

## GALLUP NEWS SERVICE

### GALLUP POLL SOCIAL SERIES: ENVIRONMENT

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

Timberline: 937008  
H: 553  
Princeton Job #: 13-03-003

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March 7-10, 2013

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Results are based on telephone interviews conducted March 7-10, 2013 with a random sample of -1,022—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.

For results based on the sample of -493—national adults in Form A and -529—national adults in Form B, the margins of sampling error are  $\pm 6$  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.

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15. I'm going to read you a list of environmental problems. As I read each one, please tell me if you personally worry about this problem a great deal, a fair amount, only a little, or not at all. First, how much do you personally worry about -- [ITEMS A-H READ IN RANDOM ORDER, ITEM I READ LAST]?

	Great deal	Fair amount	Only a little/ Not at all
<i>2013 Mar 7-10</i> <i>(sorted by "a great deal")</i>			
Pollution of drinking water	53	26	20
Contamination of soil and water by toxic waste	46	29	25
Pollution of rivers, lakes, and reservoirs	46	32	22
Air pollution	40	30	29
The loss of tropical rain forests	37	27	36
Extinction of plant and animal species	35	29	35
Climate change	33	24	43
Global warming	33	25	43
Urban sprawl and loss of open spaces	26	28	46

## Q.15 (ENVIRONMENTAL WORRIES) CONTINUED

### FULL TRENDS: ENVIRONMENTAL WORRIES

#### A. Pollution of rivers, lakes, and reservoirs

	<u>Great deal</u>	<u>Fair amount</u>	<u>Only a little</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	46	32	16	6	*
2012 Mar 8-11	48	31	17	4	*
2011 Mar 3-6	46	33	16	6	*
2010 Mar 4-7	46	32	18	4	*
2009 Mar 5-8	52	31	13	4	*
2008 Mar 6-9	50	34	12	4	--
2007 Mar 11-14	53	31	13	3	--
2006 Mar 13-16	51	33	11	5	*
2004 Mar 8-11	48	31	16	5	*
2003 Mar 3-5	51	31	13	5	--
2002 Mar 4-7	53	32	12	3	*
2001 Mar 5-7	58	29	10	3	*
2000 Apr 3-9	66	24	8	2	*
1999 Apr 13-14	61	30	7	2	*
1999 Mar 12-14	55	30	12	3	*
1991 Apr 11-14	67	21	8	3	1
1990 Apr 5-8	64	23	9	4	--
1989 May 4-7	72	19	5	3	1

#### B. Air pollution

	<u>Great deal</u>	<u>Fair amount</u>	<u>Only a little</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	40	30	20	9	--
2012 Mar 8-11	36	35	22	7	*
2011 Mar 3-6	36	36	20	8	*
2010 Mar 4-7	38	32	22	8	*
2009 Mar 5-8	45	31	18	6	*
2008 Mar 6-9	43	35	17	6	--
2007 Mar 11-14	46	33	15	5	*
2006 Mar 13-16	44	34	15	7	*
2004 Mar 8-11	39	30	23	8	*
2003 Mar 3-5	42	32	20	6	*
2002 Mar 4-7	45	33	18	4	*
2001 Mar 5-7	48	34	14	4	*
2000 Apr 3-9	59	29	9	3	*
1999 Apr 13-14	52	35	10	3	*
1999 Mar 12-14	47	33	16	4	*
1997 Oct 27-28	42	34	18	5	1
1991 Apr 11-14	59	28	10	4	*
1990 Apr 5-8	58	29	9	4	*
1989 May 4-7	63	24	8	4	*

## Q.15 (ENVIRONMENTAL WORRIES) CONTINUED

### C. The loss of tropical rain forests

	<u>Great deal</u>	<u>Fair amount</u>	<u>Only a little</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	37	27	23	13	1
2012 Mar 8-11	37	27	24	12	1
2011 Mar 3-6	34	29	21	14	1
2010 Mar 4-7	33	33	22	11	1
2009 Mar 5-8	42	26	21	11	*
2008 Mar 6-9	40	29	20	11	*
2007 Mar 11-14	43	30	17	10	1
2006 Mar 13-16	40	24	22	13	1
2004 Mar 8-11	35	26	23	15	1
2003 Mar 3-5	39	29	21	11	*
2002 Mar 4-7	38	27	21	12	2
2001 Mar 5-7	44	32	15	8	1
2000 Apr 3-9	51	25	14	9	1
1999 Apr 13-14	49	30	14	6	1
1991 Apr 11-14	42	25	21	10	2
1990 Apr 5-8	40	24	19	14	3
1989 May 4-7	42	25	18	12	3

