

# Results of SurveyUSA News Poll #18435



Sponsors:

All SurveyUSA clients in California

Geography: California  
 Data Collected: 08/01/2011  
 Release Date: 08/01/2011  
 Percentages

## 1 Do you understand the concept of a "debt ceiling" ... perfectly? Sort of? Or not really?

1075 Adults	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Tea Party Memb	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian/O	Republi	Democr	Indepen	Yes	No
Credibility Interval: +/-3 pct points																		
Perfectly	44%	55%	33%	39%	46%	47%	44%	42%	46%	45%	39%	44%	39%	45%	35%	55%	66%	43%
Sort Of	34%	28%	38%	35%	33%	32%	35%	34%	33%	37%	28%	25%	40%	30%	37%	30%	25%	35%
Not Really	23%	16%	29%	26%	21%	21%	21%	24%	21%	17%	33%	31%	21%	25%	28%	15%	9%	22%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	49%	51%	35%	31%	20%	15%	66%	34%	51%	6%	28%	15%	26%	41%	32%	7%	83%

## 1 Do you understand the concept of a "debt ceiling" ... perfectly? Sort of? Or not really?

1075 Adults	All	Ideology			Region			
		Conser	Modera	Liberal	Central	Greater	Inland	Bay Are
Credibility Interval: +/-3 pct points								
Perfectly	44%	54%	42%	43%	52%	43%	46%	35%
Sort Of	34%	23%	37%	37%	32%	32%	31%	41%
Not Really	23%	23%	21%	20%	16%	25%	23%	24%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	27%	40%	26%	21%	42%	17%	20%

## 2 Have political leaders done a good job? Or a bad job? Of explaining the debt ceiling issue to Americans?

1075 Adults	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Tea Party Memb	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian/O	Republi	Democr	Indepen	Yes	No
Credibility Interval: +/-2.7 pct points																		
Good	13%	13%	14%	16%	11%	12%	14%	14%	13%	13%	17%	13%	11%	11%	16%	12%	12%	13%
Bad	74%	77%	71%	71%	78%	79%	66%	74%	73%	75%	71%	77%	66%	76%	68%	78%	83%	73%
Not Sure	13%	10%	16%	13%	11%	10%	20%	12%	14%	12%	12%	10%	22%	13%	15%	10%	5%	14%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	49%	51%	35%	31%	20%	15%	66%	34%	51%	6%	28%	15%	26%	41%	32%	7%	83%

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## 2 Have political leaders done a good job? Or a bad job? Of explaining the debt ceiling issue to Americans?

1075 Adults Credibility Interval: +/-2.7 pct points	All	Ideology			Region			
		Conser	Moder	Liberal	Central	Greater	Inland	Bay Are
Good	13%	14%	11%	15%	13%	12%	19%	11%
Bad	74%	77%	77%	69%	77%	75%	69%	71%
Not Sure	13%	8%	12%	16%	10%	12%	12%	18%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	27%	40%	26%	21%	42%	17%	20%

## 3 Congress and the White House say they have agreed to a budget deal. Are you familiar? Or not familiar? With the terms of this latest deal?

1075 Adults Credibility Interval: +/-3 pct points	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Tea Party Memb	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian/O	Republi	Democr	Indepen	Yes	No
Familiar	37%	42%	32%	31%	38%	47%	38%	34%	43%	41%	40%	28%	39%	34%	36%	42%	54%	38%
Not Familiar	56%	53%	59%	63%	57%	47%	48%	60%	47%	53%	49%	65%	51%	60%	56%	53%	38%	56%
Not Sure	7%	5%	8%	6%	5%	6%	14%	5%	10%	6%	10%	6%	10%	6%	8%	5%	8%	6%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	49%	51%	35%	31%	20%	15%	66%	34%	51%	6%	28%	15%	26%	41%	32%	7%	83%

## 3 Congress and the White House say they have agreed to a budget deal. Are you familiar? Or not familiar? With the terms of this latest deal?

1075 Adults Credibility Interval: +/-3 pct points	All	Ideology			Region			
		Conser	Moder	Liberal	Central	Greater	Inland	Bay Are
Familiar	37%	36%	43%	38%	40%	32%	34%	48%
Not Familiar	56%	58%	52%	57%	54%	60%	57%	48%
Not Sure	7%	6%	5%	5%	6%	7%	9%	5%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	27%	40%	26%	21%	42%	17%	20%

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**4** Based on what you know, is this a good deal? Or a bad deal?

