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CFG_DEBTLIMITNATIONALPOLL_MQ_230424
 CLUB FOR GROWTH
 NATIONAL
 REGISTERED VOTERS
 APRIL 20-24, 2023

SAMPLE:

N = 1,000 Registered Voters
 MoE = ±3.1%

Below is a list of people in government and politics. Please indicate whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each? **RANDOMIZE**

	Total Favorable	Total Unfavorable	Net Fav	Very Favorable 1.	Somewhat Favorable 2.	Not Sure 3.	Somewhat Unfavorable 4.	Very Unfavorable 5.
1. Joe Biden	40%	54%	-14%	16%	24%	6%	13%	40%
2. Donald Trump	33%	60%	-27%	19%	14%	7%	10%	50%
3. Republicans in Congress	33%	54%	-22%	12%	21%	13%	21%	33%
4. Democrats in Congress	38%	50%	-12%	13%	25%	12%	16%	34%
HALF SAMPLE A: 5.A. The Federal Bureaucracy	13%	48%	-34%	4%	10%	39%	21%	27%
HALF SAMPLE B: 6.B. Federal Bureaucrats	12%	50%	-38%	2%	10%	38%	21%	29%

6. Generally speaking, do you think that federal government spending is too high, too low, or about right?

TOTAL TOO HIGH 70%
TOTAL TOO LOW 5%

- 1. Much Too High 44%
- 2. Somewhat Too High 26%
- 3. About Right 15%
- 4. Somewhat Too Low 4%
- 5. Much Too Low 2%
- 6. Don't Know 9%



7. Please read the information below about federal spending and then answer the question that follows.

The federal government spent 1.3 trillion dollars in 2019 on “discretionary spending,” spending that doesn’t include mandatory programs like Social Security and Medicare. In 2023, that has increased to 1.7 trillion dollars, an increase of 400 billion dollars.

Knowing this, do you think that federal government spending is too high, too low, or about right?

	TOTAL TOO HIGH	75%
	TOTAL TOO LOW	4%
1.	Much Too High	50%
2.	Somewhat Too High	24%
3.	About Right	15%
4.	Somewhat Too Low	3%
5.	Much Too Low	1%
6.	Don’t Know	6%

ASK HALF SAMPLE A:

8.A. Federal spending increased substantially in order to fund emergency response to the covid-19 pandemic. Some people have urged that spending be reduced back to pre-pandemic levels. How about you, do you think spending should be reduced back to pre-pandemic levels or should it not be reduced.

	TOTAL REDUCED TO PRE-PANDEMIC	74%
	TOTAL NOT REDUCED	16%
1.	Definitely should be reduced to pre-pandemic levels	42%
2.	Probably should be reduced to pre-pandemic levels	32%
3.	Probably should not be reduced	13%
4.	Definitely should not be reduced	3%
5.	Don’t Know	10%

ASK HALF SAMPLE B:

8.B. Do you believe that Congress should reduce funding for federal bureaucracy back to the level it was at before the covid-19 pandemic or should it not do that?

	TOTAL SHOULD REDUCE FUNDING	68%
	TOTAL SHOULD NOT REDUCE FUNDING	17%
1.	Definitely should reduce to pre-pandemic levels	40%
2.	Probably should reduce to pre-pandemic levels	28%
3.	Probably should not be reduced	11%
4.	Definitely should not be reduced	6%
5.	Don’t Know	15%

9. If federal spending is going to be cut, would you prefer those cuts be made to federal bureaucracy or to the military and national defense?

TOTAL FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY	65%
TOTAL NATIONAL DEFENSE	19%

- 1. Strongly Prefer Cuts to Federal Bureaucracy 40%
- 2. Somewhat Prefer Cuts to Federal Bureaucracy 25%
- 3. Somewhat Prefer Cuts to National Defense 10%
- 4. Strongly Prefer Cuts to National Defense 9%
- 5. Don't Know 16%

10. If there are cuts to federal government spending, how important is it to you that Social Security and Medicare not be included in cuts or changes?

