

## USA TODAY/GALLUP POLL

### WAR IN AFGHANISTAN

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted March 13, 2012, on the Gallup Daily tracking survey, with a random sample of --1,006-- 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 daily sample of 1,000 national adults 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, phone status (cell phone only/landline only/both, having an unlisted landline number, and 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.

Polls conducted entirely in one day, such as this one, are subject to additional error or bias not found in polls conducted over several days.

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.

1. As you may know, the U.S. plans to withdraw all of its troops from Afghanistan by the end of the year 2014. Which would you prefer to see happen – for the U.S. to—[ROTATED: stick to its timetable for withdrawing troops by 2014, speed up its withdrawal from Afghanistan, (or) keep troops in Afghanistan as long as it takes to accomplish its goals]?

	<u>Stick to 2014 timetable</u>	<u>Speed up withdrawal</u>	<u>Keep until goals accomplished</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2012 Mar 13	24	50	21	4

2. Have events in Afghanistan in recent months changed your mind about how long U.S. troops should be kept in Afghanistan, or not?
3. *(If yes, ask:)* Have events in recent months made you think U.S. troops should be—[ROTATED: withdrawn from Afghanistan earlier than you previously thought, (or) kept in Afghanistan longer than you previously thought]?

**COMBINED RESPONSES (Q.2/3): BASED ON NATIONAL ADULTS**

*2012 Mar 13*

<b>Yes, changed mind</b>	<b>35</b>
<i>(Think troops should be withdrawn sooner)</i>	<i>(27)</i>
<i>(Think troops should be kept in longer)</i>	<i>(6)</i>
<i>(Other/unspecified)</i>	<i>(2)</i>
<b>No, have not</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>No opinion</b>	<b>5</b>

**Q.4/5 ROTATED**

4. How worried are you that withdrawing U.S. troops from Afghanistan too quickly will make Afghanistan a safe haven for terrorists plotting attacks against the U.S.-- very worried, somewhat worried, not too worried, or not worried at all?

	<u>Very worried</u>	<u>Somewhat worried</u>	<u>Not too worried</u>	<u>Not worried at all</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2012 Mar 13	19	39	21	19	3

5. How worried are you that keeping U.S. troops in Afghanistan makes the United States more vulnerable to terrorist attacks-- very worried, somewhat worried, not too worried, or not worried at all?

	<u>Very worried</u>	<u>Somewhat worried</u>	<u>Not too worried</u>	<u>Not worried at all</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2012 Mar 13	15	35	27	21	2

Continued.

6. Looking back, do you think sending troops to Afghanistan was the right thing or the wrong thing for the U.S. to do?

	<u>Right thing</u>	<u>Wrong thing</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2012 Mar 13	59	35	6
2009 Dec 2	62	32	6