



Interviews with 1,010 adult Americans, conducted by telephone by Opinion Research Corporation on August 28-31, 2009. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points.

FOR RELEASE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 AT 6 AM

10. Which of the following is the most important issue facing the country today? (RANDOM ORDER)

	Aug. 28-31 <u>2009</u>	June 26-28 <u>2009</u>	Apr. 23-26 <u>2009</u>	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>
The economy	41%	51%	55%	63%
Health care	20%	13%	9%	9%
The federal budget deficit	15%	14%	10%	8%
The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan	8%	8%	9%	6%
Education	8%	4%	6%	5%
Terrorism	5%	5%	6%	5%
Energy policy	2%	4%	3%	2%
Other (vol.)	1%	1%	1%	1%
No opinion (vol.)	*	*	1%	*

11. (IF ECONOMY) And which of those items I just mentioned is the most important issue OTHER THAN THE ECONOMY facing the country today?

QUESTIONS 10 AND 11 COMBINED

	Aug. 28-31 <u>2009</u>	June 26-28 <u>2009</u>
Health care	33%	27%
Deficit	25%	23%
Wars	15%	21%
Education	12%	11%
Terrorism	10%	10%
Energy	4%	6%
Other (vol.)	1%	2%
No opinion (vol.)	*	1%

15. How well are things going in the country today -- very well, fairly well, pretty badly or very badly?

	<u>Very Well</u>	<u>Fairly Well</u>	<u>Pretty Badly</u>	<u>Very Badly</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>	<u>Very+ Fairly Well</u>	<u>Pretty+ Very Badly</u>
August 28-31, 2009	2%	28%	46%	23%	1%	30%	69%
May 14-17, 2009	3%	25%	45%	26%	*	28%	71%
April 3-5, 2009	3%	20%	51%	26%	*	23%	77%
February 18-19, 2009	3%	18%	47%	32%	*	21%	79%
December 1-2, 2008	2%	18%	39%	40%	*	20%	79%
November 6-9, 2008	2%	14%	45%	38%	*	16%	83%
October 17-19, 2008	3%	22%	42%	33%	*	25%	75%
October 3-5, 2008	3%	17%	45%	35%	*	20%	80%
Aug 23-24, 2008	3%	28%	35%	34%	*	31%	69%
July 27-29, 2008	3%	21%	47%	29%	*	24%	76%
Apr. 28-30, 2008	4%	26%	35%	35%	1%	30%	70%
Nov. 2-4, 2007	8%	34%	35%	23%	*	42%	58%
April 10-12, 2007	8%	40%	34%	17%	1%	48%	51%
January 11, 2007	8%	49%	30%	12%	1%	57%	42%
November 3-5, 2006	9%	42%	30%	18%	1%	51%	48%
October 6-8, 2006	12%	37%	30%	19%	2%	49%	49%
Sept. 29-October 2, 2006	8%	43%	26%	23%	*	51%	49%
August 30-Sept. 2, 2006	9%	37%	29%	25%	*	46%	54%
August 2-3, 2006	8%	47%	29%	15%	1%	55%	44%
May 5-7, 2006	8%	38%	33%	20%	1%	46%	53%

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

	<u>Very well</u>	<u>Fairly well</u>	<u>Pretty badly</u>	<u>Very badly</u>	<u>No opinion</u>	<u>Very/fairly well</u>	<u>Very/pretty badly</u>
2006 Feb 9-12	5	47	33	14	1	52	47
2005 Nov 11-13	5	44	32	18	1	49	50
2005 Sep 8-11*	6	44	36	14	*	50	50
2005 Jul 23-24	9	49	28	13	1	58	41
2005 Apr 1-2	9	52	28	10	1	61	38
2005 Jan 7-9	8	50	28	13	1	58	41
2004 Oct 29-31*	12	43	27	17	1	55	44
2004 Oct 9-10	8	46	33	13	*	54	46

* Asked of a half sample.

(CNN/TIME TRENDS ON NEXT PAGE)

