

Democracy Corps Economy Media Project

Frequency Questionnaire

November 6-7, 2012
811 2012 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	88
Not registered in 2008/Ineligible/too young	6
Did not vote.....	5
(Can't remember/Don't know).....	0
(Refused)	0
(ref:VOTE08)	

Q.5 As you may know, there was an election Tuesday for President, 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	100
Did not vote.....	-
(Can't remember/ don't know)	-
(Refused)	-
(Have not voted yet).....	-
(Will vote).....	-
(ref:VOTE10)	

Q.6 Did you vote prior to Election Day or did you vote on Election Day?

	Total
Prior to Election Day	36
On Election Day	64
(Don't know/Refused).....	0
(ref:WARLYVTG)	

[291 Respondents]

Q.7 (IF VOTED PRIOR TO ELECTION DAY) When you voted by absentee ballot or through early voting, did you vote by mail or in person?

	Total
By mail	41
In person.....	59
(Don't know/Refused).....	-
(ref:ABSENT4)	

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

	Total
Strongly approve	38
Somewhat approve	13
Somewhat disapprove.....	8
Strongly disapprove	37
(Don't know/Refused).....	3
Total approve	51
Total disapprove	45
Approve - disapprove	6
(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.....	44.1	37	44	16	32	96	-7
13 The Democratic Party	50.1	42	41	25	29	98	1
14 The Republican Congress.....	40.2	32	46	12	36	95	-14
15 Democrats in Congress.....	46.9	38	41	17	30	96	-3
16 Barack Obama	55.2	51	41	41	32	98	10
17 Mitt Romney.....	47.1	46	45	24	34	96	1
18 Paul Ryan	46.7	38	39	23	32	88	-1
19 The N.R.A., or National Rifle Association	57.3	47	27	32	21	90	20
20 Pro-life, anti-abortion groups	48.8	39	39	28	32	94	0

	Mean	% Warm	% Cool	% >75	% <26	% ID	Warm - Cool
21 Gay marriage	49.3	39	38	31	33	95	1
22 The state of the economy	38.9	28	54	6	34	98	-26
23 The state of your personal finances	60.3	55	21	26	10	94	34
24 The Tea Party movement.....	39.9	30	45	15	36	87	-15
25 The new health care reform law	45.2	39	42	26	36	89	-3

(ref:THERM04/THERM204/THERM205)

Q.26 Thinking about the presidential election, did you vote for Democrat Barack Obama or Republican Mitt Romney?

	Total
Democrat Barack Obama.....	50
Republican Mitt Romney	48
(Other candidate)	2

(ref:PREZ12A)

Presidential Vote Certainty

	Total
Strong Obama.....	40
Wavering Obama	10
Wavering Romney.....	7
Strong Romney	41
Other candidate	2

(ref:PREZ12A)

Q.27 (SKIP IF OBAMA IN PREZ12A) Thinking back in time for a minute, did you, at any point in this campaign, think about voting for Barack Obama?

	Total
Very seriously	3
Somewhat seriously	4
Only a little seriously	2
Didn't consider Obama.....	42
(Don't know/refused)	3
Obama Supporter	47

(ref:CHNCBO)

Q.28 (SKIP IF ROMNEY IN PREZ12A) Thinking back in time for a minute, did you, at any point in this campaign, think about voting for Mitt Romney?

	Total
Very seriously	3
Somewhat seriously	4
Only a little seriously	4
Didn't consider Romney	41
(Don't know/refused)	2
 Romney Supporter	 45
(ref:CHNCMR)	

Q.29 Thinking about the election for Congress in your district, did you vote for -- the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?

	Total
The Democratic candidate	50
The Republican candidate.....	48
(Other candidate)	2
(Refused)	-
(Did not vote for this race)	-
(ref:GENCONG)	

Q.30 Mitt Romney selected Paul Ryan as Vice Presidential nominee because of his budget and plans for reducing spending and the deficit, including further tax cuts for top earners and major changes in the Medicare program. All things considered, were you positive or negative about those plans?

