



Battleground 2012 (XLI)

FINAL

STUDY #13902

THE TARRANCE GROUP and LAKE RESEARCH PARTNERS

N = 1,000 Registered "likely" voters

Margin of error \pm 3.1%

Field Dates: December 2-6, 2012

Hello, I'm _____ of The Tarrance Group, a national survey research firm. We're talking to people today about public leaders and issues facing us all.

IF CELL CODE = "N", ASK: May I please speak with the youngest (male/female) in the household who is registered to vote?

IF CELL CODE = "Y", ASK:

CP-1. Do you currently live in (state from cell sample sheet)?

Yes (CONTINUE TO CP-3)

No (CONTINUE TO CP-2)

IF "NO" IN CP-1, ASK:

CP-2. In what state do you current reside?

(RECORD STATE NAME)

IF CELL CODE = "Y", ASK:

CP-3. For your safety, are you driving right now?

Yes (SCHEDULE CALL BACK)

No

A. Are you registered to vote in your state?

IF "NO," ASK: Is there someone else at home who is registered to vote?
(IF "YES," THEN ASK: MAY I SPEAK WITH HIM/HER?)

Yes (**CONTINUE**)
No (**THANK AND TERMINATE**)

And...

B. What is the likelihood of your voting in the elections for US Congress that will be held in November 2014-- are you extremely likely, very likely, somewhat likely, or not very likely at all to vote?

(CONTINUE)

Extremely Likely 58%
Very Likely 29%
Somewhat Likely 13%

(THANK AND TERMINATE)

Not Very Likely
UNSURE (**DNR**)

(UPELECT)

C. Are you, or is anyone in your household, employed with an advertising agency, newspaper, television or radio station, or political campaign?

Yes (**THANK AND TERMINATE**)
No (**CONTINUE**)

*= less than .5%

Now, thinking for a moment about things in the country--

1. Do you feel things in the country are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten off on the wrong track?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: And do you feel strongly or somewhat about that?

Right direction/strongly 20%
Right direction/somewhat 14%
UNSURE (**DNR**) 7%
Wrong track/somewhat 8%
Wrong track/strongly 51%

(DIRECT)

Now thinking again about the 2014 elections...

2. If the election for CONGRESS were being held today, and you had to make a choice, would you be voting for -- **(ROTATE)** –

- the Republican candidate or
- the Democratic candidate, in your Congressional district?

IF "UNDECIDED", ASK: And
which party's candidate do
you lean toward at this
time?

Republican	38%
Lean Republican.....	4%
UNDECIDED (DNR)	13%
Lean Democratic	3%
Democratic	41%

(GENCONG)

Now I would like to read you a list of issues that some people from this part of the country have said are important for Congress to focus on. Please listen as I read the list and tell me which one issue you think is most important. **(READ AND ROTATE ISSUES)**

(PROMPT IF COMBINATION/EQUALLY: “BUT IF YOU HAD TO PICK JUST ONE, WHICH WOULD YOU SAY IS MOST IMPORTANT?”)

IF CHOICE MADE IN Q3, THEN ASK: “AND WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS THE NEXT MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM?”

	<u>Q3 MOST IMPORTANT</u>	<u>Q4 NEXT MOST IMPORTANT</u>
• The Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan	4%	6%
• Illegal immigration	2%	3%
• Taxes	5%	7%
• Terrorism and homeland security	1%	4%
• Education	11%	9%
• Health care costs	5%	13%
• Government spending and the budget deficit	23%	10%
• The economy	22%	19%
• Gas and energy prices	2%	2%
• Medicare and Social Security	7%	8%
• Jobs	14%	17%
• COMBINATION/EQUALLY (DNR)	4%	*
• OTHER (DNR)	1%	1%
• NONE (DNR)	*	*
• UNSURE (DNR)	1%	*

(MII)

Now, thinking specifically about President Barack Obama...

5. How would you rate the job Barack Obama has been doing as President? Do you approve or disapprove of the job he is doing?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel *strongly* about that?

Approve/strongly	41%
Approve	9%
UNSURE (DNR)	3%
Disapprove.....	5%
Disapprove/strongly	42%

(BHOJA)

Now, thinking about the Congressional elections that are coming up in 2014...

