

TallahasseeVoices

2008 Florida Primary Survey

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TallahasseeVoices is a pro bono internet survey panel sponsored by Kerr & Downs Research and the Tallahassee Democrat. Survey was conducted January 21-23, 2008. 793 of the 3,000 panel members responded. Results were weighted to reflect the demographics of the 90%+ local residents who have access to the internet at home, work, or school.

Issues covered:

- Amendment 1 vote
- Presidential vote
- Use of Bush/Congress tax rebates

Amendment 1

If Leon County has its way, Amendment 1 is done. Only 25% support it.

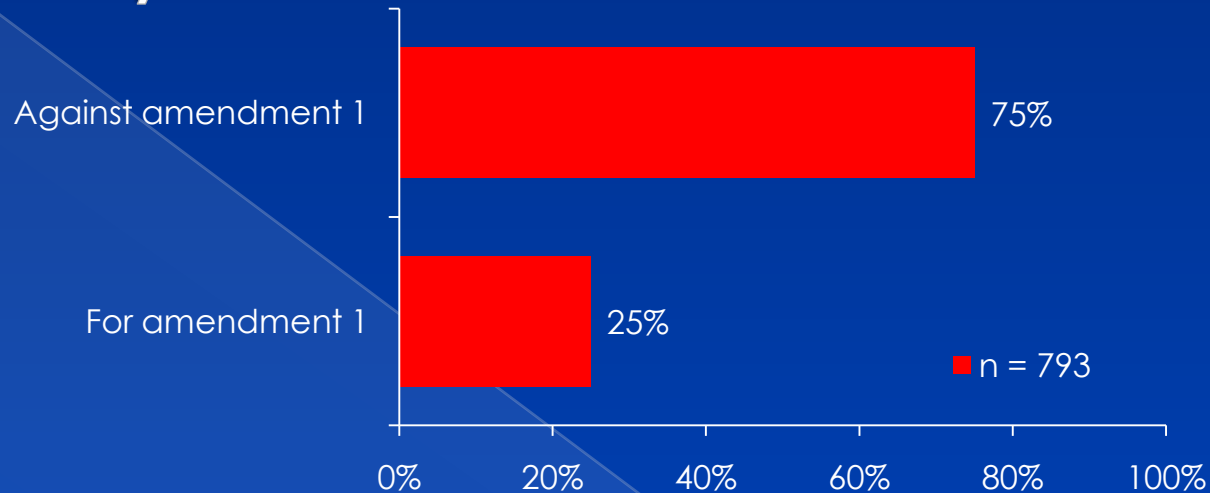
Statewide polls show just over 50% support for Amendment 1.

Locally, Republicans support Amendment 1 more so than Democrats, yet majorities of both parties are against it:

52% of Republicans against it

82% of Democrats against it

Today's Amendment 1 Vote



If the election were held today, would you vote for or against constitutional amendment 1: Property Tax Exemptions; Limitations On Property Tax Assessments?

*Ballot Summary: This revision proposes changes to the State Constitution relating to property taxation. With respect to homestead property, this revision: (1) increases the homestead exemption except for school district taxes and (2) allows homestead property owners to transfer up to \$500,000 of their Save-Our-Homes benefits to their next homestead. With respect to non-homestead property, this revision (3) provides a \$25,000 exemption for tangible personal property and (4) limits assessment increases for specified non-homestead real property except for school district taxes. In more detail, this revision: (1) Increases the homestead exemption by exempting the assessed value between \$50,000 and \$75,000. This exemption does not apply to school district taxes. (2) Provides for the transfer of accumulated Save-Our-Homes benefits. Homestead property owners will be able to transfer their Save-Our-Homes benefit to a new homestead within 1 year and not more than 2 years after relinquishing their previous homestead; except, if this revision is approved by the electors in January of 2008 and if the new homestead is established on January 1, 2008, the previous homestead must have been relinquished in 2007. If the new homestead has a higher just value than the previous one, the accumulated benefit can be transferred; if the new homestead has a lower just value, the amount of benefit transferred will be reduced. The transferred benefit may not exceed \$500,000. This provision applies to all taxes. (3) Authorizes an exemption from property taxes of \$25,000 of assessed value of tangible personal property. This provision applies to all taxes. (4) Limits the assessment increases for specified non-homestead real property to 10 percent each year. Property will be assessed at just value following an improvement, as defined by general law, and may be assessed at just value following a change of ownership or control if provided by general law. This limitation does not apply to school district taxes. This limitation is repealed effective January 1, 2019, unless renewed by a vote of the electors in the general election held in 2018. Further, this revision: a. Repeals obsolete language on the homestead exemption when it was less than \$25,000 and did not apply uniformly to property taxes levied by all local governments. b. Provides for homestead exemptions to be repealed if a future constitutional amendment provides for assessment of homesteads "at less than just value" rather than as currently provided "at a specified percentage" of just value. c. Schedules the changes to take effect upon approval by the electors and operate retroactively to January 1, 2008, if approved in a special election held on January 29, 2008, or to take effect January 1, 2009, if approved in the general election held in November of 2008. The limitation on annual assessment increases for specified real property shall first apply to the 2009 tax roll if this revision is approved in a special election held on January 29, 2008, or shall first apply to the 2010 tax roll if this revision is approved in the general election held in November of 2008.

