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Prelude	02
Summary of Polls	03
SOUTH ASIA	
• Two-Thirds of Indian Consumers Want Government to Enact Corporate Responsibility Laws	07
NORTHEAST ASIA	
• Ruling DPJ Still Strong Before Japanese Ballot	08
EAST EUROPE	
• Russians Reject Apology to Ukraine Over Famine	09
WEST EUROPE	
• Half of Britons Want More Nuclear Plants	10
• Steady Approval Rating for Cameron in Britain	11
• Few Dutch Expect New Government Soon	13
• SDP Closing in on Merkel's Conservatives in Germany	14
NORTH AMERICA	
• Republicans Less Positive Toward Supreme Court	15
• Americans Continue Post-Recession Emotional Recovery	19
• Blacks' Optimism About Their Standards of Living Tops Whites'	21
• Obama Job Approval Rating Down to 38% Among Independents	25
• Americans Closely Divided Over Immigration Reform Priority	27
• Self-Reported Spending Declines in June; Still Tops a Year Ago	31
• Americans Oppose Federal Suit Against Ariz. Immigration Law	35
• Army, Freedom and Flag Make Americans Proud	38
• Reagan, Clinton Seen as Best Recent U.S. Presidents	39
• Americans Agree on Second Amendment's Meaning	41
• Canadians Demand Names in CSIS Controversy	42
• Canadians Would Keep Stanley Park Name	43
• Trudeau Best, Mulroney Worst for Canadians	44
• Half of Canadians Perceive Economy as Good	46
LATIN AMERICA	
• Peruvians Still Waiting for Stronger Candidates	47
• Guatemalans Reject Same-Sex Marriage	48
• President Piñera Backed by Majority in Chile	49
• Colombians Say Santos Will Be Same as Uribe	50
• Peruvians Not Content With President García	51
• Rouseff's Bid Grows Stronger in Brazil	52
MULTI-COUNTRY POLLS	

• Widespread Support for Banning Full Islamic Veil in Western Europe	54
CYBER WORLD	
• More Cell Phone Owners Use an App for That	56
• Millennials' Likely Lifelong Online Sharing Habit	61
• The Future of Online Socializing	62

Prelude

This week report consists of 31 surveys. Two of these are multi-country surveys while the rest of 29 are national surveys.

Women Veil Ban: Freedoms & Threat

French Parliament is debating the law to ban Muslim women veil in government offices, schools, universities & hospitals. This has restarted feelings of discontentment within European Muslims in particular and among the Muslims across the world in general. Hijab ban has been one of the critical issues that have hindered the Muslim integration in Europe. The Americans attitude in this regard has been quite positive and several reports show that Muslims are quite integrated in United States.

A recent survey¹ shows that West Europeans approve of the Muslim women veil ban. The highest support for the idea is in France (8 in 10) followed by Germany (7 in 10). About six in ten in Spain also support women face veil ban. But the situation in U.S. is also opposite where over six in ten oppose such ban while just under three in ten support the idea.

Keeping in view the security problem in West European countries the governments and social circles are debating the veil ban for several years. French parliament is about to pass such a legislation. But such legislation will not be in tone with the several established western doctrines. Take the example of religious freedoms, or social freedoms-the right to dress as one likes. It is also worth thinking that how many of security issues have been created by veil wearing women.

Does such a ban really not the negation of religious freedoms? Will it not be an unlawful coercion to force Muslim woman to dress against her wishes?

¹ <http://pewglobal.org/2010/07/08/widespread-support-for-banning-full-islamic-veil-in-western-europe/>

Summary of Polls

SOUTH ASIA

Two-Thirds of Indian Consumers Want Government to Enact Corporate Responsibility Laws

Most Indian consumers want to see new laws enacted to force companies to act responsibly—even if this means higher prices and fewer jobs, according to a new poll of consumers across 29 countries.

July 5, 2010

NORTHEAST ASIA

Ruling DPJ Still Strong Before Japanese Ballot

The ruling Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) holds a commanding lead over the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) just days before an upper house election takes place in Japan, according to a poll by *Mainichi*. 40 per cent of respondents would support the DPJ in the proportional representation block of the House of Councillors election.

July 09, 2010

EAST EUROPE

Russians Reject Apology to Ukraine Over Famine

Most people in Russia think the government should not apologize to the Ukrainian people over the famine of the 1930s, according to a poll by the Yury Levada Analytical Center. 52 per cent of respondent share this view, while 23 per cent think Russia should apologize to the Ukrainians like it did with the Poles for the Katyn massacre.

July 06, 2010

WEST EUROPE

Half of Britons Want More Nuclear Plants

Many people in Britain are in favour of building more nuclear power plants in the country, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 51 per cent of respondents agree with this course of action, while 31 per cent are opposed.

July 10, 201

Steady Approval Rating for Cameron in Britain

Public support for the British prime minister has not dwindled after his first month in office, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 54 per cent of respondents approve of David Cameron's performance.

July 04, 2010

Few Dutch Expect New Government Soon

A third of people in the Netherlands think that, following a recent election that resulted in no definitive winner, a new government will not be formed until the end of the summer, according to a poll by Maurice de Hond. 32 per cent of respondents say the new administration will take office in September.

July 10, 2010

SDP Closing in on Merkel's Conservatives in Germany

The popularity of Germany's Social Democratic Party (SPD) is increasing, according to a poll by Infratest-Dimap released by ARD. 30 per cent of respondents would vote for the opposition SDP in the next election to the Federal Diet, up two points since mid-May.

July 08, 2010

NORTH AMERICA

Republicans Less Positive Toward Supreme Court

Republican's opinions of the Supreme Court have become less favorable during the Obama administration. As a result, more Democrats than Republicans now express a positive opinion of the Supreme Court -- the first time this has occurred since the Clinton administration.

