"Financing" the campaign

Data on SuperPAC donors show firms, individuals on Wall Street have made the biggest bets in the post-Citizen's United fund-raising game, giving more than $21 million, most of it to Romney

Smaller version of the chart below, to scale

By Andy Matarrese | Medill News Service

Data from the Center for Responsive Politics and the Federal Election Commission offer an inside look into the background of the people and corporations pumping thousands, and sometimes millions, of dollars into Mitt Romney and Barack Obama's SuperPACs, and might offer a glimpse as to who thinks they have the most to gain – or lose – come November.

Disclosure data for the two main SuperPACs, the pro-Obama "Priorities USA Action" and the pro-Romney "Restore our Future" show the plurality of all corporate and individual donations – 34 percent – come from individuals or organizations affiliated with the securities and investments sector. The real estate and home development sector follows at a distant second is with 14 percent. The chart below shows the raw comparison of donations by sector, and, since the data is so lopsided toward investing, at left there's a to-scale version that can actually fit on the page.

Most of that investor money is going to Romney, who has received more than $21 million in support. The total spoils on Obama's side are meager by comparison, which has made almost half of that. As for Obama, 31 percent of his SuperPAC's money comes from the entertainment industry, and 26 percent comes from various unions.

Donor breakdown by sector

$62.5 million donated to Romney and Obama's SuperPACs

Business Services	$2,923,260
Unions	$2,850,000
Lodging/Tourism	$2,232,500
Contractors/Construction	$2,104,500
Chemical & Related Manufacturing	$1,970,000
Other Manufacturing & Dist.	$1,737,500
Printing & Publishing	$1,515,700
Retired	$1,314,325
Automotive	$900,000
Pharmaceuticals/Health Products	$810,950
Lawyers/Law Firms	$800,851
Mining	$750,000

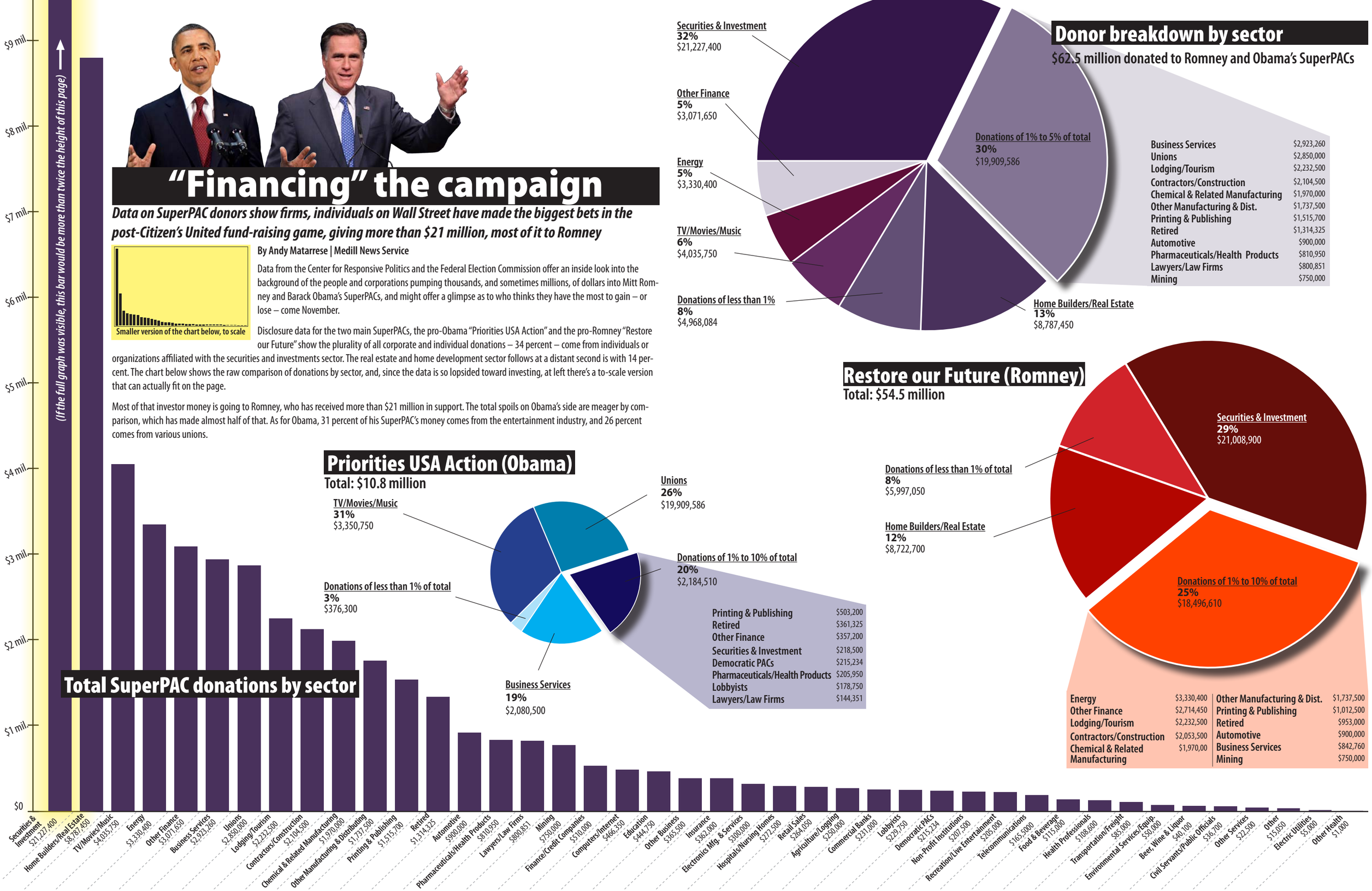
Restore our Future (Romney)

Total: $54.5 million

Energy	$3,330,400	Other Manufacturing & Dist.	$1,737,500
Other Finance	$2,714,450	Printing & Publishing	$1,012,500
Lodging/Tourism	$2,232,500	Retired	$953,000
Contractors/Construction	$2,053,500	Automotive	$900,000
Chemical & Related Manufacturing	$1,970,00	Business Services	$842,760
		Mining	$750,000

Priorities USA Action (Obama)

Total: $10.8 million

Printing & Publishing	$503,200
Retired	$361,325
Other Finance	$357,200
Securities & Investment	$218,500
Democratic PACs	$215,234
Pharmaceuticals/Health Products	$205,950
Lobbyists	$178,750
Lawyers/Law Firms	$144,351

Total SuperPAC donations by sector