400 Familiar With Terms Of Latest D Credibility Interval: +/-5 pct points	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Tea Party Memb	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian/O	Republi	Democr	Indepen	Yes	No
Good	24%	24%	25%	32%	19%	22%	24%	26%	23%	21%	20%	44%	13%	20%	33%	17%	10%	27%
Bad	57%	59%	54%	58%	56%	59%	52%	57%	56%	63%	58%	42%	55%	60%	44%	70%	84%	54%
Not Sure	19%	17%	21%	9%	24%	19%	24%	17%	21%	16%	22%	14%	32%	20%	23%	13%	6%	19%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Familiar With Terms	100%	56%	44%	29%	31%	25%	15%	60%	40%	57%	7%	22%	15%	23%	40%	36%	10%	84%

**4** Based on what you know, is this a good deal? Or a bad deal?

400 Familiar With Terms Of Latest D Credibility Interval: +/-5 pct points	All	Ideology			Region			
		Conser	Moder	Liberal	Central	Greater	Inland	Bay Are
Good	24%	13%	26%	33%	22%	24%	32%	23%
Bad	57%	72%	57%	50%	57%	61%	53%	54%
Not Sure	19%	15%	17%	17%	21%	15%	15%	24%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Familiar With Terms	100%	25%	45%	26%	23%	36%	16%	25%

**5** Which of these 4 statements best describes this latest deal.  
 One: Everybody wins.  
 Two: Republicans win, Democrats lose.  
 Three: Democrats win, Republicans lose.  
 Four: everybody loses.

400 Familiar With Terms Of Latest D Credibility Interval: +/-5 pct points	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Tea Party Memb	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian/O	Republi	Democr	Indepen	Yes	No
Everybody Wins	10%	7%	12%	13%	7%	9%	8%	10%	9%	9%	17%	9%	11%	9%	13%	3%	4%	10%
Republicans Win, Democrats Lose	20%	22%	17%	19%	20%	24%	18%	19%	22%	19%	12%	24%	24%	14%	30%	13%	15%	22%
Democrats Win, Republicans Lose	11%	8%	15%	14%	8%	9%	14%	11%	11%	11%	6%	19%	3%	15%	10%	9%	22%	9%
Everybody Loses	53%	58%	47%	54%	54%	53%	49%	54%	51%	58%	54%	44%	45%	55%	39%	69%	55%	53%
Not Sure	6%	5%	9%	0%	11%	6%	10%	6%	7%	4%	11%	5%	18%	6%	8%	5%	3%	6%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Familiar With Terms	100%	56%	44%	29%	31%	25%	15%	60%	40%	57%	7%	22%	15%	23%	40%	36%	10%	84%

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**5** Which of these 4 statements best describes this latest deal.  
 One: Everybody wins.  
 Two: Republicans win, Democrats lose.  
 Three: Democrats win, Republicans lose.  
 Four: everybody loses.

400 Familiar With Terms Of Latest D Credibility Interval: +/-5 pct points	All	Ideology			Region			
		Conser	Moder	Liberal	Central	Greater	Inland	Bay Are
Everybody Wins	10%	3%	11%	7%	9%	10%	7%	12%
Republicans Win, Democrats Lose	20%	12%	21%	30%	18%	23%	12%	24%
Democrats Win, Republicans Lose	11%	16%	12%	6%	13%	13%	18%	2%
Everybody Loses	53%	66%	54%	42%	56%	47%	59%	54%
Not Sure	6%	2%	2%	14%	5%	7%	4%	8%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Familiar With Terms	100%	25%	45%	26%	23%	36%	16%	25%

**6** Do you approve? Or disapprove? Of the way Barack Obama has handled the budget negotiations?

1075 Adults Credibility Interval: +/-3 pct points	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Tea Party Memb	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian/O	Republi	Democr	Indepen	Yes	No
Approve	42%	37%	47%	45%	40%	38%	44%	43%	40%	36%	57%	48%	43%	19%	66%	30%	8%	47%
Disapprove	45%	49%	41%	40%	46%	49%	49%	43%	49%	53%	27%	37%	41%	69%	19%	59%	84%	41%
Not Sure	13%	14%	12%	15%	14%	13%	8%	14%	11%	11%	16%	15%	16%	11%	15%	12%	9%	12%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	49%	51%	35%	31%	20%	15%	66%	34%	51%	6%	28%	15%	26%	41%	32%	7%	83%

**6** Do you approve? Or disapprove? Of the way Barack Obama has handled the budget negotiations?

1075 Adults Credibility Interval: +/-3 pct points	All	Ideology			Region			
		Conser	Moder	Liberal	Central	Greater	Inland	Bay Are
Approve	42%	12%	50%	62%	30%	40%	40%	61%
Disapprove	45%	76%	38%	25%	59%	43%	53%	27%
Not Sure	13%	11%	12%	13%	11%	17%	7%	12%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	27%	40%	26%	21%	42%	17%	20%

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## 7 Do you approve? Or disapprove? Of the way John Boehner has handled the budget negotiations?

