



Battleground 2012 (XLIV)

FINAL - August 26, 2011

STUDY #13103

THE TARRANCE GROUP and LAKE RESEARCH PARTNERS

N = 1,000 Registered "likely" voters

Margin of error \pm 3.1%

Field Dates: August 28-September 1, 2011

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?

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)

Even though it is a long way off...

B. What is the likelihood of your voting in the elections to be held in November 2012-- are you extremely likely, very likely, somewhat likely, or not very likely at all to vote?

(CONTINUE)

Extremely Likely 77%
 Very Likely 19%
 Somewhat Likely 5%

(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)

And,

D. 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..... 25%
Republican/not strong 7%
Lean Republican..... 8%

Independent 14%

Lean Democrat 8%

Democrat/not strong 9%

Democrat/strong 26%

IF INDEPENDENT OR ANYTHING

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

NO PREFERENCE (DNR) 1%

OTHER (DNR) *

UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 1%

(PARTYID)

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..... 8%

Right direction/somewhat 11%

UNSURE (DNR) 9%

Wrong track/somewhat 13%

Wrong track/strongly..... 59%

(DIRECT)

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?”)

	<u>Q2 MOST IMPORTANT</u>
• The Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan	3%
• Illegal immigration	4%
• Taxes	2%
• Terrorism and homeland security	1%
• Education	8%
• Health care costs	6%
• Government spending and the budget deficit	20%
• The economy	25%
• Gas and energy prices	2%
• Crisis in Libya	
• Medicare and Social Security	6%
• Jobs	18%
• COMBINATION/EQUALLY (DNR)	5%
• OTHER (DNR)	*
• NONE (DNR)	*
• UNSURE (DNR)	1%

(MII)

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

As you may know, Obama has announced that he is running for reelection in 2012.

3. Would you say -- **(ROTATE, FRONT TO BACK, BACK TO FRONT)** – you will definitely vote for him, you will consider voting for him, or you definitely will not vote for him?

Definitely vote for Obama	26%
Consider voting for Obama.....	28%
Definitely will not vote for Obama.....	43%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	2%

(BHOVT)

And, thinking again about the 2012 elections...

4. 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	36%
Lean Republican.....	4%
UNDECIDED (DNR)	18%
Lean Democratic	3%
Democratic	38%

(GENERCG)

Now I would like to read you the names of several individuals who have been mentioned in the news recently. 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>
5.	Barack Obama (BOID)	29%	20%	10%	36%	4%	*
6.	John Boehner (BAY-nur) (JBID)	8%	19%	12%	19%	18%	25%
7.	Mitch McConnell (MMID)	2%	14%	11%	10%	21%	41%
8.	Nancy Pelosi (NPID)	10%	19%	11%	41%	9%	10%
9.	Harry Reid (HRID)	5%	15%	11%	25%	15%	30%
10.	Mitt Romney (MRID)	9%	30%	20%	14%	12%	14%
11.	Michele Bachmann (MBID)	9%	17%	11%	32%	13%	18%
12.	Rick Perry (RPID)	14%	17%	7%	21%	15%	27%
13.	Sarah Palin (SPID)	14%	16%	13%	48%	7%	3%
14.	Ron Paul (RPID)	10%	21%	15%	17%	17%	21%

(END ROTATION)

Now, turning to President Barack Obama...

16. 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 24%
Approve 21%
UNSURE (DNR) 5%
Disapprove 9%
Disapprove/strongly 41%

(BHOJA)

And,

17. 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:

And do you feel *strongly* about that?

Approve/strongly.....	55%
Approve/somewhat.....	19%
UNSURE (DNR).....	9%
Disapprove/somewhat.....	4%
Disapprove/strongly.....	14%

(BHOPA)

Now, 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)?

	<u>APPROVE</u>		<u>UNSURE (DNR)</u>	<u>DISAPPROVE</u>	
	<u>strng</u>	<u>smwht</u>		<u>smwht</u>	<u>strng</u>
18. The economy (PROMPT: DO YOU APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE OF THE JOB THAT PRESIDENT OBAMA IS DOING ON THIS ISSUE?)	11%	28%	2%	14%	45%
19. Foreign policy	24%	29%	8%	15%	24%
20. Terrorism	40%	28%	7%	12%	14%
21. Dealing with Congress	20%	23%	6%	22%	30%
22. The federal budget and spending	12%	22%	4%	13%	48%
23. Jobs	12%	26%	5%	16%	40%

(BOJA1-6)

(END RANDOMIZATION)

Still thinking about the job performance of President Obama...

