



REASON-RUPE Public Opinion Survey

FEBRUARY 2013 TOPLINE RESULTS

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The Reason-Rupe February 2013 Poll interviewed 1002 adults on both mobile (502) and landline (500) phones, including 253 respondents without landlines from February 21 to 25, 2013. The margin of sampling error is +/- 3.8%. The margin of error increases for open-ended questions asked of subsets of the survey sample. Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI) conducted the survey. Interviews were done in English by Princeton Data Source LLC. Statistical results are weighted to correct known demographic discrepancies. When feasible, answer choices within questions were rotated. For more methodological information, please visit <http://reason.com/reason-rupe-poll-methodology>.

The poll questionnaire, crosstabs, and analysis can be found at reason.com/poll.

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?
 - Approve 51%
 - Disapprove 43%
 - DK/Refused 6%
 - Total 100%

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the economy?
 - Approve 47%
 - Disapprove..... 49%
 - DK/Refused..... 4%
 - Total 100%

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the U.S. Congress is doing?
 - Approve 14%
 - Disapprove..... 77%
 - DK/Refused..... 8%
 - Total 100%

4. Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction or in the wrong direction?
 - Right direction 35%
 - Wrong direction 59%
 - Neither 3%
 - DK/Refused..... 4%
 - Total 100%

5. President Obama won't be running in the next presidential election in 2016. Thinking ahead, who would you MOST like to see run for president in 2016? (OPEN)
 - Hillary Clinton 22%
 - Marco Rubio 3%
 - Chris Christie..... 3%
 - Joe Biden..... 2%
 - Ron Paul 2%
 - Other 14%
 - Don't know/Refused (VOL.) 53%
 - Total 100%

6. In thinking about your own children or the next generation of Americans, which of the following concerns you the most?
 - Terrorism and war 7%
 - Gun violence..... 13%
 - A weak economy and lack of jobs 45%
 - Government debt and deficits..... 17%
 - Environmental problems 7%
 - Or something else..... 8%
 - DK/Refused..... 2%
 - Total 100%

7. The federal minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour. Do you favor or oppose President Obama's proposal to raise the minimum wage to \$9 per hour?
 - Favor 66%
 - Oppose..... 30%
 - DK/Refused..... 3%
 - Total 100%

8. What about if raising the minimum wage caused some employers to lay off workers? Would you favor or oppose raising the minimum wage?
 - Favor 37%
 - Oppose..... 56%
 - DK/Refused..... 6%
 - Total 100%

9. Do you think raising the minimum wage would (reduce) the number of jobs, (increase) the number of jobs, or have no impact on the number of jobs?
 - Reduce the number of jobs 42%
 - Increase the number of jobs..... 13%
 - Have no impact on the number of jobs..... 41%
 - DK/Refused..... 5%
 - Total 100%

10. How much do you think the minimum wage could be before many businesses hire fewer workers or consider laying off workers, because they can't afford to pay it? (OPEN)

- Median.....\$9.00
- \$1-5 2%
- \$6-10 59%
- \$11-15..... 11%
- \$16-99..... 2%
- No Limit..... 1%
- DK/Refused..... 25%
- Total 100%

11. Is your overall opinion of the US Postal Service: very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

- Net favorable..... 80%
- Net unfavorable 17%
- Very favorable 28%
- Mostly favorable 52%
- Mostly unfavorable..... 11%
- Very unfavorable..... 6%
- Never heard of <1%
- Can't rate 1%
- Refused 1%
- Total 100%

12. Is your overall opinion of FedEx: very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

- Net favorable..... 78%
- Net unfavorable 9%
- Very favorable 26%
- Mostly favorable 52%
- Mostly unfavorable..... 6%
- Very unfavorable..... 3%
- Never heard of 1%
- Can't rate 10%
- Refused 3%
- Total 100%

13. Is your overall opinion of UPS: very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

- Net favorable..... 84%
- Net unfavorable 9%
- Very favorable 31%
- Mostly favorable 53%
- Mostly unfavorable..... 6%
- Very unfavorable 3%
- Can't rate 6%
- Refused 2%
- Total 100%

14. If UPS or FedEx took over the delivery of the mail currently delivered to your address by the U.S. Postal Service, do you think the quality and speed of mail service would improve, worsen or remain the same?

