



REASON-RUPE

Public Opinion Survey

MARCH 2012 TOPLINE RESULTS

Nationwide telephone poll conducted March 10th-20th of both mobile and landline phones, 1200 adults, margin of error +/- 3%. Columns may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

RELEASED: MARCH 26th 2012

1 GENDER

Male	48%
Female	52%
Total	100%

2 REGION

Northeast	18%
Midwest	22%
South	36%
West	23%
Total	100%

3 States, which of the following categories best describes your age?

18 to 29	22%
30 to 44	26%
45 to 54	19%
55 to 64	16%
65 or Older	17%
Total	100%

4 And again, for statistical purposes only, which of the following racial or ethnic groups best describes you?

White	65%
Black	13%
Hispanic	16%
Asian	5%
Native American	1%
Other	1%
Total	100%

5 How would you rate the job performance of President Obama? Would you say you approve or disapprove of his performance?

Strongly Approve	26%
Somewhat Approve	22%
Somewhat Disapprove	12%
Strongly Disapprove	34%
Don't Know/Refused	5%
Total	100%
<i>Net Approve</i>	<i>48%</i>
<i>Net Disapprove</i>	<i>46%</i>

6 Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Obama is handling the economy?

Strongly Approve	24%
Somewhat Approve	20%
Somewhat Disapprove	14%
Strongly Disapprove	39%
Don't Know/Refused	4%
Total	100%
<i>Net Approve</i>	<i>44%</i>
<i>Net Disapprove</i>	<i>53%</i>

7 How would you rate the job performance of Congress? Would you say you approve or disapprove of Congress's job performance?

Strongly Approve	3%
Somewhat Approve	12%
Somewhat Disapprove	23%
Strongly Disapprove	55%
Don't Know/Refused	6%
Total	100%
<i>Net Approve</i>	<i>15%</i>
<i>Net Disapprove</i>	<i>78%</i>

8 As you know, President Obama is running for re-election. Will you definitely vote for him, consider voting for him, or definitely not vote for him?

Definitely Vote for Him	30%
Consider Voting for Him	21%
Definitely Not Vote for Him	45%
Don't Know/Refused	4%
Total	100%

9 Would you be more likely or less likely to vote for President Obama if Hillary Clinton were running as his vice president, or would it make no significant difference?

More Likely	19%
Less Likely	12%
No Difference	66%
Don't Know/Refused	2%
Total	100%

10 If you were voting today in the Republican presidential primary, whom would you vote for Ron Paul, Mitt Romney, Rick Santorum, or Newt Gingrich?

% GOP Only

Mitt Romney	39%
Rick Santorum	26%
Ron Paul	12%
Newt Gingrich	10%
(Vol.) Other	1%
Undecided/ Don't Know/Refused	10%
(Vol.) Would Not Vote	1%
Total	100%
	N=468

11 And, if the presidential election was held today and Barack Obama was the Democratic candidate and Mitt Romney was the Republican candidate, for whom would you vote?

Barack Obama, the Democrat	46%
Mitt Romney, the Republican	40%
Other	3%
Undecided/ Don't Know/Refused	6%
Would Not Vote	5%
Total	100%

12 And, if the presidential election was held today and Barack Obama was the Democratic candidate and Rick Santorum was the Republican candidate, for whom would you vote?

Barack Obama, the Democrat	47%
Rick Santorum, the Republican	37%
Other	5%
Undecided/ Don't Know/Refused	6%
Would Not Vote	5%
Total	100%

13 And, if the presidential election was held today and Barack Obama was the Democratic candidate and Ron Paul was the Republican candidate, for whom would you vote?

Barack Obama, the Democrat	47%
Ron Paul, the Republican	37%
Other	5%
Undecided/ Don't Know/Refused	5%
Would Not Vote	5%
Total	100%

14 And, if the presidential election was held today and Barack Obama was the Democratic candidate, Mitt Romney was the Republican candidate, and Ron Paul was an independent candidate, for whom would you vote?