July 9, 2010

Americans Continue Post-Recession Emotional Recovery

Maintaining the gains seen in May, Americans continued to rate their lives better in June than in any other month since Gallup and Healthways began tracking life evaluation. The Gallup-Healthways Life Evaluation Index was 50.8 in June, surpassing the 47.8 found in the same month one year ago, and showing significant recovery from the 39.2 in June of 2008.

July 9, 2010

Blacks' Optimism About Their Standards of Living Tops Whites'

Blacks' ratings on Gallup's Standard of Living Index continue to exceed those for whites, a pattern that has persisted since early 2009.

July 8, 2010

Obama Job Approval Rating Down to 38% Among Independents

Thirty-eight percent of independents approve of the job Barack Obama is doing as president, the first time independent approval of Obama has dropped below 40% in a Gallup Daily tracking weekly aggregate. Meanwhile, Obama maintains the support of 81% of Democrats, and his job approval among Republicans remains low, at 12%.

July 7, 2010

Americans Closely Divided Over Immigration Reform Priority

As President Barack Obama renews his call for a comprehensive approach to addressing illegal immigration, Americans are about equally divided -- 50% to 45% -- over whether the government's main focus should be on halting the flow of illegal immigrants coming into the U.S., or on developing a plan to deal with those already here.

July 6, 2010

Self-Reported Spending Declines in June; Still Tops a Year Ago

Americans report spending an average of \$67 per day during June in stores, restaurants, gas stations, and online -- down \$5 from May 2010, but up \$6 from June 2009. Consumer discretionary spending thus remains at the upper end of the 2009 monthly new normal range (\$59 to \$67), but far below the 2008 spending range (\$81-\$114).

July 6, 2010

Americans Oppose Federal Suit Against Ariz. Immigration Law

Americans' initial reactions to the U.S. Justice Department lawsuit against Arizona's new illegal immigration law are more negative than positive, by a 50% to 33% margin.

July 9, 2010

Army, Freedom and Flag Make Americans Proud

Adults in the United States hold favourable views on three institutions and features, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. More than 80 per cent of respondents are very or moderately proud of the U.S. Army, freedom and the American flag.

July 05, 201

Reagan, Clinton Seen as Best Recent U.S. Presidents

Americans pick two politicians as their best heads of state since 1969, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 32 per cent of respondents think Ronald Reagan has been the best recent president, while 30 per cent select Bill Clinton.

July 06, 2010

Americans Agree on Second Amendment's Meaning

Most people in the United States interpret their Constitution's Second Amendment in the same fashion, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 81 per cent of respondents believe the Second Amendment means that individuals have the right to keep and bear arms.

July 08, 2010

Canadians Demand Names in CSIS Controversy

Many adults in Canada believe the names of the politicians who allegedly are under the influence of foreign governments should be revealed, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 67 per cent of respondents think the names should be made public.

July 09, 2010

Canadians Would Keep Stanley Park Name

Many Canadians believe Vancouver's Stanley Park should retain its name, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 61 per cent of respondents agree with this notion.

July 07, 2010

Trudeau Best, Mulroney Worst for Canadians

Pierre Trudeau remains the favourite recent former head of government for Canadians, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 38 per cent of respondents think Trudeau has been Canada's best prime minister since 1968.

July 05, 2010

Half of Canadians Perceive Economy as Good

Fewer people in Canada—but still a majority—express positive views on the country's financial standing, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 51 per cent of respondents rate the economic conditions in Canada today as good or very good, down seven points since May.

July 04, 201

LATIN AMERICA

Peruvians Still Waiting for Stronger Candidates

The race to become the next president of Peru still lacks a strong frontrunner, according to a poll by Ipsos, Apoyo, Opinión y Mercado published in *El Comercio*. 22 per cent of respondents would vote for Keiko Sofía Fujimori—daughter of jailed former president Alberto Fujimori and candidate of Strength 2011—in next year's ballot, up four points since May.

July 09, 2010

Guatemalans Reject Same-Sex Marriage

The vast majority of people in Guatemala oppose the notion of allowing homosexuals to marry, according to a poll by Cid-Gallup. 85 per cent of respondents disagree with same-sex marriage.

July 08, 2010

President Piñera Backed by Majority in Chile

Most people in Chile support the performance of Sebastián Piñera, according to a poll by CERC. 54 per cent of respondents approve of the president's work so far, while 33 per cent disapprove of it.

July 07, 2010

Colombians Say Santos Will Be Same as Uribe

The large majority of Colombians think the administration of president-elect Juan Manuel Santos will be very similar to that of outgoing head of state Álvaro Uribe, according to a poll by Datexco released by *El Tiempo* and W Radio. 74.8 per cent of respondents expect the two presidents to lead very similar governments.

July 06, 2010

Peruvians Not Content With President García

A large majority of people in Peru continue to reject the leadership of Alan García, according to a poll by Ipsos, Apoyo, Opinión y Mercado published in *El Comercio*. 69 per cent of respondents disapprove of the president's performance, unchanged since May.

July 05, 2010

Rousseff's Bid Grows Stronger in Brazil

Dilma Rousseff's bid to become the next president of Brazil is gaining momentum, according to a poll by Ibope. 40 per cent of respondents would vote for Rousseff of the ruling Workers' Party (PT) in this year's election, up three points since May.

July 05, 2010

MULTI-COUNTRY POLLS

Widespread Support for Banning Full Islamic Veil in Western Europe

A survey by the Pew Research Center's Global Attitudes Project, conducted April 7 to May 8, finds that the French public overwhelmingly endorses this measure; 82% approve of a ban on Muslim women wearing full veils in public, including schools, hospitals and government offices, while just 17% disapprove.

