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Prelude

This week report consists of 21 surveys. One of them is a multi-country survey of Gallup USA covering 155 countries while the rest of 20 are national surveys.

Can We Expect Peace Between Israel & Palestinians?

Israelis Palestinian issue has been a burning for more than half of a century. It led to several large scale and limited wars in twentieth and twenty first centuries. After being disowned from their territory Palestinians have been struggling to attain their statehood in whatever the territory they were left with. But they could not achieve that goal due to policies of Israel. Palestine conflict is one of such issues that reveal the failure of the entire civilized world to help them reach a settlement.

The western world led by U.S along with some support in the Arab countries is bent upon compelling Iran from acquiring nuclear technology but the Palestinian issue seems less significant to them. At times the lip service is made against Israel expansionist policies but they never talk of isolating Israel by implementing sanctions against it. How can Palestinians expect peace with Israel when the whole of their nations stands behind their leadership in carrying out the illegal construction? Does Israel really want peace with Palestinians? What should be the role of international community for protecting the rights of Palestinians? If U.S. can launch a whole scale diplomatic campaign for paving the way to impose further sanctions against Iran than what should U.S. do for Palestinians? Is it not the failure of those leaders who talk of global governance and ignore the sufferings of people like Palestinians or Kashmiris?

Summary Of Polls

MIDDLE EAST

Israelis Stand by PM on Jerusalem Construction

Many people in Israel are in favour of their prime minister's decision to carry on with construction in Jerusalem, according to a poll by Maagar Mochot. 62 per cent of respondents support the actions of Benjamin Netanyahu.

March 25, 2010

Palestinians Would Elect Fatah Government

Fatah remains more popular than its opponent Hamas amongst Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank, according to a poll by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research. 42 per cent of respondents would vote for Fatah in the next legislative election, down one point since December.

March 24, 2010

Abbas Leads Haniyeh in Palestinian Ballot

Palestinian Authority president Mahmoud Abbas of Fatah could defeat Ismail Haniyeh of Hamas in a new election, according to a poll by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research. 50 per cent of respondents would vote for Abbas, while 40 per cent would support Haniyeh.

March 22, 2010

NORTHEAST ASIA

Bangkok Residents Condemn Red-Shirts Rallies

Most people in Bangkok and seven surrounding provinces of the Thai capital see with disdain the popular rallies organized by the so-called red shirts, according to a poll by Suan Dusit University. 57.1 per cent of respondents say the rallies are not a democratic expression but a political game to topple the government.

March 22, 2010

EAST EUROPE

United Russia Maintains Huge Advantage

The ruling party in the Russian Federation maintains a considerable lead, according to a poll by the All-Russian Public Opinion Research Center. 53 per cent of respondents would vote for United Russia (YR) in the next election to the State Duma.

March 25, 2010

WEST EUROPE

Britons Disapprove of Government's Budget

Many people in Britain are not satisfied with their government's latest spending plan, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 54 per cent of respondents disapprove of the budget presented by the administration headed by Gordon Brown.

March 27, 2010

Sarkozy's Disapproval Rating Hikes in France

The unpopularity of French president Nicolas Sarkozy has continued to grow, according to a poll by Ifop published in *Paris Match*. 64 per cent of respondents disapprove of Sarkozy's performance, up four points since February.

March 27, 2010

NORTH AMERICA

A Third of Americans Agree with Tea Party

Many people in the United States support the ideas of the National Tea Party movement, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 37 per cent of respondents agree with the movement's core policies, while 25 per cent disagree with them.

March 24, 2010

Health Care Legislation Divides Views in the U.S.

Americans are split over the health care reform bill recently signed into law by United States president Barack Obama, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 42 per cent of respondents are dissatisfied with this development, while 39 per cent are satisfied.

March 26, 2010

Majority of Poor, Young, Uninsured Back Healthcare Bill

While 49% of Americans overall say Congress' passing healthcare reform is a "good thing," support is greater among Americans who currently lack health insurance. Passage of the bill also enjoys broad support among two of the populations least likely to have health insurance: younger adults and adults living in lower-income households. Older, higher-income, and insured Americans have more mixed reactions. The lone exception is seniors, 54% of whom see passage of the bill as a negative.

March 24, 2010

Obama Fares Best Among Healthcare Political Players

President Obama gets higher ratings for the job he did on the healthcare reform process over the past year than either congressional party does, though none of the three primary political actors receives positive reviews from a majority of Americans.

March 24, 2010

By Slim Margin, Americans Support Healthcare Bill's Passage

Nearly half of Americans give a thumbs-up to Congress' passage of a healthcare reform bill last weekend, with 49% calling it "a good thing." Republicans and Democrats have polar opposite reactions, with independents evenly split.

March 23, 2010

Obama Job Approval at 51% After Healthcare Vote

President Barack Obama's job approval stands at 51% after the passage of landmark healthcare legislation. That is slightly better than, though not fundamentally changed from, his ratings for most of this month.

March 25, 2010

Public Remains Deeply Pessimistic About the Economy and Employment

Since January, President Obama's low job rating on the economy has held steady. Just under one-third of Americans (32%) give him positive ratings on the job he is doing on the economy while 68% give him negative ratings. In January, 31% gave him positive marks and 69% gave him negative ones.

March 18, 2010

U.S. Support for Nuclear Power Climbs to New High of 62%

Americans' support for the use of nuclear power has inched up to 62%, establishing a new high ever since Gallup started asking this question.

March 22, 2010

Canadians Split on Afghan Detainee Controversy

People in Canada are divided on how to deal with a recent controversy over the treatment of Afghan detainees, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 40 per cent of respondents believe a review of documents is the best course of action, while 33 per cent support holding a full public inquiry.

March 24, 2010

Canadians Review PM's YouTube Answers

Most Canadians disagree with their prime minister's ideas on senators and drugs stated during a YouTube interview, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 50 per cent of respondents disagree with Stephen Harper's notion that, "If drugs were legalized, these would never be respectable businesses run by respectable people."

March 23, 2010

LATIN AMERICA

Three-in-Four Brazilians Happy with Lula

A large majority of people in Brazil concede that the presidency of Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva has been positive, according to a poll by Ibope. 75 per cent of respondents say Lula's performance has been good or very good, down one point since February.

March 26, 2010

Mexico's Fox Talks About Why Leaders Need Wellbeing Data

Former Mexican President Vicente Fox sees wellbeing data as the key to better government policies and more efficient budgets. Fox sat down with Gallup.com at our Washington, D.C., headquarters to discuss Gallup's global wellbeing surveys, spanning 155 countries, and to share his thoughts on how world leaders should use these data to improve their constituents' lives.

March 26, 2010

MULTI-COUNTRY POLLS

The Behavioral Economics of GDP Growth: Gallup Global Wellbeing

Gallup reveals its data of 155 countries on wellbeing. Gallup categorized the respondents into 'thriving', 'struggling' and 'suffering'. It shows that majority of population from across the world are either struggling or suffering.

MIDDLE EAST

Israelis Stand by PM on Jerusalem Construction

March 25, 2010

Many people in Israel are in favour of their prime minister's decision to carry on with construction in Jerusalem, according to a poll by Maagar Mochot. 62 per cent of respondents support the actions of Benjamin Netanyahu.

In February 2009, Israeli voters renewed the Knesset. The Likud party, led by Netanyahu, secured 27 seats in the legislature. The far-right Israel Our Home, the Labour party, the International Organization of Torah-observant Sephardic Jews (Shas), United Torah Judaism, and the Jewish Home joined Likud in a coalition. In March, Netanyahu was sworn in as prime minister.

Netanyahu served as prime minister from June 1996 to July 1999, and resigned from Ariel Sharon's cabinet—where he held the finance portfolio—after opposing the "Disengagement Plan."

During the six-day war in 1967, Israel gained control of the Sinai Peninsula, the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, eastern Jerusalem, and the Golan Heights. Saudi Arabia has proposed the Arab Peace Initiative (API) to reconcile Israel and the Palestinians. The plan states that Israel will retreat from all territories occupied in 1967, and a Palestinian state would be established.

Earlier this month, Israel announced it would build 1,600 homes in the Ramat Shlomo area of eastern Jerusalem. The decision was criticized by U.S. state secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton, who declared: "We objected to this announcement because we are committed to Israel and its security, which we believe depends on a comprehensive peace."

