

Democracy Corps/The Campaign for America's Future Straw Poll

Take Back the American Dream Conference 2011

Frequency Questionnaire

October 3-4, 2011
337 Respondents

Q.2 I know it is a long way off, but what are the chances of your voting in the election for President and Congress in 2012?

	Total
Almost Certain	96
Probably.....	2
50-50.....	1
Will Not Vote	1
(ref:WILLVOTE)	

Q.3 Do you approve or disapprove of the job being done by Barack Obama as president?

	Total
Strongly approve.....	20
Somewhat approve.....	52
Somewhat disapprove	20
Strongly disapprove	8
Total Approve.....	72
Total Disapprove.....	28
Approve - Disapprove	44
(ref:BOAPP)	

Q.4 Now, please indicate your feelings toward some people and organizations using a scale from 0 to 100, with one hundred meaning a VERY WARM, FAVORABLE feeling; zero meaning a VERY COLD, UNFAVORABLE feeling; and fifty meaning not particularly warm or cold. 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 have never heard of that person or organization, please check "don't know."

	Mean	% Warm	% Cool	% >75	% <25	% ID
4 Democrats in Congress.....	53.5	54	41	18	12	99
5 Barack Obama	66.7	75	20	39	5	99
6 John Boehner	7.6	2	94	-	87	97
7 The Republican Congress.....	4.4	1	97	0	94	99
8 The Tea Party movement.....	5.2	1	97	-	93	99

	Mean	% Warm	% Cool	% >75	% <25	% ID
9 A plan to dramatically reduce the deficit over the next five years	37.4	30	61	11	36	98
10 A plan to invest in new industries and rebuild the country over the next five years.....	86.1	92	5	78	2	98
11 State-level plans to curtail collective bargaining rights for public employees	8.2	4	93	2	86	99
12 Unions	82.4	92	4	71	1	99
13 Wall Street.....	9.5	1	97	0	86	99
14 The state of the economy.....	22.5	7	90	1	58	99
15 Mitt Romney	12.6	2	96	-	80	98
16 Rick Perry..... (ref:THERM2)	4.1	1	96	0	93	97

Q.17 Which ONE of the following people do you think is most qualified to be president?

	Total
Jon Huntsman.....	49
Mitt Romney.....	22
Rudy Giuliani	10
Ron Paul	9
Chris Christie	3
Newt Gingrich	3
Herman Cain.....	2
Sarah Palin	1
Rick Perry	1
Rick Santorum	0
Michele Bachmann	0
(ref:RPRES12)	

Q.18 As you may know, President Obama recently proposed the American Jobs Act to Congress last month. From what you know, do you favor or oppose this plan?

	Total
Strongly favor.....	65
Somewhat favor.....	32
Somewhat oppose	3
Strongly oppose.....	0
Total Favor	97
Total Oppose	3
Favor - Oppose	94
(ref:JOBSAPP)	

Q.19 Thinking about the jobs plan that President Obama announced in September, do you think the scope of the plan is...

	Total
Too large.....	0
About the right size	22
Too small	78
(ref:JOBSPLAN)	

Q.20 Below is a list of proposals included in President Obama's jobs plan. Please read the list and indicate which TWO you believe would be the most effective in creating jobs.

	Total
Funding for infrastructure improvements like roads, bridges and airports	52
Helping local governments avoid lay-offs of teachers, police officers, and firefighters	38
Funding for mass transit and clean energy transportation upgrades.....	34
Creating a public-private infrastructure bank to finance infrastructure projects	27
Green, energy-efficient, and technological upgrades for America's schools	27
Extending unemployment benefits.....	9
Reducing employer payroll taxes for small businesses	7
Extending the employee's payroll tax cut worth 1,500 dollars for the average household	4
None of the above	1
(ref:JOBSPROP)	

Q.21 Some people say that the jobs bill is just a start and we need more ambitious plans in order to get our economy back on track. Regardless of whether you agree or disagree, please read the list below and indicate which TWO you believe would be most effective in building a stronger economy for the future.