July 8, 2010

CYBER WORLD

More Cell Phone Owners Use an App for That

Six-in-ten American adults are now wireless internet users, and mobile data applications have grown more popular over the last year.

July 7, 2010

Millennials' Likely Lifelong Online Sharing Habit

In a survey about the future impact of the internet, a solid majority of technology experts and stakeholders said the Millennial generation will lead society into a new world of personal disclosure and information-sharing using new media.

July 9, 2010

The Future of Online Socializing

The social benefits of internet use will far outweigh the negatives over the next decade, according to experts. They say this is because email, social networks, and other online tools offer "low friction" opportunities to create, enhance, and rediscover social ties that make a difference in people's lives.

July 2, 2010

SOUTH ASIA

Two-Thirds of Indian Consumers Want Government to Enact Corporate Responsibility Laws

New Poll Highlights Indians' Rising Expectations on Corporate Responsibility

July 5, 2010

Most Indian consumers want to see new laws enacted to force companies to act responsibly—even if this means higher prices and fewer jobs, according to a new poll of consumers across 29 countries.

The GlobeScan Radar poll was conducted by CVoter in India in collaboration with international research firm GlobeScan among a representative sample of 1,000 consumers in each country. The poll reveals that nearly two-thirds of those surveyed in India— 63 per cent—said they wanted government to pass new laws to force companies to go beyond their traditional economic role and work to improve society, compared to just 31 per cent who disagreed.

Indian expectations in this area are higher than in most developed countries surveyed, with 55 per cent of the Japanese, 50 per cent of the British, and just 39 per cent of Americans backing new laws to enforce corporate social responsibility.

The proportion of Indians who claim to have heard or read about what companies are doing to improve their social and environmental performance is also higher than most countries polled (50 per cent compared to a global average of 30 per cent), and has increased by ten percentage points since 2006.

Compared to Chinese consumers, Indians emerged as less sceptical overall about corporate social responsibility. More Indian consumers (49 per cent) than Chinese consumers (42 per cent) believe that companies communicate honestly about their social and environmental performance. In addition, the proportion of Chinese consumers interested in learning more about CSR is on the decline, while it is on the rise in India.

Asked to name a responsible company, Indians most commonly mentioned Tata, followed by Reliance, Aditya Birla Group, and Hindustan Unilever. Tata, often cited as a good example of a trusted brand, polarizes opinion, and is also the company most often

mentioned as being irresponsible, with concerns cited by respondents over alleged irresponsibility during the installation of the Nano Car plant in Singur, West Bengal. Globally, Coca-Cola, Nestlé, and Samsung topped the list of most responsible companies.

Yashwant Deshmukh, Director, CVoter explained: “Though Nano made headlines for Tata for being the cheapest car in the world, the Singur controversy resulted in negative sentiment towards the company. Tata did their best with damage control by calling off the project and also by engaging in effective CSR after the 27 November terror attacks in Mumbai.”

GlobeScan Director, Oliver Martin commented: “These figures clearly show that Indian companies ignore CSR at their peril—consumers are increasingly attentive to what companies are doing in this area, and want to see them take social responsibility seriously. But with faith in corporate leadership also on the decline in India, companies need to show they’re ready to meet these expectations, or risk seeing governments step in to enforce a responsible approach to business.”

NORTHEAST ASIA

Ruling DPJ Still Strong Before Japanese Ballot

July 09, 2010

The ruling Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) holds a commanding lead over the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) just days before an upper house election takes place in Japan, according to a poll by *Mainichi*. 40 per cent of respondents would support the DPJ in the proportional representation block of the House of Councillors election.

The LDP is far behind with 17 per cent. 43 per cent of respondents remain undecided or will back other parties.

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

Aside from a brief period in the 1990s, the LDP had administered Japan’s government for more than five decades.

On Jun. 2, the DPJ’s Yukio Hatoyama tendered his resignation, citing a broken election promise over the permanence of an American army base in the Okinawa prefecture. Hatoyama had also been embroiled in a corruption scandal over campaign funding irregularities.

On Jun. 8, Naoto Kan, a former finance minister, took over as prime minister. Since the retirement of Junichiro Koizumi in September 2006, Japan has had five different heads of

government: Shinzo Abe, Yasuo Fukuda and Taro Aso of the LDP; and Hatoyama and Kan of the DPJ.

Kan is calling for fiscal reforms to alleviate Japan's growing debt, including a proposal to raise the five per cent sales tax. On Jul. 7, the prime minister suggested that his government might look into increasing income taxes as well, declaring, "The income tax has become less effective in terms of income redistribution. Depending on the situation, we might need a debate."

The election to renew half of the seats in Japan's upper house is scheduled for Jul. 11.

Polling Data

Which party would you vote for in the proportional representation block of the House of Councillors election?

Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) 40%

Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) 17%

Other / Undecided 43%

Source: Mainichi

Methodology: Telephone interviews with 1,089 Japanese adults, conducted on Jun. 27 and Jun. 28, 2010. Margin of error is 3 per cent.

EAST EUROPE

Russians Reject Apology to Ukraine Over Famine

July 06, 2010

Most people in Russia think the government should not apologize to the Ukrainian people over the famine of the 1930s, according to a poll by the Yury Levada Analytical Center. 52 per cent of respondent share this view, while 23 per cent think Russia should apologize to the Ukrainians like it did with the Poles for the Katyn massacre.

Josef Stalin was the second leader of the Soviet Union, taking over after the death of Vladimir Lenin in 1924. Stalin was responsible for a series of repressive campaigns—known as the Great Purge—during the 1930s. During his tenure, Stalin eliminated all possible political opposition through executions and internal exile.

In 1932 and 1933, millions of Ukrainians starved to death as a direct consequence of Stalin's policies in Soviet Ukraine. The events are also known as the Holodomor famine.

