

# USA TODAY/GALLUP POLL

## POST-ELECTION POLL

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

Timberline: 160861  
H: 428  
Princeton Job #: 12-11-017

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November 9-12, 2012

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**Results are based on telephone interviews conducted November 9-12, 2012 with a random sample of ~1,009—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 ±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, population density 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+ U.S. population. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting.**

**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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12. Regardless of which presidential candidate you preferred, do you think the Obama administration will or will not be able to do each of the following? How about – [RANDOM ORDER]?

<i>2012 Nov 9-12 (sorted by "Yes, will")</i>	Yes, will	No, will not	No opinion
Bring U.S. troops home from Afghanistan in a way that is not harmful to the U.S	72	26	1
Improve conditions for minorities and the poor	72	28	1
Improve education	68	31	1
Keep the U.S. safe from terrorism	65	34	1
Improve the quality of the environment	57	42	2
Reduce unemployment	56	43	2
Improve the health care system	55	44	1
Create a strong economic recovery	54	45	2
Reduce U.S. dependence on oil	47	51	3
Substantially reduce the federal budget deficit	39	58	3
Avoid raising your taxes	38	60	2
Control illegal immigration	36	63	2
Heal political divisions in this country	33	64	3

*Q.12 trend results begin on next page*

#### Q.12 (ADMINISTRATION GOALS) CONTINUED

##### A. Substantially reduce the federal budget deficit

	<u>Yes, will</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>BARACK OBAMA</u></b>			
2012 Nov 9-12	39	58	3
2008 Nov 7-9	42	56	2
<b><u>GEORGE W. BUSH</u></b>			
<i>(Reduce the federal budget deficit)</i>			
2005 Jan 14-16 ^	26	70	4
<i>(Keep the federal budget balanced)</i>			
2001 Jan 15-16	50	46	4
<b><u>BILL CLINTON</u></b>			
<i>(Reduce the federal budget deficit)</i>			
1993 Feb 16-17	50	45	5
1993 Feb 12-14	46	48	6
1992 Nov 10-11	38	54	8
<b><u>GEORGE H.W. BUSH</u></b>			
<i>(Reduce the federal budget deficit)</i>			
1989 Jan 24-25	39	46	15

1988 Nov 14-Dec 4	33	52	15
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**RONALD REAGAN**  
(Balance the budget)

1980 Nov 21-24	30	55	15
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^ Asked of a half sample.

**B. Create a strong economic recovery**

	<u>Yes, will</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>BARACK OBAMA</u></b>			
2012 Nov 9-12	54	45	2
2008 Nov 7-9	64	34	2
<b><u>GEORGE W. BUSH</u></b>			
(Keep America prosperous)			
2005 Jan 14-16 ^	62	35	3
2001 Jan 15-16	63	33	4
<b><u>BILL CLINTON</u></b>			
(Improve the economy)			
1992 Nov 10-11	59	35	6
<b><u>GEORGE H.W. BUSH</u></b>			
(Keep America prosperous)			
1989 Jan 24-25	74	15	10
1988 Nov 14-Dec 4	65	23	12

**Q.12 (ADMINISTRATION GOALS) CONTINUED**

**C. Improve education**

	<u>Yes, will</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>BARACK OBAMA</u></b>			
2012 Nov 9-12	68	31	1
2008 Nov 7-9	71	27	1
<b><u>GEORGE W. BUSH</u></b>			
(Keep America prosperous)			
2005 Jan 14-16 ^	58	40	2
2001 Jan 15-16	66	32	2
<b><u>BILL CLINTON</u></b>			
(Improve the economy)			
1992 Nov 10-11	69	25	6
<b><u>GEORGE H.W. BUSH</u></b>			
(Keep America prosperous)			
1988 Nov 14-Dec 4	61	30	9

^ Asked of a half sample.

**D. Improve the quality of the environment**

	<u>Yes, will</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>BARACK OBAMA</u></b>			

2012 Nov 9-12	57	42	2
2008 Nov 7-9	70	28	2

**GEORGE W. BUSH**

2005 Jan 14-16 ^	39	57	4
2001 Jan 15-16	42	52	6

**BILL CLINTON**

1992 Nov 10-11	64	29	7
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**GEORGE H.W. BUSH**

1989 Jan 24-25	62	26	12
1988 Nov 14-Dec 4	50	36	14

^ Asked of a half sample.

