

Results of SurveyUSA News Poll #18194

Geography: USA 50 States
Data Collected: 05/02/2011
Release Date: 05/03/2011
Percentaages

Just Like That, 60% Say USA Winning War on Terror, Up from 41% Before Capture of Bin Laden: A majority of Americans say the USA is winning the war on terror, in 9 separately but simultaneously conducted SurveyUSA polls -- 1 nationwide and 8 regional - fielded 05/02/2011 after the death of Osama bin Laden was announced. 60% of Americans nationwide today say the USA is winning the war on terror, compared to 18% who say the terrorists are winning. When SurveyUSA asked the identical question nationwide in August 2006, 41% said the USA was winning, 45% said the terrorists were winning. Americans 2:1 agree with the decision to bury Bin Laden's body at sea. An overwhelming majority sees Al Qaeda as still a threat. Long-term, a plurality of Americans think the death of Bin Laden will make the world a safer place, but this was short of a majority in all 9 of the geographies polled. In the immediate short-term, a plurality thinks the death will make no difference as to whether the world is more dangerous, or safer. SurveyUSA has asked the question "Who is winning the war on terror" continuously over the past decade. The highest percentage saying the USA is winning the war was 63%, recorded in greater Tulsa, Oklahoma [09/02/04](#). The lowest percentage saying the USA is winning the war was 28% in New York State, [01/30/06](#), and 29%, in greater San Francisco, [07/07/05](#) and again on [09/08/06](#).

This nationwide survey includes cell-phone and landline respondents. SurveyUSA interviewed 1,000 adults nationwide 05/02/11. 23% of respondents use cell phones to make most or all of their phone calls. 77% were interviewed on their home phones using recorded voice. Regional polls of 500 adults each were separately but simultaneously conducted in greater [New York City](#), greater [Los Angeles](#), greater [San Francisco](#), [Washington state](#), greater [Tampa Bay](#), greater [San Diego](#), greater [Fresno](#), and greater [Wichita](#). A total of 5,000 interviews were completed in the 9 separate pieces of research.

1 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as President?

1000 Adults	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Bin Laden			Education				Income				
Credibility Interval: +/-3.2 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian /	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	Dead	Alive	Don't K	No HS	HS Gra	Some	College	<25K	25-50K	50-75K	75-100	>100K
Approve	46%	43%	50%	47%	44%	52%	42%	46%	48%	39%	80%	52%	59%	15%	77%	41%	24%	52%	67%	49%	**	36%	50%	45%	41%	51%	51%	52%	40%	41%	47%
Disapprove	42%	49%	36%	35%	44%	44%	52%	39%	48%	49%	15%	38%	26%	77%	14%	42%	69%	33%	22%	42%	**	46%	36%	42%	46%	41%	34%	35%	47%	53%	48%
Not Sure	11%	8%	14%	18%	13%	4%	6%	15%	5%	12%	4%	10%	15%	8%	9%	16%	8%	15%	11%	10%	**	18%	14%	13%	13%	8%	15%	13%	13%	6%	5%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	48%	52%	32%	29%	22%	17%	61%	39%	72%	11%	11%	6%	29%	35%	34%	33%	37%	23%	80%	4%	15%	5%	23%	31%	40%	26%	26%	17%	12%	14%

1 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as President?

1000 Adults	All	Cell Phone / Lan		Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-3.2 pct points		Cell Ph	Landlin	Northea	Midwes	South	West
Approve	46%	43%	48%	50%	46%	44%	47%
Disapprove	42%	32%	46%	39%	40%	45%	44%
Not Sure	11%	26%	7%	11%	14%	11%	9%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	23%	77%	19%	23%	36%	22%

