

Reason-Rupe August 2014 National Poll
Princeton Survey Research Associates International
 August 6, 2014

N = 1,000 (500 from Landline RDD Sample / 500 from Cell RDD Sample)
 Interviewing dates: August 6-10, 2014
 Form A/B (Form A: Random 500 / Form B: Random 500)
 English only

LANDLINE INTRO:

Hello, my name is _____ and I'm calling for Princeton Survey Research. We're conducting a study about some important issues today, and would like to include your household.

RANDOMIZE RESPONDENT SELECTION - DO NOT RANDOMIZE BY FORM: "May I please speak with the YOUNGEST ADULT MALE, age 18 or older, who is now at home?" **AND** "May I please speak with the YOUNGEST ADULT FEMALE, age 18 or older, who is now at home?" **IF NO MALE/FEMALE ASK:** May I please speak with the YOUNGEST ADULT FEMALE/MALE, age 18 or older, who is now at home?

IF RESPONDENT COMES TO THE PHONE, RE-READ:

Hello, my name is _____ and I'm calling for Princeton Survey Research. We're conducting a study about some important issues today, and would like to include your household.

GO TO MAIN INTERVIEW

CELL PHONE INTRO:

Hello, I am ___ calling for Princeton Survey Research. We are conducting a national study of cell phone users. I know I am calling you on a cell phone. If you would like to be reimbursed for your cell phone minutes, we will pay eligible respondents \$5 for participating in this survey. This is NOT a sales call. **(IF R SAYS DRIVING/UNABLE TO TAKE CALL:** Thank you. We will try you another time...)

VOICE MAIL MESSAGE (LEAVE ONLY ONCE -- THE FIRST TIME A CALL GOES TO

VOICEMAIL): I am calling for Princeton Survey Research. We are conducting a national survey of cell phone users. This is NOT a sales call. We will try to reach you again.

CELL PHONE SCREENING INTERVIEW:

S1. Are you under 18 years old, OR are you 18 or older?

- 1 Under 18
- 2 18 or older
- 9 Don't know/Refused

IF S1=2, CONTINUE WITH MAIN INTERVIEW

IF S1=1,9, THANK AND TERMINATE: This study is limited to adults age 18 and over. I won't take any more of your time...

READ TO ALL CELL PHONE - INTRODUCTION TO MAIN INTERVIEW: We're interested in learning more about people with cell phones. If you are now driving a car or doing any activity requiring your full attention, I need to call you back later. The first question is...

INTERVIEWER: If R says it is not a good time, try to arrange a time to call back.

SEX. Respondent's sex **(DO NOT READ)**

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

APPROVALS

- Q1. Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction or in the wrong direction?
- 1 Right Direction
 - 2 Wrong Direction
 - 3 **(DO NOT READ)** Neither
 - 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
 - 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused
- Q2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?
- 1 Approve
 - 2 Disapprove
 - 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
 - 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused
- Q3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling foreign policy?
- 1 Approve
 - 2 Disapprove
 - 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
 - 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused
- Q4. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the U.S. Congress is doing?
- 1 Approve
 - 2 Disapprove
 - 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
 - 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused
- Q5. When it comes to priorities, would you rather see Congress prioritize **(ROTATE:** policies aimed at reducing income inequality [OR] policies aimed at promoting economic growth?)
- 1 Reduce income inequality
 - 2 Promote economic growth
 - 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
 - 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused
- Q6. Do you think Barack Obama has expanded the power of the presidency too much, not enough, or has he not expanded the power of the presidency?
- 1 Too Much
 - 2 Not Enough
 - 3 Hasn't Expanded Presidential Power
 - 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
 - 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ROTATE Q7 AND Q8

Q7. CUT

Q8. CUT

Elections/Voting

READ TO ALL: Thinking about the next congressional elections that will be coming up later this year...

Q9. Are you registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?

- 1 Yes, registered
- 2 No, not registered
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

Q9a. What are the chances that you will vote in the November midterm elections?

- 1 Absolutely certain to vote
- 2 Very likely to vote
- 3 Chances are 50/50
- 4 Unlikely to vote
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK IF REGISTERED (Q9=1) & Q9a=1/2 :Q10. If the election for the US House of Representatives were being held today, would you vote for **(ROTATE:** the Republican candidate [OR] the Democratic candidate) in your district?