On Mar. 23, Netanyahu defended his actions during a speech in Washington, saying, "Jerusalem is not a settlement, it is our capital. The Jewish people were building Jerusalem 3,000 years ago and they are building Jerusalem today."

Polling Data

Do you support Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's decision to continue construction in Jerusalem?

Yes	62%
No	26%
Not sure	12%

Source: Maagar Mochot

Methodology: Telephone interviews with 511 Israeli adults, conducted on Mar. 16 and Mar. 17, 2010. Margin of error is 4.5 per cent.

Palestinians Would Elect Fatah Government

March 24, 2010

Fatah remains more popular than its opponent Hamas amongst Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank, according to a poll by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research. 42 per cent of respondents would vote for Fatah in the next legislative election, down one point since December.

Hamas is far behind with 28 per cent. 30 per cent of respondents would vote for other parties or remain undecided.

Fatah leader Mahmoud Abbas won the January 2005 presidential ballot in the Palestinian Territories with 62.32 per cent of all cast ballots. In January 2006, Hamas won the Palestinian Legislative Council election, securing 74 of the 112 seats at stake. Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh officially took over as prime minister in March. The Israeli government believes Hamas is directly responsible for the deaths of 377 citizens in a variety of attacks, which include dozens of suicide bombings.

In February 2007, Hamas and Fatah leaders reached an accord which set the guidelines for a power-sharing Palestinian administration, headed by Hamas. In June, amid a wave of violent clashes between Hamas and Fatah factions, Hamas militants seized control of Gaza. Abbas issued a decree to form a 12-member emergency government based in the West Bank and expelled Hamas from the administration. Fatah member Salam Fayyad was appointed as prime minister by Abbas.

In 2008, Abbas extended his tenure—which was supposed to end in January 2009—until 2010. The extension is part of an Egypt-sponsored plan to foster reconciliation between Hamas and Fatah. Abbas has said he does not intend to seek a new term in office in the next presidential election, which is tentatively scheduled for Jun. 28.

On Mar. 11, Haniyeh accused the Arab League of siding with Israel over a recent settlement expansion, saying, "The decision encouraged Zionists to push ahead their settlement expansion in the West Bank. The Israeli plan to build hundreds of homes whilst the United States vice-president Joe Biden is on a visit to the region truly shows American cover to such a settlement plan."

Polling Data

If a parliamentary election were to take place today, which list would you vote for?

	Mar. 2010	Dec. 2009	Aug. 2009
Fatah list	42%	43%	44%
Change and Reform list (Hamas)	28%	27%	28%
Other parties	11%	14%	11%
Undecided	19%	17%	17%

*Source: Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research
Methodology: Face-to-face interviews with 1,270 Palestinian adults in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, conducted from Mar. 4 to Mar. 6, 2010. Margin of error is 3 per cent.*

Abbas Leads Haniyeh in Palestinian Ballot

March 22, 2010

Palestinian Authority president Mahmoud Abbas of Fatah could defeat Ismail Haniyeh of Hamas in a new election, according to a poll by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research. 50 per cent of respondents would vote for Abbas, while 40 per cent would support Haniyeh.

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Abbas recently extended his tenure—which was supposed to end in January 2009—until 2010. The extension is part of an Egypt-sponsored plan to foster reconciliation between Hamas and Fatah. Abbas has said he does not intend to seek a new term in office in the next presidential election, which is tentatively scheduled for Jun. 28.

Earlier this month, Abbas blamed Iran for hampering unity talks, saying, "Iran doesn't want Hamas to sign the Cairo reconciliation document. (...) The Palestinians should be free from Iranian tutelage."

Polling Data

If a presidential election were to take place today, and Mahmoud Abbas were nominated by Fatah and Ismail Haniyeh were nominated by Hamas, who would you vote for?

	Mar. 2010	Dec. 2009	Aug. 2009
Mahmoud Abbas	50%	54%	52%
Ismail Haniyeh	40%	38%	38%
Not sure	10%	8%	9%

*Source: Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research
Methodology: Face-to-face interviews with 1,200 Palestinian adults in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, conducted from Mar. 4 to Mar. 6, 2010. Margin of error is 3 per cent.*

NORTHEAST ASIA

Bangkok Residents Condemn Red-Shirts Rallies

March 22, 2010

Most people in Bangkok and seven surrounding provinces of the Thai capital see with disdain the popular rallies organized by the so-called red shirts, according to a poll by Suan Dusit University. 57.1 per cent of respondents say the rallies are not a democratic expression but a political game to topple the government.

Conversely, 23.8 per cent of respondents say the red-shirts rallies are a true democratic expression and that the group has a constitutional right to hold public gatherings.

Thailand has experienced more than three years of political instability, including the dissolution of the lower house, a cancelled national election, a military coup and the enactment of a new constitution. In December 2007, Thailand held a legislative ballot. Final results gave the People's Power Party (PPP) 232 of the 480 seats, followed by the Democratic Party (PP) with 165 mandates. In January 2008, PPP leader Samak Sundaravej became prime minister.

Samak's government faced fierce opposition and major street protests led by the civic organization People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD). The group accused Samak of being a puppet of former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who was deposed in a 2006 military coup.

In August 2008, the PAD occupied the Government House in Bangkok, demanding Samak's resignation. Samak stepped down in September after the national Constitutional Court found that he violated conflict of interest laws when he received payments for hosting two television cooking shows. Somchai Wongsawat—who had been serving as deputy prime minister—took over as acting head of government.

In late November, PAD activists took over Bangkok's international airport—where the government had been working from after its offices were invaded in August—demanding Somchai's resignation. The airport was forced to shut down entirely, stranding thousands of tourists.

In December, the Constitutional Court ordered the PPP and its two coalition partners, the Machima Thipatai party and the Chart Thai party, to disband after it found them guilty of voter fraud in the 2007 ballot. The court also banned Somchai and executives from the three parties from participating in politics for five years. Somchai accepted the verdict and stepped down. Protesters at the airport ended the siege. PP leader Abhisit Vejjajiva became prime minister, with the support of 235 lawmakers in the House of Representatives.

In March 2009, Thaksin accused Privy Council president Prem Tinsulanonda of masterminding the 2006 military coup, and openly called for a "people's revolution" to topple the Abhisit government. In April, the National United Front of Democracy Against Dictatorship (UDD)—whose followers wear red shirts at rallies—organized protests in Bangkok and Chonburi, ultimately forcing the cancellation of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit. After Abhisit implemented a state of emergency, Thai soldiers fired live rounds into the air and used tear gas to disperse crowds of protesters.

In June, the so-called yellow shirts activists from the PAD formally created a political party, the New Politics Party, and chose labour activist Somsak Kosaisuk as its leader.

Earlier this month, thousands of protesters with the red shirts movement poured bagfuls of human blood—their own—around the prime minister’s home, his office, and the PAD’s headquarters. According to the protesters, the pouring of blood is meant to symbolize a "sacrifice for democracy." Others have explained that throwing blood on something amounts to cursing it.

On Mar. 17, Thai education minister Chinnaworn Boonyakiat, a PAD executive, referred to the situation, declaring, "It’s bad omen. I can’t believe any democratic movement would resort to this sort of distasteful black magic."

Polling Data

What do you think about the red-shirts rally?

It is a true democratic expression and the red shirts have a constitutional right to hold rallies	23.8%
It is not a true democratic expression and a political game to topple the government	57.1%
Not sure	19.1%

Source: Suan Dusit University

Methodology: Interviews with 1,090 adults in Bangkok and seven nearby provinces, conducted in March 2010. No margin of error was provided.

EAST EUROPE

United Russia Maintains Huge Advantage

March 25, 2010

The ruling party in the Russian Federation maintains a considerable lead, according to a poll by the All-Russian Public Opinion Research Center. 53 per cent of respondents would vote for United Russia (YR) in the next election to the State Duma.

The Communist Party (KPRF) is a very distant second with only seven per cent, followed by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDPR) with five per cent, and the opposition movement A Just Russia with four per cent.

Russian voters renewed the State Duma in December 2007. United Russia—whose candidate list was headed by then president Vladimir Putin—secured 64.1 per cent of the vote and 315 of the legislature’s 450 seats. On that same month, Putin endorsed Dmitry Medvedev as a presidential candidate, and Medvedev said it would be of the "utmost importance" to have Putin as prime minister.

In March 2008, Medvedev easily won Russia’s presidential election with 70.28 per cent of the vote. In May, Medvedev was sworn in as president. His nomination of Putin as prime minister was confirmed by the State Duma in a 392-56 vote.

