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Washington, DC 20009
(202) 234-5570

Interviews: 1,009 voters
Dates: November 7-8, 2012

FINAL

Study #10783
Americans for Tax Fairness Survey
November 2012

47 Male
53 Female
[109]

Please note: all results are shown as percentages unless otherwise stated.

1. Are you currently registered to vote at this address?

Yes, registered to vote.....	100	CONTINUE	[164]
No, not registered to vote.....	-	TERMINATE	
Not sure	-		

2. And does anyone in your household work for a radio station, a television station, a newspaper, an advertising agency, or a market research firm?

No	100	CONTINUE	[165]
Yes.....	-	TERMINATE	
Not sure	-		

3. And does anyone in this household work actively in politics or political campaigns, or work for any kind of a political organization?

No	100	CONTINUE	[166]
Yes.....	-	TERMINATE	
Not sure	-		

4a. Many people did not get the chance to vote in this year's elections for president and other offices. How about you--did you vote this year or did you not get a chance to vote?

Yes, voted.....	100	CONTINUE	[172]
No, did not vote.....	-	TERMINATE	
Not sure	-		

4b. Did you vote in person on Election Day, in person before Election Day, or did you vote by mail or absentee ballot?

Voted in person on Election Day	66	[173]	
Voted in person before Election Day	16		
Voted by mail/absentee ballot.....	18		
Not sure	-		

Now I have a few questions about this year's elections.

5. In the election for president, did you vote for the Democrat, Barack Obama, or the Republican, Mitt Romney?

(IF RESPONDENT DECLINES TO SAY HOW HE/SHE VOTED, SAY:) This survey is being done for research purposes only. Your willingness to say how you voted is really important for ensuring the accuracy of our research, and we promise that we will always maintain the privacy and confidentiality of your responses.

Voted for Barack Obama.....	50		[174]
Voted for Mitt Romney.....	48	CONTINUE	
Voted for other candidate.....	2		
Did not vote in presidential race (VOL).....	-	TERMINATE	
Not sure.....	-		

6. About how long ago did you decide how you would vote in the presidential election—more than two months ago, within the past two months, within the past few weeks, within the past week, within the past two or three days, or on Election Day?

More than two months ago.....	80	[175]
Within the past two months.....	10	
Within the past few weeks.....	5	
Within the past week.....	1	
Within the past two or three days.....	2	
On Election Day.....	2	
Not sure.....	-	

(ASK ONLY OF NON-OBAMA VOTERS IN Q.5.)

7a. Was there ever a time during the presidential campaign when you considered voting for Barack Obama?

Yes, considered voting for Obama.....	13	[176]
No, did not consider voting for Obama.....	87	
Not sure.....	-	

(ASK ONLY OF NON-ROMNEY VOTERS IN Q.5.)

7b. Was there ever a time during the presidential campaign when you considered voting for Mitt Romney?

Yes, considered voting for Romney.....	15	[177]
No, did not consider voting for Romney.....	84	
Not sure.....	1	

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS IN STATES WITH A SENATE RACE.)

8. In the election for U.S. senator in (STATE) did you vote for the Democrat, (DEMOCRATIC SENATE CANDIDATE), or the Republican, (REPUBLICAN SENATE CANDIDATE)?

(IF RESPONDENT DECLINES TO SAY HOW HE/SHE VOTED, SAY:) This survey is being done for research purposes only. Your willingness to say how you will/did vote is really important for ensuring the accuracy of our research, and we promise that we will always maintain the privacy and confidentiality of your responses.

(DEMOCRATIC SENATE CANDIDATE).....	51	[178-180]
(REPUBLICAN SENATE CANDIDATE).....	43	
Other candidate (VOL).....	2	
Did not vote in Senate race (VOL).....	2	
Not sure/refused.....	2	

3-Way Senate Vote	
Democrat.....	53
Republican.....	45
Other.....	2

9. In the election for U.S. Congress, did you vote for the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?

(IF RESPONDENT DECLINES TO SAY HOW HE/SHE VOTED, SAY:) This survey is being done for research purposes only. Your willingness to say how you voted is really important for ensuring the accuracy of our research, and we promise that we will always maintain the privacy and confidentiality of your responses.

Voted for the Democratic candidate.....	46	[208]
Voted for the Republican candidate.....	45	
Other (VOL)	1	
Did not vote in House race (VOL)	3	
Not sure	5	

3-Way House Vote	
Democrat	50
Republican.....	49
Independent.....	1

Turning to another issue...

10. In making your voting decisions this year, how important an issue was making the tax system more fair--was tax fairness a very important consideration, a fairly important consideration, just a somewhat important consideration, or not an important consideration for you this year?

