

1. Heard about debt limit deadline

How much have you heard about the United States approaching a deadline to raise the federal debt limit?

	Gender			Age				Party ID			Voter Registration	
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Registered	Not registered
Heard a lot	60%	70%	50%	40%	51%	70%	79%	60%	60%	60%	65%	21%
Heard a little	30%	21%	39%	45%	32%	24%	20%	30%	29%	33%	28%	47%
Heard nothing at all	10%	9%	11%	15%	17%	6%	2%	10%	12%	7%	7%	32%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (482)	100% (518)	100% (184)	100% (292)	100% (370)	100% (154)	100% (358)	100% (423)	100% (219)	100% (895)	100% (105)

	Race				Education					Region			
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Heard a lot	60%	65%	54%	40%	51%	54%	60%	70%	72%	57%	66%	56%	63%
Heard a little	30%	29%	30%	35%	23%	36%	30%	28%	24%	38%	26%	30%	28%
Heard nothing at all	10%	6%	16%	25%	26%	10%	10%	1%	5%	5%	8%	15%	9%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (780)	100% (118)	100% (102)	100% (43)	100% (362)	100% (339)	100% (170)	100% (86)	100% (147)	100% (208)	100% (392)	100% (253)

	Confident in ability to explain debt limit					
	Total	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Not sure
Heard a lot	60%	94%	75%	50%	22%	32%
Heard a little	30%	6%	21%	43%	51%	37%
Heard nothing at all	10%	0%	4%	7%	27%	31%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (204)	100% (307)	100% (236)	100% (188)	100% (65)

Respondent understanding of debt limit

	Total	Directly increase government spending and the amount of debt the U.S. holds	Allow the U.S. to pay interest on its debt and for spending that it has already authorized
Heard a lot	60%	62%	78%
Heard a little	30%	32%	19%
Heard nothing at all	10%	7%	3%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (393)	100% (417)

2. Confident in ability to explain debt limit

How confident are you that you could explain the the federal debt limit law to a friend?

	Gender			Age				Party ID			Voter Registration	
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Registered	Not registered
Very confident	20%	30%	10%	18%	20%	24%	15%	22%	21%	15%	21%	9%
Somewhat confident	31%	35%	27%	33%	24%	29%	42%	28%	30%	37%	33%	10%
Not very confident	23%	19%	27%	22%	23%	23%	27%	23%	22%	27%	24%	20%
Not at all confident	19%	12%	27%	19%	23%	19%	16%	21%	20%	14%	17%	39%
Not sure	7%	4%	9%	9%	10%	6%	0%	6%	8%	6%	5%	22%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (482)	100% (518)	100% (184)	100% (292)	100% (370)	100% (154)	100% (358)	100% (423)	100% (219)	100% (895)	100% (105)

	Total	Race			Education					Region			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Very confident	20%	20%	28%	16%	25%	14%	19%	25%	27%	17%	19%	21%	22%
Somewhat confident	31%	32%	29%	23%	25%	30%	29%	37%	34%	33%	31%	28%	34%
Not very confident	23%	25%	21%	16%	15%	22%	30%	23%	20%	27%	26%	21%	21%
Not at all confident	19%	18%	16%	31%	25%	24%	17%	14%	14%	13%	17%	24%	18%
Not sure	7%	5%	7%	14%	9%	11%	6%	1%	4%	10%	7%	7%	5%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (780)	100% (118)	100% (102)	100% (43)	100% (362)	100% (339)	100% (170)	100% (86)	100% (147)	100% (208)	100% (392)	100% (253)

	Total	Confident in ability to explain debt limit				
		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Not sure
Very confident	20%	100%	—	—	—	—
Somewhat confident	31%	—	100%	—	—	—
Not very confident	23%	—	—	100%	—	—
Not at all confident	19%	—	—	—	100%	—
Not sure	7%	—	—	—	—	100%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (204)	100% (307)	100% (236)	100% (188)	100% (65)

Respondent understanding of debt limit

	Total	Directly increase government spending and the amount of debt the U.S. holds	Allow the U.S. to pay interest on its debt and for spending that it has already authorized
Very confident	20%	21%	28%
Somewhat confident	31%	30%	40%
Not very confident	23%	23%	24%
Not at all confident	19%	21%	6%
Not sure	7%	5%	3%
Totals	100%	100%	100%
(Unweighted N)	(1,000)	(393)	(417)

3. Respondent understanding of debt limit

Which comes closer to your understanding about what raising the debt limit would do?