Russian prime minister Vladimir Putin recently apologized—although not officially—for the Katyn massacre in Poland, in which 20,000 Polish nationals were killed with the complacency of Joseph Stalin in 1940. While visiting Katyn in April, Putin spoke of "shared memory and shame" of the Stalin victims, but also wished for an end to "always dividing countries into those who are right and those who are guilty."

Polling Data

Do you think the Russian government should apologize to the Ukrainian people for the famine of the 1930s, just as it has recently apologized to the Polish people for the tragedy of Katyn?

Yes 23%

No 52%

Not sure 25%

Source: Yury Levada Analytical Center

Methodology: Interviews with 1,600 Russian adults, conducted from May 21 to May 25, 2010. Margin of error is 3.4 per cent.

WEST EUROPE

Half of Britons Want More Nuclear Plants

July 10, 2010

Many people in Britain are in favour of building more nuclear power plants in the country, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 51 per cent of respondents agree with this course of action, while 31 per cent are opposed.

There are currently 14 functioning nuclear reactors in Britain, which produce 21 per cent of the country's electricity. All but one will reach the end of their operational lifetimes by 2023.

In May 2006, then British prime minister Tony Blair endorsed the construction of new nuclear power stations, saying, "Essentially, the twin pressures of climate change and energy security are raising energy policy to the top of the agenda in the UK and around the world. (...) These facts put the replacement of nuclear power stations, a big push on renewables and a step change on energy efficiency, engaging both business and consumers, back on the agenda with a vengeance. If we don't take these long-term decisions now we will be committing a serious dereliction of our duty to the future of this country."

In June 2007, Gordon Brown officially became Labour leader and prime minister, replacing Blair. In January 2008, the Brown-led government approved the construction of a new nuclear power plant, the first of the next generation of facilities.

In May, 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. Conservative leader David Cameron took over as prime minister in a coalition government with the Liberal Democrats, ending 13 years of Labour rule.

On Jun. 16, British energy minister Charles Hendry discussed the government's plans for nuclear power, saying, "There is a place for nuclear as long as there is no subsidy. The view is that we can have a carbon floor price, so then if the European Union trading scheme is below that, then a supplementary charge will bring it up to that floor."

Polling Data

Would you support or oppose building more nuclear power stations in the UK?

	Jul. 2010	Nov. 2009
Support	51%	55%
Oppose	31%	32%
Not sure	18%	13%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 2,011 British adults, conducted from Jul. 1 to Jul. 3, 2010. Margin of error is 2.2 per cent.

Steady Approval Rating for Cameron in Britain

July 04, 2010

Public support for the British prime minister has not dwindled after his first month in office, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 54 per cent of respondents approve of David Cameron's performance.

In addition, 50 per cent of respondents approve of Nick Clegg's performance as deputy prime minister, down two points in a month.

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 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 Clegg became deputy prime minister.

On Jun. 30, Cameron vowed to act on bogus language schools, saying, "The point about people coming here to learn English is that, if they come to learn English for less than six months, that is permitted, but clearly there are problems, as everybody knows: too many bogus colleges and too many people pretending to come and study, when really they are coming for work. (...) It is right that we have to deal with the problem of bogus colleges, where there has been so much abuse in recent years."

Polling Data

Do you approve or disapprove of David Cameron's performance as Prime Minister?

	Jun. 2010	May 2010
Approve	54%	54%
Disapprove	32%	25%
Not sure	15%	22%

Do you approve or disapprove of Nick Clegg's performance as Deputy Prime Minister?

	Jun. 2010	May 2010
Approve	50%	52%
Disapprove	34%	26%
Not sure	15%	22%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 2,008 British adults, conducted from Jun. 23 to Jun. 25, 2010. Margin of error is 2.2 per cent.

Few Dutch Expect New Government Soon

July 10, 2010

A third of people in the Netherlands think that, following a recent election that resulted in no definitive winner, a new government will not be formed until the end of the summer, according to a poll by Maurice de Hond. 32 per cent of respondents say the new administration will take office in September.

In February, the Dutch government—headed by Christian-Democratic Appeal (CDA) leader Jan Peter Balkenende—collapsed over disagreements related to the country's military deployment in Afghanistan. Balkenende tendered his resignation to Queen Beatrix.

Dutch voters renewed the Second Chamber on Jun. 9. Final results gave the People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (VVD) a first place finish with 31 seats, followed by the Labour Party (PvdA) with 30, the Party for Freedom (PvdV) with 24 and the CDA with 21. Balkenende tendered his resignation as CDA leader on election night. Discussions about the formation of a government were expected to take several weeks.

The latest round of talks involves the VVD, the PvdA as well as two other parties: the social liberal Democrats 66 (D66) and the environmentalist Green Left (GL).

On Jul. 5, Queen Beatrix urged leaders of the VVD and the PvdA to quickly forge their four-party alliance. Herman Tjeenk Willink, an advisor to the monarch, declared: "There's an urgent need to come to a stable majority cabinet. We have a fairly large banking sector and the Netherlands has put up guarantees for that, so we need to provide political and financial assurances and stability and therefore we need a cabinet."

Polling Data

When do you think the new government will take office?

July	6%
August	26%
September	32%
October	12%
November	5%
December	5%
Not sure	14%

Source: Maurice de Hond

Methodology: Interviews with 1,000 Dutch adults, conducted on Jul. 7, 2010. No margin of error was provided.

SDP Closing in on Merkel's Conservatives in Germany

July 08, 2010

The popularity of Germany's Social Democratic Party (SPD) is increasing, according to a poll by Infratest-Dimap released by ARD. 30 per cent of respondents would vote for the opposition SPD in the next election to the Federal Diet, up two points since mid-May.