Earlier this month, Viktor Kondrashov—a businessman who ran under the Communist Party banner—won the mayoral race in Irkutsk with 62 per cent of the vote, defeating United Russia candidate Sergei Serebrennikov.

Kondrashov said the current economic crisis may end up hurting the ruling party in upcoming elections, adding, "Our city simply turned into a swamp. There was this never-ending fighting, local elites vying for influence, while progress stopped. People voted for changes, for a new life."

Polling Data

Which party would you vote for in the election to the State Duma?

	Mar. 2010	Feb. 2010	Jan. 2010
United Russia (YR)	53%	54%	55%
Communist Party (KPRF)	7%	7%	7%
Liberal Democratic Party (LDPR)	5%	5%	4%
A Just Russia	4%	4%	3%

Source: All-Russian Public Opinion Research Center

Methodology: Interviews with 1,600 Russian adults, conducted on Mar. 12 and Mar. 13, 2010.

Margin of error is 3.4 per cent.

WEST EUROPE

Britons Disapprove of Government's Budget

March 27, 2010

Many people in Britain are not satisfied with their government's latest spending plan, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 54 per cent of respondents disapprove of the budget presented by the administration headed by Gordon Brown.

In June 2007, Gordon Brown officially became Labour leader and prime minister, replacing Tony Blair. Brown had worked as chancellor of the exchequer. Blair served as Britain's prime minister since May 1997, winning majority mandates in the 1997, 2001 and 2005 elections to the House of Commons.

Since December 2005, David Cameron has been the leader of the Conservative party. In December 2007, current parliamentarian Nick Clegg became the new leader of the Liberal Democrats.

On Mar. 24, current chancellor of the exchequer Alistair Darling presented the budget, which includes tax increases and reduced personal allowances for the wealthiest Britons, but no hikes for those in the lowest income bracket. Darling declared: "This will be a budget to secure the recovery, tackle borrowing and invest in our industrial future. It will continue targeted support for business and families where and when it is needed."

Conservative leader David Cameron dismissed the proposals, saying, "We need real action to get our economy moving—and urgently. We need a credible plan to deal with Britain's record debts, starting now. And we need to show the world that we are back open for business."

The next election to the House of Commons must be held on or before Jun. 3. Sitting prime ministers can dissolve Parliament and call an early ballot at their discretion. It is widely believed that the election will take place on May 6.

Polling Data

Based on what you have seen, read, or heard, do you approve or disapprove of the budget presented by the Government headed by Gordon Brown?

Approve	30%
Disapprove	54%
Not sure	16%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 2,020 British adults, conducted on Mar. 25 and Mar. 26, 2010. Margin of error is 2.2 per cent.

Sarkozy's Disapproval Rating Hikes in France

March 27, 2010

The unpopularity of French president Nicolas Sarkozy has continued to grow, according to a poll by Ifop published in *Paris Match*. 64 per cent of respondents disapprove of Sarkozy's performance, up four points since February.

The approval rating of Sarkozy's appointed prime minister, François Fillon, remains stable at 54 per cent.

In May 2007, Sarkozy, candidate for the centre-right Union for a Popular Movement (UMP) and former interior minister, won the presidential run-off with 53.06 per cent of the vote. Sarkozy appointed Fillon—who had been his adviser and presidential campaign leader—as prime minister.

In September 2009, Sarkozy defended a proposal to put a levy on carbon, calling it a flagship of his green credentials and an essential tool to "save the human race" from climate change.

On Mar. 23, following a poor performance by Sarkozy's UMP in local elections, the government said it would abandon plans to introduce a carbon tax. Fillon made the announcement, declaring, "We have to amplify measures that help reinforce the competitiveness of our economy."

Polling Data

Do you approve or disapprove of Nicolas Sarkozy's performance as president?

	Mar. 2010	Feb. 2010	Jan. 2010
Approve	36%	40%	43%

Disapprove	64%	60%	56%
Do you approve or disapprove of François Fillon's performance as prime minister?			
	Mar. 2010	Feb. 2010	Jan. 2010
Approve	54%	54%	52%
Disapprove	46%	45%	47%

Source: Ifop / Paris Match

Methodology: Telephone interviews with 1,006 French adults, conducted on Mar. 11 and Mar. 12, 2010. No margin of error was provided.

NORTH AMERICA

A Third of Americans Agree with Tea Party

March 24, 2010

Many people in the United States support the ideas of the National Tea Party movement, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 37 per cent of respondents agree with the movement's core policies, while 25 per cent disagree with them.

Since last year, numerous Tea Party protests have been held across the U.S. Attendants to these events have expressed dissatisfaction with specific policies, including the federal stimulus package, the possibility of a carbon emissions trading scheme, and proposed changes to the country's health care system. The movement is generally against taxation and the government playing a major role in the lives of individuals. Several politicians—including former House of Representatives speaker Newt Gingrich and current Texas governor Rick Perry—have voiced support for the demonstrations.

In American presidential elections, candidates require 270 votes in the Electoral College to win the White House. In November 2008, Democratic nominee Barack Obama secured a majority of electoral votes, defeating Republican candidate John McCain. Obama became the first African American president in U.S. history when he took over from George W. Bush—who served two four-year terms—in January 2009.

One of Obama's main campaign pledges was to increase access to health care for all Americans. In November 2009, lawmakers in the lower house of Congress approved a bill—known as the Affordable Health Care for America Act—in a 220-215 vote. In December, the Senate passed its own version of the bill in a 60-39 vote. On Mar. 21, the House voted 219-212 to pass the Senate version of the bill, which was signed into law by Obama yesterday.

On Mar. 22, Gingrich expressed dismay at the decision, saying, "The American people spoke decisively against a big government, high tax, Washington knows best, pro-trial lawyer centralized bureaucratic health system. (...) Sunday was a pressured, bought, intimidated vote worthy of [Venezuelan president] Hugo Chávez but unworthy of the United States of America."

Polling Data

From what you have seen, read or heard about the National Tea Party movement, do you agree or disagree with its core policies?

Agree	37%
Disagree	25%
Not sure	39%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,003 American adults, conducted on Mar. 17 and Mar. 18, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Health Care Legislation Divides Views in the U.S.

March 26, 2010

Americans are split over the health care reform bill recently signed into law by United States president Barack Obama, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 42 per cent of respondents are dissatisfied with this development, while 39 per cent are satisfied.

In addition, 34 per cent of respondents believe the legislation went too far, 26 per cent claim it did not go far enough, and 11 per cent think it is just right.

Health care in the U.S. is based on a system of benefits provided by employers, as well as the Medicare and Medicaid programs which allocate health insurance for the elderly, disabled and poor. Around 47 million Americans are uninsured.

In American presidential elections, candidates require 270 votes in the Electoral College to win the White House. In November 2008, Democratic nominee Obama secured a majority of electoral votes, defeating Republican candidate John McCain. Obama became the first African American president in U.S. history when he took over from George W. Bush—who served two four-year terms—in January 2009.

One of Obama's main campaign pledges was to increase access to health care for all Americans. On Mar. 23, Obama signed the new health care legislation—which was approved by the House of Representatives in a 219-212 vote—into law. Obama declared: "We are not a nation that scales back its aspirations. (...) Everybody should have some basic security when it comes to their health care."

The bill imposes an "individual mandate" which requires all Americans to buy health insurance—with federal subsidies available to those who cannot afford the premiums—and compels companies with more than 50 employees to provide health insurance for their workers or face fines. It also expands Medicaid funding, and allows children to stay on the insurance plans of their parents up to age 26. Another provision of the bill forbids insurance companies from withholding or denying coverage to any person who has a pre-existing medical condition.

Republican Minnesota governor Tim Pawlenty questioned the bill, saying, "This does look like an unprecedented overreach by the federal government forcing individual citizens to buy a good or a service for no other reason than they happen to be alive or a person. That seems to be unprecedented."

Polling Data

As you may know, President Obama has signed the new health care legislation into law. Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with this development?

Satisfied	39%
Dissatisfied	42%
Not sure	18%

Which of these statements comes closest to your own point of view of the health care legislation?

