



THE TEA PARTY MOVEMENT: WHAT THEY THINK

April 5-12, 2010

Tea Partiers are nearly unified in their dismay with the country's direction and their dislike of President Obama - part of a remarkable display of unanimity among political groups today. Among the 18% of Americans who say they support the Tea Party, nearly all - 92% - say the country is on the wrong track; 94% are angry or dissatisfied with how things are going in D.C. (53% are downright angry) and 92% prefer the idea of a smaller government.

There is also near-universal criticism of the current administration and government. 88% disapprove of the job President Barack Obama is doing, and only 7% approve. 96% disapprove of how Congress is handling its job.

With the anger, there's deep concern: Tea Partiers express pessimism about the economy, its prospects for recovery and the future for American jobs.

ANGER AT WASHINGTON AND THE DIRECTION OF THE COUNTRY

Although many Americans are dissatisfied with the direction of the country, self-identified supporters of the Tea Party movement are particularly unhappy. 92% of Tea Party supporters think the country is headed off on the wrong track, compared to 59% of Americans overall.

DIRECTION OF THE COUNTRY

Table with 3 columns: Direction, Tea Party, All. Rows: Right direction (6%, 34%), Wrong track (92%, 59%)

94% are dissatisfied or worse about the way things are going in Washington, including 53% who describe themselves as "angry." In comparison, just 19% of Americans overall say they're angry, though most are dissatisfied.

FEELINGS TOWARDS GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON

Table with 3 columns: Feeling, Tea Party, All. Rows: Enthusiastic (1%, 5%), Satisfied (4%, 26%), Dissatisfied (41%, 48%), Angry (53%, 19%)

When Tea Party supporters are asked what they are most angry about, the recently-passed health care reforms top the list at 16%, followed by the government not representing the people (14%), and government spending (11%).

WHAT ARE YOU MOST ANGRY ABOUT?

(Tea party members angry with Washington)

Health care reform	16%
Not representing the people	14
Government spending	11
Unemployment/economy	8
Size of government	6
Congress	6
Barack Obama	6
Budget deficit	5
Partisan politics	5

But despite their anger, most Tea Party supporters do not think it is ever justified to take violent action against the government. Only 24% think it is sometimes justified, though this figure is higher than that expressed by Americans overall (16%).

TEA PARTIERS AND PRESIDENT OBAMA

Tea Party supporters give President Barack Obama overwhelmingly negative job approval ratings -- about nine in 10 disapprove of the job he is doing overall, and only 7% approve. Evaluations are similar on his handling of specific domestic issues; more than nine in ten Tea Partiers disapprove of each of these.

In contrast, 50% of Americans nationwide approve of Mr. Obama's job performance, but he gets lower ratings on his handling of the economy, health care and the deficit.

PRES. OBAMA'S JOB RATINGS

	<u>Tea Party</u>		<u>All</u>	
	Approve	Disapprove	Approve	Disapprove
Overall	7%	88	50%	40
Economy	6%	91	43%	46
Health care	6%	93	41%	51
Budget deficit	5%	91	29%	53

Negative perceptions of President Obama extend beyond his job performance. 84% of Tea Partiers have an unfavorable personal opinion of him, while Americans overall hold a more positive view.

OPINION OF PRES. OBAMA

	<u>Tea Party</u>	<u>All</u>
Favorable	7%	43%
Not favorable	84	33
Undecided/haven't heard	9	24

When supporters of the Tea Party are asked to volunteer what they like least about the President, the top answer is they just don't like him, mentioned by 19%. This is followed by 11% who say he is turning the U.S. more toward socialism, his health care reforms (10%), and that he is dishonest (9%).

Unlike Americans overall, there is the widespread perception among Tea Party supporters that the President does not share or represent their views. 73% of Tea Partiers think President Obama does not understand their needs and problems, and 75% think he doesn't share the values of most Americans (75%).

In contrast, majorities of Americans overall think President Obama does understand them, and shares the values of most Americans.

DO YOU THINK PRES. OBAMA...?

	<u>Tea Party</u>		<u>All</u>	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Understands your needs & problems	24%	73	58%	39
Shares values of most Americans	20%	75	57%	37

And while nearly three in four Tea Partiers describe themselves as conservatives, most see the President as holding an opposing political ideology: 86% of Tea Party supporters describe President Obama as a liberal.

PRES. OBAMA'S POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

	<u>Tea Party</u>	<u>All</u>
Very liberal	77%	31%
Somewhat liberal	9	18
Moderate	7	28
Very/somewhat conservative	1	10

Half of Tea Partiers also describe themselves as middle class - yet most see the President as working mainly for the poor. 56% of Tea Party supporters say his policies favor the poor, but among Americans overall, just 27% think this.