The ruling Christian-Democratic Union (CDU) and its associate Bavarian Christian-Social Party (CSU) remain in first place with 33 per cent. The Green Party (Grüne) is third with 17 per cent, followed by the Left Party (Linke) with 10 per cent, and the Free Democratic Party (FDP) with five per cent.

In November 2005, CDU leader Angela Merkel was sworn in as Germany's first female head of government following a federal election. Her "Grand Coalition" administration featured members of the CDU, CSU and SPD.

In September 2009, German voters participated in a new federal election. Final results gave the CDU-CSU 33.8 per cent of the vote and 239 seats, followed by the SPD with 23 per cent and 146 mandates. This time, Merkel invited the FDP to form a government. FDP leader Guido Westerwelle serves as foreign minister.

On Jul. 7, the government adopted budget cuts worth about \$13 billion U.S. for the period between 2011 through 2014. German finance minister Wolfgang Schäuble explained the decision, saying, "This budget and the mid-term spending plan are heavily influenced by the banking and economic crisis of the last couple of years. We're setting out to scale back the excessive deficits and ensure our economic development is sustainable."

Polling Data

What party would you vote for in the next federal election?

	Jul. 1	May 13	Apr. 15
Christian-Democratic Union (CDU) / Bavarian Christian-Social Party (CSU)	33%	32%	36%
Social Democratic Party (SPD)	30%	28%	26%
Green Party (Grüne)	17%	17%	14%

Left Party (Linke)	10%	11%	10%
Free Democratic Party (FDP)	5%	7%	9%

Source: Infratest-Dimap /ARD

Methodology: Telephone interviews with 1,000 German adults, conducted from Jun. 30 and Jul. 1, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

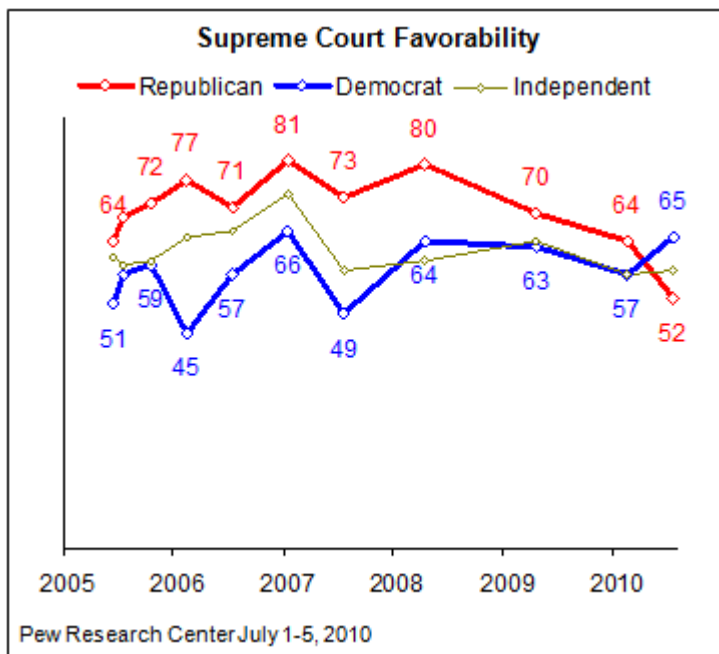
NORTH AMERICA

Republicans Less Positive Toward Supreme Court

Public Views of Congress Recover Slightly

July 9, 2010

Republican's opinions of the Supreme Court have become less favorable during the Obama administration. As a result, more Democrats than Republicans now express a positive opinion of the Supreme Court -- the first time this has occurred since the Clinton administration.



Overall opinions of the Supreme Court are unchanged since February, at 58% favorable, but are somewhat less positive than in April 2009 (64% favorable). Over this period, favorable impressions of the court among Republicans have fallen by 18 points -- from 70% to 52%.

Democrats' views of the Supreme Court have shown less change: 65% now have a favorable view of the Supreme Court, up slightly from February (57%), and about the same as in April 2009 (63%). Independents' opinions also have changed little over this period. Currently, 58% of independents have a positive impression of the court.

Plurality Sees Current Court as "Middle of the Road"			
	Jul <u>2007</u>	Apr <u>2010</u>	Jun <u>2010</u>
<i>Current court is...</i>	%	%	%
Conservative	36	24	23
Middle of the road	35	36	39
Liberal	14	24	23
Don't know	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100	100

Pew Research Center July 1-5, 2010.
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted July 1-5 among 1,007 adults reached on cell phones and landlines, finds that the public's perceptions of the Supreme Court's ideology have changed little since earlier this year. But compared with July 2007, fewer people view the court as conservative and more see it as liberal.

Currently, 39% say the Supreme Court is middle of the road, while equal numbers rate it as conservative or liberal (23% each). In July 2007, 36% said the court was conservative, while 35% said it was middle of the road and just 14% said it was liberal.

Shifting Views of Court's Ideology

More Republicans Now See Supreme Court as Liberal				
<i>Current court is...</i>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
July 2010	%	%	%	%
Conservative	23	12	31	22
Middle of the road	39	39	41	41
Liberal	23	34	16	24
Don't know	14	15	12	12
	100	100	100	100
July 2007				
Conservative	36	26	48	37
Middle of the road	35	44	28	35
Liberal	14	18	11	13
Don't know	15	12	13	16
	100	100	100	100
<i>07-10 change in "liberal"</i>	+9	+16	+5	+11

Pew Research Center July 1-5, 2010.
 Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

The belief that the Supreme Court is conservative has declined across the political spectrum since 2007. Yet among Republicans, in particular, there also has been a striking rise in the view that the court is liberal.

The proportion of Republicans saying the court is liberal has nearly doubled over the past three years, from 18% to 34%. At the same time, the percentage saying the court is conservative has fallen from 26% to 12%. About four-in-ten Republicans (39%) see the Supreme Court's ideology as middle of the road, about the same as in July 2007 (44%).