2 Who is winning the war on terror? The United States? Or the terrorists?

1000 Adults	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Bin Laden			Education				Income				
Credibility Interval: +/-3.1 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian /	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	Dead	Alive	Don't K	No HS	HS Gra	Some	College	<25K	25-50K	50-75K	75-100	>100K
United States	60%	63%	56%	49%	62%	69%	63%	55%	67%	59%	73%	55%	59%	61%	66%	53%	59%	60%	60%	65%	**	44%	67%	59%	53%	65%	54%	62%	55%	66%	69%
Terrorists	18%	20%	16%	13%	18%	19%	26%	16%	22%	19%	14%	17%	14%	21%	13%	20%	22%	16%	15%	14%	**	29%	22%	18%	19%	17%	17%	16%	18%	20%	19%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	48%	52%	32%	29%	22%	17%	61%	39%	72%	11%	11%	6%	29%	35%	34%	33%	37%	23%	80%	4%	15%	5%	23%	31%	40%	26%	26%	17%	12%	14%

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2 Who is winning the war on terror? The United States? Or the terrorists?

1000 Adults	All	Cell Phone / Lan		Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-3.1 pct points		Cell Ph	Landlin	Northea	Midwes	South	West
United States	60%	39%	66%	63%	58%	59%	60%
Terrorists	18%	9%	21%	15%	16%	21%	18%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	23%	77%	19%	23%	36%	22%

3 All things considered, has the war in Iraq been worth fighting? Or not?

1000 Adults	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Bin Laden			Education				Income				
Credibility Interval: +/-3.2 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian /	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	Dead	Alive	Don't K	No HS	HS Gra	Some	College	<25K	25-50K	50-75K	75-100	>100K
Worth Fighting	36%	40%	32%	31%	40%	39%	35%	35%	37%	36%	30%	38%	34%	56%	24%	32%	52%	29%	25%	38%	**	28%	40%	35%	34%	37%	31%	28%	43%	44%	40%
Not Worth Fighting	46%	46%	45%	47%	39%	49%	49%	43%	49%	46%	54%	34%	43%	26%	57%	49%	30%	50%	60%	45%	**	45%	42%	46%	44%	47%	47%	51%	39%	41%	48%
Not Sure	19%	14%	23%	22%	21%	13%	16%	22%	14%	17%	16%	28%	22%	18%	19%	18%	18%	21%	15%	18%	**	27%	18%	18%	22%	16%	22%	21%	19%	15%	11%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	48%	52%	32%	29%	22%	17%	61%	39%	72%	11%	11%	6%	29%	35%	34%	33%	37%	23%	80%	4%	15%	5%	23%	31%	40%	26%	26%	17%	12%	14%

3 All things considered, has the war in Iraq been worth fighting? Or not?

1000 Adults	All	Cell Phone / Lan		Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-3.2 pct points		Cell Ph	Landlin	Northea	Midwes	South	West
Worth Fighting	36%	24%	39%	36%	35%	35%	38%
Not Worth Fighting	46%	45%	46%	44%	48%	45%	45%
Not Sure	19%	31%	15%	20%	17%	20%	17%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	23%	77%	19%	23%	36%	22%

4 All things considered, has the war in Afghanistan been worth fighting? Or not?

1000 Adults	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Bin Laden			Education				Income				
Credibility Interval: +/-3.2 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian /	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	Dead	Alive	Don't K	No HS	HS Gra	Some	College	<25K	25-50K	50-75K	75-100	>100K
Worth Fighting	45%	52%	39%	40%	49%	52%	39%	44%	46%	45%	47%	43%	48%	55%	43%	40%	53%	43%	39%	49%	**	33%	40%	42%	41%	51%	36%	39%	50%	56%	59%
Not Worth Fighting	37%	36%	37%	38%	32%	34%	45%	35%	39%	38%	37%	30%	31%	28%	39%	42%	30%	36%	45%	34%	**	44%	36%	40%	38%	33%	40%	41%	34%	31%	31%
Not Sure	18%	12%	24%	22%	18%	14%	15%	20%	15%	17%	16%	27%	20%	17%	18%	18%	17%	21%	16%	17%	**	24%	24%	18%	21%	15%	24%	20%	16%	13%	10%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	48%	52%	32%	29%	22%	17%	61%	39%	72%	11%	11%	6%	29%	35%	34%	33%	37%	23%	80%	4%	15%	5%	23%	31%	40%	26%	26%	17%	12%	14%

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4All things considered, has the war in Afghanistan been worth fighting? Or not?

