

GALLUP NEWS SERVICE

GALLUP POLL SOCIAL SERIES: ECONOMY AND PERSONAL FINANCE

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

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Results are based on telephone interviews conducted April 7-11, 2011 with a random sample of –1,077—adults, aged 18+, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the margin of error is ±4 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample includes a minimum quota of 400 cell phone respondents and 600 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline numbers are chosen at random among listed telephone numbers, cell phone numbers are selected using random-digit dial methods. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, and phone status (cell phone only/landline only/both, having an unlisted landline number, and being cell phone mostly). Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2010 Current Population Survey figures for the age 18+ non-institutionalized population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

4. What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today? [OPEN-ENDED]

	Apr 7-10, 2011	Mar 3-6, 2011	Feb 2-5, 2011	Jan 7-9, 2011	Dec 10-12, 2010	Nov 4-7, 2010	Oct 7-10, 2010
<i>Recent Trend:</i>							
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS (NET)	66	72	70	68	66	69	69
Economy in general	26	28	29	26	30	31	35
Unemployment/jobs	19	26	35	29	24	33	28
Federal budget deficit/federal debt	17	13	11	12	10	9	5
Lack of money	5	4	4	4	3	3	4
Fuel/Oil Prices	5	6	1	3	1	*	*
High cost of living/inflation	2	3	2	1	1	1	1
Taxes	1	1	2	2	4	2	2
Corporate corruption	*	1	1	1	*	1	1
Wage issues	*	*	1	*	*	*	--
Gap between rich and poor	*	1	1	1	1	1	1
Recession	*	*	1	*	1	*	1
Foreign trade/trade deficit	*	*	*	*	*	1	*
NON-ECONOMIC PROBLEMS (NET)	50	47	56	50	52	51	46
Dissatisfaction with government/Congress/politicians;	13	11	12	11	13	14	11
Poor leadership; corruption; abuse of power							
Poor health care/ hospitals; high cost of health care	9	9	16	13	8	15	10
Education/poor education/access to education	6	4	6	3	6	5	5
Wars/War (non-specific)/Fear of war	6	5	4	5	5	3	5
Ethics/moral/religious/family decline; dishonesty	4	3	4	3	5	2	3
Immigration/illegal aliens	4	2	4	6	4	4	4
Foreign aid/focus overseas	3	2	3	2	1	1	1
Environment/ pollution	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Poverty/ hunger/ homelessness	2	1	2	2	3	2	2
Lack of respect for each other	1	1	4	2	2	3	2
International issues/ problems	1	1	2	*	1	1	1
Energy/Lack of energy sources	1	1	*	1	*	*	1
Situation/War in Afghanistan	1	*	1	1	*	1	1
Care for the elderly/Medicare	1	1	1	1	*	*	1
Welfare	1	1	1	1	*	1	*
Situation/War in Iraq	1	1	1	*	1	1	1
National security	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lack of military defense	1	1	1	*	1	*	1
Abortion	1	*	*	*	*	1	1
Terrorism	1	2	2	2	2	1	2
Social Security	1	1	1	*	1	1	1
Crime/violence	1	1	1	1	*	*	1
Natural disaster response/Relief efforts	*	--	--	--	--	*	--
Judicial system/courts/laws	*	1	1	1	1	2	2
Race relations/ racism	*	1	*	1	*	1	*
Drugs	*	1	*	*	1	1	*
War/conflict between Middle East nations	*	1	1	*	*	--	*
Unifying the country	*	1	1	*	2	*	*
Guns/gun control	*	*	*	*	*	1	*
Children's behavior/way they are raised	*	*	--	1	*	*	--
Gay rights issues	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
The media	*	--	*	--	--	*	*
Elections/Election reform	*	--	*	*	--	1	*
Advancement of Computers/Technology	*	*	1	*	*	--	*
Other non-economic	2	4	3	3	3	3	2
No opinion	3	1	2	1	1	2	3
Total	146%	146%	168%	147%	143%	155%	144%