Presidential Vote

- ◎ Leon County residents are betting on Clinton while their hearts are with Obama
 - > 46% believe Clinton will win (20% believe Obama will win)
 - > 34% will vote for Obama (24% for Clinton)
 - > 10% will vote for McCain, tying him with Edwards
 - > Clinton is considered best qualified

Presidential Vote

- ◎ Democrats bet Clinton will win:
 - > 54% bet Clinton will win
 - > 20% bet Obama will win
 - > 16% bet McCain will win
- ◎ Republicans bet McCain will win:
 - > 28% bet McCain will win
 - > 25% bet Clinton will win
 - > 20% bet Obama will win
 - > 16% bet Romney will win

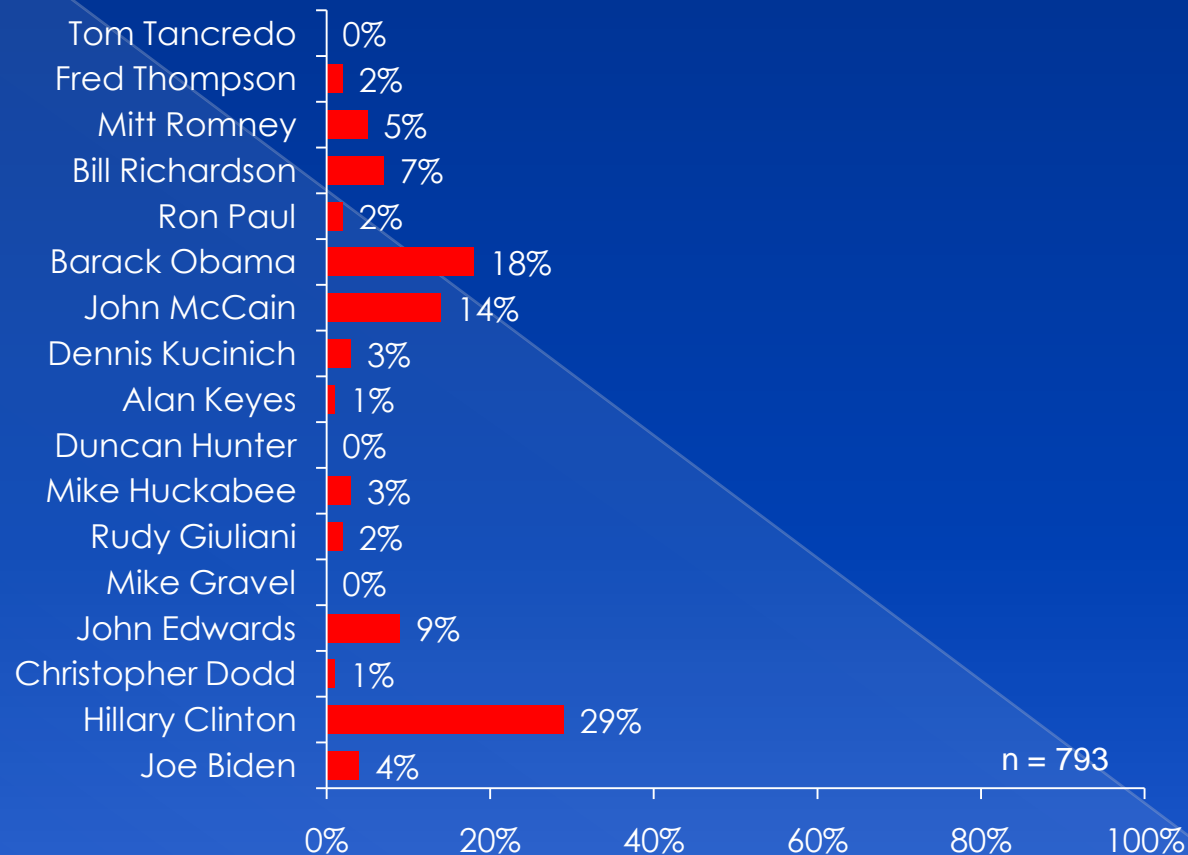
Are We Ready For:

- ◉ We believe the US is most ready* for a woman president; least ready for a Mormon president.
- ◉ The US is almost twice as ready* for a woman president (53%) than it is for an African American president (29%)

*Culturally, attitudinally, politically, etc.

