

Democracy Corps Economy Project Frequency Questionnaire

August 23-27, 2012
1000 Likely Voters

Q.3 First of all, are you registered to vote at this address?

	Total
Yes	100
No	-
(Refused)	-
(ref:SCREEN1)	

Q.4 Many people weren't able to vote in the 2008 election for president between Barack Obama and John McCain. How about you? Were you able to vote, or for some reason were you unable to vote?

	Total
Voted	97
Not registered in 2008/Ineligible/too young	3
Did not vote.....	-
(Can't remember/Don't know)	-
(Refused)	-
(ref:VOTE08)	

Q.5 As you may know, there was an election in 2010 for Congress and other offices. Many people weren't able to vote. How about you? Were you able to vote or for some reason were you unable to vote?

	Total
Voted	82
Did not vote.....	13
(Can't remember/Don't know)	2
(Refused)	0
Not registered/ineligible/too young	2
(ref:VOTE10)	

Q.9 I know it is a long way off, but what are the chances of your voting in the election for President and Congress this November: are you almost certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or don't you think you will vote?

	Total
Almost certain	92
Probably.....	8
50-50.....	-
Will not vote	-
(Don't know).....	0
(Refused)	-
(ref:CP10)	

Q.10 Generally speaking, do you think that things in this country are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

	Total
Right direction	32
Wrong track.....	62
(Don't know/Refused).....	6
Right - Wrong	-30
(ref:DIRECT)	

Q.11 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?

	Total
Strongly approve	31
Somewhat approve	16
Somewhat disapprove.....	9
Strongly disapprove	41
(Don't know/Refused).....	4
Total approve	47
Total disapprove	49
Approve - disapprove	-2
(ref:BOAPP)	

Q.12 Now, I'd like you to rate your feelings toward some people and organizations, with one hundred meaning a VERY WARM, FAVORABLE feeling; zero meaning a VERY COLD, UNFAVORABLE feeling; and fifty meaning not particularly warm or cold. You can use any number from zero to one hundred, the higher the number the more favorable your feelings are toward that person or organization. If you have no opinion or never heard of that person or organization, please say so.

	Mean	% Warm	% Cool	% >75	% <26	% ID	Warm - Cool
12 The Republican Party.....	43.2	37	48	19	37	99	-11
13 The Democratic Party	45.3	39	46	21	35	99	-7
14 The Republican Congress.....	39.3	30	50	13	40	98	-20
15 Democrats in Congress.....	43.5	36	46	17	34	98	-10
16 Barack Obama.....	50.3	48	44	37	37	100	4
17 Mitt Romney.....	44.7	38	47	23	37	97	-9
18 Paul Ryan	47.3	37	38	24	31	83	-1
19 The N.R.A., or National Rifle Association	56.2	46	31	33	24	92	15
20 Pro-life, anti-abortion groups	48.6	38	40	29	33	96	-2
21 Gay marriage	48.2	40	41	34	38	96	-2
22 The state of the economy.....	35.8	23	61	7	41	99	-38
23 The state of your personal finances	56.0	48	28	23	16	95	21
24 The new health care reform law	41.7	37	48	22	43	94	-11
[500 Respondents]							
25 (PC) (SPLIT A) A plan to replace the current campaign finance system of large private contributions with one where campaigns get limited public funding with no large contributions.....	61.5	45	19	33	15	90	27
[500 Respondents]							
26 (PC) (SPLIT B) A plan to replace the current campaign finance system of large private contributions with one that relies on small contributions and limited public funds	61.8	43	19	29	13	83	24
(ref: THERM04/THERM204/THERM205)							

Q.27 How closely have you been following news about candidates for this year's presidential election -- very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not closely at all?

	Total
Very closely.....	48
Fairly closely	38
Not too closely	9
Not closely at all	4
(Don't know/Refused).....	0
Total close	86
Total not close.....	14
Close - Not Close	73
(ref:CLOSE1)	

Q.28 I know it's a long way off, but thinking about the presidential election this November, if the election for president were held today and the candidates were -- Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney, for whom would you vote?

