

Polling News & Notes

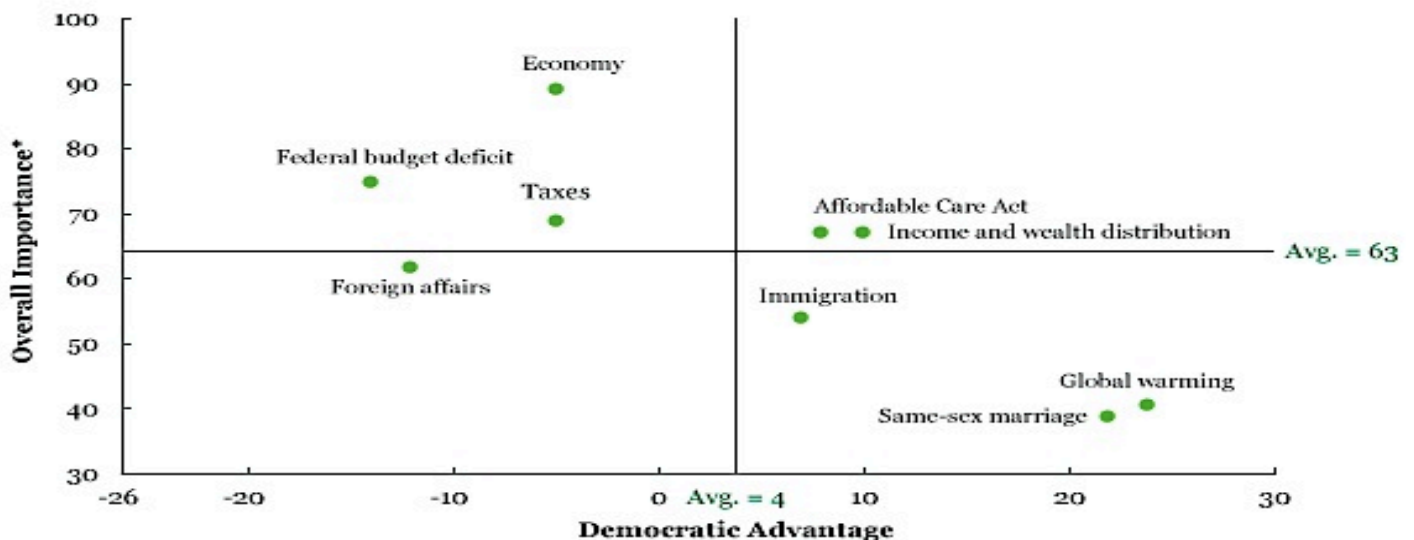
Overlooked Recent Polling and Insights • May 22, 2014

Republicans Have Advantage On Top Election Issues: What will be on voters' minds when they go to the polls in November? According to an April 30 Gallup [survey](#), the economy will be the top issue, as 89% of registered voters said it will be "extremely" (46%) or "very" (43%) important. The federal budget deficit came in second, with 75% saying it will be "extremely" (38%) or "very" (37%) important to their vote, and taxes ranked third, with 69% considering it "extremely" (33%) or "very" (36%) important to their vote this fall. These were well above the average number of voters (63%) who consider one of Gallup's nine issues to be "extremely" (31%) or "very" (32%) important. While not as paramount to voters as the three economic issues, the Affordable Care Act and wealth distribution were slightly above average, with 67% saying each was "extremely" (35%) or "very" (32%) important.

When it comes to which party would do a better job tackling these problems, the average party lead on one of the nine priorities was four points. Voters gave Republicans a higher advantage on the top three. Forty-eight percent said Republicans in Congress would do a better job dealing with the economy and dealing with taxes, while only 43% said Democrats in Congress would do a better job on both issues (+5 GOP advantage). Fifty-two percent of registered voters said Republicans would better handle the federal budget deficit, compared to just 38% who said Democrats would do a better job (+14 GOP advantage). There will be many factors that will influence November's outcome, but Republicans would be best served if they continue offering ideas on these top matters that concern Americans the most.

Issues in 2014 Elections

Overall importance to 2014 congressional vote and party advantage among registered voters



*Extremely/Very important
April 24-30, 2014