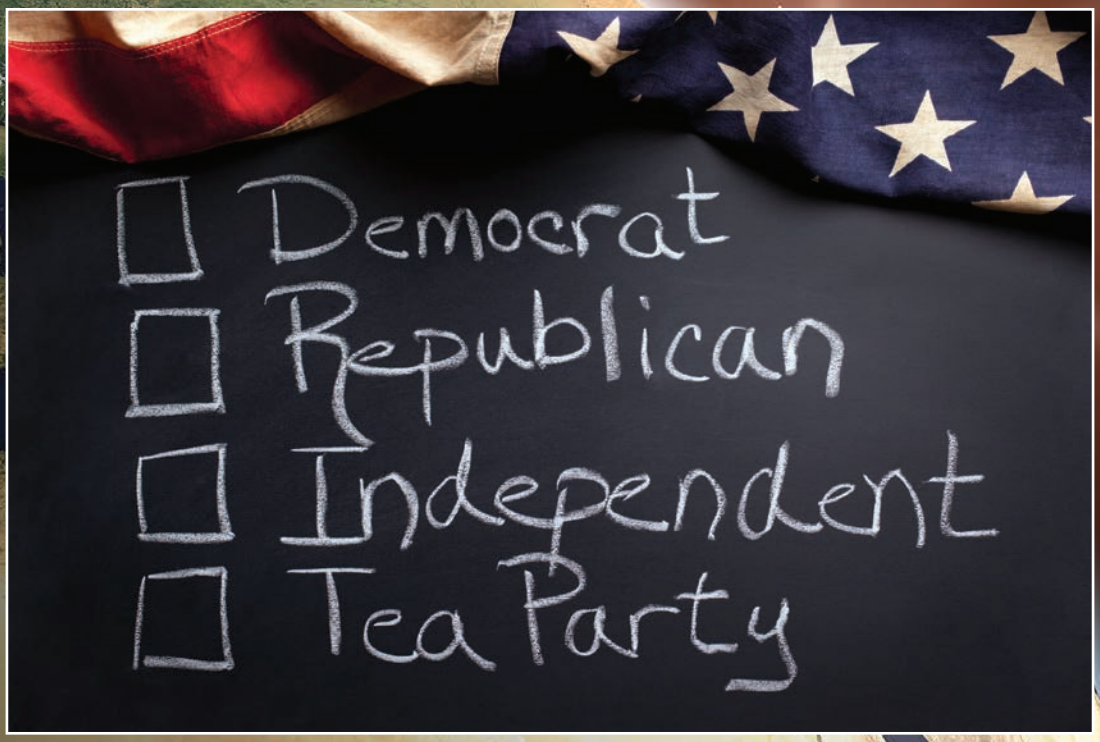
POLITICS & GLOBAL WARMING

Democrats, Republicans, Independents, and the Tea Party



YALE PROJECT ON CLIMATE CHANGE COMMUNICATION
BRIDGING SCIENCE + SOCIETY

4C
George Mason University
Center for Climate Change Communication

Politics & Global Warming: Democrats, Republicans, Independents, and the Tea Party

Interview dates: April 23, 2011 – May 12, 2011
Interviews: 1,010 Adults (18+)
Margin of error: +/- 3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.
NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Totals may occasionally sum to more than 100 percent due to rounding.

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Principal Investigators:

Anthony Leiserowitz, PhD
Yale Project on Climate Change Communication
School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University
(203) 432-4865 anthony.leiserowitz@yale.edu

Edward Maibach, MPH, PhD
Center for Climate Change Communication
Department of Communication, George Mason University
(703) 993-1587 emaibach@gmu.edu

Connie Roser-Renouf, PhD
Center for Climate Change Communication
Department of Communication, George Mason University
(707) 825-0601 croserre@gmu.edu

Jay D. Hmielowski, PhD
Yale Project on Climate Change Communication
School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University
(203) 432-0773 jay.hmielowski@yale.edu

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Executive Summary

This report, "*Politics & Global Warming*", details how Democrats, Republicans, Independents, and members of the Tea Party respond to the issue of global warming. The Tea Party has become an important new player in American politics, so this report for the first time separates their views on global warming from the traditional political categories of Democrats, Republicans, and Independents. The results come from a nationally representative survey of 1,010 American adults, aged 18 and older, conducted April 23 through May 12, 2011. The samples were weighted to correspond with US Census Bureau parameters for the United States. The surveys were designed by Anthony Leiserowitz of Yale University and Edward Maibach and Connie Roser-Renouf of George Mason University and conducted by Knowledge Networks, using a representative online research panel of American adults. The margin of sampling error for the national average results is plus or minus 3 percent, with 95 percent confidence.

All respondents were asked the following question:

- "Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, Democrat, Independent, Other, or No Party/Not interested in politics?"

This analysis includes only those survey respondents (n = 809) who stated a party preference (Republican, Democrat, Independent, or Other). Respondents who reported "Other" as their party id (n = 30) were then asked if they leaned Democratic, Republican, or Independent and were subsequently assigned to these categories.

Identification with the Tea Party was then assessed using a separate question:

- "Do you consider yourself a member of the Tea Party movement or not?"

Any respondent who answered "Yes" was assigned to the Tea Party category. Some self-identified Democrats, Independents, and Republicans also self-identified as members of the Tea Party and were therefore assigned to the Tea Party category. Thus the Democrat, Independent, and Republican categories include only those Democrats, Independents and Republicans who did not consider themselves members of the Tea Party movement. As described in more detail in the methodology section at the end of this report, more Republicans than Democrats or Independents identified themselves as Tea Party members, which is why the final Republican category accounts for only 24 percent of all Americans. The following table describes the final number and percentages of respondents in each category.

Party Identification

	Frequency	Percent
Democrats	312	39
Independents	203	25
Republicans	197	24
Tea Party	97	12
Total	809	100

For the smallest political sub-group (the Tea Party, $n = 97$) the margin of error is plus or minus 10 percent, with 95 percent confidence. As a result, cells in the Detailed Results tables are highlighted in red only if they are at least 10 percentage points greater than the national average.