The legislation did not go far enough	26%
The legislation is just right	11%
The legislation went too far	34%
Not sure	29%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,005 American adults, conducted on Mar. 23 and Mar. 24, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Majority of Poor, Young, Uninsured Back Healthcare Bill

A majority of seniors say passing it was a bad thing

March 24, 2010

While 49% of Americans overall say Congress' passing healthcare reform is a "good thing," support is greater among Americans who currently lack health insurance. Passage of the bill also enjoys broad support among two of the populations least likely to have health insurance: younger adults and adults living in lower-income households. Older, higher-income, and insured Americans have more mixed reactions. The lone exception is seniors, 54% of whom see passage of the bill as a negative.

Overall Reaction to Passage of Healthcare Bill -- Key Subgroups

As you may know, yesterday, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill that restructures the nation's healthcare system. All in all, do you think it is a good thing or a bad thing that Congress passed this bill?

	Good thing	Bad thing	Net "good thing"
	%	%	(pct. pts.)
National adults	49	40	+9
Have employer-/union-based coverage	45	45	0
Have Medicare coverage	45	47	-2
Have no healthcare coverage	58	29	+29
18 to 34 years	58	31	+27
35 to 49 years	50	40	+10
50 to 64 years	48	41	+7
65 and older	36	54	-18
Less than \$24,000 per year	65	23	+42
\$24,000-\$59,999	43	45	-2
\$60,000-\$89,999	42	48	-6
\$90,000 and over	49	46	+3

USA Today/Gallup, March 22, 2010

GALLUP®

A sharp divide is also seen by marital status -- another demographic factor related to healthcare coverage. By 51% to 41%, married adults call the bill a bad thing. In contrast, unmarried adults call it a good thing by an even wider margin, 60% to 26%.

Overall, the largest subgroup differences in support for the healthcare bill are seen by party identification. In a related finding, 73% of nonwhites (disproportionally Democratic in their party identification) say the bill's passage was a good thing, compared with 40% of whites (who lean Republican). The average income of nonwhites is also lower than that of whites, which likely contributes to their higher support for the healthcare vote.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews with 1,005 national adults, aged 18 and older, conducted March 22, 2010, as part of Gallup Daily tracking. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ±4 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on land-line telephones and cellular phones.

In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Polls conducted entirely in one day, such as this one, are subject to additional error or bias not found in polls conducted over several days.

Obama Fares Best Among Healthcare Political Players

Independents evenly split on the efforts of the president and Republicans in Congress

March 24, 2010

President Obama gets higher ratings for the job he did on the healthcare reform process over the past year than either congressional party does, though none of the three primary political actors receives positive reviews from a majority of Americans.

Overall, how would you rate the job each of the following has done in the efforts to address problems in the healthcare system over the past year, leading up to yesterday's vote in the House -- as excellent, good, only fair or poor?

	% Excellent/Good	% Only fair	% Poor
President Obama	46	20	31
Democrats in Congress	32	30	33
Republicans in Congress	26	34	34

USA Today/Gallup, March 22, 2010

GALLUP®

These results are based on a March 22 *USA Today*/Gallup poll conducted after the House of Representatives passed historic healthcare legislation. Americans' initial reaction to the bill's passage was more positive than negative, but the fact that less than half of Americans give any of the three major players positive ratings underscores the divisive nature of the debate.

Gallup over the past year found Americans expressing more confidence in Obama on healthcare reform than in either congressional delegation. These findings are consistent with Americans' general tendency to give presidents higher ratings than Congress on matters such as political trust and job performance.

Support for the healthcare legislation is strongly related to political party affiliation, so Democrats' and Republicans' ratings of the three primary political actors follow predictable patterns.

Independents, on the other hand, divide evenly on the merits of the legislation, and their ratings of the president and Congress on healthcare could have implications for how they vote in

November's midterm elections. At this point, independents give more positive ratings to the Republicans in Congress (and President Obama) than to the Democrats in Congress, in terms of how each has handled problems with the healthcare system.

Independents' Ratings of Job Done to Address Problems in Healthcare System

	% Excellent/Good	% Poor	Difference
President Obama	37	37	0
Democrats in Congress	22	37	-15
Republicans in Congress	27	29	-2

USA Today/Gallup, March 22, 2010

GALLUP®

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews with a random sample of 1,005 national adults, aged 18 and older, conducted March 22, 2010. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on land-line telephones (for respondents with a land-line telephone) and cellular phones (for respondents who are cell-phone only).

In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Polls conducted entirely in one day, such as this one, are subject to additional error or bias not found in polls conducted over several days.

By Slim Margin, Americans Support Healthcare Bill's Passage

Independents evenly split in their basic reactions, but more are "angry" than "enthusiastic"

March 23, 2010

Nearly half of Americans give a thumbs-up to Congress' passage of a healthcare reform bill last weekend, with 49% calling it "a good thing." Republicans and Democrats have polar opposite reactions, with independents evenly split.

Overall Reaction to Passing Healthcare Bill

As you may know, yesterday, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill that restructures the nation's healthcare system. All in all, do you think it is a good thing or a bad thing that Congress passed this bill?

	National adults	Democrats	Independents	Republicans
	%	%	%	%
Good thing	49	79	46	14
Bad thing	40	9	45	76
No opinion	11	12	10	10

USA Today/Gallup, March 22, 2010

GALLUP®

The findings, from a March 22 *USA Today*/Gallup poll conducted one day after the bill received a majority of votes in the U.S. House of Representatives, represent immediate reactions to the vote.

Americans' emotional responses to the bill's passage are more positive than negative -- with 50% enthusiastic or pleased versus 42% angry or disappointed -- and are similar to their general reactions.

Although much of the public debate over healthcare reform has been heated, barely a third of rank-and-file citizens express either enthusiasm (15%) or anger (19%) about the bill's passage. However, only Democrats show greater enthusiasm than anger. Independents are twice as likely to be angry as enthusiastic, and Republicans 10 times as likely.

Emotional Reaction to Passing Healthcare Bill

Which of the following best describes your reaction to the House passing the healthcare bill -- [enthusiastic, pleased, disappointed, (or) angry]?

	National adults	Democrats	Independents	Republicans
	%	%	%	%
Enthusiastic	15	29	10	4
Pleased	35	53	35	12
Disappointed	23	9	27	38
Angry	19	2	20	41
No opinion	8	6	9	6

USA Today/Gallup, March 22, 2010

GALLUP®

Bottom Line

Passage of healthcare reform was a clear political victory for President Obama and his allies in Congress. While it also pleases most of his Democratic base nationwide, it is met with greater ambivalence among independents and with considerable antipathy among Republicans. Whether these groups' views on the issue harden or soften in the coming months could be crucial to how healthcare reform factors into this year's midterm elections. Given that initial public reaction to Sunday's vote is more positive than recent public opinion about passing a healthcare reform bill, it appears some softening has already occurred.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews with 1,005 national adults, aged 18 and older, conducted March 22, 2010, as part of Gallup Daily tracking. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on land-line telephones and cellular phones.

In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Polls conducted entirely in one day, such as this one, are subject to additional error or bias not found in polls conducted over several days.

Obama Job Approval at 51% After Healthcare Vote

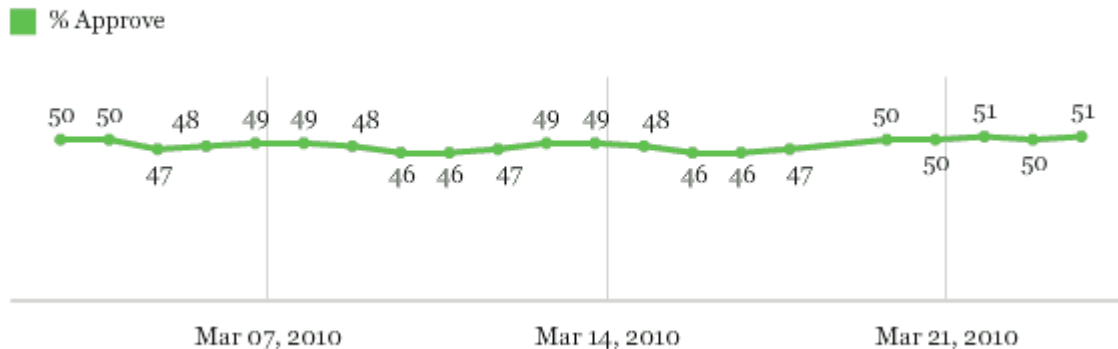
Slightly improved compared to his recent ratings

March 25, 2010

President Barack Obama's job approval stands at 51% after the passage of landmark healthcare legislation. That is slightly better than, though not fundamentally changed from, his ratings for most of this month.

