

Interviews with 1,003 adult Americans conducted by telephone by ORC International on May 29-June 1, 2014. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points.

The sample also includes 894 interviews among registered voters (plus or minus 3.5 percentage points)

The sample includes 702 interviews among landline respondents and 301 interviews among cell phone respondents.

## FOR RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4 AT 5 AM

12. Do you think you are better off financially or worse off financially than your parents were when they were your age?

|                           | May 29-June 1<br>2014 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Better                    | <u>2011</u><br>54%    |
| Worse                     | 41%                   |
| Same (vol.)<br>No opinion | 4%<br>1%              |

13. Looking to the future, do you think most children in this country will grow up to be better off or worse off than their parents?

|             | May 29-June 1 |
|-------------|---------------|
|             | 2014          |
|             | 2.407         |
| Better      | 34%           |
| Worse       | 63%           |
| Same (vol.) | 2%            |
| No opinion  | 1%            |
| No opinion  | _ / •         |

## PEW RESEARCH CENTER TRENDS

|                   | Better | Worse      | Same   | No             |
|-------------------|--------|------------|--------|----------------|
|                   | off    | <u>off</u> | (vol.) | <u>opinion</u> |
| 1999 Apr 6-May 6  | 67     | 22         | 7      | 4              |
| 1996 Nov 22-Dec 1 | 38     | 55         | 3      | 4              |

20. Do you agree or disagree: The American dream has become impossible for most people to achieve.

|            | May 29-June 1 | Oct 13-15 |
|------------|---------------|-----------|
|            | 2014          | 2006*     |
| Agree      | 59%           | 54%       |
| Disagree   | 40%           | 45%       |
| No opinion | 1%            | 2%        |

\*Asked of a half sample.

## CNN/TIME TRENDS

|          | Agree | Disagree | No opinion |
|----------|-------|----------|------------|
| 2003 Jan | 50    | 47       | 3          |
| 1998 Jan | 51    | 45       | 4          |
| 1997 Jan | 55    | 41       | 4          |
| 1996 Jan | 63    | 34       | 3          |
| 1995 Jan | 57    | 40       | 3          |

## **METHODOLOGY**

A total of 1,003 adults were interviewed by telephone nationwide by live interviewers calling both landline and cell phones. All respondents were asked questions concerning basic demographics, and the entire sample was weighted to reflect national Census figures for gender, race, age, education, region of country, and telephone usage. Among the entire sample, 30% described themselves as Democrats, 23% described themselves as Republicans, and 47% described themselves as Independents or members of another party

Crosstabs on the following pages only include results for subgroups with enough unweighted cases to produce a sampling error of +/-8.5 percentage points or less. Some subgroups represent too small a share of the national population to produce crosstabs with an acceptable sampling error. Interviews were conducted among these subgroups, but results for groups with a sampling error larger than +/-8.5 percentage points are not displayed and instead are denoted with "N/A".

Question 12 Do you think you are better off financially or worse off financially than your parents were when they were your age?

