

GALLUP NEWS SERVICE

GALLUP POLL SOCIAL SERIES: MOOD OF THE NATION

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

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Results are based on telephone interviews conducted January 6-10, 2016 with a random sample of 1,012—adults, aged 18+, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. For results based on this sample of national adults, the margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

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 60% cell phone respondents and 40% landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas by region. Landline and cell phone telephone 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 and cell phone mostly). Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2015 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older U.S. population. Phone status targets are based on the January-June 2015 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.

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

	Jan 6-10, 2016	Dec 2-6, 2015	Nov 4-8, 2015	Oct 7-11, 2015	Sep 9-13, 2015	Aug 5-9, 2015	Jul 8-12, 2015
<i>Recent Trend:</i>							
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS (NET)	27	21	39	33	35	37	32
Economy in general	13	9	17	13	15	14	13
Federal budget deficit/Federal debt	5	2	5	5	5	5	5
Unemployment/Jobs	5	6	7	8	8	11	6
Lack of money	1	1	2	1	3	3	2
Gap between rich and poor	1	2	4	3	3	3	3
Wage issues	1	1	1	2	1	*	1
High cost of living/Inflation	1	1	1	1	*	1	*
Taxes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Corporate corruption	*	1	1	1	1	1	2
Fuel/Oil prices	*	--	--	*	*	*	*
Foreign trade/Trade deficit	--	*	*	*	*	--	--
NON-ECONOMIC PROBLEMS (NET)	76	83	70	74	73	68	73
Dissatisfaction with government/Congress/politicians; Poor leadership/Corruption/Abuse of power	16	13	15	16	17	13	13
Terrorism	9	16	3	3	2	4	3
Immigration/Illegal aliens	8	5	9	8	12	8	7
Guns/Gun control	7	7	3	7	2	2	1
Race relations/Racism	6	4	3	4	7	6	9
Ethics/moral/religious/family decline; Dishonesty	4	6	5	5	7	3	6
Poverty/ Hunger/Homelessness	4	4	3	3	3	2	4
Poor healthcare/hospitals; High cost of healthcare	4	3	6	6	6	5	4
Education/Poor education/Access to education	3	3	3	4	4	5	4
Situation in Iraq/ISIS	3	6	1	2	1	3	2
National security	3	5	3	2	3	3	2
Crime/Violence	2	6	2	5	3	2	4
Foreign policy/Foreign aid/Focus overseas	2	3	2	3	3	4	3
International issues, problems	2	1	3	2	3	1	1
Elections/Election reform	2	*	1	2	1	1	1
Environment/Pollution	2	3	3	1	2	3	3
Welfare	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
Lack of respect for each other	1	1	2	3	1	2	3
Wars/War (nonspecific)/Fear of war	1	2	1	2	1	2	2
Judicial system/Courts/Laws	1	2	3	2	4	3	3
Lack of military defense	1	1	2	2	*	1	1
Drugs	1	*	1	1	1	1	1
Social Security	*	1	*	*	*	*	*
Children's behavior/Way they are raised	*	*	1	1	*	--	*
War/conflict between Middle East nations	*	1	*	2	1	1	*
Care for the elderly/Medicare	*	--	*	1	1	*	*
Unifying the country	*	1	1	2	1	1	2
The media	*	*	1	1	*	*	*
Abortion	*	*	1	1	1	1	*
Gay rights issues	*	--	*	1	2	1	1
Situation with China	*	--	--	--	--	*	1
Energy/Lack of energy sources	*	--	*	*	*	*	*
Situation/War in Afghanistan	*	--	--	--	*	--	--
School shootings	--	2	--	1	*	--	--
Overpopulation	--	*	--	1	*	*	*
Natural disaster response/Relief efforts	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
Other non-economic	2	2	2	3	2	2	2
No opinion	3	1	3	4	7	3	4
Total	119%	127%	125%	138%	140%	126%	125%

