

**USA TODAY/GALLUP POLL**  
**FEDERAL DEBT LIMIT REACTION**

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

Timberline: 927933  
G: 839  
Princeton Job #: 11-07-013

Jeff Jones, Lydia Saad  
July 15-17, 2011

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**Note: Q.13-16 should be referred to as a Gallup poll.**

**Results are based on telephone interviews conducted July 15-17, 2011 with a random sample of –1,016—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  $\pm 4$  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 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.**

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13. Do you think abortions should be legal under any circumstances, legal only under certain circumstances, or illegal in all circumstances?

	Legal under any	Legal under certain	Illegal in all	No opinion		Legal under any	Legal under certain	Illegal in all	No opinion
2011 Jul 15-17	26	51	20	3	1998 Jan 16-18	23	59	17	1
					1997 Nov 6-9	26	55	17	2
2011 Jun 9-12	26	52	21	1	1997 Aug 12-13	22	61	15	2
2011 May 5-8	27	50	22	2	1996 Sep 20-22 ^	24	52	17	7
2010 May 3-6	24	54	19	3	1996 Jul 25-28	25	58	15	2
2009 Jul 17-19	21	57	18	4	1995 Sep 22-24	31	54	12	3
2009 May 7-10	22	53	23	2	1995 Feb 24-26	33	50	15	2
2008 May 8-11	28	54	17	2	1994 Sep 6-7	33	52	13	2
2007 May 10-13	26	55	18	1	1994 Mar 28-30	31	51	15	3
2006 May 8-11	30	53	15	2	1993 Mar 12-14	32	51	13	4
2005 Nov 11-13	26	56	16	2	1992 Jul 23-24 ^†	34	48	15	3
2005 Jun 24-26	24	55	20	1	1992 Jan 16-19	31	53	14	2
2005 May 2-5	23	53	22	2	1991 Sep 5-8	33	49	14	4
2005 Mar 21-23	23	55	20	2	1991 May 30-Jun 2	32	50	17	1
2004 May 2-4	24	56	19	1	1990 Apr 5-20	31	53	12	4
2003 Oct 24-26	26	55	17	2	1989 Jul 6-9	29	51	17	3
2003 May 5-7	23	57	19	1	1989 Jul 6-7	29	51	17	3
2003 Jan 10-12	24	57	18	1	1989 Apr 12-13 †	27	50	18	5
2002 May 6-9	25	51	22	2	1988 Sep 25-Oct 1	24	57	17	2
2002 Mar 22-24	27	53	19	1	1985 Jan 3-4 †	21	55	21	3
2002 Feb 8-10	26	54	18	2	1983 Jun 24-27	23	58	16	3
2001 Aug 10-12	26	56	17	1	1981 May 8-11	23	52	21	4
2001 May 10-14	26	58	15	1	1980 Jul 11-14	25	53	18	4
2001 Mar 26-28	26	51	18	5	1979 Feb 23-26	22	54	19	5
2000 Mar 30-Apr 2	28	51	19	2	1977 Dec 9-12	22	55	19	4
2000 Jan 13-16	26	56	15	3	1975 Apr 4-7	21	54	22	3
1999 Apr 30-May 2	27	55	16	2					

^ Based on registered voters.

† Gallup/Newsweek poll.

14. *(Asked of those who say abortion should be legal under certain circumstances)* Do you think abortion should be legal in most circumstances or only in a few circumstances?

