

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 NOON

As you may know, on a regular basis, Congress must pass bills that authorize the federal government to spend money. When that legislation expires, the government must shut down until Congress passes a new spending bill.

35. Suppose the federal government had to shut down for a few days because Congress did not pass a new spending bill. Would you view a government shutdown that lasted a few days as a crisis, as a major problem, as a minor problem, or as not a problem at all?

	Dec. 17-19 2010
Crisis	13%
Major problem	30%
Minor problem	35%
Not a problem at all	22%
No opinion	1%

36. Now suppose the federal government had to shut down for a few weeks because Congress did not pass a new spending bill. Would you view a government shutdown that lasted a few week as a crisis, as a major problem, as a minor problem, or as not a problem at all?

	Dec. 17-19
	<u>2010</u>
C · ·	220/
Crisis	33%
Major problem	38%
Minor problem	20%
Not a problem at all	8%
No opinion	*

FOR COMPARISON CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS DURING 1995 GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

So far, the Republicans in Congress and President Clinton have not reached a final agreement on the federal budget. As a result, the federal government has shut down again and will remain that way until some agreement is reached. Do you view the shutdown as a crisis, as a major problem, as a minor problem or as not a problem at all?

	<u>Crisis</u>	Major <u>Problem</u>	Minor <u>Problem</u>	Not Problem At All	No <u>Opinion</u>
1995 Dec 15-18	12	44	30	12	1 2
1995 Nov 14	11	40	33	14	

Question 35

Suppose the federal government had to shut down for a few days because Congress did not pass a new spending bill. Would you view a government shutdown that lasted a few days as a crisis, as a major problem, as a minor problem, or as not a problem at all?

Base = Total Sample

	Total	Men	Women	White 1	Non-White			
Crisis	13%	11%	14%	12%	15%			
Major problem	30%	27%	33%	31%	29%			
Minor problem	35%	34%	36%	35%	36%			
Not a problem at all	22%	27%	16%	21%	20%			
No opinion	1%	*	1%	1%	*			
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-4.5 +	-/-4.5 +/	-3.5	+/-8.0			
	Total	18- 34	35- 49	50- 64	65+	Under 50	50 and Older	
Crisis	13%	 N/A	10%	14%	14%	12%	14%	
Major problem	30%	N/A	31%	24%	37%	31%	29%	
Minor problem	35%	N/A	31%	38%	29%	35%	35%	
Not a problem at all	22%	N/A	27%	23%	18%	21%	21%	
No opinion	1%	N/A	1%	*	1%	1%	*	
Sampling Error	+/-3.0		+/-7.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.0	+/-5.5	+/-3.5	
	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	Attende College			
					_			
Crisis	13%	14%	12%	13%	139			
Major problem	30%	33%	27%	33%	289			
Minor problem	35%	33%	37%	36%	349			
Not a problem at all	22%	19%	24%	17%	25			
No opinion Sampling Error	1% +/-3.0	1% +/-5.0	* +/-4.5	1% +/-5.5	+/-4.0			
Samping Ellor	+/-3.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.	U		
		Demo-	Indep-	_		Mod-	Cons	er-
	Total	crat 	endent					
Crisis	13%	14%	13%	109		17%		용
Major problem	30%	39%	27%	259	34%	29%	30	용
Minor problem	35%	32%	36%	389	36%	38%	31	용
Not a problem at all	22%	15%	24%	289		15%	28	
No opinion	1%	1%	*	*		*	1	
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-6.0	0 +/-7.5	+/-5.0	+/-5.	0
		North	Mid-				Sub-	
	Total	east 	west	South	West	Urban	urban 	Rural
Crisis	13%	13%	8%	14%	14%	13%	11%	15%
Major problem	30%	31%	31%	30%	29%	34%	27%	34%
Minor problem	35%	32%	32%	37%	36%	31%	39%	32%
Not a problem at all	22%	23%	27%	19%	20%	22%	22%	19%
No opinion	1%	*	1%	*	1%	*	1%	*
Sampling Error			1 / C E	+/-5.5	1/65	+/-6.0	+/-4.5	+/-6.0
	+/-3.0	+/-6.5	+/-6.5	17 3.3	+/-6.5	17 0.0	., 1.0	
	Total	+/-6.5 Tea Pty Support	Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose	+/-0.5	17 0.0	1, 1.3	
Crisis	Total	Tea Pty Support	Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose	+/-0.5	7, 0.0	,, 1.5	
Crisis Major problem	Total 13%	Tea Pty Support 	Tea Pty Neutral 	Tea Pty Oppose 14%	+/-0.5	1, 0.0	, 113	
Major problem	Total 13% 30%	Tea Pty Support 7% 20%	Tea Pty Neutral 16% 33%	Tea Pty Oppose 14% 36%	+/-0.5	1, 0.0	,, 113	
Major problem Minor problem	Total 13% 30% 35%	Tea Pty Support 7% 20% 43%	Tea Pty Neutral 16% 33% 30%	Tea Pty Oppose 14% 36% 34%	+/-0.3	1, 0.0	,, 113	
Major problem	Total 13% 30%	Tea Pty Support 7% 20%	Tea Pty Neutral 16% 33%	Tea Pty Oppose 14% 36%	+/-0.3	1, 0.0	,, 113	