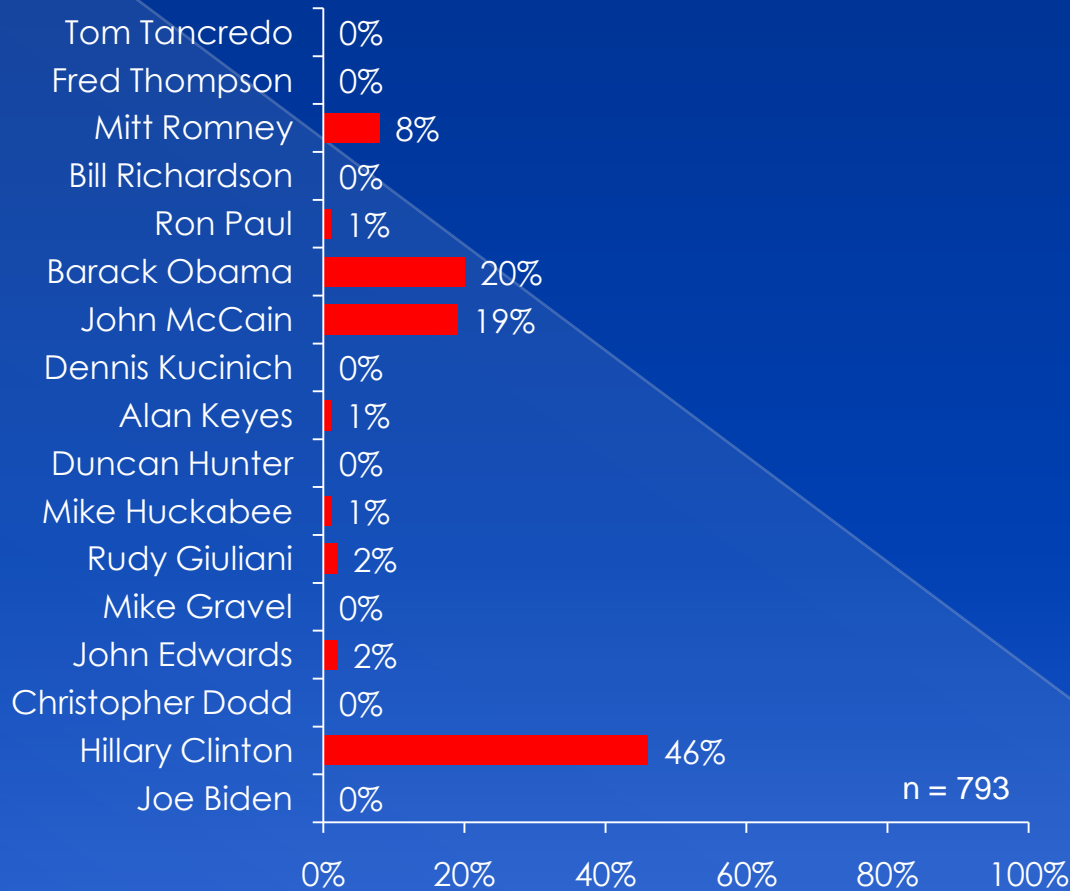
Source: TallahasseeVoices

Best Qualified Presidential Candidate*



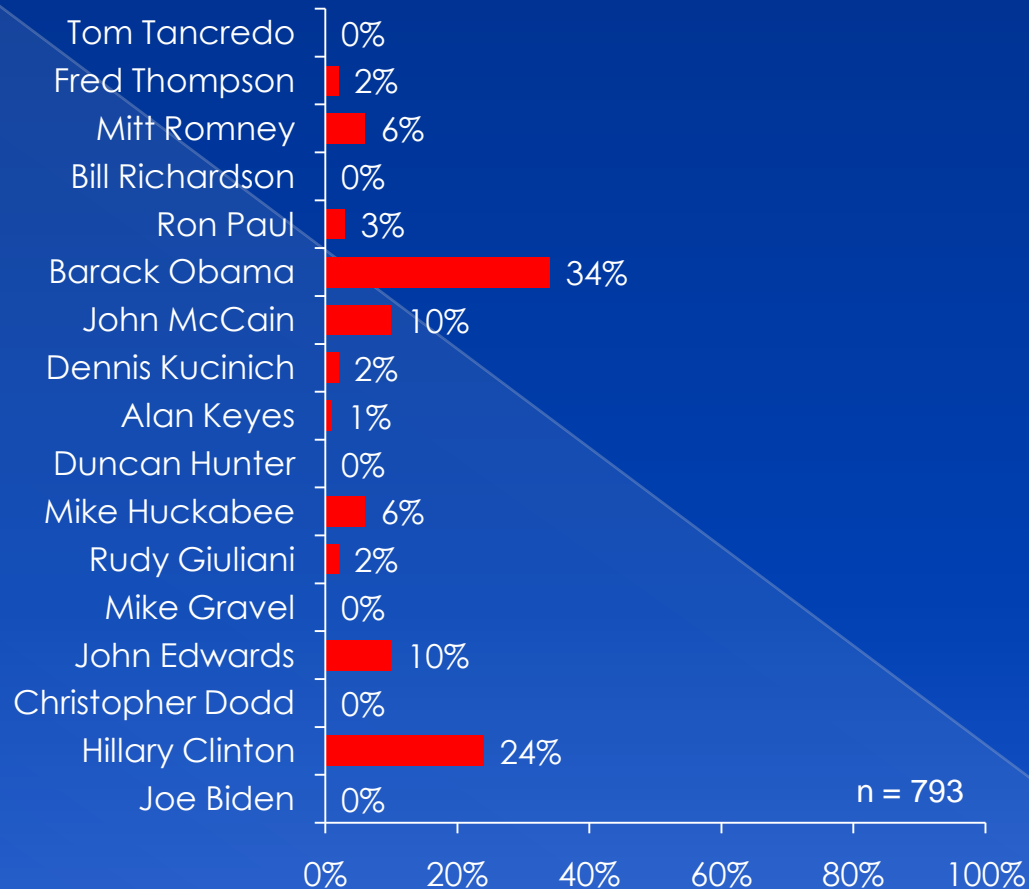
*Which presidential candidate do you think is **best qualified** to be president of the United States?