**COMBINED RESPONSES (Q.13-14): BASED ON FULL SAMPLE**

	Legal under any <u>circumstances</u>	Legal under most <u>circumstances</u>	Legal only in a few <u>circumstances</u>	Illegal in all <u>circumstances</u>	No <u>opinion</u>
2011 Jul 15-17	26	13	38	20	4
2011 Jun 9-12	26	12	38	21	2
2011 May 5-8	27	10	39	22	3
2010 May 3-6	24	15	37	19	5
2009 Jul 17-19	21	13	42	18	6
2009 May 7-10	22	15	37	23	3
2008 May 8-11	28	13	40	17	3
2007 May 10-13	26	15	40	18	1
2006 May 8-11	30	13	39	15	3
2005 Nov 11-13	26	16	39	16	3
2005 Jun 24-26	24	15	40	20	1
2005 May 2-5	23	12	40	22	3
2005 Mar 21-23	23	14	39	20	4
2004 May 2-4	24	13	42	19	2
2003 Oct 24-26	26	14	40	17	3
2003 May 5-7	23	15	42	19	1
2003 Jan 10-12	24	14	42	18	2
2002 May 6-9	25	12	39	22	2
2002 Mar 22-24	27	12	40	19	2
2001 Aug 10-12	26	12	43	17	2
2001 May 10-14	26	15	41	15	3
2001 Mar 26-28	26	13	38	18	5
2000 Mar 30-Apr 2	28	11	38	19	4
2000 Jan 13-16	26	17	39	15	3
1999 Apr 30-May 2	27	12	42	16	3
1998 Jan 16-18	23	16	42	17	2
1997 Nov 6-9	26	15	40	17	2
1997 Aug 12-13	22	12	48	15	3
1996 Jul 25-28	25	13	43	15	4
1995 Sep 22-24	31	14	39	12	4
1995 Feb 24-26	32	9	41	15	3
1994 Sep 6-7	33	13	38	13	3

15. Next, do you favor or oppose each of the following proposals. How about -- [ITEMS A-D ROTATED, THEN ITEMS E-G ROTATED]

**2011 Jul 15-17**  
**(sorted by "favor")**

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>
	%	%
A law requiring doctors to inform patients about certain possible risks of abortion before performing the procedure	87	11
A law requiring women under 18 to get parental consent for any abortion	71	27
A law requiring women seeking abortions to wait 24 hours before having the procedure done	69	28
A law which would make it <u>illegal</u> to perform a specific abortion procedure conducted in the last sixmonths of pregnancy known as a "partial birth abortion," except in cases necessary to save the life of the mother	64	31
A law requiring women seeking an abortion to be shown an ultrasound image of her fetus at least 24 hours before the procedure	50	46
A law allowing pharmacists and health providers to opt out of providing medicine or surgical procedures that result in abortion	46	51
A law prohibiting health clinics that provide abortion services from receiving any federal funds	40	57

**FULL TRENDS: ABORTION PROPOSALS**

**A. A law requiring women seeking abortions to wait 24 hours before having the procedure done**

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jul 15-17	69	28	3
2003 Jan 10-12	78	19	3
1996 Jul 25-28	74	22	4
1992 Jan 16-19	73	23	4

**B. A law requiring women under 18 to get parental consent for any abortion**

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jul 15-17	71	27	2
2005 Nov 11-13	69	28	3
2003 Jan 10-12	73	24	3
1996 Jul 25-28	74	23	3
1992 Jan 16-19	70	23	7

**Q.15 (ABORTION PROPOSALS) CONTINUED**

**C. A law which would make it illegal to perform a specific abortion procedure conducted in the last six months of pregnancy known as a "partial birth abortion," except in cases necessary to save the life of the mother**

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jul 15-17	64	31	5
2003 Jan 10-12	70	25	5
2000 Oct 25-28 ^	63	35	2
2000 Mar 30-Apr 2 †	66	29	5
2000 Jan 13-16	64	31	5
1999 Apr 30-May 2 †	61	34	5
1998 Jan 16-18 †	61	36	3
1997 Mar 24-26 †	55	40	5
1996 Apr 25-28 ^	57	39	4

^ WORDING: I am going to read several propositions that would prohibit and make illegal certain activities. Would you vote... for or against a law which would make it illegal to perform a specific abortion procedure conducted in the last six months of pregnancy known as a 'partial birth abortion,' except in cases necessary to save the life of the mother?

† WORDING: If you could vote on this issue directly, would you vote for or against the following: a law which would make it illegal to perform a specific abortion procedure conducted in the last six months of pregnancy known as a "partial birth abortion," except in cases necessary to save the life of the mother?

