Table 1. Distribution of socio-demographics in survey sample provided by Survey Sampling International’s (SSI) and voter population data from 2016 Census Current Population Survey Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Voter Population</th>
<th>Weighted Sample</th>
<th>Unweighted Sample</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender: Male</td>
<td>48.2</td>
<td>48.2</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender: Female</td>
<td>51.8</td>
<td>51.8</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age: 18-24</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age: 25-44</td>
<td>32.5</td>
<td>32.5</td>
<td>32.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age: 45-64</td>
<td>34.7</td>
<td>34.7</td>
<td>33.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age: 65+</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>27.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education: Less than HS</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education: HS graduate</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td>18.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education: Some college or associate degree</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>36.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education: Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>28.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education: Advanced degree</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>14.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Spending & Revenue Survey

Welcome

Informed Consent Form
You are invited to participate in an opinion survey for university research.

Purpose of the Study
The goal of this survey is to obtain respondents’ opinions on the U.S. Federal budget.

Procedure
You will be asked a number of opinion questions and your participation is voluntary. We ask that you read each question carefully before selecting responses.

Approximate Duration of Study
This poll should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Risks/Discomforts
Risks are minimal for involvement in this study.

Eligibility
There are two eligibility requirements to take this survey. First, participants must be 18 years or older. Second, participants must be either a US citizen, resident alien, or non-resident alien currently residing in the US.

Confidentiality
If you choose to participate in this study, no identifying information about you will be made public and any views you express will be kept completely confidential.

Participation and Withdrawal
Participation in this research study is completely voluntary, and you have the right to withdraw at any time.

I have read this consent form, and I agree to take part in this research.

☐ Yes

☐ No

End of Block
Pre-Budget Questions
The U.S. Federal budget has received a lot of coverage in the news recently.

How important is the issue of the U.S. Federal debt to you personally?

- Extremely important
- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not too important
- Not important at all

The U.S. Federal Government is in debt. In 2017 the government is going to spend approximately $519 billion more than it will collect in taxes and other revenues. This 1/2 trillion dollars will be added to the debt total which is currently approximately 19 trillion dollars. To put this in perspective, the current debt of the U.S. Government is equal to approximately $45,000 for every American citizen.

Some people believe that the deficit is best reduced through cuts in Federal Government Programs. Others believe that it would be better to increase taxes. There are still others who believe that reducing the deficit would be best achieved through some combination of the two.
Which deficit-reduction option do you support the most from the list below?

- 100% spending cuts, 0% tax increases
- 80% spending cuts, 20% tax increases
- 60% spending cuts, 40% tax increases
- 50% spending cuts, 50% tax increases
- 40% spending cuts, 60% tax increases
- 20% spending cuts, 80% tax increases
- 0% spending cuts, 100% tax increases

**Budget Tool Here**

With the size of the deficit in mind, we would like to see how you personally would change Federal taxes and/or spending. We have created a “budget model” based on the actual Federal budget.

In the model you will be able to cut spending in any category where you believe that the Federal government spends too much money and/or increase revenues in any category where you think taxes should be raised. The basic idea is to allow you to change taxes and/or spending in the ways you prefer. The model will only allow spending cuts and/or increases in Federal taxes.

You will have 10 minutes to complete the budget model. After completing the model, you will be returned to the survey and asked some follow-up questions.

Please click on the link below to begin the budget model.

[ Click HERE to go to Budget Model ]
FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS

Did you complete the budget model in less than 10 minutes?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Would you personally support the budget that you submitted?

☐ Yes

☐ No

How difficult was it to create a budget that you would support?

☐ Much easier than I expected

☐ Easier than I expected

☐ About what I expected

☐ Harder than I expected

☐ Much harder than I expected

In a few words, please explain why you thought it was easier, harder, or about what you expected?

________________________________________________________________
Control Group (No Budget Tool)

You have completed 40% of survey! Your responses are important to us.

Please click "Next" to continue.

Which of the following best describes your current employment situation?