	Total
Raise tax rates on millionaires and billionaires, and impose a new financial transaction tax to help get our books in order	64
Reduce defense spending and instead use that money for public investment at home through a community-based approach that will boost local economies	53
Make America energy independent by investing in natural gas, clean coal energy, energy grid, solar and wind to strengthen our national security and create jobs at home	31
Pass labor law reform to empower workers to organize, and raise the minimum wage	22
Challenge China's currency manipulation and enforce Buy America laws on all government procurement.....	11
Expand AmeriCorps to put a half million young people to work on public service projects.....	9
Require all corporations to disclose the ratio of CEO compensation to median employee compensation.....	5
Cut taxes, rollback regulations, and cut spending to create confidence so businesses start hiring again	3
None of the above	1

(ref:ECONPROP)

Q.22 Please read the pairs of statements below and for each indicate if 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	Total 1st Stmt	Total 2nd Stmt	1st - 2nd
22 President Obama should work with Republicans to pass his jobs proposals, even if that means coming to a bipartisan compromise. OR The President should NOT compromise on his policy positions, even if that means that his jobs proposals will not pass.	12	14	18	47	4	5	26	65	-39
23 I oppose any changes to Medicare or Social Security. OR I support reforms to Medicare and Social Security in order to help bring the budget into balance.	50	14	14	11	2	9	64	25	39

	1st Stmt Strng	1st Not Strng	2nd Not Strng	2nd Stmt Strng	Both	Neither	Total 1st Stmt	Total 2nd Stmt	1st - 2nd
24 I want Washington to focus more on creating jobs even if that means more spending in the short-term. OR I want Washington to focus more on cutting spending and reducing the budget deficit because we can't create jobs until spending and the deficit are under control.	84	5	1	6	4	1	89	6	83

25 I would consider voting for a third party candidate in next year's presidential election. OR I would NOT consider voting for a third party candidate in next year's presidential election. (ref:PAIRS)	16	19	10	49	3	4	34	59	-25
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Q.26 Now, you are going to see some statements about things that could be happening in the country. After you read each statement, please rate it on a scale of zero to ten, where TEN means that you strongly agree and ZERO means that you strongly disagree with the statement. You can use any number from zero to ten.

	% 10	% 8-10	% 6-10	% 0-5	Mean
26 The deficit is not the problem, lack of growth and shared prosperity is the problem. Large corporations and the wealthiest Americans have prospered over the last few years, but the economy has suffered because that growth has not been widely shared. The deficit will fix itself if we ask the wealthiest to pay their share and invest in jobs programs, health care, education, research, and technology.	50	80	90	10	8.5
27 Reducing the deficit is important, but creating jobs and growing the economy should be our first priority. We need to jolt the economy now with a jobs plan that cuts payroll taxes, keeps teachers and cops on the job, and invests in rebuilding our infrastructure. We can address deficits and spending once we get people back to work.	46	76	92	8	8.4

	%	%	%	%	Mean
	10	8-10	6-10	0-5	
28 The deficit is a serious problem. If we don't address spending and deficits, the conservatives will cause grave damage to our nation and our economy. We should reduce the deficit by cutting military spending, ending subsidies for oil companies, and eliminating wasteful government programs. But we also have a revenue problem-we should reduce the deficit by instituting a new financial transactions tax and by raising taxes on the top income earners.	29	55	74	26	7.0
(ref:DEFICIT)					

Q.29 Over the last three years, many progressives have been frustrated with the pace of change. Which ONE of the following comes closest to your own view, even if none is exactly right?

	Total
Re-electing the president and taking back the House of Representatives needs to be the first priority, because if the Republicans capture all branches of government, they will do dramatic damage to the country.	48
We need to build an independent movement to challenge the influence of big money and conservative ideas in both parties. We should work from outside the electoral system but also make a concerted effort to recruit and support progressive candidates who are committed to real change.	42
Both parties are compromised. We should build an independent movement to protest the way our two-party system operates. The movement should focus on public education and mass demonstrations, protesting big money and corporate influence in both parties.	10
(ref:OPINION)	

Q.32 What year were you born?

	Total
18-24.....	10
25-29.....	14
30-34.....	10
35-39.....	5
40-44.....	9
45-49.....	5
50-54.....	8
55-59.....	11
60-64.....	9
Over 64	20
(Prefer not to say)	0
(ref:AGE)	

Q.33 Please choose the term that best describes how you think of yourself in political terms.

	Total
Liberal	29
Progressive	65
Moderate.....	5
Conservative	1
(ref:IDEO1)	

Q.30 What is your gender?

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