# Battleground 2014 (XLIII) 

FINAL
STUDY \#14107
THE TARRANCE GROUP and LAKE RESEARCH PARTNERS
N = 1,000 Registered "likely" voters
Margin of error $\pm 3.1 \%$
Field Dates: January 12-16, 2014

Hello, I'm $\qquad$ 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)

[^0]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)

(THANK AND TERMINATE)
(UPELECT)

Extremely Likely .....................................................60\%
Very Likely..............................................................27\%
Somewhat Likely.....................................................13\%
Not Very Likely UNSURE (DNR)
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) <br> No (CONTINUE)

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?
(DIRECT)

Right direction/strongly............................................11\%
Right direction/somewhat .......................................13\%
UNSURE (DNR) .................................................... 10\%
Wrong track/somewhat ...........................................11\%
Wrong track/strongly...............................................56\%

Last fall, many people thought that leaders in Washington were not able to work together to solve problems...
2. In thinking about the past few months and leaders in Washington solving problems, do you think that things have:

- Gotten better
- Gotten worse
- Stayed the same

Over the past few months?
Gotten better ..... 12\%
Gotten worse ..... 32\%
Stayed the same ..... 54\%
ALL/COMBINATION/OTHER (DNR) .....  *
UNSURE/REFUSED/NONE (DNR) ..... 2\%
(PROBS)

Now thinking again about the 2014 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?

IF "UNDECIDED", ASK: And
Republican...............................................................38\% which party's candidate do

Lean Republican........................................................5\%
UNDECIDED (DNR) .............................................16\%
you lean toward at this Lean Democratic ......................................................4\%
(GENCONG)
Thinking one more time about YOUR MEMBER OF CONGRESS...
4. Do you think your Member of Congress has performed their job well enough to deserve re-election, or do you think it's time to give a new person a chance?
Deserves re-election ................................................ $29 \%$
UNSURE/DEPENDS ON OPPONENT (DNR) ... $17 \%$
New person a chance...............................................54\%
(HSOFT)

Now, thinking 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: <br> Approve/strongly.....................................................27\%

And do you feel strongly
Approve 14\%
about that?
UNSURE (DNR) ...................................................... 5\%
Disapprove.. 8\%
Disapprove/strongly ................................................46\%
(BHOJA)
And,
6. 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?

| IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: | Approve/strongly ..............................................42\% |
| :---: | :---: |
| And do you strongly | Approve/somewhat...........................................19\% |
| (approve/disapprove) | UNSURE (DNR)..............................................10\% |
| or somewhat (approve/ | Disapprove/somewhat .........................................5\% |
| disapprove)? | Disapprove/strongly ..........................................25\% |

## (BHOPA)

Still thinking 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)?

(END RANDOMIZATION)

Thinking now about Congress...
13. How would you rate the job Congress is doing? Do you approve or disapprove of the job they are doing?

## IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: <br> Approve/strongly <br> ..... 5\%

And do you feel strongly about that?
Approve ..... 9\%
UNSURE (DNR) ..... 4\%
Disapprove ..... 17\%
Disapprove/strongly ..... 64\%
(CONJA)
And, thinking specifically about YOUR MEMBER OF CONGRESS...
14. How would you rate the job your Member of Congress is doing? Do you approve or disapprove of the jobthey are doing?

## IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

Approve/strongly.....................................................20\%
And do you feel strongly
Approve .27\% about that?UNSURE (DNR)9\%
Disapprove ..... 16\%
Disapprove/strongly ..... 28\%
(YMOCJA)

As you may already know, in December Congress passed and the President signed a law to fund the federal government for two years.
21. Have you seen, read or heard anything about this federal budget deal?
Yes (TO Q22 and Q23) ..... 47\%
UNSURE (DNR) (TO Q24) ..... 2\%
No (TO Q24) ..... 51\%