Independents also are more likely to view the Supreme Court as liberal than in 2007 -- 24% now say the court is liberal compared with 13% then. Still, a plurality of independents (41%) now sees the court as middle of the road.

Democrats' views of the Supreme Court's ideology also have changed since 2007. A plurality of Democrats (41%) now says the court is middle of the road while 31% say it is conservative. In 2007, nearly half of Democrats (48%) said the court was conservative while 28% said it was middle of the road.

Views of Congress, Political Parties

The new survey finds that the public's views of Congress have improved a bit since reaching an all-time low in the spring. Currently, 33% say they have a favorable opinion of Congress while 56% have an unfavorable view. In early April, shortly after passage of major health care legislation, 25% expressed a favorable opinion of Congress and 65% felt unfavorably. In March, just prior to the bill's passage, opinions were equally negative.

Opinions of Congress remain far less positive than they were in April 2009. At that time, 50% had a favorable impression of Congress while 43% had an unfavorable view.

Nearly half of Democrats (48%) now say they have a favorable view of Congress while 39% feel unfavorably. In both March and April, the balance of opinion among Democrats was more negative than positive.

	<i>April 2009</i>		<i>Mar 18-21 2010</i>		<i>Apr 1-5 2010</i>		<i>Jul 1-5 2010</i>		<i>4/10-7/10 fav change</i>
	<u>Fav</u> %	<u>Unfav</u> %	<u>Fav</u> %	<u>Unfav</u> %	<u>Fav</u> %	<u>Unfav</u> %	<u>Fav</u> %	<u>Unfav</u> %	
Total	50	43	26	62	25	65	33	56	+8
Republican	29	65	20	73	13	79	22	68	+9
Democrat	66	26	38	50	40	52	48	39	+8
Independent	47	46	21	67	23	68	29	61	+6

Pew Research Center July 1-5, 2010.

Favorable views of Congress among Republicans and independents also have risen since the spring. But the balance of opinion among both groups toward Congress remains decidedly negative.

There also has been an improvement in opinions of the Democratic Party. Currently, about as many say they have a favorable opinion (44%) as an unfavorable opinion (45%) of the Democratic Party. In both March and April, unfavorable views of the party outnumbered favorable opinions -- by 49% to 40% in March and 52% to 38% in April. Still, the party's image is far less positive than it was in early 2009. In January of last year, 62% said they had a favorable opinion of the Democratic Party.

Opinions of the Republican Party have shown far less change over the past year and a half. Currently, 39% have a favorable impression of the GOP while 49% have an unfavorable opinion. That is little changed from views of the Republican Party in March and April. In February, opinion of the Republican Party was evenly divided (46% favorable/ 46% unfavorable) -- their best showing since September 2008.

Modest Rebound in Democratic Party's Image								
	Jan 2009	Apr 2009	Aug 2009	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Apr 2010	Jul 2010	4/10-7/10 change
Democratic Party	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Total favorable	62	59	49	48	40	38	44	+6
Republicans	30	24	17	18	11	10	11	+1
Democrats	90	91	85	84	78	78	81	+3
Independents	58	52	40	40	33	27	36	+9
Republican Party								
Total favorable	40	40	40	46	37	37	39	+2
Republicans	74	79	78	82	77	79	82	+3
Democrats	22	18	16	23	15	12	14	+2
Independents	38	41	40	42	33	33	35	+2

Pew Research Center July 1-5, 2010.

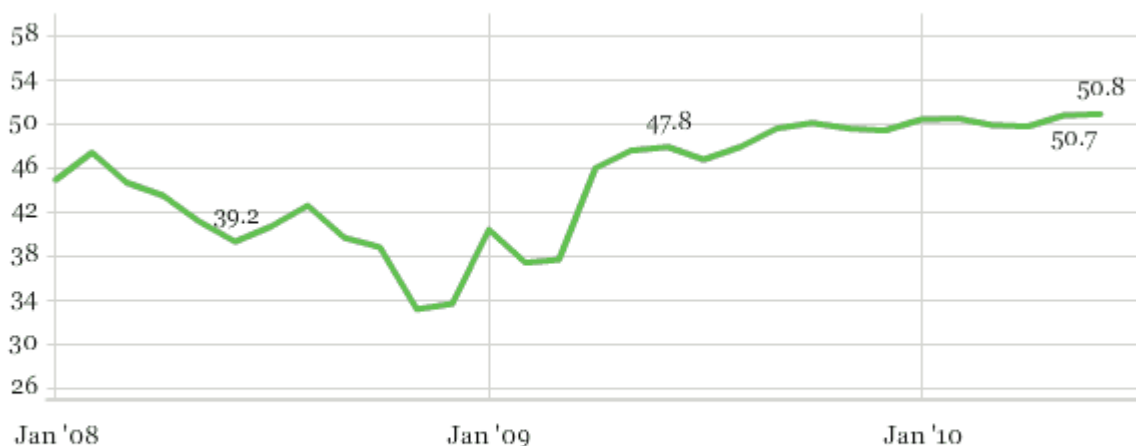
Americans Continue Post-Recession Emotional Recovery

Life evaluation reaches new highs even as economic confidence drops

July 9, 2010

Maintaining the gains seen in May, Americans continued to rate their lives better in June than in any other month since Gallup and Healthways began tracking life evaluation. The Gallup-Healthways Life Evaluation Index was 50.8 in June, surpassing the 47.8 found in June of the same month one year ago, and showing significant recovery from the 39.2 in June of 2008.