24. Recently, there has been a debate about how President Obama should be dealing with Congress. Which of the following comes closest to your own view?

(ROTATE CHOICES)

- President Obama should continue to try to work and find compromises with Congress,
- President Obama should stand up to Congress and use the powers of his office more to get things done?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel strongly about that?

Compromise with Congress/strongly.....	46%
Compromise with Congress	7%
More aggressive style.....	5%
More aggressive style/strongly	36%
BOTH (DNR)	1%
NEITHER (DNR)	2%
UNSURE (DNR)	3%

(OBMGMT)

As you probably have already heard, there are several candidates who are running to be the Republican Presidential nominee. I am going to read you the names of some of these candidates. For each one, please tell me if you would definitely vote for this candidate, if you would consider voting for this candidate, or if you would definitely not vote for this candidate. Here is the first one...

(RANDOMIZE)

	<u>DEFINITELY VOTE FOR</u>	<u>WOULD CONSIDER</u>	<u>DEFINITELY NOT</u>	<u>UNSURE/ REFUSED</u>
25. Mitt Romney (WOULD YOU SAY YOU WILL DEFINITELY VOTE FOR THIS CANDIDATE, YOU WILL CONSIDER VOTING FOR THIS CANDIDATE, OR YOU DEFINITELY WILL NOT VOTE FOR THIS CANDIDATE?)	9%	41%	43%	7%
26. Michele Bachmann	7%	28%	58%	8%
27. Rick Perry	11%	33%	45%	11%
28. Rick Santorum	3%	20%	53%	24%
29. Herman Cain	5%	22%	46%	28%
30. Newt Gingrich	5%	22%	66%	7%
31. Ron Paul	8%	29%	55%	8%
32. Jon Huntsman	2%	21%	50%	27%

(PRESDEC1-8)

(END RANDOMIZATION)

IF “1-3” IN QD, THEN ASK:

Thinking about these Republican Presidential candidates in a different way...

33. Who would you say is your first choice to be the Republican nominee for President?
(READ AND ROTATE LIST, IF NECESSARY)

Mitt Romney	17%
Michele Bachmann.....	10%
Rick Perry	36%
Rick Santorum.....	5%
Herman Cain	4%
Newt Gingrich.....	5%
Ron Paul.....	10%
Jon Huntsman.....	1%
OTHER (Specify _____) (DNR, Record only if volunteered)	1%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR, Record only if volunteered).....	11%

(GOPBAL1)

IF “1-3” IN QD, THEN ASK:

34. Are you satisfied with the field of Republican candidates running for President?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel strongly
about that?

Yes/strongly	30%
Yes	23%
UNSURE (DNR)	9%
No.....	10%
No/strongly	28%

(GOPSAT)

ASK OF EVERYONE

Thinking about issues in a different way...

SPLIT SAMPLE A

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

	<u>GOP IN CONG</u>	<u>DEM IN CONG</u>	<u>BOTH (DNR)</u>	<u>NEITHER (DNR)</u>	<u>UNSURE (DNR)</u>
35A. Turning the economy around (PROMPT: WHO DO YOU THINK WILL BETTER HANDLE THIS ISSUE - - (ROTATE) REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS OR DEMOCRATS IN CONGRESS?)	44%	39%	3%	7%	6%
36A. Creating jobs	44%	41%	2%	5%	8%
37A. Sharing your values	44%	41%	3%	7%	6%
38A. Controlling the deficit	54%	31%	3%	7%	6%
39A. Health care	38%	52%	2%	4%	5%
40A. Social Security	39%	50%	3%	4%	6%
41A. Safeguarding America from terrorism	51%	32%	7%	3%	7%
42A. Standing up for the middle class	31%	58%	2%	6%	4%

(HAND1A-8A)

(END RANDOMIZATION)