1000 Adults	All	Cell Phone / Lan		Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-3.2 pct points		Cell Ph	Landlin	Northea	Midwes	South	West
Worth Fighting	45%	31%	49%	47%	42%	45%	46%
Not Worth Fighting	37%	37%	36%	34%	41%	36%	36%
Not Sure	18%	31%	14%	19%	17%	18%	18%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	23%	77%	19%	23%	36%	22%

5Was the decision by the United States to bury Osama bin Laden at sea the right decision? Or the wrong decision?

1000 Adults	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Bin Laden			Education				Income				
Credibility Interval: +/-3.1 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian /	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	Dead	Alive	Don't K	No HS	HS Gra	Some	College	<25K	25-50K	50-75K	75-100	>100K
Right	56%	60%	52%	44%	57%	65%	64%	50%	65%	57%	56%	56%	41%	58%	60%	49%	59%	55%	56%	63%	**	28%	53%	50%	49%	66%	48%	50%	56%	70%	71%
Wrong	25%	26%	25%	29%	27%	21%	22%	28%	21%	25%	25%	28%	29%	27%	21%	28%	25%	24%	25%	19%	**	48%	23%	30%	30%	19%	28%	28%	26%	19%	19%
Not Sure	19%	14%	23%	27%	17%	14%	14%	22%	14%	18%	19%	17%	31%	15%	19%	22%	16%	21%	19%	18%	**	24%	25%	20%	22%	15%	24%	22%	18%	12%	10%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	48%	52%	32%	29%	22%	17%	61%	39%	72%	11%	11%	6%	29%	35%	34%	33%	37%	23%	80%	4%	15%	5%	23%	31%	40%	26%	26%	17%	12%	14%

5Was the decision by the United States to bury Osama bin Laden at sea the right decision? Or the wrong decision?

1000 Adults	All	Cell Phone / Lan		Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-3.1 pct points		Cell Ph	Landlin	Northea	Midwes	South	West
Right	56%	36%	62%	55%	60%	52%	59%
Wrong	25%	28%	24%	29%	22%	26%	25%
Not Sure	19%	36%	14%	16%	18%	22%	16%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	23%	77%	19%	23%	36%	22%

6In the immediate short-term, will the death of Osama bin Laden make the world be a more dangerous place? A safer place? Or will it make no difference?

1000 Adults	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Bin Laden			Education				Income				
Credibility Interval: +/-3.2 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian /	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	Dead	Alive	Don't K	No HS	HS Gra	Some	College	<25K	25-50K	50-75K	75-100	>100K
More Dangerous	25%	24%	27%	22%	26%	30%	26%	24%	28%	26%	21%	25%	26%	32%	21%	23%	27%	25%	22%	24%	**	29%	32%	26%	26%	24%	25%	28%	24%	19%	30%
Safer Place	32%	34%	30%	32%	35%	32%	27%	33%	30%	30%	40%	38%	30%	33%	35%	29%	32%	31%	34%	36%	**	17%	31%	34%	28%	34%	29%	28%	40%	39%	31%
No Difference	34%	35%	34%	30%	31%	36%	45%	30%	40%	35%	33%	29%	31%	29%	36%	36%	33%	35%	34%	32%	**	44%	30%	31%	35%	36%	33%	35%	30%	36%	36%
Not Sure	8%	7%	10%	16%	8%	2%	2%	12%	2%	8%	6%	9%	13%	6%	7%	12%	8%	10%	10%	8%	**	10%	6%	9%	11%	6%	13%	10%	7%	6%	3%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	48%	52%	32%	29%	22%	17%	61%	39%	72%	11%	11%	6%	29%	35%	34%	33%	37%	23%	80%	4%	15%	5%	23%	31%	40%	26%	26%	17%	12%	14%

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6 In the immediate short-term, will the death of Osama bin Laden make the world be a more dangerous place? A safer place? Or will it make no difference?

