

The logo for the CNN | ORC POLL. It features the letters 'CNN' in a stylized, outlined font, followed by a vertical bar and the letters 'ORC' in a bold, sans-serif font. Below this, the word 'POLL' is written in large, bold, white capital letters on a black rectangular background.

CNN | ORC POLL

Interviews with 1,010 adult Americans conducted by telephone by ORC International on September 23-25, 2011. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points. The sample also includes 917 interviews among registered voters (plus or minus 3 percentage points).

The sample includes 807 interviews among landline respondents and 203 interviews among cell phone respondents.

FOR RELEASE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 AT 5 PM

20. Would you say that the Social Security system has been good for the country, has been bad for the country, or has had no effect on the country?

Sept. 23-25
2011

Good	79%
Bad	15%
No effect	5%
No opinion	1%

21. And how about you personally? Would you say that the Social Security system has been good for you personally, has been bad for you personally, or has had no effect on you personally?

Sept. 23-25
2011

Good	38%
Bad	12%
No effect	50%
No opinion	*

22. Which of these statements do you think best describes the Social Security system -- it is in a state of crisis, it has major problems, it has minor problems, or it does not have any problems?

Sept. 23-25
2011

Crisis	22%
Major problems	49%
Minor problems	25%
Does not have any problems	4%
No opinion	*

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

	<u>Crisis</u>	<u>Major problems</u>	<u>Minor problems</u>	<u>Does not have any problems</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2005 Feb. 4-6	17	55	23	4	1
2005 Jan 7-9	18	53	24	3	2
2002 Sep 20-22	13	54	29	3	1
1998 Dec 4-6	15	55	23	5	2

23. Do you think that the Social Security system is something that the U.S. Constitution allows the federal government to do, or do you think the Social Security system is unconstitutional?

Sept. 23-25
2011

Allowed by Constitution	73%
Unconstitutional	21%
No opinion	6%

24. As you may know, a proposal has been made that would allow workers to invest part of their Social Security taxes in the stock market or in bonds, while the rest of those taxes would remain in the Social Security system. Do you favor or oppose this proposal?

Sept. 23-25 Oct. 3-5 June 26-29
2011 2008 2008

Favor	52%	36%	47%
Oppose	46%	62%	48%
No opinion	2%	2%	4%

CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP TRENDS

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2005 Jun 24-26	44	53	3
2005 Apr 29-May 1	44	52	4
2005 Apr 1-2*	39	56	5
2005 Mar 18-20*	45	47	8
2004 Dec 17-19*	48	48	4

* Asked of a half sample.

Question 20

Would you say that the Social Security system has been good for the country, has been bad for the country, or has had no effect on the country?

Base = Total Sample

	Total	Men	Women	White	Non-White
Good	79%	79%	79%	81%	75%
Bad	15%	13%	16%	14%	17%
No effect	5%	6%	4%	4%	8%
No opinion	1%	1%	1%	1%	*
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-4.5	+/-4.5	+/-3.5	+/-6.5

	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Under 50	50 and Older
Good	79%	71%	75%	85%	89%	73%	87%
Bad	15%	19%	18%	11%	8%	19%	10%
No effect	5%	9%	6%	3%	1%	8%	2%
No opinion	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-8.0	+/-7.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.0	+/-4.0

	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	Attended College
Good	79%	81%	77%	79%	79%
Bad	15%	13%	17%	13%	16%
No effect	5%	5%	5%	8%	4%
No opinion	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.5	+/-5.5	+/-3.5

	Total	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Good	79%	83%	80%	73%	80%	82%	77%
Bad	15%	12%	11%	24%	10%	12%	19%
No effect	5%	5%	7%	2%	7%	6%	3%
No opinion	1%	*	2%	*	2%	1%	1%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-6.0	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.5

	Total	North east	Mid-west	South	West	Urban	Sub-urban	Rural
Good	79%	82%	80%	76%	80%	78%	78%	82%
Bad	15%	10%	15%	17%	14%	15%	16%	13%
No effect	5%	6%	3%	5%	6%	6%	5%	2%
No opinion	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-7.0

	Total	Tea Pty Support	Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose
Good	79%	74%	80%	82%
Bad	15%	23%	12%	12%
No effect	5%	2%	7%	5%
No opinion	1%	1%	1%	1%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.0

* percentage less than 1%

CNN/ORC International Poll -- September 23 to 25, 2011

Question 21

And how about you personally? Would you say that the Social Security system has been good for you personally, has been bad for you personally, or has had no effect on you personally?

