

**GALLUP NEWS SERVICE**

**GALLUP POLL SOCIAL SERIES: GOVERNANCE**

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

Timberline: 927943  
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Jeff Jones, Lydia Saad  
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**Results are based on telephone interviews conducted September 8-11, 2011 with a random sample of –1,017— 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 –490—national adults in Form A and –527—national adults in Form B, the maximum margins of sampling error are  $\pm 6$  percentage points.**

**For results based on the sample of –931—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 by 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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7. What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today? [OPEN-ENDED]

	Sep 8-11, 2011	Aug 11-14, 2011	Jul 7-10, 2011	Jun 9-12, 2011	May 5-8, 2011	Apr 7-10, 2011	Mar 3-6, 2011
<i>Recent Trend:</i>							
<b>ECONOMIC PROBLEMS (NET)</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>72</b>
Unemployment/jobs	39	29	27	24	22	19	26
Economy in general	28	31	31	36	35	26	28
Federal budget deficit/federal debt	12	17	16	11	12	17	13
Lack of money	4	7	4	5	5	5	4
Taxes	2	2	3	1	2	1	1
Gap between rich and poor	1	1	1	1	*	*	1
Recession	1	*	1	*	*	*	*
Corporate corruption	1	1	1	1	1	*	1
High cost of living/inflation	1	1	2	2	3	2	3
Foreign trade/trade deficit	1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Fuel/Oil Prices	1	1	3	3	8	5	6
Wage issues	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>NON-ECONOMIC PROBLEMS (NET)</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>47</b>
Dissatisfaction with government/Congress/politicians;	14	14	9	8	8	13	11
Poor leadership; corruption; abuse of power							
Poor health care/ hospitals; high cost of health care	7	5	8	9	5	9	9
Immigration/illegal aliens	4	2	4	5	4	4	2
Education/poor education/access to education	4	2	4	4	5	6	4
Ethics/moral/religious/family decline; dishonesty	3	4	3	4	4	4	3
Wars/War (non-specific)/Fear of war	3	2	5	3	4	6	5
Care for the elderly/Medicare	2	1	1	1	2	1	1
Lack of respect for each other	2	3	2	2	2	1	1
Social Security	2	2	2	*	1	1	1
Lack of military defense	1	1	1	1	*	1	1
National security	1	*	*	*	1	1	1
Situation/War in Afghanistan	1	1	1	1	*	1	*
Foreign aid/focus overseas	1	2	2	2	2	3	2
Welfare	1	*	1	*	1	1	1
Terrorism	1	1	*	1	2	1	2
Unifying the country	1	*	*	1	1	*	1
Race relations/ racism	1	1	*	1	1	*	1
Judicial system/courts/laws	1	1	2	1	*	*	1
Energy/Lack of energy sources	1	*	1	1	1	1	1
Situation/War in Iraq	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Crime/violence	*	*	1	1	1	1	1
Environment/ pollution	*	*	1	1	*	2	1
Poverty/ hunger/ homelessness	*	1	2	2	2	2	1
Gay rights issues	*	*	1	*	--	*	*
Elections/Election reform	*	*	*	*	*	*	--
Natural disaster response/Relief efforts	*	*	*	*	*	*	--
War/conflict between Middle East nations	*	--	*	1	*	*	1
Abortion	*	*	*	1	*	1	*
Children's behavior/way they are raised	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
The media	*	*	*	*	*	*	--
International issues/ problems	*	*	1	2	1	1	1
Drugs	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
Advancement of Computers/Technology	--	*	*	*	1	*	*
Guns/gun control	--	--	*	--	*	*	*
Other non-economic	2	1	6	3	4	2	4
No opinion	1	3	2	2	2	3	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>149%</b>	<b>142%</b>	<b>150%</b>	<b>147%</b>	<b>149%</b>	<b>146%</b>	<b>146%</b>

8. Which political party do you think can do a better job of handling the problem you think is most important -- the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?

**BASED ON -1,012-- WHO NAME A MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM; ±4 PCT PTS**

	Repub- lican Party	Demo- cratic Party	Same/ Other/No opinion		Repub- lican Party	Demo- cratic Party	Same/ Other/No opinion
<b><u>2011</u></b>							
2011 Sep 8-11	44	37	19	1993 Jan 8-11	29	45	26
				1992 Mar 26-29	34	40	26
2010 Sep 13-16	40	38	22	1991 Jul 11-14	36	28	36
2009 Aug 31-Sep 2	34	45	20	1991 Mar 7-10	40	27	33
2008 Sep 8-11	39	46	14	1990 Oct	30	29	41
2007 Sep 14-16	30	47	22	1988 Sep	38	33	29
2006 Sep 7-10	34	49	16	1988 May 9-11	27	40	33
2005 Sep 12-15	39	40	21	1987 Apr 10-13	29	37	34
2005 Jan 3-5	41	41	18	1986 Jan 10-13	33	28	39
2004 Sep 13-15	46	43	11	1985 Jan 25-28	39	29	32
2004 Jan 12-15	39	46	15	1984 Aug 10-13	39	37	24
2002 Jul 26-28	38	36	26	1984 Feb 10-13	30	32	38
2001 Jan 10-14	39	39	22	1983 Nov 18-21	28	35	37
1999 Jan 15-17	33	43	24	1982 Aug 13-16	26	35	39
1998 Apr 17-19	40	42	18	1981 Jan 8-11	39	20	41
1997 Jan 10-13	33	43	24	1980 Mar 28-31	28	32	40
1996 Jul 25-28	37	41	22	1979 Oct 12-15	25	33	42
1996 May 9-12	40	44	16	1976 Apr 23-26	18	39	43
1995 Jan 16-18	42	32	26	1975 Oct 17-20	15	42	43
1994 Oct 22-25	41	37	22	1972 Aug	28	34	38
1994 Aug 15-16	38	37	25	1968 May	30	28	42
1994 Aug 8-9	39	37	24	1964 Apr 24-29	16	40	44
1994 Jul 15-17	39	32	29	1960 Feb 4-9	24	32	44
1994 Jan	31	39	30	1956 Sep 20-25	55	45	--
1993 Sep 10-12	31	37	32				