Over the past few years, both the Republicans and the Democrats had candidates for the US House and the US Senate who ran poor campaigns. Leaders in both parties have suggested that the national political parties should take a more active role in supporting stronger candidates during political primaries. Others have suggested that this type of meddling will lead to candidates who are less responsive to voters.

6. Do you think it would be a good idea or a bad idea for the national political parties to take a more active role during political primaries to support stronger candidates?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel strongly about that?

Good idea/strongly	34%
Good idea.....	13%
UNSURE (DNR)	11%
Bad idea	12%
Bad idea/strongly.....	29%

Now I would like to read you the names of several individuals. For each one, please tell me whether you have heard of that person and if so, whether you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of that person. If you do not recognize the name, just say so. Here is the first one ...

WAIT FOR RESPONSE, THEN ASK: *Would that be a strongly (favorable/unfavorable) impression or just a somewhat (favorable/unfavorable) impression?*

(ROTATE NAMES)		FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE		NO	NEVER
		<u>Strng</u>	<u>Smwht</u>	<u>Smwht</u>	<u>Strng</u>	<u>OPIN.</u>	<u>HEARD</u>
7.	Barack Obama (BOID)	39%	13%	8%	37%	3%	*
8.	Mitt Romney (MRID)	24%	23%	14%	33%	6%	1%
9.	Grover Norquist (“NOHR-qwist”) (GNID)	3%	5%	4%	14%	15%	61%
10.	Jeb Bush (JEBID)	13%	26%	13%	21%	15%	12%
11.	Susan Rice (SRID)	12%	14%	11%	19%	19%	26%
12.	John Boehner (“BAY-nur”) (JBID)	11%	18%	11%	23%	14%	24%
13.	Marco Rubio (“ROO-BEE-OH”) (MARCID)	18%	15%	8%	7%	17%	36%
14.	Joe Biden (JOEID)	25%	21%	11%	32%	7%	5%
15.	Paul Ryan (PRID)	29%	18%	9%	24%	9%	11%
16.	Hillary Clinton (HRCID)	40%	20%	12%	23%	4%	1%

(END ROTATION)

Thinking again about President Obama...

I am going to read you some issues. For each one, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of the job that President Obama is doing on this issue. Here is the first one...

(RANDOMIZE)

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: Is that strongly (approve/disapprove) or somewhat (approve/disapprove)?

		APPROVE		UNSURE (DNR)	DISAPPROVE	
		<u>strng</u>	<u>smwht</u>		<u>smwht</u>	<u>strng</u>
17.	Reducing the federal budget deficit (PROMPT: DO YOU APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE OF THE JOB THAT PRESIDENT OBAMA IS DOING ON THIS ISSUE?)	22%	17%	3%	13%	46%
18.	Immigration	24%	21%	7%	14%	34%
19.	Gay marriage	30%	18%	10%	7%	35%
20.	Working with Congress	27%	23%	5%	13%	32%
21.	Taxes	28%	21%	4%	11%	36%
22.	Economy	22%	24%	2%	9%	44%
23.	Medicare	29%	19%	9%	12%	32%

(BOJA 13-19)

(END RANDOMIZATION)

Thinking now about immigration reform...

As you may have heard, next year Congress may consider laws to reform our immigration system. Thinking about these reforms...

*****ROTATE Qs24-25*****

24. Would you support or oppose an immigration reform proposal that allows illegal or undocumented immigrants to earn citizenship over a period of several years?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel strongly about that?

Support/strongly 40%
 Support..... 22%
 UNSURE (DNR) 4%
 Oppose 7%
 Oppose/strongly..... 28%

And...

25. Would you support or oppose an immigration reform proposal that allows the children of illegal or undocumented immigrants to earn the right to stay here permanently if they complete a college degree or serve in the military?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel strongly about that?

Support/strongly 59%
Support..... 18%
UNSURE (DNR) 4%
Oppose 5%
Oppose/strongly..... 14%

(END ROTATION)

Now thinking about the issue of same sex marriage or gay marriage....

26. Which of these best describes your views on same sex marriage or gay marriage:

- Same sex couples should be able to be legally married;
- Same sex couples should be able to enter into civil unions but not be allowed to get married, OR
- Same sex couples should not be allowed to have any type of legal union?