	Total
Very positive	26
Somewhat positive	19
Somewhat negative.....	11
Very negative	35
(Neutral)	4
(Don't know/refused)	4
 Total Positive	 45
Total Negative	46
 Positive - Negative	 -1
(ref:MEDCH)	

Q.31 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
31 The economy	32	15	10	37	1	2	4	47	46	0
[406 Respondents]										
32 (SPLIT A) Taxes	34	9	18	30	0	2	7	43	48	-4
[406 Respondents]										
33 (SPLIT B) Health care reform	38	12	10	28	0	3	9	50	38	12
[406 Respondents]										
34 (SPLIT A) Restoring the middle class	42	9	11	31	0	2	4	52	42	10
35 Medicare	39	12	13	23	1	3	9	51	36	14
[406 Respondents]										
36 (SPLIT B) The federal budget deficit	25	14	13	38	0	2	8	39	51	-12
[406 Respondents]										
37 (SPLIT A) National security	35	10	16	31	3	2	3	45	47	-1
[406 Respondents]										
38 (SPLIT B) Willing to make compromises with the other party to get things done..... (ref:PBETJOB)	34	14	14	25	2	2	9	48	39	9

Q.39 Both Barack Obama and Mitt Romney said in their campaigns that this election is about the future of the middle class. That was the big choice. Now, that the election is over, which THREE of the following are the most important things for us to focus on?

	Total
Protecting middle class retirement benefits including Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.....	38
Implementing the new health care law to reduce health care costs	17
Creating jobs and getting the economy going.....	51
Reducing the federal deficit and lowering debt for future generations	47
Increasing the minimum wage and empowering workers to get higher pay and benefits	15
Investing in rebuilding our roads, transportation, and economic infrastructure	16
Investing more in education and training	28
Investing in alternative energy and strengthening infrastructure for extreme weather.....	13
Helping small businesses with access to credit and reduced red tape	21
Breaking up the big banks and prosecuting those who caused the financial crisis	12
Reducing the influence of special interest money in politics.....	16
(All)	7
(Other)	0
(None).....	0
(Don't know/refused)	1
(ref:MANDATE2)	

Q.40 Now I'm going to read you a pair of statements about the economy. After I read this 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 Strng	1st Not Strng	2nd Not Strng	2nd Stmt Strng	Both	Neither	DK Ref	Total 1st Stmt	Total 2nd Stmt	1st - 2 nd
40 We should avoid immediate drastic cuts in spending, and instead, we need serious investments that create jobs and make us more prosperous in the long term, and that will reduce our debt, too. OR The only way to restore prosperity and market confidence is to dramatically reduce government spending and our long-term deficits.....	41	10	10	32	2	2	3	51	42	8

[406 Respondents]

41 (SPLIT A) Given where our economy is, we should invest now in infrastructure, education and technology, and re-hiring teachers and firefighters to get people back to work to make our country stronger in the long-term. OR Given where our economy is, we should cut government spending and reduce the federal deficit that weighs down our economy and give confidence to businesses to invest and create jobs.	42	9	9	35	3	1	1	52	43	8
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	1st Stmt Strng	1st Not Strng	2nd Not Strng	2nd Stmt Strng	Both	Neither	DK Ref	Total 1st Stmt	Total 2nd Stmt	1st - 2 nd
[406 Respondents]										
42 (SPLIT B) Given where our economy is, we should do everything we can to help the middle class, and that means protecting Medicare and Social Security. OR Given where our economy is, we should cut government spending and reduce the federal deficit that weighs down our economy and give confidence to businesses to invest and create jobs.	42	8	8	32	7	1	2	50	41	9
43 The federal deficit is a big national problem but we should not make major changes or cuts in Social Security and Medicare. OR The exploding federal deficit is such a national crisis that we have to cut spending broadly, including possible future cuts to Social Security and Medicare spending.....	47	14	10	23	2	2	3	60	33	27
(ref:ECPAIRS2)										

[406 Respondents]

Q.44 (SPLIT A) As you may know, there is a possibility there will be a grand bi-partisan bargain to reduce the deficit over 10 years by 4 trillion dollars. The 4 trillion dollar package of deficit reduction would have to include some amount of new revenue and cuts in spending. What, in your mind, are the right amounts?

