

# BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

## Global Opinion Report No. 120

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### Summary of Article

#### **Testing Visual Signals In Representative Surveys In Combination With Media Content Analyses Of The 2002 German Federal Election Campaign**

Thomas Petersen and Olaf Jandura

International Journal of Public Opinino Research Spring 2007

This research article follows up on the article, ‘Testing Visual Signals in Representative Surveys’ (Petersen, 2005), which described a new research concept that combines survey research and quantitative media content analysis in an attempt to define individual elements or ‘signals’ in visual news coverage and to quantitatively gauge the strength of their effect, ultimately allowing these signals to be incorporated in applied quantitative media effects research.

The article draws its conclusion through a multi-disciplinary approach. The visual effects of media are evaluated through the models of psychology. The text effects of media are tested through content analysis and then a survey is used to judge the opinions of German under the signals provided through text or visual media in a controlled environment.

By examining the media text and visual coverage of Federation Election in Germany 2002 the writer highlights a correlation between the negative visual coverage signals and its impact on the negatively changing public opinion in Germany about the Edmund Stoiber candidate against Schroder in 2002 elections. But he is vey cautious about the relationship and suggest this finding should not be over interpreted. He explicate that the effect found through the data is too small and too specific to have any decisive impact on an election outcome. The crucial point here is that this finding supports the argument that the trend in visual reporting in the mass media has its own effect on the formation of public opinion—an effect that can at least be partly separated from the effect of written reporting—and that this effect can be measured independently of the effect of written coverage under realistic conditions in the field.

## **Prelude to the Report**

This week report consists of 25 surveys including three multi-country surveys. Wes & Central Asia—02, Northeast Asia—01, East Europe—02, West Europe---04, North America—09, Latin-America—03, and Australasia—01.

## **Mexicans and Americans Perceptions About Drug War in Mexico: The Question of Morality**

It has been decades that drug related stories from Latin America remained in the news. Political significance of this issue got reinforced in the last decade with most of Latin American countries succeeding in stabilizing their economies one after another resulting in the increased trade within the region along with the increasing number of Hispanic immigrants in U.S. It has been long since Mexico initiated its war against the drug cartels but still signs of curtailing these cartels and dealers are out of sight. What are the causes of Mexican failure? This was the subject of a bi-country survey this week.<sup>1</sup> It was conducted in U.S. and Mexico.

The poll shows the environment of distrust and insecurity due to the prevalence of drug cartels. Such feelings are more dominant in Mexico than in U.S. States bordering Mexico. The views on both sides of the fence are almost identical on several aspects. Publics' in both the countries blame drug cartels to be responsible for this war and on both sides it is perceived that drug cartels are winning the war. So there is a weird disappointment that despite two states fighting the cartels, one being a super power-U.S. are still not able to achieve their goals.

U.S. being a huge market for drugs has been cited as one of the main cause on both sides which stimulates the whole activity for making profits. The second most prominent cause raised by the publics on both sides is the corruption prevalent in authorities dealing with this issue on both sides.

Both of these causes suggest that the root of such issues lie in the declining standards of morality than anything else. Drugs and corruption of course had been there in history but not on such huge scales as in today's world. Our changing life styles might have something to do with them. People in this consumeristic world are always in search of money and luxuries initially and then peace and serenity.

This suggest that in order to really win war against drug cartels, the states should bring such positive change in the society through legal and material infrastructure that drug market gets eliminated. Before putting further pressure on Mexico, should U.S. not take steps at home to curb the drug market? This should be equally applicable to countries across the globe. Similarly is it possible for Mexico or U.S. or any country to win a war against drug cartels without wining a war against corruption?

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.harrisinteractive.com/NewsRoom/PressReleases/tabid/446/mid/1506/articleId/392/ctl/ReadCustom%20Default/Default.aspx>

## Summary of Polls

### **WEST & CENTRAL ASIA**

#### Students in Turkey Disturbed By Military Intervention In Politics

A public survey carried out among young people ahead of the May 19 Youth and Sports Day has revealed that the majority of the youth are concerned about the military meddling in political issues. Young mostly dislike military voicing views on political issues.

May 18, 2010

#### Majority In Turkey Disapproves Of Baykal's Accusation Against Gov't On Video Scandal

A newly released opinion poll has shown that a majority of the Turkish public is critical of newly resigned Republican People's Party (CHP) leader Deniz Baykal holding the government responsible for the emergence of a video clip posted online last week that allegedly shows Baykal in a compromising position with a CHP deputy.

May 15, 2010

### **NORTHEAST ASIA**

#### Japanese Condemn Hatoyama Cabinet

The appointed cabinet of Japanese prime minister Yukio Hatoyama is widely disliked, according to a poll by *Yomiuri*. 67 per cent of respondents disapprove of the sitting administration, up 16 points since April.

May 17, 2010

### **EAST EUROPE**

#### Riots In Kyrgyzstan: Popular Uprising Or Anti-Constitutional Coup?

Most of the Russians are unaware of the happenings in neighboring Kyrgyzstan. Those who have some opinion suggest that these riots are due to the declining standard of living and economy related issues showing the poor performance of Kyrgyz authorities.

April 2010

#### Thinking Of V.I. Lenin Today

V.I. Lenin is still remembered by the Russians but by and large the modern Russians attitude is more of 'indifference' than any thing else. The response for 'respect' has declined though still more than three in ten respect him but do not like him as much.

May 11, 2010

### **WEST EUROPE**

#### Britons Want Changes to Voting System

People in Britain are in favor of implementing specific guidelines to modernize the country's voting system, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 73 per cent of respondents support counting ballots electronically, instead of by hand.

May 19, 2010

#### Most Britons Approve of Governing Coalition

A majority of people in Britain agree with the coalition agreement between the Conservative Party and the Liberal Democrats, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 57 per cent of respondents approve of the alliance, whereas 31 per cent disapprove of it.

May 21, 2010

#### Two Thirds of French Reject Sarkozy

French president Nicolas Sarkozy remains highly unpopular, according to a poll by Ifop published in *Paris Match*. 66 per cent of respondents disapprove of Sarkozy's performance, down one point since April.

May 20, 2010

#### Labour Party Sees Rebound in Ireland

Ireland's Labour Party (Lab.) has gained a significant number of supporters over the past few weeks, according to a poll by Red C. 24 per cent of respondents would vote for Labour in the next legislative election, up seven points since March.

May 22, 2010

### **NORTH AMERICA**

#### Three in Five Americans Give President Obama Negative Job Ratings

Currently, two in five Americans (42%) give President Obama positive ratings on the overall job he is doing while 58% give him negative ratings. This is almost unchanged from last month when 41% gave him positive ratings and 59% gave him negative ones.

May 21, 2010

#### In U.S., Increasing Number Have No Religious Identity

Americans have become increasingly less tied to formal religion in recent decades, with the percentage saying they do not have a specific religious identity growing from near zero in the 1950s to 16% this year and last.

May 21, 2010

#### Americans' Outlook for U.S. Morality Remains Bleak

Americans are three times more likely to describe the current state of moral values in the United States as "poor" than as "excellent" or "good." Americans' assessment of U.S. morality has never been positive, but the current ratings rank among the worst Gallup has measured over the past nine years.

May 17, 2010

#### White Gender Gap in Obama Approval Widens With Education

Approval of President Barack Obama among white U.S. adults has held fairly steady around the 41% mark in 2010, after a gradual decline from 62% in January 2009. At the same time, a gender gap among whites, averaging six percentage points, has persisted throughout Obama's presidency. Thus far in May, his approval rating is 44% among white women vs. 39% among white men.

May 21, 2010

#### Public's Priorities for Congress: Jobs and Energy Top Immigration

The public views tougher regulations on financial institutions as an important priority for Congress, but far more want Congress to take action on the job situation and energy policy.

May 18, 2010

#### Smoking and Age: The Baby Boomer Bulge

Older Americans are generally less likely than those who are younger to report that they smoke, but the age/smoking relationship is not uniform. Smoking is higher among younger baby boomers between the ages of 44 and 54 than it is among those in their 30s and those 55 and older.

May 20, 2010

#### Conservatives Most Enthusiastic About Voting in 2010 Midterm

Registered voters who identify themselves as conservatives are significantly more enthusiastic about voting in this fall's congressional elections than are liberals or moderates. Those who say they are "very" conservative are the most enthusiastic of all, with substantially higher enthusiasm than those who say they are "very" liberal.

May 18, 2010

#### Most Americans Endorse Terrorist Expatriation Act

A large proportion of people in the United States would support a proposed law that would strip all Americans with links to terrorist organizations of their U.S. citizenship, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 77 per cent of respondents approve of the bill currently being discussed in Congress.

May 20, 2010

#### Canadians Back New Rules for Criminal Pardons

The recent proposal to modify the rules regarding criminal pardons is supported by a large proportion of Canadians, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 81 per cent of respondents agree with the bill recently introduced by Canadian public safety minister Vic Toews.

May 19, 2010

### **LATIN AMERICA**

#### President Calderón Gains Two Points in Mexico

Public support for Felipe Calderón remains stable in Mexico, according to a poll by Consulta Mitofsky. 55.5 per cent of respondents agree with the way their president is governing, up 2.1 points since February.

May 19, 2010

#### Mockus Jumps to First Place in Colombia

Former Bogota mayor Antanas Mockus is now leading the presidential race in Colombia, according to a poll by Datexco released by *El Tiempo* and W Radio. 32.8 per cent of respondents would vote for Mockus of the Green Party (PV) in this month's ballot, up eight points since early April.

May 20, 2010

#### Lula Remains Immensely Popular in Brazil

Public support for Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva continues to grow as he heads to the final days of his tenure, according to a poll by Instituto Sensus. 83.7 per cent of respondents approve of Lula's performance as president, up two points since January.

May 18, 2010

### **AUSTRALASIA**

#### PM Rudd Losing Appeal for Australians

The popularity of Australian prime minister Kevin Rudd has taken a hard blow, according to a poll by Newspoll published in *The Australian*. 50 per cent of respondents are dissatisfied with Rudd's performance, up nine points since mid-April.

May 18, 2010

### **MULTI-COUNTRY POLLS**

#### Country's Leadership Matters to Potential Migrants

Gallup survey of 148 countries shows that the potential migrants give positive ratings to the leadership of those countries where they want to go to. This is true among migrants who would like to move to the United States -- the No. 1 desired destination worldwide --

and six other top destination countries that Gallup asked adults to rate the leadership of, including Canada, the United Kingdom, Japan, Russia, France, and Germany.

May 21, 2010

#### Czechs' Commitment to Free Markets and Democracy Stays Strong Amidst Troubled Economic and Political Waters

A fall 2009 survey by the Pew Research Center's Global Attitudes Project found broad-based Czech discontent with the country's economic situation and the way democracy is working. Nonetheless, the data also showed a strong commitment among Czechs to free markets and democratic values. Moreover, Czechs ranked high among their peers in the region in terms of happiness with the transition to free market economics and multiparty politics.

May 19, 2010

#### Vast Majorities on Both Sides of the Border Place Responsibility for Mexico's Drug War on America's Drug Consumption

Americans and Mexicans have strikingly similar attitudes about the drug war in Mexico, according to a study conducted by *Harris Interactive* and its global network partner, *Indemerc*, in early May 2010. But neither Americans nor Mexicans support U.S. intervention.

May 19, 2010

## WEST & CENTRAL ASIA

### Students In Turkey Disturbed By Military Intervention In Politics

May 18, 2010

A public survey carried out among young people ahead of the May 19 Youth and Sports Day has revealed that the majority of the youth are concerned about the military meddling in political issues. Young mostly dislike military voicing views on political issues.

The survey, which was conducted by the Ankara-based MetroPOLL polling company at the request of the National Turkish Student Association (MTTB), revealed that 53.7 percent of the youth are against the military voicing views on political issues, while 28.7 percent of respondents said it was right for military personnel to voice their views on political issues. Some 13.8 percent did not answer the question, while 3.8 percent said they had no idea.

The survey, titled "Youth-Military Relationship and Youth's Approach to Media," was carried out between April 1 and 19 at 29 universities in 16 provinces. A total of 2,603 students participated in the survey, which was carried out in face-to-face interviews.

Q. Do you support or oppose military personnel voicing views in political matters of the state?

Support	28.7
Oppose	53.7
No idea	13.8

Refused	3.8
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Q. Do you think some people within the military are working to stage a coup?

Yes	54
No	26.6
D.k./refuse	11.2

When asked: “Do you think some people within the military are working to stage a coup?” 54 percent of respondents said “yes,” while 26.6 percent said “no” and 11.2 percent gave no answer.

Asked, “Do you think the military is fighting sufficiently against pro-coup members within its ranks?” 51.8 percent said “no,” while 35.5 percent said “yes.” Some 2.1 percent of the respondents said they think the Turkish Armed Forces (TSK) does not need to take measures to fight pro-coup circles.

Turkey, whose democracy has been affected by constant military interventions in politics throughout its history, has been shaken by the latest discovery of coup plans within the army, which were unable to be put into practice. These coup plans sought to foment tension in the country through provocative acts of violence with the ultimate goal of a military takeover.

Some 31.6 percent of young people participating in the survey said their confidence in the TSK and the chief of General Staff has declined due to the recently unearthed coup plans within the TSK and the military chief’s statements downplaying them, while 46.6 percent said their level of confidence in the TSK and the military chief has not changed.

Chief of General Staff Gen. İlker Başbuğ has been criticized by pro-democracy circles because of statements playing down the conspiracies and coup plans within the military. An action plan that aims to damage the ruling Justice and Development Party (AK Party) and faith-based Gülen movement, which Başbuğ referred to as “a piece of paper” after its emergence last year, was later certified as authentic by several institutions.

When asked about their views with regard to paid exemptions from compulsory military service, 48.1 percent said they would welcome that option while 41.3 percent said they would not. In addition to this, 45 percent of respondents said they think the current form of military service in Turkey is ideal, whereas 40.4 percent said Turkey needs to have a professional army.

Source: [Metropoll/todayszaman.com](http://Metropoll/todayszaman.com)

## **Majority In Turkey Disapproves Of Baykal’s Accusation Against Gov’t On Video Scandal**

15 May 2010

A newly released opinion poll has shown that a majority of the Turkish public is critical of newly resigned Republican People’s Party (CHP) leader Deniz Baykal holding the government responsible for the emergence of a video clip posted online last week that allegedly shows

Baykal in a compromising position with a CHP deputy.

According to the poll -- conducted by Professor Özer Sencar and Dr. Sıtkı Yıldız of the Ankara-based MetroPOLL Strategic and Social Research Center on May 12 and 13 -- 66 percent of respondents said they disapprove of Baykal placing the blame on the ruling Justice and Development Party (AK Party) for the emergence of the scandalous video. Of those surveyed, 25 percent find Baykal's stance justifiable.

Q. Mr. Baykal blames AKP for publishing the alleged scandalous video for which he has to resign from his party leadership. Do you think he is right in putting the blame on AKP?

Yes	25
No	66
DK/Refuse	9

Q. Who do you personally think was behind the publication of such video?

Intra-party opposition within the CHP	21
Foreign countries who want to restructure Turkish politics	20
State (AKP)	11
Don't know/Refused	48

Habervaktim.com broadcast a two-part video without audio last week allegedly featuring Baykal and CHP deputy Nesrin Baytok. The recordings seem to have been made using hidden cameras, one of which was placed in a wardrobe. Baykal announced his immediate resignation from party leadership on Monday amid fallout from the video clip and pointed to the AK Party as being responsible for the emergence of the video.

The respondents were asked for their opinion about the goals of those who published the video. Thirty percent of the participants said the video was an attempt by Baykal's opponents within the CHP to overthrow him, while 19 percent said shadowy forces within the state aimed to restructure the left and the CHP with the publication of the sex tape.

