



REASON-RUPE

Public Opinion Survey

SEPTEMBER 2013 TOPLINE RESULTS

RELEASED: SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

The Reason-Rupe September 2013 Poll interviewed 1,013 adults on both mobile (509) and landline (504) phones, including 262 respondents without landlines from September 4–8, 2013 from all 50 states and the District of Columbia using live telephone interviews. The margin of sampling error is +/- 3.7%. Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI) conducted the survey. Interviews were done in English by Braun Research, Incorporated. Statistical results are weighted to correct known demographic discrepancies. When feasible, answer choices within questions were rotated or randomized. For more methodological information, please visit <http://reason.com/reason-rupe-poll-methodology>. Don't know/Refused responses are voluntary. Due to rounding, accumulated responses may not total 100%.

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

1. Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction or in the wrong direction?
 - Right direction 28%
 - Wrong direction 61%
 - Neither (VOL.) 7%
 - DK/Refused 3%
 - Total 100%

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

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling foreign policy?
 - Approve 35%
 - Disapprove 58%
 - DK/Refused 7%
 - Total 100%

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the U.S. Congress is doing?
 - Approve 22%
 - Disapprove 72%
 - DK/Refused 7%
 - Total 100%

49. When it comes to launching U.S. military action around the world, would you say the political establishment in Washington D.C. is (more likely to favor military action than you are), (less likely to favor military action than you are), or about the same?
 - More likely 47%
 - Less likely 17%
 - About the same 30%
 - DK/Refused 5%
 - Total 100%

50. Do you think U.S. airstrikes against Syria are necessary or NOT necessary to protect America's credibility and national security?
 - Necessary 26%
 - Not necessary 64%
 - DK/Refused 9%
 - Total 100%

51. Would you say President Obama's handling of foreign policy has been (better) or (worse) than former President George W. Bush's handling of foreign policy, or are they about the same?
 - Better 32%
 - Worse 32%
 - About the same 32%
 - DK/Refused 3%
 - Total 100%

[Questions 5-47 embargoed for future release]

READ TO ALL: Turning to Syria, where the government is believed to have used chemical weapons to kill civilians...

48. Do you think it is (wise) or (unwise) for the United States to launch airstrikes on Syria without the support of the United Nations or Great Britain?
 - Wise 17%
 - Unwise 74%
 - DK/Refused 8%
 - Total 100%

52. As you may know, some Republicans in Congress such as Senator Rand Paul generally oppose U.S. military intervention overseas, including military action against Syria. Does this make you view the Republican Party (more favorably), (less favorably), or make no difference either way?
 - More favorably 21%
 - Less favorably 16%
 - No difference either way 60%
 - DK/Refused 3%
 - Total 100%

ROTATE QUESTIONS 53 AND 54

53. Which comes closer to your own opinion?

- “The less government the better” 51%
- “There are more things government should be doing” 44%
- DK/Refused 5%
- Total 100%

54. Which comes closer to your own opinion?

- “We need a strong government to handle today’s complex economic problems” 43%
- “People would be better able to handle today’s problems within a free market with less government involvement” 51%
- DK/Refused 5%
- Total 100%

55. 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?

- Should promote traditional values 47%
- Should not favor any particular set of values 46%
- DK/Refused 6%
- Total 100%

56. GENDER

- Male 50%
- Female 50%
- Total 100%

57. AGE

- 18-24 13%
- 25-34 14%
- 35-44 17%
- 45-54 19%
- 55-64 16%
- 65+ 16%
- DK/Refused 5%
- Total 100%

58. Race/Ethnicity

- White 65%
- African-American 12%
- Hispanic 13%
- Other 7%
- DK/Refused 4%
- Total 100%

59. Which of the following BEST describes your current employment status?

- Employed Full-Time 41%
- Employed Part-Time 10%
- Small business owner or self-employed 6%
- Taking care of home and family 6%
- Retired 19%
- Student 6%
- Unemployed 5%
- Disabled (VOL.) 3%
- DK/Refused 3%
- Total 100%

60. Are you employed by local, state, or the federal government? (ASK IF EMPLOYED FULL- OR PART-TIME)

- Public Sector Worker 18%
- Private Sector Worker 79%
- DK/Refused 3%
- Total 100%

61. Which of these statements best describes you?

- Are you ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN that you are registered to vote at your current address 79%
- Are you PROBABLY registered, but there is a chance your registration has lapsed, OR 5%
- Are you NOT registered to vote at your current address? 13%
- DK/Refused 3%
- Total 100%

62. In politics today, do you consider yourself a:
- Republican 23%
 - Democrat 29%
 - Independent 38%
 - Or what? 7%
 - DK/Refused 3%
 - Total 100%

63. Party Identification (DERIVED, Independent Leaners Sorted)
- Democrat 29%
 - Independent-Lean Democrat 14%
 - Independent 16%
 - Independent-Lean Republican 15%
 - Republican 23%
 - DK/Refused 4%
 - Total 100%

64. Thinking about your overall political philosophy, would you describe yourself as:
- Conservative 30%
 - Moderate 22%
 - Liberal 16%
 - Libertarian 8%
 - Progressive 5%
 - Or something else? 13%
 - DK/Refused 6%
 - Total 100%

65. Do you consider yourself to be a supporter of the Tea Party movement, or not?
- Supporter 27%
 - Not a supporter 60%
 - DK/Refused 13%
 - Total 100%

66. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?
- High school or less 41%
 - Some college 31%
 - College 15%
 - Post-Grad 10%
 - DK/Refused 3%
 - Total 100%

67. What is your household income category?
- <\$30,000 23%
 - \$30,000 but less than \$45,000 16%
 - \$45,000 but less than \$60,000 16%
 - \$60,000 but less than \$75,000 11%
 - \$75,000 but less than \$90,000 7%
 - \$90,000 but less than \$110,000 6%
 - \$110,000 but less than \$150,000 5%
 - \$150,000 but less than \$250,000 3%
 - \$250,000 or more 3%
 - DK/Refused 11%
 - Total 100%

68. Thinking about 10 years from now, what do you expect your annual household income to be? (OPEN-END)
- <\$30,000 7%
 - \$30,000 but less than \$45,000 15%
 - \$45,000 but less than \$60,000 12%
 - \$60,000 but less than \$75,000 8%
 - \$75,000 but less than \$90,000 6%
 - \$90,000 but less than \$110,000 9%
 - \$110,000 but less than \$150,000 4%
 - \$150,000 but less than \$250,000 5%
 - \$250,000 or more 8%
 - DK/Refused 25%
 - Total 100%

69. (Compared to Current Income for under 55)
Thinking about 10 years from now, what do you expect your annual household income to approximately be?

- Expect lower income 14%
- Expect same income 20%
- Expect higher income 65%
- DK/Refused 25%
- Total 100%

70. Region

- Northeast 18%
- Midwest 22%
- South 37%
- West 23%
- Total 100%

71. Community Type

- Rural 18%
- Suburban 48%
- Urban 33%
- Total 100%