**Q.12 (ADMINISTRATION GOALS) CONTINUED**

**E. Improve conditions for minorities and the poor**

	<u>Yes, will</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>BARACK OBAMA</u></b>			
2012 Nov 9-12	72	28	1
2008 Nov 7-9	80	19	1
<b><u>GEORGE W. BUSH</u></b>			
2001 Jan 15-16 ^	44	51	5
<b><u>BILL CLINTON</u></b>			
1992 Nov 10-11	68	27	5
<b><u>GEORGE H.W. BUSH</u></b>			
1988 Nov 14-Dec 4	39	48	13

^ WORDING: Improve conditions for the disadvantaged and the poor

**F. Avoid raising your taxes**

	<u>Yes, will</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>BARACK OBAMA</u></b>			
2012 Nov 9-12	38	60	2
2008 Nov 7-9	36	61	2
<b><u>GEORGE W. BUSH</u></b>			
<i>(Improve the federal tax system)</i>			
2005 Jan 14-16 ^	49	47	4
<i>(Cut your taxes)</i>			
2001 Jan 15-16	49	46	5
<b><u>BILL CLINTON</u></b>			
1993 Feb 12-14 ^	15	82	3
1992 Nov 10-11 ^	20	74	6
<b><u>GEORGE H.W. BUSH</u></b>			
1989 Jan 24-25 ^	29	64	8
1988 Nov 14-Dec 4 ^	24	68	8

^ Asked of a half sample.

## Q.12 (ADMINISTRATION GOALS) CONTINUED

### G. Improve the health care system

	<u>Yes, will</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>BARACK OBAMA</u></b>			
2012 Nov 9-12	55	44	1
2009 Oct 16-19	46	52	2
2008 Nov 7-9	64	34	1
<b><u>GEORGE W. BUSH</u></b>			
2005 Jan 14-16 ^	44	53	3
2001 Jan 15-16	46	49	5
<b><u>BILL CLINTON</u></b>			
1992 Nov 10-11	64	30	6

^ Asked of a half sample.

### H. Reduce unemployment

	<u>Yes, will</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>BARACK OBAMA</u></b>			
2012 Nov 9-12	56	43	2
2009 Oct 16-19	51	46	2
2008 Nov 7-9	67	32	1
<b><u>BILL CLINTON</u></b>			
1993 Feb 12-13	56	38	6
1992 Nov 10-11	58	37	5
<b><u>RONALD REAGAN</u></b>			
1980 Nov 21-24	47	37	16

### I. Control illegal immigration

	<u>Yes, will</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>BARACK OBAMA</u></b>			
2012 Nov 9-12	36	63	2
2008 Nov 7-9	35	62	3

### J. Reduce U.S. dependence on oil

	<u>Yes, will</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>BARACK OBAMA</u></b>			
2012 Nov 9-12	47	51	3
2008 Nov 7-9	57	41	2

## Q.12 (ADMINISTRATION GOALS) CONTINUED

### K. Keep the U.S. safe from terrorism

	<u>Yes, will</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>BARACK OBAMA</u></b>			
2012 Nov 9-12	65	34	1
2009 Oct 16-19	57	40	2
2008 Nov 7-9	62	36	2
<b><u>GEORGE W. BUSH</u></b>			
2005 Jan 14-16 ^	68	30	2

^ Asked of a half sample.

### L. Bring U.S. troops home from Afghanistan in a way that is not harmful to the U.S.

	<u>Yes, will</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>BARACK OBAMA</u></b>			
2012 Nov 9-12	72	26	1
2009 Oct 16-19	46	50	4
2008 Nov 7-9	58	40	2

### M. Heal political divisions in this country

	<u>Yes, will</u>	<u>No, will not</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<b><u>BARACK OBAMA</u></b>			
2012 Nov 9-12	33	64	3
2009 Oct 16-19	28	69	3
2008 Nov 7-9	54	44	2
<b><u>GEORGE W. BUSH</u></b>			
2005 Jan 14-16 ^	33	64	3
2001 Jan 15-16	41	53	6

^ Asked of a half sample.