Legal marriage 40%
Civil unions 30%
No legal union 24%
OTHER (DNR) 1%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 5%

And,

27. Have your views on same sex marriage or gay marriage changed over the past few years?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel strongly about that?

Yes/strongly 13%
Yes 5%
UNSURE (DNR) 1%
No..... 7%
No/strongly 75%

As you may already know, in December, Congress will consider a number of proposals to reduce the federal budget deficit. Please listen carefully as I read each proposal and tell me if you would favor or oppose that particular proposal.

(READ AND ROTATE)

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: Is that strongly (favor/oppose) or somewhat (favor/oppose)?

		FAVOR		UNSURE (DNR)	OPPOSE	
		<u>strng</u>	<u>smwht</u>		<u>smwht</u>	<u>strng</u>
28.	Raising taxes on households that earn more than \$250,000. (PROMPT: DO YOU FAVOR OR OPPOSE THIS PROPOSAL TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL BUDGET DEFICIT?)	41%	19%	2%	13%	25%
29.	Raising taxes on small businesses that earn more than \$250,000.	13%	16%	2%	19%	50%
30.	Reducing Medicare benefits for seniors that have higher incomes	21%	30%	3%	19%	27%
31.	Reducing Social Security benefits for seniors that have higher incomes.	22%	28%	3%	20%	27%
32.	Raising the retirement age for Social Security benefits.	13%	20%	3%	19%	45%
33.	Making significant cuts to the budget of the Defense Department.	18%	19%	3%	18%	41%
34.	Ending foreign aid	25%	23%	7%	24%	22%
35.	Cutting government spending across the board	59%	17%	2%	10%	13%
36.	Raising taxes on large corporations	47%	18%	2%	13%	20%

(DEFPRO 1-9)

(END ROTATION)

And,

37. Regardless of how you feel about requiring taxes on those with higher incomes, do you believe that if we raise taxes on households that earn over \$250,000 per year it will have a negative impact on the economy?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel strongly about that?

Yes/strongly 31%
 Yes 7%
 UNSURE (DNR) 4%
 No..... 10%
 No/strongly 48%

(TAXSB)

Now, just a few final questions for statistical purposes only --

D1. What is your age, please?

18-24	12%
25-29	6%
30-34	5%
35-39	11%
40-44	12%
45-54	20%
55-64	17%
65-69	6%
70-74	5%
75-79	4%
80-84	2%
85-89	1%
90 or over	*
REFUSED	

(ACTAGE)

D2. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

(DO NOT READ, JUST RECORD)

Some grade school (1-8)	*
Some high school (9-11)	3%
Graduated high school (12)	19%
Technical/vocational (12)	3%
Some college (13-15)	28%
Graduated college (16)	29%
Graduate/professional school (16 or more)	18%
Unsure/Refused	*

(EDUC)

D3. When thinking about politics and government, do you consider yourself to be...

(READ LIST, ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

Very conservative	20%
Somewhat conservative	39%
MODERATE (DNR)	2%
Somewhat liberal	24%
Very liberal	12%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	3%

(IDEOL)

And,

D4. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT,

ASK: Would you call yourself a strong or a not very strong (Republican/Democrat)?

Republican/strong.....	20%
Republican/not strong	10%
Lean Republican.....	9%
Independent	16%
Lean Democrat	9%
Democrat/not strong.....	7%
Democrat/strong	27%
NO PREFERENCE (DNR)	1%
OTHER (DNR)	1%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	1%

IF INDEPENDENT OR ANYTHING

ELSE, ASK: Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or Democratic Party?

(PARTYID)

D5. Do you consider yourself a part of or do you identify with the Tea Party movement?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel strongly about that?

Yes/strongly.....	16%
Yes	5%
UNSURE (DNR)	6%
No.....	19%
No/strongly	55%

(TEAMEM)

And,

D6. Which of these statements best describes how you have usually voted in past elections?

(READ LIST, ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

Straight Republican	9%
Mostly Republican	26%
A few more Republicans than Democrats.....	11%
INDEPENDENT/THE PERSON (DNR)	4%
A few more Democrats than Republicans.....	9%
Mostly Democratic	23%
Straight Democratic.....	17%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	1%

(PARTY)

Thinking again about the 2012 Presidential election...