GLOBAL WARMING BELIEFS

- Majorities of Democrats (78%), Independents (71%) and Republicans (53%) believe that global warming is happening. By contrast, only 34 percent of Tea Party members believe global warming is happening, while 53 percent say it is not happening.
- While 62 percent of Democrats say that global warming is caused mostly by human activities, most Tea Party members say it is either naturally caused (50%) or isn't happening at all (21%).
- Democrats are more likely to agree that the record heat waves of the summer of 2010 (not 2011) strengthened their belief that global warming is occurring, while Republicans and Tea Party members are more likely to disagree.
- By contrast, Tea Party members are more likely to agree that the record snowstorms of the winter of 2010-2011 in the US caused them to question whether global warming is occurring.
- A majority of Democrats (55%) say that most scientists think global warming is happening, while majorities of Republicans (56%) and Tea Party members (69%) say that there is a lot of disagreement among scientists about whether or not global warming is happening.
- A large majority of Democrats (72%) worry about global warming, compared to 53 percent of Independents, 38 percent of Republicans, and 24 percent of Tea Party members. Over half (51%) of Tea Party members say they are not at all worried about global warming.
- Nearly half of Democrats (45%) say that global warming is already harming people in the United States, while 33 percent of Republicans and 51 percent of Tea Party members say it will never harm people in the United States.
- Tea Party members are much more likely to say that they are "very well informed" about global warming than the other groups. Likewise, they are also much more likely to say they "do not need any more information" about global warming to make up their mind.

SUPPORT FOR CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICIES

- Majorities of all four political groups support funding more research into renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power and providing tax rebates for people who purchase energy efficient vehicles or solar panels.
- Majorities of Democrats, Independents and Republicans support requiring electric utilities to produce at least 20% of their electricity from renewable energy sources, even if it cost the average household an extra $100 a year. A majority of Tea Party members, however, oppose this policy, with 39 percent strongly opposed.

- Likewise, majorities of Democrats, Independents and Republicans support an international treaty to cut carbon dioxide emissions. A large majority of Tea Party members, however, oppose a treaty, with 55 percent strongly opposed.
- Majorities of all four parties support the expansion of offshore drilling for oil and natural gas off the U.S. coast, with 46 percent of Republicans and 58 percent of Tea Party members strongly supportive.
- A majority of Democrats oppose building more nuclear power plants (65%), while majorities of Independents (52%), Republicans (62%) and Tea Party members (67%) support building them.
- However, only a majority of Tea Party members (52%) would support building a nuclear power plant in their own local area. All other groups would be opposed.
- Majorities of all four groups support local regulations requiring new homes to be more energy efficient, the construction of bike paths on city streets, and increasing the availability of public transportation in their county.
- Majorities of Democrats and Independents support paying 5% more on their monthly utility bill to get their electricity from renewable sources, changing zoning rules to promote energy efficient apartment buildings, mixed use neighborhoods to encourage walking, and decreasing suburban sprawl. Majorities of Republicans and Tea Party members oppose these local policies, with Tea Party members much more likely to strongly oppose them.
- Majorities of all four groups say that protecting the environment either improves economic growth and provides new jobs or has no effect on economic growth or jobs. Tea Party members are the most likely to say environmental protection reduces economic growth and costs jobs (33%).

MISCELLANEOUS

- Tea Party members are more than twice as likely than any other group to say they don't want to change the light bulbs in their house to energy-efficient compact fluorescent lights (CFLs).
- Majorities of all four groups trust scientists as a source of information about global warming, ranging from 88 percent of Democrats to 51 percent of Tea Party members. By contrast, 82 percent of Democrats trust President Obama as a source of information, compared to 41 percent of Independents, 21 percent of Republicans, and only 5 percent of Tea Party members.
- Tea Party members are far more likely to have heard about the "climategate" email controversy (45%) than Republicans (20%), Independents (27%), or Democrats (16%).

VALUES AND POLITICS

- Tea Party members are politically more conservative (78%) than Republicans (63%), Independents (27%), or Democrats (11%).
- Tea Party members are more likely to be "born-again" or evangelicals (46%) than Republicans (31%), Independents (20%), or Democrats (21%).
- Democrats are more likely to believe that human beings evolved from earlier species of animals (62%), compared to Independents (57%), Republicans (51%), and Tea Party members (34%).
- Democrats have stronger egalitarian values than all other groups, with Tea Party members holding relatively anti-egalitarian views.
- Tea Party members have stronger individualistic values than all other groups, with strong anti-government attitudes.

Detailed Results

GLOBAL WARMING BELIEFS

Q47. Recently, you may have noticed that *global warming* has been getting some attention in the news. Global warming refers to the idea that the world's average temperature has been increasing over the past 150 years, may be increasing more in the future, and that the world's climate may change as a result. What do you think? Do you think that global warming is happening?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Yes	**65**	78	71	53	34
No	**20**	8	14	30	53
Don't know	**15**	14	15	18	13

Q50. Assuming global warming is happening, do you think it is...

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Caused mostly by human activities	**46**	62	43	36	19
Caused mostly by natural changes in the environment	**35**	25	35	43	50
None of the above because global warming isn't happening	**7**	2	5	11	21
Other	**12**	11	17	10	9

Q238b. The record heat waves last summer in the United States strengthened my belief that global warming is occurring.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly Agree	**14**	20	12	9	7
Somewhat Agree	**41**	57	38	26	21
Somewhat Disagree	**26**	17	34	31	26
Strongly Disagree	**21**	7	17	34	46

Q238c. The record snowstorms this winter in the United States make me question whether global warming is occurring.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly Agree	**13**	9	11	17	26
Somewhat Agree	**34**	38	31	35	25
Somewhat Disagree	**28**	28	30	28	24
Strongly Disagree	**25**	25	29	20	24

Q59. Which comes closer to your own view?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Most scientists think global warming is happening	**41**	55	46	29	10
There is a lot of disagreement among scientists about whether or not global warming is happening	**41**	24	40	56	69
Most scientists think global warming is not happening	**4**	1	2	5	13
Don't know enough to say	**14**	19	12	11	7