Gallup-Healthways Life Evaluation Index Monthly Averages



January 2008-June 2010
Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

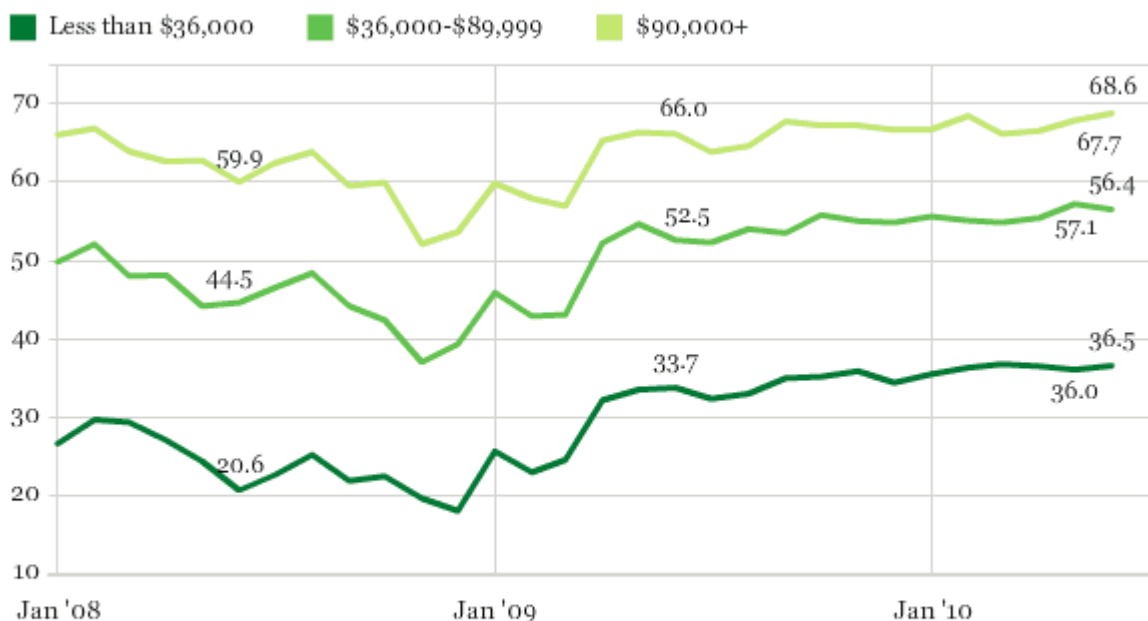
GALLUP®

The [Life Evaluation Index](#), part of the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, classifies Americans as either "thriving," "struggling," or "suffering," according to how they rate their current and future lives on a ladder scale based on the [Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale](#). The overall Life Evaluation Index score is calculated by subtracting the percentage of thriving Americans from the percentage of suffering Americans.

Americans at All Income Levels More Positive

Regardless of how much money they make, Americans are rating their lives better now than at any other time since Gallup and Healthways began tracking wellbeing daily in January 2008. Despite the minor fluctuations from month to month, life evaluation is also significantly higher among all income groups compared with the same month last year and two years ago.

Gallup-Healthways Life Evaluation Index Monthly Averages, by Income



January 2008-June 2010
Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index

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Americans' relatively high life evaluation comes even amid a shaky economy, sinking U.S. stock market, and the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Despite all this, Americans' life ratings continue to climb, revealing their resiliency and ability to adjust their mindset to fit changing circumstances.

Learn more about the [Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index](#).

To view and export trend data and for more information on each of the six Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index sub-indexes, please see the following charts: [Well-Being Index](#), [Life Evaluation Index](#), [Emotional Health Index](#), [Physical Health Index](#), [Healthy Behavior Index](#), [Work Environment Index](#), and [Basic Access Index](#).

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of the Gallup Healthways Well-Being Index survey June 1-June 30, 2010, with a random sample of 30,189 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 1 percentage point.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish speaking. Each daily sample includes a minimum quota of 150 cell phone respondents and 850 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, cell phone-only status, cell phone-mostly status, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2009 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

The Life Evaluation Index is based on the Cantril Self-Anchoring Striving Scale, which asks respondents to evaluate their present and future lives on a scale with steps numbered from 0 to 10, where "0" is the worst possible life and "10" is the best possible life. Those who rate today a "7" or higher and the future an "8" or higher are considered to be "thriving." Those who rate today and the future a "4" or lower on the scale are considered to be "suffering." The overall Life Evaluation Index score is calculated as the percentage of thriving Americans minus the percentage of suffering Americans.

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.

Blacks' Optimism About Their Standards of Living Tops Whites'

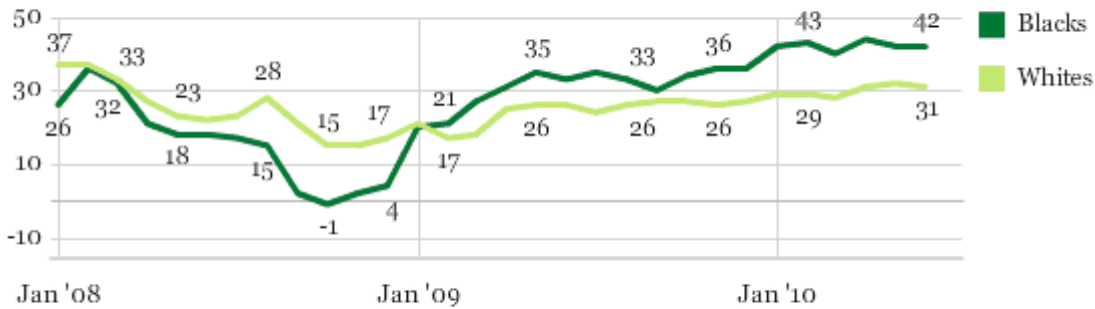
Nearly two-thirds of blacks say their living standards are improving

July 8, 2010

Blacks' ratings on Gallup's Standard of Living Index continue to exceed those for whites, a pattern that has persisted since early 2009.