- 1 Republican Party's Candidate
- 2 Democratic Party's Candidate
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK IF REGISTERED (Q9=1) & Q9a=1/2:Q11. Which of the following outcomes would you most want to see happen as a result of the Congressional elections being held later this year (2014)?...**(ROTATE:** Republicans control Congress, / Democrats control Congress,) or neither Republicans nor Democrats control Congress

- 1 Republicans control Congress
- 2 Democrats control Congress
- 3 Neither controls
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK ALLQ12. Of the following issues, which one would you say is MOST important to your vote for Congress this year? **(READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-8)**

- 1 The economy
- 2 Immigration
- 3 National security and foreign policy
- 4 Health care
- 5 Education
- 6 Same-sex marriage
- 7 Abortion [OR]
- 8 The environment
- 9 **(DO NOT READ) Other (SPECIFY)**
- 97 **(DO NOT READ) Not voting/Not registered**
- 98 **(DO NOT READ) Don't know**
- 99 **(DO NOT READ) Refused**

ASK IF REGISTERED (Q9=1) & Q9a=1/2:

Q13. What economic issue is most important to your vote this year? **(READ AND RANDOMIZE 1-6)**

- 1 Taxes
- 2 The budget deficit
- 3 Government spending
- 4 Jobs
- 5 The gap between rich and poor [OR]
- 6 Regulations on business
- 7 **(DO NOT READ) Other (SPECIFY)**
- 98 **(DO NOT READ) Don't know**
- 99 **(DO NOT READ) Refused**

READ TO ALL: Changing topics...

Q14. When it comes to negotiating a long-term peace agreement between the Israelis and the Palestinians, do you think the United States should....(READ 1-4)

- 1 Be more involved than it has been
- 2 Be less involved
- 3 Continue it's current level of involvement
- 4 Stay out of it entirely
- 8 **(DO NOT READ) Don't know**
- 9 **(DO NOT READ) Refused**

Q15. As you may know, some US citizens have contracted ebola in Africa. How likely do you think an ebola outbreak is in a US city? Would you say it is....(READ 1-4)

- 1 Very likely
- 2 Somewhat likely
- 3 Not too likely
- 4 Not at all likely
- 8 **(DO NOT READ) Don't know**
- 9 **(DO NOT READ) Refused**

Constitutional Amendments

READ TO ALL: Throughout its history, America has passed amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Recently there has been discussion of some new amendments.

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q16-20 – with Q20 always following Q19

Q16. Would you favor or oppose a constitutional amendment that would give states the power to repeal a federal law or regulation if half of the state legislatures representing half the national population vote to repeal the law?

- 1 Favor
- 2 Oppose
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

Q17. Would you favor or oppose a constitutional amendment to allow the president to veto certain parts of a bill, including spending, without vetoing everything in the bill, also known as a line-item veto.

- 1 Favor
- 2 Oppose
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

Q18. Would you favor or oppose a constitutional amendment to require a balanced federal budget?

- 1 Favor
- 2 Oppose
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

Q19. Would you favor or oppose a constitutional amendment that allows Congress and state governments to regulate campaign contributions to and spending by candidates for office?

- 1 Favor
- 2 Oppose
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK IF FAVOR CAMPAIGN REGULATIONS (Q19=1)

Q20. Suppose this amendment also allowed Congress and states to regulate activities by individuals and groups, such as blogging or publishing a book that support or oppose a political candidate. Would you still favor the amendment, or would you now oppose it?

- 1 Still favor
- 2 Now oppose
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

Q21. As you may know, Congress sometimes exempts itself and its members from some of the laws it passes. Would you favor or oppose a constitutional amendment that would require members of Congress be subject to ALL laws they pass?

- 1 Favor
- 2 Oppose
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

Q22. Do you think judges have interpreted the US Constitution in a way that gives the government more power than it should have, less power than it should have, or about the right amount of power?

- 1 More
- 2 Less
- 3 About the right amount
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

[Q23-Q43 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE]

READ TO ALL: Changing topics

Q44 As I read a list of words and phrases, please tell me if you have a very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very UNfavorable opinion of them. First, would you say your opinion of **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]** is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very UNfavorable? How about **[INSERT]**? **[READ IF NECESSARY:** Would you say your opinion is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very UNfavorable?]

- a. Socialism
- b. Capitalism
- c. The Free Market System
- d. Government-managed economy

- 1 Very favorable
- 2 Mostly favorable
- 3 Mostly UNfavorable
- 4 Very UNfavorable
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

Q45 In just a few words, how would you define socialism? **(RECORD OPEN END)**

- 1 Answer given
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

READ TO ALL: Next...as I read the following pairs of statements, please tell me which comes closer to your own opinion.

Q46 (First,/How about,) **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

[IF NECESSARY: Please tell me which comes closer to your own opinion] *{Reason-Rupe Dec 4-8, 2013}*

- 1 "We need a strong government to handle today's complex economic problems"
[OR]

- 2 "People would be better able to handle today's problems within a free market with less government involvement."
 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

Q47 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? **[ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES]** {Reason-Rupe Dec 4-8, 2013}

- 1 Government should promote traditional values
 2 Government should not favor any particular set of values
 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

Q48 If you had to choose, would you rather have a smaller government providing fewer services, or a bigger government providing more services?

- 1 Smaller government providing fewer services
 2 Larger government providing more services
 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

Demographics

READ TO ALL: I have one last set of questions to help us better understand the people who took part in our survey.

ASK ALL LANDLINE SAMPLE:

L1. Now thinking about your telephone use... Do you have a working cell phone?

