

America Remains Center-Right Nation Polling

March 3, 2009

SIZE OF GOVERNMENT

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Government is not the solution to our problem; government is the problem

Agree	59%
Disagree	28%
Unsure	14%

(Source: Rasmussen Reports, February 22-23, 2009)

Do you favor or oppose the federal government temporarily nationalizing major U.S. banks in danger of failing in an attempt to stabilize them?

Favor	37%
Oppose	57%
Unsure	6%

(Source: Gallup, February 20-22, 2009)

Do increases in government spending help or hurt the economy?

Help:	35%
Hurt:	48%
No Impact:	7%
Not Sure:	10%

(Source: Rasmussen Reports, February 22-23, 2009)

I'm going to read you some pairs of statements, tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views — even if neither is exactly right.

Government is almost always wasteful and inefficient	53%
Government often does a better job than people give it credit for	40%
Neither/Don't Know (VOL)	7%

(Source: Pew Research Center, December 3-7, 2008)

STIMULUS PACKAGE

Which of the following concerns you more -- that the federal government will spend too MUCH money to try to boost the economy and as a result will drive up the budget deficit, OR, that the

federal government will spend too LITTLE money to try to boost the economy and as a result the recession will be longer?

Spend too much	61%
Spend too little	29%
Unsure	10%

(Source: NBC News/Wall Street Journal, February 26-March 1, 2009)

Regardless of whether you favor or oppose the economic stimulus bill that Congress passed, do you think it would have been better for the government to spend more money to stimulate the economy, better for the government to spend less money, or is the amount of spending in the bill about right?

Better to Spend More:	14%
Better to Spend Less:	41%
About Right:	40%
Not Sure:	4%

(Source: Gallup, February 20-22, 2009)

In thinking about the trade-offs between spending government money to improve the economy versus adding considerable amounts of money to the federal debt, which do you think is the greater risk: spending too little to improve the economy or adding too much to the federal debt?

Spending too little:	37%
Adding too much to debt:	59%
Not Sure:	4%

(Source: Gallup, February 20-22, 2009)

In terms of tax cuts, do you think the stimulus package goes too far, does not go far enough, or is it about right"

Too Far	15%
Not Far Enough	33%
About Right	46%
Unsure	6%

(Source: ABC News/Washington Post, February 19-22, 2009)

In your opinion, which will do MORE to protect or create jobs: increased government spending on infrastructure, health care, education and other fields, OR tax cuts that would put more money in the hands of individuals and businesses?

Increased Gov't Spending	41%
Tax Cuts	50%
Both (VOL)	3%
Unsure	6%

(Source: CBS News/New York Times, February 18-22, 2009)

What do you think will do more right now to stimulate the economy and create jobs: tax cuts to individuals and businesses, or spending on programs and infrastructure projects?

Increased Gov't Spending	39%
Tax Cuts	48%
Both (VOL)	4%
Unsure	9%

(Source: Pew Research Center, February 4-8, 2009)

In your opinion which will do more to get the U.S. out of the current recession: increasing government spending, or reducing taxes?

Increasing Gov't Spending	16%
Reducing taxes	62%
Both (VOL)	7%
Neither (VOL)	7%
Unsure	8%

(Source: CBS News February 2-4, 2009)

Many different ideas are being considered for how best to stimulate the economy. Do you think the economic stimulus plan should focus mainly on using taxpayer dollars to increase government spending on new programs and infrastructure projects or mainly on cutting taxes for businesses and individuals?

Gov't Spending	29%
Cutting taxes	50%
Both (VOL)	14%
Unsure	6%

(Source: FOX News/Opinion Dynamics, January 27-28, 2009)

Which of the following concerns you more -- that the federal government will spend too MUCH money to try to boost the economy and as a result will drive up the budget deficit, OR, that the federal government will spend too LITTLE money to try to boost the economy and as a result the recession will be longer?

Spend too much	60%
Spend too little	33%
Unsure	7%

(Source: NBC News/Wall Street Journal, January 9-12, 2009)

AUTO BAILOUT

As you may know, in December the federal government gave 17 billion dollars in loans to General Motors and Chrysler to keep those auto manufacturers from going bankrupt. Earlier this week, General Motors and Chrysler asked the government for 21 billion dollars in additional loans as part of restructuring plans they submitted to the Treasury Department. Do you think Congress should or should not approve these additional loans?