Barack Obama Job Approval Ratings, March 2010

Based on Gallup Daily tracking



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These results are based on Gallup Daily tracking from March 22-24, the first measure conducted entirely after the House passed the healthcare reform bill on Sunday night. The passage of the legislation itself met with an initially positive public reaction.

Obama's approval rating has hovered around 50% since November, and was precisely 50% in the last three days of Gallup polling before the vote took place. However, in recent weeks Obama has been consistently below the majority approval level and his ratings were generally the lowest of his presidency. That includes term-low 48% weekly average approval ratings each of the last two weeks, and several 46% ratings in Gallup Daily three-day rolling averages, the most recent coming in March 15-17 polling.

In the latest three-day rolling average, 83% of Democrats, 47% of independents, and 14% of Republicans approve of the job Obama is doing as president. Over the course of the prior week (March 15-21), the president averaged 81% approval among Democrats, 43% from independents, and 13% from Republicans. Thus, it appears all three groups may be marginally more positive about Obama since health reform passed, with a proportionately greater increase among independents.

Bottom Line

The passage of healthcare reform in the House, a major victory for the Obama administration, has not yet had an overwhelmingly positive impact on Obama's approval rating. That may be in part because of the divisiveness over the healthcare reform legislation, which struggled to gain majority public support throughout the process. It appears, though, that the healthcare victory did provide enough momentum to put Obama back above the majority approval level for the time being.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews with a random sample of 1,544 national adults, aged 18 and older, conducted March 22-24, 2010. For results based on the total sample of national

adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on land-line telephones and cellular phones.

In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Public Remains Deeply Pessimistic About the Economy and Employment; Few People Expect an Improvement Soon

Only 12% believe the economy is growing

Mar 18, 2010

The president and his administration are still focused on health care, but have added in a renewed dialogue on jobs to help show they understand the continuing trouble people are having on economic issues. But it seems this isn't resonating with the public. Since January, President Obama's low job rating on the economy has held steady. Just under one-third of Americans (32%) give him positive ratings on the job he is doing on the economy while 68% give him negative ratings. In January, 31% gave him positive marks and 69% gave him negative ones.

These are some of the results of *The Harris Poll* of 2,320 adults surveyed online between March 1 and 8, 2010 by **Harris Interactive**.

Also unchanged since January are the public's economic expectations. One in five Americans (21%) believe their household's financial situation will be better in the next six months while almost half (47%) believe it will remain the same and 32% say it will be worse. In January 21% also believed their household's financial condition would be better in 6 months, 49% thought it would remain the same and 30% said it would get worse.

There are some regional differences on these expectations. Southerners are the most divided as 22% believe it will be better in six months while 36% say their household's financial condition will be worse in six months. Easterners think it will be status quo as over half (53%) say their household's financial condition will remain the same six months from now.

Looking at the broader picture of the economy, only just over one in ten Americans (12%) believe the economy has already started growing while another 11% say it will start growing within the next six months. One in five (19%) believe the economy will start growing between 6 and 12 months from now. A plurality of more than two in five (43%) believe it won't start growing for another year or longer.

Jobs, jobs and jobs

Looking at the issue of jobs, there is a slight downward dip in attitudes on the current job market. Less than one in ten Americans (8%) believe the current job market of their region of the nation

is good while 73% believe it is bad and 18% say it is neither good nor bad. In January, 10% believed the job market in their region of the country was good and 70% believed it was bad.

Looking at the different regions of the country, the South seems to be the "best" place for jobs right now as 12% of Southerners say the job market in their region is good while 70% believe it is bad. The Midwest and West are the worst as only 6% of Midwesterners and Westerners say their job market is good and over three-quarters of both (77% and 78% respectively) say it is bad.

People believe it will be a while before the job market improves. Less than one in ten Americans (7%) say the job market has already started to improve and 13% say it will improve within the next six months. One in five U.S. adults (21%) say it will improve between 6 and 12 months from now but many more people, 41%, say it will not improve for another year or more.

So what?

The economists tell us that the economy is growing but very few people believe that, or are likely to believe it, until unemployment falls significantly. And, until that happens, the president's ratings on the economy are likely to remain low and to pull down his overall job ratings. All of which points to substantial gains for the Republicans in the November election.

**TABLE 1
PRESIDENT OBAMA'S JOB RATING ON THE ECONOMY**

"Now, turning to something different, how would you rate the overall job that President Barack Obama is doing on the economy?"

Base: All adults

	2009								2010	
	March	April	May	June	Aug	Sept	Nov	Dec	Jan	March
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
POSITIVE (NET)	47	49	46	43	39	40	34	36	31	32
Excellent	13	13	10	3	9	7	6	6	5	5
Pretty good	34	36	36	34	31	33	27	30	25	27
NEGATIVE (NET)	53	51	54	57	61	60	66	64	69	68
Only fair	30	27	30	27	25	27	30	30	31	30
Poor	23	24	24	30	36	33	37	34	39	37

Note: Percentages may not add up exactly to 100% due to rounding.

**TABLE 2
ECONOMIC EXPECTATIONS FOR THE NEXT 6 MONTHS – TREND**

"Thinking about your household's financial condition, do you expect it to be better or worse in the next 6 months?"

Base:

All adults

	2008			2009						2010						
	Feb	Mar.	June	Nov	Jan	Mar	April	May	June	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Mar
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
BETTER (NET)	39	33	40	24	20	20	23	25	21	24	23	23	18	19	21	21
Will remain the same	28	28	25	43	48	46	46	45	45	48	48	45	47	48	49	47
WORSE (NET)	34	39	36	33	32	35	31	30	33	28	29	31	35	33	30	32

Note: Percentages may not add up exactly to 100% due to rounding.

TABLE 3

HOUSEHOLDS' FINANCIAL CONDITIONS 6 MONTHS FROM NOW – BY REGION

"Thinking about your household's current financial situation, do you expect it to be better or worse in the next 6 months?"

Base: All adults

	Total	Region			
		East	Midwest	South	West
	%	%	%	%	%
BETTER (NET)	21	20	19	22	21
Will be much better	4	4	3	4	3
Will be somewhat better	17	16	16	18	18
Will remain the same	47	53	51	42	45
WORSE (NET)	32	26	30	36	34
Will be somewhat worse	23	19	22	24	24
Will be much worse	9	8	8	12	10

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

TABLE 4

WHEN ECONOMY WILL GROW AGAIN

"When do you believe the economy will start growing again?"

Base: All adults

	June 2009	Dec 2009	Jan 2010	Mar. 2010
	%	%	%	%
Already has started growing	7	13	14	12
WITHIN NEXT SIX MONTHS (NET)	12	13	12	11

Between now and 3 months from now	4	3	4	4
Between 3 and 6 months from now	8	10	8	7
Between 6 and 12 months from now	28	21	22	19
Not for another year or longer	41	38	39	43
Not at all sure	13	15	14	17

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

TABLE 5
RATING OF CURRENT JOB MARKET - TREND

"How would you rate the current job market of your region of the nation?"

Base: All adults

	2008		2009						2010			
	June	July	Jan	April	June	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Mar.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
GOOD (NET)	28	30	6	12	9	8	10	10	8	9	10	8
Neither good nor bad	18	19	18	20	19	21	22	20	18	19	20	18
BAD (NET)	53	51	76	68	72	71	68	70	73	72	70	73

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

TABLE 6
RATING OF CURRENT JOB MARKET IN YOUR REGION

"How would you rate the current job market of your region of the nation?"

Base: All adults

	Total	Region			
		East	Midwest	South	West
	%	%	%	%	%
GOOD (NET)	8	7	6	12	6
Very good	1	*	1	1	1
Somewhat good	7	6	5	11	5
Neither good nor bad	18	22	17	18	16
BAD (NET)	73	71	77	70	78
Somewhat bad	43	45	40	41	47
Very bad	31	26	37	29	31

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

Note: * indicates less than 0.5%

TABLE 7
WHEN WILL JOB MARKET IMPROVE

"When do you believe the job market will start to improve?"

Base: All adults

	Dec 2009	Jan 2010	March 2010
	%	%	%
Already has started growing	5	7	7
WITHIN NEXT SIX MONTHS (NET)	16	14	13
Between now and 3 months from now	4	5	4
Between 3 and 6 months from now	12	9	9
Between 6 and 12 months from now	24	24	21
Not for another year or longer	37	39	41
Not at all sure	18	16	19

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

Methodology

This Harris Poll was conducted online within the United States March 1 and 8, 2010 among 2,320 adults (aged 18 and over). Figures for age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, region and household income were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population. Propensity score weighting was also used to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online.