Barack Obama, the Democrat	41%
Mitt Romney, the Republican	30%
Ron Paul, the Independent	17%
Other	3%
Undecided/ Don't Know/Refused	6%
Would Not Vote	3%
Total	100%

15 And, if the presidential election was held today and Barack Obama was the Democratic candidate, Rick Santorum was the Republican candidate, and Ron Paul was an independent candidate, for whom would you vote?

Barack Obama, the Democrat	42%
Rick Santorum, the Republican	27%
Ron Paul, the Independent	18%
Other	3%
Undecided/ Don't Know/Refused	6%
Would Not Vote	3%
Total	100%

16 Overall, are you satisfied, neutral, or dissatisfied with your health care? Is that strongly or somewhat?

Very Satisfied	35%
Somewhat Satisfied	23%
Neutral	16%
Somewhat Dissatisfied	9%
Very Dissatisfied	14%
Don't Know/Refused	3%
Total	100%
<i>Net Satisfied</i>	<i>58%</i>
<i>Neutral</i>	<i>16%</i>
<i>Net Dissatisfied</i>	<i>23%</i>

17	Are you and your family covered by health insurance?	
	Yes	87%
	No	13%
	Total	100%
18	Is that insurance provided through an employer, a plan you purchased yourself, through Medicare, Medicaid, or something else?	
	Employer-Provided	63%
	Individually Purchased	10%
	Medicare	17%
	Medicaid	6%
	Other	3%
	Don't Know/Refused	1%
	Total	100%
19	Do you have a choice of health insurance providers?	
	Yes	55%
	No	42%
	Don't Know/Refused	3%
	Total	100%
20	Have you ever shopped around for a less expensive or better auto insurance policy?	
	Yes	65%
	No	33%
	Don't Know/Refused	2%
	Total	100%
21	Would you like to have similar ability to shop around for a less expensive or better health insurance policy?	
	Yes	69%
	No	21%
	Vol. Already Do	6%
	Don't Know/Refused	5%
	Total	100%

22	Over the past decade, would you say the health care market has been very regulated, somewhat regulated, not very regulated, or not at all regulated by the government?	
	Very Regulated	23%
	Somewhat Regulated	41%
	Not Very Regulated	18%
	Not at All Regulated	11%
	Don't Know/Refused	8%
	Total	100%
23	Would you say the health care market has been regulated too much, not enough, or about the right amount?	
	Too Much	33%
	About the Right Amount	18%
	Not Enough	39%
	Don't Know/Refused	10%
	Total	100%
24	How much would you say you know about the new health care law? A great deal, a moderate amount, not much, or very little?	
	A Great Deal	9%
	Moderate Amount	39%
	Not Much	27%
	Very Little	23%
	Don't Know/Refused	3%
	Total	100%
25	Given what you know about the new health care law, do you have a generally favorable or generally unfavorable opinion of it?	
	Very Favorable	10%
	Somewhat Favorable	22%
	Somewhat Unfavorable	18%
	Very Unfavorable	32%
	Don't Know/Refused	18%
	Total	100%
	<i>Net Favorable</i>	32%
	<i>Net Unfavorable</i>	50%

26 Do you think Congress should try to repeal the health care law, or should they let it stand? Do you feel this way strongly or somewhat?

Repeal - Feel Strongly	38%
Repeal - Feel Somewhat	11%
Let it Stand - Feel Somewhat	14%
Let it Stand - Feel Strongly	22%
Don't Know/Refused	15%
Total	100%
<i>Net Repeal</i>	49%
<i>Net Let It Stand</i>	36%

27 Do you think Americans should or should not be required to have health insurance?

Should	43%
Should Not	51%
Don't Know/Refused	6%
Total	100%

28 Do you think it is constitutional or unconstitutional for Congress to require Americans to have health insurance?

Constitutional	30%
Unconstitutional	62%
Don't Know/Refused	8%
Total	100%

29 Do you think it would be constitutional or unconstitutional for Congress to require Americans to buy healthy foods, such as broccoli?