## IF "YES" IN QUESTION 21, ASK:

22. Thinking about what you have seen, read or heard about this budget deal, has it made you more likely or less likely to vote for your Member of Congress?
IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: More likely/strongly ..... 20\%And do you feel stronglyabout that?
More likely ..... 16\%
UNSURE (DNR) ..... 10\%
NO DIFFERENCE (DNR) ..... 12\%
Less likely ..... 12\%
Less likely/strongly ..... 30\%
(BUDIMP)

IF "YES" IN QUESTION 21, ASK:
23. And, based on what you know, do you think this deal was more of:

- A step in the right direction, OR
- Giving up on key principles?

Step in the right direction ......................................... $42 \%$
Giving up on key principles ......................................49\%
ALL/COMBINATION/OTHER (DNR) ................... $1 \%$
UNSURE/REFUSED/NONE (DNR) ........................ $7 \%$
(BUDJUD)

## ***ASK OF EVERYONE***

Thinking for a moment about the health care law...
24. In general, do you favor or oppose the Affordable Care Act, which is also called Obamacare?

IF CHOICE IS MADE, ASK: Favor/strongly..........................................................27\%
And do you strongly Favor/somewhat ......................................................13\%
(Favor/Oppose) or UNSURE (DNR) ......................................................3\%
somewhat (Favor/Oppose)? Oppose/somewhat ..................................................... 7\%
Oppose/strongly.......................................................49\%
(OCFO)

And,
25. Do you think that the Affordable Care Act, also called Obamacare, (ROTATE CHOICES) went too far, did not go far enough, or was about right?
Too far. ..... 49\%
No far enough ..... 23\%
Was about right ..... 20\%
COMBINATION/OTHER (DNR). ..... 1\%
NONE (DNR) ..... 2\%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) ..... 6\%
(OCDIS)

## ***ROTATE Qs 26 and 27***

Thinking now about the economy..
26. Do you think that the national economy has gotten better, worse, or stayed the same over the past four years?
Gotten better ..... 35\%
Gotten worse ..... 42\%
Stayed the same ..... 23\%
COMBINATION/OTHER (DNR). ..... *
NONE (DNR)UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR).....................................1\%
(NECSTA)

And,
27. Do you think that your personal economic situation has gotten better, worse, or stayed the same over the past four years?

|  | Gotten better .......................................................22\% |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | Gotten worse.......................................................36\% |
|  | Stayed the same ...................................................40\% |
|  | COMBINATION/OTHER (DNR)..........................1\% |
|  | NONE (DNR).. |
|  | UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR).................................1\% |
| (PECSTA) |  |

And, still thinking about economic issues...
28. How big of a problem would you say that income inequality is? Would you say it is a:

## (ROTATE CHOICES)

- Big problem,
- Somewhat of a problem,
- Not much of a problem, OR
- Not a problem at all?

> Big problem ...............................................................49\%
Somewhat of a problem ..... 30\%
Not much of a problem. ..... 8\%
Not a problem at all ..... 9\%
COMBINATION/OTHER (DNR). ..... *
NONE (DNR) ..... *
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) ..... 4\%

And, one more question on this issue...
29. What do you think would be the BEST way to make sure that everyone can move up economically? Would you say it is:
(ROTATE CHOICES)

- Reducing the gap between the wealthiest Americans and the rest of the country, OR
- Cutting taxes and removing unnecessary regulations?
Closing the gap ..... 43\%
Cutting taxes/removing regulations ..... 45\%
COMBINATION/OTHER (DNR) ..... 4\%
NONE (DNR) ..... 3\%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) ..... 5\%
(INCHO)

