

# USA TODAY/GALLUP POLL

## PRE-DEBATES POLL

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

Timberline: 160861  
H: 342  
Princeton Job #: 12-09-014

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**Note: Q.18-19 should be cited as a Gallup poll.**

**Results are based on telephone interviews conducted September 24-27, 2012 with a random sample of –1,446— 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  $\pm 3$  percentage points.**

**For results based on the sample of –1,301— registered voters, the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 3$  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 per 1,000 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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18. With respect to the abortion issue, would you consider yourself to be pro-choice or pro-life?

*Trend from polls where pro-life/pro-choice was asked as a stand-alone question.*

	<u>Pro-choice</u>	<u>Pro-life</u>	<u>Mixed/ Neither (vol.)</u>	<u>Don't know what terms mean (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2012 Sep 24-27	47	46	3	2	2
2010 Mar 26-28	45	46	4	2	3
2009 Nov 20-22	48	45	2	2	3
2008 Sep 5-7	51	43	2	1	3
2007 Jun 11-14	51	43	2	2	2
2007 Jun 1-3	52	39	4	2	2
2006 Jan 6-8	53	42	1	2	2
2005 Aug 28-30	54	38	3	2	3
2005 Jul 22-24	51	42	3	3	1
2004 Oct 14-16	52	41	2	3	2
2001 Aug 3-5	52	39	4	3	2
2001 Jul 10-11	50	40	4	3	3
2001 Feb 9-11	55	38	5	1	1
2000 Oct 6-9	47	45	3	2	3
2000 Jul 14-16	50	40	4	2	4
1996 Jul 18-21	48	40	5	4	3
1996 Mar 15-17	56	37	3	2	2

*Pro-choice/Pro-life trend continued on next page*

**Q.18 (ABORTION SELF-IDENTIFICATION) CONTINUED**

*Trend from polls where pro-life/pro-choice was asked following question on legality of abortion.*

	<u>Pro-choice</u>	<u>Pro-life</u>	<u>Mixed/ Neither (vol.)</u>	<u>Don't know what terms mean (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2012 May 3-6	41	50	4	3	3
2011 Jul 15-17	47	47	2	3	1
2011 Jun 9-12	46	48	2	3	2
2011 May 5-8	49	45	3	2	2
2010 May 3-6	45	47	2	4	3
2009 Jul 17-19	46	47	3	2	2
2009 May 7-10	42	51	2	4	1
2008 May 8-11	50	44	1	2	2
2007 May 10-13	49	45	3	2	2
2006 May 8-11	51	41	4	2	3
2005 May 2-5	48	44	3	3	2
2004 May 2-4	49	44	2	3	2
2003 Oct 24-26	48	45	3	3	1
2003 May 5-7	48	45	2	4	1
2002 May 6-9	47	46	3	3	1
2001 Aug 10-12	46	46	3	3	2
2001 May 10-14	48	42	4	4	2
2001 Mar 26-28	47	41	4	6	2
2000 Mar 30-Apr 2	48	43	2	4	3
1999 Apr 30-May 2	48	42	3	4	3
1998 Jan 16-18	48	45	3	2	2
1997 Nov 6-9	51	40	3	3	3
1997 Aug 12-13	47	44	3	3	3
1996 Jul 25-28	53	36	5	3	3
1995 Sep 22-24	56	33	5	3	3

19. Thinking about how the abortion issue might affect your vote for major offices, would you -- [ROTATED: only vote for a candidate who shares your views on abortion (or) consider a candidate's position on abortion as just one of many important factors (or) not see abortion as a major issue]?

	<u>Candidate must share views</u>	<u>One of many important factors</u>	<u>Not a major issue</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>NATIONAL ADULTS</u></b>				
2012 Sep 24-27	18	44	33	5
2008 May 8-11	13	49	37	2
2007 May 10-13	16	59	23	3
2004 Oct 14-16	17	46	35	2
2004 May 2-4	14	45	39	2
2001 May 10-14	20	51	27	2
2000 Mar 30-Apr 2	15	49	33	3
1999 Apr 30-May 2	19	51	27	3
1996 Jul 25-28	16	51	30	3
1996 Jul 18-21	18	48	30	4
<b><u>REGISTERED VOTERS</u></b>				
2012 Sep 24-27	17	45	34	4
2007 May 10-13	16	60	23	2
2004 Oct 14-16	17	46	35	2
2004 May 2-4	14	46	39	1
2001 May 10-14	21	52	25	2
2000 Mar 30-Apr 2	14	52	32	2
1999 Apr 30-May 2	19	52	26	3
1996 Jul 25-28	15	53	30	2
1996 Jul 18-21	17	50	30	4
1992 Jun 29	13	46	36	5