

GALLUP NEWS SERVICE

FACTORS AFFECTING PERSONAL FINANCES

Results are based on telephone interviews with –1,016– national adults, aged 18+, conducted January 21-22, 2013. 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 of national adults includes a minimum quota of 50% cell phone respondents and 50% landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas by region. Landline telephone numbers are chosen at random among listed telephone numbers. Cell phones 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 to correct for unequal selection probability, non-response, and double coverage of landline and cell users in the two sampling frames. They are also weighted to match the national demographics of gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, population density, and phone status (cell phone-only/landline only/both, cell phone mostly, and having an unlisted landline number). Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2012 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older U.S. population. Phone status targets are based on the July-December 2011 National Health Interview Survey. Population density targets are based on the 2010 census. 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.

1. Now I am going to read you some possible situations that could affect your family's finances. For each one, please say whether that situation is hurting your finances a lot, hurting your finances a little, having no effect, helping your finances a little, or helping your finances a lot. How about— [RANDOM ORDER]?

2013 Jan 21-22

Sorted by "hurting a lot"

	Hurting a lot	Hurting a little	Having no effect	Helping a little	Helping a lot	No opinion
Healthcare costs	44	24	22	6	3	2
The price of energy, including gas	43	36	14	4	1	2
The price of food	39	37	19	3	1	1
Taxes	36	33	20	5	2	3
The federal debt ceiling	34	22	31	3	1	9
Government regulations	26	22	32	11	4	4
Immigration policies	23	15	50	6	1	4
Federal spending cuts	22	24	35	8	4	9
The availability of credit	16	14	52	8	4	5