^{*} percentage less than 1%

Question 36

Now suppose the federal government had to shut down for a few weeks because Congress did not pass a new spending bill. Would you view a government shutdown that lasted a few week as a crisis, as a major problem, as a minor problem, or as not a problem at all?

Base = Total Sample

	Total	Men			on-White			
Crisis	33%	31%	36%	35%	29%			
Major problem	38%	35%	42%	37%	41%			
Minor problem	20%	24%	17%	20%	21%			
Not a problem at all	8% *	11% *	5% *	7% *	9% *			
No opinion Sampling Error	+/-3.0				/-8.0			
Damping Diloi	1, 3.0	1, 1.0	, 1.5 1,	3.0	, 0.0			
		18-	35-	50-		Under	50 and	
	Total	34	49	64	65+	50	Older	
Crisis	33%	N/A	32%	30%	34%	34%	32%	
Major problem Minor problem	38% 20%	N/A N/A	35% 23%	41% 21%	39% 21%	37% 20%	40% 21%	
Not a problem at all	8%	N/A	9%	8%	6%	8%	7%	
No opinion	*	N/A	*	*	1%	*	*	
Sampling Error	+/-3.0		+/-7.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.0	+/-5.5	+/-3.5	
	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	Attende College			
					_			
Crisis	33%	35%	32%	34%	33%			
Major problem	38%	39%	37%	42%	35%			
Minor problem Not a problem at all	20% 8%	19% 7%	22% 9%	19% 5%	21% 10%			
No opinion	*	/ o	<i>5</i> %	→ *	*			
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.0			
				_ ,			~	r-
	Total	Demo- crat	Indep- endent	lican	eral	Mod- erate		<i>т</i> е
Crisis		crat	endent	lican	eral	erate	vativ	7e
Crisis Major problem	33%	crat 40%	endent 32%	lican 25%	eral 33%	erate 35%	vativ 32%	7e
Crisis Major problem Minor problem		crat	endent	lican	eral 33% 42%	erate	vativ	7 e
Major problem	33% 38% 20% 8%	crat 40% 42% 15% 2%	endent 32% 36% 20% 11%	lican 25% 37% 28% 10%	eral 33% 42% 19% 6%	erate 35% 42% 17% 6%	e vativ 32% 32% 26% 11%	7 e 5 5
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion	33% 38% 20% 8% *	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% *	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% *	lican 25% 37% 28% 10%	eral 33% 42% 19% 6%	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% *	vativ 329 329 269 119	7e
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all	33% 38% 20% 8%	crat 40% 42% 15% 2%	endent 32% 36% 20% 11%	lican 25% 37% 28% 10%	eral 33% 42% 19% 6%	erate 35% 42% 17% 6%	e vativ 32% 32% 26% 11%	7e
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion	33% 38% 20% 8% *	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% *	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% * +/-4.5	lican 25% 37% 28% 10%	eral 33% 42% 19% 6%	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% *	vativ 328 328 268 118 * +/-5.0	7e
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion	33% 38% 20% 8% * +/-3.0	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% +/-5.5	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% * +/-4.5	lican 25% 37% 28% 10% * +/-6.0	eral - 33% 42% 19% 6% * +/-7.5	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% * +/-5.0	2 vativ 329 329 269 119 * +/-5.0	7e 6 6 6 6 7
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error	33% 38% 20% 8% * +/-3.0	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% +/-5.5	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% +/-4.5	lican 25% 37% 28% 10% * +/-6.0	eral - 33% 42% 19% 6% * +/-7.5	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% * +/-5.0	2 vativ 329 329 269 119 * +/-5.0	7e 6 6 6 6 7 8 7 8 7
