

Interviews with 1,008 adult Americans conducted by telephone by Opinion Research Corporation on December 17-19, 2010. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points.

FOR RELEASE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 10 AM

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17. People all have different concerns about what's going on in the world these days, but you can't worry about everything all the time. Will you please tell me for each of the following whether right now this is something that worries you personally a lot, a little, or not at all?

# The possibility of nuclear war

	A lot	<u>A little</u>	Not at all	No opinion
December 17-19, 2010	36%	39%	24%	*

# CNN/TIME TRENDS

	A lot	A little	Not at all
The possibility of a nuclear war			
January, 1995	22	36	41
November, 1985	51	28	20
September, 1985	44	31	24
July, 1985	48	31	21
February, 1984	52	33	14
December, 1983	60	25	14
September, 1983	59	27	13
June, 1983	51	29	19

23. Some people feel the U.S. should try to develop a ground and space based missile defense system to protect the U.S. from missile attack. Others oppose such an effort because they say it would be too costly and might interfere with existing arms treaties with the Russians. Which comes closer to your view?

	Dec. 17-19 2010
Should develop system	47%
Oppose developing system	50%
No opinion	3%

## **CNN/TIME TRENDS**

	Should develop system	Oppose developing system	No opinion
2000 May 23-24	48	42	10
1987 May	44	42	14
1986 Dec	52	40	8
1985 Aug	45	47	8

**QUESTION WORDING PRIOR TO MAY 2000:** Some people feel the U.S. should try to develop a space-based "Star Wars" system to protect the U.S. from nuclear attack. Others oppose such an effort because they say it would be too costly and further escalate the arms race. Which position comes closer to your view?

38. As you may know, President Obama and the President of Russia recently signed a treaty to reduce the number of nuclear weapons of each country, but the treaty will not take effect until the U.S. Senate votes in favor of it. Do you think the U.S. Senate should or should not vote in favor of that treaty?

	Dec. 17-19 2010	Nov. 11-14 2010	Apr. 9-11 2009*	
Should	73%	73%	70%	
Should not	24%	23%	28%	
No opinion	2%	4%	2%	

<sup>\*</sup>ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE.

39. If that treaty is ratified, do you think Russia would or would not live up to its share of the agreement?

	Dec. 17-19 2010
Would	56%
Would not	40%
No opinion	4%

### CNN/TIME TRENDS

	Yes	No	No opinion
2002 May 23-24	47	41	12

**QUESTION WORDING:** If the United States and Russia were to sign an agreement to limit nuclear weapons, do you think Russia would live up to its share of the agreement?

### Question 17E

People all have different concerns about what's going on in the world these days, but you can't worry about everything all the time. Will you please tell me for each of the following whether right now this is something that worries you personally a lot, a little, or not at all?

### E. The possibility of nuclear war

	Total	Men			Non-White			
A lot A little Not at all No opinion Sampling Error	36% 39% 24% * +/-3.0	34% 37% 28% *	38% 41% 21% *	33% 43% 23% *	46% 26% 27% 1% +/-8.0			
	Total	18- 34	35- 49	50- 64	65+ 	Under 50	50 and Older	
A lot A little Not at all No opinion Sampling Error	36% 39% 24% * +/-3.0	N/A N/A N/A N/A	29% 45% 26% * +/-7.0	35% 37% 28% * +/-5.5	46% 32% 21% 1% +/-5.0	34% 42% 24% * +/-5.5	40% 35% 25% * +/-3.5	
	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	_	)		
A lot A little Not at all No opinion	36% 39% 24% *	45% 32% 24% *	26% 47% 27% *	49% 30% 22% *	278 468 278 *	5		
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.0	)		
	Total	Demo- crat	Indep- endent	_	n eral	Mod- erate		ve
A lot A little Not at all No opinion Sampling Error	36% 39% 24% * +/-3.0	43% 35% 22% * +/-5.5	33% 38% 29% * +/-4.5	34 <sup>9</sup> 47 <sup>9</sup> 19 <sup>9</sup> *	\$ 30 \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	40% 35% 25% * +/-5.0	36 <sup>9</sup> 43 <sup>9</sup> 21 <sup>9</sup> * +/-5.0	90
	Total	North east	Mid- west	South	West	Urban	Sub- urban	Rural
A lot A little Not at all No opinion Sampling Error	36% 39% 24% * +/-3.0	34% 40% 25% * +/-6.5	36% 40% 24% 1% +/-6.5	40% 38% 21% *	33% 38% 29% * +/-6.5	37% 33% 30% *	33% 43% 23% *	42% 37% 21% *
	Total	Tea Pty Support	Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose				
A lot A little Not at all No opinion Sampling Error	36% 39% 24% * +/-3.0	31% 46% 23% * +/-5.5	44% 34% 22% * +/-5.5	34% 39% 27% * +/-5.5				