A very important consideration	44	[221]
A fairly important consideration.....	23	
Just a somewhat important consideration .	20	
Not an important consideration	10	
Not sure	3	

11. When it comes to dealing with taxes, which party do you think would do a better job--the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, or both about the same? If you think that neither would do a good job, please just say so.

	11/12	6/12*	12/11*	4/11*	10/10*+	6/10*+	3/10*	
Democratic Party	35	32	31	30	31	27	25	[222]
Republican Party.....	32	34	33	32	37	35	36	
Both about the same.....	19	12	16	17	13	16	19	
Neither	11	18	17	20	15	19	18	
Not sure	3	4	3	1	4	2	2	
Party Advantage	D-3	R-2	R-2	R-2	R-6	R-8	R-11	

* Results taken from polls conducted on behalf of NBC and the Wall St. Journal.
+ Results shown reflect responses among registered voters.

12. As you may know, the Bush tax cuts are due to expire at the end of this year, which means that federal income tax rates will increase unless Congress takes action. Which of these do you think is the best way for Congress to deal with the Bush tax cuts?

Continue the tax cuts for all income levels, including those making over two hundred fifty thousand dollars	39	[223]
Continue the tax cuts for those making under two hundred fifty thousand dollars, but end the tax cuts for those over two hundred fifty thousand dollars .	51	
Do not continue for any income (VOL)	5	
Total: End Tax Cuts Over \$250K	56	
Not sure.....	5	

ORDER OF Q13a. AND Q13b. IS ROTATED EVERY OTHER INTERVIEW.

13a. As you may know, President Obama says that he will sign a bill continuing the Bush tax cuts for those making under two hundred fifty thousand dollars, but will veto any bill that extends the tax cuts for those making over two hundred fifty thousand dollars. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with his position on this issue?

Strongly agree	40	[224]
Somewhat agree	21	
Somewhat disagree.....	11	
Strongly disagree.....	24	
Not sure.....	4	

Total Agree	61	
Total Disagree	35	

13b. As you may know, Republican leaders in Congress say they will pass a bill continuing the Bush tax cuts for all income levels, but will block any bill that ends the tax cuts for those making over two hundred fifty thousand dollars. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with their position on this issue?

Strongly agree	22	[225]
Somewhat agree	20	
Somewhat disagree.....	14	
Strongly disagree.....	39	
Not sure.....	5	

Total Agree	42	
Total Disagree	53	

13c/d. If no agreement is reached by the end of the year and all of the Bush tax cuts expire on January first, who would you blame more for tax rates going up on all taxpayers—President Obama or Republican leaders in Congress? **(IF BOTH, ASK:)** Well, who would you blame at least somewhat more? **(IF RESPONDENT PICKS A PARTY TO BLAME, ASK:)** Is that somewhat more or much more?

Blame Obama	28	
Much more.....	20	[226-227]
Somewhat more	8	
Blame Republicans In Congress	43	
Somewhat more	14	
Much more.....	29	
Both equal (VOL).....	21	
Not sure	8	

Turning to some related issues...

14. In general, do you think that corporations should be paying more in taxes than they do today, should be paying less in taxes than they do today, or are paying about the right amount today? *

Should be paying more in taxes	38	[228]
Should be paying less in taxes	15	
Are paying the right amount today ...	31	
Not sure.....	16	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

15. As you may know, on January first large cuts in domestic and national defense spending are scheduled to begin, which will reduce the budget deficit by about one trillion dollars but will also eliminate between one and two million jobs. In your opinion, should Congress go ahead with these across-the-board budget cuts, or should Congress instead reduce the deficit by ending the Bush tax cuts for those making over two hundred fifty thousand dollars?

Go ahead with budget cuts	18	[229]
End Bush tax cuts for those over \$250,000	50	
Neither (VOL).....	15	
Not sure	17	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

16. Now I'd like to get your reaction to some policies that may be considered by Congress for reducing the federal budget deficit. For each one, please tell me whether you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove, or strongly disapprove of this proposal.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY STRONGLY APPROVE

	Total Approve	Total Disapprove	<u>Strongly Approve</u>	<u>Somewhat Approve</u>	<u>Somewhat Disapprove</u>	<u>Strongly Disapprove</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	
Make sure that all large corporations pay at least some income taxes **	92	6	74	18	3	3	2	[235]
Increase taxes on the profits that American corporations make overseas, to ensure they pay as much on foreign profits as they do on profits made in the United States **	84	11	67	17	4	7	5	[237]
Pass legislation to prevent corporations and wealthy individuals from avoiding U.S. taxes by shifting income earned here in the United States to overseas tax havens *	61	33	50	11	8	25	6	[231]
Place a surtax of five percent on a person's income over one million dollars per year *	61	31	39	22	12	19	8	[230]
Increase the estate tax, also called the inheritance tax, on estates of more than seven million dollars for a couple **	58	32	39	19	11	21	10	[239]
End the lower tax rate on income from selling stocks and other assets, so that investors pay the same tax rates as workers do on their earnings **	61	28	36	25	11	17	11	[238]
End the lower tax rate on income from selling stocks and other assets, so that investors pay the same tax rates as workers do on their earnings, as was done under the Reagan administration *	64	22	37	27	9	13	14	[234]
Establish a small tax on trading in stocks, bonds, and other financial products of three cents for each one hundred dollars in trades *	48	35	17	31	12	23	17	[232]
Raise the age for Medicare eligibility from sixty-five to sixty-seven *	30	64	14	16	16	48	6	[233]
Cut Medicaid benefits **	16	78	5	11	14	64	6	[236]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

