



PRRI 2011 Pluralism, Immigration and Civic Integration Survey
August 1 - August 14
N=2,450

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

44	Approve
47	Disapprove
9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.2 Some people seem to follow what's going on in government and public affairs most of the time, whether there's an election or not. Others aren't that interested. Would you say you follow what's going on in government and public affairs... **[READ IN ORDER]**

54	Most of the time
26	Some of the time
11	Only now and then
6	Seldom
3	Never
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.3 Thinking about some issues in the country today, do you think that **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]** is a critical issue facing the country, one among many important issues or not that important compared to other issues? What about **[INSERT; NEXT]**?

REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Is this a critical issue facing the country, one among many important issues or not that important compared to other issues?

a. Illegal Immigration

43	Critical issue
35	One among many
21	Not that important
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. Terrorism

53	Critical issue
35	One among many
11	Not that important
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. The federal deficit

71	Critical issue
21	One among many
5	Not that important
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

d. Unemployment

77	Critical issue
21	One among many
2	Not that important
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

e. Crime

42	Critical issue
45	One among many
12	Not that important
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,225]:

ff1. Discrimination against minority groups

25	Critical issue
41	One among many
31	Not that important
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,225]:

gf2. Reverse discrimination, that is, discrimination against whites

18	Critical issue
30	One among many
49	Not that important
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

[ROTATE Q4a, Q4b, Q4c]

ASK ALL:

Thinking about the country since the terrorist attacks of September 11th, ten years ago...

All in all...

Q.4a Do you think that Americans today are safer from terrorism or less safe from terrorism than we were prior to September 11th?

53	Safer
35	Less safe
8	No change (VOL.)
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

And...

Q.4b Do you think Americans today have more personal freedom or less personal freedom than we had prior to September 11th?

11	More freedom
77	Less freedom
9	No change (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

And...

Q.4c Do you think America today is more respected in the world or less respected in the world than it was prior to September 11th?

21	More respected
69	Less respected
5	No change (VOL.)
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.5 Now, I'd like to get your views on some issues that are being discussed in the country today. All in all, do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose [INSERT FIRST TIME; RANDOMIZE]? What about [NEXT ITEM]?

REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose?

a. Allowing undocumented immigrants who have been in the U.S. for several years to earn legal working status and an opportunity for citizenship in the future

14	Strongly favor
42	Favor
22	Oppose
19	Strongly oppose
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. Allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally

19	Strongly favor
29	Favor
21	Oppose
25	Strongly oppose
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. Allowing illegal immigrants brought to the U.S. as children to gain legal resident status if they join the military or go to college

18	Strongly favor
39	Favor
24	Oppose
16	Strongly oppose
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.6 Now thinking about some specific groups in America today... Is your overall opinion of **[INSERT FIRST ITEM]** very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? **[INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]**

How about **(NEXT ITEM)**? **[IF NECESSARY:** would you say your overall opinion is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? **INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]**

a. Catholics

29	Very favorable
54	Mostly favorable
7	Mostly unfavorable
3	Very unfavorable
*	Never heard of (VOL.)
5	Can't rate (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. Jews

30	Very favorable
54	Mostly favorable
5	Mostly unfavorable
2	Very unfavorable
*	Never heard of (VOL.)
5	Can't rate (VOL.)
<u>3</u>	Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. Mormons

17	Very favorable
50	Mostly favorable
15	Mostly unfavorable
5	Very unfavorable
2	Never heard of (VOL.)
7	Can't rate (VOL.)
<u>3</u>	Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

d. Atheists, that is, people who don't believe in God

13	Very favorable
32	Mostly favorable
23	Mostly unfavorable
23	Very unfavorable
*	Never heard of (VOL.)
6	Can't rate (VOL.)
<u>3</u>	Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

e. Muslims

13	Very favorable
45	Mostly favorable
21	Mostly unfavorable
11	Very unfavorable
*	Never heard of (VOL.)
7	Can't rate (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

f. African Americans

33	Very favorable
56	Mostly favorable
4	Mostly unfavorable
2	Very unfavorable
*	Never heard of (VOL.)
3	Can't rate (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

g. Hispanics

27	Very favorable
55	Mostly favorable
9	Mostly unfavorable
2	Very unfavorable
0	Never heard of (VOL.)
4	Can't rate (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

On a different subject...