All sample surveys and polls, whether or not they use probability sampling, are subject to multiple sources of error which are most often not possible to quantify or estimate, including sampling error, coverage error, error associated with nonresponse, error associated with question wording and response options, and post-survey weighting and adjustments. Therefore, Harris Interactive avoids the words "margin of error" as they are misleading. All that can be calculated are different possible sampling errors with different probabilities for pure, unweighted, random samples with 100% response rates. These are only theoretical because no published polls come close to this ideal.

Respondents for this survey were selected from among those who have agreed to participate in Harris Interactive surveys. The data have been weighted to reflect the composition of the adult population. Because the sample is based on those who agreed to participate in the Harris Interactive panel, no estimates of theoretical sampling error can be calculated.

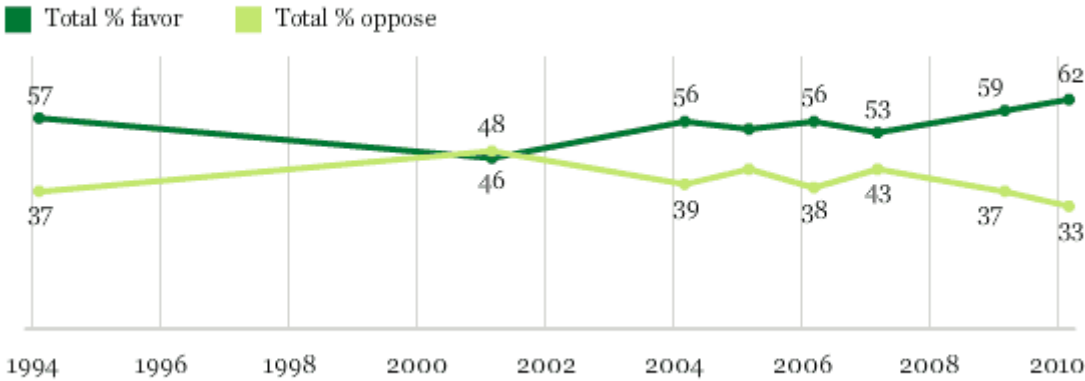
U.S. Support for Nuclear Power Climbs to New High of 62%

Twenty-eight percent strongly favor its use

March 22, 2010

Americans' support for the use of nuclear power has inched up to 62%, establishing a new high.

Overall, do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the use of nuclear energy as one of the ways to provide electricity for the U.S.?



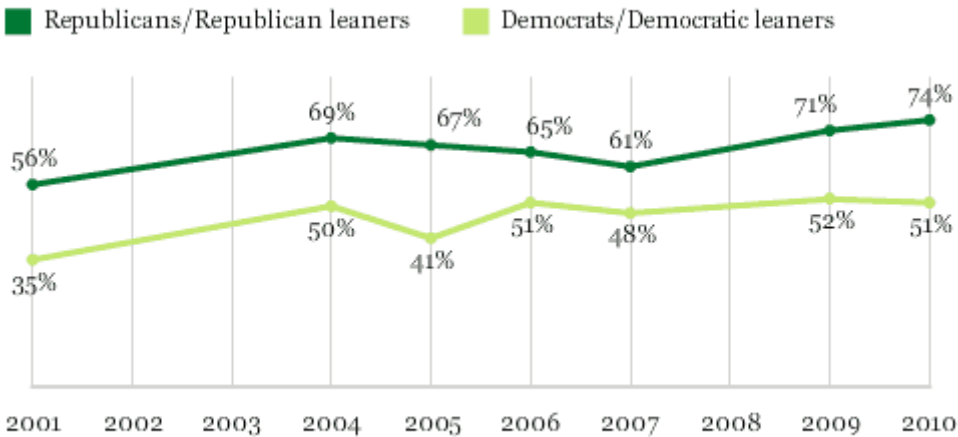
GALLUP®

A majority of Americans have typically favored using nuclear power to provide electricity for the United States since Gallup began asking about this topic in 1994. Support has edged up in the last two years, eclipsing 60% this year for the first time. In addition, 28% of Americans now say they "strongly favor" nuclear power, also the highest Gallup has measured since the question was first asked in 1994.

This year's results, from a March 4-7 Gallup poll, came after President Obama announced federal government loan guarantees to build the first nuclear power plants in the United States in three decades.

Obama's support for nuclear power apparently hasn't done much to change how Democrats view the issue, as a slim majority of 51% favor it, virtually unchanged from last year. Most of the increased support for nuclear energy over the past three years has come among Republicans and Republican-leaning independents, who have consistently been more likely than Democrats and Democratic leaners to favor the use of nuclear energy.

Favor Use of Nuclear Energy, by Political Party Affiliation



GALLUP®

Bottom Line

Last year, Gallup documented a significant increase in support for nuclear power, and that upward trend has continued this year. Although President Obama has announced his support for increased use of nuclear power, Republicans remain significantly more supportive than Democrats.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews with a random sample of 1,014 national adults, aged 18 and older, conducted March 4-7, 2010. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on land-line telephones (for respondents with a land-line telephone) and cellular phones (for respondents who are cell-phone only).

In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Canadians Split on Afghan Detainee Controversy

March 24, 2010

People in Canada are divided on how to deal with a recent controversy over the treatment of Afghan detainees, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 40 per cent of respondents believe a review of documents is the best course of action, while 33 per cent support holding a full public inquiry.

Afghanistan has been the main battleground in the war on terrorism. The conflict began in October 2001, after the Taliban regime refused to hand over Osama bin Laden without evidence of his participation in the 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York and Washington. Al-Qaeda operatives hijacked and crashed four airplanes on Sept. 11, 2001, killing nearly 3,000 people.

At least 1,678 soldiers—including 141 Canadians—have died in the war on terrorism, either in support of the U.S.-led Operation Enduring Freedom or as part of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) led by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

In November 2009, Canadian intelligence officer and diplomat Richard Colvin testified to a parliamentary committee about a series of memos he wrote between May 2006 and October 2007 warning that Afghan detainees captured by Canadians and turned over to Afghan authorities were being tortured in Afghani prisons. Colvin testified that those memos were ignored until newspaper reports brought the matter into the public eye. Canadian government ministers have dismissed Colvin's claims as "not credible" and "entirely suspect."

On Mar. 9, Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper discussed the situation, saying, "Truth of the matter is, of course, that Canadian diplomats, Canadian military personnel have at all times respected Canada's international obligations." Harper has appointed retired Supreme Court justice Frank Iacobucci to review "all relevant documents" pertaining to the Afghan detainee controversy.

On Mar. 15, Liberal defence critic Ujjal Dosanjh criticized the government's position, saying, "Instead of being asked to conduct a full public inquiry, a respected jurist has been hired as yet another lawyer by the government. He will only see what the government gives him. He will report to the government. He will not be able to release his report to the public if the government claims solicitor-client privilege."

Polling Data

Some people believe that a full public inquiry is the only way to get to the bottom of the Afghan detainee issue. Others believe that a review of documents is the best course of action, so that information that could compromise national security is not made public. Which one of the two options would you prefer?

A review of documents	40%
A full public inquiry	33%
Not sure	27%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,008 Canadian adults, conducted on Mar. 17 and Mar. 18, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Canadians Review PM's YouTube Answers

March 23, 2010

Most Canadians disagree with their prime minister's ideas on senators and drugs stated during a YouTube interview, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 50 per cent of

respondents disagree with Stephen Harper's notion that, "If drugs were legalized, these would never be respectable businesses run by respectable people."

Additionally, 58 per cent of respondents disagree with Harper's statement that, "Since Senators cannot currently be elected, most Senators should belong to the party that won the last federal election."

Canadians renewed the House of Commons in October 2008. The Conservative party—led by Harper—received 37.6 per cent of the vote, and secured 143 seats in the 308-member lower house. Harper assembled a minority administration. The Tories also earned a minority mandate after the 2006 election, ending more than 12 years of government by the Liberal party. In December, Michael Ignatieff took over as Liberal leader, replacing Stéphane Dion.

