GALLUP NEWS SERVICE

MAY ELECTION BENCHMARK

-- FINAL TOPLINE --

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted May 18-22, 2016 with a random sample of –1,530—adults, aged 18+, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. For results based on this sample of national adults, the margin of sampling error is ±3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

For results based on the sample of -- 1,357 -- registered voters, the margin of sampling error is ±3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

For results based on the sample of -- 744 -- Republicans and Republican leaning independents, the margin of sampling error is ±4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

For results based on the sample of -- 697 -- Democrats and Democratic leaning independents, the margin of sampling error is ±5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each sample of national adults includes a minimum quota of 60% cell phone respondents and 40% landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas by region. Landline and cell phone telephone numbers are selected using random digit dial methods. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member has the next birthday.

Samples are weighted to correct for unequal selection probability, non-response, and double coverage of landline and cell users in the two sampling frames. They are also weighted to match the national demographics of gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, population density, and phone status (cell phone-only/landline only/both and cell phone mostly). Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2015 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older U.S. population. Phone status targets are based on the January-June 2015 National Health Interview Survey. Population density targets are based on the 2010 census. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting.

In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

15.   Now I am going to read a list of some of the issues that will probably be discussed in this year's presidential election campaign. As I read each one, please tell me how important the candidates' positions on that issue will be in influencing your vote for president -- extremely important, very important, somewhat important, or not important. How about -- [RANDOM ORDER]?

2016 May 18-22 (***sorted by "Extremely important"***)	Extremely important	Extremely+ Very important
Terrorism and national security	45	87
The economy	42	92
Employment and jobs	38	89
Education	38	86
Healthcare and the Affordable Care Act	38	83
The federal budget deficit	34	78
Immigration	29	69
The treatment of minority groups in this country	28	66
The distribution of income and wealth in the United States	28	65
Foreign affairs	27	74
Taxes	26	71
Gun policy	26	63
The size and efficiency of the federal government	24	64
Government regulation of Wall Street and banks	22	59
Social issues such as gay marriage and abortion	21	48
Climate change	21	47
Trade with other nations	18	61

FULL RESULTS AND TRENDS:

A. The economy

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	42	50	8	*	*
2016 Jan 21-25	39	48	11	2	*
2012 Feb 16-19	44	47	7	1	*
2008 Oct 23-26	55	40	4	*	*
2008 Jun 15-19	49	42	8	1	*
2008 Feb 8-10	41	48	9	2	*
2004 Oct 22-24	39	49	11	1	*
2004 Feb 6-8	38	48	12	1	1
2003 Dec 5-7	40	47	10	2	1
2003 Sep 19-21	49	42	9	*	*
2000 Aug 4-5	41	44	13	2	*
2000 Jul 25-26	35	51	12	2	*
2000 Apr 3-9	30	47	21	2	*
1996 Jul 18-21	34	54	10	1	2

Q.15 (ISSUE IMPORTANCE) CONTINUED

B. Employment and Jobs

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	38	51	10	1	--
2016 Jan 21-25	35	49	14	1	*

C. The federal budget deficit

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	34	44	17	4	*
2016 Jan 21-25	30	41	22	5	1
2012 Feb 16-19	37	41	17	4	1
2008 Oct 23-26	44	38	16	2	*
2008 Feb 8-10	30	43	22	4	1
2004 Feb 6-8	30	42	22	4	2
2003 Dec 5-7	32	43	23	2	*
2003 Sep 19-21	39	35	23	2	1
1996 Jul 18-21	32	46	17	2	2

D. Taxes

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	26	45	25	3	*
2016 Jan 21-25	25	44	26	4	1
2012 Feb 16-19	29	44	23	3	*
2008 Oct 23-26	40	41	17	2	*
2008 Jun 15-19	34	38	24	4	*
2008 Feb 8-10	27	42	27	4	*
2004 Feb 6-8	29	45	22	3	1
2003 Sep 19-21	36	41	20	2	1
2000 Aug 4-5	40	42	16	2	*
2000 Jul 25-26	33	44	19	3	1
1996 Jul 18-21	32	51	14	2	1

Q.15 (ISSUE IMPORTANCE) CONTINUED

E. Immigration

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	29	40	25	7	*
2016 Jan 21-25	28	38	28	5	1
2012 Feb 16-19	15	34	37	13	1
2008 Oct 23-26 ^	25	32	33	9	*
2008 Jun 15-19 ^	27	32	31	10	*
2008 Feb 8-10 ^	26	34	30	9	1
2004 Feb 6-8	19	36	36	8	1

^ WORDING: Illegal immigration

F. Healthcare and the Affordable Care Act

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	38	45	14	4	*
2016 Jan 21-25	37	42	15	6	1
2012 Feb 16-19 †	35	39	19	6	1
2008 Oct 23-26 ^	41	37	19	3	*
2008 Jun 15-19 ^	41	39	17	3	--
2008 Feb 8-10 ^	37	42	17	3	*
2004 Oct 22-24 ^	33	47	18	2	*
2004 Feb 6-8 ^	38	44	16	2	*
2003 Sep 19-21 ^	43	42	13	2	*
2000 Aug 4-5 ^	44	40	12	3	1
2000 Jul 25-26 ^	37	47	14	2	*
2000 Apr 3-9 ^	38	44	16	2	*