As you may know, later this month President Obama will deliver the annual State of the Union Address to Congress and the American people. Now, thinking about this speech...
30. What is the likelihood that you will actually watch the speech live from the floor of the House of Representatives? Are you extremely likely, very likely, somewhat likely, or not very likely at all to watch President Obama’s speech?
Extremely Likely ..... 23\%
Very Likely ..... 24\%
Somewhat Likely ..... 18\%
Not very likely. ..... 33\%
UNSURE/REFUSE. ..... 1\%
(SUWAT)
31. Still thinking about the State of the Union speech, how important do you think this year's speech will be? Would you say this will be extremely important, very important, somewhat important or not very important speech?
Extremely Important ..... 18\%
Very Important ..... 24\%
Somewhat Important ..... 26\%
Not very Important ..... 31\%
UNSURE/REFUSE ..... 2\%
(SUIMP)
32. And, in thinking about the State of the Union speech that President Obama will give this year, do you think the nation needs to hear a list of detailed policy proposals to address our problems OR an inspirational speech that will bring us together as a nation?
Detailed policy proposals ..... 56\%
Inspirational speech. ..... 27\%
BOTH ..... 8\%
NEITHER ..... 4\%
UNSURE/REFUSE .....  $\%$
(SUCON)

Still thinking about the State of the Union speech,
Now I am going to read you several issues. For each one, please tell me whether you think it is extremely important, very important, somewhat important or not very important for President Obama to talk about that issue. Here is the first one...
(RANDOMIZE)

| 33. |  | Extr <br> Imp | Very Imp | Smwht Imp | Not at Imp | Unsure/ Refuse (DNR) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | The economy <br> (PROMPT: DO YOU THINK PRESIDENT OBAMA SHOULD DISCUSS OR IGNORE THIS ISSUE?) | 40\% | 45\% | 11\% | 3\% | 1\% |
| 34. | The civil war in Syria | 10\% | 16\% | 45\% | 27\% | 3\% |
| 35. | Immigration | 20\% | 27\% | 40\% | 11\% | 2\% |
| 36. | Income inequality | 25\% | 31\% | 24\% | 18\% | 3\% |
| 37. | Jobs | 42\% | 41\% | 12\% | 4\% | 1\% |
| 38. | Taxes | 30\% | 36\% | 26\% | 6\% | 2\% |
| 39. | The Federal deficit | 38\% | 35\% | 19\% | 7\% | 2\% |
| 40. | The new healthcare law | 34\% | 32\% | 19\% | 13\% | 2\% |
| 41. | The role of government in our lives | 23\% | 30\% | 31\% | 13\% | 2\% |
| (SUISS1-9) |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Now, just a few final questions for statistical purposes only --
D1. What is your age, please?
18-24 ..... 7\%
25-29 ..... 4\%
30-34 ..... 7\%
35-39 ..... 13\%
40-44 ..... 17\%
45-54 ..... 13\%
55-64 ..... 16\%
65-69 ..... 7\%
70-74 ..... 5\%
75-79 ..... 3\%
80-84 ..... 3\%
85-89 ..... 1\%
90 or over. ..... 1\%
REFUSED ..... 4\%
(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) ........................................... 5\%
Graduated high school (12)..................................... 18\%
Technical/vocational (12)..........................................3\%
Some college (13-15) ............................................... $24 \%$
Graduated college (16)............................................ $31 \%$
Graduate/professional school (16 or more) ............18\%
Unsure/Refused ..........................................................1\%
(EDUC)

D3. When thinking about politics and government, do you consider yourself to be..
(READ LIST, ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