D7. Which candidate for President of the United States did you vote for? Was it -- **(ROTATE)** -- • Mitt Romney, or Barack Obama? Or did you not vote in the 2012 Presidential election?

Mitt Romney..... 42%
Barack Obama 44%
Did not vote 5%
OTHER CANDIDATES **(DNR)** 4%
UNSURE/REFUSED **(DNR)** 5%

(BALL12)

D8. Are you a member of a labor union, including trade unions, service employee unions, public employee unions, and teachers unions?

IF NO, THEN ASK: Is anyone in your household a member of one of these types of labor unions?

Labor Union Member..... 12%
Labor Union Household..... 4%
Non-Union Household 84%
UNSURE/REFUSED **(DNR)** 1%

(UNION)

D9. What is your current marital status -- are you -- • single and never married, • married, • separated, • divorced, or •widowed?

Single 25%
Married 56%
Separated 2%
Divorced 10%
Widowed 8%
UNSURE/REFUSED **(DNR)** *

(MARITAL)

D10. Do you have children under the age of 18 living at home?

Yes 33%
No..... 67%
UNSURE/REFUSED **(DNR)** *

(CHILD)

D11. Do you or anyone in your home own a gun?

(IF SELF AND OTHER, RECORD FOR SELF) Yes/self..... 32%
Yes/other 10%
No, do not own a gun 54%
UNSURE/REFUSED **(DNR)** 4%

(GUNOWN)

D12. What is the church you or your family attends most often?

Roman Catholic	19%
Baptist.....	18%
Methodist.....	6%
Episcopalian	2%
Evangelical	2%
Presbyterian	2%
Lutheran.....	4%
Other Protestant	14%
Greek Orthodox.....*	
Jewish	2%
Mormon / LDS	3%
Quaker / Amish.....	
Other (SPECIFY).....	5%
NONE (DNR).....	20%
Refused (DNR).....	5%

(DENOM)

IF ANY RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION IN D12, ASK:

D12-1. And how often do you attend church (or synagogue)?

More than once a week.....	18%
Once a week	31%
Several times a month.....	14%
Once a month.....	9%
Several times a year	15%
Only on holidays.....	10%
NEVER/DON'T ATTEND	2%
UNSURE/REFUSED	1%

(DENOMFRQ)

IF ANY RELIGION NAMED IN D12 EXCEPT CODE 17, THEN ASK:

D12-2. Do you consider yourself to be a born-again or evangelical Christian?

Born-again/evangelical.....	50%
Not born-again.....	46%
REFUSED (DNR)	4%

(BORN)

****ASK OF EVERYONE****

D13. What do you consider to be your race? Are you white, African-American, Hispanic, Asian, Native American or some other race?

White..... 75%
Black/African-American 14%
Hispanic/Latino (**TO D14**)..... 7%
Asian/Pacific American..... 1%
Native American..... 1%
Other (**Specify _____**).....
UNSURE/REFUSED (**DNR**) 3%

(RACE)

FOR ALL RESPONSES EXCEPT “HISPANIC/LATINO,” ASK:

D13-1. And, do you consider yourself a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking American?

Yes 4%
No..... 96%
UNSURE/REFUSED (**DNR**) 1%

(HISP)

****ASK OF EVERYONE****

And, thinking about your economic class...

D14. Do you consider yourself to be:
(ROTATE CHOICES, TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

- Upper class,
- Middle class,
- Low income?

Upper class 5%
Middle class 72%
Low income..... 21%
Working class (**DNR**)..... *
Unemployed (**DNR**) *
Refused (**DNR**) 1%

(ECONCLA2)

D15. Sex/Emp (BY OBSERVATION)

ASK OF EVERYONE: Are you employed outside the house, are you a homemaker, or are you retired?

Male/employed	33%
Male/homemaker.....	1%
Male/retired	10%
Male/not in labor force	3%
Female/employed	25%
Female/homemaker	10%
Female/retired.....	12%
Female/not in labor force	6%
MALE/REFUSED (DNR).....	*
FEMALE/REFUSED (DNR)	*

(SEXEMP)