	Total
All deficit reduction from cutting spending and no increase in tax revenues.....	23
One-third from increasing tax revenues and two-thirds from cutting spending.....	22
Half from increasing tax revenues and half from cutting spending.....	23
Two-thirds from increasing tax revenues and one-third from cutting spending.....	12
All deficit reduction from increasing tax revenues and no further spending cuts.....	5
(Don't know/refused).....	15
Total More from revenue	18
Total More from spending	45
(ref:OPT2)	

[406 Respondents]

Q.45 (SPLIT B) As you may know, if Congress doesn't come up with a deal by the end of the year, there will be 1.2 trillion dollars of immediate cuts, half from military and defense spending and half from domestic programs. The Congressional Budget Office says that if the cuts and tax hikes go into effect, the economy is likely to go back into a recession, with rising unemployment and worse deficits. If Congress can't agree on a deal, should it:

	Total
Cancel the spending cuts and tax hikes, and go back to normal congressional budget process.....	18
Postpone the spending cuts and tax hikes until the economy comes back.....	34
Inflict the spending cuts and tax hikes, forcing congress to act rapidly.....	32
(Don't know/refused).....	17
(ref:OPT3)	

Q.46 Now I'm going to read you a list of policies some people may make to address the automatic cuts that may take place if Congress cannot make a deal. For each, please tell me whether you favor or oppose that policy.

	Strng Fav	Smwt Fav	Smwt Opp	Strng Opp	DK/ Ref	Total Fav	Total Opp	Fav - Opp
[406 Respondents]								
46 (SPLIT A) Restore 99 weeks of emergency unemployment benefits over the next three years.	26	26	18	23	7	52	41	11
[406 Respondents]								
47 (SPLIT B) Provide 120 billion dollars over the next three years to state governments with severe financial problems.	11	26	28	27	8	37	55	-18
[406 Respondents]								
48 (SPLIT A) Invest 234 billion dollars in infrastructure, including rebuilding highways and bridges, as well as create an infrastructure bank.	26	24	22	20	7	51	43	8
[406 Respondents]								
49 (SPLIT B) Provide 55 billion dollars over the next three years to rehire teachers and modernize schools.....	43	22	15	16	5	65	30	35
[406 Respondents]								
50 (SPLIT A) Enact a one-year, 53 billion dollar tax rebate for lower- and middle-income households to offset the expiration of the payroll tax cut..... (ref:CLIFFBAT)	28	29	19	14	11	56	33	24

Q.51 If Congress fails to reach an agreement on what to do about the federal budget, who do you think would be most to blame - Republicans or Democrats?

	Total
Republicans much more.....	31
Republicans somewhat more	9
Democrats somewhat more	11
Democrats much more.....	16
(Both).....	22
(Neither).....	2
(Don't know/refused)	9
Total Republicans	40
Total Democrats	27
Republicans - Democrats	13
(ref:CLIFFBLM)	

Q.52 Now, looking ahead to the kinds of policies that the U.S. might enact in the next few years, I'm going to read you a list of them and for each, please tell me whether you favor or oppose that policy.

	Strng Fav	Smwt Fav	Smwt Opp	Strng Opp	DK/ Ref	Total Fav	Total Opp	Fav - Opp
[406 Respondents]								
52 (SPLIT A) Clean up lobbyists, and prevent government staff from cashing in on their connections in the private sector by closing the revolving door between the government and lobbying firms.....	68	13	5	6	8	81	10	71
[406 Respondents]								
53 (SPLIT B) Put limits on corporate executive pay and encourage pay-for-performance through increased transparency and disclosure requirements, so that CEO compensation more closely aligns with the long-term interests of the company and not short-term profit motives.....	48	19	13	14	6	67	27	40
[406 Respondents]								
54 (SPLIT A) Institute a financial transactions tax and a "too big to fail" fee on the largest banks and financial institutions to discourage risky investments and guard against more bailouts.	38	29	12	15	7	66	27	40