When asked who was behind the publication of the video, 21 percent said intra-party opposition within the CHP, 20 percent put the blame on foreign countries who want to restructure Turkish politics and 11 percent said the deep state is behind the scandal.

### **Majority finds resignation correct**

The respondents participating in the MetroPOLL survey were also asked whether Baykal's decision to step down from his post was correct, with 61 percent saying Baykal should have resigned and that he did the right thing, while 30 percent said his resignation was a bad decision.

With the resignation of Baykal, who has been elected to head the party 10 times, the CHP finds itself in a quandary as to who will step in as its new leader. The decision also spells the end of Baykal's four-decade political career.

Baykal's resignation came only one week before the CHP's national congress, scheduled for May 22. Baykal was hoping to go to the congress without any rivals for the party's top spot. The video, however, spoiled Baykal's plans. CHP officials said Baykal is not considering attending the next party congress; however, there are rumors that Baykal may return to the party's leadership at the congress at the demand of the CHP administration and supporters.

When asked if Baykal will return to the CHP leadership or not, 50.5 percent of the respondents said yes, while 40.3 percent said no. The remaining 9.2 percent said they had no opinion.

The respondents were also asked about their opinions as to whether Baykal should revoke his resignation or not. Sixty-three percent said he should not, while 32 percent said he should.

When the participants in the survey were asked who would benefit the most from Baykal's resignation, 30 percent said the CHP itself, while 28 percent said it would be to the benefit of the ruling party.

The respondents were also asked about their opinions on whether the CHP's votes would increase or decrease in the absence of Baykal. While 50 percent said the party would garner more votes without Baykal, 25 percent said the CHP would lose votes after Baykal's resignation. Fifteen percent, on the other hand, said his resignation would not affect the CHP's votes.

When asked if they think Baykal was successful as an opposition party leader against the ruling AK Party, 52.7 percent said no while 44.3 percent said they found him to be successful.

Currently there are a few CHP members whose names are being mentioned as potential party leaders. Among them is Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu, who has long been promoted by a certain media group as a suitable candidate to head the CHP. CHP İstanbul provincial chairman Gürsel Tekin is also regarded by many as one of the strongest contenders for party leadership. Others have also indicated their willingness to take the helm of the CHP. Among these are Samsun deputy Haluk Koç, İstanbul deputy Ali Topuz, Tekirdağ deputy Faik Öztrak and writer-musician-film director Zülfü Livaneli.

As for the question of who should lead the CHP, 31 percent of respondents in the MetroPOLL survey said Kılıçdaroğlu. Kılıçdaroğlu was followed by Şişli Mayor Mustafa Sarıgül, who currently leads the Turkey Movement for Change (TDH) with 7.73 percent.

When asked about recent claims by the CHP that Sarıgül bribed a gang leader to shoot the CHP leader in the legs during his visit to Brussels on April 13, 79 percent of respondents said these claims are not true, while only 7 percent said they could be true.

## **NORTHEAST ASIA**

### **Japanese Condemn Hatoyama Cabinet**

May 17, 2010

The appointed cabinet of Japanese prime minister Yukio Hatoyama is widely disliked, according to a poll by *Yomiuri*. 67 per cent of respondents disapprove of the sitting administration, up 16 points since April.

In August 2009, Japanese voters renewed the House of Representatives. Final results gave the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) a victory with 308 of the 480 lower house seats at stake. DPJ leader Hatoyama was sworn in as prime minister in September.

Aside from a brief period in the 1990s, the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) had administered Japan's government for more than five decades.

The former LDP-led government was marred by corruptions scandals. The new government has been the subject of suspicions as well.

In December, Hatoyama was criticized after it was revealed that political donations registered under the names of several individuals actually came from his mother. The Japanese prime minister has acknowledged receiving a monthly contribution of about \$164,000 U.S. from his mother, but vowed to pay back taxes and penalties amounting to about \$6.5 million U.S.

In January, three current and former aides of Ichiro Ozawa, the DPJ's secretary general, were arrested and charged with falsifying information in party fundraising reports. The three men were identified as Mitsutomo Ikeda, current DPJ lawmaker Tomohiro Ishikawa, and Takanori Okubo.

In late April, a judicial panel decided that Ozawa should be criminally charged over the funding scandal.

On Apr. 30, Hatoyama said that Ozawa "should retain his post" as the party's secretary-general until a mid-term election takes place in July.

### **Polling Data**

Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of Yukio Hatoyama's cabinet?

	<b>May 2010</b>	<b>Apr. 2010</b>	<b>Jan. 2010</b>	<b>Dec. 2009</b>
Approve	24%	33%	45%	59%
Disapprove	67%	51%	42%	29%

*Source: Yomiuri*

*Methodology: Interviews with 1,125 Japanese adults, conducted from May 7 to May 9, 2010. No margin of error was provided.*

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## **EAST EUROPE**

### **Riots In Kyrgyzstan: Popular Uprising Or Anti-Constitutional Coup?**

April 22, 2010

**MOSCOW**, Russian Public Opinion Research center (VCIOM) presents the data concerning what Russians know about the recent developments in Kyrgyzstan, and how Russia should behave in this situation.

**An overwhelming majority of Russians are to some extent of aware what happened in Kyrgyzstan (80%):** 33% are well aware of the situation, 47% heard something about that. Most of those who keep watching on the situation in Kyrgyzstan are elderly respondents and CPRF adherents (45 and 53% respectively are well informed about that). Only 18% have first heard Kyrgyzstan from the interviewer about what is happening in - most of them are young respondents aged 18-24 (30%). The riots drew the widest response among inhabitants of big and middle-sized cities: 40-41% of respondents are well informed about the situation, compared with 25% of rural area residents.

**Whereas during the tulip revolution in 2005, Russians believed it was due to inter-clan struggle for power (28%), now respondents say the mass protests are caused by the fall in living standards and wrong policy of the Kyrgyzstani authorities (47%).** The second popular position is that what happened in Kyrgyzstan is coupe d'etat (27%). Respondents also mentioned inter-clan struggle for power (only 2%), riots and robbery (1%).

**Most Russians do not have clear view about who organized the recent developments (55%).** The rest of them put forward two opposing positions: 15% believe it was Kyrgyz people, 14% mention Kyrgyz opposition. Eight percent are confident that the riots were organized by top power officials close to Kurmanbek Bakiyev. Rarer respondents blame Americans, foreign special services (2% for each) and militants (1%).

**Most Russians oppose the participation of Russia in Kyrgyzstan's domestic affair (60%).** Every fifth is confident that Russia should support a new leader come to power (19%): they are basically supporters of Fair Russia Party (32%), pensioners (23%), and all those well informed about developments in Kyrgyzstan (24%). Those who think Russia should support the overthrown leader K.Bakiyev are in the minority (6%): most of them are United Russia party adherents (8%) and communists (7%), and residents of small and middle towns (8%). Most of those who think Russia should intervene in the situation are supporters of Dmitry Medvedev: 8% think Russia should support Bakiyev; 21% - in favour of Roza Otunbayeva.

The initiative Russian opinion polls were conducted on April 17-18, 2010. 1600 respondents were interviewed at 140 sampling points in 42 regions of Russia.

The margin of error does not exceed 3.4 %.

**The recent mass protests in Kyrgyzstan resulted in the overthrow of president and government. Do you know about that, or have you heard anything about that, or hear for the first time?**  
(close-ended question, one answer)

	Total respondents	Age				
		18-24	25-34	35-44	45-59	60 and above
<i>Well informed</i>	<b>33</b>	18	26	36	36	45
<i>Heard something</i>	<b>47</b>	49	50	47	50	37
<i>Heard for the first time</i>	<b>18</b>	30	22	16	11	15
<i>Hard to tell</i>	<b>2</b>	3	2	1	2	3

**According to one version, it was mass protests against authorities` policy. Another opinion is that it was conspiracy, coupe d`etat. There also other versions. In your opinion, what happened in Kyrgyzstan?**  
(open-ended question, not more than three answers)

	2010		2005
<i>Mass protests against fall in living standards and wrong policy</i>	<b>43</b>	<i>It is a struggle between different clans for redistribution of economic and political spheres of influence</i>	<b>28</b>
<i>Coupe d`etat, attempt to overthrow the present power</i>	<b>27</b>	<i>It is an attempt of the U.S. to establish control over Kyrgyzstan</i>	<b>17</b>
<i>Inter-clan struggle for power</i>	<b>2</b>	<i>It is a rebellion</i>	<b>15</b>
<i>Riots, robbery</i>	<b>1</b>	<i>It is people` democratic revolution</i>	<b>14</b>
<i>Other</i>	<b>1</b>	<i>It is anti-constitutional coupe resulted in displacement of legitimate president Akayev</i>	<b>10</b>
<i>Hard to tell</i>	<b>28</b>	<i>The protests are aimed at establishing Islamic regime in Kyrgyzstan</i>	<b>4</b>
		<i>Hard to tell</i>	<b>11</b>

**In your opinion, who organized the riots?** (open-ended question, not more than three answers)

<i>Kyrgyz people, those who are not pleased with the current situation</i>	<b>15</b>
<i>Domestic opposition</i>	<b>14</b>
<i>Top officials close to K. Bakiyev</i>	<b>8</b>
<i>Those who wanted to come to power, difficult to say who exactly</i>	<b>3</b>
<i>Americans</i>	<b>2</b>
<i>Foreign special services</i>	<b>2</b>
<i>Terrorists, militants</i>	<b>1</b>
<i>It was spontaneous</i>	<b>1</b>
<i>Hard to tell</i>	<b>55</b>

**In your opinion, what Russia should do in this situation?**

(close-ended question, one answer)

	Total respondents	Parties, Russians would vote for if elections to the State Duma were held next Sunday					
		CPRF	LDPR	Fair Russia	United Russia	Other	I p
<i>Do not intervene, stay neutral</i>	<b>60</b>	55	57	60	61	70	6
<i>Recognize the new government, support for establishing power</i>	<b>19</b>	27	30	32	19	10	1
<i>To help the previous government to regain control</i>	<b>6</b>	7	4	2	8	5	6
<i>Other</i>	<b>2</b>	2	1		1		6
<i>Hard to tell</i>	<b>12</b>	9	7	6	11	15	1

## THINKING OF V.I. LENIN TODAY

May 11, 2010

In anticipation of the 140th anniversary of Lenin's birth Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VCIOM) presents the information describing what Russians think about V.I. Lenin and his role in Russian history, whether he will be remembered in fifty years, and what the current attitude of Russians towards Lenin is.

**Evaluating the role of V.I. Lenin in Russian history, as before Russians tend to think that the memory of him is still being kept but no one would follow his way (31%, in 2000 - 41%).**

The Second popular point of view is that the original ideas expressed by V.I. Lenin were misrepresented by his followers (24%, ten years ago - 35%). As before, every fifth tend to think that it was Lenin who led the country on the path of progress and justice (20%). Less number of Russians thinks that Lenin had intentions to lead people to a bright future (from 24 to 19%). The proportion of those who think Lenin's ideas about revolution and communism were wrong has also decreased (from 23 to 12%), as well as those who think that he led the country down the wrong path (from 20 to 12%). In 10% of cases Russians agree that Lenin was a cruel man who tried to change the country through violence. As before, those who think that Lenin foresaw the further victory of communism (7%), as well as those who think his ideas will illuminate the road to a better life (6%) are in the minority.

**A relative majority of respondents are confident that only historians will remember Lenin in fifty years (39%).** Such an opinion is shared by supporters of most of Russian parties (38-

42%), excepting those in favor of CPRF and LDPR parties (29 and 33% respectively). A quarter of respondents believe that people will always remember Lenin as a founder of the Soviet state (25% against 33% in 2000). Most of those who think so are Fair Russia party supporters (38%). Eighteen percent still think that Lenin will be perceived as a leader who tried to protect interests of workers first (basically CPRF party supporters think so - 35%). Less number of Russians think that people will remember Lenin as a great thinker foreseeing the future (8%), or as a calculated politician who dictated his will on the country (8% against 13% in 2000), or as a cruel dictator (6%). Those who think that people will remember of Lenin as an adventurer or a person who did not love and understand Russia are in the minority (3% for each).

**Whereas in 2001 a relative majority of Russians felt respect to Lenin (40%), now the share of such respondents has declined to 34%. Most of respondents are indifferent towards Lenin (39% against 21% in 2001).** The share of those who likes him has decreased (9% against 15% in 2001) as well as the share of those who admires him (3%). However, those negatively assessing Lenin are also in the minority: only 6% dislikes him, and 1% (for each) feels fear and disgust towards him. The older the respondent is, the more often he/she respects Lenin (51% of elderly respondents against 15% 18-24-year-old ones). The youth tend to be indifferent towards Lenin (61%).

Most of those who are indifferent are absentees (48%). Those who respect and admire Lenin are mainly CPRF party supporters (51 and 15% respectively).

*The initiative Russian opinion polls were conducted on April 17-18, 2010. 1600 respondents were interviewed at 140 sampling points in 42 regions of Russia. The margin of error does not exceed 3.4 %.*

<b>Today Lenin's personality is being assessed differently. Which of the following statements about the role of V.I. Lenin in Russian history do you agree most? (close-ended question, not more than three answers)</b>			
	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2010</b>
<i>History will keep the memory of him but nobody will follow his way</i>	41	41	<b>31</b>
<i>Lenin's ideas were misinterpreted by his followers</i>	35	35	<b>24</b>
<i>Lenin led the country on the path of progress and justice</i>	21	21	<b>20</b>
<i>Lenin had intentions to lead people to a bright future</i>	25	24	<b>19</b>
<i>Lenin led the country on the wrong path which resulted in many disasters</i>	19	20	<b>12</b>
<i>Lenin's ideas about revolution and communism were wrong</i>	18	23	<b>12</b>
<i>Lenin was a cruel man who tried to transform the country through violence</i>	12	13	<b>10</b>

<i>Lenin foresaw the future communist victory all over the world</i>	4	7	7				
<i>Lenin's ideas will always illuminate the road to a better life</i>	9	8	6				
<i>Hard to tell</i>	10	7	13				
<b>In your opinion, what will people remember of Lenin in 40-50 years?</b> <i>(close-ended question, not more than two answers)</i>							
	<b>2000</b>	<b>2010</b>					
<i>No one except for historians will remember him</i>	36	39					
<i>As a founder of the Soviet state</i>	33	25					
<i>As a leader who appreciated the interests of workers first</i>	18	18					
<i>As a great thinker who was right about the future</i>	10	8					
<i>As a calculated politician who dictated his will on the huge country</i>	13	8					
<i>As a cruel dictator who sacrificed the lives of millions of people</i>	7	6					
<i>As a lucky political adventurer</i>	6	3					
<i>As a man who did not love and understand Russia</i>	2	3					
<i>Hard to tell</i>	8	10					
<b>What is your attitude towards Lenin?</b> <i>(close-ended question, one answer)</i>							
	<b>2001</b>	<b>2010</b>					
<i>Indifferent</i>	21	39					
<i>Respect</i>	40	34					
<i>Likes</i>	15	9					
<i>Hostility, irritation</i>	8	6					
<i>Admiration</i>	7	3					
<i>Fear</i>	2	1					
<i>Disgust, hatred</i>	2	1					
<i>Hard to tell</i>	5	7					
<b>What is your attitude towards Lenin?</b> <i>(close-ended question, one answer)</i>							
		<b>Parties Russians would vote for if the State Duma elections were held next Sunday</b>					
	<b>Total respondents</b>	<b>United Russia</b>	<b>CPRF</b>	<b>LDPR</b>	<b>Fair Russia</b>	<b>Other (Pravoe Delo, Patriots of Russia, Yabloko)</b>	<b>I would not take part in election</b>
<i>Indifferent</i>	39	40	17	41	36	38	49
<i>Respect</i>	34	37	54	29	34	35	24
<i>Likes</i>	9	9	6	7	11	12	8
<i>Hostility, irritation</i>	6	5	2	9	7	8	10

<i>Admiration</i>	<b>3</b>	1	15	4	5	0	2
<i>Fear</i>	<b>1</b>	0	2	0	0	0	0
<i>Disgust, hatred</i>	<b>1</b>	1	1	6	2	4	1
<i>Hard to tell</i>	<b>7</b>	7	4	4	5	4	5

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## WEST EUROPE

### Britons Want Changes to Voting System

May 19, 2010

People in Britain are in favour of implementing specific guidelines to modernize the country's voting system, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 73 per cent of respondents support counting ballots electronically, instead of by hand.