ECONOMIC GROUP OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S POLICIES FAVOR

	<u>Tea Party</u>	<u>All</u>
Rich	16%	17%
Middle class	6	19
Poor	56	27
Treats all same	9	27

Moreover, there is a widespread view among Tea Partiers that the President has increased taxes: 64% of Tea Party supporters think the Obama administration has increased taxes for most Americans, while only 34% of the general public says that.

SOCIALISM AND THE BIRTHER MOVEMENT

Some Tea Party rally participants have been shown in the media holding signs expressing their concerns about socialism - and those concerns are indeed widespread among Tea Partiers. This poll finds that virtually all Tea Partiers think President Obama's policies are moving the U.S. toward what they consider socialism - 92% of them say that. Just over half of Americans overall share that view.

ARE PRES. OBAMA'S POLICIES MOVING COUNTRY TOWARD SOCIALISM?

	<u>Tea Party</u>	<u>All</u>
Yes	92%	52%
No	6	38

When asked what they think socialism means, 49% of Tea Party supporters volunteer government ownership or control -- the top answer. Taking away rights or limiting freedom is a distant second, cited by 11%, and 8% say it means the redistribution of wealth.

WHEN PEOPLE SAY COUNTRY IS MOVING TOWARD SOCIALISM, WHAT DOES THAT MEAN TO YOU?

	<u>Tea Party</u>	<u>All</u>
Government ownership/control	49%	26%
Taking away rights/limiting freedom	11	6
Redistribution of wealth/share all	8	6
Taking over businesses	5	1

Although the Constitution requires American Presidents to be natural born citizens, 30% of Tea Partiers say they think President Obama was born in another country, but even more -- 41% -- say he was born in the U.S. That view is shared by Republicans as well; 32% of them think the President was born in another country.

Among Americans overall, 58% think Mr. Obama was born in this country. Significant percentages aren't sure or don't have an opinion.

THINK PRES. OBAMA WAS BORN IN THE U.S. OR ANOTHER COUNTRY?

	<u>Tea Party</u>	<u>All</u>
U.S.	41%	58%
Another country	30	20
Don't know	29	22

VIEWS OF CONGRESS

It is not just the President that Tea Partiers disapprove of - Congress also receives extensive criticism. While not popular among Americans overall, Congress is particularly unpopular among Tea Party supporters: 96% of them disapprove of how Congress is handling its job, compared to 73% of Americans nationwide.

JOB APPROVAL OF CONGRESS

	Tea Party	All
Approve	1%	17%
Disapprove	96	73

Similarly, 94% of Tea Party supporters do not think most members of Congress deserve re-election in November.

DOES CONGRESS DESERVE RE-ELECTION?

	Tea Party	All
Yes	1%	10%
No	94	78

But like Americans overall, Tea Party supporters are more satisfied with their own Representative's job performance than they are of Congress as a whole. 40% approve of the job their own Representative is doing, but still more, 49%, disapprove.

JOB APPROVAL OF OWN REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS

	Tea Party	All
Approve	40%	46%
Disapprove	49	36

TEA PARTY LEADERS?

It remains unclear whether the Tea Party movement has a leader - or if it wants one. Asked specifically about a few notable figures, commentator Glenn Beck and former Governor Sarah Palin are very well-regarded. Tea Partiers also think well of former Republican President George W. Bush but less so of John McCain, and Ron Paul is not as well-known.

TEA PARTIERS: VIEWS OF...

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Haven't heard/unsure
Sarah Palin	66%	12	21
Glenn Beck	59%	6	34
George W. Bush	57%	27	15
John McCain	35%	37	27
Ron Paul	28%	15	56

Although they like her, nearly half of Tea Partiers do not think Sarah Palin would have the ability to be an effective President. Republicans overall are more positive in their assessment, while among Americans as a whole, two in three doubt she has that ability.

WOULD PALIN BE AN EFFECTIVE PRESIDENT?

	Tea Party	Republicans	All
Yes	40%	48%	26%
No	47	42	63

Asked to volunteer their most admired political figure generally, no single person stands out among Tea Party supporters. 29% - the largest answer - offer no one or aren't sure. Former House Speaker Newt

Gingrich leads the list of those mentioned, with 10%, followed by Sarah Palin with 9%, and former President George W. Bush and Mitt Romney at 5%.

TEA PARTIERS AND THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Just over half of Tea Partiers identify themselves as Republicans. Tea Partiers hold similar views to Republicans on policy, and say they typically vote Republican. But Tea Partiers say their main goal is not to elect candidates, but to affect policy.

80% of Tea Partiers see at least some difference (but not a lot) between their movement and the Republican Party generally. Republicans also see differences, but many aren't sure.

HOW MUCH DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TEA PARTY AND REPUBLICAN PARTY?