	Strng Fav	Smwt Fav	Smwt Opp	Strng Opp	DK/ Ref	Total Fav	Total Opp	Fav - Opp
[406 Respondents]								
55 (SPLIT B) Raise the top tax bracket to 40 percent for those with incomes over 1 million dollars, which would fix inequality in the tax code, help pay down the deficit and strengthen the safety net for the middle class.....	49	15	11	19	5	64	31	33
[406 Respondents]								
56 (SPLIT A) Create a simple, universal, mandatory public-private pension plan to supplement Social Security and ensure everyone can have a secure retirement, based on shared responsibilities between employers and workers.....	38	28	11	15	8	65	27	39
[406 Respondents]								
57 (SPLIT A) Increase investments in research and development by 50 percent and form a national foundation to increase innovation in the economy and plan for the future.....	31	30	16	10	12	62	26	35
[406 Respondents]								
58 (SPLIT B) Strengthen Medicare by controlling health care costs, putting in place new budget goals, and cutting waste on payments to providers, not cutting benefits to beneficiaries.....	51	28	8	6	8	78	14	65
[406 Respondents]								
59 (SPLIT A) Invest 5 billion dollars in new clean energy technologies and clean forms of old technologies, while putting a price on carbon emissions to help fund the investment.....	33	22	13	25	6	55	38	17
[406 Respondents]								
60 (SPLIT B) Raise the minimum wage to ensure everyone can make a living wage..... (ref:POLFAV)	47	22	13	13	5	69	26	44

Q.61 I want you to imagine you are listening to a debate on the topic of the economy.

In one concluding statement, Speaker A says: Our country's highest priority should be growth that creates full employment and raises incomes at every level and that reduces the deficit in the long-term. Growth requires public investment in things like transportation, science, and education. Markets don't always produce the best outcomes, so we need to rein in corporate excess that harms consumers or the economy. We should tax the highest earners to address the country's key priorities.

In the other concluding statement, Speaker B says: Our economy works best when government is smaller and entrepreneurs and small businesses play a bigger role. So our biggest priority should be cutting government spending, including out-of-control entitlement spending, and removing government regulation that does more harm than good. We should be simplifying the tax code so government doesn't pick winners and losers and cutting taxes permanently for all taxpayers and corporations to spur growth.

Considering these two statements, which person do you trust more to address the economy -- Speaker A or Speaker B?

	Total
Speaker A strongly	32
Speaker A somewhat	14
Speaker B somewhat	14
Speaker B strongly	30
(Both)	1
(Neither)	3
(Don't know/refused)	5
Total Speaker A	46
Total Speaker B	44
Speaker A - Speaker B	2
(ref:SPECNPR)	

[156 Respondents]

Q.62 (SPLIT A) (IF PUNCH 1 OR 2 IN SPECNPR) From the statement you just selected, what two things stood out for you the most?

	Total
(Highest priority is growth)	11
(Creating full employment)	18
(Raising incomes at every level)	15
(Reduces the deficit in the long-term)	21
(Public investment in transportation, science and education)	32
(Rein in corporate excess)	17
(Tax highest earners)	36
(All)	2
(Other)	13
(None)	2
(Don't know/refused)	15
(ref:STOODOE1)	

[147 Respondents]

Q.63 (SPLIT B) (IF PUNCH 3 OR 4 IN SPECNPR) From the statement you just selected, what two things stood out for you the most?

	Total
(Our economy works best when government is smaller)	35
(Entrepreneurs and small businesses play a bigger role) ...	32
(Cutting government spending)	23
(Out of control entitlement spending).....	11
(Removing government regulation)	21
(Simplify the tax code).....	16
(Don't pick winners and losers)	4
(Cutting taxes permanently)	8
(All)	8
(Other)	8
(None).....	3
(Don't know/refused)	10
(ref:STOODOE2)	

Q.64 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.....	4
High School graduate.....	22
Non-college post H.S.	0
Some college	26
College graduate.....	34
Post-graduate school	13
(Don't know/Refused).....	0
(ref:EDUC)	

Q.65 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					Total			
	Impct Self	Impct Fam	Some Know	Not Impct	DK/ Ref	Total Self	Total Fam	Total Impct	Not Impct
65 Loss of a job.....	14	25	27	32	3	14	38	65	32
66 Reduced wages, hours or benefits at work.....	19	20	21	36	4	19	39	60	36
[406 Respondents]									
67 (SPLIT A) Lost health insurance coverage.....	13	17	12	54	4	13	30	41	54

	Impct Self	Impct Fam	Impct Some Know	Impct Not Impct	DK/ Ref	Total Self	Total Self Fam	Total Impct	Total Not Impct
[406 Respondents]									
68 (SPLIT B) Fallen behind on mortgage payments or home was foreclosed on	5	18	28	44	5	5	24	52	44
69 Got a new job.....	15	22	21	35	7	15	37	58	35
70 Rejoined the job market and began to look for work again	18	24	23	31	4	18	42	65	31
[406 Respondents]									
71 (SPLIT A) Made big changes to buying habits at the grocery store due to rising prices	48	13	9	27	3	48	61	70	27
[406 Respondents]									
72 (SPLIT B) Moved in with a family member or had someone move in to save money	11	18	19	48	4	11	29	48	48
(ref:ECONIMPC)									

Q.73 Are you a member of a labor union?
(IF NO) Is any member of your household a union member?