**D. A law requiring doctors to inform patients about certain possible risks of abortion before performing the procedure**

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jul 15-17	87	11	2

**E. A law prohibiting health clinics that provide abortion services from receiving any federal funds**

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jul 15-17	40	57	3

**F. A law allowing pharmacists and health providers to opt out of providing medicine or surgical procedures that result in abortion**

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jul 15-17	46	51	4

**G. A law requiring women seeking an abortion to be shown an ultrasound image of her fetus at least 24 hours before the procedure**

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jul 15-17	50	46	3

Finally,

16. With respect to the abortion issue, would you consider yourself to be pro-choice or pro-life?

*Trend from polls where pro-life/pro-choice was asked following question on legality of abortion.*

	<u>Pro-choice</u>	<u>Pro-life</u>	<u>Mixed/ Neither (vol.)</u>	<u>Don't know what terms mean (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jul 15-17	47	47	2	3	1
2011 Jun 9-12	46	48	2	3	2
2011 May 5-8	49	45	3	2	2
2010 May 3-6	45	47	2	4	3
2009 Jul 17-19	46	47	3	2	2
2009 May 7-10	42	51	2	4	1
2008 May 8-11	50	44	1	2	2
2007 May 10-13	49	45	3	2	2
2006 May 8-11	51	41	4	2	3
2005 May 2-5	48	44	3	3	2
2004 May 2-4	49	44	2	3	2
2003 Oct 24-26	48	45	3	3	1
2003 May 5-7	48	45	2	4	1
2002 May 6-9	47	46	3	3	1
2001 Aug 10-12	46	46	3	3	2
2001 May 10-14	48	42	4	4	2
2001 Mar 26-28	47	41	4	6	2
2000 Mar 30-Apr 2	48	43	2	4	3
1999 Apr 30-May 2	48	42	3	4	3
1998 Jan 16-18	48	45	3	2	2
1997 Nov 6-9	51	40	3	3	3
1997 Aug 12-13	47	44	3	3	3
1996 Jul 25-28	53	36	5	3	3
1995 Sep 22-24	56	33	5	3	3

*Q.16 continued on next page*

**Q.16 (ABORTION SELF-IDENTIFICATION) CONTINUED**

*Trend from polls where pro-life/pro-choice was asked as a stand-alone question.*

	<u>Pro-choice</u>	<u>Pro-life</u>	Mixed/ Neither (vol.)	Don't know what terms mean (vol.)	<u>No opinion</u>
2010 Mar 26-28	45	46	4	2	3
2009 Nov 20-22	48	45	2	2	3
2008 Sep 5-7	51	43	2	1	3
2007 Jun 11-14	51	43	2	2	2
2007 Jun 1-3	52	39	4	2	2
2006 Jan 6-8	53	42	1	2	2
2005 Aug 28-30	54	38	3	2	3
2005 Jul 22-24	51	42	3	3	1
2004 Oct 14-16	52	41	2	3	2
2001 Aug 3-5	52	39	4	3	2
2001 Jul 10-11	50	40	4	3	3
2001 Feb 9-11	55	38	5	1	1
2000 Oct 6-9	47	45	3	2	3
2000 Jul 14-16	50	40	4	2	4
1996 Jul 18-21	48	40	5	4	3
1996 Mar 15-17	56	37	3	2	2

# GALLUP NEWS SERVICE

## JUNE WAVE 1

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

Timberline: 927922  
G: 809  
Princeton Job #: 11-06-011

Jeff Jones, Lydia Saad  
June 9-12, 2011

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Results are based on telephone interviews conducted June 9-12, 2011 with a random sample of –1,020—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  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

For results based on the sample of –524—national adults in Form A and –496—national adults in Form B, the maximum margins of sampling error are  $\pm 5$  percentage points.

For results based on the sample of –914— registered voters, the maximum margin of sampling 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 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.

