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 Washington, DC 20009
 (202) 234-5570

Interviews: 504 voters
 Dates: April 20-22, 2011

FINAL

Study #10237
 DCFPI Survey
 April 2011

46 Male
 54 Female
[109]

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

(ASK TO SPEAK WITH PERSON ON QUOTA SHEET. ONLY THIS PERSON IS ELIGIBLE TO BE INTERVIEWED.)
 I'm calling from Hart Research, a national public opinion polling firm. We are conducting a survey here in Washington, D.C. and we'd really appreciate the chance to get your opinions on a few questions. This survey is being conducted for research purposes only, and we promise that your name and individual opinions will be kept confidential.

1a. First, does anyone in this household work for a radio station, a television station, a newspaper, an advertising agency, a market research firm, or as an active political campaign worker?

No	100	CONTINUE	[138]
Yes	-	TERMINATE	
Not sure	-		

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

Yes, registered	100	CONTINUE	[139]
No, not registered	-	TERMINATE	
Not sure	-		

1c. Are you registered as a Democrat, a Republican, or something else?

Democrat	80	[140]
Republican	7	
Something else	11	
Not sure	2	

2. What are the chances that you will be voting in the next election for president and citywide offices in November of 2012—are you one-hundred-percent certain to vote in that election, quite likely to vote in that election, just somewhat likely to vote in that election, or not likely to vote in that election?

100% certain to vote	89		[141]
Quite likely to vote	10	CONTINUE	
Just somewhat likely to vote	1		
Not likely to vote	-	TERMINATE	
Not sure	-		

3. Do you think things in the District of Columbia are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel that things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

	<u>4/11</u>	<u>1/10¹</u>	<u>1/08¹</u>	<u>7/06¹</u>	<u>5/02¹</u>	<u>2/00¹</u>	
Right direction	35	52	56	42	54	69	[146]
Wrong track.....	41	29	31	46	33	22	
Neither (VOL).....	10	11	8	7	8	6	
No opinion.....	14	8	5	5	5	3	
	<u>8/98¹</u>	<u>5/98¹</u>	<u>5/97¹</u>	<u>5/96¹</u>	<u>2/96¹</u>	<u>3/95¹</u>	
	47	31	20	14	16	15	
	46	58	71	78	80	80	
	NA	4	6	NA	NA	NA	
	7	6	2	2	4	5	

¹Comparative data comes from surveys conducted by the Washington Post among district adults.

4. Now I'm going to list some issues facing the District of Columbia. Please tell me which TWO of these issues you are most concerned about. **(IF MORE THAN TWO, ASK:)** Well, if you had to choose, which TWO issues cause you the MOST concern?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

Education	51	[150-151]
Crime and public safety.....	32	>
Jobs and the economy	27	
Social services, such as those for low-income residents and those with disabilities	20	
Affordable housing	19	
Government spending and the budget	14	
Health care.....	13	
Taxes	11	
Other (VOL).....	1	
None (VOL).....	-	
Not sure.....	-	

5. Which do you think should be a higher priority for D.C. government right now --(A) holding down taxes or (B) maintaining public services? **(IF RESPONDENT MAKES A CHOICE, ASK:)** And do you feel that (holding down taxes/maintaining public services) should be much more of a priority or somewhat more of a priority?

Holding Down Taxes	23	[152-153]
Much more of a priority.....	13	
Somewhat more of a priority.....	10	
Maintaining Public Services	70	
Somewhat more of a priority.....	35	
Much more of a priority.....	35	
Not sure.....	7	

6. How much do you trust D.C. government to use your tax money well and deliver quality public services--a great deal, a fair amount, just a little, or not at all?

Trust a great deal	7	[154]
Trust a fair amount	37	
Trust just a little	36	
Do not trust at all	18	
Not sure.....	2	

7. From what you have read and heard, over the next year, will the District's budget...

Have a large surplus.....	2	[155]
Have a small surplus	6	
Be pretty much balanced.....	12	
Have a small shortfall	27	
Have a large shortfall.....	38	
Not sure.....	15	
Total Surplus.....	8	
Total Shortfall	65	

8. Currently, the District of Columbia faces a budget shortfall of three hundred twenty-two million dollars. Which one of the following approaches would you like the leaders of D.C. government to take in dealing with the budget shortfall? **(IF MORE THAN ONE, ASK:)** Well, which ONE approach would you most like D.C. government to take?

