

The logo consists of two stacked rectangular boxes. The top box is light gray and contains the text 'CNN | ORC' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The 'CNN' is in a stylized, outlined font, followed by a vertical bar, and then 'ORC' in a solid black font. The bottom box is solid black and contains the word 'POLL' in a large, white, bold, sans-serif font.

**CNN | ORC**

**POLL**

**Interviews with 803 adult Americans conducted by telephone by ORC International on September 27-29, 2013. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.**

**The sample includes 563 interviews among landline respondents and 240 interviews among cell phone respondents.**

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**FOR RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2 AT 6 AM**

As you may know, there is a limit to the amount of money the government can owe that is sometimes called the "debt ceiling." In addition to the current debate over a possible government shutdown, Congress must also deal with the debt ceiling in the next few weeks. The Secretary of the Treasury says that the government will not have enough money to pay all of its debts and keep all existing government programs running unless Congress raises the debt ceiling by the middle of October.

20. If the debt ceiling is not raised, would you consider that a good thing for the country or a bad thing for the country?

	Sept. 27-29 <u>2013</u>
Good thing	38%
Bad thing	56%
Neutral/Mixed (vol.)	3%
No opinion	2%

21. If the debt ceiling is not raised, do you think that Barack Obama or the Republicans in Congress would be more responsible for that?

	Sept. 27-29 <u>2013</u>	Sept. 6-8 <u>2013</u>	July 18-20 <u>2011</u>
Obama	31%	25%	30%
Republicans in Congress	53%	54%	51%
Both (vol.)	10%	15%	15%
Neither (vol.)	2%	3%	3%
No opinion	4%	2%	1%

22. Which do you think is more important for Congress to do -- (RANDOM ORDER)

	Sept. 27-29 <u>2013</u>
Raising the debt ceiling to make sure the government has enough money to pay its debts, or	51%
Delaying the date on which major provisions in the new health care law will take effect	43%
Both equal (vol.)	2%
No opinion	5%

## **METHODOLOGY**

A total of 803 adults were interviewed by telephone nationwide by live interviewers calling both landline and cell phones. All respondents were asked questions concerning basic demographics, and the entire sample was weighted to reflect national Census figures for gender, race, age, education, region of country, and telephone usage. Among the entire sample, 33% described themselves as Democrats, 24% described themselves as Republicans, and 43% described themselves as Independents or members of another party

Crosstabs on the following pages only include results for subgroups with enough unweighted cases to produce a sampling error of +/- 8.5 percentage points or less. Some subgroups represent too small a share of the national population to produce crosstabs with an acceptable sampling error. Interviews were conducted among these subgroups, but results for groups with a sampling error larger than +/-8.5 percentage points are not displayed and instead are denoted with "N/A".

Question 20

If the debt ceiling is not raised, would you consider that a good thing for the country or a bad thing for the country?

Base = Total Sample

	Total	Men	Women	White	Non-White
Good thing	38%	38%	38%	41%	27%
Bad thing	56%	56%	56%	53%	70%
Neutral/Mixed	3%	2%	4%	4%	2%
No opinion	2%	3%	2%	3%	1%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-5.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.0	+/-7.5

	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Under 50	50 and Older
Good thing	38%	N/A	N/A	38%	34%	43%	36%
Bad thing	56%	N/A	N/A	57%	60%	50%	59%
Neutral/Mixed	3%	N/A	N/A	4%	2%	5%	3%
No opinion	2%	N/A	N/A	1%	3%	2%	2%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5			+/-6.0	+/-6.0	+/-6.5	+/-4.0

	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	Attended College
Good thing	38%	35%	40%	27%	42%
Bad thing	56%	60%	56%	64%	53%
Neutral/Mixed	3%	3%	4%	6%	3%
No opinion	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.5	+/-6.5	+/-4.0

	Total	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Good thing	38%	18%	46%	52%	14%	34%	52%
Bad thing	56%	77%	49%	40%	81%	62%	40%
Neutral/Mixed	3%	3%	3%	4%	2%	3%	4%
No opinion	2%	2%	2%	4%	2%	*	4%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-6.0	+/-5.0	+/-7.0	+/-7.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.5

	Total	North east	Mid-west	South	West	Urban	Sub-urban	Rural
Good thing	38%	34%	36%	40%	41%	34%	39%	43%
Bad thing	56%	61%	57%	56%	52%	60%	56%	48%
Neutral/Mixed	3%	3%	5%	2%	4%	3%	3%	5%
No opinion	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-7.0	+/-7.5	+/-6.0	+/-7.5	+/-6.0	+/-5.5	+/-7.5

	Total	Tea Pty Support	Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose
Good thing	38%	64%	44%	16%
Bad thing	56%	29%	48%	82%
Neutral/Mixed	3%	4%	5%	1%
No opinion	2%	3%	3%	1%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-7.0	+/-6.0	+/-5.5

\* percentage less than 1%

Question 21

If the debt ceiling is not raised, do you think that Barack Obama or the Republicans in Congress would be more responsible for that?