Q30. To the best of your knowledge, what proportion of climate scientists think that global warming is happening?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
81 to 100%	**14**	18	18	10	1
61 to 80%	**20**	24	20	16	12
41 to 60%	**24**	20	26	27	25
21 to 40%	**14**	10	10	15	28
0 to 20%	**3**	0	4	3	9
Don't know enough to say	**26**	28	21	29	25

Q60. How worried are you about global warming?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Very worried	**9**	14	7	5	2
Somewhat worried	**45**	58	46	33	22
Not very worried	**27**	20	33	33	25
Not at all worried	**20**	8	14	29	51

Q70. When do you think global warming will start to harm people in the United States?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
They are being harmed now	**31**	45	33	16	9
In 10 years	**12**	15	12	10	8
In 25 years	**14**	18	13	13	6
In 50 years	**10**	9	12	12	6
In 100 years	**12**	7	11	16	20
Never	**22**	7	18	33	51

Q71. When do you think global warming will start to harm other people around the world?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
They are being harmed now	**34**	48	37	18	15
In 10 years	**12**	17	10	10	4
In 25 years	**12**	14	12	11	4
In 50 years	**10**	9	13	12	7
In 100 years	**11**	5	10	15	19
Never	**21**	7	18	33	51

QUESTIONS ABOUT GLOBAL WARMING

Q59b. If you could ask the expert on global warming ONLY ONE QUESTION, which question would you ask?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Is global warming really happening?	**10**	8	10	8	16
How do you know that global warming is happening?	**11**	5	9	19	20
What causes global warming?	**6**	7	8	3	5
How do you know that global warming is caused mostly by human activities, not natural changes in the environment?	**19**	11	22	24	28
What harm will global warming cause?	**7**	9	7	8	0
Will global warming harm people?	**3**	2	3	2	5
When will global warming begin to harm people?	**5**	8	2	4	0
What can the United States do to reduce global warming?	**5**	8	4	2	4

What can I do to reduce global warming?	**7**	9	6	5	2
How much would it cost the United States to reduce global warming?	**2**	2	2	2	1
What can the nations of the world do to reduce global warming?	**10**	15	10	6	2
Is there still time to reduce global warming, or is it too late?	**11**	12	12	10	7
Is global warming a hoax?	**6**	3	5	8	11

ISSUE INVOLVEMENT

Q54. Personally, how well informed do you feel you are about global warming?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Very well informed	**11**	8	9	10	30
Fairly well informed	**54**	51	55	57	55
Not very well informed	**31**	36	32	30	14
Not at all informed	**4**	5	4	3	1

Q74. On some issues people feel that they have all the information they need in order to form a firm opinion, while on other issues they would like more information before making up their mind. For global warming, where would you place yourself?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
I need a lot more information	**21**	21	20	24	16
I need some more information	**29**	32	35	25	19
I need a little more information	**27**	30	24	29	14
I do not need any more information	**23**	17	20	22	52

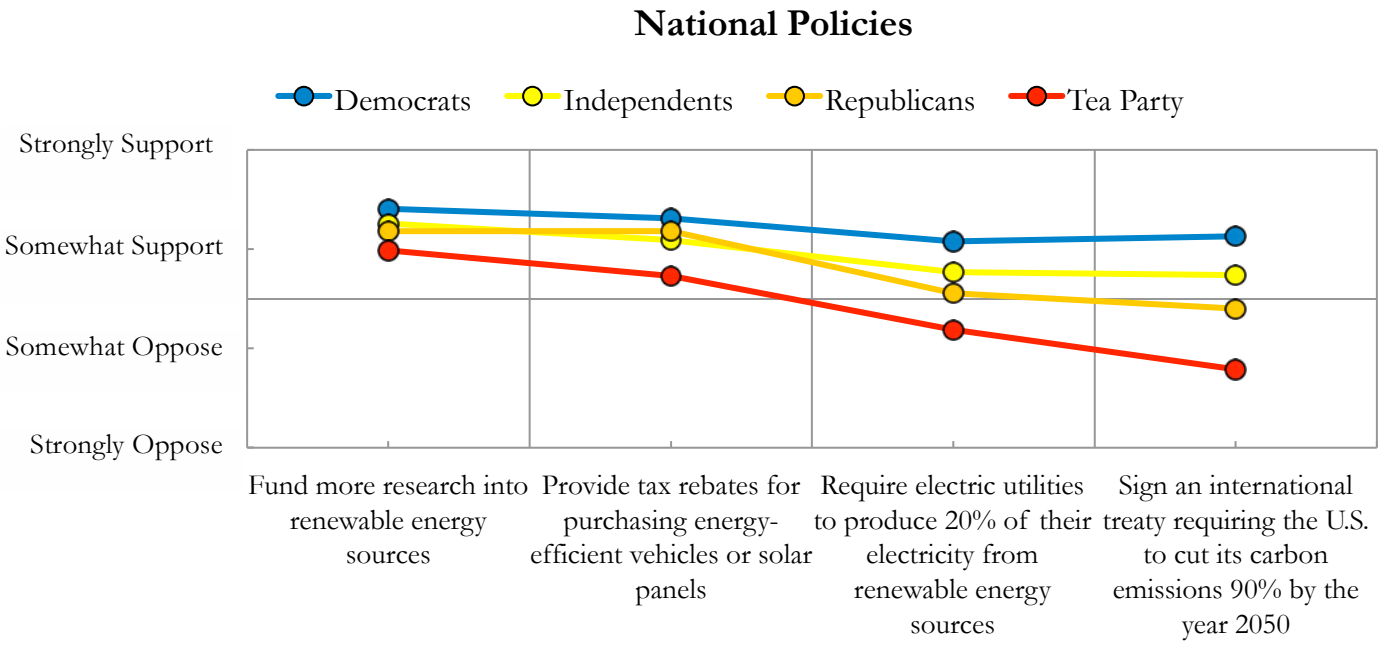
Q75. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? I could easily change my mind about global warming.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly agree	**5**	5	6	7	1
Somewhat agree	**32**	34	34	34	22
Somewhat disagree	**33**	29	35	33	44
Strongly disagree	**29**	32	26	26	33