Rely entirely on spending cuts, with no tax increases	14	[156]
Rely mainly on spending cuts, with some tax increases	23	
Have an even balance of spending cuts and tax increases ...	42	
Rely mainly on tax increases, with some spending cuts	11	
Rely entirely on tax increases, with no spending cuts	4	
Not sure	6	
Total Spending Cuts	37	
Total Tax Increases	15	

9. As I mentioned earlier, the District has an estimated three-hundred-twenty-two-million-dollar budget deficit. I'm going to mention some areas where spending could be reduced to deal with the budget deficit, and for each one, please tell me whether you feel it is totally acceptable, somewhat acceptable, somewhat unacceptable, or totally unacceptable to make reductions in spending in this area.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY TOTALLY OR SOMEWHAT ACCEPTABLE

	<u>Totally Acceptable</u>	<u>Somewhat Acceptable</u>	<u>Somewhat Unacceptable</u>	<u>Totally Unacceptable</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	
Economic development.....	14	49	18	14	5	[178]
Road and transportation projects, including the streetcar.....	20	41	19	17	3	[177]
Affordable housing	11	29	23	35	2	[174]
Homeless services.....	7	23	23	45	2	[173]
Income assistance for needy families with children	10	19	24	46	1	[176]
Police and public safety	10	19	18	52	1	[172]
Services for residents with disabilities.....	9	17	24	48	2	[175]
Education.....	9	14	14	61	2	[171]

Moving along. . .

10. Mayor Gray recently announced a proposal to deal with the budget shortfall. How much would you say you have heard or read about Mayor Gray's proposed budget over the past few weeks—a great deal, some but not a lot, not very much, or nothing at all?

A great deal	8	[179]
Some but not a lot	29	
Not very much	31	
Nothing at all.....	31	
Not sure.....	1	

11. Based on what you have heard, do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this proposal?

Total Favor	25		
Strongly favor.....	3		[180]
Somewhat favor.....	22	CONTINUE	
Total Oppose	24		
Somewhat oppose.....	17		
Strongly oppose.....	7		
-----	-----		
Not sure.....	51	Skip to Q.15	

12. As you know, Mayor Gray recently announced a budget proposal to deal with the three-hundred-twenty-two-million-dollar budget shortfall. This proposal would increase taxes and fees by approximately one hundred twenty-seven million dollars and reduce spending by approximately one hundred eighty-seven million dollars. Tax increases would include an increase of about one-half of one percent in the income tax rate for taxpayers earning more than two hundred thousand dollars a year and higher taxes on those who use parking garages. Spending cuts include reducing spending by one hundred thirty million dollars for social programs, including homeless services, health care, and housing. Would you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this budget proposal?

Total Favor	46	
Strongly favor.....	8	[215]
Somewhat favor.....	38	
Total Oppose	47	
Somewhat oppose.....	25	
Strongly oppose.....	22	
Not sure.....	7	

13. Thinking about Mayor Gray's budget, do you think it.?

Is too focused on reducing services .	35	[216]
Is too focused on raising taxes.....	20	
Strikes the right balance.....	31	
Not sure.....	14	

14. Now I'd like to list some specific components of Mayor Gray's budget plan. For each one, please tell me whether you feel it is totally acceptable, mostly acceptable, mostly unacceptable, or totally unacceptable as a way to deal with the budget deficit.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY TOTALLY OR SOMEWHAT ACCEPTABLE

	<u>Totally Acceptable</u>	<u>Somewhat Acceptable</u>	<u>Somewhat Unacceptable</u>	<u>Totally Unacceptable</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	
Require corporations that do business in the District as well as in other states to fully report income earned in the District when they file taxes.....	78	9	3	5	5	[221]
Increase the income tax rate on residents earning more than two hundred thousand dollars so that a person with an income of three hundred thousand dollars would pay an additional four hundred dollars per year.....	66	19	5	9	1	[218]
Increase the income tax rate on people with incomes of more than two hundred thousand dollars from eight point five percent to eight point nine percent.....	63	22	5	8	2	[217]
Increase the tax paid by those who use parking garages from twelve percent to eighteen percent.....	40	30	10	15	5	[219]
Increase the fare for the Circulator bus from one dollar to two dollars.....	34	26	14	22	4	[220]