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20. Now I am going to read some specific situations under which an abortion might be considered. For each one, please say whether you think abortion should be legal in that situation, or illegal. How about -- [RANDOM ORDER]

<i>2011 Jun 9-12</i> <i>(sorted by "should be legal")</i>	Should be legal	Should be illegal
	%	%
When the woman's life is endangered	83	13
When the woman's physical health is endangered	82	15
When the pregnancy was caused by rape or incest	75	22
When the woman's mental health is endangered	61	35
When there is evidence that the baby may be mentally impaired	51	46
When there is evidence that the baby may be physically impaired	50	45
When the woman or family cannot afford to raise the child	36	62

**FULL RESULTS AND TRENDS:**

**A. When the woman's life is endangered**

	<u>Should be legal</u>	<u>Should be illegal</u>	<u>Depends (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jun 9-12	83	13	1	3
2003 Jan 10-12	85	11	2	2
2000 Mar30-Apr 2	84	12	2	2
1996 Jul 25-26	88	7	3	2

**B. When the woman's physical health is endangered**

	<u>Should be legal</u>	<u>Should be illegal</u>	<u>Depends (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jun 9-12	82	15	1	2
2003 Jan 10-12	77	17	4	2
2000 Mar30-Apr 2	81	15	2	2
1996 Jul 25-26	82	11	5	2

**C. When the woman's mental health is endangered**

	<u>Should be legal</u>	<u>Should be illegal</u>	<u>Depends (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jun 9-12	61	35	2	2
2003 Jan 10-12	63	32	3	2
2000 Mar30-Apr 2	64	29	3	4
1996 Jul 25-26	66	27	5	2

**Q.20 (SITUATIONS IN WHICH ABORTION SHOULD BE LEGAL) CONTINUED****D. When there is evidence that the baby may be physically impaired**

	<u>Should be legal</u>	<u>Should be illegal</u>	<u>Depends (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jun 9-12	50	45	2	3
2003 Jan 10-12	56	37	4	3
2000 Mar30-Apr 2	53	39	5	3
1996 Jul 25-26	53	37	7	3

**E. When there is evidence that the baby may be mentally impaired**

	<u>Should be legal</u>	<u>Should be illegal</u>	<u>Depends (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jun 9-12	51	46	2	2
2003 Jan 10-12	55	39	3	3
2000 Mar30-Apr 2	53	40	4	3
1996 Jul 25-26	54	36	7	3

**F. When the pregnancy was caused by rape or incest**

	<u>Should be legal</u>	<u>Should be illegal</u>	<u>Depends (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jun 9-12	75	22	1	2
2003 Jan 10-12	76	19	2	3
2000 Mar30-Apr 2	78	19	1	2
1996 Jul 25-26	77	18	3	2

**G. When the woman or family cannot afford to raise the child**

	<u>Should be legal</u>	<u>Should be illegal</u>	<u>Depends (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jun 9-12	36	61	1	2
2003 Jan 10-12	35	61	2	2
2000 Mar30-Apr 2	34	62	2	2
1996 Jul 25-26	32	62	3	3

21. Thinking more generally, do you think abortion should generally be legal or generally illegal during each of the following stages of pregnancy. How about --[RANDOM ORDER]?

**A. In the first three months of pregnancy**

	<u>Should be legal</u>	<u>Should be illegal</u>	<u>Depends (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jun 9-12	62	35	2	1
2003 Jan 10-12	66	29	3	2
2000 Mar30-Apr 2	65	31	2	2
1996 Jul 25-26	64	30	4	2

**B. In the second three months of pregnancy**

	<u>Should be legal</u>	<u>Should be illegal</u>	<u>Depends (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jun 9-12	24	71	3	2
2003 Jan 10-12	25	68	4	3
2000 Mar30-Apr 2	24	69	4	3
1996 Jul 25-26	26	65	7	2

**C. In the last three months of pregnancy**

	<u>Should be legal</u>	<u>Should be illegal</u>	<u>Depends (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Jun 9-12	10	86	2	1
2003 Jan 10-12	10	84	4	2
2000 Mar30-Apr 2	8	86	3	3
1996 Jul 25-26	13	82	3	2