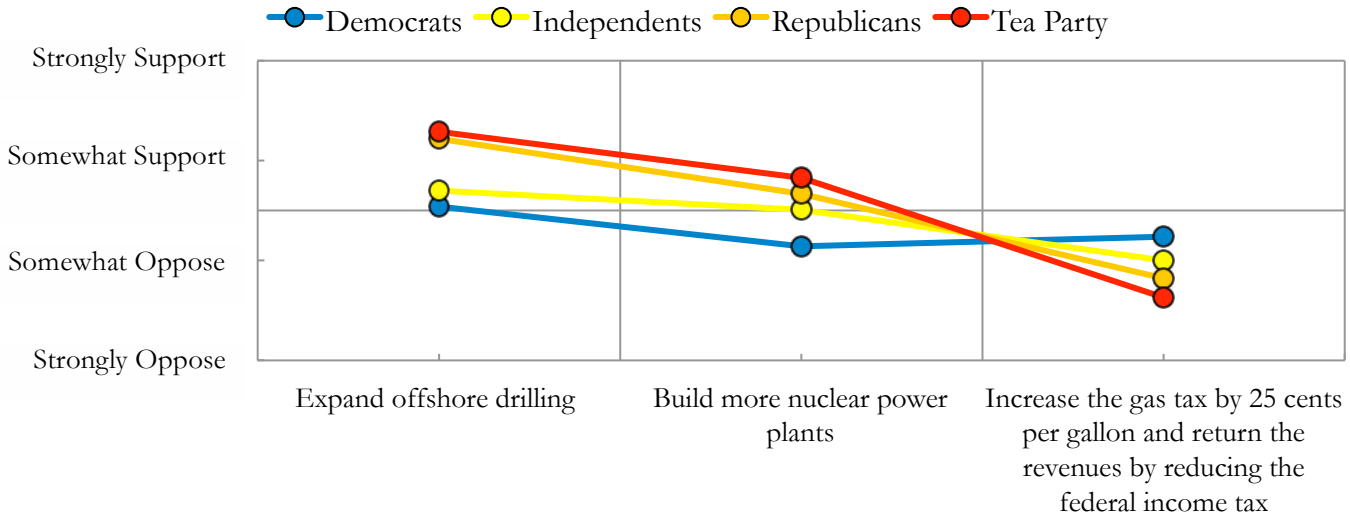
Q73. How important is the issue of global warming to you personally?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Extremely important	**8**	11	6	6	1
Very important	**15**	21	17	9	6
Somewhat important	**39**	48	39	31	28
Not too important	**23**	16	25	32	26
Not at all important	**15**	4	12	23	39

NATIONAL POLICY SUPPORT



National Policies Cont.



How much do you support or oppose the following policies?

Q179. Fund more research into renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**48**	55	49	42	37
Somewhat support	**36**	33	34	42	37
Somewhat oppose	**11**	9	11	11	16
Strongly oppose	**5**	3	6	6	12

Q180. Provide tax rebates for people who purchase energy-efficient vehicles or solar panels.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**42**	47	39	42	32
Somewhat support	**40**	43	38	42	34
Somewhat oppose	**9**	6	13	8	11
Strongly oppose	**9**	5	9	8	24

Q173. Require electric utilities to produce at least 20% of their electricity from wind, solar, or other renewable energy sources, even if it cost the average household an extra $100 a year.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**25**	34	24	18	11
Somewhat support	**42**	46	41	40	36
Somewhat oppose	**18**	12	22	23	15
Strongly oppose	**15**	7	12	19	39

Q174. Sign an international treaty that requires the United States to cut its emissions of carbon dioxide 90% by the year 2050.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**23**	34	21	14	7
Somewhat support	**42**	49	46	40	19
Somewhat oppose	**17**	14	19	20	19
Strongly oppose	**18**	4	14	27	55

Q177. Expand offshore drilling for oil and natural gas off the U.S. coast.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**31**	14	27	46	58
Somewhat support	**35**	41	35	34	20
Somewhat oppose	**20**	27	20	14	13
Strongly oppose	**14**	17	18	6	9

Q178. Build more nuclear power plants.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**18**	8	21	22	37
Somewhat support	**31**	27	31	40	30
Somewhat oppose	**30**	39	29	25	16
Strongly oppose	**21**	26	20	14	18

Q181. Increase taxes on gasoline by 25 cents per gallon and return the revenues to taxpayers by reducing the federal income tax.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**9**	10	8	7	7
Somewhat support	**23**	32	20	17	14
Somewhat oppose	**28**	28	32	31	13
Strongly oppose	**41**	30	40	45	67

Q169. People disagree whether the United States should reduce greenhouse gas emissions on its own, or make reductions only if other countries do too. Which of the following statements comes closest to your own point of view? The United States should reduce…

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Regardless of what other countries do	**63**	71	68	54	46
Only if other industrialized countries (such as England, Germany and Japan) reduce their emissions	**2**	3	3	3	0
Only if other industrialized countries and developing countries (such as China, India and Brazil) reduce their emissions	**9**	5	9	12	12
The US should not reduce its emissions	**8**	1	6	9	27
Don't know	**19**	21	14	22	15

Q170. How big of an effort should the United States make to reduce global warming?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
A large-scale effort, even if it has large economic costs	**29**	44	27	16	10
A medium-scale effort, even if it has moderate economic costs	**37**	42	38	34	25
A small-scale effort, even if it has small economic costs	**20**	8	24	32	25
No effort	**14**	6	11	17	40

LOCAL POLICY SUPPORT

How much do you support or oppose...?