Bet for Presidential Candidates*



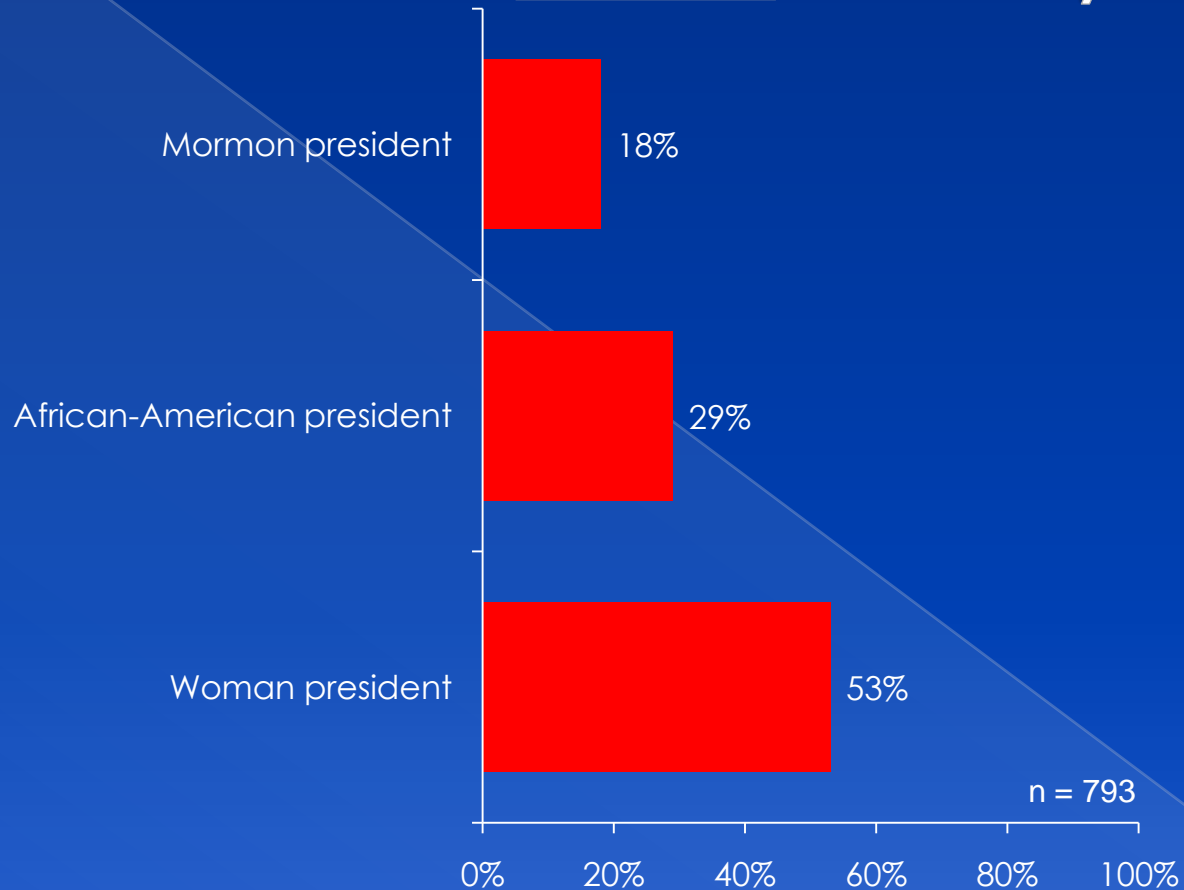
*If you were betting money on it, which candidate do you believe will be our next president?

