

## GALLUP NEWS SERVICE

### FEDERAL BUDGET SHOWDOWN

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted February 22, 2011, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of 1,004—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  $\pm 4$  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 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.

1. On a different subject, who do you think is doing the better job in the current efforts to agree on a new federal budget—[ROTATED: Barack Obama and the Democrats in Congress (or) The Republicans in Congress]?

	<u>Obama/ Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans in Congress</u>	<u>Both equally (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Feb 22	39	42	3	16

2. Do you think the budget proposals being made by—[RANDOM ORDER]—[ROTATED: go too far in cutting federal spending, are about right, (or) do not go far enough in cutting federal spending]?

**A. Barack Obama and the Democrats in Congress**

	<u>Go too far</u>	<u>Are about right</u>	<u>Do not go far enough</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Feb 22	13	29	48	10

**B. The Republicans in Congress**

	<u>Go too far</u>	<u>Are about right</u>	<u>Do not go far enough</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Feb 22	25	25	37	13

3. As you may know, if the Republicans in Congress and President Obama do not agree on federal spending goals by March 4, the federal government will have to shut down all of its nonessential services until a budget is passed. What would you like the people in government who represent your views on the budget to do in this situation? Should they – [ROTATED: hold out for the basic budget plan they want, even if that means the government shuts down, (or should they) agree to a compromise budget plan, even if that means they pass a budget you disagree with]?

	<u>Hold out for plan they want</u>	<u>Agree to compromise</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Feb 22	32	60	8