	Total
Democrat Barack Obama.....	47
Lean Democrat Barack Obama	2
Republican Mitt Romney	45
Lean Republican Mitt Romney	2
(Other candidate)	1
Lean (Other candidate)	0
(Undecided)	1
(Refused)	1
(Will not vote in 2012)	0
Total Democrat Barack Obama	49
Total Republican Mitt Romney	47
Total (Other candidate)	1
(ref:PREZ12A)	

Q.30 Even though you are not supporting Democrat Barack Obama now, what are the chances that you might support Democrat Barack Obama in the election for President this November -- is there a fair chance that you might support Democrat Barack Obama, a small chance, just a very slight chance, or no chance at all that you might support Democrat Barack Obama?

	Total
Fair chance	2
A small chance.....	4
Just a very slight chance	5
No chance at all	39
(Don't know/Refused).....	0
Obama supporter	49
(ref:PREZVCS1)	

Q.31 Even though you are not supporting Republican Mitt Romney now, what are the chances that you might support Republican Mitt Romney in the election for President this November -- is there a fair chance that you might support Republican Mitt Romney, a small chance, just a very slight chance, or no chance at all that you might support Republican Mitt Romney?

	Total
Fair chance	3
A small chance.....	4
Just a very slight chance	7
No chance at all	38
(Don't know/Refused).....	1
Romney supporter	47
(ref:PREZVCS2)	

Q.32 I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the elections for Congress this November, if the election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you be voting for (DEMOCRATIC HOUSE CANDIDATE) or (REPUBLICAN HOUSE CANDIDATE)?

	Total
Democratic candidate	44
Lean Democratic candidate.....	2
Republican candidate.....	43
Lean Republican candidate.....	3
(Other candidate)	1
Lean (Other candidate)
(Undecided)	5
(Refused)	1
Total Democratic candidate.....	46
Total Republican candidate.....	47
Total (Other candidate)	1
(ref:CONG10)	

Q.34 As you may know, Mitt Romney recently chose Paul Ryan to be his vice presidential candidate. From what you have heard, does this make you more or less likely to support Mitt Romney for president?

	Total
Much more likely	27
Somewhat more likely	16
Somewhat less likely	11
Much less likely	29
(Same/no difference).....	12
(Don't know/Refused).....	5
Total More Likely	43
Total Less Likely	39
Total More Likely - Less Likely.....	4
(ref:RYANVP)	

Q.35 I am going to read an issue and I want you to tell me whether, overall, you think the Democrats or the Republicans would do a better job with that issue. If you do not know, just tell me and we'll move on.

	Dem Much Btrr	Dem Smwt Btrr	Rep Smwt Btrr	Rep Much Btrr	Both	Nei- ther	DK/ Ref	Total Dem	Total Rep	Dem - Rep
35 The economy (ref:BETJOB)	25	14	16	32	1	4	9	39	47	-9

Q.36 Now I am going to read you a list of issues and I want you to tell me whether, overall, you think Barack Obama or Mitt Romney would do a better job with each issue. If you do not know, just tell me and we'll move on.

	BO Much Btrr	BO Smwt Btrr	MR Smwt Btrr	MR Much Btrr	Both	Nei- ther	DK/ Ref	Total BO	Total MR	BO - MR
36 The economy	30	14	13	37	0	1	6	43	50	-6
37 Having the right approach to taxes	31	14	14	31	0	2	6	46	46	0
[500 Respondents]										
38 (SPLIT A) Looking out for the middle class	40	13	11	30	-	2	5	52	41	11
39 Health care reform	34	12	13	31	0	2	7	47	44	3
[500 Respondents]										
40 (SPLIT A) Addressing the budget deficit.....	24	15	14	38	1	2	6	39	53	-13
[500 Respondents]										
41 (SPLIT B) Addressing government spending.....	21	17	16	37	1	3	6	38	53	-15
[500 Respondents]										
42 (SPLIT B) Restoring the American middle class	37	11	14	30	0	3	6	47	44	3
[500 Respondents]										
43 (SPLIT A) Having the right vision for the future.....	34	11	10	36	0	1	8	45	45	.
[500 Respondents]										
44 (SPLIT B) Trust to make the right decisions for the future of our country	34	13	12	34	0	2	6	47	45	1
(ref:PBETJOB)										

Q.45 I'm going to read you a list of economic experiences some people have recently had. For each one, please tell me if you have directly experienced this in the last year, if your family has directly experienced this in the last year, or if someone you know well, like a friend, neighbor or co-worker, has experienced this or if no one you know well has experienced it.

