



Battleground 2012 (XLVII)

FINAL

STUDY #13302
THE TARRANCE GROUP and LAKE RESEARCH PARTNERS
N = 1,000 Registered "likely" voters
Split sample A/B
Margin of error \pm 3.1%
Field Dates: April 29- May 3, 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. May I please speak with a (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-2, 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 currently driving?

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 to be held this November-- are you extremely likely, very likely, somewhat likely, or not very likely at all to vote?

(CONTINUE)

Extremely Likely 72%
Very Likely 24%
Somewhat Likely 4%

(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 19%
Right direction/somewhat 14%
UNSURE **(DNR)** 8%
Wrong track/somewhat 7%
Wrong track/strongly 52%

(DIRECT)

Now, thinking ahead to the 2012 Presidential elections...

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

- the Republican candidate or
- President Barack Obama, the Democratic candidate?

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

Republican 45%
Lean Republican 2%
UNDECIDED **(DNR)** 8%
Lean Obama 3%
Obama 42%

(GENPRES)

Still thinking again about the 2012 elections...

3. 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?

<u>IF "UNDECIDED", ASK:</u> And	Republican	43%
which party's candidate do	Lean Republican	2%
you lean toward at this	UNDECIDED (DNR)	11%
time?	Lean Democratic	2%
	Democratic	41%

(GENCONG)

*****SPLIT SAMPLE*****

As you may know, the Republican Party currently is the majority party in the US House of Representatives. The Democratic Party would need to win at least 24 additional seats to become the majority party in the US House.

4A. After the 2012 elections, do you believe that the Republican Party will continue to be the majority party in the US House of Representatives?

<u>IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:</u>	Yes/strongly	46%
And do you feel strongly	Yes	19%
about that?	UNSURE (DNR)	14%
	No.....	5%
	No/strongly	17%

In the United States Senate, the Democratic Party is currently the majority party. The Republican Party would need to win at least 4 additional Senate seats to become the majority party in the US Senate.

4B. After the 2012 elections, do you believe that the Democratic Party will continue to be the majority party in the US Senate?

<u>IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:</u>	Yes/strongly	28%
And do you feel strongly	Yes	13%
about that?	UNSURE (DNR)	19%
	No.....	12%
	No/strongly	29%

****ASK OF EVERYONE****

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 Q5, THEN ASK: “AND WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS THE NEXT MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM?”

	<u>Q5 MOST IMPORTANT</u>	<u>Q6 NEXT MOST IMPORTANT</u>
• The Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan	2%	5%
• Illegal immigration	3%	5%
• Taxes	2%	6%
• Terrorism and homeland security	2%	3%
• Education	7%	10%
• Health care costs	8%	11%
• Government spending and the budget deficit	17%	8%
• The economy	28%	21%
• Gas and energy prices	3%	6%
• Medicare and Social Security	8%	7%
• Jobs	14%	16%
• COMBINATION/EQUALLY (DNR)	6%	*
• OTHER (DNR)	*	1%
• NONE (DNR)	1%	*
• UNSURE (DNR)	*	*

(MII)

Now, thinking specifically about President Barack Obama...

7. 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	37%
Approve	11%
UNSURE (DNR)	5%
Disapprove.....	6%
Disapprove/strongly	42%

(BHOJA)

Thinking now about Congress..

8. How would you rate the job Congress is doing? Do you approve or disapprove of the job they are doing?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel *strongly* about that?

Approve/strongly	6%
Approve	7%
UNSURE (DNR)	7%
Disapprove.....	14%
Disapprove/strongly	66%

(CONJA)

Thinking about the November 2012 election for President...

9. Do you think you will vote to re-elect Barack Obama, will you consider voting for someone else, or do you think you will vote to replace him?

Will vote to re-elect Obama.....	43%
Will consider someone else	11%
Will vote to replace Obama	42%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	5%

(LRPSOFT)

And, still thinking about this election...

10. If the Presidential election were held today and you had to make a choice, for whom would you vote...
(ROTATE NAMES)

--Mitt Romney, the Republican,
or
-- Barack Obama, the Democrat?

IF "UNDECIDED", ASK:
And which candidate do you
lean toward slightly?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:
Would you say that you are
definitely going to vote
for him, or probably
going to vote for him?

Romney/definitely 39%
Romney /probably 8%
Romney/lean 1%

UNDECIDED (DNR)..... 5%

Obama/lean 1%
Obama/probably 6%
Obama/definitely 40%

(ROBAL)

Thinking again about President Obama...

I am going to read you several 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)?

