

# USA TODAY/GALLUP POLL

## FEBRUARY WAVE 1

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

Timberline: 160861  
H: 119  
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February 16-19, 2012

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Results are based on telephone interviews conducted February 16-19, 2012 with a random sample of **~1,014**—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 **~898**—registered voters, the maximum margin of sampling error is **±4** percentage points.

For results based on the sample of **~481**—Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, the maximum margin of sampling error is **±6** percentage points.

For results based on the sample of **~437**—Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents, the maximum margin of sampling error is **±6** 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 2011 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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3. How much thought have you given to the upcoming election for president -- quite a lot, or only a little?

	<u>Quite a lot</u>	<u>SOME (vol.)</u>	<u>Only a little</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2012 Feb 16-19	61	4	32	3	*

**For comparison (February of prior presidential election years):**

	<u>Quite a lot</u>	<u>SOME (vol.)</u>	<u>Only a little</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b>2008</b>					
2008 Feb 21-24	72	5	20	3	1
2008 Feb 8-10	76	3	18	2	*
2008 Jan 30-Feb 2	71	3	24	2	*
<b>2004</b>					
2004 Feb 16-17	60	3	33	4	*
2004 Feb 6-8	52	6	38	4	*
2004 Jan 29-Feb 1	58	5	32	4	1
<b>2000</b>					
2000 Feb 25-27	44	6	47	3	*
2000 Feb 20-21	41	8	47	4	*
2000 Feb 14-15	36	5	52	7	*
2000 Feb 4-6	39	8	47	5	1

4. Compared to previous elections, are you more enthusiastic than usual about voting, or less enthusiastic?

**NOTE: TREND FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

	<u>More enthusiastic</u>	<u>Less enthusiastic</u>	<u>Same (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>REGISTERED VOTERS</u></b>				
<b><u>2012</u></b>				
2012 Feb 16-19	50	40	10	1
2011 Nov 28-Dec 1	43	48	7	1
2011 Sep 15-18	50	38	10	2
<b><u>2008</u></b>				
2008 Oct 31-Nov 2 †	68	19	12	1
2008 Oct 23-26	69	19	11	1
2008 Oct 10-12	62	27	11	1
2008 Sep 5-7	64	21	14	1
2008 Aug 30-31 †	54	28	17	2
2008 Aug 21-23	48	37	14	1
2008 Jun 15-19	48	37	14	1
2008 Feb 8-10	63	29	8	*
2008 Jan 10-13 ^	62	28	10	1
<b><u>2004</u></b>				
2004 Oct 14-16 ^	67	21	12	*
2004 Sep 3-5 ^	65	23	11	1
2004 Aug 23-25 ^	60	29	11	--
2004 Jul 30-Aug 1 ^	69	22	9	--
2004 Jul 19-21 ^	60	25	14	1
2004 Mar 26-28	52	29	18	1
2004 Jan 29-Feb 1	56	32	12	*
<b><u>2000</u></b>				
2000 Oct 13-15	38	39	20	3
2000 Mar 10-12	39	38	22	1
2000 Jan 7-10	45	37	17	1
<b><u>1996</u></b>				
1996 Oct 23-24	17	36	45	2

*Q.4 enthusiasm about voting trend continued on next page*

**Q.4 ENTHUSIASM ABOUT VOTING (CONTINUED)**

	<u>More enthusiastic</u>	<u>Less enthusiastic</u>	<u>Same (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>NATIONAL ADULTS</u></b>				
<b><u>2012</u></b>				
2012 Feb 16-19	47	42	9	2
2011 Nov 28-Dec 1	43	48	7	2
2011 Sep 15-18	48	40	10	2
<b><u>2008</u></b>				
2008 Oct 31-Nov 2 †	65	21	11	2
2008 Oct 23-26	67	21	11	1
2008 Oct 10-12	60	28	10	1
2008 Sep 5-7	62	23	14	1
2008 Aug 30-31 †	51	30	16	4
2008 Aug 21-23	48	38	13	1
2008 Jun 15-19	48	37	14	1
2008 Feb 8-10	62	30	7	1
2008 Jan 10-13 ^	60	29	10	1
<b><u>2004</u></b>				
2004 Oct 14-16 ^	65	23	11	1
2004 Sep 3-5 ^	64	24	11	1
2004 Aug 23-25 ^	57	32	10	1
2004 Jul 30-Aug 1 ^	67	25	8	*
2004 Jul 19-21 ^	59	27	13	1
2004 Mar 26-28	51	32	16	1
2004 Jan 29-Feb 1	55	34	10	1
<b><u>2000</u></b>				
2000 Mar 10-12	37	40	21	2
2000 Jan 7-10	43	38	17	2