TOTAL IMPORTANT	89%
TOTAL NOT IMPORTANT	7%

- 1. Very Important 72%
- 2. Somewhat Important 17%
- 3. Not Too Important 5%
- 4. Not Important At All 2%
- 5. Don't Know 4%

11. Democrats said that the Inflation Reduction Act, which passed Congress last year, contained 391 billion dollars in energy and climate spending, which includes subsidies for wind and solar power and electric vehicles. However, a recent analysis by Goldman Sachs found that those programs are actually going to cost over 1.2 trillion dollars, three times more than the original estimate. Knowing this, would you support or oppose cutting some of these spending provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act?

TOTAL SUPPORT	53%
TOTAL OPPOSE	32%

- 1. Strongly Support 30%
- 2. Somewhat Support 23%
- 3. Somewhat Oppose 15%
- 4. Strongly Oppose 17%
- 5. Don't Know 15%

Below are some specific things that the federal government is currently spending money on or has recently spent money on. For each please indicate whether you believe this is a good or bad use of taxpayer dollars **RANDOMIZE**

	Total Good Use	Definitely Good Use 1.	Probably Good Use 2.	Not Sure 3.	Probably Bad Use 4.	Definitely Bad Use 5.	Total Base Use
12. The State Department providing \$16,000 to a Colombian LGBT group that supports sex work.	15%	6%	9%	17%	14%	55%	68%
13. The State Department offering a grant of up to \$50,000 to “counter stigma” against the transgender community in India.	20%	8%	12%	19%	14%	47%	61%
14. The State Department providing \$30,000 to Kyrgyz Indigo to “prevent gender-based violence against the transgender community and increase acceptance through sensitivity and advocacy training and media campaigns” in Kyrgyzstan, a country in Central Asia.	25%	10%	15%	19%	15%	41%	56%
15. Spending 11 million dollars on LGBT-related projects here in the U.S.	31%	14%	17%	16%	13%	39%	52%
16. Providing 581 million dollars to the World Health Organization, which praised the Chinese Communist Party for its handling of covid-19.	22%	7%	16%	21%	17%	39%	56%
17. The Environmental Protection Agency imprisoning a 77-year-old Navy Veteran for 18 months for building ponds on his remote property to fight forest fires, claiming he violated federal environmental laws.	12%	4%	8%	20%	17%	50%	68%

	Total Good Use	Definitely Good Use 1.	Probably Good Use 2.	Not Sure 3.	Probably Bad Use 4.	Definitely Bad Use 5.	Total Base Use
18. Spending one million dollars for to address “extremism, diversity, and climate change” at the Department of Defense.	39%	15%	23%	21%	12%	29%	40%
19. Recommending that the Marine Corps to have drill instructors eliminate gender-specific salutations like “ma’am” and “sir”.	19%	6%	13%	23%	17%	42%	59%
20. Spending an additional 80 billion dollars to hire 87,000 new IRS agents.	30%	12%	18%	21%	18%	32%	49%
21. Spending 3.6 million dollars for a “Michelle Obama Trail” in Georgia.	17%	6%	11%	19%	18%	46%	64%

Now changing topics...

22. As you may know, the U.S. national debt is more than \$31 trillion and is projected to rise to \$46 trillion over the next ten years. How big of a problem would you say that this much debt is to our national security and economic health?

- 1. A very big problem 56%
- 2. A somewhat big problem 21%
- 3. A problem, but not a big problem 11%
- 4. Not much of a problem 4%
- 5. Not a problem at all 2%
- 6. Don't Know 6%

23. How much responsibility do you think federal government spending has for inflation and rising prices?

TOTAL RESPONSIBLE 86%
TOTAL NOT RESPONSIBLE 9%

- 1. A great deal of responsibility 65%
- 2. Just some responsibility 20%
- 3. Not much responsibility 7%
- 4. No responsibility at all 2%
- 5. Don't know 5%

24. As you may know, the federal debt ceiling stops the federal government from borrowing more money unless Congress raises the limit. If the government can't borrow more money but still has deficits, it will eventually default on its existing debts. The debt ceiling has been increased a number of times over the years.