Today's Presidential Vote*



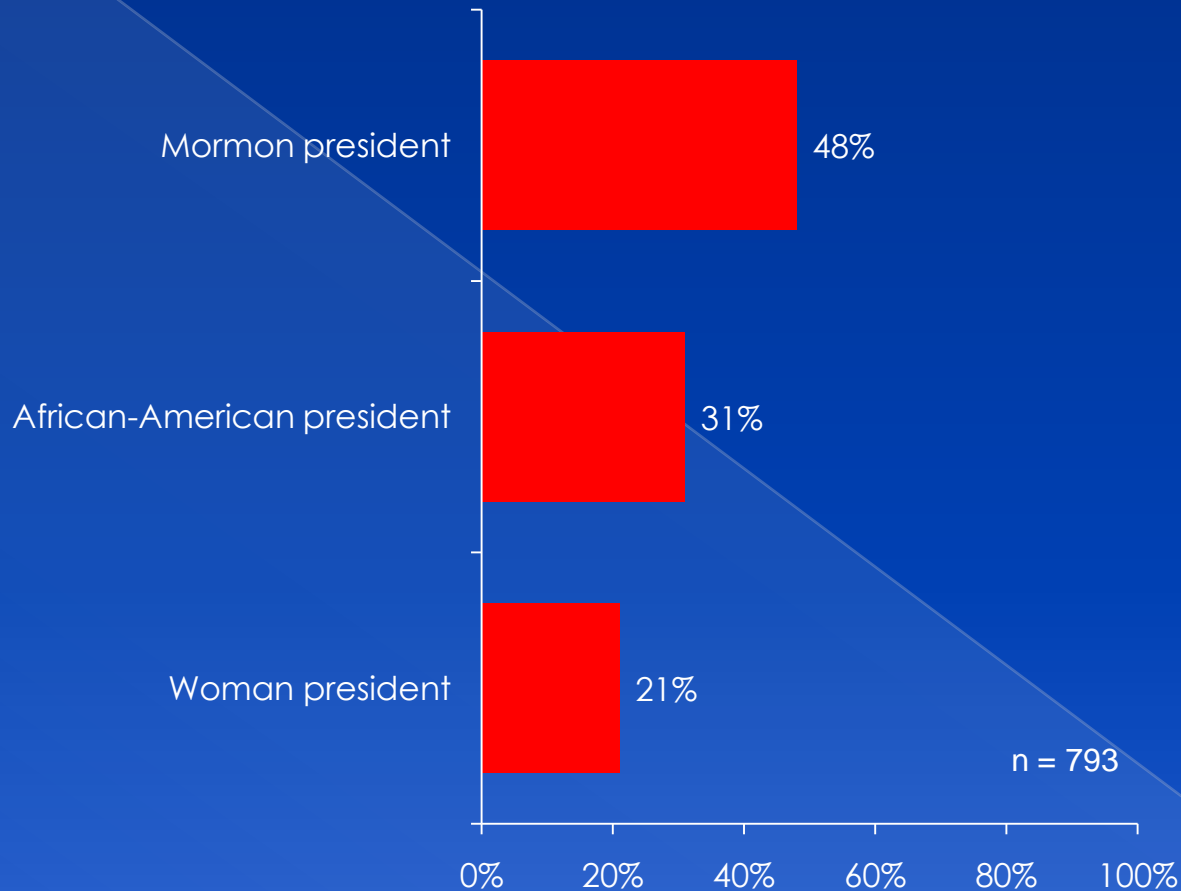
*If the election were held today, for which candidate would you vote?

The U.S. is most ready for:



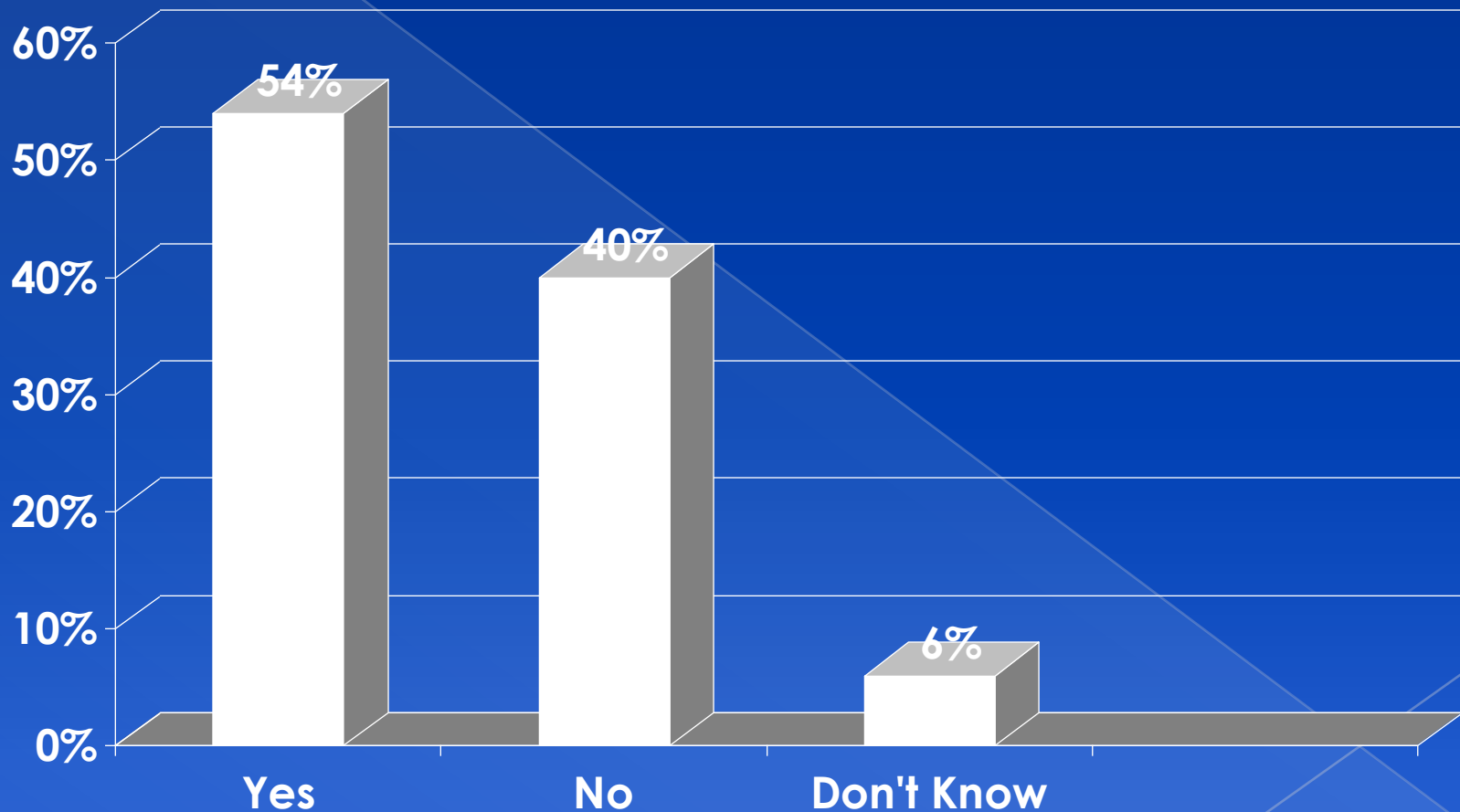
Which of the following is the US **most** ready (considering cultural values, politics, personal values, and biases) to vote into office?

