

PRRI/RNS April 2011 Survey
April 14-17, 2011
N=1,010

Q.1 From what you know, do you believe that the current economic downturn is just a natural part of how our economy works, or not?

37	Yes
60	No
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

IF 'NO, OTHER or DK' (Q1=2,9), ASK:

Q.2 Who or what do you think is MOST responsible for our current economic situation? **[READ; RANDOMIZE]**

14	Individuals who were careless and borrowed more money than they could afford
30	Corporations that were greedy and made risky business decisions
52	Government that neglected its duty and allowed unethical business practices
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.3 As I read a couple statements please tell me whether you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree or completely disagree with each one. The first statement is **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**. Next... **[INSERT NEXT]**.

a. Most businesses would act ethically on their own, without regulation from government

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

b. The federal budget is a moral document that reflects our national priorities

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

c. It's fair that wealthier Americans pay more taxes than the middle class or those less well off

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

Q.4 Now I'm going to read you a couple pairs of statements. Please 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... **[INSERT OPTION; ROTATE OPTIONS; RANDOMIZE PAIRS]**

a.

	1—It's not really that big a problem if wealth in this country is increasingly concentrated in the hands of a few [OR]
24	2—One of the biggest problems in this country is that more and more of the wealth is held by just a few people
62	
4	Both (VOL.)
6	Neither (VOL.)
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

b.

	1—Capitalism and the free market system are consistent with Christian values [OR]
36	2—Capitalism and the free market system are at odds with Christian values
44	
2	Both (VOL.)
9	Neither (VOL.)
<u>9</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.5 Now, please tell me how important you think it is for religious leaders to speak out publicly on the following issues... First... **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**. Would you say it is very important, somewhat important, not too important or not at all important that religious leaders speak out about this?

a. The issue of abortion

42	Very important
25	Somewhat important
9	Not too important
19	Not at all important
4	Don't know (VOL.)
<u>1</u>	Should not speak out on this issue (VOL.)
100	Total

b. The issue of homosexuality

32	Very important
23	Somewhat important
13	Not too important
26	Not at all important
5	Should not speak out on this issue (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

c. The issue of home foreclosures

24	Very important
22	Somewhat important
19	Not too important
28	Not at all important
4	Should not speak out on this issue (VOL.)
<u>1</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

d. Reducing the deficit

31	Very important
19	Somewhat important
17	Not too important
28	Not at all important
4	Should not speak out on this issue (VOL.)
<u>1</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

e. Raising the minimum wage

27	Very important
21	Somewhat important
18	Not too important
28	Not at all important
5	Should not speak out on this issue (VOL.)
<u>1</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

f. The gap between the rich and poor

27	Very important
26	Somewhat important
18	Not too important
24	Not at all important
4	Should not speak out on this issue (VOL.)
<u>1</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

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

Methodology

The survey was designed and conducted by Public Religion Research Institute. Results of the survey were based on RDD telephone interviews conducted between April 14, 2011 and April 17, 2011 by professional interviewers under the direction of Opinion Research Corporation. Interviews were conducted among a random sample of 1,010 adults 18 years of age or older living in private households in the continental United States.

The final sample was weighted to five different parameters—age, sex, geographic region, education and race—to ensure reliable and accurate representation of the total adult population.

The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.0 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. In addition to sampling error, surveys may also be subject to error or bias due to question wording, context and order effects.