Knowing this, do you believe that President Biden should negotiate with Congress to raise the debt ceiling?

TOTAL SHOULD NEGOTIATE	53%
TOTAL SHOULD NOT NEGOTIATE	29%

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Definitely Should Negotiate | 25% |
| 2. | Probably Should Negotiate | 28% |
| 3. | Probably Should Not Negotiate | 12% |
| 4. | Definitely Should Not Negotiate | 16% |
| 5. | Don't Know | 18% |

25. If the debt ceiling is not raised, who would you blame most for any damage to the economy that occurs as a result? ROTATE FIRST THREE PUNCHES

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | President Biden | 31% |
| 2. | the House Republican Majority | 36% |
| 3. | the Senate Democratic Majority | 12% |
| 4. | Don't Know | 21% |

26. Below are two positions on the debt ceiling. Please tell us which one you agree with more...ROTATE

- | | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 1. | President Biden wants to increase the debt ceiling without any conditions, which means without agreeing to cuts to current spending, restrictions on future spending, or pro-growth economic policies. | 33% |
| 2. | Republicans want to increase the debt ceiling, but in exchange want to cut current spending, restrict future spending, and enact pro-growth economic policies. | 48% |
| 3. | Don't Know | 20% |

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the debt ceiling.

RANDOMIZE

	Total Agree	Strongly Agree 1.	Somewhat Agree 2.	Not Sure 3.	Somewhat Disagree 4.	Strongly Disagree 5.	Total Disagree
27. In exchange for raising the debt ceiling, President Biden should agree to cut current spending by reversing his 400 billion dollar student loan bailout, eliminating the budget for unspent covid-19 emergency funds, and repealing the 80 billion dollar expansion of the IRS.	54%	34%	20%	21%	11%	14%	25%
28. In exchange for raising the debt ceiling, President Biden should agree to reduce funding for the federal bureaucracy to pre-covid-19 pandemic levels.	64%	33%	31%	22%	6%	7%	14%
29. In exchange for raising the debt ceiling, President Biden should agree to cap future funding for the federal bureaucracy and national defense to an increase of no more than 1% per year for the next ten years.	53%	24%	29%	29%	9%	8%	18%
30. In exchange for raising the debt ceiling, President Biden should agree to cut funding for the federal bureaucracy to 2019 spending levels and cap future growth to 1% per year for the next ten years.	58%	29%	29%	27%	9%	7%	16%

	Total Agree	Strongly Agree 1.	Somewhat Agree 2.	Not Sure 3.	Somewhat Disagree 4.	Strongly Disagree 5.	Total Disagree
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31.	In exchange for raising the debt ceiling, President Biden should agree to enact pro-growth economic policies such as the REINS Act which would make it more difficult for bureaucrats to create new burdensome regulations, unleash reliable domestic energy production, and get Americans back to work with work requirements for welfare programs.	56%	32%	24%	27%	9%	9%	18%
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Changing topics...

32. How much have you heard about Social Security becoming insolvent in between eight and nine years, forcing an immediate 24% cut in benefits to current retirees?

TOTAL A LOT/SOME 59%
TOTAL NOT MUCH/NONE 41%

- 1. A lot 19%
- 2. Just some 39%
- 3. Not too much 21%
- 4. Nothing at all 21%

33. Which of the following plan would you prefer for dealing with Social Security ...ROTATE

- 1. Make no changes to Social Security, which would lead to an automatic 24% benefit cut for current retirees in eight to nine years. 10%
- 2. Make changes and reforms to Social Security that would protect current retirees and those who will be retiring soon but which would reform the system for younger workers to ensure its continued existence. 76%
- 3. Don't Know 14%

34. And if you knew that Joe Biden and Donald Trump have both attacked any changes to Social Security and endorsed a “do nothing” strategy which will lead to a 24% benefits cut to current retirees in eight to nine years, would you agree with their position or disagree with it?