Base = Total Sample

	Total	Men	Women	White	Non-White
Obama	31%	33%	30%	32%	27%
Republicans in Congress	53%	53%	53%	51%	60%
Both	10%	7%	13%	10%	11%
Neither	2%	3%	1%	2%	1%
No opinion	4%	5%	3%	5%	1%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-5.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.0	+/-7.5

	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Under 50	50 and Older
Obama	31%	N/A	N/A	31%	30%	32%	30%
Republicans in Congress	53%	N/A	N/A	55%	55%	48%	55%
Both	10%	N/A	N/A	10%	10%	10%	10%
Neither	2%	N/A	N/A	2%	1%	4%	1%
No opinion	4%	N/A	N/A	2%	4%	6%	3%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5			+/-6.0	+/-6.0	+/-6.5	+/-4.0

	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	Attended College
Obama	31%	33%	29%	36%	29%
Republicans in Congress	53%	53%	55%	49%	55%
Both	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
Neither	2%	1%	3%	*	3%
No opinion	4%	4%	3%	5%	4%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.5	+/-6.5	+/-4.0

	Total	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama	31%	12%	31%	57%	16%	22%	48%
Republicans in Congress	53%	79%	45%	30%	73%	59%	38%
Both	10%	7%	14%	7%	8%	13%	8%
Neither	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%	3%	1%
No opinion	4%	1%	6%	4%	1%	3%	5%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-6.0	+/-5.0	+/-7.0	+/-7.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.5

	Total	North east	Mid-west	South	West	Urban	Sub-urban	Rural
Obama	31%	32%	31%	32%	29%	26%	35%	32%
Republicans in Congress	53%	54%	51%	51%	55%	55%	54%	46%
Both	10%	8%	9%	13%	9%	10%	7%	15%
Neither	2%	*	4%	1%	4%	2%	2%	2%
No opinion	4%	5%	5%	3%	3%	8%	1%	4%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-7.0	+/-7.5	+/-6.0	+/-7.5	+/-6.0	+/-5.5	+/-7.5

	Total	Tea Pty Support	Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose
Obama	31%	63%	29%	10%
Republicans in Congress	53%	22%	49%	78%
Both	10%	7%	16%	7%
Neither	2%	2%	2%	2%
No opinion	4%	5%	4%	4%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-7.0	+/-6.0	+/-5.5

\* percentage less than 1%

Question 22

Which do you think is more important for Congress to do --

Raising the debt ceiling to make sure the government has enough money to pay its debts  
 Delaying the date on which major provisions in the new health care law will take effect

Base = Total Sample

	Total	Men	Women	White	Non-White
Raising the debt ceiling	51%	53%	48%	47%	63%
Delaying the date	43%	42%	44%	46%	33%
Both Equal	2%	*	3%	2%	1%
No opinion	5%	5%	5%	5%	3%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-5.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.0	+/-7.5

	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Under 50	50 and Older
Raising the debt ceiling	51%	N/A	N/A	50%	56%	44%	53%
Delaying the date	43%	N/A	N/A	45%	35%	53%	39%
Both Equal	2%	N/A	N/A	1%	2%	1%	2%
No opinion	5%	N/A	N/A	5%	7%	2%	6%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5			+/-6.0	+/-6.0	+/-6.5	+/-4.0

	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	Attended College
Raising the debt ceiling	51%	56%	48%	50%	51%
Delaying the date	43%	38%	47%	41%	44%
Both Equal	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%
No opinion	5%	5%	3%	7%	4%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.5	+/-6.5	+/-4.0

	Total	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Raising the debt ceiling	51%	71%	45%	31%	67%	61%	33%
Delaying the date	43%	22%	49%	61%	24%	36%	60%
Both Equal	2%	2%	2%	*	3%	1%	1%
No opinion	5%	4%	4%	7%	5%	2%	6%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-6.0	+/-5.0	+/-7.0	+/-7.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.5

	Total	North east	Mid-west	South	West	Urban	Sub-urban	Rural
Raising the debt ceiling	51%	54%	50%	50%	49%	58%	49%	42%
Delaying the date	43%	38%	45%	45%	45%	36%	45%	48%
Both Equal	2%	2%	*	2%	2%	2%	2%	*
No opinion	5%	6%	5%	4%	5%	3%	4%	10%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-7.0	+/-7.5	+/-6.0	+/-7.5	+/-6.0	+/-5.5	+/-7.5

	Total	Tea Party Support	Tea Party Neutral	Tea Party Oppose
Raising the debt ceiling	51%	23%	43%	77%
Delaying the date	43%	73%	48%	18%
Both Equal	2%	1%	2%	2%
No opinion	5%	3%	7%	3%
Sampling Error	+/-3.5	+/-7.0	+/-6.0	+/-5.5

\* percentage less than 1%