In addition, 71 per cent of respondents are in favour of using an electronic ballot marking device (such as a touch screen) instead of a paper ballot.

On May 6, British voters participated in a General Election. The Conservative Party finished in first place with 36.1 per cent of the vote and 305 seats, followed by the Labour Party with 29 per cent and 258 seats, and the Liberal Democrats with 23 per cent and 57 seats. The Conservatives formed a coalition government with the Liberal Democrats, with Tory leader David Cameron as prime minister and Lib-Dem leader Nick Clegg as deputy prime minister.

Existing regulations call for polling stations in Britain to remain open from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm on election day. People who were not provided with a ballot before 10:00 pm are unable to vote, even if they are inside the polling station or in a queue. Several incidents were reported outside polling stations in Birmingham, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Newcastle, Sheffield and Surrey after 10:00 pm, as would-be voters were turned away.

Clegg apologized to voters who were unable to cast a ballot in his Sheffield Hallam constituency, adding, "It is something that should never ever happen again in our democracy."

#### Polling Data

Some countries have adopted electronic voting systems to both cast ballots and count votes during national elections. Would you support or oppose implementing each one of these ideas in the next UK General Election?

	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
Counting ballots electronically, instead of by hand	73%	19%	8%
Using an electronic ballot marking device (such as a touch screen) instead of a paper ballot	71%	19%	9%

*Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion*

*Methodology: Online interviews with 2,002 British adults, conducted from May 14 to May 16, 2010. Margin of error is 2.2 per cent.*

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## **Most Britons Approve of Governing Coalition**

May 21, 2010

A majority of people in Britain agree with the coalition agreement between the Conservative Party and the Liberal Democrats, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 57 per cent of respondents approve of the alliance, whereas 31 per cent disapprove of it.

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.

On May 6, British voters participated in a General Election. The Conservative Party finished in first place with 36.1 per cent of the vote and 305 seats, followed by the Labour Party with 29 per cent and 258 seats, and the Liberal Democrats with 23 per cent and 57 seats. No party secured enough seats to form a majority government.

On May 11, Brown resigned as prime minister and Labour leader. Tory leader David Cameron was invited to form a government by Queen Elizabeth II. Cameron announced that a deal had been made between the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats to form a coalition government. Liberal Democrat leader Nick Clegg became deputy prime minister.

In a joint press conference on May 12, Cameron defended the decision to form a solid coalition with the Lib-Dems, declaring, "This is much more than what could have been. We have taken the more difficult path, but a far more worthwhile one." Clegg assured that both parties share a common goal, stating, "This is based on a simple idea of stabilizing our economy, but also giving power back to people in their everyday lives."

### **Polling Data**

All things considered, do you approve or disapprove of the coalition agreement reached by the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats?

Approve	57%
Disapprove	31%
Not sure	12%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 2,002 British adults, conducted from May 14 to May 16, 2010. Margin of error is 2.2 per cent.

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## Two Thirds of French Reject Sarkozy

May 20, 2010

French president Nicolas Sarkozy remains highly unpopular, according to a poll by Ifop published in *Paris Match*. 66 per cent of respondents disapprove of Sarkozy's performance, down one point since April.

Appointed prime minister François Fillon holds better ratings, with 54 per cent of respondents saying they approve of his work.

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.

Earlier this month, Sarkozy suggested that his government might scrap the so-called "fiscal shield" law, which caps taxation at half of the incomes of people in the wealthiest bracket of the population. The Sarkozy administration had introduced the law in 2007.

UMP leader Jean-Francois Cope commented on the matter, declaring, "The fiscal shield isn't dead, it's just wounded, and it's a wound in the right direction."

### Polling Data

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

	May 2010	Apr. 2010	Mar. 2010
Approve	34%	33%	36%
Disapprove	66%	67%	64%

Do you approve or disapprove of François Fillon's performance as prime minister?

	May 2010	Apr. 2010	Mar. 2010
Approve	54%	52%	54%
Disapprove	46%	47%	46%

Source: Ifop / Paris Match

Methodology: Telephone interviews with 1,016 French adults, conducted on Apr. 29 and Apr. 30, 2010. No margin of error was provided.

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## Labour Party Sees Rebound in Ireland

May 22, 2010

Ireland's Labour Party (Lab.) has gained a significant number of supporters over the past few weeks, according to a poll by Red C. 24 per cent of respondents would vote for Labour in the next legislative election, up seven points since March.

Fine Gael (FG) remains in the lead with 33 per cent. The governing Fianna Fáil (FF) is third with 23 per cent, followed by Sinn Fein (SF) and the Green Party (GP), both with six per cent.

In May 2007, Irish voters renewed the House of Representatives. FF finished in first place with 41.6 per cent of the vote and 78 lawmakers, followed by FG with 27.3 per cent and 51 legislators, and Labour with 10.1 per cent and 20 representatives. In June, Bertie Ahern was ratified as prime minister, with the support of FF, six Green lawmakers, two members of the Progressive Democrats and four independents.

In the 1990s, a public inquiry was established to investigate corruption allegations related to the issuing of planning and zoning permits in Ireland. Ahern faced an investigation by the so-called Mahon Tribunal. Ahern's involvement in the corruption scandal practically paralyzed the legislature in early 2008.

In May 2008, Ahern stepped down and FF lawmakers chose finance minister Brian Cowen to replace him as leader and prime minister. Several fellow party members had called for Ahern—who had served as head of government since June 1997—to resign in order to protect the party from the damages caused by the investigation.

Ireland has been severely hit by the global financial crisis and internal problems with the housing market.

On May 19, Labour leader Eamon Gilmore accused Cowen of failing to address early signs that an economic crisis was looming when he was serving as finance minister, declaring, "You got the warnings about what was happening in the property market. You got the warnings about the consequences of light regulation. (...) It was a stunning failure of government and a stunning failure particularly by yourself because you were the guy in charge as minister for finance during all of that period of time."

### **Polling Data**

If there were a general election tomorrow, to which party would you give your first preference vote?

	<b>Apr. 2010</b>	<b>Mar. 2010</b>	<b>Feb. 2010</b>
Fine Gael (FG)	33%	35%	34%
Labour Party (Lab.)	24%	17%	17%
Fianna Fáil (FF)	23%	24%	27%
Sinn Fein (SF)	6%	10%	9%
Green Party (GP)	6%	5%	5%

*Source: Red C*

*Methodology: Telephone interviews with 1,003 Irish adults, conducted from Apr. 26 to Apr. 28, 2010. Margin of error is 3 per cent.*

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## **NORTH AMERICA**

### **Three in Five Americans Give President Obama Negative Job Ratings**

*Three in five also believe he tries to do too many things at once*

**May 21, 2010**

While President Obama has focused on the economy and working with Democrats in Congress to overhaul the financial industry, other crises have come into play - most prominently, the oil spill in the Gulf. This again has forced his attention from the one thing the public cares most about - finding jobs and getting the economy back on track.

Currently, two in five Americans (42%) give President Obama positive ratings on the overall job he is doing while 58% give him negative ratings. This is almost unchanged from last month when 41% gave him positive ratings and 59% gave him negative ones.

These are some of the results of *The Harris Poll* of 2,503 adults surveyed online between May 10 and 17, 2010 by **Harris Interactive**.

While it is not surprising that 92% of Republicans give the president negative ratings, one-quarter of Democrats (25%) also give him negative marks as do 68% of Independents. There is also an educational gap on his approval ratings. Two-thirds of those with a high school degree or less (65%) give the president negative marks while three in five of those with a post-graduate education (61%) give him positive ratings. Just over half of those with some college or a college degree (55% and 56% respectively) give the president negative marks on his overall job.

#### **President Obama as a Leader**

It took the president some time to get his health care bill through Congress and that might have hurt perceptions of him as a strong leader. But, three-quarters of Americans (77%) agree that President Obama is a tough fighter for what he believes in, while two-thirds say he is someone who usually gets his own way (65%) and that he is usually able to get Congress to support his policies (64%).

However there is also a perception that President Obama has bitten off more than he can chew and that he changes his position frequently. Three in five Americans (62%) say President Obama tries to do too many things at once, while 58% say he is a strong leader. Public opinion is divided however on whether President Obama "flip-flops" as 44% say he is not someone who changes his position if he is strongly opposed while 43% believe the opposite.

For the most part, the differences between Republicans and Democrats are not as large as one might expect. In fact, 68% of Democrats and 66% of Republicans believe President Obama is usually able to get Congress to support his policies. Most of the other differences are around twenty percentage points, yet there is one notable exception. While almost nine in ten Democrats (87%) say President Obama is a strong leader, only 23% of Republicans agree.

## So What?

In April almost two in five Americans (39%) thought the country was going in the right direction; this was a high not seen since October of last year. This month, it has dropped again and just 36% believe the country is going in the right direction while 64% believe things have gotten off on the wrong track. When the attitudes of Americans are this negative about the country as a whole, for a president's numbers to really increase he would have to accomplish something that impacts people where they are hurting the most. Right now, that is still economically, and the recent volatility of the stock market further reinforces that in people's minds, even if they are not serious investors. Until this changes, President Obama's approval ratings will mostly likely not change.

**TABLE 1**  
**PRESIDENT OBAMA'S JOB RATING - TREND**  
 "How would you rate the overall job President Barack Obama is doing?"  
 Base: All adults

	2009									2010			
	Mar.	April	May	June	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Mar.	April	May
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>POSITIVE</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>42</b>
Excellent	17	18	17	14	11	11	10	9	7	9	9	9	10
Pretty good	38	40	42	39	39	38	35	33	33	31	32	31	32
<b>NEGATIVE</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>58</b>
Only fair	27	26	25	25	25	25	27	29	30	30	28	26	28
Poor	18	15	16	21	24	26	28	29	30	30	31	33	30

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

**TABLE 2**  
**PRESIDENT OBAMA'S JOB RATING - BY PARTY, EDUCATION & GENDER**  
 "How would you rate the overall job President Barack Obama is doing?"  
 Base: All adults

	Total	Political Party			Education				Gender	
		Rep.	Dem.	Ind.	H.S. less	or Some college	College grad.	Post grad.	Men	Women
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>POSITIVE</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>45</b>
Excellent	10	1	20	6	7	10	11	16	9	10
Pretty good	32	7	56	26	28	35	33	45	30	35
<b>NEGATIVE</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>55</b>
Only fair	28	28	20	36	30	24	33	20	27	29
Poor	30	64	5	32	35	31	23	19	34	26

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

**TABLE 3**  
**OBAMA LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS**  
 "Do you agree with the following statements about President Barack Obama or not?"  
 Base: All adults

	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly</b>	<b>Somewhat</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Somewhat</b>	<b>Strongly</b>	<b>Not at</b>
	<b>(NET)</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>(NET)</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>all sure</b>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Is a tough fighter for what he believes in	77	45	33	16	9	7	7
Is someone who usually gets his own way	65	23	42	23	18	5	12
Is usually able to get Congress to support his policies	64	17	47	27	19	8	9
Tries to do too many things at once	62	35	27	29	20	9	9
Is a strong leader	58	32	25	38	14	24	4
Changes his position if he is strongly opposed	43	16	27	44	29	15	13

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

**TABLE 4**  
**OBAMA LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS - BY GENERATION & POLITICAL PARTY**  
 "Do you agree with the following statements about President Barack Obama or not?"  
*Percent saying "Strongly/Somewhat agree"*  
 Base: All adults

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Generation</b>				<b>Political Party</b>		
		<b>Echo Boomers (18-33)</b>	<b>Gen X. (34-45)</b>	<b>Baby Boomers (46-64)</b>	<b>Matures (65+)</b>	<b>Rep.</b>	<b>Dem.</b>	<b>Ind.</b>
		%	%	%	%	%	%	
Is a tough fighter for what he believes in	77	71	76	82	79	66	88	78
Is someone who usually gets his own way	65	56	65	69	74	78	61	64
Is usually able to get Congress to support his policies	64	54	63	69	71	66	68	62
Tries to do too many things at once	62	55	60	63	73	77	52	64
Is a strong leader	58	62	63	57	46	23	87	53
Changes his position if he is strongly opposed	43	38	41	43	54	54	36	46

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

**TABLE 5**  
**RIGHT DIRECTION OR WRONG TRACK**

"Generally speaking, would you say things in the country are going in the right direction or have they pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?"

Base: All adults

	TREND	Right Direction	Wrong Track
		%	%
<b>2010</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>64</b>
	April	39	61
	March	33	67
	January	37	63
<b>2009</b>	December	37	63
	October	39	61
	August	46	54
	June	43	57
	March	32	68
	January	19	72
<b>2008</b>	October	11	83
	February	23	69
<b>2007</b>	December	18	74
	February	29	62
<b>2006</b>	May	24	69
	February	32	59
<b>2005</b>	November	27	68
	January	46	48
<b>2004</b>	September	38	57
	June	35	59
<b>2003</b>	December	35	57
	June	44	51
<b>2002</b>	December	36	57
	June	46	48
<b>2001</b>	December	65	32
	June	43	52
<b>2000</b>	October	50	41
	June	40	51
<b>1999</b>	June	37	55
	March	47	45
<b>1998</b>	December	43	51
	June	48	44
<b>1997</b>	December	39	56

	April	36	55
<b>1996</b>	December	38	50
	June	29	64
<b>1995</b>	December	26	62
	June	24	65
<b>1994</b>	December	29	63
	June	28	65
<b>1993</b>	June	21	70
	March	39	50
<b>1992</b>	June	12	81
	January	20	75
<b>1991</b>	December	17	75
	January	58	32

**Note: Prior to March, 2009 this question was asked via telephone**

### **Methodology**

This **Harris Poll** was conducted online within the United States between May 10 to 17, 2010 among 2,503 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.

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## In U.S., Increasing Number Have No Religious Identity

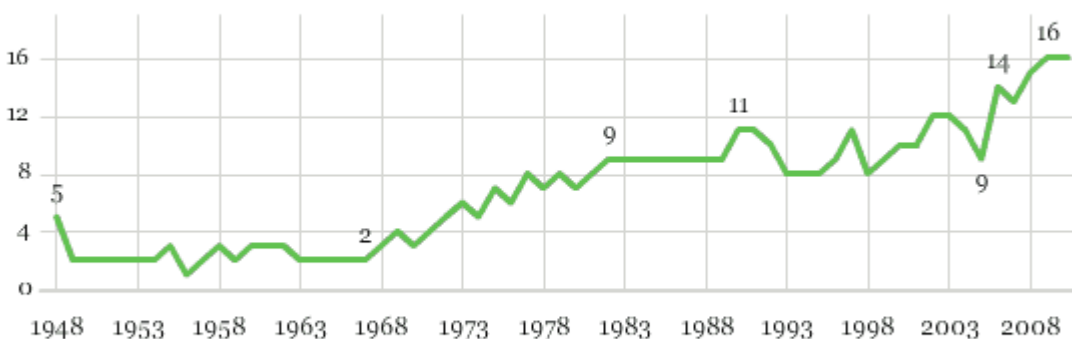
*Modest increase since 1990s in percentage who believe religion is out of date*

May 21, 2010

Americans have become increasingly less tied to formal religion in recent decades, with the percentage saying they do not have a specific religious identity growing from near zero in the 1950s to 16% this year and last.