Q122. A $1.50 fee added to your monthly electric utility bill to fund local programs to save energy.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**12**	19	11	6	4
Somewhat support	**36**	43	36	33	22
Somewhat oppose	**26**	24	28	28	21
Strongly oppose	**26**	15	25	33	53

Q123. Paying 5% more on your monthly utility bill to get your electricity from renewable energy sources, like wind or solar.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**15**	23	18	4	4
Somewhat support	**37**	42	35	39	28
Somewhat oppose	**24**	22	25	28	22
Strongly oppose	**24**	13	23	30	46

Q124. A 10-cent fee added to each gallon of gasoline you buy, to fund local programs to improve public transportation.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**7**	11	10	1	0
Somewhat support	**21**	28	18	16	11
Somewhat oppose	**26**	27	27	25	19
Strongly oppose	**47**	34	45	58	70

Q125. Regulations requiring any new home to be more energy efficient. This would increase the initial cost by about $7,500, but save about $17,000 in utility bills over 30 years.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**26**	35	27	18	12
Somewhat support	**47**	48	46	49	47
Somewhat oppose	**14**	12	14	19	14
Strongly oppose	**12**	6	12	14	28

Q126. A $5-a-month increase in property taxes, to provide funding to help homeowners make energy-efficiency improvements to their homes (such as replacing old, inefficient furnaces, water heaters, air conditioners, and insulation).

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**13**	23	11	8	0
Somewhat support	**33**	39	34	30	20
Somewhat oppose	**24**	22	23	27	27
Strongly oppose	**30**	17	33	35	53

Q127. Changing your county's zoning rules to promote the construction of more energy-efficient apartment buildings, instead of less efficient single-family homes.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**15**	19	19	6	6
Somewhat support	**37**	45	33	31	33
Somewhat oppose	**29**	26	30	35	22
Strongly oppose	**20**	10	18	28	39

Q128. Changing your county's zoning rules to require that neighborhoods have a mix of housing, offices, industry, schools, and stores close together, to encourage walking and decrease the need for a car.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**19**	26	22	8	11
Somewhat support	**39**	44	40	36	30
Somewhat oppose	**24**	21	24	30	25
Strongly oppose	**18**	9	15	27	34

Q129. Changing your county's zoning rules to decrease suburban sprawl and concentrate new development near the center of cities and towns, reducing commuting times.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**17**	22	22	7	8
Somewhat support	**43**	45	40	42	41
Somewhat oppose	**25**	26	24	30	17
Strongly oppose	**15**	7	14	22	34

Q130. A $5-a-month increase in property taxes, to provide funding to homeowners that install solar panels.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**13**	20	13	6	5
Somewhat support	**30**	35	28	27	20
Somewhat oppose	**27**	27	28	31	20
Strongly oppose	**30**	18	31	36	55

Q131. Constructing bike paths and installing bike lanes on city streets.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**31**	40	31	24	21
Somewhat support	**47**	45	45	53	44
Somewhat oppose	**15**	10	19	15	21
Strongly oppose	**7**	5	6	8	14

Q132. Increasing the availability of public transportation in your county.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**31**	38	33	21	21
Somewhat support	**51**	48	46	60	52
Somewhat oppose	**13**	9	15	14	15
Strongly oppose	**6**	5	6	5	13

Q133. Building a nuclear power plant in your local area.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly support	**9**	6	9	11	16
Somewhat support	**26**	22	27	28	36
Somewhat oppose	**24**	26	21	24	27
Strongly oppose	**41**	47	43	37	21

Q238a. With the economy in such bad shape, the US can't afford to reduce global warming.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly agree	**16**	5	14	24	40
Somewhat agree	**36**	32	38	42	27
Somewhat disagree	**33**	40	33	28	20
Strongly disagree	**16**	23	16	6	13

Q243. Overall, do you think that protecting the environment:

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Improves economic growth and provides new jobs	**57**	72	56	46	31
Has no effect on economic growth or jobs	**25**	20	22	30	36
Reduces economic growth and costs jobs	**18**	8	21	25	33

Q244. When there is a conflict between environmental protection and economic growth, which do you think is more important?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Protecting the environment, even if it reduces economic growth	**64**	78	66	51	44
Economic growth, even if it leads to environmental problems	**36**	22	34	49	56

BEHAVIORS

Q40a. Over the next 12 months, how likely are you to change most of the light bulbs in your house to energy-efficient compact fluorescent lights (CFLs)?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Yes, I'd like to and probably will	**36**	43	32	36	22
Yes, I'd like to but probably won't	**29**	32	28	30	20
No, I don't want to	**24**	11	26	26	54
I don't know	**11**	14	14	9	5

Q207. Posted a comment online in response to a news story or blog about global warming

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Many times (6+)	**1**	2	2	1	0
Several times(4-5)	**2**	1	2	2	2
A few times(2-3)	**5**	4	8	2	12
Once	**3**	5	1	3	4
Never	**85**	85	83	90	82
Don't Know	**3**	4	5	3	0

Q211a. If you were to contact government officials about global warming, would you:

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Urge them to take action to reduce global warming?	**72**	92	71	55	33
Urge them to not take action to reduce global warming?	**15**	2	13	28	43
Other	**13**	6	16	17	25

TRUST IN INFORMATION SOURCES

Q161_1. How much do you trust or distrust the following as a source of information about global warming?

Television weather reporters

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly trust	**5**	9	4	3	1
Somewhat trust	**46**	55	45	38	33
Somewhat distrust	**34**	28	35	41	38
Strongly distrust	**15**	8	16	19	28

Q161_2. The mainstream news media

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly trust	**4**	7	2	2	0
Somewhat trust	**33**	48	30	26	9
Somewhat distrust	**36**	33	42	36	38
Strongly distrust	**27**	13	27	36	53

Q161_3. Scientists

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly trust	**21**	31	20	15	7
Somewhat trust	**55**	57	55	56	44
Somewhat distrust	**20**	11	21	22	38
Strongly distrust	**5**	1	4	7	10

Q161_4. President Obama

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly trust	**12**	27	6	3	1
Somewhat trust	**35**	55	35	18	4
Somewhat distrust	**22**	13	30	28	18
Strongly distrust	**31**	6	29	51	77