### D. Global Warming

	<u>Great deal</u>	<u>Fair amount</u>	<u>Only a little</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	33	25	20	23	*
2012 Mar 8-11	30	25	22	23	1
2011 Mar 3-6	25	26	20	28	1
2010 Mar 4-7	28	24	19	29	*
2009 Mar 5-8 †	33	27	20	20	1
2009 Mar 5-8 ^†	35	25	20	19	1
2008 Mar 6-9 ^	37	29	16	17	1
2007 Mar 11-14 ^	41	24	18	16	1
2006 Mar 13-16 ^	36	26	21	15	1
2004 Mar 8-11 ^	26	25	28	19	2
2003 Mar 3-5 ^	28	30	23	17	2
2002 Mar 4-7 ^	29	29	23	17	2
2001 Mar 5-7 ^	33	30	22	13	2
2000 Apr 3-9 ^	40	32	15	12	1
1999 Apr 13-14 ^	34	34	18	12	2
1999 Mar 12-14 ^	28	31	23	16	2
1997 Oct 27-28 ^	24	26	29	17	4
1991 Apr 11-14 ^	35	27	22	12	5
1990 Apr 5-8 ^	30	27	20	16	6
1989 May 4-7 ^	35	28	18	12	7

† Asked of a half sample

^ WORDING: The "greenhouse effect" or global warming

## Q.15 (ENVIRONMENTAL WORRIES) CONTINUED

### E. Contamination of soil and water by toxic waste

	<u>Great deal</u>	<u>Fair amount</u>	<u>Only a little</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	46	29	18	7	*
2012 Mar 8-11	50	28	16	5	*
2011 Mar 3-6	48	31	15	5	*
2010 Mar 4-7	44	33	18	5	*
2009 Mar 5-8	52	28	14	5	*
2008 Mar 6-9	50	30	14	6	*
2007 Mar 11-14	52	28	13	7	*
2006 Mar 13-16	52	29	13	6	*
2004 Mar 8-11	48	26	21	5	*
2003 Mar 3-5	51	28	16	5	*
2002 Mar 4-7	53	29	15	3	*
2001 Mar 5-7	58	27	12	3	*
2000 Apr 3-9	64	25	7	4	*
1999 Apr 13-14	63	27	7	3	*
1999 Mar 12-14	55	29	11	5	*
1991 Apr 11-14	62	21	11	5	1
1990 Apr 5-8	63	22	10	5	*
1989 May 4-7	69	21	6	3	*

### F. Pollution of drinking water

	<u>Great deal</u>	<u>Fair amount</u>	<u>Only a little</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	53	26	14	6	--
2012 Mar 8-11	48	30	15	6	*
2011 Mar 3-6	51	26	16	7	*
2010 Mar 4-7	50	27	17	6	*
2009 Mar 5-8	59	25	11	5	*
2008 Mar 6-9	53	28	13	6	*
2007 Mar 11-14	58	24	12	5	*
2006 Mar 13-16	54	27	12	7	*
2004 Mar 8-11	53	24	17	6	*
2003 Mar 3-5	54	25	15	6	--
2002 Mar 4-7	57	25	13	5	*
2001 Mar 5-7	64	24	9	3	*
2000 Apr 3-9	72	20	6	2	*
1999 Apr 13-14	68	22	7	3	*
1991 Apr 11-14	67	19	10	3	1
1990 Apr 5-8	65	22	9	4	*

## Q.15 (ENVIRONMENTAL WORRIES) CONTINUED

### G. Extinction of plant and animal species

	<u>Great deal</u>	<u>Fair amount</u>	<u>Only a little</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	35	29	22	13	*
2012 Mar 8-11	36	29	23	12	1
2011 Mar 3-6	34	30	23	13	1
2010 Mar 4-7	31	30	24	15	*
2009 Mar 5-8	37	28	22	12	*
2008 Mar 6-9	37	31	20	11	*
2007 Mar 11-14	39	30	19	12	*
2006 Mar 13-16	34	29	23	14	1
2004 Mar 8-11	36	26	23	15	*
2003 Mar 3-5	34	32	21	12	1
2002 Mar 4-7	35	30	22	12	1
2001 Mar 5-7	43	30	19	7	1
2000 Apr 3-9	45	33	14	8	*

### H. Urban sprawl and loss of open spaces

	<u>Great deal</u>	<u>Fair amount</u>	<u>Only a little</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	26	28	29	17	*
2011 Mar 3-6	27	30	27	15	1
2008 Mar 6-9	33	35	19	12	*
2001 Mar 5-7	35	34	19	10	2
2000 Apr 3-9	42	31	14	12	1

### I. Climate Change

	<u>Great deal</u>	<u>Fair amount</u>	<u>Only a little</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	33	24	23	20	*

20. Next, thinking about the issue of global warming, how well do you feel you understand this issue? Would you say -- very well, fairly well, not very well, or not at all?