### *Trend: Percentage of Americans With No Religious Identity*

■ % No religion or otherwise undesignated



Results reflect yearly averages for 1948-2009, and May 3-6, 2010, poll

GALLUP®

This upward trend in the percentage having no religious identity has been evident for a number of years in Gallup and other surveys.

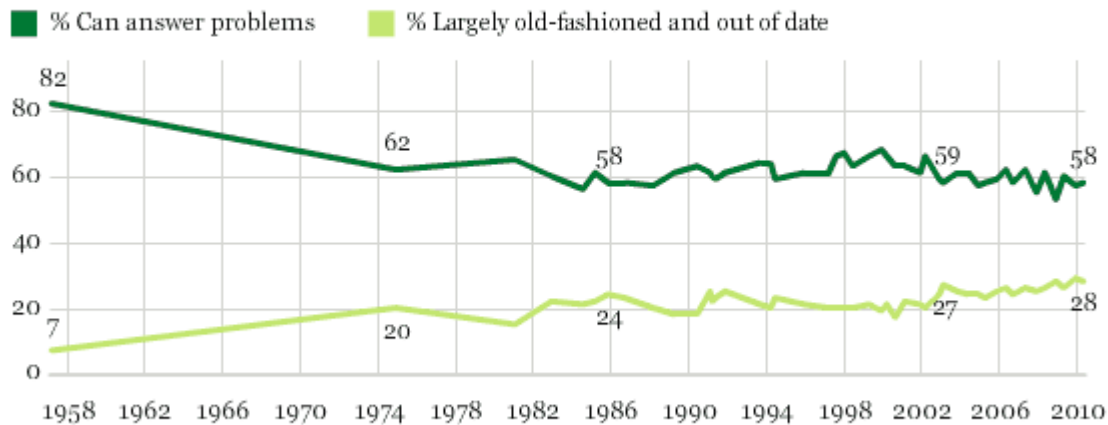
Gallup began systematically tracking religion using this measure in 1948, asking Americans to name the major religion with which they personally identified. At that point, 2% of Americans volunteered "no religion" and another 3% had an otherwise undesignated religious identity. In 1949 and in the 1950s and 1960s, these percentages stayed low. The number of Americans with no formal religious identity began to increase in the 1970s, reaching 11% by 1990. After some fluctuations over the last two decades, 16% of Americans now say they have no religious identity or have an otherwise undesignated response.

Gallup's 53-year trend on this measure represents nearly a quarter of the history of the United States as an independent country. There is no systematic way of comparing this trend with what may have been the case stretching back to the earliest post-Revolutionary War days. The best conclusion therefore is that Americans are more likely now than at previous times since World War II to say "no religion" when queried in traditional fashion about their religious identity.

### **Religion Old-Fashioned and Out of Date?**

An additional measure Gallup has tracked over time asks Americans if they believe that religion can answer all or most of today's problems, or if they believe religion is largely old-fashioned and out of date.

*Do you believe that religion can answer all or most of today's problems, or that religion is largely old-fashioned and out of date?*



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The percentage of Americans who believe religion can answer all or most of today's problems has fluctuated since the mid-1970s, as has the number who believe religion is old-fashioned and out of date. When Gallup first asked this question in 1957, 7% of Americans said religion was old-fashioned. That percentage was generally at or around 20% during much of the 1980s and 1990s, but has risen to 29% last year and 28% this year.

Thus, although clearly still a minority, the segment of Americans who believe "religion is largely old-fashioned" is now modestly higher than it was a decade or two ago.

### Bottom Line

Gallup surveys confirm a downward drift in religious identity among Americans, as well as a slight increase in the number of Americans who view religion as old-fashioned and out of date.

Lack of identification with a formal religious group does not necessarily mean religion is irrelevant in a broad sense in a person's life. One can remain quite religious, or at least spiritual, while at the same time eschewing attachment to or identity with a formal religion or denomination.

Still, trends on an additional Gallup question indicate that there has in fact been a slight uptick in the percentage of Americans who say religion is not very important in their daily lives -- from a range of 11% to 14% through most of the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s to 19% over the past two years. This suggests that there may be some diminution of "inner" religion accompanying the reduction in explicit religious identity and the increased perception that religion is largely old-fashioned and out of date.

## Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews with 1,029 national adults, aged 18 and older, conducted xMay 3-6, 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  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones (for respondents with a landline 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.

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## Americans' Outlook for U.S. Morality Remains Bleak

*Three-quarters say moral values in U.S. are getting worse*

May 17, 2010

Americans are three times more likely to describe the current state of moral values in the United States as "poor" than as "excellent" or "good." Americans' assessment of U.S. morality has never been positive, but the current ratings rank among the worst Gallup has measured over the past nine years.

*How would you rate the overall state of moral values in this country today - as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?*

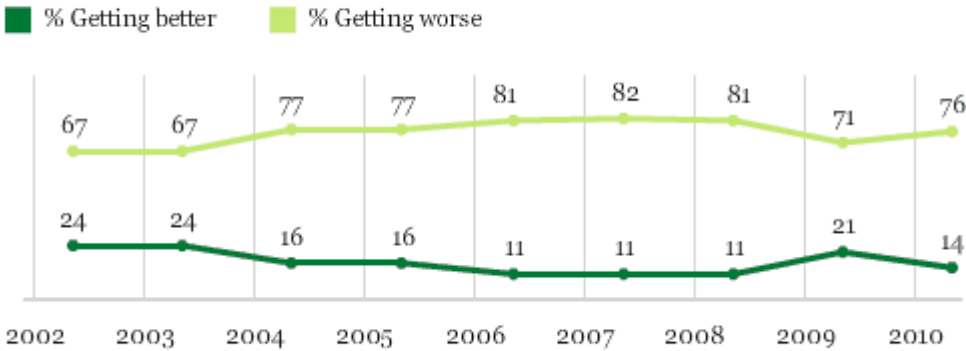
■ % Excellent/Good    ■ % Poor



GALLUP®

Additionally, Gallup's annual poll on moral values, conducted May 3-6, finds 76% of Americans saying moral values in the United States are getting worse; while 14% say they are getting better. Last year saw a slight improvement in these attitudes -- with 21% saying values were getting better -- but opinion has since reverted to near 2006-2008 levels.

*Right now, do you think the state of moral values in the country as a whole is getting better or getting worse?*



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To better understand what Americans mean when they say "moral values in the country" are getting worse, Gallup asks respondents who hold this view to describe some of the ways in which they see values deteriorating.

Most commonly, respondents see a lack of respect for other people and a more general decline in moral values and standards. But the responses are quite varied. Specifically, some blame the perceived decline on poor parenting -- specifically, parents not instilling proper values in their children. Some cite the poor examples of U.S. leaders in government and business who find themselves embroiled in ethical or moral scandals. And some reference larger societal factors, such as rising crime and violence, Americans turning away from God, church and religion, and the breakdown of the typical two-parent family.

Another theme permeating through the responses is blaming individuals themselves for the moral decline, either by not taking responsibility for their own behaviors (7%), not caring (6%), being out for themselves (4%), and for their greed (3%).

*In what ways do you see moral values in the country getting worse?*

[OPEN-ENDED]

Asked of those who say moral values in the United States are getting worse

	<b>% Mentioning</b>
Declining moral values, standards	15
Disrespect of others	15
Parents not instilling values in children/Not spending time with	8
Dishonesty among government, business leaders	8
Rising crime/violence	8
Moving away from religion/church/God	7
Breakdown of family/Unwed mothers	7
People not accountable/responsible for behavior	7
People don't care	6
TV content – cursing, sex, etc.	5
Sex/Promiscuity/Pornography	5
Government policies	4
Everyone is out for themselves	4
Abortion	3
The media	3
Greed	3
Gay/Lesbian relations	3
Lack of jobs	2
Teen pregnancy	2
Drugs	2
Illegal immigration	1
Computers/The Internet	1
Way teens/youth dress	1
Other	3
Nothing in particular (vol.)	2
No opinion	3

May 3-6 Gallup poll

GALLUP®

As noted, a small minority of 14% of Americans believe moral values are getting better. The most common examples members of this group cite include a better understanding of people

from different backgrounds and cultures -- including a decline in racism -- as well as Americans pulling together in tough times and helping those in need.

*In what ways do you see moral values in the country getting better?*

*[OPEN-ENDED]*

Asked of those who say moral values in the United States are getting better

	<b>% Mentioning</b>
Better understanding about other people and cultures/More diversity/Less racism	25
Americans are pulling together in tough times	25
People are more honest, responsible	9
Young people more involved, have better values	6
More religion/People turning to God	5
Economy is improving	5
Obama/Democrats improving the situation	4
Greater focus, priority on family	2
Parents more involved/Getting better at raising children	2
Other	5
Nothing in particular (vol.)	11
No opinion	7

May 3-6 Gallup poll

GALLUP®

Neither Republicans, Democrats, nor independents give very positive ratings of to the current state of U.S. moral values. The major party differences come in Republicans' and independents' greater tendency to rate moral values as poor and Democrats' greater likelihood to describe them as "only fair." This has been the basic pattern over the last several years.

*Ratings of Overall State of Moral Values in the United States, by Political Party*

	<b>% Excellent/Good</b>	<b>% Only fair</b>	<b>% Poor</b>
Democrats	19	45	35
Independents	16	34	48
Republicans	11	36	52

May 3-6 Gallup poll

**GALLUP**

Democrats are somewhat less negative about the trajectory of moral values -- 22% say values are getting better compared with 12% of Republicans and 9% of independents. Democrats are less optimistic this year compared with 36% who said values were getting better last year. The greater Democratic optimism in 2009 was likely a response to the change in presidential administration from Republican to Democrat.

**Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews with 1,029 national adults, aged 18 and older, conducted May 3-6, 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  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

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

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**White Gender Gap in Obama Approval Widens With Education**

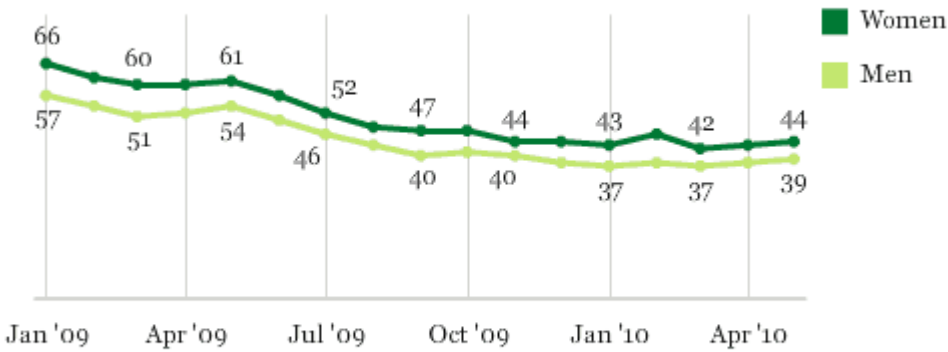
*Clinton trends suggest pattern may be typical for Democratic president*

May 21, 2010

Approval of President Barack Obama among white U.S. adults has held fairly steady around the 41% mark in 2010, after a gradual decline from 62% in January 2009. At the same time, a gender gap among whites, averaging six percentage points, has persisted throughout Obama's presidency. Thus far in May, his approval rating is 44% among white women vs. 39% among white men.

*Approval of President Barack Obama Among Whites, by Gender*

Based on monthly averages, in percentages ^



^ May 2010 figure based on data from May 1-19, 2010

**GALLUP**

The white gender gap in views of Obama is not evident among all demographic subgroups. Rather, there is a distinct socioeconomic cast to it. Gallup Daily data collected thus far in May find white men and white women with no college background holding similar views on Obama. The slight gender gap that exists among whites with some college experience (41% approval among women vs. 37% among men) expands moving up the educational ladder to 10 points among those with at least some postgraduate education.

The widening gender gap that occurs among whites as education increases is mainly the result of increasing approval among women at each educational threshold -- surging to 62% among postgraduates. By contrast, approval among white men is fairly steady up to the college graduate level, and then it increases significantly among postgraduates.

*Approval of Barack Obama -- Whites by Gender/Education*

May 1-19, 2010

	Men	Women	Gap
	%	%	Pct. pts.
High school graduate or less	36	38	-2
Some college	37	41	-4
College graduate	38	46	-8
Postgraduate	52	62	-10

**GALLUP**

One might ask how much these differences have to do with Obama himself -- as opposed to his Democratic Party affiliation. The ratings of President Bill Clinton provide some insight into this. In the fall of 1993, when Clinton's approval rating among whites (then 44%) was similar to Obama's today, approval for Clinton among whites ranged from 36% among men with a college

degree to 62% among postgraduate women -- almost identical to the pattern now seen for Obama.

*Approval of Bill Clinton -- Whites by Gender/Education*

September/November 1993

	<b>Men</b>	<b>Women</b>	<b>Gap</b>
	%	%	Pct. pts.
High school graduate or less	39	47	-8
Some college	39	44	-5
College graduate	36	49	-13
Postgraduate	49	62	-13

GALLUP®

By contrast, on average over the course of George W. Bush's entire presidency, approval of Bush among white men and women varied relatively little by education, although approval among men was consistently higher at each level.

*Approval of George W. Bush -- Whites by Gender/Education*

2001-2008

	<b>Men</b>	<b>Women</b>	<b>Gap</b>
	%	%	Pct. pts.
High school or less	61	55	+6
Some college	63	59	+4
College graduate	63	57	+6
Postgraduate	54	45	+9

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**Income Also Separates White Men and Women**

White men and women of different household income levels also differ in their reactions to Obama. His approval rating is similar among men and women in the lowest income group, but moves in opposite directions as household income increases. Approval among white men decreases with household income (up to the \$90,000 level) while approval among white women generally increases. The result is 12- to 13-point gender gaps in approval among upper-income whites.

## Approval of Barack Obama -- Whites by Gender/Income

May 1-19, 2010

	Men	Women	Gap
	%	%	Pct. pts.
Less than \$24,000	48	45	+3
\$24,000-\$59,999	41	43	-2
\$60,000-\$89,999	36	49	-13
\$90,000 or more	38	50	-12

GALLUP®

### Bottom Line

Approval of President Obama among whites (averaging 41% thus far in May) lags well behind that of all nonwhites (68%), and particularly that of blacks (91%). However, the gender differences among whites of different income and educational levels are quite large. These produce an approval range for Obama that spans from 36% among white males without a college education (as well as upper-middle-income white males) to 62% among postgraduate-educated women. While stark, the differences appear to be typical for a Democratic president.

### Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews with a random sample of 9,774 national adults, aged 18 and older, conducted May 1-19, 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  $\pm 1$  percentage point.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones (for respondents with a landline 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.