SPLIT SAMPLE B

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

	<u>GOP IN CONG</u>	<u>PRES OBAMA</u>	<u>BOTH (DNR)</u>	<u>NEITHER (DNR)</u>	<u>UNSURE (DNR)</u>
35B. Turning the economy around (PROMPT: WHO DO YOU THINK WILL BETTER HANDLE THIS ISSUE - - (ROTATE) REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS OR PRESIDENT OBAMA?)	46%	44%	2%	5%	3%
36B. Creating jobs	46%	45%	2%	5%	2%
37B. Sharing your values	41%	48%	1%	4%	7%
38B. Controlling the deficit	52%	37%	1%	6%	5%
39B. Health care	44%	48%	1%	4%	3%
40B. Social Security	40%	51%	1%	4%	3%
41B. Safeguarding America from terrorism	38%	52%	5%	1%	4%
42B. Standing up for the middle class	35%	57%	2%	6%	1%

(HAND1B-8B)

**(END RANDOMIZATION)
(END SPLIT SAMPLE)**

As you may already know, President Obama and the US Congress recently agreed on a law to increase the national debt ceiling. One of the key parts of this law was the creation of a bipartisan committee which will examine ways to balance the federal budget.

43. This committee will likely consider several proposals to accomplish this goal. Which of the following do you think is most important item for the committee to consider? Would you say it is:
(RANDOMIZE CHOICES)

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

- Closing tax loopholes and reforming the tax code,
- Cutting spending,
- Raising taxes on wealthy Americans and corporations, OR
- Reforming entitlement spending?

Closing tax loopholes/tax reform.....	25%
Cutting spending.....	29%
Raising taxes on wealthy/corporations	28%
Reform entitlement spending	11%
COMBINATION/EQUALLY (DNR)	4%
OTHER (DNR)	*
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR).....	1%

(SCMTE1)

One more question on this issue...

44. As you may already know, the Tea Party movement played a significant role in this debate about the debt ceiling. Based on what you know, how did your view of the Tea Party movement change as a result of this debate? Would you say that your view of the Tea Party movement is:
(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

- More favorable,
- Less favorable, OR
- Not changed

as a result of this debate?

More favorable	19%
Less favorable	33%
Not changed	44%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR).....	4%

(TEADBT)

Now, thinking about the economy...

As you may have heard, President Obama is planning to propose measures aimed at creating jobs. One of these proposals may be a large scale federally subsidized nationwide construction program putting Americans back to work building roads, bridges, schools, and hospitals.

45. With this in mind, would you favor or oppose this proposal, or are you undecided?

IF CHOICE IS MADE, ASK:

And do you strongly
(Favor/Oppose) or
somewhat (Favor/Oppose)?

Favor/strongly..... 40%
Favor/somewhat 11%
Undecided..... 28%
Oppose/somewhat 4%
Oppose/strongly..... 17%

(WPAFAV)

46. On a scale from 1 to 10 where 1 is not at all worried and 10 is extremely worried, how worried are you that the United States will suffer another economic downturn which will negatively affect your family?
(PLEASE RECORD "UNSURE" AS VALUE 11)

Not at all
Worried

Extremely
Worried

3% 2% 3% 7% 17% 12% 15% 16% 6% 20%

(ECONWOR)

Now we'd like to ask you a few questions about your confidence in the U.S. Government, using a scale from 1 to 10, where 1 means "no confidence at all" and 10 means "a great deal of confidence." Please tell me how much confidence you have in the US Government to handle this issue. Here is the first one...

(RANDOMIZE)

(PLEASE RECORD "UNSURE" AS VALUE 11)

	No Confidence <u>at all</u>									Great deal of <u>Confidence</u>
49.	Advance the US economy									
	11%	7%	11%	13%	26%	13%	9%	7%	2%	3%
50.	Handle foreign affairs									
	6%	3%	5%	9%	21%	11%	20%	15%	4%	6%
51.	Manage domestic policy issues like education, transportation, and healthcare									
	10%	7%	12%	11%	25%	10%	12%	8%	2%	4%
52.	Find solutions to politically sensitive issues									
	14%	9%	13%	11%	25%	9%	8%	7%	2%	2%

(PCONFID1-5)

(END RANDOMIZATION)

Now, thinking about where you would turn for information in a crisis like a natural disaster...

53. In time of crisis, where is the first place that you turn for information? Would you say it would be:
(RANDOMIZE)

- A mobile device like a cell phone or tablet computer,
- A desktop computer or laptop,
- A newspaper,
- Family and friends
- The television, OR
- The radio?