1000 Adults	All	Cell Phone / Lan		Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-3.2 pct points		Cell Ph	Landlin	Northea	Midwes	South	West
More Dangerous	25%	21%	27%	27%	27%	24%	24%
Safer Place	32%	31%	32%	28%	30%	32%	36%
No Difference	34%	25%	37%	36%	35%	34%	32%
Not Sure	8%	23%	4%	8%	8%	9%	8%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	23%	77%	19%	23%	36%	22%

7 Long-term, will the death of Osama bin Laden, result in the world becoming a more dangerous place? A safer place? Or will it make no difference?

1000 Adults	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Bin Laden			Education				Income				
Credibility Interval: +/-3.2 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian /	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	Dead	Alive	Don't K	No HS	HS Gra	Some	College	<25K	25-50K	50-75K	75-100	>100K
More Dangerous	12%	10%	13%	13%	9%	12%	15%	11%	13%	10%	18%	15%	13%	13%	11%	12%	10%	10%	13%	10%	**	18%	20%	17%	10%	9%	18%	13%	8%	8%	6%
Safer Place	48%	53%	42%	40%	55%	53%	43%	47%	48%	48%	49%	43%	42%	54%	48%	44%	51%	49%	44%	53%	**	25%	44%	41%	45%	54%	39%	45%	53%	56%	57%
No Difference	32%	30%	34%	31%	28%	33%	39%	30%	36%	33%	24%	32%	38%	26%	33%	34%	32%	33%	30%	29%	**	47%	28%	31%	34%	31%	29%	32%	32%	31%	34%
Not Sure	8%	6%	11%	16%	9%	2%	3%	12%	2%	8%	9%	10%	8%	7%	8%	10%	7%	8%	13%	8%	**	11%	7%	10%	11%	6%	13%	11%	7%	5%	3%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	48%	52%	32%	29%	22%	17%	61%	39%	72%	11%	11%	6%	29%	35%	34%	33%	37%	23%	80%	4%	15%	5%	23%	31%	40%	26%	26%	17%	12%	14%

7 Long-term, will the death of Osama bin Laden, result in the world becoming a more dangerous place? A safer place? Or will it make no difference?

1000 Adults	All	Cell Phone / Lan		Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-3.2 pct points		Cell Ph	Landlin	Northea	Midwes	South	West
More Dangerous	12%	9%	13%	10%	12%	13%	11%
Safer Place	48%	40%	50%	48%	46%	46%	52%
No Difference	32%	27%	34%	34%	33%	31%	31%
Not Sure	8%	23%	4%	7%	8%	11%	6%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	23%	77%	19%	23%	36%	22%

8 Is Al-Qaeda still a threat to America? Or no longer a threat?

1000 Adults	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Bin Laden			Education				Income				
Credibility Interval: +/-2.2 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian /	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	Dead	Alive	Don't K	No HS	HS Gra	Some	College	<25K	25-50K	50-75K	75-100	>100K
Still a Threat	86%	88%	85%	79%	89%	92%	88%	84%	90%	88%	79%	84%	81%	93%	84%	84%	90%	85%	84%	88%	**	78%	69%	87%	85%	89%	77%	88%	87%	94%	95%
No Longer a Threat	5%	5%	4%	6%	4%	4%	4%	5%	4%	4%	11%	1%	4%	3%	6%	4%	4%	5%	5%	4%	**	6%	12%	4%	5%	3%	6%	4%	6%	2%	3%
Not Sure	9%	7%	11%	15%	7%	4%	8%	11%	6%	8%	10%	15%	15%	4%	10%	12%	6%	10%	11%	8%	**	16%	19%	9%	10%	7%	17%	9%	8%	4%	2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	48%	52%	32%	29%	22%	17%	61%	39%	72%	11%	11%	6%	29%	35%	34%	33%	37%	23%	80%	4%	15%	5%	23%	31%	40%	26%	26%	17%	12%	14%

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8 Is Al-Qaeda still a threat to America? Or no longer a threat?