	Impct Self	Impct Fam	Impct Know	No Impct	Dk/ Ref	Total Self	Total Self Fam	Total Close	Total No Impct
45 Loss of a job.....	14	21	30	34	2	14	34	64	34
46 Reduced wages, hours or benefits at work.....	19	21	21	37	2	19	40	61	37
[500 Respondents]									
47 (SPLIT A) Lost health insurance coverage.....	14	14	15	53	3	14	28	43	53
[500 Respondents]									
48 (SPLIT B) Fallen behind on mortgage payments or home was foreclosed on	6	13	30	49	3	6	19	48	49
49 Got a new job.....	14	23	27	34	2	14	38	64	34
50 Rejoined the job market and began to look for work again	16	22	30	30	2	16	38	68	30
[500 Respondents]									
51 (SPLIT A) Made big changes to buying habits at the grocery store due to rising prices	49	15	9	24	2	49	64	73	24
[500 Respondents]									
52 (SPLIT B) Moved in with a family member or had someone move in to save money	9	19	21	49	2	9	28	49	49
(ref:ECONIMPC)									

Q.53 Which ONE of the following problems do you think is the most important to be addressed when it comes to the economy?

	Total
High government spending and budget deficits.....	18
Rising prices and declining pay and benefits for the middle class and working people.....	18
Too few new jobs and new industries in the U.S.	14
High taxes and government regulation that keep small businesses and companies from hiring	14
Trading practices and outsourcing with China and India that undermine U.S. employment and pay	13
The government dominated by Wall Street, special interest waste and not accountable to people.....	13
(None).....	1
(All)	4
(Don't know/refused)	4
(ref:EPROB)	

Q.54 And which ONE of those problems do you think is the NEXT most important to be addressed when it comes to the economy?

	Total
High government spending and budget deficits.....	19
High taxes and government regulation that keep small businesses and companies from hiring	18
Too few new jobs and new industries in the U.S.	17
Trading practices and outsourcing with China and India that undermine U.S. employment and pay	16
Rising prices and declining pay and benefits for the middle class and working people.....	13
The government dominated by Wall Street, special interest waste and not accountable to people.....	11
(None).....	1
(All)	1
(Don't know/refused)	4

Q.53/54 Top Two Problems:

	Total
High government spending and budget deficits.....	36
Rising prices and declining pay and benefits for the middle class and working people.....	30
Too few new jobs and new industries in the U.S.	30
High taxes and government regulation that keep small businesses and companies from hiring	30
Trading practices and outsourcing with China and India that undermine U.S. employment and pay	28
The government dominated by Wall Street, special interest waste and not accountable to people.....	23
(None).....	2
(All)	5
(Don't know/refused)	7
(ref:EPROB2)	

Q.55 Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements about the economy. For each pair, please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.

	1st Stmt Much	1st Stmt Smwt	2nd Stmt Smwt	2nd Stmt Much	Both	Neither	DK/ Ref	Total 1st Stmt	Total 2nd Stmt	1st - 2nd
55 I'm more concerned about growing inequality, because we are turning into a country with only very rich and very poor. OR I'm more concerned that that we will go overboard, punish the rich for being successful and keep businesses from investing and strengthening the economy.	49	8	7	32	0	2	2	57	39	18

[500 Respondents]