	Tea Party	Republicans	All
A lot	19%	9%	11%
Some	61	40	29
Not much/none	17	24	26
Don't know	3	27	34

But Tea Party supporters express markedly more anger toward Washington than Republicans, who are mainly just dissatisfied.

FEELINGS TOWARD GOVT IN WASHINGTON: TEA PARTY AND REPUBLICANS

	Tea Party	Republicans
Enthusiastic	1%	3%
Satisfied	4	13
Dissatisfied	41	52
Angry	53	31

Tea Partiers have a mostly favorable view of the Republican Party and an overwhelmingly negative view of the Democratic Party.

VIEWS OF THE PARTIES

(Among Tea Party supporters)

	Favorable	Unfavorable
Republican party	54%	43
Democratic party	6%	92

54% of Tea Partiers call themselves Republicans, and 41% say they're independents. Just 5% are Democrats.

Two-thirds of Tea Partiers say they have usually or always been voting Republican in recent elections.

TEA PARTY VOTING: TYPICAL RECENT VOTES ARE...

(Among Tea Party supporters)

Always Republican	18%
Usually Republican	48
Equally Republican and Democratic	25
Usually/always Democratic	5

Most Tea Partiers do not see the need for a third political party in the U.S.

DOES U.S. NEED A THIRD PARTY?

(Among Tea Party supporters)

Yes 40%

No 52

POSITIONS ON ISSUES

Both Tea Partiers and Republicans place a priority on economic over social issues. So do evangelical Republicans, but they are nearly twice as likely to be concerned about social issues.

ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL ISSUES MORE IMPORTANT?

	Tea Party	Republicans	Evangelical Reps
Economic	78%	76%	55%
Social	14	19	35

Most Tea Partiers hold policy positions much like those of Republicans - in fact, Tea Partiers are even more unified in their views than Republicans are on many issues.

They are more likely than Republicans - and much more likely than Americans overall -- to view illegal immigration as a serious problem, to think global warming will have no impact and to think the bank bailout was unnecessary. On same-sex marriage and abortion, they display more Republican, not traditionally libertarian, views.

ON THE ISSUES: TEA PARTY AND REPUBLICANS

	Tea Party	Reps	All
Think immigration is very serious problem	82%	72%	60%
Think bailout was unnecessary	74%	63%	51%
Think global warming will have no impact	66%	51%	29%
Think Obama has increased taxes	64%	48%	34%
Think Roe v. Wade was bad thing	53%	45%	34%
Oppose same-sex marriage & civil unions	40%	41%	30%
Want gun control laws eased	30%	22%	16%

ECONOMIC PESSIMISM AND PROGRAMS

Compared to Americans overall, Tea Partiers are considerably more pessimistic about the condition of the national economy and the direction in which the economy is heading. 93% of Tea Party supporters describe the economy as at least somewhat bad, and 42% say it is getting worse, while just 14% see it as improving.

They are also pessimistic about the U.S. labor market; nearly six in 10 Tea Party supporters say that America's best years are behind us when it comes to good jobs, compared to a third who says the best is yet to come. Those views are more negative than the views of Americans overall.

WHEN IT COMES TO GOOD JOBS, ARE AMERICA'S BEST YEARS...?

	Tea Party	All
Behind us	58%	45%
Yet to come	33	45

Few see the bailout of banks and other financial institutions as necessary; three in four Tea Party supporters think the economy probably would have improved without that government bailout, and just 17% think it was needed. More Americans overall say the bailout was necessary.

Tea Party supporters think the economic stimulus package has had no impact on the economy, or made it worse. Americans overall are more likely to perceive an economic benefit from the stimulus.

STIMULUS IMPACT ON ECONOMY?

	Tea Party	All
Better	10%	32%
Worse	36	18
No impact	52	44

Given these criticisms, it isn't surprising that nine in 10 Tea Party supporters say that in attempting to solve the country's economic problems, the President has expanded the role of government too much. Americans nationwide are far less likely to think that.

HOW MUCH HAS PRES. OBAMA EXPANDED THE ROLE OF GOV'T IN ADDRESSING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS?

	Tea Party	All
Too much	89%	37%
Not enough	3	18
Right amount	6	36

Tea Partiers prioritize lowering the federal deficit over government spending to create jobs by a large margin. Americans overall prioritize job creation.

WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT?

	Tea Party	All
Govt spending to create jobs	17%	50%
Lowering federal deficit	76	42

But cutting taxes is also popular among this group. When asked whether they would prefer to lower the deficit or cut taxes, slightly more Tea Partiers choose the tax cut (49%) than deficit reduction (42%). In this area, Tea Partiers' views are closely aligned with those of Americans overall.

VIEWS OF OTHER GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

A large majority of Tea Party supporters think the government should not require people to have health insurance, and 80% think it is a bad

idea to raise taxes on higher income Americans to pay for health insurance for those who don't have it.

