

From September 24 to 27, 2021, Invest in America and Data for Progress conducted a survey of 1,292 likely voters nationally using web panel respondents. The sample was weighted to be representative of likely voters by age, gender, education, race, and voting history. The survey was conducted in English. The margin of error is ±3 percentage points.

N=1,292 unless otherwise specified. Some values may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

[1] The debt ceiling refers to the amount of money the federal government can legally borrow. Raising the debt ceiling doesn't directly authorize new spending, it only means that the federal government can pay the money it owes. Raising the debt ceiling would also prevent a government shutdown.

		D	I	R
Raise the debt ceiling	53%	71%	50%	35%
Not raise the ceiling	36	18	39	56
Don't know	10	11	11	9

Knowing what you know now, would you want lawmakers in Congress to raise or not raise the debt ceiling?

[2] Some lawmakers in Congress are proposing a short-term government funding bill that raises the debt ceiling, preventing a government shutdown where the United States defaults on its debt, and includes funding for Afghan refugee resettlement and for disaster relief following recent hurricanes and wildfires.

		D	I	R
Strongly support	21%	37%	18%	4
Somewhat support	33	37	36	25
Somewhat oppose	19	12	20	28
Strongly oppose	18	5	15	36
Don't know	9	10	10	8
SUPPORT (TOTAL)	54%	74%	54%	29
OPPOSE (TOTAL)	37	17	35	64
SUPPORT (NET)	+17	+57	+19	-35

Do you support or oppose this proposal?

[3] Below are some reasons why lawmakers want to raise the debt ceiling. For each of the following say whether it is important or unimportant to you.

— Paying our debts to other countries maintains good international relations.

		D	I	R
Very important	39%	46%	36%	32%
Somewhat important	40	39	45	38
Somewhat unimportant	13	10	13	16
Very unimportant	8	5	6	13

[4] Below are some reasons why lawmakers want to raise the debt ceiling. For each of the following say whether it is important or unimportant to you.

— Raising the debt ceiling avoids a government shutdown where hundreds of thousands of federal employees would be furloughed

		D	I	R
Very important	41%	57%	34%	26%
Somewhat important	32	30	34	34
Somewhat unimportant	17	9	20	23
Very unimportant	11	4	12	17

[5] Below are some reasons why lawmakers want to raise the debt ceiling. For each of the following say whether it is important or unimportant to you.

— Raising the debt ceiling would prevent an economic crisis that could erase all the economic recovery since the beginning of the pandemic.

		D	I	R
Very important	40%	57%	32%	26%
Somewhat important	36	34	40	35
Somewhat unimportant	15	6	20	22
Very unimportant	9	4	8	17

[6] Below are some reasons why lawmakers want to raise the debt ceiling. For each of the following say whether it is important or unimportant to you.

— Founding Fathers like George Washington and Alexander Hamilton intended for the nation to pay its debts.

		D	I	R
Very important	38%	37%	35%	42%
Somewhat important	35	37	37	31
Somewhat unimportant	16	16	19	15
Very unimportant	10	10	9	12

[7] Below are some reasons why lawmakers want to raise the debt ceiling. For each of the following say whether it is important or unimportant to you.

— Raising the ceiling does not spend any more money, it only allows us to pay for what the government has already spent

		D	I	R
Very important	37%	50%	32%	26%
Somewhat important	41	39	45	40
Somewhat unimportant	12	6	14	18
Very unimportant	10	4	10	17

[8] Below are some reasons why lawmakers want to raise the debt ceiling. For each of the following say whether it is important or unimportant to you.

— Raising the ceiling is a routine budget procedure that has already happened six times in the last two decades

		D	I	R
Very important	28%	38%	23%	19%
Somewhat important	41	43	44	36
Somewhat unimportant	18	14	19	24
Very unimportant	13	5	14	21

[9] Below are some reasons why lawmakers want to raise the debt ceiling. For each of the following say whether it is important or unimportant to you.

— The federal government has never deliberately failed to make its payments, so not raising the ceiling could lead to unforeseen consequences.

		D	I	R
Very important	33%	45%	27%	24%
Somewhat important	39	40	42	37
Somewhat unimportant	18	12	22	23
Very unimportant	9	4	8	16