56 (SPLIT C) I'm more concerned that we will go too far in cutting spending and will cut off programs that middle and working class people rely on. OR I'm more concerned that we won't go far enough in cutting spending and our deficits will continue to grow.	40	7	6	42	2	2	3	46	48	-1
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	1st Stmt Much	1st Stmt Smwt	2nd Stmt Smwt	2nd Stmt Much	Both	Neither	DK/Ref	Total 1st Stmt	Total 2nd Stmt	1st - 2nd
57 Sometimes only government and independent regulators can put checks on businesses whose excessive behavior puts consumers, the environment or the economy at risk. OR Businesses compete in the market and we do not get the best result when government imposes regulations and limits choice.	27	12	16	37	1	2	5	39	53	-14

[500 Respondents]

58 (SPLIT D) Drastic cuts in government spending will weaken the economy and cost jobs, mean more lay-offs and lost tax revenue that makes the deficits worse. OR The only way to restore prosperity and market confidence is to dramatically reduce government spending and our long-term deficits..... (ref:ECPAIRS2)	23	9	12	49	1	2	4	32	61	-29
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Q.59 Now I'm going to read you a statement that Barack Obama might say about our economy and how to improve it. After I read it, please tell me whether this statement makes you feel more positive or more negative about Barack Obama.

(OBAMA MC MESSAGE) Our economy won't be truly healthy until we reverse the long-term erosion of middle class jobs and incomes. What's at stake in this election is whether working people can earn a decent living, send their kids through college, own a home, and save a little bit for retirement. We're working to restore that basic bargain for the middle class that if you work hard, you can get ahead.

	Total
Much more positive	32
Somewhat more positive	29
Somewhat more negative.....	13
Much more negative.....	19
(Same/no difference).....	4
(Don't know/Refused).....	2
Total More Positive	61
Total More Negative	33
More Positive - More Negative	28
(ref:OBAMA1)	

Q.60 Now I'm going to read you a statement that Mitt Romney might say about our economy and how to improve it. After I read it, please tell me whether this statement makes you feel more positive or more negative about Mitt Romney.

(ROMNEY MESSAGE) All across the country, people are hurting. The cost of living keeps going up, and people are living paycheck to paycheck. After four years of President Obama, he's run out of ideas and is trying to divide the country. We need new ideas that will lead to economic growth and widespread and shared prosperity, championing small businesses and getting America's budget back on track.

	Total
Much more positive	33
Somewhat more positive	29
Somewhat more negative.....	13
Much more negative.....	20
(Same/no difference).....	4
(Don't know/Refused).....	2
Total More Positive	62
Total More Negative	33
More Positive - More Negative	29
(ref:ROMNEY1)	

Q.61 Now, thinking about what you just heard, which statement makes the most sense to you -- the statement by Barack Obama, where he said that the basic bargain for the middle class is slipping away and we need to get our economy back so people can earn a decent living again, or the statement by Mitt Romney, where he said that President Obama has run out of ideas, and we need new ideas to promote economic growth for small businesses and cut government spending?

	Total
Obama statement STRONGLY	41
Obama statement NOT SO STRONGLY.....	7
Romney statement NOT SO STRONGLY	6
Romney statement STRONGLY.....	40
(Both)	2
(Neither)	2
(Don't know/Refused).....	2
Total Obama Statement	48
Total Romney Statement	46
Obama Statement - Romney Statement.....	3
(ref:SENSE)	

[500 Respondents]

Q.62 (SPLIT C) Now I'm going to read you another statement that Barack Obama might say about our economy and how to improve it. After I read it, please tell me whether this statement makes you feel more positive or more negative about Barack Obama.

(OBAMA FAIRNESS/INEQUALITY) What drags our economy down is an ever-widening gap between a few folks who are doing extraordinarily well, and a growing number of people who, no matter how hard they work, can barely make ends meet. Our country's prosperity depends on a strong and growing middle class where everyone gets a fair shot, does their fair share and plays by the same rules. Working people are the ones who need tax cuts, not those at the very top.

	Total
Much more positive	37
Somewhat more positive	22
Somewhat more negative.....	11
Much more negative.....	26
(Same/no difference).....	2
(Don't know/Refused).....	2
Total More Positive	59
Total More Negative	37
More Positive - More Negative	22
(ref:OBAMA2)	

[500 Respondents]

Q.63 (SPLIT C) Now I'm going to read you another statement that Mitt Romney might say about our economy and how to improve it. After I read it, please tell me whether this statement makes you feel more positive or more negative about Mitt Romney.

