

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted for Thomson Reuters from August 9-13, 2013. For the survey, a sample of 1,291 Americans 18+ were interviewed online. The precision of the Reuters/Ipsos online polls is measured using a [credibility interval](#). In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.1 percentage points. For more information about credibility intervals, please see the appendix.

The data were weighted to the U.S. current population data by gender, age, education, and ethnicity. Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Figures marked by an asterisk (*) indicate a percentage value of greater than zero but less than one half of one per cent. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. To see more information on this and other Reuters/Ipsos polls, please visit <http://polling.reuters.com/>.

Devious Behavior

Q1. How many times, if at all, have you engaged in the following behaviors? If the question is not applicable to you, please choose 'Not applicable'.

	Never	Once	Twice	3-4 times	5 or more times	Not applicable / Refused	At least once (net)
Stolen from your place of work	68%	5%	3%	2%	3%	19%	14%
Stolen from a friend or acquaintance	74%	7%	2%	1%	1%	15%	11%
Stolen from a store or business (value under \$50)	68%	10%	3%	2%	2%	14%	18%
Stolen from a store or business (value of \$50 or more)	82%	1%	0%	1%	1%	15%	3%
Stolen from a store or business (value of \$500 or more)	83%	1%	0%	1%	1%	15%	2%
Lied on a tax return	77%	3%	2%	2%	1%	16%	7%
Told a premeditated lie (planned in advance) in the last year	62%	8%	7%	6%	2%	16%	22%
Lied in the last year to avoid a fight with a spouse/partner	50%	8%	8%	8%	7%	19%	31%
Lied in the last year to avoid a fight with an immediate family member	54%	13%	7%	6%	6%	15%	31%
Lied in the last year to avoid a fight with a co-worker or subordinate	63%	6%	5%	2%	2%	22%	15%
Lied in the last year to avoid a criminal charge	79%	1%	1%	0%	1%	18%	3%
Lied in the last year to avoid problems with your boss or manager	68%	4%	2%	1%	1%	23%	9%
Lied in the last year to protect a friend or family member	61%	11%	6%	3%	2%	16%	23%
Purchased pornography/erotica	74%	4%	2%	2%	3%	15%	12%
Paid for sex	80%	2%	2%	1%	1%	14%	6%
Cheated on a spouse or long-term committed relationship	71%	5%	3%	2%	2%	16%	13%
Driven a car under the influence of alcohol	61%	9%	6%	3%	6%	15%	24%
Driven a car under the influence of drugs (not alcohol)	73%	3%	3%	2%	3%	16%	11%
Smoked marijuana	59%	6%	4%	3%	13%	16%	26%
Purchased marijuana for personal use <u>legally</u>	80%	1%	1%	0%	2%	15%	4%
Purchased marijuana for personal use <u>illegally</u>	71%	3%	2%	1%	9%	15%	14%
Purchased drugs other than marijuana for personal use (cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, ecstasy, mushrooms, acid, crack cocaine, etc.)	78%	1%	1%	2%	3%	14%	8%
Taken prescription drugs <u>for which you do not have or need the prescription</u>	75%	3%	4%	1%	2%	15%	10%

Q2. And what was your reason for taking prescription drugs for which you do not have or need the prescription?
(Asked of those who have taken prescription drugs, n=111)

Pain relief	50%
To get high/for fun/ to feel good	31%
Stress or anxiety management	21%
To sleep	18%
To heighten concentration/ focus	13%
To stay awake	6%
Other	12%
Don't know/Refused	5%

Q3. And how did you obtain the prescription drug for which you do not have or need the prescription?(Asked of those who have taken prescription drugs, n=111)

Given it by a family member	35%
It Is my own prescription (but is old, expired, unused, medically unnecessary, etc.)	21%
Given it by a friend	19%
Taken from a family member (without their permission)	9%
Given it by an acquaintance, colleague, host, etc.	5%
Purchased from an acquaintance, colleague, host, etc.	1%
Purchased from a dealer	6%
Taken from a friend (without their permission)	1%
Taken from an acquaintance, colleague, host, etc. (without their permission)	*%
Other	1%
Don't know/Refused	1%

How to Calculate Bayesian Credibility Intervals

The calculation of credibility intervals assumes that Y has a binomial distribution conditioned on the parameter θ , i.e., $Y|\theta \sim \text{Bin}(n, \theta)$, where n is the size of our sample. In this setting, Y counts the number of “yes”, or “1”, observed in the sample, so that the sample mean (\bar{y}) is a natural estimate of the true population proportion θ . This model is often called the likelihood function, and it is a standard concept in both the Bayesian and the Classical framework. The Bayesian ¹ statistics combines both the prior distribution and the likelihood function to create a posterior distribution. The posterior distribution represents our opinion about which are the plausible values for θ adjusted after observing the sample data. In reality, the posterior distribution is one’s knowledge base updated using the latest survey information. For the prior and likelihood functions specified here, the posterior distribution is also a beta distribution ($\pi(\theta|y) \sim \beta(y+a, n-y+b)$), but with updated hyper-parameters.

Our credibility interval for ϑ is based on this posterior distribution. As mentioned above, these intervals represent our belief about which are the most plausible values for ϑ given our updated knowledge base. There are different ways to calculate these intervals based on . Since we want only one measure of precision for all variables in the survey, analogous to what is done within the Classical framework, we will compute the largest possible credibility interval for any observed sample. The worst case occurs when we assume that $a=1$ and $b=1$ and . Using a simple approximation of the posterior by the normal distribution, the 95% credibility interval is given by, approximately:

$$\bar{y} \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$$

For this poll, the Bayesian Credibility Interval was adjusted using standard weighting design effect $1+L=1.3$ to account for complex weighting²

Examples of credibility intervals for different base sizes are below. Ipsos does not publish data for base sizes (sample sizes) below 100.

Sample size	Credibility intervals
2,000	2.5
1,500	2.9
1,000	3.5
750	4.1
500	5.0
350	6.0
200	7.9
100	11.2

¹ *Bayesian Data Analysis, Second Edition, Andrew Gelman, John B. Carlin, Hal S. Stern, Donald B. Rubin, Chapman & Hall/CRC | ISBN: 158488388X | 2003*

² *Kish, L. (1992). Weighting for unequal Pi. Journal of Official, Statistics, 8, 2, 183200.*