

# USA TODAY/GALLUP POLL

## AUGUST WAVE 1

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

Timberline: 927538  
G: 450  
Princeton Job #: 10-08-012

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August 27-30, 2010

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**Results are based on telephone interviews conducted August 27-30, 2010 with a random sample of -1,021— adults, aged 18+, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit dial sampling.**

**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.**

**For results based on the sample of -519—national adults in Form A and -502—national adults in Form B, the maximum margins of sampling error are ±5 percentage points.**

**For results based on the sample of -928-- registered voters, the maximum margin of sampling error is ±4 percentage points.**

**Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones (for respondents with a landline telephone) and cellular phones (for respondents who are cell phone only). Each sample includes a minimum quota of 150 cell phone only respondents and 850 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.**

**Samples are weighted on the basis of gender, age, race, education, region and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2009 Current Population Survey figures for the age 18+ non-institutionalized population living in continental 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.**

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**10. How important will each of the following issues be to your vote for Congress this year -- will it be -- extremely important, very important, moderately important, or not that important? How about -- [RANDOM ORDER]?**

2010 Aug 27-30 (sorted by "extremely important")	Extremely important	Extremely/Very important
	%	%
The economy	62	93
Jobs	60	92
Corruption in government	51	81
Federal spending	51	81
Health care	49	79
Terrorism	47	75
Immigration	38	65
The situation in Afghanistan	35	68
The environment	28	60

Full Trends: Issue Importance

A. Corruption in Government

	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Not that important	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	51	30	14	4	1
2006 Oct 6-8	48	38	11	2	1
2006 Jun 23-25	49	36	12	3	1
2006 Jan 6-8	43	38	15	3	1
2005 Oct 21-23	45	36	15	3	1

B. The economy

	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Not that important	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	62	31	6	1	*
2010 Mar 26-28	57	36	5	2	--
2006 Oct 6-8	40	42	16	2	*
2006 Jun 23-25	45	40	13	2	1
2006 Jan 6-8	38	45	14	1	1
2005 Oct 21-23	43	41	15	1	*
2002 Sep 20-22 ^	37	44	17	2	*
2002 Aug 19-21 ^	34	44	17	3	2

^ WORDING: Economic conditions

C. Jobs

	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Not that important	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	60	32	6	1	*

For comparison: Unemployment

	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Not that important	No opinion
2010 Mar 26-28	46	40	10	3	1
2002 Sep 20-22 ^	28	37	29	5	1

^ Asked of a half sample.

D. Health care

	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Not that important	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	49	30	15	5	1
2010 Mar 26-28	48	34	13	5	*
2006 Oct 6-8	43	37	15	4	1
2006 Jun 23-25	44	36	17	3	*
2006 Jan 6-8	43	39	15	2	1
2005 Oct 21-23	42	37	18	3	*
2002 Sep 20-22 ^	35	39	22	4	*

^ Asked of a half sample.

E. Immigration

	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Not that important	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	38	27	23	11	1
2006 Oct 6-8	33	32	23	11	1
2006 Jun 23-25	33	32	23	11	1
2006 Jan 6-8	26	35	29	9	1

F. The situation in Afghanistan

	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Not that important	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	35	33	24	6	2
2010 Mar 26-28	32	37	23	6	1

Issue importance to Congressional vote results continued on the next page

Q.10 (IMPORTANCE OF ISSUES TO CONGRESSIONAL VOTE) CONTINUED

G. Terrorism

	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Not that important	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	47	28	17	6	1
2010 Mar 26-28	40	36	19	5	*
2006 Oct 6-8	48	36	12	4	1
2006 Jun 23-25	47	34	15	4	*
2006 Jan 6-8	45	35	16	3	1
2005 Oct 21-23	45	32	19	4	*
2002 Sep 20-22 ^	47	36	13	3	1

^ Asked of a half sample.

H. The environment

	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Not that important	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	28	32	29	12	*
2010 Mar 26-28 †	22	24	29	23	1
2002 Sep 20-22 ^	28	33	30	9	*

^ Asked of a half sample.

† WORDING: The environment, including global warming

I. Federal spending

	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Not that important	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	51	30	15	3	1

11. Do you think the Republicans in Congress or the Democrats in Congress would do a better job of dealing with each of the following issues and problems? How about -- [RANDOM ORDER]?

2010 Aug 27-30 (sorted by "advantage")	Republicans	Democrats	Advantage
	%	%	
Terrorism	55	31	R, +24
Immigration	50	35	R, +15
Federal spending	50	35	R, +15
The economy	49	38	R, +11
The situation in Afghanistan	45	38	R, +7
Jobs	46	41	R, +5
Corruption in government	38	35	R, +3
Health care	43	44	D, +1
The environment	31	54	D, +23

Full Trends: Party to Better Handle Issues

A. Corruption in government

	Republicans	Democrats	No difference (vol.)	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	38	35	20	6
2006 Oct 6-8	28	49	16	7
2006 Jan 20-22 ^	31	40	19	10
2006 Jan 6-8 ^	32	44	19	6
2005 Oct 21-23	33	44	18	5

^ Asked as a stand alone question; not in rotation with other issues.

B. The economy

	Republicans	Democrats	No difference (vol.)	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	49	38	10	3
2006 Oct 6-8	36	54	7	4
2006 Mar 10-12	38	53	4	5
2005 Oct 21-23	38	50	9	3
2003 Jul 18-20	36	53	7	4
2003 Jan 3-5	43	42	10	5
2002 Jul 26-28	37	42	13	8
2002 Jun 28-30	44	40	10	6
2002 May 28-29 ^	43	34	13	10

^ Asked of a half sample.

Q.11 (CONGRESSIONAL PARTY BETTER ABLE TO HANDLE ISSUES) CONTINUED

C. Jobs

	Republicans	Democrats	No difference (vol.)	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	46	41	9	4

D. Health care

	Republicans	Democrats	No difference (vol.)	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	43	44	8	4
2006 Oct 6-8	25	62	8	4
2005 Oct 21-23	30	59	7	4
2003 Jan 3-5 ^ †	35	50	9	6

^ Asked of a half sample.

† WORDING: Health care costs

E. Immigration

	Republicans	Democrats	No difference (vol.)	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	50	35	10	5
2006 Oct 6-8	34	47	12	8

F. The situation in Afghanistan

	Republicans	Democrats	No difference (vol.)	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	45	38	12	5

Q.11 (CONGRESSIONAL PARTY BETTER ABLE TO HANDLE ISSUES) CONTINUED

G. Terrorism

	Republicans	Democrats	No difference (vol.)	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	55	31	11	4
2006 Oct 6-8	41	46	7	6
2006 Mar 10-12	45	41	7	7
2005 Oct 21-23	49	38	9	4
2003 Jul 18-20	55	29	10	6
2003 Jan 3-5 ^	55	27	13	5
2002 Oct 21-22	52	23	14	11
2002 Sep 20-22 ^	56	27	10	7
2002 Jun 28-30	57	22	13	8
2002 May 28-29 ^	51	19	19	11

^ Asked of a half sample.

H. The environment

	Republicans	Democrats	No difference (vol.)	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	31	54	9	5
2003 Jan 3-5 ^	27	56	10	7
2002 Sep 20-22 ^	28	60	5	7
2002 May 28-29 ^	28	49	12	11

^ Asked of a half sample.

I. Federal spending

	Republicans	Democrats	No difference (vol.)	No opinion
2010 Aug 27-30	50	35	11	4