Base = Total Sample

| Тс                  | otal | Men      |             |         | on-White |         |         |         |
|---------------------|------|----------|-------------|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Better 5            | 48   | <br>56%  | 53%         | <br>57% | 48%      |         |         |         |
|                     | 1%   | 37%      | 44%         | 38%     | 49%      |         |         |         |
| Same                | 48   | 5%       | 3%          | 5%      | 28       |         |         |         |
| No opinion          | 1%   | 1%       | *           | 1%      | *        |         |         |         |
| Sampling Error +/-3 | .0   | +/-4.5 + | +/-4.5 +/-  | -3.5 +  | /-6.5    |         |         |         |
|                     |      | 18-      | 35-         | 50-     |          | Under   | 50 and  |         |
|                     | tal  | 34       | 49          | 64      | 65+<br>  | 50      | Older   |         |
|                     | 48   | 51%      | 47%         | 53%     | 73%      | 49%     | 61%     |         |
| Worse 4             | 1%   | 47%      | 45%         | 44%     | 21%      | 46%     | 35%     |         |
| Same                | 48   | 3%       | 6%          | 3%      | 5%       | 48      | 48      |         |
| No opinion          | 18   | *        | 2%          | *       | 1%       | 1%      | 1%      |         |
| Sampling Error +/-3 | .0   | +/-7.5   | +/-7.5      | +/-5.5  | +/-5.5 - | +/-5.5  | +/-4.0  |         |
|                     |      | Under    | \$50K       | No      | Attended | 1       |         |         |
|                     | tal  | \$50K    | or more     | College | College  | _       |         |         |
|                     | 48   | 46%      | 61%         | 49%     | 58%      | -       |         |         |
| Worse 4             | 1%   | 48%      | 36%         | 44%     | 39%      |         |         |         |
| Same                | 48   | 5%       | 3%          | 6%      | 3%       |         |         |         |
| No opinion          | 1%   | *        | *           | 1%      | *        |         |         |         |
| Sampling Error +/-3 | .0   | +/-5.0   | +/-4.5      | +/-5.5  | +/-4.0   |         |         |         |
|                     |      | Demo-    | Indep-      | Repub   | - Lib-   | Mod-    | Conse   | r-      |
|                     | tal  | crat     | endent      | lican   |          | erate   | vative  |         |
|                     | 48   | 60%      | 52%         | 53%     |          | 56%     | 52%     |         |
| Worse 4             | 1%   | 36%      | 43%         | 43%     | 39%      | 41%     | 42%     |         |
|                     | 48   | 28       | 5%          | 48      | 5%       | 38      | 5%      |         |
| No opinion          | 1%   | 1%       | 1%          | *       | 1%       | *       | *       |         |
| Sampling Error +/-3 | .0   | +/-5.5   | +/-4.5      | +/-6.0  | +/-6.5   | +/-5.0  | +/-5.0  |         |
|                     |      | North    | Mid-        |         |          |         | Sub-    |         |
|                     | tal  | east     | west        | South   | West     | Urban   | urban   | Rural   |
|                     | 48   | <br>51%  | <b></b> 56% | <br>59% | 49%      | <br>52% | <br>54% | <br>60% |
| Worse 4             | 1%   | 44%      | 37%         | 37%     | 47%      | 45%     | 41%     | 34%     |
| Same                | 48   | 48       | 48          | 48      | 3%       | 3%      | 5%      | 48      |
| No opinion          | 1%   | *        | 2%          | *       | *        | *       | *       | 28      |
| Sampling Error +/-3 | .0   | +/-6.5   | +/-6.5      | +/-5.5  | +/-6.5 - | +/-6.0  | +/-4.5  | +/-6.0  |

\* percentage less than 1%

Question 13 Looking to the future, do you think most children in this country will grow up to be better off or worse off than their parents?

Base = Total Sample

|                | Total  | Men      |            |         | on-White |        |          |        |
|----------------|--------|----------|------------|---------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| Better         |        | 30%      | 38%        | <br>30% | 45%      |        |          |        |
| Worse          | 63%    | 66%      | 60%        | 68%     | 53%      |        |          |        |
| Same           | 28     | 2%       | 1%         | 1%      | 2%       |        |          |        |
| No opinion     | 1%     | 2%       | 1%         | 1%      | 1%       |        |          |        |
| Sampling Error | +/-3.0 | +/-4.5 + | -/-4.5 +/- | -3.5 +, | /-6.5    |        |          |        |
|                |        | 18-      | 35-        | 50-     |          | Under  | 50 and   |        |
|                | Total  | 34       | 49         | 64      | 65+<br>  | 50     | 01der    |        |
| Better         | 34%    | 40%      | 37%        | 28%     | 29%      | 38%    | 28%      |        |
| Worse          | 63%    | 59%      | 59%        | 70%     | 65%      | 59%    | 68%      |        |
| Same           | 2%     | 1%       | 3%         | 1%      | 3%       | 2%     | 2%       |        |
| No opinion     | 1%     | *        | 2%         | 2%      | . 3%     | 18     | 2%       |        |
| Sampling Error | +/-3.0 | +/-7.5   | +/-7.5     | +/-5.5  | +/-5.5 + | /-5.5  | +/-4.0   |        |
|                |        | Under    | \$50K      | No      | Attended | l      |          |        |
|                | Total  | \$50K    | or more    | College | College  |        |          |        |
| Better         | 34%    | 38%      | 33%        | 31%     | 36%      |        |          |        |
| Worse          | 63%    | 61%      | 63%        | 67%     | 60%      |        |          |        |
| Same           | 2%     | 1%       | 2%         | 1%      | 28       |        |          |        |
| No opinion     | 1%     | *        | 2%         | 1%      | 28       |        |          |        |
| Sampling Error | +/-3.0 | +/-5.0   | +/-4.5     | +/-5.5  | +/-4.0   |        |          |        |
|                |        | Demo-    | Indep-     | Repub-  | - Lib-   | Mod-   | Conser   | -      |
|                | Total  | crat     | endent     | lican   | eral     | erate  | vative   |        |
| Better         | 34%    | 46%      | 31%        | 23%     | 43%      | 39%    | 24%      | -      |
| Worse          | 63%    | 52%      | 64%        | 76%     | 55%      | 58%    | 74%      |        |
| Same           | 2%     | 1%       | 28         | *       | 28       | 1%     | 2%       |        |
| No opinion     | 1%     | 1%       | 28         | 1%      | 1%       | 2%     | 1%       |        |
| Sampling Error | +/-3.0 | +/-5.5   | +/-4.5     | +/-6.0  | +/-6.5   | +/-5.0 | +/-5.0   |        |
|                |        | North    | Mid-       |         |          |        | Sub-     |        |
|                | Total  | east     | west       | South   | West     | Urban  | urban    | Rural  |
| Better         | 34%    | 38%      | 33%        | 33%     | 31%      | 47%    | 31%      | 25%    |
| Worse          | 63%    | 59%      | 62%        | 65%     | 65%      | 51%    | 66%      | 72%    |
| Same           | 28     | 28       | 28         | 1%      | 28       | 18     | 28       | *      |
| No opinion     | 1%     | 1%       | 3%         | *       | 2%       | 1%     | 1%       | 3%     |
| Sampling Error | +/-3.0 | +/-6.5   | +/-6.5     | +/-5.5  | +/-6.5 + | /-6.0  | +/-4.5 + | -/-6.0 |

