

USA TODAY/GALLUP POLL

ARIZONA SHOOTINGS

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted January 11, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 1,002—adults, aged 18+, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, 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.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each daily sample of 1,000 national adults includes a minimum quota of 200 cell phone respondents and 800 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 by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, cell phone only status, cell phone mostly status and phone lines. 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.

Polls conducted entirely in one day, such as this one, are subject to additional error or bias not found in polls conducted over several days.

For more details on Gallup's polling methodology, visit www.gallup.com

- Next, as you may know, this past weekend six people were killed and others including a member of Congress were wounded in a shooting in Tucson, Arizona. From what you know about the shootings, do you think—
[ROTATED: this tragedy would have been prevented if the state of Arizona had stricter gun laws (or) this tragedy would have occurred even if the state of Arizona had stricter gun laws]?

| | Would have been prevented if gun laws were <u>stricter</u> | Would have occurred even if gun laws were <u>stricter</u> | No <u>opinion</u> |
|-------------|--|---|----------------------|
| 2011 Jan 11 | 20 | 72 | 8 |

- Just your best guess, do you think the heated language used in politics today was or was not a factor influencing the Arizona shooter to commit the attack?
[If “yes,” *probe*] Do you think it was a major factor or a minor factor?

| | <u>Major factor</u> | <u>Minor factor</u> | <u>Not a factor</u> | <u>No opinion</u> |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 2011 Jan 11 | 20 | 22 | 42 | 15 |

3. As you may know, some commentators have said that well-known conservatives use language that is too inflammatory and is partly responsible for the Arizona shooting. Which comes closer to your view— [ROTATED: it is a legitimate point about how dangerous the language used by conservatives can be (or) it is not a legitimate point but mostly an attempt to use the tragedy to make conservatives look bad]?

| | Legitimate point about how dangerous <u>language can be</u> | Mostly an attempt to use the tragedy to make <u>conservatives look bad</u> | No <u>opinion</u> |
|-------------|---|--|----------------------|
| 2011 Jan 11 | 35 | 53 | 12 |

4. Thinking more generally about the way political issues are discussed and debated in this United States today, do you think each of the following groups has or has not gone too far in using inflammatory language to criticize their political opponents? How about – [RANDOM ORDER]?

| <i>2011 Jan 11</i> <i>(sorted by “gone too far”)</i> | Yes, gone too far | No, has not | No opinion |
|---|----------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Republicans and their supporters | 53 | 37 | 11 |
| Democrats and their supporters | 51 | 39 | 11 |
| Supporters of the Tea Party movement | 49 | 36 | 16 |