

USA TODAY/GALLUP POLL

DECEMBER WAVE 1

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

Timberline: 160861
H: 453
Princeton Job #: 12-12-021

Jeff Jones, Lydia Saad
December 14-17, 2012

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted December 14-17, 2012 with a random sample of –1,025— 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.

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.

4. What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today? [OPEN-ENDED]

	Dec 14-17, 2012	Nov 15-18, 2012	Oct 15-16, 2012	Sep 6-9, 2012	Aug 9-12, 2012	Jul 9-12, 2012	Jun 7-10, 2012
<i>Recent Trend:</i>							
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS (NET)	59	64	72	72	65	65	68
Economy in general	23	30	37	29	31	29	31
Unemployment/Jobs	17	20	26	32	23	28	25
Federal budget deficit/Federal debt	13	11	12	10	7	7	11
Lack of money	6	4	5	4	3	3	5
Taxes	2	1	2	2	1	1	1
Gap between rich and poor	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wage issues	1	*	1	1	1	*	1
Fuel/Oil prices	1	*	2	1	1	1	1
Corporate corruption	*	*	1	1	2	1	1
High cost of living/Inflation	*	*	1	1	1	1	*
Recession	*	*	*	1	1	*	*
Foreign trade/Trade deficit	--	--	*	*	--	--	*
NON-ECONOMIC PROBLEMS (NET)	48	44	44	46	45	43	38
Dissatisfaction with government/Congress/politicians;	14	15	9	12	15	13	12
Poor leadership/Corruption/Abuse of power	6	5	7	10	8	7	6
Poor healthcare/hospitals; High cost of healthcare	5	3	4	4	5	4	4
Ethics/moral/religious/family decline; Dishonesty	4	*	*	*	*	*	--
Guns/Gun control	3	2	4	5	4	4	4
Lack of respect for each other	3	1	1	*	1	2	1
Immigration/Illegal aliens	2	3	2	4	4	3	2
Crime/Violence	2	1	1	*	1	1	*
Wars/War (nonspecific)/Fear of war	2	1	2	1	1	1	1
Foreign aid/Focus overseas	2	2	4	*	1	1	1
Poverty/ Hunger/Homelessness	2	2	1	*	1	2	1
National security	1	1	2	*	1	*	*
Judicial system/Courts/Laws	1	2	2	2	1	2	1
School shootings	1	--	--	--	*	--	--
Welfare	1	1	2	2	1	1	1
Care for the elderly/Medicare	1	1	2	1	*	1	1
Race relations/Racism	1	1	*	1	1	*	*
Drugs	1	*	*	--	--	*	*
Environment/Pollution	1	1	*	2	1	*	1
Social Security	1	*	1	1	*	*	*
Unifying the country	1	2	*	2	*	1	1
Abortion	1	*	1	1	*	*	*
The media	1	*	*	*	--	*	1
International issues, problems	1	1	1	*	1	1	1
Terrorism	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Energy/Lack of energy sources	*	1	*	1	1	*	1
Lack of military defense	*	*	1	*	*	1	1
Situation in Iraq	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Gay rights issues	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Situation/War in Afghanistan	*	1	1	*	*	*	*
War/conflict between Middle East nations	*	1	1	*	*	*	*
Overpopulation	*	--	--	--	--	*	--
Elections/Election reform	*	1	1	1	*	*	*
Situation with China	*	*	*	--	--	1	*
Children's behavior/Way they are raised	*	*	1	*	--	*	*
Other non-economic	3	2	2	2	3	4	3
No opinion	5	2	6	2	3	3	2
Total	134%	124%	149%	137%	130%	130%	128%