There are some government programs Tea Partiers like, however - especially if they are recipients of the program's benefits. 62% think that the benefits from government programs such as Social Security or Medicare are worth the costs of those programs for taxpayers (but that percentage is even higher among Americans overall - 76%).

PROGRAMS LIKE SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICARE WORTH IT?

(among Tea Party supporters)

	All Tea Party	HH receives Medicare or Soc. Sec.
Yes	62%	72%
No	33	22

Just under half of Tea Partiers say someone in their household receives Medicare or Social Security benefits. Tea Partiers in those households are more positive than non-recipients about the benefits these programs provide.

Nearly all Tea Party supporters prefer a smaller government providing fewer services, and they are nearly twice as likely as Americans overall to do so.

SIZE OF GOVT. PREFER

	Tea Party	All
Smaller, fewer services	92%	50%
Bigger, more services	4	37

VIEWS ON RACE

89% of Tea Party supporters are white (just 1% are black.) As a whole, they are less likely than both Americans overall and non-Tea Party whites to believe that whites have a better chance of getting ahead in today's society than blacks. Just 16% think this is so, compared to about twice as many who think so among all Americans and non-Tea Party whites. Nearly three quarters think both whites and blacks have an equal chance of getting ahead in today's society.

WHO HAS A BETTER CHANCE OF GETTING AHEAD IN TODAY'S SOCIETY?

	Tea Party	All Americans	Non-Tea Party Whites
Both equal	73%	60%	55%
Whites	16	31	36
Blacks	7	4	4

Instead, 52% of Tea Party supporters say too much has been made of the problems facing black people, something just 28% of Americans overall and just 23% of non-Tea party whites believe.

ATTENTION TO PROBLEMS FACING AFRICAN AMERICANS HAS BEEN..

	Tea Party	All Americans	Non-Tea Party Whites
Too much	52%	28%	23%
About right	36	44	52
Too little	6	16	15

And though a majority of Tea Party supporters thinks the Obama administration has treated both whites and blacks in the same way, more think it has favored blacks over whites than among all Americans or non-Tea Party whites. A quarter of Tea Party supporters say that the Obama Administration favors blacks over white, something just 11% of Americans overall and 7% of whites who do not belong to the Tea Party believe.

DOES THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION...?

	Tea Party	All Americans	Non-Tea Party Whites
Treats both the same	65%	83%	87%
Favors blacks over whites	25	11	7
Favors whites over blacks	1	2	2

This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1,580 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone April 5-12, 2010. Phone numbers were dialed from RDD samples of both standard land-lines and cell phones. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points. The error for subgroups is higher.

An oversample of people who describe themselves as supporters of the Tea Party movement were interviewed, for a total of 881 interviews. The results were then weighted in proportion to the adult population. The margin of error for the sample of Tea Party supporters is three points. This poll release conforms to the Standards of Disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
The Tea Party Movement: What they Think
April 5-12, 2010

q1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter	Mar10c1
	%	%	%
Approve	50	7	44
Disapprove	40	88	41
DK/NA	10	5	15

q2 Regardless of your overall opinion of him, what do you like BEST about Barack Obama?

Like him	20	19
Health care	8	0
Communicator	6	11
Working hard	5	2
Michelle and family	3	6
Family values	3	1
Intelligent	3	2
Changing Washington	2	0
Understand my problems	2	0
LIKE his policies	2	0
Black president	1	1
Economic Policy	1	0
Education Policy	1	0
Foreign Policy	1	0
Bringing people together	1	0
Nothing	7	16
Other	8	13
DK/NA	26	29

q3 Regardless of your overall opinion of him, what do you like LEAST about Barack Obama?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter
	%	%
Don't like him	10	19
Health care	10	10
Dishonest/Liar	4	9
Trying to be too bipartisan	3	0
Economic Policy	2	4
Too Liberal	2	3
DON'T like his policies	2	5
Spending too much	2	5
Socialism	2	11
Tax policy	1	1
Education Policy	1	0
Afghanistan Policy	1	0
Foreign Policy	1	1
Plans on closing GITMO	1	0
Abortion stance	1	0
His religion/faith/ Muslim	1	1
Expanding gov't	1	3
Not Working hard	1	0
Not being bipartisan	1	1
Immigration	1	0
Too much/too fast	1	0
Everything	1	1
Nothing	6	2
Other	8	17
DK/NA	36	7

q4 Do you feel things in this country are generally going in the right direction or do you feel things have pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?