Mobile device	9%
Desktop computer/laptop	23%
Newspaper	1%
Family and friends.....	5%
The television	48%
Radio.....	11%
COMBINATION (DNR).....	3%
OTHER (DNR)	1%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	1%

(INFOCRI)

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

D1. What is your age, please?

18-24	8%
25-29	10%
30-34	6%
35-39	7%
40-44	14%
45-54	17%
55-64	19%
65-69	5%
70-74	5%
75-79	4%
80-84	3%
85-89	1%
90 or over.....	*
REFUSED	1%

(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)	2%
Graduated high school (12).....	18%
Technical/vocational (12).....	4%
Some college (13-15)	25%
Graduated college (16).....	31%
Graduate/professional school (16 or more)	20%
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	17%
Somewhat conservative.....	38%
MODERATE (DNR)	3%
Somewhat liberal	29%
Very liberal	10%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	3%

(IDEOL)

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	13%
Yes	9%
UNSURE (DNR)	5%
No.....	25%
No/strongly	48%

(TEAMEM)

Now, thinking about the election for President that was held in 2008 --

D6. Which candidate for President of the United States did you vote for? Was it -- **(ROTATE)** -- •John McCain, or Barack Obama?

John McCain.....	41%
Barack Obama	52%
Ralph Nader (DNR)	*
OTHER (DNR)	1%
REFUSED (DNR)	1%
UNSURE (DNR)	1%
DID NOT VOTE (DNR)	3%

(PRES08)

D7. 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	8%
Mostly Republican	24%
A few more Republicans than Democrats.....	10%
INDEPENDENT/THE PERSON (DNR)	3%
A few more Democrats than Republicans.....	12%
Mostly Democratic	20%
Straight Democratic.....	18%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	4%

(PARTY)

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.....	13%
Labor Union Household.....	4%
Non-Union Household	82%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	1%

(UNION)

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

Single	19%
Married	63%
Separated	1%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	7%
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. 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)..... *	Lutheran3%
Assemblies of God 1%	Mennonite 1%
Baptist/American 5%	Methodist/United Methodist 7%
Baptist/Missionary or Indep. or Primitive or other 3%	Mormon/Latter Day Saints..... 2%
Baptist/Southern 7%	Nazarene 1%
Bible Church..... *	Non-denominational5%
Christian Church.....5%	Other Protestant2%
Christian Reformed Church 1%	Pentecostal/Charismatic2%
Church of Christ 2%	Presbyterian/United Presb3%
Church of God 1%	Quaker/Amish 1%
Disciples of Christ *	Reformed Church in America *
Episcopalian 2%	Roman Catholic.....20%
Evangelical 1%	Seventh Day Adventist.....1%
Friends 1%	United Church of Christ *
Fundamentalist 1%	OTHER (SPECIFY).....3%
Eastern/Greek Orthodox..... *	None (TO D11)20%
Jewish 1%	DK/REFUSED (TO D11)..... 5%

(DENOM)

IF ANY RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION IN D10, ASK:

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

More than once a week14%
Once a week39%
Several times a month.....15%
Once a month.....9%
Several times a year.....12%
Only on holidays.....8%
NEVER/DON'T ATTEND2%
UNSURE/REFUSED2%

(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/evangelical42%
Not born-again51%
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..... 77%
Black/African-American 12%
Hispanic/Latino (TO D12)..... 6%
Asian/Pacific American..... 1%
Native American..... 1%
Other (Specify _____).....
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) (TO D12) 3%

(RACE)

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

D21-1. And, do you consider yourself a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking American?

Yes 3%
No..... 96%
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 32%
Male/homemaker..... 1%
Male/retired 11%
Male/not in labor force 3%

Female/employed 29%
Female/homemaker 8%
Female/retired..... 12%
Female/not in labor force 3%

MALE/REFUSED (DNR) *
FEMALE/REFUSED (DNR) *

(SEXEMP)

D14. RECORD REGION CODE FROM SAMPLE _____

D15. RECORD STATE/COUNTY CODE FROM SAMPLE _____

D16. RECORD DMA FROM SAMPLE _____

D17. RECORD CD CODE FROM SAMPLE _____

D18. RECORD URBAN/SUBURBAN/RURAL CODE _____