	Gender			Age				Party ID			Voter Registration	
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Registered	Not registered
Directly increase government spending and the amount of debt the U.S. holds	39%	39%	38%	32%	35%	43%	43%	33%	34%	58%	40%	28%
Allow the U.S. to pay interest on its debt and for spending that it has already authorized	42%	49%	34%	42%	38%	41%	49%	49%	43%	25%	44%	22%
Not sure	20%	11%	28%	25%	28%	16%	8%	18%	23%	17%	16%	50%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (481)	100% (517)	100% (183)	100% (291)	100% (370)	100% (154)	100% (358)	100% (422)	100% (218)	100% (894)	100% (104)

	Total	Race			Education					Region			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Directly increase government spending and the amount of debt the U.S. holds	39%	40%	37%	31%	37%	39%	40%	38%	35%	31%	38%	42%	39%
Allow the U.S. to pay interest on its debt and for spending that it has already authorized	42%	44%	41%	32%	30%	36%	42%	52%	55%	46%	46%	35%	46%
Not sure	20%	16%	22%	38%	32%	25%	17%	10%	10%	24%	16%	23%	15%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (778)	100% (118)	100% (102)	100% (43)	100% (361)	100% (338)	100% (170)	100% (86)	100% (147)	100% (207)	100% (392)	100% (252)

	Confident in ability to explain debt limit					
	Total	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Not sure
Directly increase government spending and the amount of debt the U.S. holds	39%	41%	37%	39%	42%	27%
Allow the U.S. to pay interest on its debt and for spending that it has already authorized	42%	58%	54%	42%	12%	17%
Not sure	20%	1%	8%	19%	46%	56%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (203)	100% (307)	100% (235)	100% (188)	100% (65)

	Respondent understanding of debt limit		
	Total	Directly increase government spending and the amount of debt the U.S. holds	Allow the U.S. to pay interest on its debt and for spending that it has already authorized
Directly increase government spending and the amount of debt the U.S. holds	39%	100%	—
Allow the U.S. to pay interest on its debt and for spending that it has already authorized	42%	—	100%
Not sure	20%	—	—
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (393)	100% (417)

4. Must the debt limit be raised

From what you've read and heard, do you think the federal debt limit must be raised to avoid an economic crisis, or do you think the country can pass the deadline for raising the debt limit without major economic problems?

	Gender			Age				Party ID			Voter Registration	
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Registered	Not registered
The debt ceiling must be raised to prevent an economic crisis	44%	47%	41%	49%	38%	44%	50%	62%	37%	27%	46%	31%
We can pass the deadline to raise the debt limit without major economic problems	29%	35%	23%	21%	30%	33%	28%	14%	34%	45%	30%	20%
Not sure	27%	18%	35%	30%	32%	23%	22%	24%	29%	28%	24%	48%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (997)	100% (482)	100% (515)	100% (183)	100% (292)	100% (369)	100% (153)	100% (356)	100% (422)	100% (219)	100% (893)	100% (104)

	Total	Race			Education					Region			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
The debt ceiling must be raised to prevent an economic crisis	44%	44%	59%	37%	41%	47%	41%	44%	53%	50%	44%	41%	45%
We can pass the deadline to raise the debt limit without major economic problems	29%	31%	17%	28%	13%	28%	33%	37%	29%	23%	33%	29%	29%
Not sure	27%	25%	25%	35%	46%	26%	26%	19%	19%	26%	23%	30%	26%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (997)	100% (778)	100% (117)	100% (102)	100% (43)	100% (359)	100% (339)	100% (170)	100% (86)	100% (147)	100% (207)	100% (390)	100% (253)