^ WORDING: Healthcare
† WORDING: The Healthcare Law passed in 2010

Q.15 (ISSUE IMPORTANCE) CONTINUED

G. Terrorism and National Security

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	45	42	10	3	*
2016 Jan 21-25	46	39	11	4	*
2012 Feb 16-19	33	41	22	3	*
2008 Oct 23-26 ^	42	38	17	3	1
2008 Jun 15-19 ^	41	35	20	4	*
2008 Feb 8-10 ^	40	37	19	4	*
2004 Oct 22-24 ^	45	40	13	2	*
2004 Feb 6-8 ^	43	42	11	3	1
2003 Dec 5-7 ^	48	40	10	2	*
2003 Sep 19-21 ^	49	38	11	2	*

^ WORDING: Terrorism

H. Social Issues such as Abortion and Gay Marriage

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	21	27	27	25	*
2016 Jan 21-25	18	22	29	31	1
2012 Feb 16-19	16	24	31	28	1

For comparison (Abortion):

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2004 Feb 6-8	22	30	28	19	1
2000 Aug 4-5	29	27	22	20	2
2000 Jul 25-26	25	27	27	19	2
2000 Apr 3-9	26	27	30	15	2
1996 Jul 18-21	23	30	25	20	2

For comparison (Same-sex marriage):

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2004 Oct 22-24 ^	18	20	25	36	1
2004 Feb 6-8	22	22	23	31	2
1996 Jul 18-21 †	16	17	19	45	3

^ Asked of a half sample.
† WORDING: Gay marriages

Q.15 (ISSUE IMPORTANCE) CONTINUED

I. Climate Change

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	21	26	27	26	1
2016 Jan 21-25	16	29	27	28	*

J. Gun policy

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	26	37	24	13	1
2016 Jan 21-25	31	35	22	12	1
2004 Feb 6-8	21	32	31	15	1
2000 Aug 4-5 ^	29	35	23	12	1
2000 Jul 25-26 ^	30	32	24	12	2
2000 Apr 3-9 †	34	35	19	11	1

^ WORDING: The gun issue
† WORDING: Gun control

K. Education

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	38	48	12	2	*
2016 Jan 21-25	36	43	17	3	*
2008 Oct 23-26	39	41	18	2	*
2008 Feb 8-10	35	46	16	3	*
2004 Oct 22-24 ^	32	52	14	2	--
2004 Feb 6-8	41	45	12	2	*
2003 Dec 5-7	43	43	12	2	*
2003 Sep 19-21	45	43	11	1	*
2000 Oct 20-22 †	41	47	9	2	1
2000 Aug 4-5	50	41	7	2	*
2000 Jul 25-26	43	46	9	2	*
2000 Apr 3-9	46	43	9	2	*
1996 Oct 26-29 †	42	47	10	1	--
1996 Jul 18-21	42	50	7	1	1

^ Asked of a half sample.
† Based on registered voters

L. The distribution of income and wealth in the U.S.

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	28	37	21	14	1
2016 Jan 21-25	26	37	22	14	1

M. Foreign Affairs

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	27	47	21	5	*
2016 Jan 21-25	28	40	26	5	1
2004 Feb 6-8	21	44	29	4	2
2003 Sep 19-21	31	40	25	3	1
2000 Jul 25-26	18	40	33	8	1
2000 Apr 3-9	17	40	26	5	2
1996 Oct 26-29 ^	17	42	32	6	3
1996 Jul 18-21	20	42	32	6	2

^ Asked of a half sample.

N. Government regulation of Wall Street and Banks

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	22	37	31	8	1
2016 Jan 21-25	21	37	32	9	1

O. The size and efficiency of the federal government

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	24	40	29	7	1
2016 Jan 21-25	23	38	31	8	*

P. Trade with other nations

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	18	43	32	6	*

Q. The treatment of minority groups in this country

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	28	38	25	9	*

16. Regardless of which presidential candidate you support, please tell me if you think Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump would better handle each of the following issues. How about -- [RANDOM ORDER]?

2016 May 18-22
(sorted by "Advantage")

	Clinton	Trump	Advantage
The treatment of minority groups in this country	67	29	C, +38
Climate change	66	28	C, +38
Social issues such as gay marriage and abortion	64	31	C, +33
Education	61	35	C, +26
Foreign affairs	59	38	C, +21
Healthcare and the Affordable Care Act	56	40	C, +16
Immigration	52	44	C, +8
The distribution of income and wealth in the U.S.	51	43	C, +8
Trade with other nations	48	49	T, +1
Terrorism and national security	46	50	T, +4
Gun policy	45	50	T, +5
Employment and jobs	45	52	T, +7
Taxes	44	52	T, +8
The economy	43	53	T, +10
Government regulation of Wall Street and banks	42	53	T, +11
The size and efficiency of the federal government	41	55	T, +14
The federal budget deficit	39	57	T, +18

COMPLETE RESULTS:

A. The economy

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	43	53	1	3

B. Employment and jobs

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	45	52	1	2

Q.16 (CANDIDATES ON ISSUES) CONTINUED

C. The federal budget deficit

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	39	57	1	3

D. Taxes

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	44	52	1	3

E. Immigration

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	52	44	1	3

F. Healthcare and the Affordable Care Act

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	56	40	1	3

G. Terrorism and national security

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	46	50	2	2

H. Social issues such as gay marriage and abortion

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	64	31	2	3

I. Climate change

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	66	28	2	4

J. Gun policy

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	45	50	1	3

K. Education

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	61	35	1	3

Q.16 (CANDIDATES ON ISSUES) CONTINUED

L. The distribution of income and wealth in the U.S.

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	51	43	2	4

M. Foreign affairs

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	59	38	1	3

N. Government regulation of Wall Street and banks

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	42	53	2	3

O. The size and efficiency of the federal government

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	41	55	1	3

P. Trade with other nations

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	48	49	1	3

Q. The treatment of minority groups in this country

	Clinton	Trump	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
2016 May 18-22	67	29	1	3