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?

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<th>37</th>
<th>60</th>
<th>3</th>
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<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don’t know (VOL.)</td>
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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]

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

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<th>27</th>
<th>32</th>
<th>29</th>
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<th>100</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completely agree</td>
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<td>Mostly agree</td>
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<td>Mostly disagree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Completely disagree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don’t know (VOL.)</td>
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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
   2   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
   2   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
     24  concentrated in the hands of a few [OR]
     2—One of the biggest problems in this country is that more and more of the
     62  wealth is held by just a few people
     4   Both (VOL.)
     6   Neither (VOL.)
     3   Don’t know (VOL.)
     100 Total

b.  1—Capitalism and the free market system are consistent with Christian values
     36  [OR]
     2—Capitalism and the free market system are at odds with Christian values
     44
     2   Both (VOL.)
     9   Neither (VOL.)
     9   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.)
   - 1 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.)
   - 2 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.)
   - 1 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.)
   - 1 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.)
   1 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.)
   1 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.