Constitutional	8%
Unconstitutional	87%
Don't Know/Refused	5%
Total	100%

30 The new health care law has a provision that prohibits health insurance companies from charging some customers higher premiums based on pre-existing conditions or medical history. Do you favor or oppose this provision?

Favor	52%
Oppose	39%
Don't Know/Refused	9%
Total	100%

31	Suppose the effect of this pre-existing conditions provision were to increase taxes. Would you be willing to pay higher taxes in order for health insurance companies to not charge higher premiums based on medical history?	% All Respondents	% Among Those Who Favor Provision
	Yes	37%	47%
	No	56%	48%
	Don't Know/Refused	8%	5%
	Total	100%	100%
32	Suppose the effect of this pre-existing conditions provision were to increase wait times to see your doctor or specialist. Would you be willing to wait longer to see a doctor or specialist in order for health insurance companies to not charge higher premiums based on medical history?	% All Respondents	% Among Those Who Favor Provision
	Yes	41%	51%
	No	51%	43%
	Don't Know/Refused	8%	5%
	Total	100%	100%
33	Suppose the effect of this pre-existing conditions provision were to increase premiums. Would you be willing to pay higher premiums in order for health insurance companies to not charge higher premiums based on medical history?	% All Respondents	% Among Those Who Favor Provision
	Yes	38%	46%
	No	50%	45%
	Don't Know/Refused	11%	9%
	Total	100%	100%
34	Suppose the effect of this pre-existing conditions provision were to lower health care quality. Would you be willing to have lower quality health care in order for health insurance companies to not charge higher premiums based on medical history?	% All Respondents	% Among Those Who Favor Provision
	Yes	15%	17%
	No	76%	76%
	Don't Know/Refused	9%	7%
	Total	100%	100%
35	As you may know, the new health care law requires employers with more than 50 employees to provide employees with health insurance or else pay a fine. Do you approve or disapprove of this provision?		
	Approve	56%	
	Disapprove	39%	
	Don't Know/Refused	5%	
	Total	100%	

36	Do you think this will cause employers to hire more workers, lay off workers, or will it not significantly impact employers' hiring decisions?	% All Respondents	% Among Those Who Favor Provision
	Hire More Workers	4%	6%
	Lay Off Workers	47%	32%
	Not Significantly Impact Hiring Decisions	39%	53%
	Don't Know/Refused	10%	9%
	Total	100%	100%
37	Do you think this will cause employers to pay workers more, pay them less, or have no significant impact on workers' pay?	% All Respondents	% Among Those Who Favor Provision
	Pay Workers More	3%	4%
	Pay Workers Less	58%	50%
	No Significant Impact on Workers' Pay	29%	36%
	Don't Know/Refused	10%	9%
	Total	100%	100%
38	Do you think the federal government should or should not have the authority to require employers to provide health insurance to their employees?	% All Respondents	% Among Those Who Favor Provision
	Should Have the Authority	50%	71%
	Should Not Have the Authority	44%	23%
	Don't Know/Refused	6%	6%
	Total	100%	100%
39	Do you expect the new health care law will increase, decrease, or have no significant impact on innovation in health care and medical research?		
	Increase	24%	
	Decrease	24%	
	No Significant Impact	38%	
	Don't Know/Refused	14%	
	Total	100%	
40	In your opinion, is it likely or unlikely that the new health care law will lead to government rationing of health care services, which means some forms of medical care would no longer be covered because they are too costly, not essential, or have too little chance of success.		
	Very Likely	35%	
	Somewhat Likely	19%	
	Somewhat Unlikely	15%	
	Very Unlikely	18%	
	Don't Know/Refused	13%	
	Total	100%	
	<i>Net Likely</i>	54%	
	<i>Net Unlikely</i>	33%	