- 1 Yes, have cell phone
 2 No, do not
 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK IF DO NOT PERSONALLY HAVE CELL PHONE/DK (L1=2-9):

L1a. Does anyone else in your household have a working cell phone?

- 1 Yes, someone in household has cell phone
 2 No
 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK ALL CELL PHONE SAMPLE:

C1. 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?

- 1 Yes, has a home telephone
 2 No, no home telephone
 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK ALL:

HH1. How many adults, age 18 and over, currently live in your household INCLUDING YOURSELF?

- ____ [Record exact number 1-5]
6 6 or greater
8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK ALL:

AGE.And, what is your age?

- ____ [Record exact age up to age 96]
97 97 or older
98 **(VOL. DO NOT READ)** Don't know
99 **(VOL. DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK ALL:

PARTY. In politics today, do you consider yourself a **[RANDOMIZE: Republican, Democrat/ Democrat, Republican]**, an Independent, or what?

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democrat
- 3 Independent
- 4 Or what? **(INTERVIEWER: INCLUDE 'OTHER' AND 'NONE' HERE)**
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK IF INDEPENDENT/NO PREF/OTHER/DON'T KNOW (PARTY=3-9):

PARTYLN. Do you LEAN more towards the **[RANDOMIZE: Republican Party or the Democratic Party/Democratic Party or the Republican Party]**?

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democratic
- 3 Independent/don't lean to either party **(VOL.)**
- 4 Other party **(VOL.)**
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK ALL:

IDEO. Thinking about your overall political philosophy, would you describe yourself as...**[READ; RANDOMIZE 1,2,3,4 AND 5, WHILE KEEPING 6 AT BOTTOM]**

- 1 Conservative
- 2 Moderate
- 3 Liberal
- 4 Libertarian
- 5 Progressive [OR]
- 6 Something else?
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK ALL:

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

- 1 Supporter
- 2 Not a supporter
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK ALL:

EDUC2. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received? **[DO NOT READ]** **[INTERVIEWER NOTE:** Enter code 3-HS grad if R completed training that did NOT count toward a degree]

- 1 Less than high school (Grades 1-8 or no formal schooling)
- 2 High school incomplete (Grades 9-11 or Grade 12 with NO diploma)
- 3 High school graduate (Grade 12 with diploma or GED certificate)
- 4 Some college, no degree (includes some community college)
- 5 Two year associate degree from a college or university
- 6 Four year college or university degree/Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)
- 7 Some postgraduate or professional schooling, no postgraduate degree
- 8 Postgraduate or professional degree, including master's, doctorate, medical or law degree (e.g., MA, MS, PhD, MD, JD)
- 98 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

[MAKE FULL NOTE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWERS: Enter code 3-HS graduate" if R completed vocational, business, technical, or training courses after high school that did NOT count toward an associate degree from a college, community college or university (e.g., training for a certificate or an apprenticeship)]

ASK ALL:

HISP. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or some other Spanish background?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK ALL:

CHILDREN. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under 18 now living in your household?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 9 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ASK ALL:

RACE. What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian, or some other race? **[IF R SAYS HISPANIC OR LATINO, PROBE: Do you consider yourself a WHITE (Hispanic/Latino) or a BLACK (Hispanic/Latino)? IF R DOES NOT SAY WHITE, BLACK OR ONE OF THE RACE CATEGORIES LISTED, RECORD AS 'OTHER' (CODE 6)]**

- 1 White
- 2 Black or African-American
- 3 Asian or Pacific Islander
- 4 Mixed race
- 5 Native American/American Indian
- 6 Other (**SPECIFY**)
- 8 (**DO NOT READ**) Don't know
- 9 (**DO NOT READ**) Refused

ASK ALL:

INC. What is your household income category? Please stop me when I reach your category. **[READ]**

- 1 Less than \$30,000 per year
- 2 \$30,000 but less than \$45,000
- 3 \$45,000 but less than \$60,000
- 4 \$60,000 but less than \$75,000
- 5 \$75,000 but less than \$90,000
- 6 \$90,000 but less than \$110,000
- 7 \$110,000 but less than \$150,000
- 8 \$150,000 but less than \$250,000 OR
- 9 \$250,000 or more?
- 98 (**DO NOT READ**) Don't know
- 99 (**DO NOT READ**) Refused

ASK ALL:

RZIPCodemay I please have your zip code?

IF NECESSARY: So we can make sure our sample is geographically distributed.

_____ [RECORD EXACT FIVE-DIGIT ZIP CODE]
99999 (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused

ASK ALL CELL PHONE SAMPLE:

MONEY. That's the end of the interview. If you would like to be reimbursed for your cell phone minutes, we can send you \$5. I will need your full name and a mailing address where we can send the money.

- 1 [ENTER FULL NAME] – INTERVIEWER: PLEASE VERIFY SPELLING
- 2 [ENTER MAILING ADDRESS]
- 3 [City]
- 4 [State]
- 5 CONFIRM ZIP from above
- 9 Respondent does not want the money (**VOL.**)

END OF INTERVIEW: This is the conclusion of our survey. We thank you for your participation.