^ Asked of half sample.

† USA Today/Gallup poll asked on Gallup daily tracking survey

***Q.4 enthusiasm about voting trend continued on next page***

**Q.4 ENTHUSIASM ABOUT VOTING (CONTINUED)**

	<u>More enthusiastic</u>	<u>Less enthusiastic</u>	<u>Same (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>DEMOCRATS/DEMOCRATIC LEANERS</u></b>				
<b><u>2012</u></b>				
2012 Feb 16-19	45	42	12	1
2011 Nov 28-Dec 1	44	47	9	1
2011 Sep 15-18	45	44	8	2
<b><u>2008</u></b>				
2008 Oct 31-Nov 2 †	73	15	10	2
2008 Oct 23-26	76	15	8	1
2008 Oct 10-12	71	18	10	1
2008 Sep 5-7	67	19	13	1
2008 Aug 30-31 †	61	24	12	3
2008 Aug 21-23	57	28	14	1
2008 Jun 15-19	61	25	13	1
2008 Feb 8-10	79	15	6	*
2008 Jan 10-13 ^	74	19	6	1
<b><u>2004</u></b>				
2004 Oct 14-16 ^	67	23	10	--
2004 Sep 3-5 ^	62	29	7	2
2004 Aug 23-25 ^	60	30	10	*
2004 Jul 30-Aug 1 ^	73	21	6	--
2004 Jul 19-21 ^	68	20	12	--
2004 Mar 26-28	51	35	13	1
2004 Jan 29-Feb 1	59	34	6	1
<b><u>2000</u></b>				
2000 Mar 10-12	33	47	19	1
2000 Jan 7-10	39	42	17	2

^ Asked of half sample.

† USA Today/Gallup poll asked on Gallup daily tracking survey

***Q.4 enthusiasm about voting trend continued on next page***

**Q.4 ENTHUSIASM ABOUT VOTING (CONTINUED)**

	<u>More enthusiastic</u>	<u>Less enthusiastic</u>	<u>Same (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>REPUBLICANS/REPUBLICAN LEANERS</u></b>				
<b><u>2012</u></b>				
2012 Feb 16-19	53	39	8	1
2011 Nov 28-Dec 1	49	44	6	1
2011 Sep 15-18	58	30	11	2
<b><u>2008</u></b>				
2008 Oct 31-Nov 2 †	59	27	12	2
2008 Oct 23-26	65	20	13	1
2008 Oct 10-12	51	38	10	1
2008 Sep 5-7	60	24	15	1
2008 Aug 30-31 †	42	36	20	2
2008 Aug 21-23	39	47	13	1
2008 Jun 15-19	35	51	13	1
2008 Feb 8-10	44	48	8	*
2008 Jan 10-13 ^	49	37	12	2
<b><u>2004</u></b>				
2004 Oct 14-16 ^	68	19	12	1
2004 Sep 3-5 ^	69	18	13	*
2004 Aug 23-25 ^	60	30	9	1
2004 Jul 30-Aug 1 ^	62	27	11	*
2004 Jul 19-21 ^	51	32	15	2
2004 Mar 26-28	52	27	20	1
2004 Jan 29-Feb 1	53	31	15	1
<b><u>2000</u></b>				
2000 Mar 10-12	45	32	22	1
2000 Jan 7-10	51	32	16	1

^ Asked of half sample.

† USA Today/Gallup poll asked on Gallup daily tracking survey