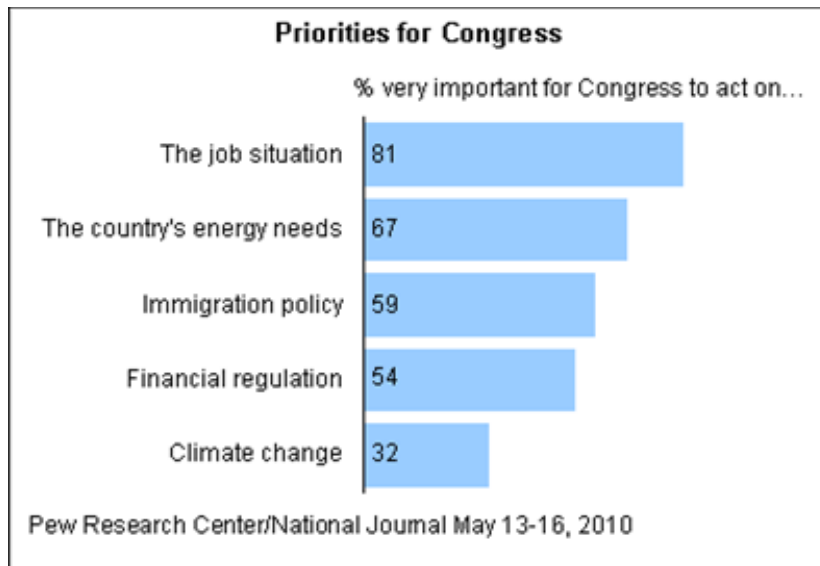
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### Public's Priorities for Congress: Jobs and Energy Top Immigration

#### *Congressional Connection Poll*

May 18, 2010

The public views tougher regulations on financial institutions as an important priority for Congress, but far more want Congress to take action on the job situation and energy policy. In thinking about financial regulation, as many say they worry that the government will go too far in regulating financial markets, making it harder for the economy to grow, as say they worry that the government will not go far enough, leaving the country at risk of another financial crisis.



Congress's overall job ratings remain abysmal. More generally, most Americans express little or no confidence in Washington to make progress over the next year on the biggest issues facing the country. Finally, Supreme Court nominee Elena Kagan, who began making the rounds on Capitol Hill last week, draws mixed ratings from the public, while nearly half offer no opinion about her Senate confirmation.

These are the principal findings from a new weekly survey with a special focus on the themes and issues directly related to Congress. The Pew Research/National Journal Congressional Connection Poll, sponsored by SHRM, will complement the Pew Research Center's ongoing comprehensive surveys on politics, the press, the economy and international affairs. The survey, conducted May 13-16 among 1,002 adults, also finds:

### Congress's Priorities -- Jobs, Energy

**Partisan Gaps over Congress's Priorities**

<i>Percent saying each</i>					<i>R-D</i>
<i>"very important" for Congress</i>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>diff</u>
<i>to act on in coming months...</i>	%	%	%	%	
Address job situation	81	81	84	80	-3
Address country's energy needs	67	61	75	64	-14
Address immigration policy	59	69	49	61	+20
Stricter regulation of fin. institutions	54	40	65	53	-25
Address climate change	32	17	47	29	-30

Pew Research Center/National Journal May 13-16, 2010.

- 81% say it is very important for Congress to address the job situation over the coming months, reflecting consistent concern among the public about the economy's large job losses. There is no significant difference across party lines.

- 67% say it is very important for Congress to address the nation's energy needs, including 75% of Democrats, 64% of independents and 61% of Republicans.
- 59% say that addressing immigration policy is very important, with Republicans 20 points more likely to say this than Democrats (69% vs. 49%).
- Only about a third (32%) says it is very important for Congress to address climate change in the coming months, including 47% of Democrats, 29% of independents and 17% of Republicans. This is consistent with earlier Pew Research surveys that show the public putting a relatively low priority on addressing climate change.

### Concerns about Stricter Financial Regulations

<i>Thinking about fin. reg., worry more that...</i>	<u>Total</u> %	<u>Rep</u> %	<u>Dem</u> %	<u>Ind</u> %
Gov't will go too far, making it hard for economy to grow	46	63	27	52
Gov't will not go far enough, leaving risk of new financial crisis	44	31	60	38
Don't know	<u>11</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>10</u>
	100	100	100	100

Pew Research Center/National Journal May 13-16, 2010.  
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

- 54% say it is very important for Congress to act on stricter regulations for financial institutions and markets; 65% of Democrats see this as very important, compared with 53% of independents and 40% of Republicans.
- When asked what worries them more about financial regulation, 46% say their greater concern is that the government will go too far in regulating financial institutions and markets, making it harder for the economy to grow while 44% say they worry more that the government will not go far enough, leaving the country at risk of another financial crisis.
- 63% of Republicans say they are more concerned that the government will go too far in regulating financial institutions, while 60% of Democrats say they are more worried the government will not go far enough.

### Continued Weak Ratings for Congress

<b>Job Ratings for Congress, Obama</b>				
<i>Job rating for Congress...</i>	Excellent/ <u>Good</u> %	Only <u>fair</u> %	<u>Poor</u> %	<u>DK</u> %
Total	13	38	44	5=100
Republican	8	32	57	4=100
Democrat	23	49	23	5=100
Independent	8	33	55	4=100
<i>Job rating for Obama...</i>				
Total	39	31	27	3=100
Republican	12	32	54	3=100
Democrat	67	28	4	1=100
Independent	32	34	30	4=100

Pew Research Center/National Journal May 13-16, 2010.  
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

- 13% say Congress is doing an excellent or good job, while 38% say it is doing only fair and 44% rate Congress's job performance as poor. These ratings are largely unchanged from mid-March, when 17% said Congress was doing an excellent or good job.
- Republicans and independents give Congress equally negative job ratings. Majorities of Republicans (57%) and independents (55%) say Congress does a poor job.
- Even among Democrats, only about a quarter (23%) says Congress does an excellent or good job.
- 39% say Barack Obama is doing an excellent or good job, which is virtually unchanged from 40% in mid-March; 31% rate the job he is doing as only fair, while 27% say poor.

### Little Confidence Government Will Make Progress

<b>Little Confidence in Federal Government</b>				
<i>Confidence gov't will make progress on important issues...</i>	<u>Total</u> %	<u>Rep</u> %	<u>Dem</u> %	<u>Ind</u> %
A lot of confidence	10	4	18	6
Some confidence	32	18	48	29
Not much confidence	31	41	24	32
No confidence at all	25	37	7	32
Don't Know	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100

Pew Research Center/National Journal May 13-16, 2010.  
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

- Just 10% say they have a lot of confidence that the government in Washington will make progress over the next year on the most important issues facing the country; 32% say they have some confidence, 31% say not much and 25% say no confidence at all.

- About two-thirds of Democrats (66%) have at least some confidence the government will make progress on major issues over the next year. That compares with 35% of independents and just 22% of Republicans.

### Mixed Views of Kagan

	<i>Roberts*</i> <u>Sep 2005</u>	<i>Miers</i> <u>Oct 2005</u>	<i>Alito*</i> <u>Nov 2005</u>	<i>Sotomayor*</i> <u>Jun 2009</u>	<i>Kagan</i> <u>May 2010</u>
<i>Should Senate confirm to court?</i>	%	%	%	%	%
Should	35	33	40	50	33
Should not	19	27	23	25	21
Don't know	<u>46</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>46</u>
	100	100	100	100	100

Pew Research Center/National Journal May 13-16, 2010.  
\* Survey conducted closest to nomination.

- Initial reactions to Elena Kagan's nomination to the Supreme Court are comparable to public views about the nomination of John G. Roberts to be the court's chief justice in September 2005. Currently, 33% say the Senate should confirm Kagan, 21% are opposed, while 46% have no opinion.
- 54% of Democrats say Kagan should be confirmed, compared with 19% of Republicans and 28% of independents. There is no gender gap in reactions to Kagan's nomination; 34% of women and 31% of men say she should be confirmed.

<i>Should Senate confirm to court?</i>	<u>Yes</u> %	<u>No</u> %	<u>DK</u> %
Total	33	21	46=100
Men	31	21	44=100
Women	34	17	48=100
College grad+	42	19	39=100
Some college	32	17	51=100
HS or less	28	24	48=100
Republican	19	35	46=100
Democrat	54	11	36=100
Independent	28	22	51=100

Pew Research Center/National Journal  
May 13-16, 2010. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

## Smoking and Age: The Baby Boomer Bulge

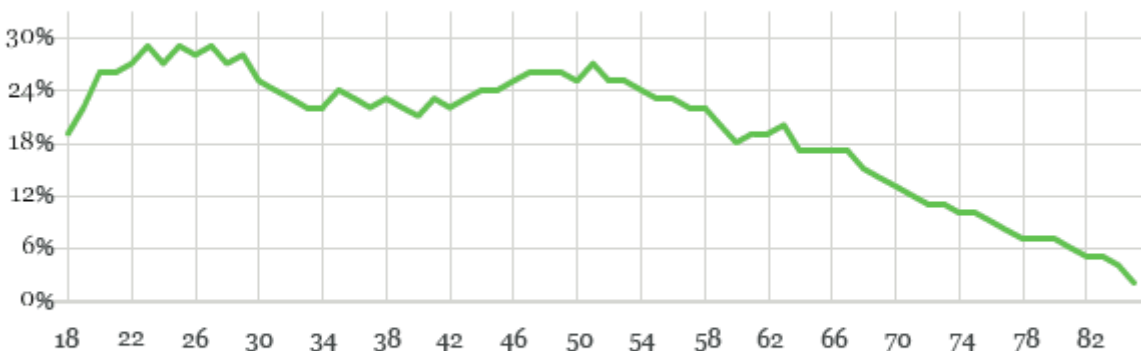
*Men more likely than women and blacks more likely than whites or Hispanics to smoke*

May 20, 2010

Older Americans are generally less likely than those who are younger to report that they smoke, but the age/smoking relationship is not uniform. Smoking is higher among younger baby boomers between the ages of 44 and 54 than it is among those in their 30s and those 55 and older.

### Smoking by Age

■ % Who smoke



2009

Gallup-Healthyways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

These statistics are based on responses to the question "Do you smoke?" asked of more than 350,000 Americans, aged 18 and older, in 2009 as part of the Gallup-Healthyways Well-Being Index. This large aggregate sample size provides a more detailed portrait of the relationship between smoking and age than is usually available from the government or from other sources.

The general conclusion that smoking is less prevalent among older Americans has been well-established. Gallup data, however, demonstrate that this drop in smoking is not uniformly lower as age increases, but it is a pattern that has specific variations across the age spectrum.

Of particular interest is the finding that baby boomers between the ages of 44 and 54 report higher levels of smoking than either those immediately younger or those who are older.

After peaking in the high 20% range for Americans in their 20s, smoking rates drop to 21% at age 40. After that point, instead of continuing to drop, smoking prevalence rises, climbing back to 27% among Americans age 51. Smoking then decreases again, eventually reaching 20% among those age 59, and typically well below that for those age 60 and older.

It is not clear why smoking bumps up among 44- to 54-year-old Americans. These individuals, for the most part born between 1956 and 1966, are at the tail end of the baby boom (usually classified by demographers as those born between 1946 and 1964). They would have moved through their teenage years -- when most smokers begin their habit -- in the 1970s and early 1980s. It is not clear what happened during this time period that might have resulted in a higher rate of taking up the smoking habit. Or, it may be that something more general about life for Americans within the 44-to-54-year age range, such as children growing up and leaving the home, is more conducive to smoking.

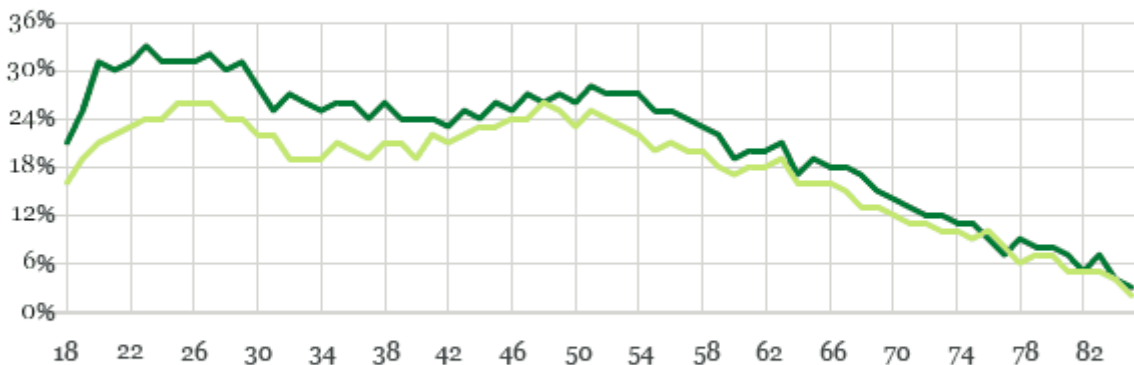
### Men More Likely Than Women to Smoke at Almost Every Age

Men are more likely to report smoking than women at almost every age point, although both genders follow the same upward and downward smoking patterns across the age spectrum. The gender gap is particularly large for Americans who are now in their 20s and 30s.

*Smoking by Gender*

% Who smoke

■ Men ■ Women



2009

Gallup-Healthyways Well-Being Index

GALLUP®

The increased rate of smoking among young baby boomers is evident among women. The highest rate of smoking among women -- 26% -- occurs not only in their 20s, but also among women at age 48.

The highest rate of smoking among men occurs at age 23, when about a third report smoking. Unlike women, the rate of smoking among men never again breaks the 30% barrier even among those in their 40s and early 50s, though it is higher for men in this age range than for men in their 30s.

### Across Age Spectrum, Smoking More Prevalent Among Black Americans

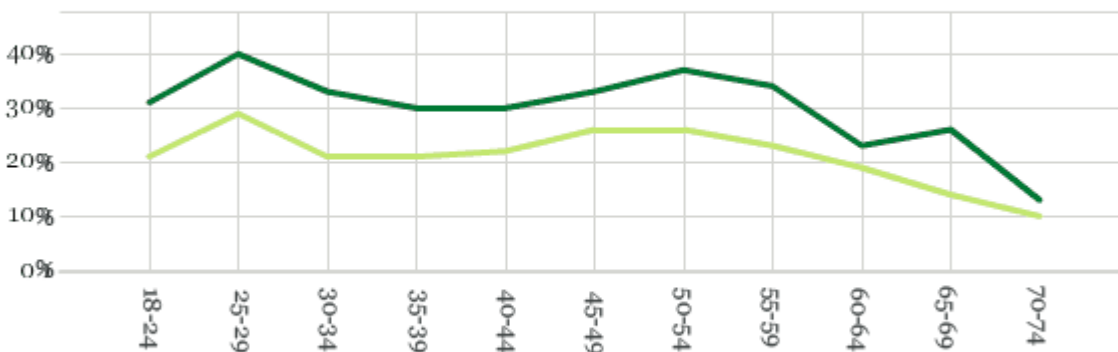
Black Americans are more likely than whites or Hispanics to smoke at most age points, with the largest gap among those in their 50s. Hispanics are less likely to smoke than whites or blacks at all age points up until about age 70.

Smoking is particularly prevalent among black men, reaching 40% among those aged 25 to 29, and stays at or above the 30% level up until age 60.

### Smoking by Gender and Race -- Blacks Only

% Who smoke

Men Women



2009

Gallup-Healthyways Well-Being Index

GALLUP

### Implications

The average level of adult smoking in 2009 across the 353,849 interviews conducted in Gallup Healthways' daily interviewing was 21%.

This average represents substantial differences in smoking across age groups. Smoking is significantly below average among Americans currently in their 60s, 70s, and 80s, while above average at most age points between 18 and 59.

The drop-off in smoking rates among older Americans no doubt has multiple causes. One unfortunate epidemiological truth arises from the fact that older Americans who persist in the habit are more likely than those who don't smoke to have died, leaving nonsmokers as an increasingly higher percentage of the older population. It may also be that older Americans stop smoking as its associated health problems become more manifest, and/or that older Americans have become more health conscious and thus more likely to take heed of warnings about the deleterious effects of smoking.