Q161_5. Your U.S. Congressman/Congresswoman

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly trust	**2**	4	0	1	2
Somewhat trust	**35**	49	26	30	13
Somewhat distrust	**39**	34	46	37	43
Strongly distrust	**25**	13	28	31	41

Q161_6. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly trust	**15**	25	13	7	4
Somewhat trust	**46**	55	43	47	24
Somewhat distrust	**25**	16	31	30	31
Strongly distrust	**13**	4	12	16	41

Q161_7. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly trust	**11**	18	8	9	2
Somewhat trust	**47**	57	47	43	25
Somewhat distrust	**28**	22	34	27	36
Strongly distrust	**14**	4	12	20	37

Q161_8. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly trust	**15**	21	13	10	5
Somewhat trust	**55**	61	57	55	33
Somewhat distrust	**22**	15	24	24	39
Strongly distrust	**8**	2	6	11	23

Q161_9. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly trust	**23**	33	22	16	5
Somewhat trust	**52**	54	54	55	41
Somewhat distrust	**19**	11	19	22	37
Strongly distrust	**6**	2	5	8	17

Q161_10. The National Park Service

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly trust	**13**	17	12	10	6
Somewhat trust	**63**	68	64	62	46
Somewhat distrust	**18**	13	19	19	32
Strongly distrust	**6**	1	5	9	16

CLIMATEGATE

Q253a. Have you heard anything in the news about controversial emails between climate scientists in England and the US? Some news organizations have called the release of these emails "Climategate."

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Yes	**23**	16	27	20	45
No	**60**	64	60	63	43
Don't know	**17**	21	12	17	11

DEMOGRAPHICS

Age

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
18-29	**18**	21	15	21	10
30-44	**25**	27	28	23	20
45-59	**29**	26	32	28	38
60+	**27**	27	26	28	32

Education

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Less than high school	**10**	12	10	8	9
High school	**29**	33	28	25	27
Some college	**29**	24	27	36	35
Bachelor's degree or higher	**32**	31	35	32	29

Race

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
White, Non-Hispanic	**71**	53	77	86	86
Black, Non-Hispanic	**11**	23	7	1	2
Other, Non-Hispanic	**6**	6	7	5	6
Hispanic	**11**	17	9	8	4
2+ Races, Non-Hispanic	**1**	2	1	1	2

Gender

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Male	**47**	41	52	49	56
Female	**53**	59	48	51	44

Housing

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
A one-family house detached from any other house	**73**	63	73	83	84
A one-family house attached to one or more houses	**7**	8	9	4	8
A building with 2 or more apartments	**17**	27	11	11	5
A mobile home	**3**	3	6	2	2
Boat, RV, van, etc.	**0**	0	1	0	0

Income

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Less than $5,000	**1**	3	1	0	0
$5,000 to $7,499	**1**	1	2	0	0
$7,500 to $9,999	**3**	4	1	1	4
$10,000 to $12,499	**4**	3	4	4	3
$12,500 to $14,999	**3**	4	2	1	3
$15,000 to $19,999	**3**	5	2	2	2
$20,000 to $24,999	**4**	3	5	3	4
$25,000 to $29,999	**5**	6	4	3	4
$30,000 to $34,999	**5**	6	5	2	7
$35,000 to $39,999	**5**	4	7	5	3
$40,000 to $49,999	**9**	10	9	8	6
$50,000 to $59,999	**10**	9	7	10	16
$60,000 to $74,999	**9**	6	10	14	8
$75,000 to $84,999	**8**	9	6	9	6
$85,000 to $99,999	**8**	7	8	6	10
$100,000 to $124,999	**11**	9	9	15	9
$125,000 to $149,999	**6**	5	7	7	6
$150,000 to $174,999	**3**	3	5	4	1
$175,000 or more	**5**	4	5	6	6

Marital status

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Married	**58**	49	60	64	67
Widowed	**5**	4	3	10	1
Divorced	**9**	10	12	5	11
Separated	**2**	4	2	0	3
Never married	**19**	23	19	18	10
Living with partner	**7**	9	4	4	7

MSA Status

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Non-Metro	**15**	12	15	21	13
Metro	**85**	88	85	79	87

Region

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Northeast	**20**	20	23	16	18
Midwest	**22**	25	18	25	20
South	**35**	31	37	34	45
West	**23**	24	23	25	18

Ownership Status of Living Quarters

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Owned or being bought by you or someone in your household	**75**	65	80	82	85
Rented for cash	**22**	33	16	16	13
Occupied without payment of cash rent	**3**	3	4	3	2

Current Employment Status

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Working - as a paid employee	**51**	50	48	55	53
Working - self-employed	**7**	4	10	7	11
Not working - on temporary layoff from a job	**1**	1	0	0	2
Not working - looking for work	**10**	11	8	9	10
Not working - retired	**16**	17	20	14	12
Not working - disabled	**8**	12	8	6	3
Not working - other	**7**	6	6	10	8

Media Use

Q250. Which of the following media sources do you turn to most often to keep up with current news and world events?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Television	**58**	61	52	58	58
Internet (excluding email)	**21**	20	22	21	23
Radio	**10**	7	10	10	17
Print Newspapers	**10**	10	13	10	2
Magazines	**2**	1	3	2	0

Political Ideology

Q256. In general, do you think of yourself as...

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Very liberal	**7**	15	4	1	1
Somewhat liberal	**17**	27	21	6	2
Moderate	**40**	47	49	30	19
Somewhat conservative	**25**	8	22	47	39
Very conservative	**11**	3	5	16	39

General Economic Impact

Q25B. How much has the economic downturn in this country since 2008 personally hurt you and your family?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
A lot	**29**	28	35	21	36
Some	**34**	39	29	32	37
A little	**28**	26	27	37	18
Not at all	**9**	8	10	10	9

RELIGIOUS VALUES/BELIEFS

Q258. What is your religion?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Baptist—any denomination	**17**	19	10	17	22
Protestant (e.g., Methodist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Episcopal)	**20**	16	16	29	22
Catholic	**24**	23	27	25	21
Mormon	**2**	2	2	2	1
Jewish	**3**	5	2	1	0
Muslim	**1**	1	0	0	1
Hindu	**0**	1	0	0	0
Buddhist	**2**	1	2	3	0
Pentecostal	**4**	3	4	4	7
Eastern Orthodox	**0**	0	0	0	0
Other Christian	**13**	9	16	14	17
Other non-Christian	**2**	3	3	1	2
None	**14**	16	19	6	8

Q259. Would you describe yourself as "born-again" or evangelical?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Yes	**26**	21	20	31	46
No	**69**	71	76	65	53
Don't know	**5**	8	4	4	1

Q260. How often do you attend religious services?