CNN/TIME TRENDS

	Very/ fairly well	Very/ pretty badly		Very/ fairly well	Very/ pretty badly		Very/ fairly well	Very/ pretty badly
2004 May 12-13	60	39	2000 Oct 25-26	79	19	1998 Jan 14-15	65	32
2004 Apr 8	63	36	2000 Oct 12-13	76	22	1997 Oct 30	67	31
2004 Feb 5-6	52	47	2000 Oct 4-5	77	22	1997 Sep 10-11	63	34
2004 Jan 14-15	53	46	2000 Sep 6-7	79	19	1997 Jul 30-31	69	29
2003 Dec 30-Jan 1	49	49	2000 Aug 9-10	77	21	1997 Jun 4-5	64	34
2003 Nov 18-19	52	46	2000 Jul 26-27	74	24	1997 May 7-8	63	35
2003 Sep 3-4	49	49	2000 Jun 14-15	72	27	1997 Apr 16-17	62	37
2003 Jul 16-17	57	42	2000 Mar 8-9	76	22	1997 Mar 11-12	57	41
2003 May 21-22	60	39	2000 Feb 2-3	78	17	1997 Feb 26-27	64	35
2003 Mar 27	63	36	2000 Jan 12-13	81	19	1997 Feb 5-6	67	33
2003 Feb 19-20	52	47	2000 Jan 5-6	80	19	1997 Jan 8-9	63	35
2003 Feb 6	53	46	1999 Nov 10-11	68	30	1996 Oct	67	32
2003 Jan 15-16	49	49	1999 Jul 14-15	70	28	1996 Jun	61	37
2002 Dec 17-18	54	45	1999 Jun 9-10	69	31	1996 Jun	62	37
2002 Nov 13-14	56	42	1999 May 26-27	61	37	1996 Feb	53	44
2002 Oct 23-24	49	49	1999 Mar 25	70	29	1996 Jan	48	50
2002 Aug 28-29	57	41	1999 Mar 4	73	26	1996 Jan	48	50
2002 Jul 10-11	59	39	1999 Jan 20-21	77	22	1995 Dec	54	44
2002 Jun 19-20	57	41	1999 Jan 7	74	25	1995 Oct	46	52
2002 May 22-23	64	35	1998 Dec 17-18	60	38	1995 Oct	47	51
2002 Apr 10-11	61	38	1998 Oct 14-15	78	21	1995 Sep	50	49
2002 Mar 13-14	69	29	1998 Sep 23-24	72	26	1995 Sep	50	49
2002 Jan 23-24	66	34	1998 Sep 16-17	72	25	1995 Aug	47	52
2001 Dec 19-20	64	34	1998 Aug 18	77	21	1995 Jul	51	47
2001 Nov 7-8	63	35	1998 Jul 30	68	31	1995 Jun	53	47
2001 Oct 12	65	33	1998 Jun 30-Jul 1	67	31	1995 Jun	45	51
2001 Sep 27	59	38	1998 Jun 26-Jul 5	55	44	1995 May	50	49
2001 Sep 13	45	53	1998 May 18-19	66	30	1995 Apr	46	52
2001 Jul 17-18	70	29	1998 Apr 8-9	70	30	1995 Mar	52	46
2001 May 23-24	65	33	1998 Mar 18-19	76	25	1995 Mar	49	48
2001 Feb 7-8	71	28	1998 Feb 4-5	74	25	1995 Feb	54	44
2001 Jan 10-11	73	24	1998 Jan 28-29	79	19	1995 Jan	58	41
2000 Nov 10	74	25	1998 Jan 22	68	31	1995 Jan	56	43

(CNN/TIME TRENDS ON NEXT PAGE)

CNN/TIME TRENDS (CONTINUED)