The U.S. is least ready for:



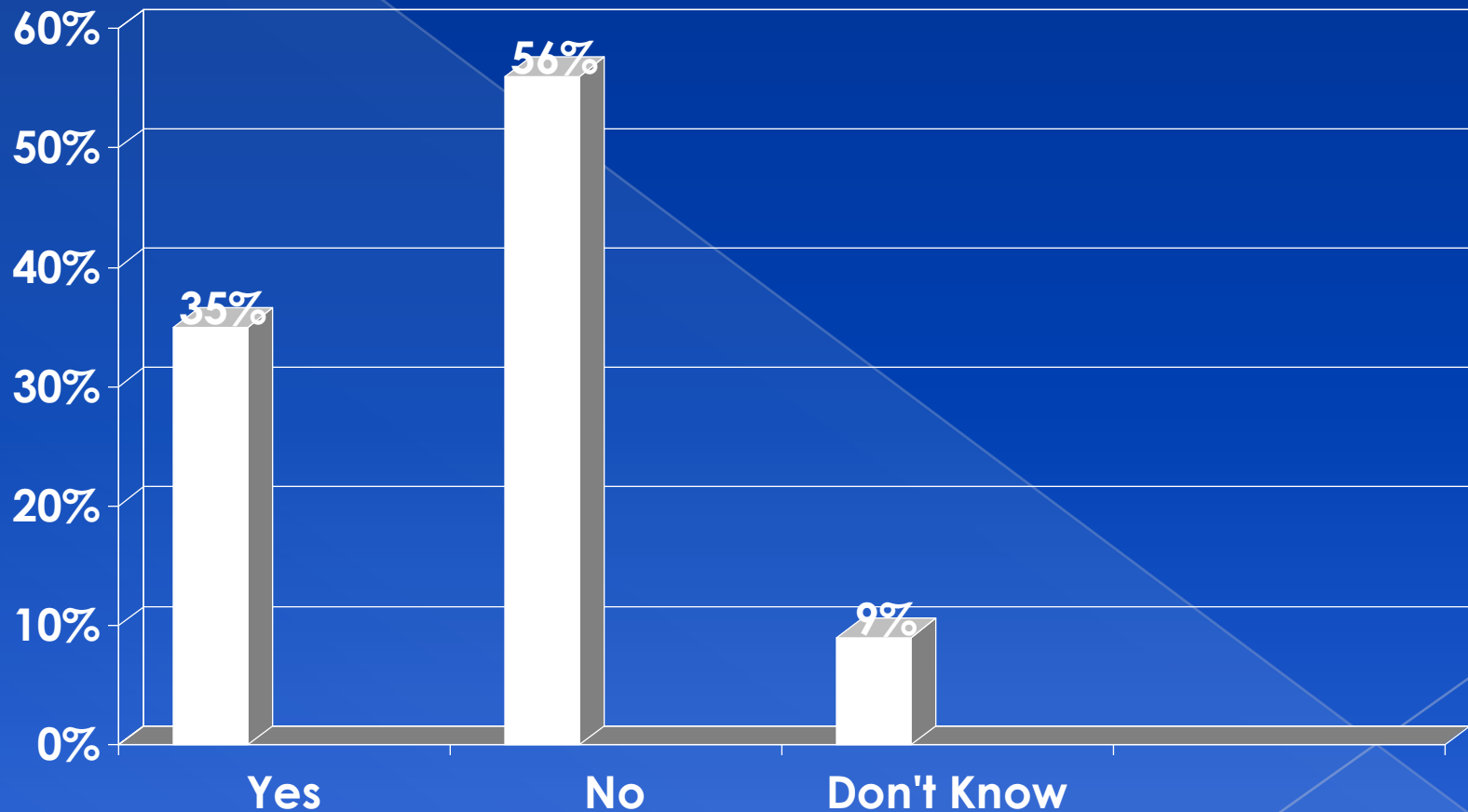
Which of the following is the US **least** ready (considering cultural values, politics, personal values, and biases) to vote into office?

Is it important to you that the president of the US strongly believes in God?