	<u>Very well</u>	<u>Fairly well</u>	<u>Not very well</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	27	52	18	3	*
2012 Mar 8-11	29	55	12	4	*
2011 Mar 3-6	25	55	15	4	1
2010 Mar 4-7	26	56	15	3	*
2008 Mar 6-9	21	59	18	2	*
2007 Mar 11-14	22	54	19	4	*
2006 Mar 13-16	21	53	20	6	*
2005 Mar 7-10	16	54	24	6	*
2004 Mar 8-11	18	50	26	6	*
2003 Mar 3-5	15	53	27	5	--
2002 Mar 4-7	17	52	25	6	*
2001 Mar 5-7	15	54	24	6	1
1997 Nov 6-9	16	45	28	10	1
1992 Jan	11	42	22	22	3

1992-2008 WORDING: Next, thinking about the issue of global warming, sometimes called the "greenhouse effect," how well do you feel you understand this issue -- would you say very well, fairly well, not very well, or not at all?

21. Which of the following statements reflects your view of when the effects of global warming will begin to happen – [ROTATED: they have already begun to happen, they will start happening within a few years, they will start happening within your lifetime, they will not happen within your lifetime, but they will affect future generations, (or) they will never happen]?

	<u>Already begun</u>	<u>Within a few years</u>	<u>Within your lifetime</u>	<u>Not within lifetime, but affect future</u>	<u>Will never happen</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	54	3	9	15	15	3
2012 Mar 8-11	52	4	10	15	15	2
2011 Mar 3-6	49	4	9	17	18	3
2010 Mar 4-7	50	3	10	16	19	2
2009 Mar 5-8	53	5	10	15	16	2
2008 Mar 6-9	61	4	10	13	11	1
2007 Mar 23-25	60	4	7	15	11	3
2007 Mar 11-14	59	3	8	19	8	3
2006 Mar 13-16	58	5	10	15	8	3
2005 Mar 7-10	54	5	10	19	9	3
2004 Mar 8-11	51	5	12	18	11	3
2003 Mar 3-5	51	6	12	17	10	4
2002 Mar 4-7	53	5	13	17	9	3
2001 Mar 5-7	54	4	13	18	7	4
1997 Nov 6-9	48	3	14	19	9	7

22. Thinking about what is said in the news, in your view is the seriousness of global warming -- [ROTATED: generally exaggerated, generally correct, or is it generally underestimated]?

	<u>Generally exaggerated</u>	<u>Generally correct</u>	<u>Generally underestimated</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	41	24	33	2
2012 Mar 8-11	42	24	31	3
2011 Mar 3-6	43	26	29	3
2010 Mar 4-7	48	24	25	3
2009 Mar 5-8	41	29	28	2
2008 Mar 6-9	35	33	29	2
2007 Mar 11-14	33	29	35	4
2006 Mar 13-16	30	28	38	4
2005 Mar 7-10	31	29	35	5
2004 Mar 8-11	38	25	33	4
2003 Mar 3-5	33	29	33	5
2002 Mar 4-7	31	32	32	5
2001 Mar 5-7	30	34	32	4
1997 Nov 6-9 ^	31	34	27	8

^ Based on half sample.

23. Just your impression, which one of the following statements do you think is most accurate – most scientists believe that global warming is occurring, most scientists believe that global warming is NOT occurring, or most scientists are unsure about whether global warming is occurring or not?

	<u>Is occurring</u>	<u>Not occurring</u>	<u>Unsure</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	62	6	28	4
2012 Mar 8-11	58	7	32	3
2011 Mar 3-6	55	8	33	4
2010 Mar 4-7	52	10	36	2
2008 Mar 6-9	65	7	26	3
2006 Mar 13-16	65	3	29	3
2001 Mar 5-7	61	4	30	5
1997 Nov 21-23	48	7	39	6



24. And from what you have heard or read, do you believe increases in the Earth's temperature over the last century are due more to – [ROTATED: the effects of pollution from human activities (or) natural changes in the environment that are not due to human activities]?

	<u>Human activities</u>	<u>Natural causes</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	57	39	4
2012 Mar 8-11	53	41	6
2011 Mar 3-6	52	43	5
2010 Mar 4-7	50	46	5
2008 Mar 6-9	58	38	5
2007 Mar 11-14	61	35	5
2006 Mar 13-16	58	36	6
2003 Mar 3-5	61	33	6

25. Do you think that global warming will pose a serious threat to you or your way of life in your lifetime?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	34	64	1
2012 Mar 8-11	38	61	1
2010 Mar 4-7	32	67	2
2009 Mar 5-8	38	60	2
2008 Mar 6-9	40	58	2
2006 Mar 13-16	35	62	2
2002 Mar 4-7	33	65	2
2001 Mar 5-7	31	66	3
1997 Nov 6-9 ^	25	69	6

^ Asked of a half sample.

26. Which comes closer to your view – [ROTATED: it is possible to take specific actions that will slow down the effects of global warming (or) the effects of global warming are part of a natural process that can't be altered]?

	<u>Possible to take action to slow effects</u>	<u>Part of a natural process that can't be altered</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2013 Mar 7-10	56	40	5