- Improve..... 26%
- Worsen 22%
- Remain the same 47%
- Depends on carrier 1%
- DK/Refused..... 5%
- Total 100%

15. In just a few words, what does the term "economic opportunity" mean to you? (OPEN; ASKED OF HALF) (Some respondents provided up to three answers; % Sum to More than 100%)

% of Respondents Who Mentioned...

- Jobs: More/Better/Security/Opportunity 36%
- Provide/Make Money 25%
- Economy: Growth/Improve Economy..... 10%
- Future: Positive/Better; American Dream..... 9%
- Equal Opportunity/Freedom 8%
- Business: Chance to Start/Grow a Business 4%
- Hard Work/Make It Yourself..... 4%
- Education..... 3%
- Less Gov't Regulation/Taxes 1%
- Don't Know..... 8%

16. In just a few words, what does the term “Crony Capitalism” mean to you? (OPEN; ASKED OF HALF) (Some respondents provided up to three answers; % Sum to More than 100%)

% of Respondents Who Mentioned...

- Political Favoritism 13%
- Corruption/Bribery/Fraud..... 6%
- Bad/Wrong/False/Not Good For US..... 6%
- Big Business Influencing Govt 6%
- Rich Influencing Govt..... 5%
- Against Public Interest 4%
- Old: People, Politicians, Ideas 4%
- Politicians Helping Themselves..... 3%
- What We Have Now 2%
- Greed/Selfishness 2%
- Democrats/President Obama..... 2%
- Controlled By The Few 2%
- Republicans 1%
- Don't Know..... 53%

17. When you hear the term “ObamaCare,” what one or two words come to mind? (OPEN; HALF)

- *Net positive*..... 31%
- *Net negative* 43%
- A bad thing/idea/Strong negative comment . 20%
- A good thing/idea 10%
- Better/Expanded Health Care 7%
- Socialized Medicine/Mandates 7%
- Health Care For All/Universal..... 6%
- Expensive/Higher Costs/Premiums..... 6%
- Affordable/Free Health Care 4%
- Concern/Fear/Scary/Confusing 4%
- Was Needed/Will Help 3%
- Health Insurance 3%
- Waste/Unnecessary/Inefficient 3%
- Needs Improvement/Lower quality 2%
- Higher taxes..... 2%
- Other 13%
- Don't Know..... 9%
- Total 100%

18. Overall, given what you know about the health care law, would you say that country is (better off) with the health care law, (worse off) with the health care law, or has the health care law made no difference either way?

- Better off..... 31%
- Worse off 37%
- Made no difference 24%
- Too early to tell (Vol.) 2%
- DK/Refused..... 6%
- Total 100%

19. Do you think the health care law has made it (easier) for you to afford health care coverage, made it (harder) for you to afford health care coverage, or made no impact on your ability to afford health care coverage?

- Easier 13%
- Harder 26%
- Made no impact..... 58%
- Don't have health care coverage (Vol.)..... <1%
- DK/Refused..... 2%
- Total 100%

20. Are you, yourself now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan or do you not have health insurance at this time? A health plan would include any private insurance plan through your employer or a plan that you purchased yourself, as well as a government program like Medicare or [Medicaid/Medi-CAL]

- Covered by health insurance 82%
- Not covered by health insurance 18%
- DK/Refused..... <1%
- Total 100%

