

**GALLUP NEWS SERVICE**

**GALLUP POLL SOCIAL SERIES:  
CRIME**

**-- FINAL TOPLINE --**

Timberline: 937614  
T: 559  
Princeton Job #: 23-10-010

October 2-23, 2023

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**Results are based on telephone interviews conducted October 2-23, 2023, with a random sample of –1,009— adults, ages 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  $\pm 4$  percentage points at the 95% confidence level.**

**For results based on the sample of -- 498 -- national adults in Form A and the sample of –511-- national adults in Form B, the margin of sampling error is  $\pm 5$  percentage points.**

**For results based on the sample of – 478 – U.S. adults with a gun in their household, the margin of sampling error is  $\pm 5$  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 80% cell phone respondents and 20% landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas by time zone within region. Landline and cell phone telephone numbers are selected using random digit dial methods. Gallup obtained sample for this study from Dynata. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member has the next 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 most recent Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older U.S. population. Phone status targets are based on the most recent National Health Interview Survey. Population density targets are based on the 2020 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. For questions about how this survey was conducted, please contact [galluphelp@gallup.com](mailto:galluphelp@gallup.com).**

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14. In general, do you think the criminal justice system in this country is too tough, not tough enough or about right in its handling of crime?

	<u>Too tough</u>	<u>Not tough enough</u>	<u>About right</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2023 Oct 2-23	14	58	26	2
2020 Sep 30-Oct 15	21	41	35	3
2016 Oct 5-9 ^	14	45	35	6
2003 Oct 6-8	6	65	26	3
2000 Aug 29-Sep 5	3	70	22	5
1992 Mar 30-Apr 5 †	2	83	12	3

^ Asked of half sample

† Conducted by Gallup/Life Magazine

15. In general, do you think the criminal justice system is very fair, somewhat fair, somewhat unfair or very unfair in its treatment of people accused of committing crime?

	<u>Very fair</u>	<u>Somewhat fair</u>	<u>Somewhat unfair</u>	<u>Very unfair</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2023 Oct 2-23	9	40	32	17	2
2003 Oct 6-8	18	48	22	10	2
2000 Aug 29-Sep 5	16	51	22	7	4

Q.16/17 SPLIT SAMPLED

16. *(Asked of a half sample)* Which of the following approaches to lowering the crime rate in the United States comes closer to your own view – [ROTATED: more money and effort should go to addressing social and economic problems such as drug addiction, homelessness, and mental health (or) more money and effort should go to strengthening law enforcement]?

**BASED ON – 498 – NATIONAL ADULTS IN FORM A**

	<u>Address social problems</u>	<u>Strengthen law enforcement</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2023 Oct 2-23	64	35	1
2020 Sep 30-Oct 15	63	34	2

**For comparison:** *Which of the following approaches to lowering the crime rate in the United States comes closer to your own view -- do you think [ROTATED: more money and effort should go to attacking the social and economic problems that lead to crime through better education and job training (or) more money and effort should go to deterring crime by improving law enforcement with more prisons, police, and judges]?*

	<u>Attack social problems</u>	<u>More law enforcement</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2010 Oct 7-10	64	32	4
2006 Oct 9-12	65	31	4
2003 Oct 6-8	69	29	2
2000 Aug 29-Sep 5	68	27	5
1994 Aug 15-16 ^	51	42	7
1994 Feb 26-28 ^	57	39	4
1992 Aug 28-Sep 2 ^	67	25	8
1992 Mar 30-Apr 5 ^	64	27	9
1990 Sep 10-11 ^	57	36	2
1989 Jun 8-11 ^	61	32	7

^ WORDING: To lower the crime rate in the United States, some people think additional money and effort should go to attacking the social and economic problems that lead to crime through better education and job training. Others feel more money and effort should go to deterring crime by improving law enforcement with more prisons, police, and judges. Which comes closer to your view?

17. *(Asked of a half sample)* Which do you think should be the bigger priority for the U.S. criminal justice system today -- [ROTATED: strengthening law and order through more police and greater enforcement of the laws (or) reducing bias against minorities in the criminal justice system by reforming court and police practices]?

**BASED ON – 511 – NATIONAL ADULTS IN FORM B**

	<u>Strengthening law and order</u>	<u>Reducing bias against minorities</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2023 Oct 2-23	55	42	3
2016 Oct 5-9	49	43	8

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**QN14: Criminal Justice System Too Tough BY Total + Gender + Race | + Age + Education + Party I.D. + Household Income**

		Total	Gender		Race		Age			Education			Party I.D.			Household Income		
			Male	Female	White	Non-white	18-34	35-54	55+	College Grad	Some College	HS Grad or Less	Republican	Independent	Democrat	Less than \$50,000	\$50,000-100,000	\$100,000+
Total	Unweighted n	1009	550	448	738	242	214	270	510	425	345	228	301	419	255	291	301	300
	Weighted n	1009	492	502	648	339	275	337	385	352	271	380	271	441	268	336	290	277
Too tough		143	78	57	75	66	59	54	29	53	29	61	11	65	65	48	42	39
		14%	16%	11%	12%	20%	21%	16%	8%	15%	11%	16%	4%	15%	24%	14%	15%	14%
About right		258	125	133	156	98	93	78	86	102	68	88	36	128	90	96	74	70
		26%	25%	27%	24%	29%	34%	23%	22%	29%	25%	23%	13%	29%	33%	29%	25%	25%
Not tough enough		586	278	301	406	164	114	197	264	186	165	229	219	241	108	185	167	164
		58%	57%	60%	63%	49%	42%	58%	68%	53%	61%	60%	81%	55%	40%	55%	58%	59%
(DK)/(Refused)		22	11	11	11	11	8	8	6	10	9	3	6	7	6	7	7	4
		2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%