1000 Adults	All	Cell Phone / Lan		Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-2.2 pct points		Cell Ph	Landlin	Northea	Midwes	South	West
Still a Threat	86%	80%	88%	84%	86%	87%	87%
No Longer a Threat	5%	3%	5%	5%	5%	5%	3%
Not Sure	9%	17%	7%	11%	9%	8%	10%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	23%	77%	19%	23%	36%	22%

9 Is it appropriate to celebrate the death of Bin Laden? Or is it insensitive?

1000 Adults	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			Bin Laden			Education				Income				
Credibility Interval: +/-3.1 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	White	Black	Hispani	Asian /	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	Dead	Alive	Don't K	No HS	HS Gra	Some	College	<25K	25-50K	50-75K	75-100	>100K
Appropriate	62%	66%	58%	55%	67%	65%	61%	61%	64%	64%	52%	59%	59%	71%	58%	59%	69%	59%	58%	66%	**	46%	50%	60%	64%	64%	56%	60%	64%	70%	72%
Insensitive	22%	22%	21%	25%	18%	24%	19%	22%	22%	21%	34%	15%	18%	16%	26%	23%	17%	23%	25%	20%	**	28%	27%	23%	19%	22%	25%	20%	22%	17%	20%
Not Sure	16%	12%	20%	21%	14%	10%	20%	18%	15%	15%	14%	26%	23%	13%	17%	18%	13%	17%	17%	14%	**	26%	23%	17%	17%	14%	19%	20%	14%	14%	7%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	48%	52%	32%	29%	22%	17%	61%	39%	72%	11%	11%	6%	29%	35%	34%	33%	37%	23%	80%	4%	15%	5%	23%	31%	40%	26%	26%	17%	12%	14%

9 Is it appropriate to celebrate the death of Bin Laden? Or is it insensitive?

1000 Adults	All	Cell Phone / Lan		Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-3.1 pct points		Cell Ph	Landlin	Northea	Midwes	South	West
Appropriate	62%	54%	64%	61%	60%	62%	65%
Insensitive	22%	22%	22%	21%	25%	21%	20%
Not Sure	16%	24%	14%	18%	15%	17%	16%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	23%	77%	19%	23%	36%	22%

** Too few respondents of this type were interviewed for this data to be meaningful.

: KABC-TV Los Angeles, KATU-TV Portland, KFSN-TV Fresno, KGTV-TV San Diego, KING-TV Seattle, KPIX-TV San Francisco, KWCH-TV Wichita, SurveyUSA America's Pollster, WABC-TV New York, WFLA-TV Tampa

Statement of Methodology: About the Poll: This poll was conducted by telephone in the voice of a professional announcer. Respondent households were selected at random, using Random Digit Dialed (RDD) sample provided by Survey Sampling, of Fairfield CT. All respondents heard the questions asked identically. The pollster's report includes the geography that was surveyed; the date(s) interviews were conducted, the number of respondents who answered each question and the theoretical margin of sampling error for each question. Where necessary, respondents were weighted using the most recent US Census estimates for age, gender, ethnic origin and region, to align the sample to the population. In theory, one can say with 95% certainty that the results would not vary by more than the stated margin of sampling error, in one direction or the other, had the entire universe of respondents with home telephones been interviewed with complete accuracy. There are other possible sources of error in all surveys that may be more serious than sampling error. These include: the difficulty of interviewing respondents who do not have a home telephone; the refusal by some with home telephones to be interviewed; the order in which questions are asked; the wording of questions; the way and extent to which data are weighted; and the manner in which specialized populations, such as likely voters, are determined. It is difficult to quantify the errors that may result from these and other factors. Research methodology, questionnaire design and fieldwork for this survey were completed by SurveyUSA of Clifton, NJ. This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.