21. Which of the following is your MAIN source of health insurance coverage? Is it a plan through your or your spouse's employer, a plan you purchased yourself, are you covered by Medicare or (Medicaid/Medi-CAL), some other government program, or do you get your health insurance from somewhere else?
- Plan through your/your spouse's employer... 54%
 - Plan you purchased yourself..... 10%
 - Medicare..... 20%
 - Medicaid/Medi-CAL..... 7%
 - Some other government program..... 3%
 - Somewhere else 3%
 - Plan through parent..... 2%
 - DK/Refused..... 1%
 - Total 100%
22. Next, do you think it is constitutional or unconstitutional for the president of the United States to order the killing of American citizens who are suspected of being terrorists?
- Constitutional 31%
 - Unconstitutional 57%
 - DK/Refused..... 12%
 - Total 100%
23. The government has used unmanned military aircraft, or drones, to kill American citizens who are suspected of being terrorists. When it comes to the use of drones, how concerned are you that the government may abuse its power... a lot, some, not too much or not at all?
- A lot 32%
 - Some 27%
 - Not too much 19%
 - Not at all..... 17%
 - DK/Refused..... 5%
 - Total 100%
24. If your local police department is using drones, how much do you worry that they might invade your privacy...a lot, some, not too much, or not at all?
- A lot 40%
 - Some 20%
 - Not too much 18%
 - Not at all..... 21%
 - DK/Refused..... 1%
 - Total 100%
25. If a drone flew over your house and was recording you and your property without your permission, do you think you should have the right to destroy it, or not?
- Yes 47%
 - No 47%
 - Depends 1%
 - DK/Refused..... 4%
 - Total 100%
26. In your view, does immigration (help grow) the U.S. economy, (hurt) the U.S. economy, or not make much impact on the U.S. economy?
- Help grow 40%
 - Hurt 40%
 - Not make much impact..... 14%
 - DK/Refused..... 5%
 - Total 100%
27. And, in your view, does increasing the number of immigrants in the U.S. take jobs away from native-born Americans, or not?
- Takes jobs from native-born 55%
 - Does not take jobs from native-born 42%
 - No difference (Vol.)..... 1%
 - DK/Refused..... 3%
 - Total 100%

28. In your view, do immigrants come to the United States primarily (to find jobs and improve their lives) or primarily (to try to obtain government services and welfare benefits)?
- To find jobs and improve their lives 41%
 - To try to obtain govt services and benefits 44%
 - Both (Vol.)..... 12%
 - DK/Refused..... 3%
 - Total 100%
29. Do you favor or oppose requiring employers to check with a federal government database that verifies the legal immigration status of any job applicant they are considering hiring, including both native-born and foreign-born applicants?
- Favor..... 79%
 - Oppose..... 17%
 - DK/Refused..... 4%
 - Total 100%
30. Would you favor or oppose this verification requirement if your name has to be kept in the federal database?
- Favor..... 65%
 - Oppose..... 28%
 - DK/Refused..... 7%
 - Total 100%
31. Would you favor or oppose this requirement if business owners have to pay \$150 to verify the legal status of every worker they are considering hiring?
- Favor..... 37%
 - Oppose..... 58%
 - DK/Refused..... 5%
 - Total 100%
32. Currently, the federal government limits the number of visas available for highly skilled workers to 85,000 per year, which is less than the number American companies request. Do you think this cap on visas for highly skilled workers, like engineer and doctors, should be raised, lowered, kept the same, or removed?
- Removed..... 11%
 - Raised 29%
 - Kept the same 44%
 - Lowered 11%
 - DK/Refused..... 6%
 - Total 100%
33. The US government also caps the number of temporary work visas given to low skilled workers at 66,000 per year, which is less than what American companies request. Do you think this cap on visas for low-skilled workers who work in landscaping, construction, and other fields, should be raised, lowered, kept the same, or removed?
- Removed..... 9%
 - Raised 31%
 - Kept the same 43%
 - Lowered 13%
 - DK/Refused..... 3%
 - Total 100%
34. Which comes closest to your view about unauthorized immigrants who are currently living in the United States?
- They should be allowed to stay in the U.S. and eventually be allowed to apply for citizenship if they meet requirements..... 55%
 - They should be allowed to stay in the U.S., but not be allowed to apply for citizenship..... 4%
 - They should be allowed to stay in the U.S. temporarily as guest workers, and then be sent back to their home countries 11%
 - They should be deported back to their home countries 27%
 - DK/Refused..... 3%
 - Total 100%