That smoking rates are lower among Americans in their 30s and early 40s than those currently in the 44-to-54-year age range provides an interesting causal puzzle. There may be cohort explanations focusing on the specific social or political environment those born in the late 1950s and early 1960s encountered as they grew up. Or it could be that something about the life

circumstances of those in their late 40s and early 50s is more conducive to smoking. The Gallup and Healthways Daily tracking project began in January 2008, so there are no comparable historical data to use to analyze smoking patterns across individual ages from decades ago, which could have helped to determine if this is a recurring pattern.

Of interest will be the fate of these 44- to 54-year-old smokers as they continue to age. Will this smoking "bulge" continue to move through the age pipeline in the years ahead? Will this age cohort begin to smoke less frequently as they age? Will Americans now in their 30s begin to increase in smoking incidence as they move into the 44-to-54-year age range?

### **Survey Methods**

For Gallup Daily tracking, Gallup interviews approximately 1,000 national adults, aged 18 and older, each day. The Gallup smoking results are based on the aggregated sample of 353,849 national adults, aged 18 and older, interviewed in 2009. For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 1$  percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline 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.

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### **Conservatives Most Enthusiastic About Voting in 2010 Midterm**

*Nearly half say they are very enthusiastic*

May 18, 2010

Registered voters who identify themselves as conservatives are significantly more enthusiastic about voting in this fall's congressional elections than are liberals or moderates. Those who say they are "very" conservative are the most enthusiastic of all, with substantially higher enthusiasm than those who say they are "very" liberal.

### *How Enthusiastic About Voting in 2010 Midterm Elections, by Political Ideology*

Would you say you are enthusiastic or not enthusiastic about voting in this year's congressional elections?

[IF "ENTHUSIASTIC," PROBE: Are you very enthusiastic or somewhat enthusiastic?]

	<b>% Very enthusiastic</b>	<b>% Somewhat enthusiastic</b>	<b>% Not enthusiastic</b>
Total conservative	45	22	30
Moderate	22	24	50
Total liberal	26	29	42
Very conservative	62	17	20
Conservative	40	24	34
Moderate	22	24	50
Liberal	21	32	45
Very liberal	44	19	32

May 1-16 Gallup Daily tracking

#### GALLUP'

These data are based on Gallup Daily interviewing May 1-16. Gallup's generic ballot throughout May has been closely divided, with roughly the same proportion of all registered voters saying they would vote for the Republican versus the Democratic candidate in their district. Thus, at this point, it appears turnout among supporters of both parties' candidates will be an important factor in the eventual Election Day outcome.

#### **Enthusiasm on the "Left" and "Right"**

Gallup data since March of this year have consistently shown that Republicans are more enthusiastic about voting than Democrats. The data presented here on ideology confirm the conclusion that, at this time in the campaign, those to the right of the political spectrum appear to be most motivated to turn out and vote on Nov. 2.

The challenge for those on the political left is that, not only are there proportionately few self-identified liberals -- 20% of registered voters interviewed so far in May identify as liberals, compared to 42% who say they are conservatives -- but liberals remain relatively apathetic about voting. The 26% of liberals who say they are very enthusiastic about voting is similar to the percent of those who don't lean either direction ideologically speaking (moderates) who say the same, and at a far lower level than those who are conservative.

A relatively small percentage of registered voters define themselves as "very" conservative (10%) or "very" liberal (4%). Despite their modest size overall, these voters could have a disproportionate influence on Election Day. They are significantly more enthusiastic about voting than those who share the same ideological identity, but who do not use the adjective

"very" to describe their leanings. In short, those who have very strong ideological commitments are also the most eager to register that commitment through voting on Election Day this year.

### **Conservatives More Enthusiastic Regardless of Party Affiliation**

The higher enthusiasm among conservatives is evident among both conservative Republicans and conservative Democrats. However, conservative Republicans are still much more enthusiastic than conservative Democrats. Conservatives who support either party are more enthusiastic about voting than moderates or liberals who support either party, as well as the largely apolitical group of "pure independents" who do not identify with or lean to either major party.

*How Enthusiastic About Voting in 2010 Midterm Elections, by Combined Party and Political Ideology*

	<b>% Very enthusiastic</b>	<b>% Somewhat enthusiastic</b>	<b>% Not enthusiastic</b>
Conservative Republican	50	21	28
Liberal or Moderate Republican	25	18	55
Pure independent	20	23	52
Conservative Democrat	33	25	39
Moderate Democrat	20	28	47
Liberal Democrat	26	33	38

May 1-16 Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP®

### **Bottom Line**

Ideology at this point in the election cycle appears to be a major driver of enthusiasm about voting in this fall's congressional election. Conservatives are significantly more enthusiastic than liberals or moderates, and those Americans who define themselves as "very" conservative -- about 10% of the registered voter population -- are the most enthusiastic of all.

These data underscore the potential power of conservatives at the ballot box this fall -- including those who identify with the highly-publicized Tea Party movement. The generic ballot currently shows an overall close candidate preference among all registered voters right now in the election cycle, but in low-turnout midterm elections disproportionate enthusiasm, such as is the case now, could give right-leaning candidates a significant boost in terms of actual voters at the polls.

### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone interviews with a random sample of 3,594 registered voters, aged 18 and older, conducted May 1-16, 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  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

For results based on the sample of 1,577 registered voters who self-identify as conservative, the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 3$  percentage points.

For results based on the sample of 1,221 registered voters who self-identify as moderate, the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

For results based on the sample of 691 registered voters who self-identify as liberal, the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones (for respondents with a landline 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.

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### **Most Americans Endorse Terrorist Expatriation Act**

May 20, 2010

A large proportion of people in the United States would support a proposed law that would strip all Americans with links to terrorist organizations of their U.S. citizenship, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 77 per cent of respondents approve of the bill currently being discussed in Congress.

Last May 1, Faisal Shahzad, a 30-year-old Pakistani holding American citizenship tried to trigger a car bomb in New York City's Times Square. Shahzad is facing charges of terrorism and attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction.

Independent senator Joseph Lieberman and Republican congressman Scott Brown have introduced the Terrorist Expatriation Act, which aims to revoke the citizenship of any American who provides "material support or resources to a foreign terrorist organization" or who engages in or "purposefully and materially" supports "hostilities against the United States."

Lieberman defended the bill, saying, "It's one thing to belong to a club, even a political group, that I might think is radical here in the United States. But when you join a foreign terrorist organization as designated by the United States Department of State, that's not your freedom of association. You've joined a group, one of whose central purposes is to bring down America, to ruin our security, to change our way of life, and I think when you do that you've essentially said: I don't want to be an American citizen anymore."

### **Polling Data**

As you may know, Faisal Shahzad, a 30-year-old Pakistan-born resident of Bridgeport, Connecticut, who had become a U.S. citizen in 2009, has been charged with terrorism and attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction over the May 1 car bombing attempt in Times Square. A bill that is being discussed in Congress proposes that all Americans affiliated with a

foreign terrorist group be stripped of their U.S. citizenship. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of this bill?

Approve	77%
Disapprove	12%
Not sure	11%

*Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion*

*Methodology: Online interviews with 1,016 American adults, conducted on May 13 to May 14, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.*

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## **Canadians Back New Rules for Criminal Pardons**

May 19, 2010

The recent proposal to modify the rules regarding criminal pardons is supported by a large proportion of Canadians, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 81 per cent of respondents agree with the bill recently introduced by Canadian public safety minister Vic Toews.

The bill proposes that sex offenders who have abused children and people convicted of more than three serious crimes should not be able to get a government pardon. With a pardon, offenders can apply to have their criminal record removed after serving their sentence.

On May 11, Toews introduced the legislation, saying, "As all of you are aware, the pardon of convicted sex offender Graham James was deeply offensive to Canadians, to victims and to our government. It demonstrated the need to take action to prevent such an outrage from happening again and to ensure our system of justice is not brought into disrepute."

James—a hockey coach—pleaded guilty in 1997 to sexual assault and was sentenced to three and a half years in prison. He was issued a pardon in 2007.

### **Polling Data**

As you may know, Public Safety Minister Vic Toews introduced a bill in Parliament proposing that sex offenders who have abused children and people convicted of more than three serious crimes should not be able to get a government pardon. With a pardon, offenders can apply to have their criminal record removed after serving their sentence. Overall, do you agree or disagree with the proposed bill?

Agree	81%
Disagree	15%
Not sure	4%

*Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion*

*Methodology: Online interviews with 1,013 Canadian adults, conducted from May 14 to May 16, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.*

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## LATIN AMERICA

### President Calderón Gains Two Points in Mexico

May 19, 2010

Public support for Felipe Calderón remains stable in Mexico, according to a poll by Consulta Mitofsky. 55.5 per cent of respondents agree with the way their president is governing, up 2.1 points since February.

Mexican voters chose their new president in July 2006. Official results placed Calderón of the conservative National Action Party (PAN) as the winner with 36.68 per cent of all cast ballots. Calderón—a former energy secretary—took over as Mexico's head of state in December. During his campaign, he vowed to combat illicit drug trafficking and drug-related crime, as well as to boost Mexico's economy.

Mexico held a mid-term legislative election in July 2009. The opposition Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) received 36.68 per cent of the vote, compared to 27.98 per cent for the PAN. The number of PAN lawmakers in the Chamber of Deputies was decimated from 206 to 146. The PRI now controls 241 seats in the 500-member lower house, plus 17 seats from its ally, the Green Environmentalist Party (PVEM).

Earlier this month, Diego Fernández de Cevallos—the PAN's presidential candidate in the 1994 election—was apparently kidnapped in his ranch, located in the State of Querétaro. PAN national leader César Nava expressed concern over the situation, saying, "We hope to have him with us safe and sound."

#### Polling Data

Do you agree or disagree with the way Felipe Calderón is governing?

	<b>Apr. 2010</b>	<b>Feb. 2010</b>	<b>Jan. 2010</b>
Agree	55.5%	53.4%	52.4%
Disagree	42.3%	44.2%	45.7%

*Source: Consulta Mitofsky*

*Methodology: Face-to-face interviews with 1,000 Mexican adults, conducted from Apr. 24 to Apr. 29, 2010. Margin of error is 3.5 per cent.*

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### Mockus Jumps to First Place in Colombia

May 20, 2010

Former Bogota mayor Antanas Mockus is now leading the presidential race in Colombia, according to a poll by Datexco released by *El Tiempo* and W Radio. 32.8 per cent of respondents would vote for Mockus of the Green Party (PV) in this month's ballot, up eight points since early April.

Former defence minister Juan Manuel Santos of the U Party (U) is in second place with 29.3 per cent, followed by Gustavo Petro of the Democratic Pole (PD) with 7.5 per cent, Noemí Sanín of

the Conservative Party (PC) with 5.6 per cent, and Germán Vargas Lleras of Radical Change (CR) with 4.3 per cent. Support is lower for Rafael Pardo of the Liberal Party (PL) and Jaime Araújo Rentería of the Social Indigenous Alliance (ASA).

In a run-off scenario, Mockus holds a 14.3 point lead over Santos.

Álvaro Uribe has been Colombia's president since August 2002. In the May 2006 election, he won a new four-year term with 62.2 per cent of all cast ballots. He was able to run again after pro-Uribe lawmakers in the House of Representatives and the Constitutional Court officially sanctioned a plan to allow immediate presidential re-election. After issuing its ruling, the court warned that the clause was not valid for the unlimited re-election of the head of state.

A group of Uribe supporters gathered enough signatures to call a nationwide referendum on whether the current president should be allowed to run for re-election again this year. In September 2009, Congress approved the referendum bill in a late-night vote boycotted by members of the opposition. In February 2010, the Constitutional Court voted 7-2 against the referendum proposal. Uribe said he "accepted" and "respected" the court's decision.

Immediately after the ruling, Santos confirmed that he would become a presidential candidate for the U Party, which borrows his name from the first letter of the current president's name.

On Mar. 14, Colombians voted in legislative elections. The U Party garnered the most votes, followed by the pro-Uribe Conservatives and the opposition Liberals.

The PC has supported the Uribe administration since the beginning of his first term. The party did not nominate a candidate to stand against Uribe in the 2006 election. However, this time the PC has Sanín standing against Santos. Both are running on a platform of continuing with Uribe's policies.

Earlier this month, Venezuelan president Hugo Chávez said that, if Santos wins the presidential election, he "will freeze all commercial ties with Colombia." Santos commented on the remarks, saying, "Such statements are intended to prevent my victory in Colombian elections, for several reasons."

The presidential election is scheduled for May 30. If no candidate garners more than 50 per cent of the vote, a run-off must take place.

Read our analysis on Colombia's upcoming presidential election

### **Polling Data**

If a presidential election took place tomorrow, which of the following candidates would you vote for?

	<b>May 13</b>	<b>Apr. 8</b>	<b>Mar. 23</b>
Antanas Mockus (PV)	32.8%	24.8%	8.9%
Juan Manuel Santos (U)	29.3%	29.5%	34.1%
Gustavo Petro (PD)	7.5%	3.1%	7.1%
Noemí Sanín (PC)	5.6%	16.4%	21.7%

Germán Vargas Lleras (CR)	4.3%	3.0%	6.6%
Rafael Pardo (PL)	3.1%	5.2%	5.5%
Jaime Araújo Rentería (ASA)	0.4%	--	--
Sergio Fajardo (Ind.)	n.a.	n.a.	4.4%
Blank / Other / Undecided	17.0%	18.0%	11.0%

*Run-off scenario*

Antanas Mockus (PV) 47.9% - 33.6% Juan Manuel Santos (U)

*Source: Datexco / El Tiempo / W Radio*

*Methodology: Interviews with 1,200 Colombian adults, conducted from May 11 to May 13, 2010. Margin of error is 2.9 per cent.*

## **Lula Remains Immensely Popular in Brazil**

May 18, 2010

Public support for Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva continues to grow as he heads to the final days of his tenure, according to a poll by Instituto Sensus. 83.7 per cent of respondents approve of Lula's performance as president, up two points since January.

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 May 14, Lula invited Russia to play a role in the growth of Brazil's oil industry, saying, "New oil fields have recently been found and explored and now we are exerting great efforts to revive the Brazilian ship-building industry and develop transportation routes. All of this is possible in terms of developing Russian-Brazilian co-operation."

The first round of Brazil's next presidential election is scheduled for Oct. 3.

### **Polling Data**

Do you approve or disapprove of Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's performance as president?

	<b>May 2010</b>	<b>Jan. 2010</b>	<b>Nov. 2009</b>
Approve	83.7%	81.7%	78.9%
Disapprove	13.1%	13.9%	14.6%

Source: Instituto Sensus

Methodology: Interviews with 2,000 Brazilian adults, conducted from May 10 to May 14, 2010.

Margin of error is 3 per cent.

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## AUSTRALASIA

### PM Rudd Losing Appeal for Australians

May 18, 2010

The popularity of Australian prime minister Kevin Rudd has taken a hard blow, according to a poll by Newspoll published in *The Australian*. 50 per cent of respondents are dissatisfied with Rudd's performance, up nine points since mid-April.

Satisfaction with opposition leader Tony Abbott remains stable at 45 per cent. 50 per cent of respondents say Rudd would make a better prime minister than Abbott, down six points in less than a month. Abbott is preferred by 32 per cent of respondents, up three points.

Australia held a federal election in November 2007. Final results gave the Australian Labor Party (ALP) 85 seats in the 150-member House of Representatives. ALP leader Rudd was officially sworn in as prime minister in December, bringing an end to the 11-year tenure of Liberal leader John Howard as head of Australia's government.

Howard failed to retain his seat in the Bennelong constituency and stepped down as Liberal leader. Since their electoral defeat in 2007, the Liberals have had three different leaders: former defence minister Brendan Nelson, former environment minister Malcolm Turnbull, and former health minister Abbott, who defeated Turnbull in an internal leadership ballot by just one vote in December 2009.