	<u>APPROVE</u>		<u>UNSURE (DNR)</u>	<u>DISAPPROVE</u>	
	<u>strng</u>	<u>smwht</u>		<u>smwht</u>	<u>strng</u>
11. The economy (PROMPT: DO YOU APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE OF THE JOB THAT PRESIDENT OBAMA IS DOING ON THIS ISSUE?)	23%	22%	2%	9%	44%
12. Foreign policy	33%	20%	7%	12%	29%
13. Dealing with Congress	20%	23%	6%	15%	36%
14. The federal budget and spending	18%	19%	4%	11%	48%
15. Jobs	26%	21%	4%	9%	40%
16. Standing up for the middle class	36%	17%	4%	11%	32%
17. Social Security and Medicare	26%	18%	8%	14%	33%
18. Taxes	26%	20%	4%	14%	36%

(BOJA1-2,6-10, 11)

(END RANDOMIZATION)

ROTATE Qs 19-20

And,

19. Whether you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President, what is your impression of Barack Obama as a person? Do you approve or disapprove of him?

<u>IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:</u>	Approve/strongly	56%
And do you feel <i>strongly</i>	Approve	14%
about that?	UNSURE (DNR).....	6%
	Disapprove.....	5%
	Disapprove/strongly	20%

(BHOPA)

Now, thinking about Republican Presidential nominee Mitt Romney as a person...

20. What is your impression of Mitt Romney as a person? Do you approve or disapprove of him?

<u>IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:</u>	Approve/strongly.....	29%
And do you feel <i>strongly</i>	Approve	27%
about that?	UNSURE (DNR).....	11%
	Disapprove.....	9%
	Disapprove/strongly	25%

(WMRPA)

(END ROTATION)

21. Mitt Romney is a member and has been a prominent leader in the Church of Latter Day Saints, also known as the Mormon Church. Some Christian leaders have been critical of the ways in which the teachings of the Mormon Church differ from the teaching of their churches.

Does his membership in this church make you more likely or less likely to vote for him or does this issue not make any difference to you?

<u>IF CHOICE IS MADE, ASK:</u>	More likely/strongly	2%
And is that strongly or	More likely/somewhat.....	1%
somewhat (more likely/	UNSURE (DNR)	1%
less likely)?	No difference	81%
	Less likely/somewhat	6%
	Less likely/strongly	10%

(MRLDS)

One last question about Mitt Romney,,,

22. How much impact will Mitt Romney’s choice of a Vice Presidential running mate have on your vote?
 Would you say that this selection will be extremely, very, somewhat, or not at all impactful on your decision about voting for Mitt Romney?

Extremely impactful7%
 Very impactful.....6%
 Somewhat impactful22%
 Not at all impactful62%
 UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 3%

(MRVP)

SPLIT SAMPLE A

Thinking about issues in a different way...

Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people have said are important to them. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who will better handle this issue -- (ROTATE) • **Mitt Romney OR Barack Obama**. Here is the first one:

(RANDOMIZE)

	<u>Romney</u>	<u>Obama</u>	<u>BOTH</u> (DNR)	<u>NEITHER</u> (DNR)	<u>UNSURE</u> (DNR)
23A. Jobs (PROMPT: WHO DO YOU THINK WILL BETTER HANDLE THIS ISSUE - (ROTATE) Mitt Romney or Barack Obama?)	46%	48%	*	2%	4%
24A. The economy	48%	45%	1%	2%	5%
25A. Standing up for the middle class	35%	58%	1%	3%	4%
26A. Taxes	45%	51%		1%	4%
27A. Health care	45%	48%	1%	2%	5%
28A. Social Security and Medicare	44%	47%	1%	2%	6%
29A. Foreign policy	38%	51%	*	2%	9%
30A. Sharing your values	40%	50%	1%	4%	5%

(HANDP1-8)

(END RANDOMIZATION)

SPLIT SAMPLE B

Thinking about issues in a different way...

Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people have said are important to them. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who will better handle this issue -- **(ROTATE) • The Republicans in Congress OR the Democrats in Congress.** Here is the first one: **(RANDOMIZE)**

		<u>GOP in</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>BOTH</u>	<u>NEITHER</u>	<u>UNSURE</u>
		<u>Cong</u>	<u>in Cong</u>	<u>(DNR)</u>	<u>(DNR)</u>	<u>(DNR)</u>
23B.	Jobs (PROMPT: WHO DO YOU THINK WILL BETTER HANDLE THIS ISSUE - (ROTATE) The Republicans in Congress OR the Democrats in Congress?)	49%	43%	1%	3%	5%
24B.	The economy	51%	41%	1%	3%	4%
25B.	Standing up for the middle class	38%	54%	1%	4%	3%
26B.	Taxes	47%	46%	1%	3%	3%
27B.	Health care	44%	49%	1%	3%	4%
28B.	Social Security and Medicare	42%	49%	*	4%	4%
29B.	Foreign policy	49%	41%	1%	3%	6%
30B.	Sharing your values	45%	45%	1%	5%	4%

(HANDC1-8)

(END RANDOMIZATION)

****ASK OF EVERYONE****

Now, thinking about the economic policies of President Obama and his Administration –

31. Do you believe that President Obama’s economic policies have -- **(ROTATE, FRONT TO BACK, BACK TO FRONT)** -- • helped make the economy better, • had no impact on the economy, or • made the economy worse?

