

Interviews with 1,038 adult Americans conducted by telephone by ORC International on September 9-11, 2011. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points. The sample also includes 943 interviews among registered voters (plus or minus 3 percentage points).

The sample includes 834 interviews among landline respondents and 204 interviews among cell phone respondents.

FOR RELEASE: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 AT 6 AM

30. Please tell me which of the following statements comes closest to your opinion about the Social Security program: (READ IN ORDER)

	Sept. 9-11 2011
The Social Security program has no serious problems,	
certainly none that require changing the current system	4%
Social Security has minor problems that can be fixed	
with minor changes to the current system	28%
Social Security's problems are serious and can be fixed	
only with major changes to the current system	55%
Social Security's problems are so bad that the system	
should be replaced	12%
No opinion	1%

## **GENERAL SOCIETY SURVEY TRENDS**

	1998 Feb 1-Jun 19
The Social Security program has no serious problems, certainly none that require changing the current system Social Security has minor problems that can be fixed with minor changes to the current system Social Security's problems are serious and can be fixed only with major changes to the current system Social Security's problems are so bad that the system should be replaced No opinion	5% 22% 52% 16% 6%
1	

31. The Social Security system has been described as a "monstrous lie" and as a failure. Do you think those phrases are an accurate description of the Social Security system, or don't you think so?

	Sept. 9-11 2011
Accurate	27%
Not accurate	72%
No opinion	1%

## Question 30

Please tell me which of the following statements comes closest to your opinion about the Social Security program:

Social Security program has no serious problems, certainly none that require chang'g cur systm Social Security has minor problems that can be fixed with minor changes to the current system Social Security's problems are serious/can be fixed only w/major changes to the current system Social Security's problems are so bad that the system should be replaced

Base = Total Sample

	Total	Men	Women	White N	Non-White			
No serious problems	4%	5%	4%	3%	9%			
Minor problems, minor changes	28%	30%	25%	29%	24%			
Serious problems and changes	55%	49%	60%	56%	52%			
So bad replace system	12%	14%	10%	11%	14%			
No opinion	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%			
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-4.5 +	-/-4.5 +/	-3.5 H	+/-7.0			
		18-	35-	50-		Under	50 and	
	Total	34	49	64 	65+ 	50 	Older	
No serious problems	4%	5%	2%	2%	11%	3%	6%	
Minor problems, minor changes	28%	20%	20%	35%	40%	20%	37%	
Serious problems and changes	55%	52%	65%	52%	46%	58%	50%	
So bad replace system	12%	21%	11%	10%	2%	16%	7%	
No opinion	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-8.0	+/-6.5	+/-5.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.0	+/-4.0	
	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	_	2		
No serious problems	4%	 5%	2%	 7%	 39			
Minor problems, minor changes	28%	29%	27%	29%	279			
Serious problems and changes	55%	51%	57%	53%	569	5		
So bad replace system	12%	13%	13%	8%	149	5		
No opinion	1%	2%	1%	3%	19	š		
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.5	+/-5.5	+/-3.5	5		
	Total	Demo- crat	Indep- endent	_		Mod- erate	Conse vativ	
No serious problems	4%	8%	3%	18	88	4%	29	8
Minor problems, minor changes	28%	31%	27%	238	34%	24%	289	8
Serious problems and changes	55%	50%	54%	628	48%	57%	559	8
So bad replace system	12%	10%	14%	128	ነ 10%	14%	129	8
No opinion	1%	1%	2%	28	1%	1%	39	8
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-6.0	) +/-6.5	+/-5.0	+/-5.0	0
		North	Mid-				Sub-	
	Total	east 	west	South	West	Urban	urban 	Rural
No serious problems	4%	6%	2%	4%	5%	5%	4%	6%
Minor problems, minor changes	28%	31%	27%	28%	25%	29%	24%	35%
Serious problems and changes	55%	49%	60%	56%	52%	53%	58%	51%
So bad replace system	12%	11%	10%	10%	18%	12%	13%	7%
No opinion	1%	2%	1%	2%	*	1%	1%	2%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.0	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-6.5
	Total	Tea Pty Support	Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose				
No serious problems	4%	2%	4%	7%				
Minor problems, minor changes	28%	19%	26%	38%				
Serious problems and changes	55%	55%	60%	46%				
So bad replace system	12%	23%	9%	8%				
No opinion	1%	1%	2%	1%				
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.0	+/-5.0	+/-5.5				

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



Question 31

The Social Security system has been described as a "monstrous lie" and as a failure. Do you think those phrases are an accurate description of the Social Security system, or don't you think so?

Base = Total Sample

	Total	Men			on-White			
Accurate	27%	31%	24%	24%	34%			
Not accurate	72%	68%	75%	76%	64%			
No opinion	1%	1%	1%	*	2%			
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-4.5 +	-/-4.5 +/	-3.5 +	/-7.0			
		18-	35-	50-	65	Under	50 and	l
	Total	34	49	64 	65+ 	50 	Older	
Accurate	27%	42%	25%	21%	14%	34%	18%	
Not accurate	72%	58%	73%	78%	84%	65%	81%	
No opinion	1%	*	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-8.0	+/-6.5	+/-5.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.0	+/-4.0	
		Under	\$50K	No	Attende	-d		
	Total	\$50K	or more	College	College	9		
Accurate	27%	30%	24%	27%	279			
Not accurate	72%	70%	75%	72%	729	ò		
No opinion	1%	1%	1%	1%	19	ó		
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.5	+/-5.5	+/-3.5	5		
	Total	Demo- crat	Indep- endent	lican	eral	Mod- erat	e vati	.ve
Accurate	 27%	20%	 31%	 31%		 27%		
Not accurate	72%	79%	68%	69%		72%		
No opinion	1%	1%	1%	*	1%	1%		%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-6.0		+/-5.0	+/-5.	
		North	Mid-				Sub-	
	Total		west	South	West	Urban	urban	Rural
Accurate	27%	32%	20%	28%	28%	26%	29%	25%
Not accurate	72%	67%	79%	71%	71%	73%	70%	74%
No opinion	1%	1%	1%	1%	*	1%	1%	1%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.0	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-6.5
	Total	Tea Pty Support	Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose				
Accurate	27%	40%	28%	13%				
	476 72%	40% 59%	286 71%	136 87%				
Not accurate		<b>カソ</b> を	/ 1 6	8/8				
No opinion Sampling Error	1% +/-3.0	+/-6.0	1% +/-5.0	+/-5.5				

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