On May 10, Abbott commented on the prime minister's sagging popularity, declaring, "I think there is a developing crisis of confidence about Kevin Rudd's capacity to govern effectively."

### Polling Data

Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Kevin Rudd is doing his job as prime minister?

	May 2	Apr. 18	Mar. 28
Satisfied	39%	50%	51%
Dissatisfied	50%	41%	39%
Uncommitted	11%	9%	10%

Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Tony Abbott is doing his job as leader of the opposition?

	May 2	Apr. 18	Mar. 28
Satisfied	45%	46%	44%
Dissatisfied	43%	40%	43%

Uncommitted	12%	14%	13%
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Who do you think would make the better prime minister?

	<b>May 2</b>	<b>Apr. 18</b>	<b>Mar. 28</b>
Kevin Rudd (ALP)	50%	56%	59%
Tony Abbott (Lib.)	32%	29%	27%
Uncommitted	18%	15%	14%

*Source: Newspoll / The Australian*

*Methodology: Telephone interviews with 1,161 Australian voters, conducted from Apr. 30 to May 2, 2010. Margin of error is 3 per cent.*

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## **MULTI-COUNTRY POLLS**

### **Country's Leadership Matters to Potential Migrants**

*Countries attract those who already approve of leadership*

May 21, 2010

Potential migrants who would like to move to the United States are more likely to approve of U.S. leadership than those who would prefer to move to the world's top 15 desired destinations. Those who aspire to move to South Africa are the sole exception.

### *Potential Migrants' Approval of U.S. Leadership*

By the country they would like to move to

<b>Desired destination country</b>	<b>% Approve of U.S. leadership</b>	<b>% Disapprove of U.S. leadership</b>	<b>% Don't know/Refused</b>
United States	65	19	16
Other top 15 desired destinations	51	34	15
South Africa	79	16	5
United Kingdom	59	27	14
France	51	38	11
Canada	50	40	10
Japan	43	42	15
Germany	42	42	17
Australia	41	45	15
Italy	41	43	16
Singapore	39	35	26
Switzerland	39	45	16
Spain	38	44	19
United Arab Emirates	35	53	12
Russia	28	46	25
Saudi Arabia	27	54	18

Based on surveys conducted in 148 countries between 2007 and 2009. Results among adults who would like to move to one of the top 15 desired destinations and approve or disapprove of the leadership of the United States are based on a subsample of 49,651.

#### **GALLUP®**

Gallup surveys in 148 countries between 2007 and 2009 reveal that potential migrants -- those who say they would permanently relocate to another country if they could -- generally give higher approval ratings to the leadership of the country they would like to move to than those who want to move to other countries. This is true among migrants who would like to move to the United States -- the No. 1 desired destination worldwide -- and six other top destination countries that Gallup asked adults to rate the leadership of, including Canada, the United Kingdom, Japan, Russia, France, and Germany.

*Potential Migrants' Desired Destinations and Leadership Approval in Those Countries*

	<b>Sample size</b>	<b>% Approve of country's leadership</b>	<b>% Disapprove of country's leadership</b>	<b>% Don't know/ Refused</b>
Would like to move to the United States	16,220	65%	19%	16%
Would like to move to other top 15 countries	33,431	45%	41%	15%
Would like to move to Canada	3,330	77%	9%	14%
Would like to move to other top 15 countries	30,225	52%	18%	31%
Would like to move to United Kingdom	4,383	68%	15%	17%
Would like to move to other top 15 countries	42,682	47%	28%	25%
Would like to move to France	4,464	65%	19%	16%
Would like to move to other top 15 countries	41,381	47%	24%	29%
Would like to move to Germany	2,771	71%	11%	18%
Would like to move to other top 15 countries	43,130	49%	22%	29%
Would like to move to Russia	1,888	80%	7%	13%
Would like to move to other top 15 countries	42,604	35%	35%	29%
Would like to move to Japan	1,247	71%	13%	16%
Would like to move to other top 15 countries	45,719	51%	21%	28%

Total subsample size = 53,740

Potential migrants who would like to move to South Africa are more likely than those who want to move to the United States to approve of U.S. leadership, but the group's tendency to give high ratings to the leadership of the seven countries tested may explain this. Prospective migrants who want to move to South Africa tend to mostly hail from sub-Saharan Africa, where Gallup has historically found high approval ratings of the leadership of many countries.

Except for those who want to move to the United States, potential migrants also tend to be more likely to express an opinion about of the job performance of the leadership in their "dream country" than those who want to migrate somewhere else. For example, among prospective migrants who want to move to Canada -- the No. 2 desired destination in the world -- 14% say they don't have an opinion of the country's leadership, compared with 31% among those who want to move to any of the other top 15 desired destination countries.

### **Bottom Line**

Overall, a country's leadership matters in the global dialogue about migration. Gallup's research shows many of the top-desired destination countries appear to attract potential migrants with two traits that are desirable for future citizens -- they not only are more likely to already approve of the country's leadership, but they also tend to be more likely to already know something about it.

### **Survey Methods**

Results are based on telephone and face-to-face interviews with 347,713 adults across multiple administrations of surveys in 148 countries between 2007 and 2009. Results among adults who would like to move one of the top 15 countries are based on a subsample of 53,740. Sample sizes among potential migrants who would like to migrate to a specific country and approve or disapprove of the leadership of the seven countries tested range from 149 to 16,220.

One can say with 95% confidence that the margin of sampling error for the populations studied in this analysis, accounting for weighting and sample design, ranges from less than  $\pm 1$  percentage point to  $\pm 9.8$  percentage points.

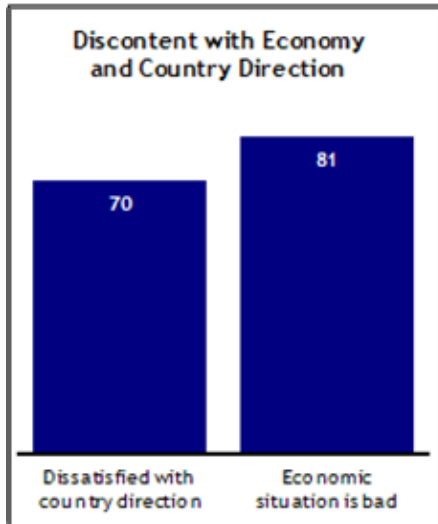
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## **Czechs' Commitment to Free Markets and Democracy Stays Strong Amidst Troubled Economic and Political Waters**

May 19, 2010

A fall 2009 survey by the Pew Research Center's Global Attitudes Project found broad-based Czech discontent with the country's economic situation and the way democracy is working. Nonetheless, the data also showed a strong commitment among Czechs to free markets and democratic values. Moreover, Czechs ranked high among their peers in the region in terms of happiness with the transition to free market economics and multiparty politics.

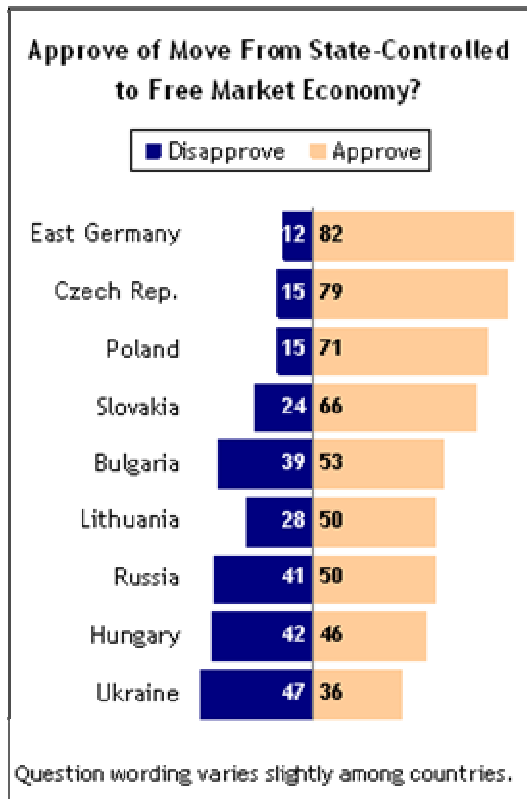
### **Broad Dissatisfaction with Country Direction and Economy**



As of fall 2009, seven-in-ten (70%) Czechs were dissatisfied with the way things were going in their country. Roughly eight-in-ten (81%) described the current economic situation in the Czech Republic as somewhat or very bad, with many (32%) saying very bad.

Czech economic discontent is consistent with public sentiment throughout the region: majorities in all former Eastern bloc countries polled rated their current economic situation as bad. This view was particularly widespread in Hungary (94%), Lithuania (93%) and Ukraine (91%) while least common, but still prevalent, in Russia (68%) and Poland (59%).

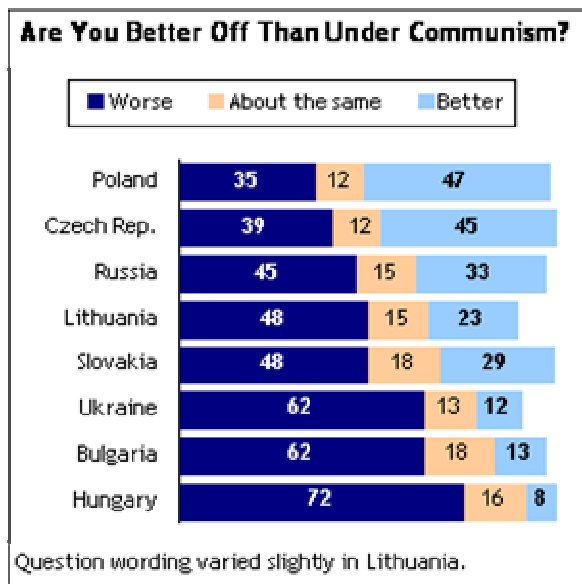
### **Support for Free Markets**



Despite its recent drop in economic growth and rise in unemployment and inflation, nearly eight-in-ten (79%) Czechs approved of the change from a state-controlled to a free market economy in the post-communist period. Of the other publics surveyed in the region, only east Germans (82%) rivaled Czechs in their support for free markets.

Czech enthusiasm for free markets is only slightly less widespread now than in the immediate aftermath of the collapse of communism. In a 1991 Times Mirror Center (the forerunner to the Pew Research Center) survey conducted just months before the dissolution of the Soviet Union, 87% of Czechs approved of the change to a capitalist economic system.

Support for free markets has also barely changed since the early 1990s in Russia (-4 percentage points), East Germany (-4 points) and Slovakia (-3 points). By contrast, capitalism is far less favored now in Hungary (-34 points), Lithuania (-26 points), Bulgaria (-20 points) and Ukraine (-16 points).



Still, Czechs are divided as to whether open markets have yet to deliver benefits to the average person. When asked to consider whether the economic situation for most people today is better, worse or about the same as it was under communism, 45% of Czechs said better while 39% said worse. Even so, the Czech Republic and Poland stand apart from other former communist states in that they were the only countries in which a plurality said people are better off today economically than under communism.

In another sign of Czech support for free markets, 63% agreed that people are better off in a free market economy, even though some people may be rich while others are poor; 33% disagreed. Only the Poles (70%) registered greater enthusiasm for free markets in general, though Slovaks (56%) and Russians (52%) were not far behind.

### **Dissatisfaction with Democracy and Politics in Practice**

When asked to assess the current state of democracy in their country, roughly half (49%) in the Czech Republic said they were satisfied with how it was working while about half (49%) said they were dissatisfied. Among publics in the region, only Poles (53%) and Slovaks (50%) were generally as satisfied with democracy in their country, while discontent dominated in Lithuania (60% dissatisfied), Russia (61%), Ukraine (70%), Bulgaria (76%) and Hungary (77%).

<b>A Democracy Gap: Democracy in Theory vs. Reality</b>			
	Is very important	Describes our country very well	Diff.
	%	%	
Fair judiciary	78	5	-73
Free media	66	17	-49
Civ. control military	36	12	-24
Free speech	47	27	-20
Multiparty elections	57	48	-9
Free religion	46	59	+13

But Czechs also saw a gap between most of the democratic values they embrace and the political realities in their country. Nearly eight-in-ten (78%) in the Czech Republic considered it very important to live in a country "where there is a judicial system that treats everyone in the same way." Solid majorities of Czechs also said it is very important to reside in a country with a free media (66%) and multiparty elections (57%), while nearly half held the same view about freedom of speech (47%) and religion (46%). Slightly more than one-third (36%) said it is very important to live in a country "where the military is under the control of civilian leaders."

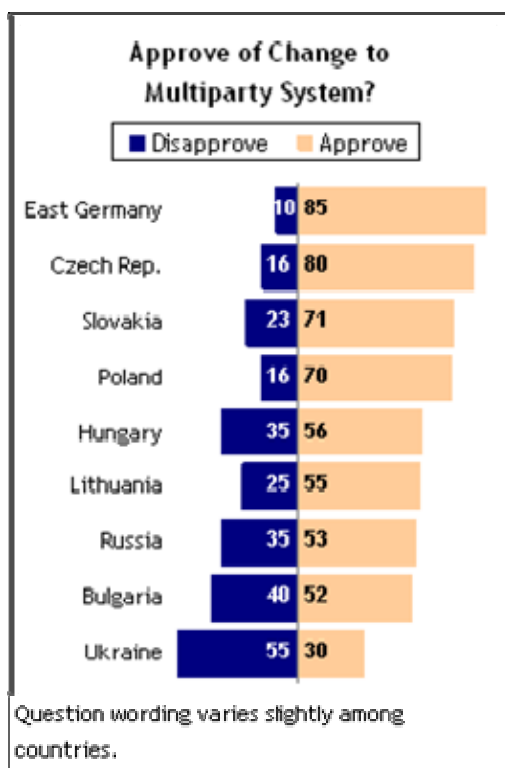
However, fewer Czechs are convinced that their country embraces these democratic elements. For example, only 5% felt that the phrase "there is a judicial system that treats everyone in the same way" described their country very well. Similarly, only 17% thought that the phrase "the media is able to report the news without government censorship" described the Czech Republic very well.

The gap between what the Czechs want and have in terms of their electoral system is smaller. More than half (57%) said that it is very important to live in a country "with honest elections that are held regularly with a choice of at least two political parties;" 48% felt that this described elections in their country very well.

Faith in the electoral system does not translate into faith in politicians. Few Czechs (18%) agreed with the statement "most elected officials care what people like me think," down from 34% in 1991. Moreover, the European Union's Eurobarometer surveys conducted from the fall of 2001 through the fall of 2009 show only 10-15% of Czechs placed trust in political parties.

The same set of Eurobarometer surveys show that Czech distrust extended to government as well as to political parties in recent years. However, trust in government increased after the spring 2009 collapse of the Czech ruling political coalition and subsequent formation of a non-partisan-led interim government. Between June 2009 and October 2009, Eurobarometer data show Czech trust in government rising from 28% to 37%.

### **Commitment to Democracy**



Despite concerns about politicians and about the current state of democracy more generally, most Czechs (80%) approved of the change from a one-party to a multiparty system that took place in the early 1990s. Elsewhere in the region, support for the political changes was also strong; majorities in all of the former Eastern European publics surveyed except Ukraine embraced the move to competitive politics. But, only the east Germans (85%) edged Czechs out in support of the move to a competitive election system.

Czech approval of the change to a multiparty system is as widespread now as in 1991 when 80% embraced competitive elections. Similarly, support for the political changes slightly increased in Poland (+4 percentage points) and remained steady in Slovakia (+1 point).

Enthusiasm for these political changes has dimmed substantially in Ukraine (-42 percentage points), Bulgaria (-24 points), Lithuania (-20 points) and Hungary (-18 points) and somewhat in East Germany (-6 points) and Russia (-8 points).