	Very/ fairly well	Very/ pretty badly		Very/ fairly well	Very/ pretty badly		Very/ fairly well	Very/ pretty badly
1995 Jan	54	44	1992 Feb	35	62	1985 Sep	67	33
1994 Dec	55	44	1992 Jan	29	71	1985 Jul	70	31
1994 Nov	49	48	1992 Jan	35	64	1985 Apr	69	32
1994 Oct	50	49	1992 Jan	36	64	1984 Dec	74	26
1994 Oct	51	47	1991 Dec	29	71	1984 Oct	74	26
1994 Sep	45	53	1991 Nov	36	64	1984 Sep	71	30
1994 Sep	46	53	1991 Oct	42	56	1984 Aug	68	32
1994 Sep	42	57	1991 Oct	42	58	1984 Jan	67	32
1994 Aug	42	58	1991 Sep	49	49	1983 Dec	60	40
1994 Aug	45	52	1991 Aug	53	47	1983 Sep	56	45
1994 Aug	49	50	1991 Jun	53	47	1983 Jun	58	41
1994 Jul	51	48	1991 May	53	47	1983 Mar	46	55
1994 Jun	49	49	1991 Apr	56	42	1982 Dec	35	65
1994 Jun	56	41	1991 Apr	59	41	1982 Oct	40	60
1994 May	48	51	1991 Mar	74	26	1982 Jun	40	60
1994 May	49	50	1991 Feb	58	42	1982 Mar	39	62
1994 Apr	47	52	1991 Jan	39	61	1981 Dec	43	58
1994 Apr	53	44	1990 Dec	45	55	1981 Sep	53	47
1994 Mar	48	49	1990 Nov	42	58	1981 May	51	50
1994 Mar	49	50	1990 Oct	38	62	1981 Jan	26	74
1994 Feb	47	51	1990 Oct	41	59	1980 Oct	32	68
1994 Jan	52	47	1990 Oct	42	58	1980 Aug	30	70
1993 Dec	48	50	1990 Sep	52	48	1980 May	21	79
1993 Nov	45	54	1990 Aug	55	45	1980 Mar	24	76
1993 Oct	40	58	1990 Jul	55	45	1980 Jan	34	65
1993 Oct	39	58	1990 May	61	37	1979 Dec	36	64
1993 Oct	41	59	1990 Apr	62	38	1979 Oct	36	68
1993 Sep	47	52	1990 Mar	62	38	1979 Aug	31	70
1993 Sep	42	57	1990 Feb	70	30	1979 Apr	36	65
1993 Aug	39	58	1990 Jan	67	33	1978 Oct	56	44
1993 Aug	41	57	1989 Oct	62	38	1978 May	49	51
1993 Jun	41	56	1989 Jun	61	39	1978 Mar	53	47
1993 May	40	58	1989 Jan	69	31	1977 Nov	64	35
1993 May	43	56	1988 Oct	70	31	1977 Jul	69	31
1993 Apr	45	53	1988 Sep	73	27	1977 May	65	35
1993 Mar	48	50	1988 Apr	64	40	1977 Mar	69	31
1993 Feb	48	49	1988 Mar	65	33	1976 Oct	56	44
1993 Feb	48	49	1988 Feb	60	37	1976 Sep	57	44
1993 Jan	53	45	1988 Jan	62	38	1976 Aug	60	40
1993 Jan	47	52	1987 Oct	58	42	1976 Jun	50	50
1992 Oct	35	65	1987 Aug	61	39	1976 Apr	52	48
1992 Sep	32	68	1987 May	64	37	1976 Jan	46	55
1992 Aug	35	63	1987 Feb	61	40	1975 May	40	61
1992 Jul	31	67	1987 Jan	61	39	1975 Jan	23	78
1992 Jun	35	62	1986 Sep	63	37	1974 Sep	30	70
1992 Jun	33	65	1986 Jul	69	31	1974 Mar	29	71
1992 May	30	68	1986 May	65	34			
1992 Apr	33	65	1986 Apr	67	32			
1992 Mar	33	66	1985 Nov	70	31			

16. Do you generally support or oppose President Obama's overall economic plan?

	Aug. 28-31 <u>2009</u>	June 26-28 <u>2009</u>	Mar. 12-15 <u>2009</u>
Support	52%	58%	65%
Oppose	46%	39%	34%
No opinion	2%	2%	1%

FOR COMPARISON:
CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

	<u>Support</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Mixed (vol.)</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
<u>Bill Clinton</u>				
1993 June 29-30	44%	49%	2%	5%
1993 May 21-23	44%	45%	5%	6%
1993 Apr 22-24	55%	39%	2%	4%
1993 March 22-24	55%	34%	6%	5%
1993 Feb 26-28	59%	29%	6%	6%
1993 Feb 17	79%	16%	4%	1%

17. Do you think the economy is in a recession, or not?

	<u>Aug. 28-31</u> <u>2009</u>	<u>May 14-17</u> <u>2009</u>	<u>Dec. 1-2</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Oct. 17-19</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Aug. 29-31</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>June 26-29</u> <u>2008</u>
Yes	87%	90%	89%	76%	73%	75%
No	12%	10%	10%	23%	26%	25%
No opinion	1%	*	1%	1%	1%	*

	<u>Apr. 28-30</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Mar. 14-16</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Feb. 1-3</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Jan. 9-10</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>Dec. 6-9</u> <u>2007</u>	<u>Oct. 12-14</u> <u>2007</u>
Yes	79%	74%	66%	61%	57%	46%
No	19%	25%	31%	37%	42%	51%
No opinion	2%	1%	2%	3%	1%	3%

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2004 Jan 2-5	32	66	2
2003 Apr 22-23	56	41	3
2003 Mar 24-25	41	54	5
2002 Nov 22-24	52	45	3
2002 Oct 3-6*	55	40	5
2002 Jul 29-31	46	50	4
2002 Jun 28-30	52	45	3
2002 May 6-9	45	53	2
2002 Apr 8-11	45	52	3
2002 Mar 8-9*	56	38	6
2001 Nov 8-11	59	38	3
2001 Oct 11-14	49	49	2
2001 Sep 21-22	52	43	5
2001 Sep 7-10	51	43	6
2001 May 10-14	33	62	5
2001 Apr 6-8	42	52	6
2001 Mar 5-7*	31	64	5
2001 Feb 1-4*	44	49	7
1994 May 20-22	35	61	4
1994 Feb. 26-28	34	62	4
1993 Dec 4-6	45	50	5
1992 Sept 11-15	79	19	2
1992 Jan. 3-6	84	14	2
1991 March	81	16	4

* Asked of a half sample.