35. Do you think the sale of soft drinks larger than 16 ounces in theaters, restaurants and other venues should be allowed or not allowed?
- Allowed 71%
 - Not allowed 26%
 - DK/Refused..... 3%
 - Total 100%
36. Do you think banning large servings of soda is an effective way to fight obesity, or not?
- Effective 28%
 - Not effective 68%
 - DK/Refused..... 3%
 - Total 100%
37. Some people say caffeinated beverages marketed as 'energy drinks' are dangerous to consumers. Do you think energy drinks should be allowed, or not allowed?
- Allowed 59%
 - Not allowed 34%
 - DK/Refused..... 7%
 - Total 100%
38. Do you think most energy drinks have more caffeine per ounce than coffee, less caffeine per ounce than coffee, or about the same amount of caffeine per ounce as:
- More caffeine than coffee 61%
 - Less caffeine than coffee 3%
 - About the same amount of caffeine 25%
 - DK/Refused..... 12%
 - Total 100%
39. The Federal Trade Commission recently required the manufacturer of the malt beverage Four Loko to put a statement on each can indicating that the drink contains 4.7 servings of alcohol. Do you think this labeling change will...
- Encourage consumers to drink less..... 14%
 - Encourage consumers to drink more 17%
 - Have no impact on the amount drank..... 63%
 - DK/Refused..... 7%
 - Total 100%
40. Which of the following things would most upset you?
- The cancellation of this year's Major League Baseball season,..... 10%
 - The cancellation of American Idol,..... 2%
 - The cancellation of the current session of Congress, [OR]..... 33%
 - None of these would upset you? 54%
 - DK/Refused..... 1%
 - Total 100%
41. Please tell me which comes closer to your own opinion:
- The less government the better [or] 46%
 - There are more things government should be doing 48%
 - DK/Refused..... 6%
 - Total 100%
42. Please tell me which comes closer to your own opinion:
- We need a strong government to handle today's complex economic problems [or] 47%
 - People would be better able to handle today's problems within a free market with less government involvement 49%
 - DK/Refused..... 5%
 - Total 100%

43. 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?

- Gov't should promote traditional values..... 47%
- Gov't should not favor particular values..... 48%
- DK/Refused..... 6%
- Total 100%

44. What is your gender?

- Male 49%
- Female 51%
- Total 100%

45. What is your age?

- 18-24 13%
- 25-34 16%
- 35-44 17%
- 45-54 19%
- 55-64 16%
- 65+ 17%
- DK/Ref..... 2%
- Total 100%

46. Thinking about your overall political philosophy, would you describe yourself as:

- Conservative..... 30%
- Moderate..... 23%
- Liberal..... 16%
- Libertarian..... 4%
- Progressive 7%
- Something else 15%
- DK/Refused..... 6%
- Total 100%

47. In politics today, do you consider yourself a...

- Republican 23%
- Democrat..... 34%
- Independent..... 34%
- Or what 6%
- DK/Refused..... 3%
- Total 100%

48. {Asked of Independents} Do you *LEAN* more towards the...?