			Feb10a
			%
Right direction	34	6	33
Wrong track	59	92	62
DK/NA	7	2	5

q5 What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter	Feb10a
	%	%	%
Economy/Jobs	49	44	52
Health Care	8	4	13
Budget Deficit/Nat't Debt	5	10	4
Poverty / Homelessness	4	0	0
War/Iraq/Afghanistan	4	1	3
Big Government/Bureaucracy	2	9	3
Misc. Moral Values	2	3	0
Abortion	1	1	--
Immigration	1	2	1
Environment	1	1	0
Education	1	1	0
Defense / Military	1	3	2
Misc. Government Issues	1	2	0
Politicians/Government	1	1	1
Partisan Politics	1	1	0
Religious Values	1	3	1
Misc. Economic Issues	1	1	0
Terrorism (general)	1	1	1
Everything	1	0	--
Other	9	11	15
DK/NA	5	1	4

q6 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the economy?

			Mar10c1
Approve	43	6	42
Disapprove	46	91	50
DK/NA	11	3	8

q7 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling health care?

Approve	41	6	34
Disapprove	51	93	55
DK/NA	8	1	11

q8 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the federal budget deficit?

			Feb10a
Approve	29	5	31
Disapprove	53	91	58
DK/NA	18	4	11

q9 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

			Mar10c1
Approve	17	1	16
Disapprove	73	96	74
DK/NA	10	3	10

q10 How about the representative in Congress from your district? Do you approve or disapprove of the way your representative is handling his or her job?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter	Oct08e
	%	%	%
Approve	46	40	50
Disapprove	36	49	31
DK/NA	18	11	19

q11 Do you think most members of Congress have done a good enough job to deserve re-election, or do you think it's time to give new people a chance?

			Feb10a
Deserves re-election	10	1	8
Time for new person	78	94	81
Depends on candidates (vol.)	7	4	6
DK/NA	5	1	5

q12 Is your opinion of Barack Obama favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Barack Obama yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	43	7	39
Not favorable	33	84	34
Undecided	17	7	19
Haven't heard enough	7	2	6
Refused	0	0	2

q13 How would you rate the condition of the national economy these days? Is it very good, fairly good, fairly bad, or very bad?

			Mar10c1
Very good	1	0	1
Fairly good	22	6	14
Fairly bad	43	39	42
Very bad	34	54	42
DK/NA	0	1	1

q14 Do you think the economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

			Feb10a
Better	33	14	24
Worse	23	42	29
Same	43	42	45
DK/NA	1	2	2

q15 BLANK

q16 When it comes to the availability of good jobs for American workers, some say that America's best years are behind us. Others say the best times are yet to come. What do you think?

			Jan09a
Best behind	45	58	35
Yet to come	45	33	57
DK/NA	10	9	8

q17 Who do you think is mostly to blame for the current state of the nation's economy -- 1. the Bush administration, 2. the Obama administration, 3. Wall Street and financial institutions, 4. Congress, or 5. someone else?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter	Feb10a
	%	%	%
Bush administration	32	5	31
Obama administration	4	10	7
Wall Street	22	15	23
Congress	10	28	13
Someone else	7	6	5
All of the above (vol.)	9	15	9
Combination (vol.)	13	20	10
DK/NA	3	1	2

q18 So far, do you think the government's stimulus package has made the economy better, made the economy worse, or has it had no impact on the economy so far?

			Dec09a
Better	32	10	32
Worse	18	36	15
No impact	44	52	46
DK/NA	6	2	7

q19 BLANK

q20 Some people say the country needs a third political party -- a new party to compete with the Democratic and Republican parties. Do you agree or disagree?

			Jun07c
Agree	46	40	53
Disagree	48	52	41
DK/NA	6	8	6

q21 How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right -- just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

			Feb10a
Always	4	0	3
Most	16	6	16
Some	70	75	74
Never (vol.)	8	19	7
DK/NA	2	0	0

q22 If you had to choose, would you rather have a smaller government providing fewer services, or a bigger government providing more services?

Smaller gov't, fewer services	50	92	56
Bigger gov't, more services	37	4	34
Depends (vol.)	5	2	4
DK/NA	8	2	6

q23 Suppose a smaller government required cuts in spending on domestic programs such as Social Security, Medicare, education, or defense -- then would you favor a smaller government, or not?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter
	%	%
Favor	58	73
Not favor	36	20
DK/NA	6	7

q24 Which comes closest to your feelings about the way things are going in Washington -- enthusiastic, satisfied but not enthusiastic, dissatisfied but not angry, or angry?

			Feb10a
Enthusiastic	5	1	3
Satisfied, not enthusiastic	26	4	26
Dissatisfied but not angry	48	41	53
Angry	19	53	17
DK/NA	2	1	1

q25 What are you most angry about?