On Mar. 16, Harper appeared on YouTube and answered several questions previously submitted by Canadians. In all, 87 per cent of respondents agree with the head of government's stance of supporting mandatory criminal sentences for serious criminals or repeat offenders; 75 per cent concur with him in that action on climate change should be a coordinated effort with other nations; 68 per cent agree that the province of Quebec should not hold any further referenda on sovereignty, and 59 per cent think that it is better to provide some money to Canadian parents than to wait for a national child care system.

On the topic of legalizing drugs, Harper declared: "The real reason drugs are illegal is because they are bad. Even if these things are legalized, I can predict with a lot of confidence that these would never be respectable businesses run by respectable people, because of the very nature of the dependence they create, the damage they create. (...) We should not fool ourselves into thinking that if we somehow stop trying to deal with it, it would suddenly turn into a nice, wholesome industry. It will never be that."

Polling Data

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

	Agree	Disagree	Not sure
"It's appropriate that very serious or repeat crimes would be subject to at least some kind of minimum penalty."	87%	11%	2%
"Dealing with climate change requires a continental approach and an effective international treaty."	75%	18%	7%
"There should not be another referendum on Quebec sovereignty."	68%	25%	7%
"It is better to provide some money to Canadian parents than to wait for a national child care system."	59%	31%	10%
"The regulations put in place over the past generations have made the seal hunt in Canada very humane."	46%	35%	19%
"If drugs were legalized, these would never be respectable	40%	50%	9%

businesses run by respectable people."

"Since Senators cannot currently be elected, most Senators should belong to the party that won the last federal election." 20% 58% 21%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,008 Canadian adults, conducted on Mar. 17 and Mar. 18, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

LATIN AMERICA

Three-in-Four Brazilians Happy with Lula

March 26, 2010

A large majority of people in Brazil concede that the presidency of Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva has been positive, according to a poll by Ibope. 75 per cent of respondents say Lula's performance has been good or very good, down one point since February.

Lula—a member of the Worker's Party (PT)—won the October 2002 presidential election with 61 per cent of the vote in a run-off against Jose Serra of the Brazilian Party of Social Democracy (PSDB). In October 2006, he earned a new four-year term, defeating PSDB candidate Geraldo Alckmin with 60.8 per cent of the vote in the second round. Lula is ineligible for a third consecutive term in office.

In 2006, Lula's party was affected by a series of corruption scandals. The socialist-leaning president—also a former union leader—led a strong economy with conservative fiscal policies during his first mandate, and was praised for his poverty-reduction initiatives.

On Mar. 24, Lula assured that his government will not "play" with the economy to influence the results of the next presidential election, declaring, "We are not going to risk economic stability. It has to be maintained."

The first round of Brazil's next presidential election is scheduled for Oct. 3. Lula is constitutionally barred from seeking a third consecutive term in office.

Polling Data

How would you rate the performance of Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva as president?

	Mar. 2010	Feb. 2010	Nov. 2009
Good / Very Good	75%	76%	72%
Fair	19%	19%	21%
Bad / Very Bad	5%	5%	6%

Source: Ibope

Methodology: Interviews with 2,002 Brazilian adults, conducted from Mar. 6 to Mar. 10, 2010. Margin of error is 2.2 per cent.

Mexico's Fox Talks About Why Leaders Need Wellbeing Data

A Gallup.com Q&A with former Mexican President Vicente Fox

March 26, 2010

Former Mexican President Vicente Fox sees wellbeing data as the key to better government policies and more efficient budgets. Fox sat down with Gallup.com at our Washington, D.C., headquarters to discuss Gallup's global wellbeing surveys, spanning 155 countries, and to share his thoughts on how world leaders should use these data to improve their constituents' lives.

Q. How do you see wellbeing data as different from other traditional measures, like GDP?

Fox: The driving principle of the quantitative data that we have known up to now is how much you have; how much you're worth. It only relates to owning and having. But these new wellbeing metrics and concepts change the whole picture. It's a great tool for government and a great tool for decision makers because now we know the real aspirations of people; what they consider being well. And by knowing that, governments can shape budgets to provide people with what they really need.

Q. How can current leaders, those who are in office now, use wellbeing data to inform social policies and programs?

Fox: These wellbeing data will allow us to have successful governments and successful democracies -- democracies that can deliver. Many times we build up government plans or put together budgets without really knowing who our customer is and who people are that we are serving. This tool [wellbeing data] will make government budgeting much more efficient. I think this scale of suffering, struggling, and up to thriving is a key way to describe the universe of people and meet their needs.

Q. Thinking specifically about Mexico, what are some of the key issues there that must be addressed to get more people to be thriving and improve wellbeing?

Fox: Now, I'm sure if we start searching in Mexico, we will find out there is fear; extended fear because of violence. We would find out that the fear and violence is impeding people to act, people to produce, and people to generate wealth and wellbeing. When you don't go out of your home because you think you might have a problem of violence right across the street, you become unproductive, you become unhappy, and you end up in the struggling category. So measuring that fear in each region, in states, in municipalities should inform the government in terms of how to change the programming of the budget to address this problem.

Q. If you could tell other world leaders why they should start looking at the wellbeing data right now, what would you say?

Fox: My message will be very clear and very demanding. Up until now, we have had a blindfold on because we put together programs based on what we think and, in some cases, based on the available data. But if you have a responsibility of serving people, of running government, of

decision making related to budgets, you will have a lot more clear sight of what people need and what people will thank you for giving them. So it is clear to me that leaders should have this tool at hand.

MULTI-COUNTRY POLLS

The Behavioral Economics of GDP Growth

Gallup Global Wellbeing

Gallup's global wellbeing metrics are the first comprehensive measure of the behavioral economics of gross national wellbeing, which lays the foundation for all other measures of a country's economic strength. With ongoing research projects in more than 150 countries, Gallup is a leader in the collection and analysis of global data and measurements.

Gallup asks ordinary individuals for their thoughts and opinions on several topics, including economics, religion, migration, and wellbeing. Gallup's data provide sound evidence on many issues that more than 98% of the world's adult population faces.

The tables show life evaluation estimates of the percentage "thriving," "struggling," and "suffering" in countries and regions across the world. Gallup's Thriving, Struggling, and Suffering indexes measure respondents' perceptions of where they stand now and in the future. Based on the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale, Gallup measures life satisfaction by asking respondents to rate their present and future lives on a "ladder" scale with steps numbered from 0 to 10, where "0" indicates the worst possible life and "10" the best possible life. Individuals who rate their current lives a "7" or higher *and* their future an "8" or higher are considered thriving. Individuals are suffering if they report their current *and* future lives as a "4" or lower. All other individuals are considered struggling.

The tables also include daily wellbeing averages (0-10 scoring) based on responses to 10 items measuring daily experiences (feeling well-rested, being treated with respect, smiling/laughter, learning/interest, enjoyment, physical pain, worry, sadness, stress, and anger). Each daily experience is scored dichotomously with higher scores representing better days (more positive and less negative daily experience or affect).

Wellbeing in Africa

Sorted by percentage thriving

	Thriving	Struggling	Suffering	Daily Experience
	%	%	%	
Malawi	25	64	10	8.0
Libya*	24	68	8	6.0
Botswana	24	65	11	7.3
South Africa	21	71	8	7.3
Somaliland	18	77	5	7.1
Algeria	18	77	6	6.7
Nigeria	18	78	4	7.3
Cameroon	14	77	9	7.0
Tunisia	14	77	9	6.8
Zambia	14	78	8	7.6
Central African Republic	12	75	13	6.4
Ethiopia	12	67	21	6.4
Namibia	11	79	10	8.1
Angola	11	81	8	6.8
Mozambique	10	78	11	7.2
Egypt	10	71	19	6.1
Mauritania	10	83	7	7.2
Zimbabwe	10	73	17	7.3
Morocco	10	80	10	7.0
Kenya	9	78	13	7.5
Ghana	9	83	8	7.5
Congo (Brazzaville)	8	73	20	6.9
Guinea	8	89	3	7.1

	Thriving	Struggling	Suffering	Daily Experience
	%	%	%	
Sudan	7	81	12	7.4
Djibouti	7	86	8	7.5
Madagascar	7	84	10	7.0
Uganda	6	71	23	6.8
Tanzania	6	70	24	7.5
Senegal	6	88	6	7.3
Chad	5	88	7	7.1
Liberia	5	90	5	6.7
Mali	5	77	18	8.0
Ivory Coast	4	84	12	7.2
Congo (Kinshasa)	4	85	11	6.4
Benin	4	80	16	6.7
Niger	3	86	11	7.9
Rwanda	3	75	22	7.8
Burkina Faso	3	71	26	6.5
Sierra Leone	3	74	23	6.3
Comoros	2	75	23	7.7
Burundi	2	58	40	7.5
Togo	1	67	31	5.0

Gallup World Poll, 2005-2009

*Limited urban samples only.