<sup>\*</sup> percentage less than 1%

#### Question 23

Some people feel the U.S. should try to develop a ground and space based missile defense system to protect the U.S. from missile attack. Others oppose such an effort because they say it would be too costly and might interfere with existing arms treaties with the Russians. Which comes closer to your view?

	Total	Men	Women		on-White			
Should develop system	47%	55%	39%	47%	46%			
Oppose developing system	50% 3%	42% 3%	57% 4%	50% 3%	52% 3%			
No opinion Sampling Error					عد -/-8.0			
	, , ,	.,	,		,			
		18-	35-	50-		Under	50 and	
	Total	34	49	64	65+ 	50 	Older	
Should develop system	47%	N/A	45%	48%	54%	45%	50%	
Oppose developing system	50%	N/A	52%	49%	39%	53%	45%	
No opinion	3% +/-3.0	N/A	3% +/-7.0	3%	6%	2%	4%	
Sampling Error	+/-3.0		+/-/.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.0	+/-5.5	+/-3.5	
		IIndox	¢ E O IZ	No	7++ on d	o d		
	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	Attende College			
					_			
Should develop system	47%	48%	43%	49%	45			
Oppose developing system	50%	50% 2%	53%	48%	51: 4:			
No opinion Sampling Error	3% +/-3.0		3% +/-4.5	3% +/-5.5	+/-4.			
Jampiing Hiloi	17 3.0	17 3.0	1/ 4.5	17 3.3	1/ 1.	O		
		Demo-	Indep-	Repub	- Lib-	Mod-	Conse	er-
	Total	crat	endent	licar	eral		vativ	ve
Should develop system	47%	37%	 45%	 66%		 38%	. –––- 66 <sup>9</sup>	
Oppose developing system	50%	60%	51%	31%			309	
No opinion	3%	3%	4%	3%			4.9	
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-6.0	+/-7.5	+/-5.0	+/-5.0	0
	Total	North	Mid-	South	Wo a +	Urban	Sub- urban	Dunal
		east 	west		West			Rural
Should develop system	47%	39%	47%	52%	46%	46%	43%	56%
Oppose developing system	50%	59%	48%	44%	51%	50%	55%	40%
No opinion	3% +/-3.0	1% +/-6.5	4% +/-6.5	3% +/-5.5	4% +/-6.5	4% +/-6.0	3% +/-4.5	3% +/-6.0
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-0.3	+/-0.3	+/-3.3	+/-0.3	+/-0.0	T/-4.5	+/-0.0
	m - t - 1	Tea Pty	_	_				
	Total	Support	Neutral	Oppose				
Should develop system	47%	68%	45%	30%				
Oppose developing system	50%	28%	52%	67%				
No opinion	3%	4%	2%	3%				
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.5				

<sup>\*</sup> percentage less than  $1\mbox{\%}$ 

#### Question 38

As you may know, President Obama and the President of Russia recently signed a treaty to reduce the number of nuclear weapons of each country, but the treaty will not take effect until the U.S. Senate votes in favor of it. Do you think the U.S. Senate should or should not vote in favor of that treaty?

