



# 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](http://nationalpriorities.org/competingvisions2014)

	WHAT AMERICANS WANT	PRESIDENT OBAMA	REP. PAUL RYAN & HOUSE BUDGET COMM.	SEN. PATTY MURRAY & SENATE BUDGET COMM.	CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS
<b>JOB CREATION</b>	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.
<b>MEDICARE</b>	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.
<b>SOCIAL SECURITY</b>	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.
<b>TAX LOOPHOLES</b>	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.
<b>SNAP (FOOD STAMPS)</b>	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.
<b>EDUCATION</b>	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.
<b>CORPORATE TAXES</b>	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.
<b>INDIVIDUAL TAXES</b>	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.
<b>WAR FUNDING</b>	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.
<b>MILITARY FUNDING</b>	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.
<b>MEDICAID</b>	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.