41	Would you prefer to buy health insurance through your employer, or would you prefer to receive the equivalent amount in pay so you could shop for and purchase your own health insurance plan?	
	Buy Health Insurance Through Employer	41%
	Receive Equivalent in Pay and Purchase Health Insurance Individually	48%
	Don't Know/Refused	12%
	Total	100%
42	If you were allowed buy health insurance from any health care provider in any state, do you think the price you pay for health insurance would...go up, stay the same, or go down?	
	Go Up	24%
	Stay the Same	23%
	Go Down	43%
	Don't Know/Refused	10%
	Total	100%
43	For people under 55, would you favor or oppose changing Medicare into a program that gives them a credit that can be used to purchase a private health insurance plan of their choice when they are eligible?	
	Strongly Favor	36%
	Somewhat Favor	29%
	Somewhat Oppose	8%
	Strongly Oppose	16%
	Don't Know/Refused	11%
	Total	100%
	<i>Net Favor</i>	65%
	<i>Net Oppose</i>	24%
44	If Medicare were changed to provide Americans with a credit that allowed them to shop for their own insurance, do you think the quality of health care that seniors and the disabled receive would improve, stay the same, or worsen?	
	Improve	34%
	Stay the Same	33%
	Worsen	23%
	Don't Know/Refused	11%
	Total	100%

45 In thinking about the quality and cost of health care for government workers compared to private sector workers, do you think government employees receive better health care benefits, about the same health care benefits, or worse health care benefits?

Better	67%
About the Same	22%
Worse	4%
Don't Know/Refused	7%
Total	100%

46 Would you favor or oppose allowing healthy people under medical supervision to sell their organs to patients who need them for transplants?

Strongly Favor	34%
Somewhat Favor	21%
Somewhat Oppose	9%
Strongly Oppose	25%
Don't Know/Refused	10%
Total	100%
<i>Net Favor</i>	55%
<i>Net Oppose</i>	34%

47 Ok now, would you please rate on a scale of 1-7 the following things according to the level of trust you have in each in addressing your health care needs. With 7 indicating a high level of trust, 1 indicating a low level of trust, and 4 being neutral. The first one is...

AVERAGE SCORES	Scale 1-7
Yourself	6.27
Your Doctor	5.95
Your Pharmacist	5.65
Your Hospital	5.31
Your Employer	4.99
Your Health Insurance Company	4.55
Your Government	3.10

47 cont. Ok now, would you please rate on a scale of 1-7 the following things according to the level of trust you have in each in addressing your health care needs. With 7 indicating a high level of trust, 1 indicating a low level of trust, and 4 being neutral. The first one is...

YOUR HOSPITAL

1 - No Trust at All	4%
2	4%
3	6%
4	11%
5	27%
6	20%
7 - Great Deal of Trust	25%
Don't Know/Refused	3%
Total	100%

YOUR PHARMACIST

1 - No Trust at All	3%
2	2%
3	4%
4	9%
5	21%
6	23%
7 - Great Deal of Trust	33%
Don't Know/Refused	4%
Total	100%

YOUR EMPLOYER

1 - No Trust at All	11%
2	5%
3	10%
4	14%
5	19%
6	11%
7 - Great Deal of Trust	15%
Don't Know/Refused	16%
Total	100%

YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY

1 - No Trust at All	10%
2	8%
3	11%
4	16%
5	23%
6	12%
7 - Great Deal of Trust	15%
Don't Know/Refused	5%
Total	100%

YOURSELF	
1 - No Trust at All	1%
2	1%
3	2%
4	4%
5	14%
6	15%
7 - Great Deal of Trust	61%
Don't Know/Refused	2%
Total	100%

YOUR GOVERNMENT	
1 - No Trust at All	34%
2	10%
3	15%
4	15%
5	14%
6	4%
7 - Great Deal of Trust	5%
Don't Know/Refused	3%
Total	100%

YOUR DOCTOR	
1 - No Trust at All	1%
2	2%
3	3%
4	6%
5	17%
6	24%
7 - Great Deal of Trust	43%
Don't Know/Refused	3%
Total	

48 Would you favor or oppose replacing the current federal income tax system with a flat tax that eliminates all federal tax deductions and instead charges everyone the same tax rate?