- [ ] Working full-time
- [ ] Working part-time
- [ ] Temporarily without work
- [ ] Long-term unemployment
- [ ] Retired
- [ ] Permanently disabled
- [ ] Taking care of home and/or family
- [ ] Student
- [ ] Other ________________________________
What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- Did not graduate from high school
- High school graduate
- Some college, but no degree
- 2-year college degree
- 4-year college degree
- Post-college graduate degree

When it comes to politics, do you think of yourself as:

- Very liberal
- Liberal
- Somewhat liberal
- Moderate or middle of the road
- Somewhat conservative
- Conservative
- Very conservative
Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as:

- [ ] Strong Republican
- [ ] Weak Republican
- [ ] Lean Republican
- [ ] Independent
- [ ] Lean Democrat
- [ ] Weak Democrat
- [ ] Strong Democrat
In what year were you born?

- 1935
- 1936
- 1937
- 1938
- 1939
- 1940
- 1941
- 1942
- 1943
- 1944
- 1945
- 1946
- 1947
- 1948
- 1949
- 1950
- 1951
- 1952
- 1953
- 1954
1997
1998
1999
In what state do you currently reside?
Alabama
Alaska
Arizona
Arkansas
California
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Hawaii
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri
Montana
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
North Carolina
North Dakota
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Carolina
South Dakota
What racial or ethnic group or groups best describes you?

- White
- Black or African-American
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific islander
- Hispanic
- Middle Eastern
- Other ________________________________
Income Question

Over the past year, what was your family’s approximate annual income?

- Less than $10,000
- $10,000 - $19,999
- $20,000 - $29,999
- $30,000 - $39,999
- $40,000 - $49,999
- $50,000 - $59,999
- $60,000 - $69,999
- $70,000 - $79,999
- $80,000 - $99,999
- $100,000 - $119,999
- $120,000 - $149,999
- $150,000 - $199,999
- $200,000 - $249,999
- $250,000 - $349,999
- $350,000 - $499,999
- $500,000 or more
- Prefer not to say
Post-Treatment (post-budget) Questions

After some more thought, which deficit-reduction option do you support the most from the list below?

- 100% spending cuts, 0% tax increases
- 80% spending cuts, 20% tax increases
- 60% spending cuts, 40% tax increases
- 50% spending cuts, 50% tax increases
- 40% spending cuts, 60% tax increases
- 20% spending cuts, 80% tax increases
- 0% spending cuts, 100% tax increases

Construction worker & Tax Questions

We would like you to consider a person who is self-employed in the construction industry making approximately $60,000 a year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Will probably report 100% of the earned income to the IRS.</th>
<th>Will probably report about 75% of earned income.</th>
<th>Will probably report 50% of earned income.</th>
<th>Will probably report about 25% of earned income</th>
<th>Will probably report no income to the IRS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

How much of the $60,000 in income do you think this person will likely report to the IRS?

- 0
- 0
- 0
- 0
- 0
- 0
- 0
Please use the sliding scale below to indicate what you believe the chances are that the person will be caught by the tax authorities for under-reporting the income?

(scale range from 0% to 100% probability of being caught)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Probability of getting caught by tax authority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Probability</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the list below, which punishment(s) do you think a person will receive if he/she is caught cheating on their taxes?

- The person will have to pay the tax they legally owed, plus a fine.
- The person will serve time in jail (or prison) for tax evasion.
- The person will not be charged and not have to pay fines or taxes.
- The person will be able to negotiate an agreement with the authorities and pay back some or most of the taxes they avoided.
- The person will have to pay all taxes they legally owed, but not a fine.
Assuming the person is you, how much of the income would you be willing to report to tax authorities?

- I would report all income
- I would report nearly all income
- I would report the majority of the income
- I would report half of the income
- I would report less than half of the income
- I would report a small amount of the income
- I would report none of the income

Other Questions

How often can you trust the federal government in Washington to do what is right?

- Always
- Most of the time
- About half the time
- Sometimes
- Never
Who did you vote for in the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election?

- [ ] Donald Trump
- [ ] Hillary Clinton
- [ ] Gary Johnson
- [ ] Jill Stein
- [ ] Evan McMullin
- [ ] Other
- [ ] Did not vote