	Total
Yes: Respondent belongs	12
Household member.....	6
No member belongs.....	81
(Don't know/Refused).....	1
Union Household	18
(ref:UNION)	

Q.74 Are you married, single, living with a partner, separated, divorced, or widowed?

	Total
Married.....	58
Single.....	23
Separated/divorced	8
Widowed	6
Living with a partner	5
(Don't know/Refused).....	1
Sep/Div/Wid	14
(ref:MARITAL)	

Q.75 Do you have any children 18 years of age or younger living at home?

	Total
Yes	35
No	65
(Don't know/Refused).....	1
(ref:KIDS)	

Q.76 Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican or what?

	Total
Strong Democrat.....	27
Weak Democrat	11
Independent-lean Democrat.....	8
Independent.....	7
Independent-lean Republican	12
Weak Republican.....	12
Strong Republican.....	20
(Don't know/Refused).....	2
(ref:PTYID1)	

Q.79 Thinking in political terms, would you say that you are Conservative, Moderate, or Liberal?

	Total
Liberal.....	21
Moderate.....	34
Conservative.....	41
(Don't know/Refused).....	4
(ref:IDEO1)	

Q.80 Let me ask a question about religion. Which one of these best describes yourself?

	Total
Observant Catholic.....	14
Non-observant Catholic.....	10
Evangelical Christian.....	25
Non-Evangelical Protestant.....	17
Jewish.....	1
Muslim	0
No religious affiliation.....	19
(Other)	12
(Don't know/refused)	2
Total Catholic	24
Total Protestant.....	42
Total Christian.....	66
(ref:RELIG4)	

[290 Respondents]

Q.81 (IN CELL SAMPLE) 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	44
No	54
(DK/Refused)	2
(ref:LANDLINE)	

[521 Respondents]

Q.82 (IN LANDLINE SAMPLE) Now thinking about your telephone use, do you have a working cell phone?

	Total
Yes	87
No	12
(DK/Refused)	1
(ref:CELLLINE)	

[588 Respondents]

Q.83 (DO NOT ASK IF NO IN LANDLINE) (DO NOT ASK IF NO OR DK/REF IN CELLLINE) Of all the personal telephone calls that you receive, do you get:

	Total
All or almost all calls on a cell phone.....	35
Some on a cell phone and some on a regular home phone	40
All or almost all calls on a regular home phone	25
(Don't know/Refused).....	1
(ref:DUALUSE)	

Phone Use

	Total
Cell Only	19
Cell Mostly	25
Dual User.....	29
Landline Mostly	18
Landline Only.....	8
Landline Unknown.....	1

Q.84 As you know, there was an election for Congress and other offices in 2010. 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	71
Did not vote.....	26
(Can't remember/Don't know).....	2
(Refused)	1
(ref:VOTE06)	

[714 Respondents]

Q.85 (IF VOTED IN VOTE08) In the 2008 election for president, did you vote for Democrat Barack Obama or Republican John McCain?

	Total
Democrat Barack Obama.....	49
Republican John McCain	43
(Ralph Nader)	0
(Bob Barr)	0
(Other)	2
(Don't Know/Refused)	5
(ref:VOTE2008)	

Q.86 What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

	Total
White.....	72
African-American or Black.....	13
Hispanic or Latino	10
Native American.....	1
Asian.....	1
(Other)	2
(Don't know/Refused).....	2
(ref:RACETHN)	

Q.2 Record respondent's gender

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

Q.8 In what year were you born?

	Total
18 - 24.....	12
25 - 29.....	7
30 - 34.....	6
35 - 39.....	8
40 - 44.....	13
45 - 49.....	8
50 - 54.....	10
55 - 59.....	11
60 - 64.....	9
65 and over	14
(No answer)	2
(ref:AGE)	