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**QN15: Fairness Criminal Justice System BY Total + Gender + Race | + Age + Education + Party I.D. + Household Income**

		Total	Gender		Race		Age			Education			Party I.D.			Household Income		
			Male	Female	White	Non-white	18-34	35-54	55+	College Grad	Some College	HS Grad or Less	Republican	Independent	Democrat	Less than \$50,000	\$50,000-100,000	\$100,000+
Total	Unweighted n	1009	550	448	738	242	214	270	510	425	345	228	301	419	255	291	301	300
	Weighted n	1009	492	502	648	339	275	337	385	352	271	380	271	441	268	336	290	277
Very fair		91	54	37	50	40	18	34	37	31	16	42	33	44	13	39	20	23
		9%	11%	7%	8%	12%	7%	10%	10%	9%	6%	11%	12%	10%	5%	12%	7%	8%
Somewhat fair		399	201	197	292	96	105	128	163	153	98	145	126	164	98	123	103	130
		40%	41%	39%	45%	28%	38%	38%	42%	43%	36%	38%	46%	37%	37%	37%	35%	47%
Somewhat unfair		321	130	184	194	123	107	98	114	107	102	112	64	150	101	102	111	82
		32%	26%	37%	30%	36%	39%	29%	30%	30%	38%	29%	23%	34%	37%	30%	38%	30%
Very unfair		172	93	72	101	68	38	69	64	60	49	63	43	76	50	66	47	41
		17%	19%	14%	16%	20%	14%	21%	17%	17%	18%	17%	16%	17%	19%	19%	16%	15%
(DK)/(Refused)		25	14	11	11	12	7	8	8	1	5	17	5	9	7	6	10	1
		2%	3%	2%	2%	3%	2%	3%	2%	0%	2%	5%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	0%

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**QN16: Crime Rate in the United States BY Total + Gender + Race I + Age + Education + Party I.D. + Household Income**

		Total	Gender		Race I		Age			Education			Party I.D.			Household Income		
			Male	Female	White	Non-white	18-34	35-54	55+	College Grad	Some College	HS Grad or Less	Republican	Independent	Democrat	Less than \$50,000	\$50,000-100,000	\$100,000+
Total	Unweighted n	498	268	227	368	115	104	129	255	194	186	112	155	199	126	130	157	149
	Weighted n	506	242	260	314	178	143	166	188	160	149	193	140	217	134	159	156	136
More money and effort should go to addressing social and economic problems such as drug addiction, homelessness, and men		323	138	181	177	138	118	107	97	102	91	128	45	148	122	112	98	84
		64%	57%	70%	56%	77%	82%	65%	51%	64%	61%	66%	32%	68%	91%	70%	63%	62%
More money and effort should go to strengthening law enforcement (or		176	99	77	135	37	25	54	90	57	56	61	93	66	12	44	57	51
		35%	41%	30%	43%	21%	18%	33%	48%	36%	38%	32%	66%	30%	9%	27%	36%	38%
(DK)/(Refused)		7	5	2	2	4		4	2	1	2	4	2	3	1	4	2	1
		1%	2%	1%	1%	2%		3%	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%

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**QN17: Worry U.S. Criminal Justice System BY Total + Gender + Race I + Age + Education + Party I.D. + Household Income**

		Total	Gender		Race I		Age			Education			Party I.D.			Household Income		
			Male	Female	White	Non-white	18-34	35-54	55+	College Grad	Some College	HS Grad or Less	Republican	Independent	Democrat	Less than \$50,000	\$50,000-100,000	\$100,000+
Total	Unweighted n	511	282	221	370	127	110	141	255	231	159	116	146	220	129	161	144	151
	Weighted n	503	250	242	333	161	131	171	197	191	122	187	131	225	134	177	134	141
Strengthening law and order through more police and greater enforcement of the laws (or		276	142	133	199	70	52	100	122	96	65	114	111	136	23	103	61	78
		55%	57%	55%	60%	44%	40%	58%	62%	50%	53%	61%	85%	60%	17%	58%	46%	55%
Reducing bias against minorities in the criminal justice system by reforming court and police practices (or		213	99	105	128	84	74	65	74	92	55	66	17	81	110	68	70	62
		42%	40%	44%	38%	52%	56%	38%	37%	48%	45%	35%	13%	36%	82%	38%	53%	44%
(DK)/(Refused)		13	10	4	6	7	5	6	2	3	2	8	3	8	1	7	2	1
		3%	4%	2%	2%	4%	4%	3%	1%	2%	2%	4%	2%	4%	1%	4%	2%	1%

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