Base = Total Sample

	Total	Men	Women	White	Non-White
Good	38%	37%	39%	38%	37%
Bad	12%	15%	9%	12%	10%
No effect	50%	48%	52%	50%	52%
No opinion	*	*	*	*	*
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-4.5	+/-4.5	+/-3.5	+/-6.5

	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Under 50	50 and Older
Good	38%	20%	25%	41%	85%	22%	59%
Bad	12%	18%	11%	10%	4%	15%	8%
No effect	50%	62%	65%	48%	11%	63%	33%
No opinion	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-8.0	+/-7.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.0	+/-4.0

	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	Attended College
Good	38%	49%	27%	49%	30%
Bad	12%	8%	16%	8%	14%
No effect	50%	42%	57%	43%	55%
No opinion	*	*	*	*	*
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.5	+/-5.5	+/-3.5

	Total	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Good	38%	45%	36%	34%	40%	33%	42%
Bad	12%	8%	11%	17%	8%	12%	14%
No effect	50%	47%	53%	49%	52%	55%	44%
No opinion	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-6.0	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.5

	Total	North east	Mid-west	South	West	Urban	Sub-urban	Rural
Good	38%	39%	38%	43%	31%	43%	35%	47%
Bad	12%	11%	16%	12%	7%	9%	14%	10%
No effect	50%	50%	46%	45%	62%	48%	51%	43%
No opinion	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-7.0

	Total	Tea Pty Support	Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose
Good	38%	37%	35%	43%
Bad	12%	18%	12%	8%
No effect	50%	45%	54%	49%
No opinion	*	*	*	*
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.0

* percentage less than 1%

Question 22

Which of these statements do you think best describes the Social Security system -- it is in a state of crisis, it has major problems, it has minor problems, or it does not have any problems?

Base = Total Sample

	Total	Men	Women	White	Non-White
Crisis	22%	18%	25%	23%	21%
Major problems	49%	53%	44%	52%	41%
Minor problems	25%	25%	25%	22%	31%
Does not have any problems	4%	4%	5%	3%	7%
No opinion	*	*	1%	1%	*
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-4.5	+/-4.5	+/-3.5	+/-6.5

	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Under 50	50 and Older
Crisis	22%	20%	32%	21%	10%	26%	17%
Major problems	49%	46%	50%	51%	47%	48%	50%
Minor problems	25%	26%	16%	24%	35%	22%	29%
Does not have any problems	4%	6%	1%	3%	8%	4%	5%
No opinion	*	1%	*	*	*	1%	*
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-8.0	+/-7.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.0	+/-4.0

	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	Attended College
Crisis	22%	21%	23%	17%	26%
Major problems	49%	44%	53%	45%	51%
Minor problems	25%	30%	20%	30%	20%
Does not have any problems	4%	5%	4%	7%	3%
No opinion	*	1%	*	1%	*
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.5	+/-5.5	+/-3.5

	Total	Demo- crat	Indep- endent	Repub- lican	Lib- eral	Mod- erate	Conser- vative
Crisis	22%	18%	19%	32%	23%	16%	27%
Major problems	49%	43%	49%	54%	35%	51%	53%
Minor problems	25%	34%	25%	13%	33%	31%	16%
Does not have any problems	4%	5%	6%	1%	9%	3%	3%
No opinion	*	*	1%	*	*	*	1%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-6.0	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.5

	Total	North east	Mid- west	South	West	Urban	Sub- urban	Rural
Crisis	22%	16%	29%	20%	24%	23%	20%	25%
Major problems	49%	50%	44%	47%	54%	41%	55%	46%
Minor problems	25%	27%	26%	26%	20%	32%	20%	22%
Does not have any problems	4%	7%	2%	6%	2%	3%	5%	7%
No opinion	*	*	*	1%	*	1%	*	*
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-7.0

	Total	Tea Pty Support	Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose
Crisis	22%	30%	21%	19%
Major problems	49%	59%	47%	46%
Minor problems	25%	10%	25%	31%
Does not have any problems	4%	1%	5%	4%
No opinion	*	*	1%	*
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.0

* percentage less than 1%

CNN/ORC International Poll -- September 23 to 25, 2011

Question 23

Do you think that the Social Security system is something that the U.S. Constitution allows the federal government to do, or do you think the Social Security system is unconstitutional?

