

GALLUP NEWS SERVICE

GALLUP POLL SOCIAL SERIES: CRIME

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

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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.

24. In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?

	<u>More strict</u>	<u>Less strict</u>	<u>Kept as now</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Oct 6-9	43	11	44	2
2010 Oct 7-10	44	12	42	2
2009 Oct 1-4	44	12	43	1
2008 Oct 3-5	49	8	41	2
2007 Oct 4-7	51	8	39	2
2006 Oct 9-12	56	9	33	2
2005 Oct 13-16	57	7	35	1
2004 Oct 11-14	54	11	34	1
2004 Jan 9-11	60	6	34	*
2003 Oct 6-8	55	9	36	*
2002 Oct 14-17	51	11	36	2
2001 Oct 11-14	53	8	38	1
2000 May 5-7	62	5	31	2
2000 Apr 7-9	61	7	30	2
1999 Dec 9-12	60	10	29	1
1999 Aug 3-4	66	6	27	1
1999 Jun 25-27	62	6	31	1
1999 May 23-24	65	5	28	2
1999 Apr 26-27	66	7	25	2
1999 Feb 8-9	60	9	29	2
1995 Apr 23-24 ^	62	12	24	2
1993 Dec 17-19	67	7	25	1
1993 Mar 12-14	70	4	24	2
1991 Mar 21-24	68	5	25	2
1990 Sep 10-11	78	2	17	3

^ Asked of half sample.

25. Do you think there should or should not be a law that would ban the possession of handguns, except by the police and other authorized persons?

	<u>Should be</u>	<u>Should not be</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Oct 6-9	26	73	1
2010 Oct 7-10	29	69	1
2009 Oct 1-4	28	71	1
2008 Oct 3-5	29	69	2
2007 Oct 4-7	30	68	2
2006 Oct 9-12	32	66	2
2005 Oct 13-16	35	64	1
2004 Oct 11-14	36	63	1
2003 Oct 6-8	32	67	1
2002 Oct 14-17	32	65	3
2000 Aug 29-Sep 5	36	62	2
1999 Apr 26-27	38	59	3
1999 Feb 8-9	34	64	2
1993 Dec 17-19	39	60	1
1993 Mar 12-14	42	54	4
1991 Mar 21-24	43	53	4
1990 Sep 10-11	41	55	4
1988 Jul 1-7	37	59	4
1987 Oct 12-18	42	50	8
1982 Apr 2-5	41	54	5
1981 Jun 19-22	41	54	5
1981 Apr 3-6	39	58	3
1980 Dec 12-21	38	51	11
1979 Nov 2-5 ^	31	65	4
1975 Mar 7-10 ^	41	55	4
1965 Jan 7-12 †	49	44	7
1959 Jul 23-28 †	60	36	4

^ WORDING: Now here is a question about pistols and revolvers. Do you think there should or should not be a law which would forbid the possession of this type of gun except by the police and other authorized persons?

† WORDING: What about the possession of pistols and revolvers--do you think there should be a law which would forbid the possession of this type of gun except by the police or other authorized persons?

26. In terms of gun laws in the United States, which of the following would you prefer to see happen --
 [ROTATE: enforce the current gun laws more strictly and NOT pass new gun laws (or) pass new gun laws in addition to enforcing the current laws more strictly]?

	<u>Enforce current laws more strictly</u>	<u>Pass new laws in addition</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Oct 6-9	60	35	5
2007 Oct 4-7	58	38	4
2006 Oct 9-12	53	43	4
2002 Feb 8-10	60	38	2
2000 Aug 29-Sep 5	53	45	2
2000 Apr 28-30 ^	51	44	5

^ Asked of half sample.

30. Are you for or against a law which would make it illegal to manufacture, sell, or possess semi-automatic guns known as assault rifles?

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2011 Oct 6-9	43	53	5
2004 Oct 11-14	50	46	4
2000 Oct 25-28 ^	59	39	2
1996 Apr 25-28 ^	57	42	1

^ WORDING: Now, I am going to read several propositions that would prohibit and make illegal certain activities. First, would you vote -- for or against a law which would make it illegal to manufacture, sell, or possess semi-automatic guns known as assault rifles?