Strongly Favor	35%
Somewhat Favor	15%
Somewhat Oppose	10%
Strongly Oppose	31%
Don't Know/Refused	8%
Total	100%
<i>Net Favor</i>	50%
<i>Net Oppose</i>	41%

49	(Among those who favor flat tax) If a flat tax were implemented, what percentage of their incomes do you think Americans should pay in federal taxes?	Tax Rate
	Average	14%
	Median	12%
50	What percentage of Americans do you think paid no federal income taxes last year?	
	Average	33%
	Median	30%
51	For every dollar you pay in federal taxes, about how much of it do you think the government wastes?	
	Average	\$0.56
	Median	\$0.50
52	If Iran were close to being able to produce a nuclear weapon, would you favor or oppose the United States military attacking Iran to destroy or delay its nuclear program? Is that strongly or somewhat?	
	Strongly Favor	30%
	Somewhat Favor	18%
	Somewhat Oppose	15%
	Strongly Oppose	30%
	Don't Know/Refused	7%
	Total	100%
	<i>Net Favor</i>	48%
	<i>Net Oppose</i>	45%
53	If you were told that a US attack on Iran would start a war that is similar in length and costs to the war in Iraq would you favor or oppose attacking Iran? Is that strongly or somewhat?	
	Strongly Favor	20%
	Somewhat Favor	17%
	Somewhat Oppose	14%
	Strongly Oppose	42%
	Don't Know/Refused	7%
	Total	100%
	<i>Net Favor</i>	37%
	<i>Net Oppose</i>	56%

I am going to read you two statements. After I read both statements, please tell me which comes closer to your own opinion. You might agree to some extent with both, but we want to know which one is closer to your own views:

54 Which of the following statements better describes your own views? The less government the better; or there are more things that government should be doing.

The less government the better	49%
There are more things that government should be doing	45%
Don't Know/Refused	6%
Total	100%

55 Which of the following statements better describes your own views? The government should be doing more to regulate businesses; or, too often, government regulation of businesses does more harm than good.

Government should be doing more to regulate businesses	34%
Too Often, government regulation of businesses does more harm than good	57%
Don't Know/Refused	9%
Total	100%

56 Which of the following statements better describes your own views? We need a strong government to handle today's complex economic problems; or, people would be better able to handle today's problems within a free market with less government involvement.

Strong government to handle today's complex economic problems	45%
Better able to handle problems within a free market with less gov't involvement	49%
Don't Know/Refused	6%
Total	100%

57 Some people think the government should promote traditional values in our society. Others think the government should not favor any particular set of values. Which comes closer to your own view?

Government should promote traditional values	44%
Government should not promote any particular set of values	49%
Don't Know/Refused	7%
Total	100%

58	Some say the government should do more to protect morality in society. Others say government is getting too involved in the issue of morality. Which comes closer to your own view?	
	Government should do more to protect morality	30%
	Government is getting too involved in the issue of morality	61%
	Don't Know/Refused	9%
	Total	100%
59	Thinking about your overall political philosophy, would you describe yourself as...conservative, moderate, liberal, libertarian, progressive, or something else?	
	Conservative	30%
	Moderate	32%
	Liberal	15%
	Libertarian	6%
	Progressive	7%
	Other	1%
	Don't Know/Refused	10%
	Total	100%
60	In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, Independent, or what?	
	Republican	28%
	Democrat	30%
	Independent	37%
	Other	1%
	Don't Know/Refused	4%
	Total	100%
61	Do you think of yourself as CLOSER to the Republican Party, Democratic Party, or what? {If SOME OTHER PARTY} Which party?	
	Closer to Republican Party	28%
	Closer to Democratic Party	30%
	Other	4%
	Neither	36%
	Don't Know/Refused	2%
	Total	100%

62 In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, Independent, or what? {IF INDEPENDENT} Do you think of yourself as CLOSER to the Republican Party, Democratic Party, or what?

Democrat	41%
Pure Independent	13%
Republican	38%
Other	3%
Don't Know/Refused	4%
Total	100%

63 Do you consider yourself to be a supporter of the Tea Party movement or not? {IF NO} Did you ever consider yourself in the past to be a supporter of the Tea Party movement?