Q.7 How much do you feel that you know about the immigration process in our country? **[READ IN ORDER]**

21	A lot
46	Some
21	Not much
12	Almost nothing
*	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.8 Do you think the current immigration system in the United States is **[READ IN ORDER]**

[IF DK OR DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Just your general impression, do you think the current immigration system is...]

5	Generally working
35	Working but with some major problems
38	Broken but working in some areas
19	Completely Broken
3	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK ALL:

Q.9 Now, as I read a few statements about issues being discussed in the country today, please tell me if you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree or completely disagree with each one. First... **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**. Next...

READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree or completely disagree?

a. We should make a serious effort to deport all illegal immigrants back to their home countries.

22	Completely agree
29	Mostly agree
31	Mostly disagree
17	Completely disagree
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. Today discrimination against whites has become as big a problem as discrimination against blacks and other minorities

15	Completely agree
31	Mostly agree
33	Mostly disagree
18	Completely disagree
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. It is the responsibility of the government to take care of people who can't take care of themselves

20	Completely agree
40	Mostly agree
27	Mostly disagree
10	Completely disagree
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.10 Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements that will help us understand how you feel about a number of things. As I read each pair, tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views – even if neither is exactly right. The first pair is **[READ; RANDOMIZE]**. The second pair is **[INSERT]**

a.

42	<i>First Statement:</i> The growing number of newcomers from other countries threatens traditional American customs and values.
53	<i>Second Statement:</i> The growing number of newcomers from other countries strengthens American society.
1	Neither (VOL.)
1	Both equally (VOL.)
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b.

36	<i>First Statement:</i> The best way to solve the country's illegal immigration problem is to secure our borders and arrest and deport all those who are here illegally
62	<i>Second Statement—</i> The best way to solve the country's illegal immigration problem is to both secure our borders and provide an earned path to citizenship for illegal immigrants already in the U.S.
1	Neither (VOL.)
*	Both equally (VOL.)
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Now a few questions about immigrants who are now coming to the U.S.

Q.11 In general, how well do you think the following describes immigrants coming to the U.S. today. First, **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**. Would you say this describes immigrants coming to the U.S. today very well, somewhat well, not too well or not at all well? Next, **[INSERT NEXT]**?

REPEAT IF NECESSARY: Would you say this describes immigrants coming to the U.S. today very well, somewhat well, not too well or not at all well?

a. They are hardworking

44	Very well
43	Somewhat well
7	Not too well
3	Not at all well
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. They make an effort to learn English

15	Very well
32	Somewhat well
30	Not too well
21	Not at all well
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. They mostly keep to themselves

26	Very well
46	Somewhat well
15	Not too well
8	Not at all well
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

d. They have strong family values

42	Very well
38	Somewhat well
9	Not too well
4	Not at all well
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,225]:

Q.12 How much, if at all, do you think immigrants today are changing your community and way of life? Would you say a lot, a little or not at all?

38	A lot
47	A little
14	Not at all
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

IF A LOT OR A LITTLE [Q.12=1,2], ASK [N=1,034]:

Q.12a And all in all, do you think this is a good thing or a bad thing?

52	Good thing
41	Bad thing
4	Depends (VOL.)
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,225]:

Q.13 How much, if at all, do you think that immigrants today are changing American society and way of life? Would you say a lot, a little or not at all?

53	A lot
39	A little
8	Not at all
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

IF A LOT OR A LITTLE [Q.13=1,2], ASK [N=1,133]:

Q.13a And all in all, do you think this is a good thing or a bad thing?

51	Good thing
42	Bad thing
3	Depends (VOL.)
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

NO QUESTION 14

On a different topic...