17. Do you think the economy is now in a recession, or not?
 18. (IF YES:) Do you think we are in a mild recession, or a moderate recession, or a serious recession?

QUESTIONS 17 AND 18 COMBINED

	Aug. 28-31 <u>2009</u>	May 14-17 <u>2009</u>	Oct. 17-19 <u>2008</u>	June 26-29 <u>2008</u>	Mar. 14-16 <u>2008*</u>
Serious recession	36%	42%	32%	27%	29%
Moderate recession	39%	35%	30%	29%	29%
Mild recession	12%	12%	14%	19%	16%
Not in a recession (from Q.17)	12%	10%	23%	25%	25%
No opinion	1%	*	1%	*	1%

*Asked of half sample

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

	<u>Serious recession</u>	<u>Moderate recession</u>	<u>Mild recession</u>	<u>No, not in recession</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2003 Apr 22-23	10	25	21	41	3

LOS ANGELES TIMES TRENDS

	<u>Serious recession</u>	<u>Moderate recession</u>	<u>Mild recession</u>	<u>No, not in recession</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2002 Dec 12-15	13	24	24	35	4
2002 Aug 22-25	11	23	25	36	5
2002 Jan 31-Feb 2	18	34	29	15	4
2001 Sep 13-14	9	19	23	41	8
1997 Sep 6-9	7	16	12	59	6
1997 Feb 5-6	6	14	13	62	5
1996 Oct 24-27	12	15	16	52	5
1996 Sep 7-10	8	14	16	53	9
1996 Aug 3-6	11	15	19	47	8
1995 Jun 9-11	12	20	21	39	8
1995 Mar 15-19	13	18	20	45	4
1994 Jul 23-26	16	20	17	41	6
1994 Apr 16-19	12	22	17	44	5
1994 Jan 15-19	20	20	18	37	5
1993 Dec 4-7	22	26	18	29	5
1993 Sep 25-28	29	27	16	24	4
1993 Jun 12-14	25	27	18	26	4
1993 Feb 18-19	25	25	15	30	5
1993 Jan 14-17	27	27	17	25	4
1992 Oct 24-26	46	30	12	9	3
1992 Oct 2-5	45	26	15	11	3
1992 Aug 20-21	45	27	16	9	3
1992 Aug 12-14	45	31	13	8	3
1992 Jul 7-9	42	33	12	10	3
1992 Mar 27-29	35	31	18	13	3
1992 Jan 31-Feb 2	41	34	14	8	3
1991 Nov 21-24	33	35	17	12	3
1991 Sep 21-25	30	33	19	14	4
1991 Jun 28-30	32	33	18	14	3
1991 Mar 9-11	21	38	29	9	3
1991 Feb 15-17	23	33	28	13	3

19. Do you think the Democrats or the Republicans are more responsible for the country's current economic problems? (ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE. RESULTS BASED ON 502 INTERVIEWS IN VERSION A -- SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.)

	Aug. 28-31 <u>2009</u>	July 31-Aug. 3 <u>2009</u>	May 14-17 <u>2009</u>	Jan. 12-15 <u>2009</u>
Democrats	27%	23%	21%	22%
Republican	41%	44%	53%	50%
Both equally (vol.)	26%	24%	22%	20%
Neither (vol.)	4%	7%	4%	6%
No opinion	1%	3%	1%	1%

20. Do you think Barack Obama's policies have improved economic conditions, worsened economic conditions, or had no effect on economic conditions in the country? (ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE. RESULTS BASED ON 508 INTERVIEWS IN VERSION B. SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.)

	Aug. 28-31 <u>2009</u>	May 14-17 <u>2009</u>
Improved economic conditions	39%	37%
Worsened economic conditions	34%	23%
No effect on economic conditions	27%	40%
No opinion	1%	*

52. What is your view of the Cash for Clunkers program, which allowed people to trade in cars with low gas mileage and get about four thousand dollars off the purchase of a new car? Would you describe that program as a success or a failure?

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Success	55%
Failure	40%
Mixed	3%
No opinion	2%