Current Supporter	30%
Past Supporter	3%
Not a Supporter	68%
Total	100%

Do you consider yourself to be a supporter of the Occupy Wall Street movement or not? {IF NO} Did you ever consider yourself in the past to be a supporter of the Occupy Wall Street movement?

Current Supporter	27%
Past Supporter	3%
Not a Supporter	70%
Total	100%

Now, I am going to ask you some questions for demographic purposes only. These questions are completely anonymous and help us determine how people in different education levels, income levels, and more think about important matters. First...

64 What is your household income category? Please stop me when I reach your category.

Less than \$25,000	17%
\$25,000 to \$49,999	22%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	18%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	15%
\$100,000 to \$249,999	17%
\$250,000 or More	3%
Don't Know/Refused	8%
Total	100%

65 What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Less than High School Graduate	4%
High School Graduate	19%
Some College	35%
College Graduate	26%
Post Graduate Study/ Degree	14%
Refused to Respond	2%
Total	100%

66 Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

Employed Full-Time	40%
Employed Part-Time	11%
Self-Employed	9%
Homemaker	6%
Retired	18%
Student	5%
Unemployed	8%
Refused to Respond	2%
Total	100%

67 {If Full-Time/Part-Time} Are you employed by local, state, or the federal government?

Yes	22%
No	78%
Refused to Respond	<1%
Total	100%

68 {If Retired} Before retiring, did you primarily work as a public sector or private sector employee?

Public Sector	37%
Private Sector	55%
Both Public & Private	3%
Self Employed	3%
Did Not Work Outside the Home	1%
Refused to Respond	1%
Total	100%

69 What is your religious preference? Is it Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Muslim, some other religion, or no religion?

Protestant	48%
Catholic	23%
Jewish	3%
Muslim	1%
Other	4%
None	16%
Refused to Respond	7%
Total	100%

70 {If Protestant/Christian} Would you describe yourself as 'born-again' or evangelical?

Yes	58%
No	35%
Don't Know/Refused	7%
Total	100%

71 How often do you attend religious services? Would you say...

Once a Week or More	38%
A Few Times a Month	15%
A Few Times a Year	23%
Never	17%
Refused to Respond	7%
Total	100%

72 Does your household use only a landline, only a cell phone, or do you have both?

Landline Only	4%
Cell Phone Only	27%
Both	67%
Refused to Respond	2%
Total	100%

73 {If both} Do you primarily use a landline or a mobile phone?

Primarily Landline	31%
Primarily Cell Phone	50%
Use Both Equally	18%
Refused to Respond	<1%
Total	100%

METHODOLOGY

MARCH 2012 POLL

The Reason-Rupe March 2012 poll collected a nationally representative sample of 1200 respondents, aged 18 and older from all 50 states and the District of Columbia using live telephone interviews from March 10th-20th 2012. The margin of sampling error for this poll is ± 3 percent. Questions on the GOP presidential primary among Republicans and Independent-leaning Republicans have a sample size of 468, and a ± 4.53 percent margin of error. Interviews were conducted with respondents using both landline (704) and mobile phones (496, including 232 who had no landline telephone phone). (Note: Persons without either a landline or mobile phone could not be included in the random selection process). Landline respondents were randomly selected within households based on the adult who had the most recent birthday. The sample was weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, party identification, Census region, and based on the most recent US Census data. The sample also weighted to match current telephone usage patterns from the National Health Interview Survey.

The sampling frame included landline and mobile phone numbers generated using Random Digit Dialing (RDD) methods and randomly selected numbers from a directory-listed sample. Samples were provided by GENSY, Marketing Systems Group. Click [here](#) for full methodological details. NSON Opinion Strategy conducted the poll's fieldwork.

Values less than 1% are indicated as <1%. "VOL" indicates that a response was volunteered by respondents, not an explicitly offered choice. Columns may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

PHONE TYPE	% Weighted	% Unweighted
Landline	53%	59%
Cell Phone	47%	41%
Total	100%	100%

View [full methodology](#)