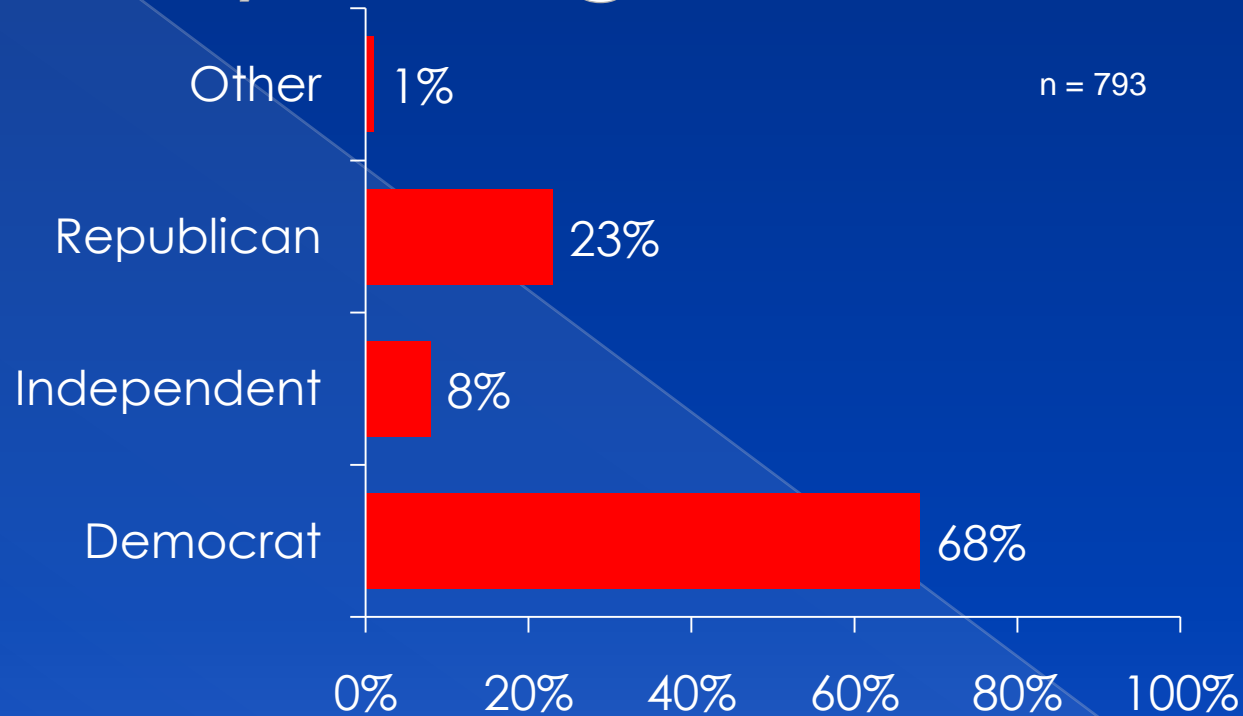
Source: TallahasseeVoices

Is it important to you that the president of the US strongly believes in evolution?



Source: TallahasseeVoices

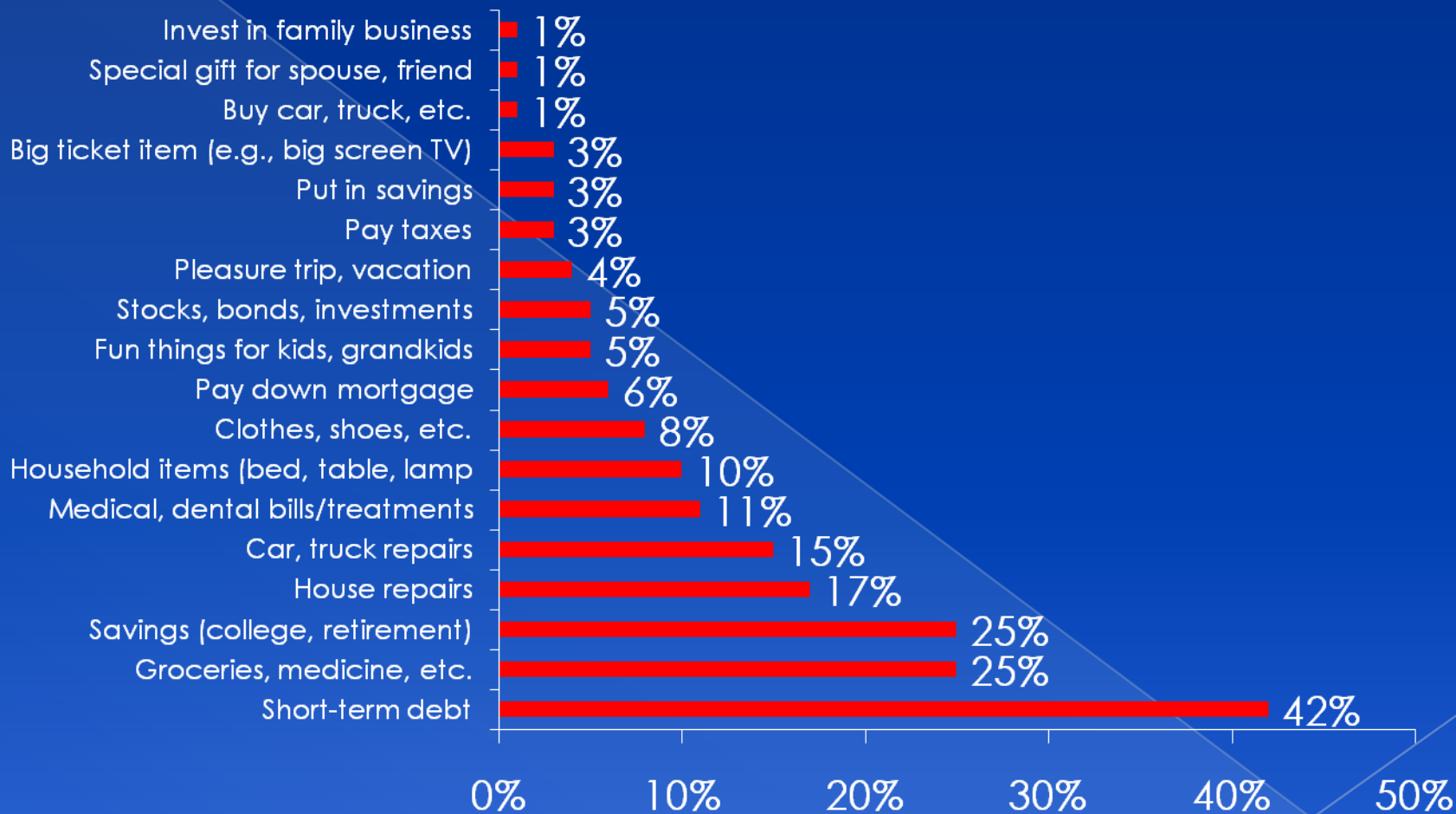
Are you registered as a:



Spending Tax Rebates

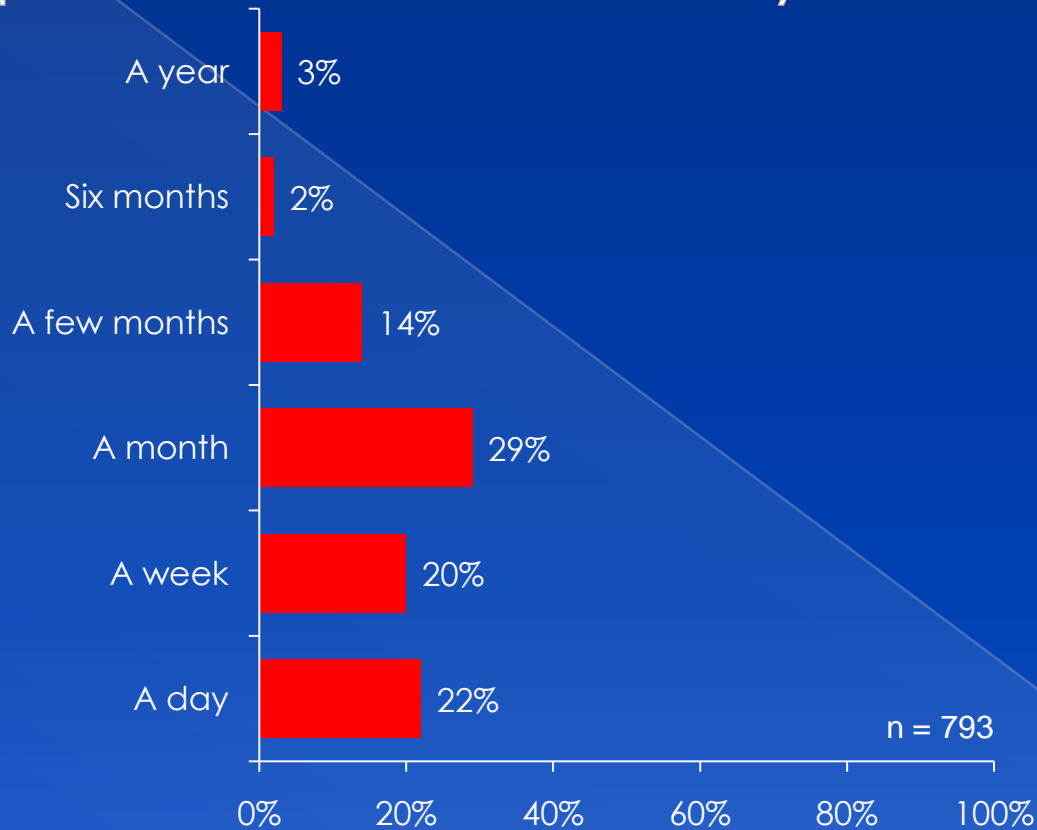
- ◎ 85% of local residents will spend their tax rebates in a few months
- ◎ Cleaning up charge card debt, school loans, and auto loans is the number one use
- ◎ Paying for everyday items such as groceries, medicine, etc. is tied for #2 with saving for college, retirement, etc.

Use of Tax Rebate*



President Bush & Congress are considering an \$800 per taxpayer rebate to stimulate the economy. How will you spend this money? (NOTE: The proposed rebate changed to \$600 per taxpayer after this survey was released.)

How long do you think it will take you to spend the extra money?



*10% - Don't know