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error	33% 38% 20% 8% * +/-3.0	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% +/-5.5 North east 39%	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% * +/-4.5	lican 25% 37% 28% 10% +/-6.0	eral - 33% 42% 19% 6% * +/-7.5	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% * +/-5.0 Urban 37%	2 vativ 32% 32% 26% 11% * +/-5.0 Sub- urban 30%	7e
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error	33% 38% 20% 8% * +/-3.0	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% +/-5.5	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% +/-4.5	lican 25% 37% 28% 10% * +/-6.0	eral - 33% 42% 19% 6% * +/-7.5	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% * +/-5.0	2 vativ 329 329 269 119 * +/-5.0	7e 6 6 6 6 7 7 8 7
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error Crisis Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all	33% 38% 20% 8% * +/-3.0	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% * +/-5.5 North east 39% 37%	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% * +/-4.5 Mid- west 30% 39%	lican 25% 37% 28% 10% * +/-6.0 South 34% 38%	eral - 33% 42% 19% 6% * +/-7.5	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% * +/-5.0 Urban 37% 34%	2 vativ 329 329 269 119 * +/-5.0 Sub- urban 30% 40%	7e 8 8 8 8 8 8 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error Crisis Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion	33% 38% 20% 8% * +/-3.0 Total 33% 38% 20% 8% *	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% * +/-5.5 North east 39% 37% 19% 6% *	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% * +/-4.5 Mid- west 30% 39% 18% 12% *	lican 25% 37% 28% 10% * +/-6.0 South 34% 38% 20% 8% *	eral 33% 42% 19% 6% +/-7.5	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% * +/-5.0 Urban 37% 34% 20% 8% *	Sub- urban 32% 26% 11% * +/-5.0 Sub- urban 30% 40% 22% 7% *	Rural 35% 40% 17% 8% *
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error Crisis Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all	 33% 38% 20% 8% * +/-3.0 Total 33% 38% 20% 8%	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% * +/-5.5 North east 39% 37% 19% 6%	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% * +/-4.5 Mid- west 30% 39% 18% 12%	lican 25% 37% 28% 10% * +/-6.0 South 34% 38% 20% 8%	eral 33% 42% 19% 6% +/-7.5	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% * +/-5.0 Urban 37% 34% 20% 8% *	Sub- urban 32% 26% 11% * +/-5.0 Sub- urban 30% 40% 22% 7%	Rural 35% 40% 17% 8%
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error Crisis Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion	33% 38% 20% 8% * +/-3.0 Total 33% 38% 20% 8% *	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% +/-5.5 North east 39% 37% 19% 6% *	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% * +/-4.5 Mid- west 30% 39% 18% 12% *	lican 25% 37% 28% 10% * +/-6.0 South 34% 38% 20% 8% *	eral 33% 42% 19% 6% +/-7.5	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% * +/-5.0 Urban 37% 34% 20% 8% *	Sub- urban 32% 26% 11% * +/-5.0 Sub- urban 30% 40% 22% 7% *	Rural 35% 40% 17% 8% *