Base = Total Sample

	Total	Men	Women	White	Non-White		
Allowed by Constitution	73%	69%	78%	73%	73%		
Unconstitutional	21%	26%	16%	20%	23%		
No opinion	6%	5%	6%	7%	3%		
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-4.5	+/-4.5	+/-3.5	+/-6.5		

	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Under 50	50 and Older
Allowed by Constitution	73%	72%	67%	77%	81%	70%	78%
Unconstitutional	21%	26%	24%	19%	12%	25%	16%
No opinion	6%	2%	9%	5%	8%	5%	6%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-8.0	+/-7.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.0	+/-4.0

	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	Attended College		
Allowed by Constitution	73%	78%	71%	72%	75%		
Unconstitutional	21%	18%	23%	24%	19%		
No opinion	6%	4%	6%	4%	7%		
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.5	+/-5.5	+/-3.5		

	Total	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Allowed by Constitution	73%	86%	74%	58%	78%	78%	67%
Unconstitutional	21%	11%	21%	32%	16%	17%	27%
No opinion	6%	2%	5%	10%	6%	5%	6%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-6.0	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.5

	Total	North east	Mid-west	South	West	Urban	Sub-urban	Rural
Allowed by Constitution	73%	78%	74%	70%	74%	72%	71%	77%
Unconstitutional	21%	18%	22%	23%	19%	21%	24%	19%
No opinion	6%	4%	4%	7%	7%	8%	5%	5%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-7.0

	Total	Tea Pty Support	Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose
Allowed by Constitution	73%	55%	72%	87%
Unconstitutional	21%	37%	23%	9%
No opinion	6%	8%	5%	4%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.0

* percentage less than 1%

CNN/ORC International Poll -- September 23 to 25, 2011

Question 24

As you may know, a proposal has been made that would allow workers to invest part of their Social Security taxes in the stock market or in bonds, while the rest of those taxes would remain in the Social Security system. Do you favor or oppose this proposal?

Base = Total Sample

	Total	Men	Women	White	Non-White
Favor	52%	54%	50%	51%	54%
Oppose	46%	45%	47%	46%	45%
No opinion	2%	2%	3%	3%	1%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-4.5	+/-4.5	+/-3.5	+/-6.5

	Total	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Under 50	50 and Older
Favor	52%	63%	55%	48%	33%	59%	42%
Oppose	46%	36%	43%	50%	62%	39%	55%
No opinion	2%	1%	2%	2%	5%	2%	3%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-8.0	+/-7.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.5	+/-5.0	+/-4.0

	Total	Under \$50K	\$50K or more	No College	Attended College
Favor	52%	50%	56%	50%	53%
Oppose	46%	48%	41%	48%	44%
No opinion	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.0	+/-4.5	+/-5.5	+/-3.5

	Total	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Favor	52%	44%	49%	65%	40%	52%	56%
Oppose	46%	54%	49%	32%	59%	45%	41%
No opinion	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%	3%	2%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-6.0	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.5

	Total	North east	Mid-west	South	West	Urban	Sub-urban	Rural
Favor	52%	52%	48%	55%	50%	45%	57%	51%
Oppose	46%	46%	50%	43%	47%	51%	41%	48%
No opinion	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	4%	2%	1%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-6.5	+/-5.5	+/-4.5	+/-7.0

	Total	Tea Pty Support	Tea Pty Neutral	Tea Pty Oppose
Favor	52%	68%	57%	36%
Oppose	46%	29%	41%	63%
No opinion	2%	3%	2%	2%
Sampling Error	+/-3.0	+/-6.0	+/-5.5	+/-5.0

* percentage less than 1%