Q.15 How much do you know about **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**? Would you say a lot, a little or nothing at all? And how much do you know about **[INSERT]**?

a. The religious beliefs and practices of Muslims

14	A lot
57	A little
29	Nothing at all
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. The religious beliefs and practices of Mormons

17	A lot
55	A little
27	Nothing at all
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.16 Based on what you have read or heard about Mormons, do you think their religion is a Christian religion, or do you think it is not a Christian religion?

47	Yes
41	No
<u>12</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.17 Now, as I read a few statements please tell me if you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree or completely disagree with each one. First... **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**. Next...

READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree or completely disagree?

a. American Muslims ultimately want to establish Shari'a [PRONCIATION: Sha-REE-uh] or Islamic law as law of the land in the U.S.

10	Completely agree
20	Mostly agree
33	Mostly disagree
28	Completely disagree
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. The values of Islam, the Muslim religion, are at odds with American values and way of life

17	Completely agree
30	Mostly agree
32	Mostly disagree
16	Completely disagree
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. American Muslims are an important part of the religious community in the U.S.

15	Completely agree
39	Mostly agree
27	Mostly disagree
16	Completely disagree
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

d. Too many Americans think that all Muslims are terrorists

21	Completely agree
39	Mostly agree
26	Mostly disagree
11	Completely disagree
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Thinking about things that make some people uncomfortable...

Q.18 Please say whether you would be very comfortable, somewhat comfortable, somewhat UNcomfortable or very UNcomfortable with any of the following.

First **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**. Next **[INSERT]**

REPEAT IF NECESSARY: Would you be very comfortable, somewhat comfortable, somewhat Uncomfortable or very uncomfortable with this?

a. A Muslim teaching at an elementary school in your community

28	Very comfortable
29	Somewhat comfortable
18	Somewhat uncomfortable
23	Very uncomfortable
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. A mosque being built near your home

23	Very comfortable
28	Somewhat comfortable
20	Somewhat uncomfortable
26	Very uncomfortable
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. A group of Muslim men kneeling to pray in an airport

23	Very comfortable
30	Somewhat comfortable
24	Somewhat uncomfortable
21	Very uncomfortable
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

d. Muslim women wearing clothing that covers their whole body, including their faces

25	Very comfortable
26	Somewhat comfortable
24	Somewhat uncomfortable
24	Very uncomfortable
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.19 In general do you think that people in Muslim countries have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of the United States?

2	Very favorable
14	Somewhat favorable
33	Somewhat favorable
46	Very unfavorable
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

IF UNFAVORABLE (Q.19=3,4), ASK [N=1,962]:

Q.20 Do you think the unfavorable opinions that people in Muslim countries have about the U.S. are generally justified or not justified?

24	Justified
73	Not justified
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.21 Do you think people with strong religious beliefs are more likely, or less likely to have extreme political views?

73	More likely
20	Less likely
1	No difference (VOL.)
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,225]:

Q.22 When people claim to be Christian and commit acts of violence in the name of Christianity, do you believe they really are Christian, or not?

13	Yes
83	No
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,225]:

Q.23 When people claim to be Muslim and commit acts of violence in the name of Islam, do you believe they really are Muslim, or not?

44	Yes
48	No
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

IF AFFILIATED (RELIG=1-8, 11, 13, 14), ASK [N=1,986]:

DUAL Do you follow the teachings or practices of more than one religion?

13	Yes
86	No
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK ALL:

ATTEND Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services... more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?

13	More than once a week
24	Once a week
16	Once or twice a month
19	A few times a year
18	Seldom
10	Never
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.24 How important is religion in your life – the most important thing, very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

20	The most important thing
37	Very important
22	Somewhat important
11	Not too important
9	Not at all important
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.25 Which comes closest to your view? **[READ, IN ORDER]**

IF BELIEVE HOLY BOOK IS WORD OF GOD (Q.25=1), ASK:

Q.26 And would you say that **[READ, IN ORDER]**?