- Republican Party 33%
- Democratic Party 34%
- Independent/Don't Lean to Either Party 22%
- Other Party 3%
- DK/Refused..... 9%
- Total 100%

49. Party Identification (DERIVED)

- Democrat..... 34%
- Independent-Lean Democrat 15%
- Independent..... 10%
- Independent-Lean Republican 14%
- Republican 23%
- DK/Refused..... 4%
- Total 100%

50. In just a few words, why do you consider yourself...Republican/Lean Republican, Democratic/Lean Democratic (OPEN) (*Asked of partisans*)

- GOP: Represents my beliefs..... 27%
- GOP: Conservative 15%
- GOP: Economic philosophy/small govt 14%
- GOP: Aligned with moral values 9%
- GOP: Don't like the Democrats/Obama 9%
- GOP: Born and raised 8%
- GOP: Believe in Constitution 2%
- GOP: Don't believe In giving away free stuff 2%
- GOP: Other reason..... 14%
- Total 100%

- Dem: Represents my beliefs 25%
- Dem: Born and raised..... 18%
- Dem: Represents the people 16%
- Dem: Don't like the Republicans 13%
- Dem: Taking care of people 10%
- Dem: Liberal 3%
- Dem: Believe in gov't involvement..... 1%
- Dem: Other reason 14%
- Total 100%

51. In just a few words, why do you consider yourself an Independent in politics? (OPEN) (Asked of Independents)

- Ind: Agree/disagree with both..... 30%
- Ind: Have own beliefs 18%
- Ind: Neither party trustworthy 18%
- Ind: Choose best person for job 12%
- Ind: Don't care about politics 8%
- Ind: Don't vote party line..... 6%
- Ind: Other..... 7%
- Total 100%

52. Do you consider yourself to be a supporter of the Tea Party movement or not?

- Supporter..... 21%
- Not a supporter..... 67%
- DK/Refused..... 12%
- Total 100%

53. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

- < High School..... 8%
- High School..... 33%
- Some College..... 31%
- College..... 17%
- Post-Grad..... 10%
- Don't Know 1%
- Total 100%

54. Race/Ethnicity

- White..... 66%
- African American 12%
- Hispanic..... 13%
- Other 7%
- DK/Refused..... 2%
- Total 100%

55. What is your household income category?

- Less than \$30,000 per year 27%
- \$30,000 but less than \$45,000 14%
- \$45,000 but less than \$60,000 15%
- \$60,000 but less than \$75,000 11%
- \$75,000 but less than \$90,000 6%
- \$90,000 but less than \$110,000 6%
- \$110,000 but less than \$150,000 7%
- \$150,000 but less than \$250,000 5%
- More than \$250,000..... 2%
- DK/Refused..... 8%
- Total 100%

56. Thinking about 10 years from now, what do you expect your annual household income to approximately be? (OPEN)

- < \$30,000 per year 5%
- \$30,000-\$45,000..... 12%
- \$45,000-\$60,000..... 12%
- \$60,000-\$75,000..... 11%
- \$75,000-\$90,000..... 7%
- \$90,000-\$110,000..... 10%
- \$110,000-\$150,000 5%
- \$150,000-\$250,000 7%
- \$250,000+ 6%
- DK/Refused..... 25%
- Total 100%

57. Expected Future Income Mobility (DERIVED)

- Expect Lower Income 13%
- Expect Same Income 21%
- Expect Higher Income 66%
- Total 100%

58. Which of the following best describes your current employment status?
- Employed full time 41%
 - Employed part time 10%
 - Small business owner 7%
 - Taking care of home and family 6%
 - Retired..... 19%
 - Student..... 6%
 - Unemployed..... 9%
 - Disabled (VOL)..... 2%
 - DK/Refused..... <1%
 - Total 100%

59. Are you a public or private sector worker?
(Among Employed)
- Public sector worker 16%
 - Private sector worker 84%
 - Total 100%

60. What is your religious preference?
- Protestant 49%
 - Catholic 20%
 - Jewish..... 2%
 - Muslim 1%
 - Other 8%
 - No Religion 18%
 - DK/Refused 3%
 - Total 100%

61. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?
- Once a Week (or more)..... 37%
 - A few times a month 16%
 - A few times a year 26%
 - Never?..... 19%
 - DK/Refused..... 2%
 - Total 100%

62. What is your geographic region?
- Northeast..... 18%
 - Midwest..... 23%
 - South 37%
 - West 22%
 - Total 100%