

## **GALLUP NEWS SERVICE**

### **FEDERAL BUDGET AND POTENTIAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN**

**Results are based on telephone interviews with –1,024– national adults, aged 18+, conducted September 27-28, 2013. 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.**

**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 and 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). 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, thinking about the budget debate which has been going on in Washington, who do you think has acted more responsibly in the negotiations over the budget -- President Obama or the Republican leaders in Congress?

	President <u>Obama</u>	Republicans <u>in Congress</u>	Neither <u>(VOL.)</u>	Both <u>(VOL.)</u>	No <u>opinion</u>
2013 Sep 27-28	40	35	11	1	13

**For comparison: 1995-1996 Government shutdown:** *Now, thinking about the budget conflict which has been going on in Washington, who do you think has acted more responsibly in the negotiations over the budget -- President Clinton or the Republican leaders in Congress?*

	President <u>Clinton</u>	Republicans <u>in Congress</u>	Neither <u>(VOL.)</u>	Both <u>(VOL.)</u>	No <u>opinion</u>
1996 Feb 23-25	44	35	13	2	6
1996 Jan 12-15	45	38	12	1	4
1996 Jan 5-7	38	37	14	3	8
1995 Dec 15-18	48	34	10	2	6

2. Which of the following statements comes closer to your view about the budget debate between Barack Obama and the Republicans in Congress -- [ROTATED: it is an important battle over principles and the future direction of government (or) it is mostly an attempt by both sides to gain political advantage]?

	Important battle <u>over</u> <u>principles</u>	Attempt to gain political <u>advantage</u>	Both/ Mixed ( <u>vol.</u> )
2013 Sep 27-28	37	47	4

**For comparison: 1995-1996 Government shutdown:** *Which of the following statements comes closer to your view about the budget debate between Bill Clinton and the Republicans in Congress -- It is an important battle over principles and the future direction of government (or) it is mostly an attempt by both sides to gain political advantage before the 1996 election?*

	Important battle <u>over</u> <u>principles</u>	Attempt to gain political <u>advantage</u>	Both/ Mixed ( <u>vol.</u> )
1995 Nov 14	37	52	6