Should	25%
Should Not	72%
Unsure	3%

(Source: Gallup, February 20-22, 2009)

The federal government has provided 25 billion dollars in loans to two of the big U.S. automakers and put in place a government board to oversee their restructuring. These automakers now say they need an additional 14 billion dollars in government loans in order to stay out of bankruptcy. Do you support or oppose providing these additional government loans to the U.S. automakers?

Support	30%
Oppose	68%
Unsure	2%

(Source: ABC News/Washington Post, February 19-22, 2009)

OBAMA MORTGAGE PLAN

As you know, part of the program is to provide financial assistance to homeowners who are at-risk of defaulting on their mortgage, but have not yet done so. Do you think that this condition seems fair and provides assistance to people who have been caught up by the worst conditions in the past fifty years, OR seems unfair and rewards people who have not been financially responsible?

Seems fair	36%
Seems unfair	48%
Unsure	16%

(Source: NBC News/Wall Street Journal, February 26-March 1, 2009)

Just your best guess, do you think the Obama administration's home mortgage plan will or will not help stabilize housing prices in your community?

Will	46%
Will Not	48%
Unsure	6%

(Source: Gallup, February 20-22, 2009)

Do you think providing government aid to certain homeowners who cannot pay their mortgage is fair, or unfair?

Fair	46%
Unfair	51%
Unsure	4%

(Source: Gallup, February 20-22, 2009)

HEALTH CARE

Which ONE of the following do you think should have the most responsibility for helping ensure that Americans receive health insurance coverage?

The federal government	36%
Individuals themselves	31%
Employers and businesses	24%
All (VOL)	6%
None/other (VOL)	3%

(Source: NBC News/Wall Street Journal, February 26-March 1, 2009)

Do you think you and your family would be better off if the President and Congress passed health care reform, or do you think it wouldn't make a difference?

Better off:	38%
It wouldn't make much difference:	43%
Worse off:	11%
It depends (VOL):	4%

(Source: Kaiser Health Tracking Poll, February 3-12, 2009)

BUSH TAX CUTS

Many of the tax cuts passed in 2001 were temporary and are set to expire in a few years. Should those tax cuts be made permanent or should they be allowed to expire?

Made permanent	42%
Allowed to expire	36%
It depends (VOL):	5%
Unsure	17%

(Source: CBS News/New York Times, September 12-16, 2008)

TERRORISM

What concerns you more about the government's anti-terrorism policies?

That they go too far in restricting the average person's civil liberties	36%
That they do not go far enough to adequately protect the country	42%
Both/Neither (VOL)	9%
Don't Know/Refused (VOL)	13%

(Source: Pew Research Center, February 4-8, 2009)

As you may know, for the past seven years the United States has been holding a number of suspected terrorists at a U.S. military prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Based on what you have heard or read, do you think the U.S. should continue to operate the prison, or do you think the U.S. should close the prison and transfer the prisoners somewhere else?

Continue to Operate	46%
Close the Prison	44%
Unsure	10%

(Source: CBS News, February 2-4, 2009)

Do you think the United States should or should not close the prison at the Guantanamo Bay military base in Cuba

Should	35%
Should Not	45%
Unsure	20%

(Source: Gallup, January 16-17, 2009)

IRAN

After Barack Obama becomes president, do you think he should meet with the leader of Iran without any preconditions, or do you think Obama should meet with the leader of Iran only if Iran agrees to change some of its policies, or do you think Obama should not meet with the leader of Iran regardless of what the Iranian government might agree to do?

Meet with preconditions	34%
Meet if Iran changes policies	42%
Do not meet	22%
Unsure	2%

(Source: CNN/ORC, December 1-2, 2008)

GUN RIGHTS

Part of the debate about gun ownership hinges on how we interpret the U.S. constitution. The exact words of the constitution are as follows: 'A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed upon.' Do you think these words guarantee each person the right to own a gun, or do they protect the right of citizens to form a militia without implying that each individual has the right to own a gun?

Right of each person to own gun	67%
Right of citizens to form militia	30%
Unsure	4%

(Source: CNN/ORC, June 4-5, 2008)

TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE

Do you think marriages between gay and lesbian couples should or should not be recognized by the law as valid, with the same rights as traditional marriages?

Should	44%
Should Not	55%
Unsure	1%

(Source: CNN/ORC, December 19-21, 2008)