68	[Holy book] is the word of God, OR
32	<i>[Holy book] is to be taken literally, word for word, OR</i>
34	<i>Not everything in [Holy book] should be taken literally, word for word.</i>
2	<i>Other/Don't know/Refused (VOL.)</i>
27	[Holy book] is a book written by men and is not the word of God.
2	Other (VOL.)
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.27 Now, thinking about conversations you have had with different types of people in the past 12 months. How often have you had a conversation with someone who, as far as you know, is **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**? At least once a day, occasionally, seldom or never? How about someone who is **[INSERT]**?

a. Muslim

6	At least once a day
24	Occasionally
28	Seldom
40	Never
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. Mormon

6	At least once a day
23	Occasionally
27	Seldom
41	Never
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. African American

43	At least once a day
40	Occasionally
11	Seldom
6	Never
*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

d. Hispanic

36	At least once a day
39	Occasionally
13	Seldom
11	Never
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1,225]:

ef1. Politically conservative

32	At least once a day
37	Occasionally
15	Seldom
13	Never
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1,225]:

ff2. Politically liberal

34	At least once a day
35	Occasionally
17	Seldom
11	Never
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK ALL:

Q.28 As I read a list of some descriptions, tell me if each describes you or not. If you're not familiar with something, just let me know. The first one is...

[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] [IF NECESSARY: Do you think of yourself as [ITEM] or not?]

a. A Christian conservative

42	Yes
54	No
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. A Libertarian

16	Yes
71	No
<u>13</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. A Progressive religious person

29	Yes
63	No
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

d. A part of the Tea Party movement

15	Yes
78	No
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK ALL:

Q.29 Now, as I read a few statements please tell me if you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree or completely disagree with each one. First... **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**. Next...

READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree or completely disagree?

a. Religion causes more problems in society than it solves

15	Completely agree
25	Mostly agree
30	Mostly disagree
28	Completely disagree
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. We must maintain a strict separation of church and state

37	Completely agree
29	Mostly agree
19	Mostly disagree
13	Completely disagree
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. America was founded on the idea of religious freedom for everyone, including religious groups that are unpopular

56	Completely agree
32	Mostly agree
6	Mostly disagree
4	Completely disagree
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

d. All religious books should be treated with respect even if we don't share the religious beliefs of those who use them

66	Completely agree
29	Mostly agree
2	Mostly disagree
2	Completely disagree
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Note: Numbers may not add to 100% due to rounding

Survey Methodology

The survey was designed and conducted by Public Religion Research Institute. Results of the survey were based on bilingual (Spanish and English) telephone interviews conducted between August 1, 2011 and August 14, 2011, by professional interviewers under the supervision of Directions in Research. Interviews were conducted by telephone among a random sample of 2,450 adults 18 years of age or older in the continental United States (804 respondents were interviewed on a cell phone). The landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International and the final sample was weighted to ensure proper representativeness.

The weighting was accomplished in two stages. The first stage of weighting corrected for different probabilities of selection associated with the number of adults in each household and each respondent's telephone usage patterns.¹ In the second stage, sample demographics were balanced by form to match target population parameters for gender, age, education, race and Hispanic ethnicity, region (U.S. Census definitions), population density and telephone usage. The population density parameter was derived from Census 2000 data. The telephone usage parameter came from an analysis of the July-December 2010 National Health Interview Survey. All other weighting parameters were derived from an analysis of the Census Bureau's 2010 Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) data.

The sample weighting was accomplished using Sample Balancing, a special iterative sample-weighting program that simultaneously balances the distributions of all variables. Weights were trimmed to prevent individual interviews from having too much influence on the final results. The use of these weights in statistical analysis ensures that the demographic characteristics of the sample closely approximate the demographic characteristics of the target populations.

The margin of error is +/- 2.0 percentage points for the general sample at the 95% confidence interval. In addition to sampling error, surveys may also be subject to error or bias due to question wording, context, and order effects.

¹ Telephone usage refers to whether respondents have only a landline telephone, only a cell phone or both types.