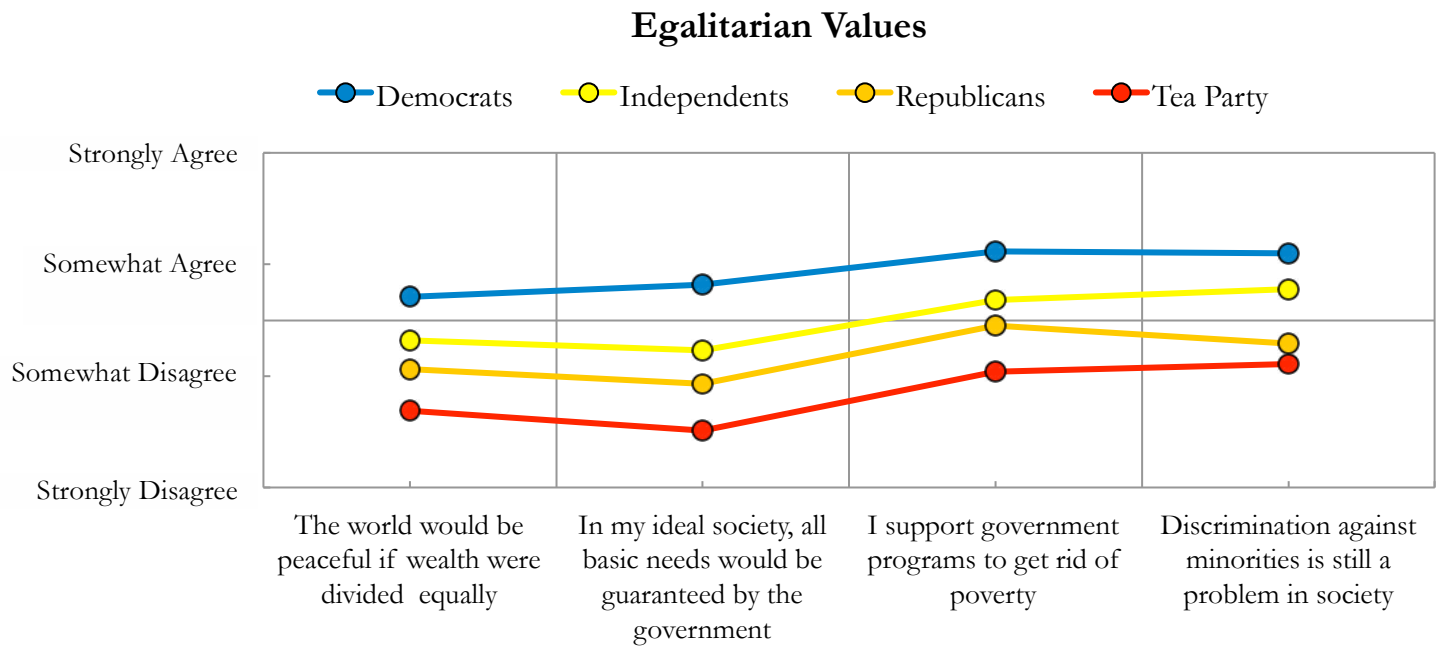
	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
More than once a week	**13**	9	8	17	27
Once a week	**20**	18	18	28	18
Once or twice a month	**8**	8	9	8	4
A few times a year	**20**	21	23	19	14
Once a year or less	**16**	19	16	11	17
Never	**23**	25	27	17	21

Q198. Are you a member of a religious study group/Church group/Church board?

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Yes	**29**	26	19	36	46
No	**71**	74	81	64	54

Q233. Human beings, as we know them today, evolved from earlier species of animals.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly Agree	**24**	28	31	16	14
Somewhat Agree	**31**	34	26	35	20
Somewhat Disagree	**16**	18	20	10	14
Strongly Disagree	**29**	20	23	39	52



EGALITARIAN VALUES

Please tell us how strongly you agree or disagree with each statement below.

Q225. The world would be a more peaceful place if its wealth were divided more equally among nations.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly Agree	**11**	17	8	9	8
Somewhat Agree	**36**	49	40	22	13
Somewhat Disagree	**27**	23	29	36	19
Strongly Disagree	**26**	11	23	34	60

Q226. In my ideal society, all basic needs (food, housing, health care, education) would be guaranteed by the government for everyone.

