	23%	66%	11%
	College graduate	24%	71%	5%
Age	Under 45	23%	67%	10%
	45 or older	24%	69%	7%
Race	White	23%	70%	7%
	Non-white	25%	64%	12%
Gender	Men	23%	74%	3%
	Women	24%	63%	13%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	35%	58%	7%
	Disapprove	16%	78%	6%
Interview Type	Landline	23%	69%	8%
	Cell Phone	26%	66%	8%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters Split Sample: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=555 MOE +/- 4.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Dealing with the Federal Budget Deficit -- Reducing Military Spending

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Do you support or oppose doing each of the following to deal with the federal budget deficit: Reduce military spending?

		National Adults		
		Do you support or oppose doing each of the following to deal with the federal budget deficit: Reduce military spending?		
		Support	Oppose	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		44%	54%	2%
Party ID	Democrat	53%	45%	2%
	Republican	34%	65%	1%
	Independent	45%	53%	2%
Tea Party Supporters		32%	66%	2%
Political Ideology	Liberal	60%	37%	3%
	Moderate	54%	44%	2%
	Conservative	27%	72%	2%
President Obama's April 13th Speech	Before	46%	52%	2%
	After	47%	51%	2%
Region	Northeast	51%	48%	1%
	Midwest	44%	53%	3%
	South	41%	57%	2%
	West	57%	42%	1%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	43%	56%	1%
	\$50,000 or more	53%	46%	2%
Education	Not college graduate	36%	61%	2%
	College graduate	63%	36%	1%
Age	Under 45	48%	50%	2%
	45 or older	46%	52%	2%
Race	White	47%	51%	2%
	Non-white	44%	55%	1%
Gender	Men	54%	46%	<1%
	Women	41%	56%	3%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	58%	41%	1%
	Disapprove	32%	66%	2%
Interview Type	Landline	48%	51%	1%
	Cell Phone	44%	53%	3%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters Split Sample: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=555 MOE +/- 4.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Dealing with the Federal Budget Deficit -- Increase Taxes

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Do you support or oppose doing each of the following to deal with the federal budget deficit: Increase taxes on income over 250,000 dollars?

		National Adults		
		Do you support or oppose doing each of the following to deal with the federal budget deficit: Increase taxes on income over 250,000 dollars?		
		Support	Oppose	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		64%	33%	3%
Party ID	Democrat	83%	15%	2%
	Republican	43%	54%	3%
	Independent	63%	34%	3%
Tea Party Supporters		45%	53%	2%
Political Ideology	Liberal	84%	13%	3%
	Moderate	75%	23%	3%
	Conservative	45%	53%	2%
President Obama's April 13th Speech	Before	60%	37%	3%
	After	65%	31%	4%
Region	Northeast	75%	24%	1%
	Midwest	61%	36%	3%
	South	56%	39%	5%
	West	63%	33%	4%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	66%	30%	4%
	\$50,000 or more	62%	36%	1%
Education	Not college graduate	61%	34%	5%
	College graduate	64%	35%	1%
Age	Under 45	58%	40%	1%
	45 or older	65%	30%	4%
Race	White	66%	31%	3%
	Non-white	55%	40%	4%
Gender	Men	60%	38%	2%
	Women	65%	31%	5%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	80%	17%	3%
	Disapprove	50%	48%	2%
Interview Type	Landline	61%	35%	4%
	Cell Phone	65%	32%	2%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters Split Sample: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=555 MOE +/- 4.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Support Government Shutdown?

Asked of Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Looking ahead to the next round of budget battles in Washington, would you support a shutdown of the federal government if:

		Registered Voters			
		Looking ahead to the next round of budget battles in Washington, would you support a shutdown of the federal government if:			
		It stopped the Republicans from cutting spending for Medicare and Medicaid	It stopped the Democrats from increasing the budget deficit	Or you do not support a government shutdown under any circumstances	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
Registered Voters		23%	34%	36%	7%
Party ID	Democrat	42%	11%	42%	5%
	Republican	8%	55%	29%	9%
	Independent	16%	39%	38%	7%
Tea Party Supporters		13%	55%	23%	8%
Political Ideology	Liberal	42%	18%	39%	1%
	Moderate	20%	30%	42%	8%
	Conservative	17%	46%	29%	7%
President Obama's April 13th Speech	Before	26%	31%	36%	7%
	After	20%	37%	36%	7%
Region	Northeast	23%	31%	41%	6%
	Midwest	27%	37%	32%	5%
	South	22%	33%	34%	11%
	West	22%	36%	38%	4%
Household Income	Less than \$50,000	29%	28%	35%	8%
	\$50,000 or more	19%	37%	39%	5%
Education	Not college graduate	26%	34%	34%	6%
	College graduate	19%	34%	40%	7%
Age	Under 45	27%	37%	31%	5%
	45 or older	22%	33%	39%	7%
Race	White	21%	34%	38%	7%
	Non-white	32%	34%	27%	6%
Gender	Men	23%	39%	33%	5%
	Women	23%	30%	38%	9%
Obama Approval Rating	Approve	36%	16%	43%	4%
	Disapprove	12%	50%	30%	8%
Interview Type	Landline	22%	35%	36%	6%
	Cell Phone	27%	28%	36%	9%

Marist Poll National Registered Voters Split Sample: Interviews conducted April 10th through April 14th, 2011, N=555 MOE +/- 4.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.