\* percentage less than 1%

Question 20

Do you agree or disagree: The American dream has become impossible for most people to achieve.

Base = Total Sample

|                | Total        | Men            |                | White N      | Ion-White    |         |               |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|---------|---------------|
| Agree          | 59%          | 52%            | 67%            | 59%          | 60%          |         |               |
| Disagree       | 40%          | 47%            | 33%<br>*       | 41%          | 39%          |         |               |
| No opinion     | 1%<br>+/-3.0 | 2%<br>+/-4.5 + |                | 1%<br>-3.5 + | 1%<br>-/-6.5 |         |               |
| Sampling Error | +/-3.0       | +/-4.5 +       | -/-4.5 +/-     | -3.5 +       | -/-0.5       |         |               |
|                |              | 18-            | 35-            | 50-          |              | Under   | 50 and        |
|                | Total        | 34             | 49             | 64           | 65+          | 50      | Older         |
| Agree          | <br>59%      | <br>63%        | <br>55%        | <br>61%      | <br>54%      | <br>60% | <br>58%       |
| Disagree       | 40%          | 37%            | 43%            | 37%          | 45%          | 40%     | 40%           |
| No opinion     | 1%           | *              | 1%             | 2%           | 1%           | 1%      | 28            |
| Sampling Error | +/-3.0       | +/-7.5         | +/-7.5         | +/-5.5       | +/-5.5       | +/-5.5  | +/-4.0        |
|                |              | Under          | \$50K          | No           | Attende      |         |               |
|                | Total        | \$50K          | or more        | College      | 2            | _       |               |
| Agree          | 59%          | 68%            | 52%            | 67%          | 53%          |         |               |
| Disagree       | 40%          | 31%            | 47%            | 31%          | 46%          |         |               |
| No opinion     | 1%           | *              | 1%             | 1%           | 1%           |         |               |
| Sampling Error | +/-3.0       | +/-5.0         | +/-4.5         | +/-5.5       | +/-4.0       |         |               |
|                |              | Demo-          | Indep-         | Repub        | - Lib-       | Mod-    | Conser-       |
|                | Total        | crat           | endent         | lican        |              | erate   | vative        |
| Agree          | <br>59%      | 60%            | <br>58%        | <br>61%      |              | 57%     | <br>60%       |
| Disagree       | 40%          | 39%            | 40%            | 38%          | 5 40%        | 42%     | 40%           |
| No opinion     | 1%           | 1%             | 28             | *            | 1%           | 1%      | *             |
| Sampling Error | +/-3.0       | +/-5.5         | +/-4.5         | +/-6.0       | +/-6.5       | +/-5.0  | +/-5.0        |
|                |              | North          | Mid-           |              |              |         | Sub-          |
|                | Total        |                | west           | South        | West         | Urban   | urban Rural   |
| Agree          | <br>59%      | <br>59%        | <b></b><br>59% | <br>59%      | <br>59%      | <br>60% | <br>54% 67%   |
| Disagree       | 40%          | 40%            | 38%            | 40%          | 39%          | 40%     | 45% 31%       |
| No opinion     | 1%           | 1%             | 28             | *            | 1%           | 1%      | 1% 2%         |
| Sampling Error | +/-3.0       | +/-6.5         | +/-6.5         | +/-5.5       | +/-6.5       | +/-6.0  | +/-4.5 +/-6.0 |

\* percentage less than 1%