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error Crisis Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion	33% 38% 20% 8% +/-3.0 Total 33% 38% 20% 8% +/-3.0	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% +/-5.5 North east 39% 37% 19% 6% *	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% * +/-4.5 Mid- west 30% 39% 18% 12% * +/-6.5	lican 25% 37% 28% 10% * +/-6.0 South 34% 38% 20% 8% * +/-5.5 Tea Pty Oppose	eral 33% 42% 19% 6% +/-7.5	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% * +/-5.0 Urban 37% 34% 20% 8% *	Sub- urban 32% 26% 11% * +/-5.0 Sub- urban 30% 40% 22% 7% *	Rural 35% 40% 17% 8% *
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error Crisis Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error	33% 38% 20% 8% * +/-3.0 Total 33% 38% 20% 8% * +/-3.0	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% +/-5.5 North east 39% 37% 19% 6% * +/-6.5 Tea Pty Support	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% +/-4.5 Mid-west 30% 39% 18% 12% +/-6.5 Tea Pty Neutral	lican 25% 37% 28% 10% +/-6.0 South 34% 38% 20% 8% * +/-5.5 Tea Pty Oppose	eral 33% 42% 19% 6% +/-7.5	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% * +/-5.0 Urban 37% 34% 20% 8% *	Sub- urban 32% 26% 11% * +/-5.0 Sub- urban 30% 40% 22% 7% *	Rural 35% 40% 17% 8% *
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error Crisis Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error Crisis Major problem Minor problem Minor problem Opinion Sampling Error	33% 38% 20% 8% +/-3.0 Total 33% 38% 20% 8% * +/-3.0	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% * +/-5.5 North east 39% 37% 19% 6% * +/-6.5 Tea Pty Support 22% 32% 28%	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% * +/-4.5 Mid- west 30% 39% 12% * +/-6.5 Tea Pty Neutral 36% 39% 20%	lican 25% 37% 28% 10% * +/-6.0 South 34% 38% 20% 8% * +/-5.5 Tea Pty Oppose 40% 43% 14%	eral 33% 42% 19% 6% +/-7.5	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% * +/-5.0 Urban 37% 34% 20% 8% *	Sub- urban 32% 26% 11% * +/-5.0 Sub- urban 30% 40% 22% 7% *	Rural 35% 40% 17% 8% *
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error Crisis Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error Crisis Major problem at all No opinion Sampling Error	33% 38% 20% 8% +/-3.0 Total 33% 38% 20% 8% +/-3.0	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% +/-5.5 North east 39% 37% 19% 6% * +/-6.5 Tea Pty Support 22% 32% 28% 17%	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% * +/-4.5 Mid- west 30% 39% 18% 12% * +/-6.5 Tea Pty Neutral 36% 39% 20% 6%	lican 25% 37% 28% 10% * +/-6.0 South 34% 38% 20% 8% * +/-5.5 Tea Pty Oppose 40% 43% 14% 3%	eral 33% 42% 19% 6% +/-7.5	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% * +/-5.0 Urban 37% 34% 20% 8% *	Sub- urban 32% 26% 11% * +/-5.0 Sub- urban 30% 40% 22% 7% *	Rural 35% 40% 17% 8% *
Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error Crisis Major problem Minor problem Not a problem at all No opinion Sampling Error Crisis Major problem Minor problem Minor problem Opinion Sampling Error	33% 38% 20% 8% +/-3.0 Total 33% 38% 20% 8% * +/-3.0	crat 40% 42% 15% 2% * +/-5.5 North east 39% 37% 19% 6% * +/-6.5 Tea Pty Support 22% 32% 28%	endent 32% 36% 20% 11% * +/-4.5 Mid- west 30% 39% 12% * +/-6.5 Tea Pty Neutral 36% 39% 20%	lican 25% 37% 28% 10% * +/-6.0 South 34% 38% 20% 8% * +/-5.5 Tea Pty Oppose 40% 43% 14%	eral 33% 42% 19% 6% +/-7.5	erate 35% 42% 17% 6% * +/-5.0 Urban 37% 34% 20% 8% *	Sub- urban 32% 26% 11% * +/-5.0 Sub- urban 30% 40% 22% 7% *	Rural 35% 40% 17% 8% *

^{*} percentage less than 1%