FACTUALS: Now I am going to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

F1. For statistical purposes only, and to ensure a representative sample, would you please tell me how old you are? (IF "REFUSED," ASK:) Well, would you tell me which age group you belong to?

18-24	11	[167-168]
25-29	8	
30-34	8	
35-39	8	
40-44	10	
45-49	9	
50-54	9	
55-59	11	
60-64	9	
65-69	6	
70-74	5	
75 and over	6	
Refused	-	

F2. Thinking about your general approach to issues, do you consider yourself to be liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal.....	23	[262]
Moderate	31	
Conservative.....	40	
Not sure.....	6	

F3a. Did you happen to vote in the November 2008 election for president between Barack Obama and John McCain?

(ASK ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAY "YES, VOTED," IN Q.F3a.)

F3b. For whom did you vote in that election--Barack Obama or John McCain?

Yes, Voted	89	
Barack Obama.....	45	[263-264]
John McCain.....	41	
Other (VOL).....	2	
Can't recall for whom/refused (VOL).....	1	
Not sure.....	-	
Did Not Vote	10	
Not sure.....	1	

F4. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

Grade school.....	1	[265-266]
Some high school	3	
High school graduate	24	
Some college, no degree	19	
Vocational training/2-year college	10	
4-year college/Bachelor's degree.....	25	
Some postgraduate work, no degree	3	
2 or 3 years' postgraduate work/master's degree	12	
Doctoral/law degree	2	
Not sure/refused	1	

F5. Are you currently single and never married, unmarried and living with a partner, married, separated, widowed, or divorced?

Single	23	[267]
Unmarried, living with partner	3	
Married	60	
Separated	1	
Widowed	5	
Divorced	7	
Other (VOL).....	-	
Not sure/refused.....	1	

F6. Do you have any children under age eighteen currently living in your household?

Yes, kids under 18 in household.....	34	[268]
No, no kids under 18 in household ...	65	
Not sure.....	1	

F7. What is your religion?

Protestant (includes Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, and other Christians).....	52	[269]
Catholic	24	
Jewish	2	
Other	10	
None	10	
Not sure/refused.....	2	

F8. How often do you attend services at a church, synagogue, or other place of worship?

Never.....	16	[270]
Once a year	7	
A few times a year	19	
Once a month.....	8	
About twice a month.....	9	
Once a week or more often	37	
Not sure.....	4	

F9a. Are you a member of a labor union?

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY THEY ARE NOT A UNION MEMBER OR ARE NOT SURE IN Q.F9a.)

F9b. Is anyone else in this household a member of a labor union?

Labor union member	10	[271-272]
Labor union household.....	9	
Nonunion household	80	
Not sure	1	

F10. If you added together the yearly income of all the members of your family who were living at home last year, would the total be less than thirty thousand dollars, between thirty thousand dollars and fifty thousand dollars, between fifty thousand dollars and one hundred thousand dollars, between one hundred thousand dollars and two hundred thousand dollars, between two hundred thousand dollars and two hundred fifty thousand dollars, or would the total be more than two hundred fifty thousand dollars?

Less than \$30,000	16	[273]
Between \$30,000 and \$50,000.....	18	
Between \$50,000 and \$100,000	32	
Between \$100,000 and \$200,000.....	18	
Between \$200,000 and \$250,000.....	2	
More than \$250,000	1	
Not sure/refused	13	

F11. And are you from a Hispanic or Spanish-speaking background?

Yes, Hispanic.....	10	[169]
No, not Hispanic	90	
Not sure/refused	-	

F12. Again, to ensure that we have a representative sample, what is your race—white, African American or black, Asian, or something else?

White	75	[170]
African American/black.....	13	
Asian	2	
Other	3	
Hispanic (VOL)	7	
Not sure/refused	-	

F13. How would you describe your overall point of view in terms of the political parties? Would you say you are mostly Democratic, leaning Democratic, completely independent, leaning Republican, or mostly Republican?

Mostly Democratic	36	[171]
Leaning Democratic.....	7	
Completely independent	17	
Leaning Republican.....	11	
Mostly Republican	28	
Not sure.....	1	
Total Democratic	43	
Total Republican	39	