** AMONG THOSE WHO SAID "ANGRY" IN Q24

Not representing the people	15	14
Health care reform	14	16
Partisanship/gridlock	10	5
Unemployment/economy	7	8
Gov't spending	9	11
Congress	6	6
Barack Obama	5	6
Federal budget deficit	4	5
Size of gov't	3	6
Socialist policies	3	2
Not doing anything for me	3	3
Corruption	3	3
Bank bailout	2	1
Taxes	1	2
Republicans	1	0
Everything	2	0
Other	10	11
DK/NA	2	1

q26 As you may know, the budget deficit is the shortfall when the amount of money the government spends is more than the amount of money it takes in. How much have you heard or read about the federal government's current budget deficit -- a lot, some, not much, or nothing at all?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

A lot	30	62	42
Some	40	29	34
Not much	21	8	20
Nothing at all	8	1	3
DK/NA	1	0	1

q27 Which comes closer to your own view? The federal government should spend money to create jobs, even if it means increasing the budget deficit, OR The federal government should NOT spend money to create jobs and should instead focus on reducing the budget deficit.

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total %	Tea Party Supporter %	Feb10a %
Create jobs	50	17	47
Reduce budget deficit	42	76	45
DK/NA	8	7	8

q28 If you had to choose, would you prefer reducing the federal budget deficit or cutting taxes?

			Jul03b
Reducing deficit	45	42	50
Cutting taxes	47	49	46
Both (Vol.)	n/a	n/a	0
DK/NA	8	9	4

q29 Who do you think is mostly to blame for most of the current federal budget deficit - 1. the Bush administration, 2. the Obama administration, 3. Congress, or 4. someone else?

			Feb10a
Bush administration	39	6	41
Obama administration	8	24	7
Congress	19	37	24
Someone else	13	5	10
All of the above (vol.)	8	10	10
Combination (vol.)	9	16	7
DK/NA	4	2	1

q30 Do you think providing government money to banks and other financial institutions was necessary to get the economy out of recession, or would the economy probably have improved without doing that?

Necessary	39	17
Econ would have improved	51	74
DK/NA	10	9

q31 BLANK

q32 In general, is your opinion of the Republican Party favorable or not favorable?

Favorable	38	54	35
Not favorable	53	43	57
DK/NA	9	3	8

q33 In general, is your opinion of the Democratic Party favorable or not favorable?

Favorable	42	6	42
Not favorable	50	92	51
DK/NA	8	2	7

q34 Which political figure in the United States living TODAY do you admire most?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter
	%	%
Barack Obama	16	2
Hillary Clinton	3	0
Bill Clinton	9	2
Jimmy Carter	3	2
Newt Gingrich	3	10
Sarah Palin	3	9
George W. Bush	2	5
George H.W. Bush	2	3
John McCain	2	3
Mike Huckabee	1	3
Ron Paul	1	3
Rick Perry	1	0
Mitt Romney	1	5
No one	4	5
Other	13	24
DK/NA	36	24

q35 Is your opinion of John McCain favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about John McCain yet to have an opinion?

			Oct08i^ %
Favorable	23	35	43
Not favorable	36	37	42
Undecided	27	24	12
Haven't heard enough	12	3	2
Refused	2	1	1

^Among registered voters.

q36 Is your opinion of George W. Bush favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about George W. Bush yet to have an opinion?

			Jan09a
Favorable	27	57	26
Not favorable	58	27	60
Undecided	14	14	11
Haven't heard enough	1	1	2
Refused	0	1	1

q37 Is your opinion of Ron Paul favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Ron Paul yet to have an opinion?

Favorable	11	28
Not favorable	12	15
Undecided	17	20
Haven't heard enough	59	36
Refused	1	1

q38 Is your opinion of Glenn Beck favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Glenn Beck yet to have an opinion?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter
	%	%
Favorable	18	59
Not favorable	17	6
Undecided	17	17
Haven't heard enough	47	17
Refused	1	1

q39 Is your opinion of Sarah Palin favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Sarah Palin yet to have an opinion?

			Mar10c1
			%
Favorable	30	66	24
Not favorable	45	12	38
Undecided	17	19	20
Haven't heard enough	7	2	17
Refused	1	1	1

q40 Do you think Sarah Palin would have the ability to be an effective President, or not?

			Nov09b
Yes	26	40	26
No	63	47	62
DK/NA	11	13	12

q41 How much have you heard or read about the Federal Reserve -- a lot, some, not much or nothing at all?

A lot	17	25
Some	33	45
Not much	37	25
Nothing	12	5
DK/NA	1	0

q42 How much confidence do you have in the Federal Reserve's ability to promote financial stability -- a lot, some, not much or none at all, or don't you know enough about the Federal Reserve to say?