	Confident in ability to explain debt limit					
	Total	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Not sure
The debt ceiling must be raised to prevent an economic crisis	44%	52%	54%	45%	27%	25%
We can pass the deadline to raise the debt limit without major economic problems	29%	43%	32%	24%	23%	9%
Not sure	27%	6%	14%	31%	50%	66%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (997)	100% (204)	100% (306)	100% (236)	100% (187)	100% (64)

	Respondent understanding of debt limit		
	Total	Directly increase government spending and the amount of debt the U.S. holds	Allow the U.S. to pay interest on its debt and for spending that it has already authorized
The debt ceiling must be raised to prevent an economic crisis	44%	32%	67%
We can pass the deadline to raise the debt limit without major economic problems	29%	47%	22%
Not sure	27%	21%	11%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (997)	100% (392)	100% (417)

5. Opinion on debt ceiling

Which comes closer to your opinion about the U.S debt ceiling?

	Gender		Age				Party ID			Voter Registration		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Registered	Not registered
It's a useful law that that limits debt and strengthens those trying to reduce government spending	31%	34%	28%	26%	33%	31%	33%	34%	24%	39%	32%	21%
It's a gimmick that has brought us to the brink of economic crisis without controlling spending	43%	50%	36%	47%	37%	44%	44%	35%	51%	39%	45%	27%
I don't know enough about it to say	27%	16%	36%	27%	30%	25%	23%	31%	25%	21%	23%	52%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (481)	100% (517)	100% (184)	100% (292)	100% (369)	100% (153)	100% (357)	100% (422)	100% (219)	100% (893)	100% (105)

	Total	Race			Education					Region			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
It's a useful law that that limits debt and strengthens those trying to reduce government spending	31%	30%	38%	30%	24%	32%	30%	36%	29%	32%	31%	30%	30%
It's a gimmick that has brought us to the brink of economic crisis without controlling spending	43%	46%	32%	35%	44%	37%	41%	50%	54%	41%	42%	41%	47%
I don't know enough about it to say	27%	25%	30%	35%	33%	31%	29%	14%	17%	27%	27%	29%	22%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (779)	100% (118)	100% (101)	100% (42)	100% (362)	100% (339)	100% (169)	100% (86)	100% (147)	100% (208)	100% (391)	100% (252)

	Confident in ability to explain debt limit					
	Total	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Not sure
It's a useful law that that limits debt and strengthens those trying to reduce government spending	31%	44%	35%	29%	14%	25%
It's a gimmick that has brought us to the brink of economic crisis without controlling spending	43%	49%	52%	39%	30%	31%
I don't know enough about it to say	27%	7%	13%	32%	55%	44%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (203)	100% (306)	100% (236)	100% (188)	100% (65)

Respondent understanding of debt limit

	Total	Directly increase government spending and the amount of debt the U.S. holds	Allow the U.S. to pay interest on its debt and for spending that it has already authorized
It's a useful law that that limits debt and strengthens those trying to reduce government spending	31%	40%	31%
It's a gimmick that has brought us to the brink of economic crisis without controlling spending	43%	44%	52%
I don't know enough about it to say	27%	17%	17%
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (998)	100% (392)	100% (416)

6. Most to blame for shutdown

Who do you think is most to blame for the shutdown of the federal government?

