



Competing Visions: Four Budget Proposals for 2014

How proposals from President Obama, Rep. Paul Ryan, Sen. Patty Murray, and the House Progressive Caucus stack up against what Americans say they want.

More information and sources at: nationalpriorities.org/competingvisions2014

	WHAT AMERICANS WANT	PRESIDENT OBAMA	REP. PAUL RYAN & HOUSE BUDGET COMM.	SEN. PATTY MURRAY & SENATE BUDGET COMM.	CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS
JOB CREATION	95% say restoring the job market is a top priority.	Includes \$166 billion for job creation over 10 years.	No proposed changes.	Includes \$100 billion in near-term spending on job creation.	Includes \$4.2 trillion for job creation over 10 years.
MEDICARE	88% say it is very important to preserve the long-term stability of Medicare.	Saves \$392 billion over 10 years in lower prescription drug costs and higher premiums for the wealthy.	Converts program to a lump sum payout for elders to buy private insurance in 2024.	Saves \$275 billion over 10 years by accelerating health care reforms.	Saves \$157 billion over 10 years by lower prescription drug prices.
SOCIAL SECURITY	88% say it is very important to preserve the long-term stability of Social Security.	Cuts \$230 billion over 10 years by changing the rate of cost-of-living adjustments ("chained CPI").	Does not specify. Requires the president and Congress to submit a long-term plan.	No proposed changes.	No proposed changes.
TAX LOOPHOLES	80% want to close corporate loopholes. 66% want to close loopholes for wealthy taxpayers.	Limits tax deductions for the top 2% of earners. Eliminates tax breaks for oil and gas companies.	Plans to close tax loopholes but does not specify which ones.	Plans to close tax loopholes totaling \$975 billion in new revenue, but does not specify which ones.	Closes corporate loopholes for oil, gas, & coal companies; stock options; private jets; deductions for vacation homes and yachts.
SNAP (FOOD STAMPS)	75% oppose cuts to SNAP.	No proposed changes.	Makes deep cuts to SNAP and converts the program to a block grant administered by states.	No proposed changes.	Includes \$312 billion in new funding over 10 years for income security programs.
EDUCATION	73% favor making college affordable. 83% oppose cuts to K-12 education.	Increases funding for Pell Grants for college students. Expands funding for pre-K education.	Freezes Pell Grants for 10 years and reduces federal financial aid. Cuts education spending.	Calls for making college affordable, but does not specify how.	Increases funding and provides \$25 billion over 10 years to hire teachers & modernize schools.
CORPORATE TAXES	64% favor higher corporate taxes. 73% oppose no taxation on overseas profits.	Proposes lowering corporate taxes and closing tax loopholes.	Reduces corporate tax rate from 35% to 25%; releases overseas profits from taxation.	Prevents corporations from avoiding taxation through overseas profits.	Creates a "Wall Street Sales Tax" on corporate financial transactions.
INDIVIDUAL TAXES	70% want a simpler tax code with lower rates. 66% want higher rates for the wealthy.	Limits deductions for top 2% of earners. Imposes minimum tax rate on millionaires.	Lowers tax rates for wealthiest taxpayers by creating just two tax brackets of 10% and 25%.	Limits deductions for the top 2% of earners.	Ends tax cuts for top 2%; raises taxes on millionaires; ends low tax rates on investment income.
WAR FUNDING	60% favor removing troops from Afghanistan as soon as possible.	Does not specify.	Reduces funding to \$47 billion in 2014, then maintains funding at \$37 billion for 10 years.	Provides \$100 billion for 2013, then reduces to \$50 billion in 2014 and \$25 billion in 2015.	Ends war funding in 2015.
MILITARY FUNDING	58% want major reductions in military spending	Cuts Dept. of Defense funding by 1.6% to \$526.6 billion in 2014.	Prevents sequestration cuts to the military budget.	Reduces military spending by \$240 billion over 10 years.	Reduces military spending by \$897 billion over 10 years.
MEDICAID	52% support the expansion of Medicaid. 46% oppose any cuts to Medicaid.	No proposed changes. Maintains program expansion under Obamacare.	Makes deep cuts to Medicaid and converts the program to a block grant run by states.	No proposed changes. Maintains expansion under Obamacare.	Maintains expansion under Obamacare; provides 2 years of supplemental grants.