(ROMNEY BUSINESS) The most important thing we can do right now to help the economy is to

get businesses hiring again. Tax rates are too high and we have too many regulations that encourage gaming the system rather than growth, reducing the ability of businesses to compete in the global economy and to invest and create jobs at home. Let's fix the tax code to focus on jobs and growth, while creating incentives and an environment for businesses to succeed.

	Total
Much more positive	34
Somewhat more positive	26
Somewhat more negative.....	15
Much more negative.....	21
(Same/no difference).....	3
(Don't know/Refused).....	1
Total More Positive	60
Total More Negative	36
More Positive - More Negative	24
(ref:ROMNEY2)	

[500 Respondents]

Q.64 (SPLIT C) Now, thinking about what you just heard, which statement makes the most sense to you -- the statement by Barack Obama, where he said our economic prosperity depends on a strong middle class and everyone getting a fair shot, or the statement by Mitt Romney, where he said the most important thing to help the economy is to cut taxes and spending to create an environment for businesses to succeed and create jobs.

	Total
Obama statement STRONGLY	40
Obama statement NOT SO STRONGLY.....	6
Romney statement NOT SO STRONGLY	8
Romney statement STRONGLY.....	40
(Both)	3
(Neither)	0
(Don't know/Refused).....	2
Total Obama Statement	46
Total Romney Statement	48
Obama Statement - Romney Statement.....	-2
(ref:SENSE2)	

[500 Respondents]

Q.65 (SPLIT D) Now I'm going to read you another statement that Barack Obama might say about our economy and how to improve it. After I read it, please tell me whether this statement makes you feel more positive or more negative about Barack Obama.

(INEQUALITY/CORRUPT) The big banks, Big Oil, CEOs and global companies have skyrocketing incomes, while the middle class can barely make ends meet. The well-connected use lobbyists and big donations to make sure they keep their tax breaks and special deals while the middle class can't catch a break. To get back to a rising middle class we have to change a corrupted Washington.

	Total
Much more positive	36
Somewhat more positive	26
Somewhat more negative.....	10
Much more negative.....	23
(Same/no difference).....	2
(Don't know/Refused).....	2
Total More Positive	63
Total More Negative	33
More Positive - More Negative	30
(ref:OBAMA3)	

[500 Respondents]

Q.66 (SPLIT D) Now I'm going to read you another statement that Mitt Romney might say about our economy and how to improve it. After I read it, please tell me whether this statement makes you feel more positive or more negative about Mitt Romney.

(ROMNEY BUSINESS) The most important thing we can do right now to help the economy is to get businesses hiring again. Taxes are too high and regulations encourage gaming the system rather than growth, preventing businesses from competing in the global economy and creating jobs at home. Let's fix the tax code and create an environment for businesses to succeed.

	Total
Much more positive	32
Somewhat more positive	30
Somewhat more negative.....	12
Much more negative.....	19
(Same/no difference).....	3
(Don't know/Refused).....	3
Total More Positive	63
Total More Negative	31
More Positive - More Negative	32
(ref:ROMNEY3)	

[500 Respondents]

Q.67 (SPLIT D) Now, thinking about what you just heard, which statement makes the most sense to you -- the statement by Barack Obama, where he said Washington is corrupt and we need to clean up the money in politics to make it work for the middle class again, or the statement by Mitt Romney, where he said the most important thing to help the economy is to cut taxes and spending to create an environment for businesses to succeed and create jobs.

	Total
Obama statement STRONGLY	42
Obama statement NOT SO STRONGLY.....	8
Romney statement NOT SO STRONGLY	7
Romney statement STRONGLY.....	40
(Both)	2
(Neither)	-
(Don't know/Refused).....	1
Total Obama Statement	50
Total Romney Statement	47
Obama Statement - Romney Statement.....	4
(ref:SENSE3)	

Q.86 Finally, I would like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes. What is the last year of schooling that you have completed?