A lot	8	5
Some	31	38
Not much	19	28
None	6	9
DK enough	33	20
DK/NA	3	0

q43 In trying to solve the economic problems facing the country, do you think Barack Obama has expanded the role of government too much, not enough, or about the right amount?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter	Feb10a
	%	%	%
Too much	37	89	36
Not enough	18	3	21
About right	36	6	37
DK/NA	9	2	6

q44-45 BLANK

q46 Do you think Barack Obama does or does not understand the needs and problems of people like yourself?

			Feb09a
Yes	58	24	60
No	39	73	37
DK/NA	3	3	3

q47 Do you think Barack Obama shares the values most Americans try to live by, or doesn't he?

			Oct08e^
Yes	57	20	65
No	37	75	31
DK/NA	6	5	4

^Among registered voters.

q48 Do you think of Barack Obama as more of a liberal, a moderate, or a conservative?
 IF LIBERAL, ASK: Would you say he is very liberal or only somewhat liberal?
 IF CONSERVATIVE, ASK: Would you say he is only somewhat conservative or very conservative?

Very liberal	31	77
Somewhat liberal	18	9
Moderate	28	7
Somewhat conservative	6	0
Very conservative	4	1
DK/NA	13	6

q49 Some people say Barack Obama's policies are moving the country more toward socialism. Do you think Barack Obama's policies are moving the country more toward socialism, or are his policies not moving the country in that direction?

Toward socialism	52	92
Not toward socialism	38	6
DK/NA	10	2

q50 According to the Constitution, American Presidents must be "natural born citizens." Some people say Barack Obama was NOT born in the United States, but was born in another country. Do YOU think Barack Obama was born in the United States, or do you think he was born in another country?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total %	Tea Party Supporter %
Born in U.S.	58	41
Another country	20	30
DK/NA	22	29

q51 In general, do you think the policies of the Obama Administration favor the rich, favor the middle class, favor the poor, or do they treat all groups equally?

			Feb10a %
Favor the rich	17	16	22
Favor the middle class	19	6	24
Favor the poor	27	56	18
Treat all equally	27	9	25
DK/NA	10	13	11

q52 In general, do you think the policies of the Obama administration favor whites over blacks, favor blacks over whites, or do they treat both groups the same?

Favor whites over blacks	2	1
Favor blacks over whites	11	25
Treat both the same	83	65
DK/NA	4	9

q53 So far, do you think the Obama Administration has increased taxes for most Americans, decreased taxes for most Americans, or have they kept taxes the same for most Americans?

Increased	34	64	24
Decreased	10	2	12
Kept the same	48	30	53
DK/NA	8	4	11

q54 On average, about what percentage of their household incomes would you guess most Americans pay in federal income taxes each year -- less than 10 percent, between 10 and 20 percent, between 20 and 30 percent, between 30 and 40 percent, between 40 and 50 percent, or more than 50 percent, or don't you know enough to say?

Less than 10%	5	11
10-20%	26	25
20-30%	25	26
30-40%	10	14
40-50%	2	3
More than 50%	1	1
DK enough	26	15
DK/NA	5	5

q55 As long as the federal government provides financial help to those who cannot afford health insurance, do you think the federal government should or should not require nearly all Americans to have health insurance?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter
	%	%
Should	49	12
Should not	45	85
DK/NA	6	3

q56 Do you think it is a good idea or a bad idea to raise income taxes on households that make more than \$250,000 a year in order to help provide health insurance for people who do not already have it?

Good idea	54	17
Bad idea	39	80
DK/NA	7	3

q57 Do you approve or disapprove of requiring health insurance companies to cover anyone who applies for health insurance regardless of whether or not they have an existing medical condition or a prior illness?

Approve	81	59
Disapprove	15	32
DK/NA	4	9

q58 BLANK

q59 Overall, do you think the benefits from government programs such as Social Security and Medicare are worth the costs of those programs for taxpayers, or are they not worth the costs?

Worth it	76	62
Not worth it	19	33
DK/NA	5	5

q60-61 BLANK

q62 Do you think providing government benefits to poor people encourages them to remain poor, or does it help them until they begin to stand on their own?

		March 1982
Remain poor	38	73
Helps until they're on own	47	16
DK/NA	15	11
		47
		35
		18

q63 When thinking about important issues facing the country which concerns you more right now -- economic issues like taxes and jobs or social issues like abortion and same-sex marriage?

Economic issues	80	78
Social issues	13	14
Both (vol.)	4	7
DK/NA	3	1

q64 Should LEGAL immigration into the United States be kept at its present level, increased, or decreased?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter	Jul08a
	%	%	%
Present level	35	39	38
Increased	16	14	23
Decreased	41	42	32
DK/NA	8	5	7

q65 What about ILLEGAL immigration, how serious a problem do you think the issue of ILLEGAL immigration is for the country right now -- very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious?