	Total	Men			Non-White			
Should Should not No opinion Sampling Error	73% 24% 2% +/-3.0	72% 25% 3%	75% 23% 2%	73% 25% 2%	76% 21% 2% +/-8.0			
	Total	18- 34	35- 49	50- 64	65+	Under 50	50 and Older	
Should Should not No opinion Sampling Error	73% 24% 2% +/-3.0	N/A N/A N/A	75% 23% 2% +/-7.0	71% 26% 3% +/-5.5	69% 26% 5% +/-5.0	76% 23% 1% +/-5.5	70% 26% 4% +/-3.5	
	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No Colleg	_			
Should Should not No opinion Sampling Error	73% 24% 2% +/-3.0	76% 23% 2% +/-5.0	74% 23% 3% +/-4.5	71% 26% 3% +/-5.5	75% 22% 2%			
	Total	Demo- crat	Indep- endent	_	n eral	Mod- erate		re
Should Should not No opinion Sampling Error	73% 24% 2% +/-3.0	86% 12% 1% +/-5.5	75% 23% 2% +/-4.5	50 45 5 +/-6.	888 118 18	84% 14% 2% +/-5.0	51% 46% 4% +/-5.0	; ;
	Total	North east	Mid- west	South		Urban	Sub- urban	Rural
Should not No opinion Sampling Error	73% 24% 2% +/-3.0	78% 20% 2% +/-6.5	69% 28% 3% +/-6.5	72% 25% 3% +/-5.5	76% 21% 2% +/-6.5	74% 23% 3% +/-6.0	77% 22% 2% +/-4.5	67% 29% 3% +/-6.0
	Total	1.1	Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose				
Should Should not No opinion Sampling Error	73% 24% 2% +/-3.0	50% 46% 48 +/-5.5	79% 19% 2% +/-5.5	89% 10% 1% +/-5.5				

<sup>\*</sup> percentage less than 1%

#### Question 39

If that treaty is ratified, do you think Russia would or would not live up to its share of the agreement?

	Total	Men	Women		Non-White			
Would Would not No opinion Sampling Error	56% 40% 4%	56% 40% 5%	56% 41% 4%	55% 42% 3%	58% 36% 6% -/-8.0			
	Total	18- 34	35- 49	50- 64	65+	Under 50	50 and Older	
Would Would not No opinion Sampling Error	56% 40% 4% +/-3.0	N/A N/A N/A	64% 32% 4% +/-7.0	53% 43% 4% +/-5.5	48% 48% 4% +/-5.0	60% 36% 4% +/-5.5	51% 45% 4% +/-3.5	
	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	_	)		
Would Would not No opinion Sampling Error	56% 40% 4% +/-3.0	54% 41% 5% +/-5.0	60% 37% 3% +/-4.5	51% 45% 4% +/-5.5	60% 36% 4% +/-4.0	5		
	Total	Demo- crat	Indep- endent	_	n eral	Mod- erate	e vati	ve
Would Would not No opinion Sampling Error	56% 40% 4% +/-3.0	66% 28% 6% +/-5.5	59% 38% 3% +/-4.5	348 628 48 +/-6.0	72% 5 25% 5 3%	64% 31% 4% +/-5.0	35 60 5 +/-5.	06 06 06
	Total	North east	west	South	West	Urban	Sub- urban	Rural
Would Would not No opinion Sampling Error	56% 40% 4% +/-3.0	62% 36% 2% +/-6.5	56% 40% 4% +/-6.5	51% 45% 3% +/-5.5	57% 36% 7% +/-6.5	57% 37% 7% +/-6.0	61% 36% 3% +/-4.5	47% 51% 2% +/-6.0
	Total		Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose				
Would Would not No opinion Sampling Error	56% 40% 4% +/-3.0	35% 63% 3% +/-5.5	61% 33% 6% +/-5.5	72% 26% 2% +/-5.5				

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  percentage less than 1%