The Czech public also clearly felt that a democratic government is better able to solve their country's problems (81%) than can a strong leader (15%). Slovaks (81%) were equally as convinced, while 56% held the same view in Poland. By contrast, majorities or pluralities in Ukraine (69%), Bulgaria (68%), Russia (60%), Hungary (49%), and Lithuania (49%) said that a strong leader is better able to solve their country's problems.

Czechs trust that a system of competitive elections gives ordinary citizens an opportunity to influence what government does. Roughly six-in-ten Czechs (61%) agreed with the statement that "voting gives people like me some say about how the government runs things." Czech faith

in the ability of elections to give voice to the people is nearly as common now as it was following the fall of the Berlin Wall (64%). Among the Eastern European nations surveyed in 2009, only Bulgarians (66%) are more convinced of the capacity of elections to give people influence over government.

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## **Vast Majorities on Both Sides of the Border Place Responsibility for Mexico's Drug War on America's Drug Consumption**

*Neither Americans nor Mexicans favor U.S. military intervention*

May 19, 2010

Americans and Mexicans have strikingly similar attitudes about the drug war in Mexico, according to a study conducted by *Harris Interactive* and its global network partner, *Indemerc*, in early May 2010. Findings from the study will be presented on Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at ITESO in Guadalajara, Mexico on the occasion of its International Seminar " *Political Communications, Media and Good Governance: A New Era.*"

Thirty-nine percent of both American and Mexican adults believe Mexico is a failed state, which is a striking characterization of the Mexican government; notably, its policies and the potential solutions it offers to the Mexican drug war.

Both American and Mexican adults agree that the Mexican drug cartels and drug lords bear responsibility for the current drug war. Ninety percent of Americans say the drug lords are very or somewhat responsible for the current drug war and 87% of Mexicans say the same. However, American drug consumption is cited widely as a cause, as well: 88% of Americans and 75% of Mexicans say it is very or somewhat responsible for the drug war.

Mexicans also place a significant amount of blame for the Mexican drug war on American gun dealers. Eighty-one percent of Mexican adults say American gun dealers are very or somewhat responsible for the problem, compared to 54% of Americans who say the same. Mexican adults also blame corrupt U.S. authorities for the problem more than Americans do with 85% of Mexicans saying the corrupt U.S. authorities are to blame, compared to 60% of Americans. However, majorities of both Americans and Mexicans feel that corrupt Mexican authorities are responsible for the drug war - 84% percent of Americans and 88% of Mexicans say this.

"The enormous coincidences in opinion between Mexicans and Americans are surprising with respect to the war on drugs," commented Dr. Carlos Moreno Jaimes, Chief of the Social, Political, and Judicial Studies Department for ITESO. Dr. Moreno continued, "Citizens from both countries think that drug lords are the main cause of the war and also accept that both societies have contributed to the problem: Americans for their high consumption of narcotics and Mexicans for the corruption of authorities. The most important implication of the poll is that the solution to the problem should come from a joint effort of the two countries, but not a military intervention. It is also clear that the Mexican government's strategy is not perceived as an effective one."

### ***Other Survey Findings:***

#### ***Americans have a high awareness of the war on drugs and recent events in Mexico.***

Seventy-eight percent of U.S. adults say they know a lot or some about the war on drugs in Mexico. This level of awareness is strong across all regions of the United States, including the states that border Mexico.

#### ***Few Americans feel that they or their family will be personally harmed by Mexico's drug war. In contrast, Mexicans feel far more vulnerable.***

· Forty-one percent of Mexicans say they believe it is very or somewhat likely they or their immediate family will be harmed due to the war on drugs in Mexico, compared to 16% of Americans who say the same.

· However, among those who live in U.S. Border States, the risk to self and family is perceived as significantly higher. Nationally, 50% of Americans believe they and their family are at **no risk** of being harmed due to the Mexican drug war; in American states that border Mexico that number drops to 39% who feel they are not at all likely to be harmed by the Mexican drug war.

Justin Greeves, Senior Vice President of Harris Interactive's Public Affairs & Policy Group and the lead U.S. researcher noted, "Despite high U.S. awareness of the drug war, the lack of personal relevance for Americans may be a substantial barrier to policy changes. It's likely that changes will continue to unfold more quickly in the U.S. border states given their proximity and stronger attitudes toward the drug war."

#### ***The majority (on both sides of the border) oppose United States' military intervention.***

Majorities of Mexicans and Americans disagree with the idea of sending the U.S. Army to Mexico to collaborate with the Mexican army to control the drug war, with 57% of Americans opposing and 64% of Mexicans opposing. In comparison, the provision of U.S. government money is seen as a much more palatable solution to help end the Mexican drug war. Forty-two percent of both Americans and Mexicans support sending U.S. government funds to aid Mexican law enforcement in training and combating the Mexican drug lords and narcos (the drug gangs). The majority of respondents oppose this kind of intervention, but the issue is polarizing for Americans along political lines. Democrats support this kind of financial help (54% support), Republicans oppose (63% oppose) and Independent's oppose (61% oppose).

#### ***Who is winning and what does the future hold?***

Vast majorities of Mexicans and Americans agree that the drug dealers are winning the war on drugs in Mexico. Seventy-five percent of Mexican respondents say the narcos are winning and 80% of American respondents say the drug dealers are winning. This perceived failure in battling the war on drugs may feed the attitude that Mexico's government is failing.

Mexicans see no end in sight to this war. One-in-five (20%) think it is likely that President Calderon will have ended the drug war by the end of his tenure in December of 2012, while nearly one-half (48%) say it is not at all likely and an additional one-third (33%) of Mexicans say it is somewhat unlikely. These findings coincide with President Felipe Calderon's state visit to the U.S. this week.

Vicente Licona Cortes, Managing Director, Indemerc, and the lead researcher in Mexico commented, "It's rare to see such strength of opinion on both who is winning the war and who shares responsibility for it. Overall, these results demonstrate that, from a Mexican point of view, the entire political and law enforcement structure needs to adopt new strategies to win this war."

**TABLE 1  
AWARE OF THE MEXICAN DRUG WAR**

"How much have you heard, read or seen about the recent war on drugs in Mexico?"

BASE: U.S. ADULTS 18+

<b>USA</b>	
<b>78%</b>	<b>AWARE (NET)</b>
40%	A lot
38%	Some
<b>22%</b>	<b>NOT AWARE (NET)</b>
10%	Hardly anything
12%	Haven't heard about it/unaware
*	Don't know

BASE: U.S. ADULTS 18+

<b>Northeast</b>	<b>Midwest</b>	<b>South</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Border States</b>	
<b>76%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>AWARE (NET)</b>
34%	41%	35%	53%	51%	A lot
42%	40%	41%	26%	28%	Some
<b>24%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>NOT AWARE (NET)</b>
11%	8%	6%	16%	14%	Hardly anything
13%	11%	17%	5%	7%	Haven't heard about it/unaware
*	*	*	--	*	Don't know

Note: percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

**TABLE 2  
WINNING THE DRUG WAR**

"Based on what you have heard, read or seen about the war on drugs in Mexico, who do you think is winning the war on drugs: The Mexican government or the drug dealers?"

BASE: U.S. ADULTS WHO HAVE HEARD ABOUT WAR ON DRUGS

BASE: MEXICAN ADULTS 18+

<b>USA</b>	<b>MEXICO</b>	
80%	75%	Drug dealers/"Narcos"
6%	23%	Mexican government
14%	1%	Don't know

**TABLE 3  
RESPONSIBILITY FOR MEXICAN DRUG WAR**

"Thinking about the possible causes for the war on drugs in Mexico, for each of the following statements, please tell me if you think that the possible cause is Very responsible, Somewhat responsible, Not very responsible or Not at all responsible."

*Percentage of those who say "Very/Somewhat Responsible"*

BASE: U.S. ADULTS WHO HAVE HEARD ABOUT WAR ON DRUGS

BASE: MEXICAN ADULTS 18+

USA	MEXICO	
90%	87%	Mexican drug cartels or drug lords
88%	75%	American drug consumption
84%	88%	Corruption of Mexican authorities
77%	63%	Mexican poverty
67%	81%	Mexican drug consumers
60%	85%	Corruption of American authorities
55%	80%	Mexican President Calderon
54%	81%	American gun dealers
N/A	76%	Mexican State Governors

**TABLE 4  
U.S. MILITARY AID IN MEXICAN DRUG WAR**

"Would you support dispatching the U.S. military to Mexico to help the Mexican government's efforts in the drug war? /Would you agree or disagree if the U.S. army were to come to Mexico to collaborate with the Mexican army to aid the Mexicans government's efforts in the drug war?"

BASE: U.S. ADULTS WHO HAVE HEARD ABOUT WAR ON DRUGS

BASE: MEXICAN ADULTS 18+

USA	MEXICO	
39%	36%	Yes/Agree
57%	64%	No/Disagree
4%	-	Don't know

**TABLE 5  
U.S. FINANCIAL AID IN MEXICAN DRUG WAR**

"Since 2008 the United States government has provided hundreds of millions of dollars of equipment and training to Mexican law enforcement to combat drug traffickers, are you in favor of continuing to use money from the United States Government to train Mexican Police or do you oppose using money from the United States government for Mexican law enforcement to combat drug traffickers?/ During the last two years, the U.S. government has given the Mexican government hundreds of millions of dollars in equipment and training so that the Mexican army may combat the narcos. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the U.S. giving money to the Mexican government to combat the narcos? Do you Strongly agree, Somewhat agree, Somewhat disagree, or Strongly disagree?"

BASE: U.S. ALL RESPONDENTS

BASE: MEXICO ALL RESPONDENTS

USA	MEXICO	
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<b>42%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>FAVOR/AGREE (NET)</b>
17%	21%	Strongly favor/agree
25%	21%	Somewhat favor/agree
<b>54%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>OPPOSE/DISAGREE (NET)</b>
19%	19%	Somewhat oppose/disagree
36%	36%	Strongly oppose/disagree
4%	3%	Don't know

<b>REP.</b>	<b>DEM.</b>	<b>IND.</b>	
<b>33%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>FAVOR/AGREE (NET)</b>
14%	20%	17%	Strongly favor/agree
20%	34%	21%	Somewhat favor/agree
<b>63%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>OPPOSE/DISAGREE (NET)</b>
21%	19%	18%	Somewhat oppose/disagree
43%	23%	43%	Strongly oppose/disagree
4%	5%	1%	Don't know

**TABLE 6  
PERSONAL HARM FROM DRUG WAR**

"On a scale of one to five, with one being not at all likely and five being very likely....How likely do you think it is that you personally or someone from your immediate family may be harmed in any way due to the war on drugs in Mexico?"

BASE: U.S. ADULTS WHO HAVE HEARD ABOUT WAR ON DRUGS  
BASE: MEXICAN ADULTS 18+

<b>USA</b>	<b>MEXICO</b>	
<b>16%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>TOP 2 BOX</b>
9%	5%	5-Very likely
6%	36%	4
16%	N/A	3
<b>66%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>BOTTOM 2 BOX</b>
16%	26%	2
50%	33%	1-Not at all likely
2%	-	Don't know

<b>Northeast</b>	<b>Midwest</b>	<b>South</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>Border States</b>	
<b>14%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>TOP 2 BOX</b>
7%	6%	13%	9%	10%	5-Very likely
6%	7%	5%	7%	7%	4
14%	14%	16%	20%	20%	3
<b>71%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>BOTTOM 2 BOX</b>
15%	13%	16%	21%	21%	2
56%	58%	48%	40%	39%	1-Not at all likely
1%	2%	3%	2%	2%	Don't know

**TABLE 7**  
**MEXICO AS A FAILED STATE**

"Recently, some people have characterized Mexico as a "Failed State." Do you agree or disagree that Mexico is a "failed state?"

BASE: U.S. ADULTS 18+  
BASE: MEXICAN ADULTS 18+

<b>USA</b>	<b>MEXICO</b>	
<b>39%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>AGREE (NET)</b>
19%	14%	Strongly agree
20%	25%	Somewhat agree
<b>50%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>DISAGREE (NET)</b>
34%	23%	Somewhat disagree
16%	38%	Strongly disagree
11%	-	Don't know

**TABLE 8**  
**END OF MEXICAN DRUG WAR**

"Thinking about the future, do you think that President Calderon will have ended the drug war by the end of his tenure in December of 2012 or not? Do you think it is Not at all likely, Somewhat unlikely, Somewhat likely or Very likely?"

BASE: MEXICAN ADULTS 18+

<b>MEXICO</b>	
48%	Not at all likely
33%	Somewhat unlikely
19%	Somewhat likely
1%	Very likely

**United States Methodology**

This survey was conducted by telephone within the United States by Harris Interactive between May 5 and May 9, 2010 among 1,009 adults ages 18 and older. Figures for age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, region, number of adults in the household, number of phone lines in the household were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population.

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.

*These statements conform to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.*

### **Mexico Methodology**

This survey was conducted by telephone in the 8 largest metropolitan areas in Mexico between May 7 and 9, 2010 among 549 adults 18+. The sample frame for this study is based exclusively on listed numbers using the Random Digital Dialing methodology and asking for the youngest male or female member in the household depending on the required quotas. The data has been weighted by gender, age groups, and socioeconomic levels for the 8 metropolitan areas based on official Census data and AMAI (Mexican Market and Opinion Research Agency Association) data for socioeconomic levels. IMPORTANT NOTE: The results of this poll are only representative of the population in these 8 Mexican metropolitan areas with telephone access in their homes and the results should be interpreted accordingly.

*Percentages may not always add up to 100% because of computer rounding or the acceptance of multiple answers from respondents answering that question.*

### **About Harris Interactive**

Harris Interactive is one of the world's leading custom market research firms, leveraging research, technology, and business acumen to transform relevant insight into actionable foresight. Known widely for the Harris Poll and for pioneering innovative research methodologies, Harris offers expertise in a wide range of industries including healthcare, technology, public affairs, energy, telecommunications, financial services, insurance, media, retail, restaurant, and consumer package goods. Serving clients in over 215 countries and territories through our North American, European, and Asian offices and a network of independent market research firms, Harris specializes in delivering research solutions that help us - and our clients - stay ahead of what's next. For more information, please visit [www.harrisinteractive.com](http://www.harrisinteractive.com).

### **About Indemerc**

Indemerc is a leading Market and Opinion Research firm based in Mexico City.

Based on more than 35 years worth of experience, Indemerc provides research solutions to Mexican and International clients with innovative technologies, proven expertise and the highest quality standards. Indemerc is a member of ESOMAR and has been Harris Interactive's Global Network Partner in Mexico since 1995. Indemerc's Public Opinion studies are frequently quoted by foreign and national journalists and its CEO, Mr. Vicente Licon, is a frequent guest on many Public Opinion and Market Research forums and media outlets.

### **About the Harris Interactive Global Partner Network**

Indemerc is a member of Harris Interactive's Global Partner Network. The Global Partner Network is comprised of locally based, independently owned and operated market and opinion

research firms in North, Central, and South America; Europe, Africa and the Asia-Pacific region. The Global Partner Network supports the Harris Interactive global view of research, recognizing and promoting the cultural and methodological differences that exist across worldwide markets. This enables Harris Interactive and its partners to conduct strategic research in multiple localized languages around the world, offering solutions to corporations, government, education, healthcare and non-profit organizations.

### **About ITESO**

ITESO is the Jesuit University of Guadalajara, in Mexico. Founded in 1957, it belongs to the network of over 200 Jesuit universities around the world. It shares with them a 450-year-old educational tradition, historically located at the focal point of world thought and recognized for preparing leaders in all fields of the arts and sciences.

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