Q14. continued	Totally Acceptable	Somewhat Acceptable	Somewhat Unacceptable	Totally Unacceptable	Not Sure	
Reduce funding that helps build affordable housing.....	12	26	23	36	3	[226]
Reduce funding for public safety by eighteen million dollars.....	7	17	22	48	6	[225]
Reduce funding for education by eighteen million dollars.....	4	13	15	64	4	[223]
Reduce funding for mental health services, including services for children, by three point one million dollars.....	4	11	24	57	4	[224]
Eliminate financial assistance for residents with disabilities who cannot work and are waiting to be covered by Social Security	4	9	25	59	3	[222]

15. Now I am going to list some phrases that people might use to describe Mayor Gray's budget. For each phrase, please tell me whether you think it describes the budget very well, fairly well, just somewhat well, or not well at all. **

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY DESCRIBES VERY OR FAIRLY WELL

	Describes Very Well	Describes Fairly Well	Describes Just Somewhat Well	Does Not Describe Well At All	Not Sure	
Puts too much of a burden on those most in need of help.....	28	20	24	20	8	[229]
Goes too far in cutting programs	28	16	27	21	8	[230]
Has the right priorities.....	11	25	30	23	11	[227]
Is fair, asks for shared sacrifice	10	26	29	23	12	[228]
Goes too far in raising taxes	18	12	22	41	7	[231]
Will make it harder for the city to attract businesses that create jobs.....	13	12	24	35	16	[232]

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS B/D).

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

F1a/b. Are you currently employed? (IF "NO," ASK:) Are you a student, a homemaker, retired, or unemployed and looking for work? (IF "CURRENTLY EMPLOYED." ASK:) What type of work do you do?

Currently Employed		
Professional/manager.....	24	[251-258]
White-collar worker.....	28	
Blue-collar worker.....	7	
Not Currently Employed		
Student.....	3	
Homemaker.....	4	
Retired.....	16	
Unemployed, looking for work	9	
Volunteer (VOL)	-	
Disabled (VOL).....	5	
Not sure/refused.....	4	

F2. And how long have you lived in Washington, D.C.?

Less than four years	4	[259]
Four years to less than six years	4	
Six years to less than ten years	8	
Ten years to less than twenty years.....	21	
Twenty years or more	58	
Not sure	5	

F3. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

Grade school	2	[260-261]
Some high school	4	
High school graduate.....	16	
Some college, no degree.....	10	
Vocational training, 2-year college.....	8	
4-year college/bachelor's degree.....	27	
Some postgraduate work, no degree.....	2	
2-3 years' postgraduate work/master's degree.....	19	
Doctoral/law degree.....	8	
Not sure/refused.....	4	

F4. Do you own or rent the place where you live?

Own	55	[262]
Rent.....	34	
Other (VOL).....	6	
Not sure/refused.....	5	

F5. Do you happen to have any children in the D.C. public school system, or not?

Yes, have children in D.C. public school.....	13	[263]
No, do not have children in D.C. public school.....	83	
Not sure/refused	4	

F6. For statistical purposes only, would you please tell me whether your total household income for last year was more than seventy-five thousand dollars or less than seventy-five thousand dollars?

(IF "MORE THAN \$75,000," ASK:) Would you say that your household income was more than one hundred thousand or less than one hundred thousand? **(IF "MORE THAN \$100,000," ASK:)** Would you say that your household income was more than two hundred thousand dollars or less than two hundred thousand dollars?

(IF "LESS THAN \$75,000," ASK:) Would you say that your household income was more than fifty thousand or less than fifty thousand? **(IF "LESS THAN \$50,000," ASK:)** Would you say that your household income was more than twenty-five thousand dollars or less than twenty-five thousand dollars?

More than \$200,000	11	[264]
\$100,000 to \$200,000.....	15	
\$75,000 to \$100,000.....	11	
\$50,000 to \$75,000.....	16	
\$25,000 to \$50,000.....	18	
Less than \$25,000	13	
Not sure/refused.....	16	

F7. 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	7	[142-143]
25-29	12	
30-34	10	
35-39	13	
40-44	10	
45-49	9	
50-54	8	
55-59	6	
60-64	12	
65-69	4	
70-74	3	
75 and over	6	
Refused	-	

F8/9. To ensure that we have a statistically representative sample, would you please tell me whether you come from a Hispanic or Spanish-speaking ethnic background? (IF "NOT HISPANIC," ASK:) And what is your race—white, black or African American, Asian, or something else?

Hispanic.....	3	[144-145]
White	38	
Black.....	54	
Asian	2	
Other	2	
Not sure/refused	1	