1075 Adults Credibility Interval: +/-3 pct points	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Tea Party Memb	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian/O	Republi	Democr	Indepen	Yes	No
Approve	21%	24%	19%	17%	23%	20%	29%	20%	24%	24%	12%	16%	27%	30%	11%	28%	31%	20%
Disapprove	61%	65%	57%	61%	60%	64%	58%	61%	61%	62%	74%	63%	47%	51%	71%	55%	53%	65%
Not Sure	18%	11%	24%	22%	17%	17%	13%	20%	15%	14%	14%	21%	26%	19%	18%	17%	16%	15%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	49%	51%	35%	31%	20%	15%	66%	34%	51%	6%	28%	15%	26%	41%	32%	7%	83%

## 7 Do you approve? Or disapprove? Of the way John Boehner has handled the budget negotiations?

1075 Adults Credibility Interval: +/-3 pct points	All	Ideology			Region			
		Conser	Modera	Liberal	Central	Greater	Inland	Bay Are
Approve	21%	39%	21%	10%	27%	20%	24%	16%
Disapprove	61%	48%	65%	71%	57%	59%	55%	74%
Not Sure	18%	13%	14%	19%	16%	21%	21%	11%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	27%	40%	26%	21%	42%	17%	20%

## 8 Do you approve? Or disapprove? Of the way Harry Reid has handled the budget negotiations?

1075 Adults Credibility Interval: +/-3 pct points	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Tea Party Memb	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian/O	Republi	Democr	Indepen	Yes	No
Approve	23%	23%	22%	20%	16%	28%	34%	18%	31%	23%	22%	19%	27%	12%	36%	15%	6%	26%
Disapprove	56%	61%	51%	57%	61%	53%	49%	59%	51%	59%	52%	57%	47%	67%	38%	70%	78%	56%
Not Sure	21%	16%	27%	23%	23%	19%	18%	23%	18%	18%	26%	24%	26%	21%	25%	16%	16%	18%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	49%	51%	35%	31%	20%	15%	66%	34%	51%	6%	28%	15%	26%	41%	32%	7%	83%

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## 8 Do you approve? Or disapprove? Of the way Harry Reid has handled the budget negotiations?

1075 Adults Credibility Interval: +/-3 pct points	All	Ideology			Region			
		Conser	Moder	Liberal	Central	Greater	Inland	Bay Are
Approve	23%	8%	25%	36%	20%	21%	16%	34%
Disapprove	56%	72%	58%	42%	55%	58%	64%	47%
Not Sure	21%	19%	17%	23%	25%	22%	20%	18%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	27%	40%	26%	21%	42%	17%	20%

## 9 Is the Tea Party movement good for America? Or bad for America?

1075 Adults Credibility Interval: +/-3 pct points	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Tea Party Memb	
		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian/O	Republi	Democr	Indepen	Yes	No
Good For America	32%	37%	27%	26%	35%	38%	33%	30%	36%	37%	22%	27%	29%	53%	14%	38%	87%	27%
Bad For America	49%	46%	52%	48%	49%	50%	53%	48%	51%	51%	51%	48%	44%	29%	70%	40%	8%	58%
Not Sure	19%	17%	21%	26%	16%	13%	14%	22%	13%	13%	27%	24%	27%	18%	16%	22%	5%	14%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	49%	51%	35%	31%	20%	15%	66%	34%	51%	6%	28%	15%	26%	41%	32%	7%	83%

## 9 Is the Tea Party movement good for America? Or bad for America?

1075 Adults Credibility Interval: +/-3 pct points	All	Ideology			Region			
		Conser	Moder	Liberal	Central	Greater	Inland	Bay Are
Good For America	32%	61%	29%	14%	38%	35%	35%	17%
Bad For America	49%	19%	59%	74%	37%	45%	50%	71%
Not Sure	19%	20%	12%	12%	26%	20%	16%	12%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	27%	40%	26%	21%	42%	17%	20%

: KABC-TV Los Angeles, KFSN-TV Fresno, KGTV-TV San Diego, KPIX-TV San Francisco

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**Statement of Methodology:** About the Poll: This poll was conducted by telephone in the voice of a professional announcer. Respondent households were selected at random, using Random Digit Dialed (RDD) sample provided by Survey Sampling, of Fairfield CT. All respondents heard the questions asked identically. The pollster's report includes the geography that was surveyed; the date(s) interviews were conducted, the number of respondents who answered each question and the theoretical margin of sampling error for each question. Where necessary, respondents were weighted using the most recent US Census estimates for age, gender, ethnic origin and region, to align the sample to the population. In theory, one can say with 95% certainty that the results would not vary by more than the stated margin of sampling error, in one direction or the other, had the entire universe of respondents with home telephones been interviewed with complete accuracy. There are other possible sources of error in all surveys that may be more serious than sampling error. These include: the difficulty of interviewing respondents who do not have a home telephone; the refusal by some with home telephones to be interviewed; the order in which questions are asked; the wording of questions; the way and extent to which data are weighted; and the manner in which specialized populations, such as likely voters, are determined. It is difficult to quantify the errors that may result from these and other factors. Research methodology, questionnaire design and fieldwork for this survey were completed by SurveyUSA of Clifton, NJ. This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.