Due to rounding, thriving, struggling, and suffering percentages may not equal 100%.

Wellbeing in the Americas

Sorted by percentage thriving

	Thriving	Struggling	Suffering	Daily Experience
	%	%	%	
Costa Rica	63	35	2	8.1
Canada	62	36	2	7.6
Panama	58	39	3	8.4
Brazil	58	40	2	7.5
United States	57	40	3	7.3
Mexico	52	43	5	7.7
Venezuela	50	48	2	8.0
Puerto Rico	47	45	8	7.6
Colombia	46	47	7	7.7
Jamaica	46	49	5	7.7
Trinidad and Tobago	44	51	5	7.9
Argentina	44	50	6	7.8
Belize	44	50	6	6.8
El Salvador	42	51	7	7.7
Chile	41	52	7	7.3
Uruguay	41	54	5	7.5
Guatemala	40	50	10	7.7
Honduras	37	49	14	7.5
Dominican Republic	35	54	11	7.3
Bolivia	34	59	7	7.0
Ecuador	34	52	15	7.6
Paraguay	32	59	9	8.3
Guyana	31	64	5	7.0
Nicaragua	30	53	17	7.4

Wellbeing in Asia

Sorted by percentage thriving

	Thriving	Struggling	Suffering	Daily Experience
	%	%	%	
New Zealand	63	35	2	7.6
Israel	62	35	3	6.4
Australia	62	35	3	7.5
Turkmenistan	52	47	1	7.5
United Arab Emirates	51	48	1	7.7
Kuwait	47	50	3	7.0
Cyprus	45	50	5	6.6
Qatar	41	58	1	6.8
Bahrain	32	45	23	7.0
Jordan	30	61	8	6.7
South Korea	28	61	12	6.9
Saudi Arabia	27	69	3	6.7
Pakistan	27	50	23	6.2
Kazakhstan	22	72	6	7.2
Taiwan	22	64	14	7.5
Lebanon	21	64	15	6.3
Thailand	20	75	5	8.0
Iran	19	66	14	6.3
Hong Kong	19	65	16	7.1
Singapore	19	75	6	6.9
Japan	19	69	12	7.4
Uzbekistan	18	75	6	7.8
Indonesia	18	72	10	8.2
Myanmar*	16	82	2	7.1
Bangladesh	16	71	13	6.9

	Thriving	Struggling	Suffering	Daily Experience
	%	%	%	
Malaysia	15	80	5	8.1
Philippines	15	68	18	7.2
Yemen	14	62	24	6.3
Vietnam	14	76	10	6.9
Palestinian Territories	14	70	15	5.8
Turkey	13	67	20	6.0
Kyrgyzstan	13	81	7	7.3
Azerbaijan	13	70	17	6.6
Armenia	11	55	33	5.9
Iraq	11	71	18	5.2
Sri Lanka	10	66	24	6.9
India	10	69	21	6.9
Syria	10	66	24	6.8
Georgia	10	56	35	6.2
Afghanistan	10	69	21	6.2
China	9	77	14	7.6
Nepal	7	82	11	7.4
Mongolia	7	81	12	7.0
Laos	7	89	4	7.1
Tajikistan	7	74	19	6.5
Cambodia	3	75	22	7.6

Gallup World Poll, 2005-2009

*Limited urban samples only.

Due to rounding, thriving, struggling, and suffering percentages may not equal 100%.

Wellbeing in Europe

Sorted by percentage thriving

	Thriving	Struggling	Suffering	Daily Experience		Thriving	Struggling	Suffering	Daily Experience
	%	%	%			%	%	%	
Denmark	82	17	1	7.9	Poland	28	61	10	7.1
Finland	75	23	2	7.8	Slovenia	27	57	16	6.8
Norway	69	31	0	7.9	Croatia	26	60	14	6.2
Sweden	68	30	2	7.9	Montenegro	26	58	16	6.2
Netherlands	68	32	1	7.7	Moldova	25	62	13	6.1
Switzerland	62	36	2	7.6	Lithuania	25	57	18	6.2
Austria	57	40	3	7.7	Portugal	22	61	17	7.1
Belgium	56	41	3	7.3	Russia	21	57	22	7.0
United Kingdom	54	44	2	7.4	Ukraine	21	53	26	6.6
Ireland	49	49	2	7.5	Romania	21	56	23	6.6
Iceland	47	49	4	8.2	Slovakia	21	60	19	6.5
Luxembourg	45	54	1	7.3	Bosnia and Herzegovina	20	59	20	6.2
Germany	43	50	7	7.4	Estonia	17	62	21	6.8
Malta	40	48	12	6.6	Serbia	16	63	21	6.2
Czech Republic	39	51	9	6.6	Macedonia	14	54	32	6.8
Italy	39	54	7	7.1	Hungary	13	53	34	6.9
Spain	36	58	6	7.0	Albania	13	67	19	5.6
France	35	60	6	7.0	Latvia	11	64	25	6.5
Greece	31	57	11	7.0	Bulgaria	6	58	36	6.5
Belarus	29	59	12	6.5					
Kosovo	29	65	6	6.2					

Gallup World Poll, 2005-2009

Due to rounding, thriving, struggling, and suffering percentages may not equal 100%.

Methodology

Results are based on face-to-face and telephone interviews with approximately 1,000 adults, aged 15 and older, conducted between 2005 and 2009 in 155 countries. For results based on the total samples, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error ranges from ± 2.1 percentage points in China to ± 5.8 percentage points in Zambia. The margin of error reflects the influence of data weighting. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

With some exceptions, all samples are probability based and nationally representative of the resident population aged 15 and older. Exceptions include areas where the safety of interviewing staff is threatened, scarcely populated islands in some countries, and areas that interviewers can reach only by foot, animal, or small boat.

Sample Notes

Algeria: The sparsely populated deep South was excluded. Excluded areas represent less than 10% of the population.

Azerbaijan: Nagorno-Karabakh and territories not included for safety of interviewers. These areas represent less than 10% of the total population.

Bahrain: Non-Arab expatriates were excluded. It's estimated that approximately one-fourth of the adult population is excluded.

Canada: Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut were excluded from the sample.

Cuba: Limited urban samples only. Sample only included Havana and Santiago, representing approximately one-third of the population. Data collected in 2006.

Georgia: South Ossetia and Abkhazia were not included for the safety of the interviewers. The excluded area represents approximately 7% of the population.

India: Excluded population living in Northeast states and remote islands. The excluded areas represent less than 10% of the population.

Kuwait: Non-Arab expatriates were excluded. It's estimated that approximately one-fifth of the adult population is excluded.

Libya: Limited urban samples only. Sample was restricted to three areas: Tripoli, Benghazi, and Al Kufra. The areas represent roughly half of the adult population. The sample skews male and employed. Data collected in 2009.

Myanmar: Limited urban samples only. Sample included Sagaing, Shan, Bago, Chin, Yangon, Mon, Tanintharyi, Kachin, Rakhine, and Mandalay. The sampled area represents approximately 45% of the population. Data collected in 2006.

Moldova: Transnistria (Prednestrovie) was excluded for safety of interviewers. The excluded area represents approximately 13% of the population.

Niger: The Northern part of the country (Agadez region) was excluded because of insecurities. The excluded area represents approximately 5% of the population.

Pakistan: FATA and AJK were excluded. The excluded areas represent approximately 5% of the population.

Palestinian Territories: The sample includes East Jerusalem.

Qatar: Non-Arab expatriates were excluded. It's estimated that more than half of the adult population is excluded.

Saudi Arabia: Non-Arab expatriates were excluded. It's estimated that approximately one-fifth of the adult population is excluded.

Sri Lanka: Excluded areas under conflict in the Northern and Eastern parts of Sri Lanka. The excluded area represents approximately 10% of the population.

Uganda: The Northern region was excluded because of the presence of LRA rebels. The excluded area represents approximately 10% of the population.

United Arab Emirates: Non-Arab expatriates were excluded. It's estimated that more than half of the adult population is excluded.