| (IDEO |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| And, |  |  |
| D4. | Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent? |  |
|  | IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT, | Republican/strong............................................. 19\% |
|  | ASK: Would you call yourself a | Republican/not strong .......................................... 9\% |
|  | strong or a not very strong (Republican/Democrat)? | Lean Republican...................................................... 10\% |
|  |  | Independent ...................................................... 17\% |
|  |  | Lean Democrat ...................................................6\% |
|  | IF INDEPENDENT OR ANYTHING | Democrat/not strong.......................................... 11\% |
|  | ELSE, ASK: Do you think | Democrat/strong ................................................ 26\% |
|  | of yourself as closer to the |  |
|  | Republican or Democratic Party? | NO PREFERENCE (DNR) .................................. $2 \%$ |
|  |  | OTHER (DNR) ..................................................... * |
|  |  | UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) ............................... $1 \%$ |
| (PARTYID) |  |  |
| D5. | Do you consider yourself a part of or do you identify with the Tea Party movement? |  |
|  | IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: | Yes/strongly...................................................... 12\% |
|  | And do you feel strongly | Yes ................................................................... 7\% |
|  | about that? | UNSURE (DNR) ................................................5\% |
|  |  | No.............................................................................34\% |
|  |  | No/strongly ......................................................42\% |
| (TEAMEM) |  |  |

And,
D6. Which of these statements best describes how you have usually voted in past elections?
(READ LIST, ROTATE TOP TO Straight Republican ..................................................11\%
BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP) Mostly Republican ...................................................25\%
A few more Republicans than Democrats................11\%
INDEPENDENT/THE PERSON (DNR).................. $3 \%$
A few more Democrats than Republicans.................. $9 \%$
Mostly Democratic ....................................................21\%
Straight Democratic...................................................18\%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)....................................3\%
(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.........................................11\% |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | Labor Union Household........................................3\% |
|  | Non-Union Household ........................................ $84 \%$ |
|  | UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) ................................2\% |
| (UNION) |  |

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

|  | Single ..............................................................21\% |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | Married ............................................................61\% |
|  | Separated ...........................................................1\% |
|  | Divorced ........................................................... 9\% |
|  | Widowed ........................................................... 8\% |
|  | UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) .............................. $1 \%$ |
| (MARITAL) |  |

D9. Do you have children under the age of 18 living at home?
Yes ............................................................................ $35 \%$
No.
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) ...................................... *
(CHILD)

D10. What is the church you or your family attends most often?
Roman Catholic ..... 19\%
Baptist ..... 19\%
Methodist ..... 7\%
Episcopalian ..... 2\%
Evangelical ..... 4\%
Presbyterian ..... 3\%
Lutheran ..... 4\%
Other Protestant ..... 15\%
Greek Orthodox ..... *
Jewish ..... 2\%
Mormon / LDS ..... 2\%
Quaker / Amish ..... *
Other (SPECIFY) ..... 2\%
NONE (DNR) ..... 19\%
Refused (DNR) ..... 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 ..... 15\%
Once a week ..... 33\%
Several times a month ..... 18\%
Once a month ..... 6\%
Several times a year ..... 17\%
Only on holidays ..... 8\%
NEVER/DON'T ATTEND ..... 2\%
UNSURE/REFUSED ..... 1\%
(DENOMFRQ)

## IF ANY RELIGION NAMED IN D10, THEN ASK:

D11-2. Do you consider yourself to be a born-again or evangelical Christian?
Born-again/evangelical ..... 47\%
Not born-again ..... 46\%
REFUSED (DNR) ..... 7\%

## **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 ..... 77\%
Black/African-American ..... 12\%
Hispanic/Latino (TO D14) .....  $\%$
Asian/Pacific American. ..... 1\%
Native American ..... 1\%
Other (Specify ..... 1\%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) ..... 2\%

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

D13. And, do you consider yourself a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking American?
Yes ..... 3\%
No.. ..... 97\%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) ..... 1\%

## **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 .......................................71\% |
|  | Low income........................................22\% |
|  | Working class (DNR)............................1\% |
|  | Unemployed (DNR)................................* |
|  | Refused (DNR) .....................................2\% |

## D15. 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 .................................................... 25\%
Female/homemaker ..................................................11\%
Female/retired.......................................................... 14\%
Female/not in labor force ..........................................2\%

MALE/REFUSED (DNR).......................................... 1\%
FEMALE/REFUSED (DNR) ................................... 1\%


[^0]:    *=less than .5\%