	Total
1 - 11th grade.....	3
High School graduate.....	21
Non-college post H.S.	1
Some college	28
College graduate.....	30
Post-graduate school	16
(Don't know/Refused).....	2
(ref:EDUC)	

Q.87 Are you a member of a labor union? Is any member of your household a union member?

	Total
Yes: Respondent belongs	11
Household member.....	9
No member belongs.....	79
(Don't know/Refused).....	1
Union Household	20
(ref:UNION)	

Q.88 Are you married, single, living with a partner, separated, divorced, or widowed?

	Total
Married.....	57
Single.....	22
Separated/Divorced	9
Widowed	7
Living with partner.....	3
(Don't know/Refused).....	2
Sep/Div/Wid	15
Unmarried.....	41
(ref:MARITAL)	

Q.89 Have you ever received unemployment benefits, food stamps, or Medicaid health care coverage?

	Total
Yes	43
No	56
(Don't know/Refused).....	2
(ref:RECBEN)	

Q.90 Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican or what?

	Total
Strong Democrat.....	27
Weak Democrat	12
Independent-lean Democrat.....	9
Independent.....	7
Independent-lean Republican	12
Weak Republican.....	12
Strong Republican.....	20
(Don't know/Refused).....	2
(ref:PTYID1)	

Q.93 Thinking in political terms, would you say that you are Conservative, Moderate, or Liberal?

	Total
Liberal	20
Moderate.....	33
Conservative	42
(Don't know/Refused).....	5
(ref:IDEO1)	

[311 Respondents]

Q.94 Now, thinking about your telephone use, is there at least one telephone INSIDE your home that is currently working and is not a cell phone?

	Total
Yes	51
No	48
(DK/Refused)	1
(ref:LANDLINE)	

[689 Respondents]

Q.95 Now thinking about your telephone use, do you have a working cell phone?

	Total
Yes	82
No	15
(DK/Refused)	3
(ref:CELLLINE)	

[729 Respondents]

Q.96 Of all the personal telephone calls that you receive, do you get..?

	Total
All or almost all calls on a cell phone.....	26
Some on a cell phone and some on a regular home phone	40
All or almost all calls on a regular home phone	33
(DK/Refused)	1
(ref:DUALUSE)	

Phone Use:

	Total
Cell Only	15
Cell Mostly	19
Dual User.....	29
Landline Mostly	24
Landline Only	10
Landline Unknown.....	3
Cell Mostly (from Cell Sample).....	8
Cell Mostly (from Landline Sample).....	11

Q.97 What is your religion?

	Total
Protestant	51
Catholic.....	20
Jewish.....	2
Muslim	0
(Don't know/Refused).....	26
(ref:RELIG1)	

[823 Respondents]

Q.98 Now let me ask you about the election for Congress last November. Did you vote for (DEMOCRATIC HOUSE CANDIDATE) or (REPUBLICAN HOUSE CANDIDATE)?

	Total
(2010 House Democrat)	41
(2010 House Republican).....	43
(Other candidate)	5
(Did Not Vote for Congress)	4
(Don't Know/Refused)	8
(ref:VTCG2010)	

[969 Respondents]

Q.99 In the 2008 election for president, did you vote for Democrat Barack Obama or Republican John McCain?

	Total
Democrat Barack Obama.....	52
Republican John McCain	43
(Ralph Nader)	0
(Bob Barr)	-
(Other)	1
(Don't Know/Refused)	4
(ref:VOTE2008)	

Q.100 What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

	Total
White.....	74
African-American or Black.....	12
Hispanic or Latino	9
Native American.....	1
Asian.....	1
(Other)	1
(Don't know/Refused).....	2
(ref:RACETHN)	

Q.6 In what year were you born?

	Total
18 - 24.....	8
25 - 29.....	9
30 - 34.....	8
35 - 39.....	9
40 - 44.....	9
45 - 49.....	10
50 - 54.....	7
55 - 59.....	9
60 - 64.....	12
65 and over.....	18
(No answer).....	2
(ref:AGE)	

Q.2 Respondent's gender

	Total
Male.....	47
Female.....	53
(ref:GENDER)	