	TOTAL AGREE	16%
	TOTAL DISAGREE	64%
1.	Strongly Agree	5%
2.	Somewhat Agree	11%
3.	Somewhat Disagree	23%
4.	Strongly Disagree	40%
5.	Don't Know	20%

Changing topics...

35. As you may know, Congress is considering the RESTRICT Act which would give the Commerce Department the authority to ban or limit access to information and communication technologies, including social media apps, that are owned by a “foreign adversary” of the United States and which pose risks to our national security.

Would you say you support or oppose this legislation?

	TOTAL SUPPORT	54%
	TOTAL OPPOSE	26%
1.	Strongly Support	27%
2.	Somewhat Support	27%
3.	Somewhat Oppose	13%
4.	Strongly Oppose	13%
5.	Don't Know	20%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Now we just have a few more questions for demographic purposes...

36. In politics today, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

	TOTAL REPUBLICAN	36%
	TOTAL DEMOCRAT	36%
1.	Strong Republican	20%
2.	Somewhat Republican	16%
3.	Independent	29%
4.	Somewhat Democrat	17%
5.	Strong Democrat	19%

37. And would you say you are a ROTATE Conservative, a Moderate, or a Liberal END ROTATION in your political beliefs?

	TOTAL CONSERVATIVE	36%
	TOTAL LIBERAL	27%
1.	Very Conservative	18%
2.	Somewhat Conservative	19%
3.	Moderate	36%
4.	Somewhat Liberal	16%
5.	Very Liberal	11%

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

1.	High school or less	29%
2.	Some College or an Associates Degree	34%
3.	Bachelor’s Degree	22%
4.	Postgraduate	15%
5.	Prefer not to state	<1%

39. Which of the following best describes your race or ethnicity?

1.	White	72%
2.	Hispanic, Mexican, Latino, Spanish	10%
3.	African American	12%
4.	Asian	3%
5.	Other (specify) _____	2%
6.	Prefer not to state	1%

40. And thinking back to the presidential election in November 2020, for whom did you vote...

- Donald Trump
- Joe Biden
- ...or...
- Someone else

1.	Trump	39%
2.	Someone Else	6%
3.	Don't Remember/Did not Vote	10%
4.	Unsure	2%
5.	Biden	43%

41. And, regardless of how you are registered to vote, which of these statements best describes how you usually voted in past elections? ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM: BOTTOM TO TOP

1.	Straight ticket Republican	18%
2.	Mostly for Republicans	16%
3.	A few more Republicans than Democrats	6%
4.	About equal amounts of Republicans and Democrats	10%
5.	A few more Democrats than Republicans	7%
6.	Mostly for Democrats	20%
7.	Straight ticket Democratic	19%
8.	Don't Know	4%

42. In what year were you born? RECORD EXACT FOUR DIGIT RESPONSE; RECODE INTO CATEGORIES

1.	18-24	5%
2.	25-34	16%
3.	35-44	16%
4.	45-54	19%
5.	55-64	19%
6.	65-74	15%
7.	75 or over	10%

43. What is your sex or gender?

1.	Male	47%
2.	Female	53%
3.	Prefer not to state	<1%

44. Census Region PRE-CODE

1.	Northeast	18%
2.	Midwest	22%
3.	South	21%
4.	West	39%
5.	East North Central	15%
6.	East South Central	6%
7.	Mid-Atlantic	13%
8.	Mountain	7%
9.	New England	5%
10.	Pacific	14%
11.	South Atlantic	21%
12.	West North Central	7%
13.	West South Central	11%