Very serious	60	82	60
Somewhat serious	23	15	29
Not too serious	12	2	8
Not at all serious	3	1	2
DK/NA	2	0	1

q66 Do you think global warming is an environmental problem that is causing a serious impact now, or do you think the impact of global warming won't happen until sometime in the future, or do you think global warming won't have a serious impact at all?

			Feb09a
Impact now	38	12	43
In the future	29	19	30
No serious impact	24	51	19
Doesn't exist (vol.)	5	15	3
DK/NA	4	3	5

q67 Which comes closest to your view? Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry, OR gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not legally marry, OR there should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship?

			Jun09a
Allowed to legally marry	39	16	33
Civil unions	24	41	30
No legal recognition	30	40	32
DK/NA	7	3	5

q68 Which of these comes closest to your view? Abortion should be generally available to those who want it, abortion should be available but under stricter limits than it is now, abortion should not be permitted?

			Mar10b
Generally available	36	20	35
Available but limits	38	45	37
Should not be permitted	23	32	25
DK/NA	3	3	3

q69 In general, do you think gun control laws should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter	Nov03a
	%	%	%
More strict	40	13	51
Less strict	16	30	10
Kept as they are now	42	55	35
DK/NA	2	2	4

q70 In states where it is legal to openly carry a gun, should private businesses like stores and restaurants be able to prohibit customers from openly carrying guns in their establishments, or should those customers be allowed to openly carry guns into the stores and restaurants?

Should prohibit guns	74	65
Should allow guns	21	27
Depends (vol.)	3	5
DK/NA	2	3

q71 In general, who do you think has a better chance of getting ahead in today's society -- white people, black people, or do white people and black people have about an equal chance of getting ahead?

			Jun09a
White people	31	16	30
Black people	4	7	6
Equal	60	73	60
DK/NA	5	4	4

q72 In recent years, do you think too much has been made of the problems facing black people, too little has been made, or is it about right?

			Jul08a
Too much	28	52	23
Too little	16	6	20
Just right	44	36	48
DK/NA	12	6	9

q73 When someone says the country is moving toward socialism, what does that mean to you?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter
	%	%
Gov't ownership/control	26	49
Taking rights away	6	11
Redistribution of wealth	6	8
Communist	3	3
Bad thing	3	3
Scare tactic	3	1
Good thing	2	0
Not moving toward socialism	2	0
Russia/Stalin	1	1
Giving money to the poor	1	0
Taking over businesses	1	5
Universal health care	1	1
Like Sweden/Europe	1	2
Like Cuba	1	0
Get rid of private property	1	0
Nothing	1	0
Other	11	11
DK/NA	30	5

q74 Do you think it is ever justified for citizens to take violent action against the government, or is it never justified?

			April 1995
Justified	16	24	13
Never justified	79	71	82
DK/NA	5	5	5

q75 More than 35 years ago, the Supreme Court's decision in Roe versus Wade established a Constitutional right for women to obtain legal abortions in this country. In general, do you think the Court's decision was a good thing or a bad thing?

			Jun09a
Good thing	58	40	62
Bad thing	34	53	32
Both good/bad (vol.)	3	3	3
DK/NA	5	4	3

q76 Do you regard the income tax which you will have to pay this year as fair, or not?

Yes, fair	62	52
No, not fair	30	42
DK/NA	8	6

q77 BLANK

q78 How much have you heard or read about the Tea Party movement -- a lot, some, not much or nothing at all yet?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter	Feb10a
	%	%	%
A lot	19	50	18
Some	31	43	27
Not much	22	6	21
Nothing	28	2	34
DK/NA	0	0	0

q79 Is your opinion of the Tea Party movement favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about the Tea Party movement yet to have an opinion?

			Mar10c1
Favorable	21	85	17
Not favorable	18	1	16
Undecided	14	9	18
Haven't heard enough	46	4	47
Refused	1	1	2

q80 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q81 How much difference do you think there is between the Republican Party and the Tea Party movement -- a lot of difference, some difference, not much difference, or no difference at all?

A lot	11	19
Some	29	61
Not much	18	13
None at all	8	4
DK/NA	34	3

q82 Do you consider yourself to be a supporter of the Tea Party movement, or not?

			Mar10c1
Yes	18	100	20
No	62	0	56
DK/NA	20	0	24

Q83-q91 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q94 Think about past elections in which you have voted, including national and statewide elections. Would you say you always vote Republican, usually vote Republican, vote about equally for both parties, usually vote Democratic, or always vote Democratic?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	Total	Tea Party Supporter	Mar07a^
	%	%	%
Always Republican	9	18	7
Usually Republican	19	48	24
Equally for both	31	25	31
Usually Democrat	16	3	25
Always Democrat	12	2	11
Never vote (vol.)	9	1	0
DK/NA	4	3	2

^Among registered voters.

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1580	
Tea Party supporters	881	288