<u>IF “BETTER” OR “WORSE”, ASK:</u>	Made economy better/strongly.....	29%
And, do you feel strongly about that?	Made economy better	11%
	No impact	19%
	Made economy worse	5%
	Made economy worse/strongly	34%
	UNSURE/DK (DNR)	2%

(ECONPOL)

Thinking about tax policy...

President Obama has said that our tax system is in need of reform because sometimes very wealthy people pay a lower tax rate than people in the middle class.

32. What do you personally think is the percentage that very wealthy people, those making 1 million dollars per year or more, should be paying in taxes?

10% or less	11%
11-19%	7%
20-29%	23%
30%	16%
31%+	31%
Unsure/Refused (DNR).....	13%

(TAXPER)

SPLIT SAMPLE A*

Still thinking about this proposed tax increase on taxpayers making at least one million dollars per year...

33A. If the tax increase were to go into effect, do you believe President Obama *should* use the additional money raised from the tax increase to:

(ROTATE CHOICES)

- Help pay down the debt and deficit OR
- Increase spending to invest in America?

Help pay down debt and deficit	71%
Increase spending	23%
BOTH (DNR).....	3%
NEITHER (DNR)	1%
Unsure/Refused (DNR).....	3%

(BUFUSEA)

Thinking now about what you actually believe would happen if the tax increase went into effect...

34A. If the tax increase were to go into effect, which do you believe President Obama *would* actually do - use the additional money raised from the tax increase to:

(ROTATE CHOICES)

- Help pay down the debt and deficit OR
- Increase spending to invest in America?

Help pay down debt and deficit	23%
Increase spending on programs	61%
BOTH (DNR).....	7%
NEITHER (DNR)	4%
Unsure/Refused (DNR).....	5%

(BUFACTA)

SPLIT SAMPLE B

Still thinking about this proposed tax increase on taxpayers making at least one million dollars per year...

33B. If the tax increase were to go into effect, do you believe President Obama *should* use the additional money raised from the tax increase to:
(ROTATE CHOICES)

- Help pay down the debt and deficit to create a pro-growth economic environment OR
- Increase spending on job creation?

Help pay down debt and deficit 58%
Increase spending on job creation 29%
BOTH (DNR) 5%
NEITHER (DNR) 3%
Unsure/Refused (DNR) 5%

(BUFUSEB)

Thinking now about what you actually believe would happen if the tax increase went into effect...

34B. If the tax increase were to go into effect, which do you believe President Obama *would* actually do - use the additional money raised from the tax increase to:
(ROTATE CHOICES)

- Help pay down the debt and deficit to create a pro-growth economic environment OR
- Increase spending on job creation?

Help pay down debt and deficit 23%
Increase spending on job creation 54%
BOTH (DNR) 4%
NEITHER (DNR) 11%
Unsure/Refused (DNR) 8%

(BUFACTB)

Now, thinking about the national economy...

35. Which of the following would you say most closely describes your view of the national economy? Would you say that the national economy is --
(ROTATE, TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP) –

- strong and growing,
 - in a recovery
 - not moving,
 - approaching recession,
- OR
- in a recession?

Strong and growing	5%
In a recovery	37%
Not moving	22%
Approaching recession	10%
Recession	24%
DEPRESSION (DNR)	*
UNSURE/DK (DNR)	2%

(ECON)

36. And which of the following do you believe is the best way to determine whether the economy is improving or not: **(READ AND RANDOMIZE)**

- The number of Americans who have a job
- The price of gas
- Your ability to pay bills and have some money left over
- The price of household items like food that you have to buy regularly
- The overall level of the federal debt and deficit
- The status of the US stock market, OR
- The number of Americans who are uninsured or underinsured?

Number of Americans who have a job	46%
Price of gas	5%
Your ability to pay bills and have some left	17%
Price of household items you have to buy	11%
Overall level of federal debt and deficit.....	8%
Status of the US stock market	4%
Number of uninsured and underinsured Americans.....	3%
NONE (DNR).....	*
OTHER (DNR) (SPECIFY _____)	2%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	4%

(ECONIND)

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

D1. What is your age, please?