Compiled from individual responses

	Gender		Age				Party ID			Voter Registration		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Registered	Not registered
Democrats in Congress	3%	4%	2%	5%	4%	1%	2%	2%	2%	6%	2%	7%
Republicans in Congress	39%	38%	39%	39%	39%	40%	36%	71%	28%	3%	40%	32%
President Obama	18%	18%	18%	17%	15%	16%	28%	7%	19%	37%	19%	13%
Both Democrats in Congress and President Obama	13%	16%	9%	7%	11%	18%	12%	3%	13%	30%	14%	4%
Both Republicans in Congress and President Obama	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	—	1%	0%	1%	—	0%	2%
Both Democrats and Republicans in Congress	2%	1%	2%	3%	2%	1%	1%	2%	2%	0%	2%	2%
All of them	13%	14%	12%	12%	13%	15%	11%	7%	18%	16%	13%	11%
Other	5%	4%	6%	3%	5%	5%	8%	4%	7%	2%	5%	6%
Not sure	6%	3%	8%	9%	9%	3%	1%	4%	8%	5%	5%	14%
None of them	1%	0%	2%	3%	3%	—	—	0%	3%	—	1%	9%
No Answer	0%	—	0%	—	0%	0%	—	—	0%	—	0%	—
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Unweighted N)	(1,000)	(482)	(518)	(184)	(292)	(370)	(154)	(358)	(423)	(219)	(895)	(105)

	Total	Race			Education					Region			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Less than high school	High school	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Democrats in Congress	3%	2%	4%	6%	2%	3%	3%	6%	—	3%	1%	3%	5%
Republicans in Congress	39%	34%	66%	41%	39%	37%	38%	37%	51%	46%	41%	35%	38%
President Obama	18%	20%	9%	15%	21%	22%	16%	16%	12%	17%	18%	19%	18%
Both Democrats in Congress and President Obama	13%	16%	2%	6%	11%	10%	14%	13%	20%	4%	16%	13%	15%
Both Republicans in Congress and President Obama	1%	1%	—	0%	—	0%	1%	2%	—	—	1%	0%	1%
Both Democrats and Republicans in Congress	2%	2%	2%	1%	—	2%	1%	3%	—	2%	3%	1%	1%
All of them	13%	15%	5%	10%	14%	13%	13%	15%	11%	20%	12%	14%	9%
Other	5%	5%	3%	5%	—	5%	6%	5%	3%	4%	3%	5%	7%
Not sure	6%	4%	8%	11%	10%	7%	6%	1%	3%	4%	5%	9%	3%
None of them	1%	1%	1%	4%	4%	1%	2%	0%	—	1%	1%	1%	4%
No Answer	0%	0%	—	—	—	—	—	1%	—	1%	—	0%	—
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (780)	100% (118)	100% (102)	100% (43)	100% (362)	100% (339)	100% (170)	100% (86)	100% (147)	100% (208)	100% (392)	100% (253)

	Confident in ability to explain debt limit					
	Total	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Not sure
Democrats in Congress	3%	2%	4%	5%	—	1%
Republicans in Congress	39%	40%	40%	36%	40%	37%
President Obama	18%	19%	19%	18%	19%	10%
Both Democrats in Congress and President Obama	13%	23%	16%	9%	5%	3%
Both Republicans in Congress and President Obama	1%	—	0%	1%	1%	—
Both Democrats and Republicans in Congress	2%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%
All of them	13%	10%	12%	15%	13%	24%
Other	5%	5%	3%	7%	6%	—
Not sure	6%	1%	2%	8%	10%	18%
None of them	1%	—	1%	—	4%	5%
No Answer	0%	—	—	—	1%	—
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (204)	100% (307)	100% (236)	100% (188)	100% (65)

	Respondent understanding of debt limit		
	Total	Directly increase government spending and the amount of debt the U.S. holds	Allow the U.S. to pay interest on its debt and for spending that it has already authorized
Democrats in Congress	3%	2%	4%
Republicans in Congress	39%	28%	52%
President Obama	18%	26%	14%
Both Democrats in Congress and President Obama	13%	20%	11%
Both Republicans in Congress and President Obama	1%	0%	1%
Both Democrats and Republicans in Congress	2%	1%	2%
All of them	13%	16%	9%
Other	5%	4%	5%
Not sure	6%	3%	2%
None of them	1%	—	0%
No Answer	0%	0%	—
Totals (Unweighted N)	100% (1,000)	100% (393)	100% (417)