

GALLUP NEWS SERVICE

GALLUP POLL SOCIAL SERIES: CRIME

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

Timberline: 927981
G: 916
Princeton Job #: 11-10-019

Jeff Jones, Lydia Saad
October 6-9, 2011

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted October 6-9, 2011 with a random sample of –1,005— 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 ± 4 percentage points.

For results based on the sample of –876— registered voters, the maximum margin of sampling 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 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.

12. Are you in favor of the death penalty for a person convicted of murder?

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>		<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Oct 6-9	61	35	4	1988 Sep 25-Oct 1	79	16	5
				1988 Sep 9-11	79	16	5
2010 Oct 7-10 ^	64	29	6	1986 Jan 10-13	70	22	8
2009 Oct 1-4	65	31	5	1985 Nov 11-18	75	17	8
2008 Oct 3-5	64	30	5	1985 Jan 11-14	72	20	8
2007 Oct 4-7	69	27	4	1981 Jan 30-Feb 2	66	25	9
2006 Oct 9-12	67	28	5	1978 Mar 3-6	62	27	11
2006 May 5-7 ^	65	28	7	1976 Apr 9-12	66	26	8
2005 Oct 13-16	64	30	6	1972 Nov 10-13	57	32	11
2004 Oct 11-14	64	31	5	1972 Mar 3-5	50	41	9
2003 Oct 6-8	64	32	4	1971 Oct 29-Nov 2	49	40	11
2003 May 19-21	70	28	2	1969 Jan 23-28	51	40	9
2002 Oct 14-17	70	25	5	1967 Jun 2-7	54	38	8
2001 Oct 11-14	68	26	6	1966 May 19-24	42	47	11
2001 Feb 19-21 ^	67	25	8	1965 Jan 7-12	45	43	12
2000 Aug 29-Sep 5	67	28	5	1960 Mar 2-7	53	36	11
2000 Jun 23-25	66	26	8	1957 Aug 29-Sep 4	47	34	18
2000 Feb 14-15	66	28	6	1956 Mar 29-Apr 3	53	34	13
1999 Feb 8-9	71	22	7	1953 Nov 1-5	68	25	7
1995 May 11-14	77	13	10	1937 Dec 1-6	60	33	7
1994 Sep 6-7	80	16	4	1936 Dec 2-7	59	38	3
1991 Jun 13-16	76	18	6				

^ Asked of half sample.

13. In your opinion, is the death penalty imposed -- [ROTATED: too often, about the right amount, or not often enough]?

	<u>Too often</u>	<u>About the right amount</u>	<u>Not enough</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Oct 6-9	25	27	40	8
2010 Oct 7-10	18	26	49	7
2009 Oct 1-4	20	24	49	7
2008 Oct 3-5	21	23	48	8
2007 Oct 4-7	21	26	49	4
2006 May 8-11	21	25	51	3
2005 May 2-5	20	24	53	3
2004 May 2-4	23	25	48	4
2003 May 5-7	23	26	48	3
2002 May 6-9	22	24	47	7
2001 May 10-14	21	34	38	7

14. Generally speaking, do you believe the death penalty is applied fairly or unfairly in this country today?

	<u>Fairly</u>	<u>Unfairly</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Oct 6-9	52	41	6
2010 Oct 7-10	58	36	7
2009 Oct 1-4	57	34	9
2008 Oct 3-5	54	38	8
2007 Oct 4-7	57	38	5
2006 May 8-11	60	35	4
2005 May 2-5	61	35	4
2004 May 2-4	55	39	6
2003 May 5-7	60	37	3
2002 May 6-9	53	40	7
2000 Jun 23-25	51	41	8

15. Do you feel that the death penalty acts as a deterrent to the commitment of murder, that it lowers the murder rate, or not?

	<u>Yes, does</u>	<u>No, does not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Oct 6-9	32	64	4
2006 May 8-11 ^	34	64	2
2004 May 2-4	35	62	3
1991 Jun 13-16	51	41	8
1986 Jan 10-13	61	32	7
1985 Jan 11-14	62	31	7

^ Asked of a half sample

NOTE: May 2002-2005 trends taken from polls where death penalty immediately followed questions on abortion.