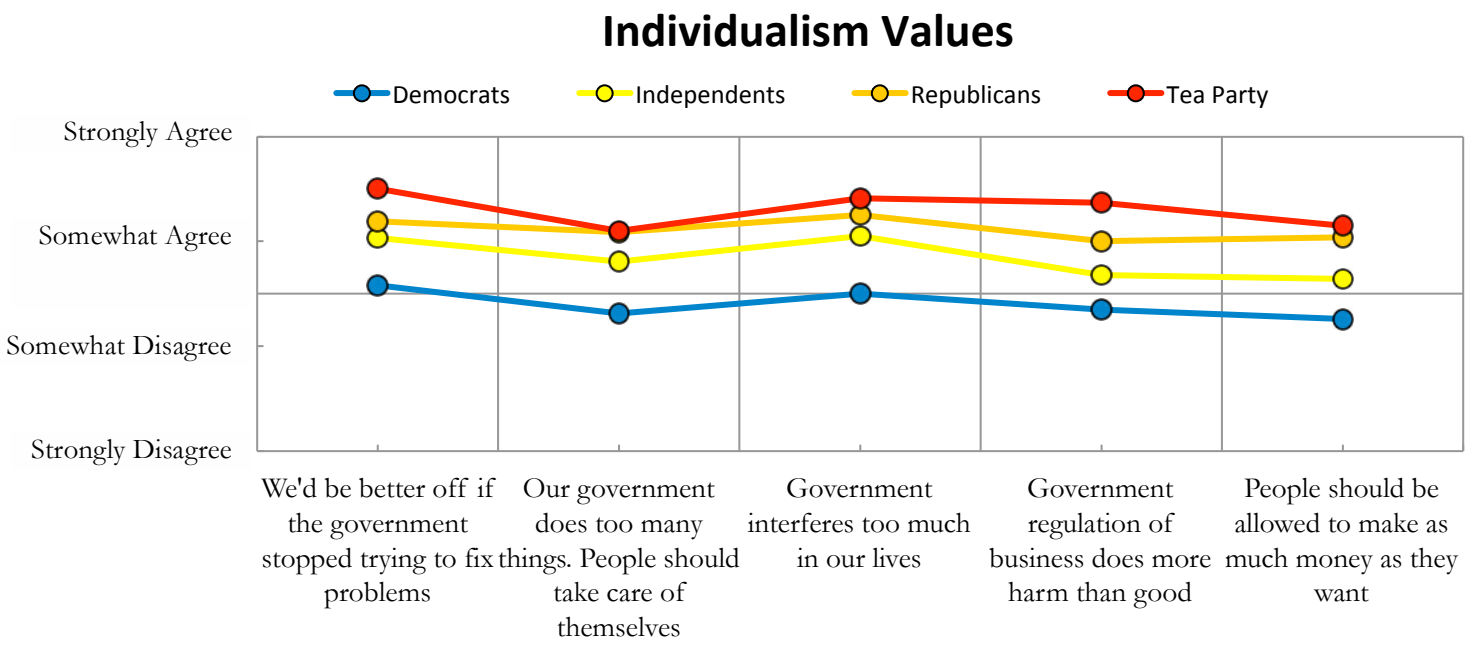
	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly Agree	**15**	24	11	9	3
Somewhat Agree	**31**	43	31	20	12
Somewhat Disagree	**24**	22	28	24	20
Strongly Disagree	**31**	10	30	46	65

Q227. I support government programs to get rid of poverty.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly Agree	**19**	31	14	10	6
Somewhat Agree	**47**	54	49	44	27
Somewhat Disagree	**22**	12	28	29	30
Strongly Disagree	**12**	3	9	18	37

Q228. Discrimination against minorities is still a very serious problem in our society.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly Agree	**22**	37	25	5	6
Somewhat Agree	**40**	42	42	41	25
Somewhat Disagree	**25**	16	20	34	42
Strongly Disagree	**14**	5	14	20	28



INDIVIDUALISM VALUES

Q229. If the government spent less time trying to fix everyone's problems, we'd all be a lot better off.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly Agree	**33**	17	35	40	63
Somewhat Agree	**38**	38	39	43	26
Somewhat Disagree	**22**	31	19	15	9
Strongly Disagree	**8**	14	7	3	2

Q230. Our government tries to do too many things for too many people. We should just let people take care of themselves.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly Agree	**22**	8	21	34	45
Somewhat Agree	**39**	34	47	43	30
Somewhat Disagree	**28**	39	25	20	17
Strongly Disagree	**11**	19	8	3	8

Q231. The government interferes too much in our everyday lives.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly Agree	**28**	11	31	40	58
Somewhat Agree	**41**	37	47	47	26
Somewhat Disagree	**26**	43	18	13	14
Strongly Disagree	**5**	9	4	1	2

Q232. Government regulation of business usually does more harm than good.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly Agree	**21**	9	20	26	50
Somewhat Agree	**40**	35	39	50	37
Somewhat Disagree	**30**	39	32	23	12
Strongly Disagree	**10**	18	10	1	1

Q234. People should be allowed to make as much money as they can, even if it means some make millions while others live in poverty.

	Nat'l Avg	Democrats	Independents	Republicans	Tea Party
Strongly Agree	**23**	10	22	34	49
Somewhat Agree	**33**	29	35	41	24
Somewhat Disagree	**29**	39	28	19	20
Strongly Disagree	**15**	22	15	6	7

Methodology

These results come from a nationally representative survey of 1,010 American adults, aged 18 and older, conducted April 23 through May 12, 2011. The samples were weighted to correspond with US Census Bureau parameters for the United States. The surveys were designed by Anthony Leiserowitz of Yale University and Edward Maibach and Connie Roser-Renouf of George Mason University and conducted by Knowledge Networks, using an online research panel of American adults. The margin of sampling error for the national average results is plus or minus 3 percent, with 95 percent confidence. For the smallest political sub-group (the Tea Party, $n = 97$) the margin of error is plus or minus 10 percent, with 95 percent confidence. As a result, cells are highlighted in red only if they are at least 10 percentage points greater than the national average.

This analysis includes only those survey respondents ($n = 809$) who stated a party preference. Respondents who reported "Other" as their party id ($n = 30$) were asked if they leaned Democratic, Republican, or Independent and were subsequently assigned to these categories.

Identification with the Tea Party was assessed using a separate question that asked: "Do you consider yourself a member of the Tea Party movement or not?" Any respondent who answered "Yes" was assigned to the Tea Party category. Some self-identified Democrats, Independents, and Republicans also self-identified as members of the Tea Party and were therefore assigned to the Tea Party category. Thus the Democrats, Independents, and Republicans categories include only those Democrats, Independents and Republicans who do not consider themselves members of the Tea Party movement. The following table describes the number of respondents who self-identified as Democrats, Independents, or Republicans who were subsequently assigned to the Tea Party category.

	Not Member of Tea Party	Member of Tea Party	Total
Democrats	308	2	310
Independents	194	33	227
Republicans	191	53	244
Other	20	9	29
Total	713	97	810