18-24	7%
25-29	7%
30-34	8%
35-39	9%
40-44	11%
45-54	18%
55-64	18%
65-69	7%
70-74	6%
75-79	4%
80-84	3%
85-89	2%
90 or over.....	1%
REFUSED	1%

(ACTAGE)

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

(DO NOT READ, JUST RECORD)

Some grade school (1-8)	1%
Some high school (9-11)	3%
Graduated high school (12).....	19%
Technical/vocational (12).....	2%
Some college (13-15)	26%
Graduated college (16)	31%
Graduate/professional school (16 or more)	19%
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.....	21%
Somewhat conservative.....	37%
MODERATE (DNR)	3%
Somewhat liberal	25%
Very liberal	12%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	2%

(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..... 24%
Republican/not strong 10%
Lean Republican..... 6%

Independent 16%

Lean Democrat 6%
Democrat/not strong 9%
Democrat/strong 28%

IF INDEPENDENT OR ANYTHING

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

NO PREFERENCE (DNR) *
OTHER (DNR) *
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) *

(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 6%
UNSURE (DNR) 5%
No..... 23%
No/strongly 49%

(TEAMEM)

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 11%
Mostly Republican 25%
A few more Republicans than Democrats..... 9%
INDEPENDENT/THE PERSON (DNR) 2%
A few more Democrats than Republicans..... 11%
Mostly Democratic 21%
Straight Democratic..... 18%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 4%

(PARTY)

D7. 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 2%
Non-Union Household 84%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 1%

(UNION)

D8. What is your current marital status -- are you -- • single and never married, • married, • separated, • divorced, or •widowed?

Single 19%
 Married 61%
 Separated 1%
 Divorced 11%
 Widowed 8%
 UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 1%

(MARITAL)

D9. Do you have children under the age of 18 living at home?

Yes 34%
 No..... 66%
 UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) *

(CHILD)

D10. What is the church you or your family attends most often?

IF BAPTIST, ASK: Is that Southern Baptist or some other Baptist church?
(DO NOT READ RESPONSES, JUST RECORD)

AME (Africa Methd. Episcopal)..... *	Lutheran4%
Assemblies of God *	Mennonite *
Baptist/American 3%	Methodist/United Methodist 7%
Baptist/Missionary or Indep. or Primitive or other 5%	Mormon/Latter Day Saints..... 2%
Baptist/Southern 8%	Nazarene 1%
Bible Church..... 1%	Non-denominational 5%
Christian Church..... 7%	Other Protestant 2%
Christian Reformed Church *	Pentecostal/Charismatic 2%
Church of Christ 2%	Presbyterian/United Presb 2%
Church of God 1%	Quaker/Amish
Disciples of Christ	Reformed Church in America *
Episcopalian 2%	Roman Catholic 18%
Evangelical 1%	Seventh Day Adventist..... 1%
Friends	United Church of Christ *
Fundamentalist *	OTHER (SPECIFY) 4%
Eastern/Greek Orthodox..... *	None (TO D12) 18%
Jewish 1%	DK/REFUSED (TO D12)..... 3%

(DENOM)

IF ANY RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION IN D10, ASK:

D11-1. And how often do you attend church (or synagogue)?

More than once a week.....	17%
Once a week	33%
Several times a month.....	16%
Once a month.....	9%
Several times a year.....	14%
Only on holidays.....	8%
NEVER/DON'T ATTEND	4%
UNSURE/REFUSED	1%

(DENOMFRQ)

IF ANY RELIGION NAMED IN D10 EXCEPT CODE 17, THEN ASK:

D11-2. Do you consider yourself to be a born-again or evangelical Christian?

Born-again/evangelical.....	47%
Not born-again.....	48%
REFUSED (DNR)	6%

(BORN)

****ASK OF EVERYONE****

D12. What do you consider to be your race? Are you white, African-American, Hispanic, Asian, Native American or some other race?

White.....	78%
Black/African-American	12%
Hispanic/Latino (TO D13).....	6%
Asian/Pacific American.....	1%
Native American.....	1%
Other (Specify _____).....	1%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	2%

(RACE)

FOR ALL RESPONSES EXCEPT "HISPANIC/LATINO," ASK:

D12-1. And, do you consider yourself a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking American?

Yes	4%
No.....	95%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	1%

(HISP)

*****ASK OF EVERYONE*****

D13. Sex/Emp (**BY OBSERVATION**)

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

Male/employed	30%
Male/homemaker.....	1%
Male/retired	13%
Male/not in labor force	4%
Female/employed	28%
Female/homemaker	8%
Female/retired.....	14%
Female/not in labor force	2%
MALE/REFUSED (DNR)	*
FEMALE/REFUSED (DNR)	*

(SEXEMP)

D14. Do you or anyone in your home own a gun?

(IF SELF AND OTHER, RECORD FOR SELF) Yes/self.....	30%
Yes/other	11%
No, do not own a gun	57%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR).....	3%

(GUNOWN)