Standard of Living Index Scores for Blacks and Whites

Monthly averages



Gallup Daily tracking

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Gallup tracks its Standard of Living Index daily, based on how respondents rate their satisfaction with their standards of living and their assessments of whether they are [getting better or getting worse](#). These Index scores -- reported as monthly averages here -- are usually positive because Americans tend to rate their standards of living more positively than negatively on both counts.

Both blacks' and whites' evaluations of their standards of living declined during the financial crisis in 2008, and the Index score for blacks dipped into negative territory in October 2008. Whites' scores remained higher than blacks' throughout 2008.

But blacks' evaluations of their standards of living recovered more rapidly than whites', and by February 2009, the score for blacks overtook that for whites and has remained higher ever since. The improvement in blacks' ratings of their standards of living is evident in both items that make up Gallup's Index.

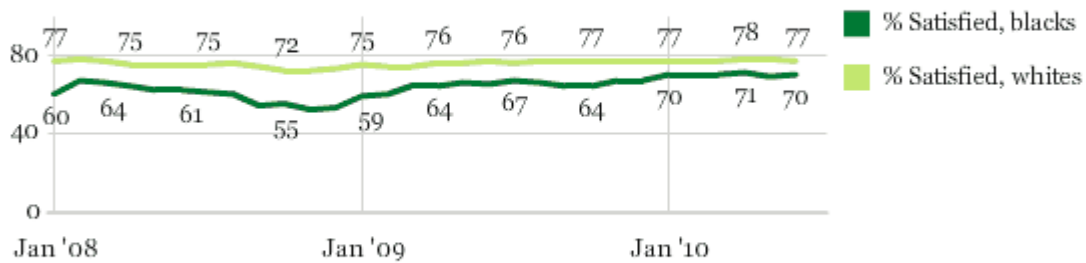
Satisfaction With Standards of Living

An average of 70% blacks this year say they are satisfied with their standards of living. That compares with an average of 64% in 2009 and the low point of 52% satisfaction in November 2008.

Meanwhile, whites' satisfaction with their standards of living has remained relatively flat, even during the height of the financial crisis. Whites continue to be more likely than blacks to say they are satisfied with their standards of living, though the gap has shrunk, from 20 percentage points in late 2008 to 7 points today.

Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with your standard of living, all the things you can buy and do?

Results by race, monthly averages



Gallup Daily tracking

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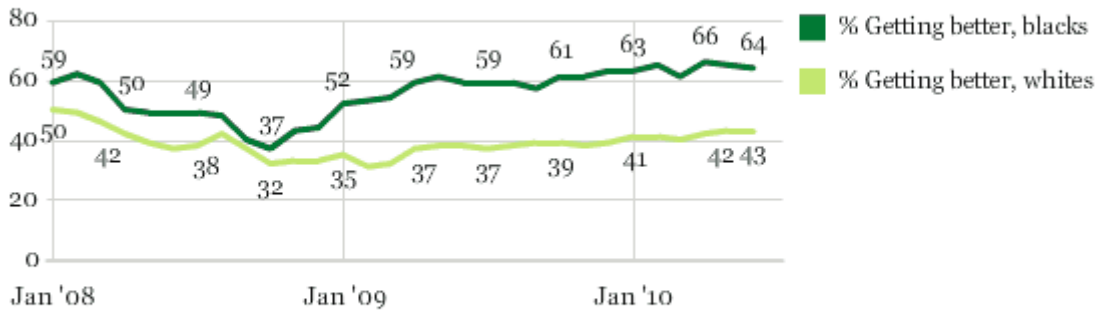
Standards of Living Getting Better or Worse

More than 60% of blacks each month in 2010 say their standards of living are getting better. Those assessments are improved from 2009, and represent a dramatic turnaround from the height of the financial crisis, when 37% of blacks said their standards of living were improving (at that time, 49% of blacks said theirs were getting worse).

The percentage of whites who say their standards of living are getting better has improved much less than that of blacks, at 43% today compared with 32% in October 2008. Whites have been consistently less likely than blacks to say their standards of living are getting better since Gallup tracking began in January 2008.

Right now, do you feel your standard of living is getting better or getting worse?

Results by race, monthly averages



Gallup Daily tracking

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Blacks' higher average Standard of Living Index score, then, is the result of greater optimism among blacks than among whites that their standards of living are improving, a

gap that has expanded, coupled with the narrowing of the white-black gap in the percentage satisfied with their living standards.

The pattern in which whites are more likely than blacks to express satisfaction with their standards of living, but blacks are more likely than whites to say their living standards are getting better, may reflect U.S. economic realities. Whites as a group have higher average standards of living than blacks, so while more whites are probably now at a place of relative financial security, it is not one from which they see much room for improvement. On the other hand, blacks may see more room for improvement because they are in general a group with more room to move upward. Gallup has also found Hispanics to be quite optimistic about improvements in their standards of living.

Bottom Line

Blacks have become more optimistic about their standards of living since the financial crisis of 2008. It is not clear whether this is grounded in real economic gains for blacks over this time, or whether it is merely the result of greater optimism among blacks in general about the economic climate for the United States and their own families.

The latter explanation seems more likely, given that blacks began to be more optimistic around the same time that Barack Obama was inaugurated as president, but before his economic policies could have had a tangible impact on Americans' lives. Blacks voted overwhelmingly for Obama in 2008 and [continue to support him at high levels today](#) even as his overall approval rating has declined.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking June 1-30, 2010, with a random sample of 30,189 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 1 percentage point.

For results based on the total sample of 1,914 blacks, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each daily sample includes a minimum quota of 150 cell phone respondents and 850 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, cell phone-only status, cell phone-mostly status, and phone lines.

Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2009 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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.

Obama Job Approval Rating Down to 38% Among Independents

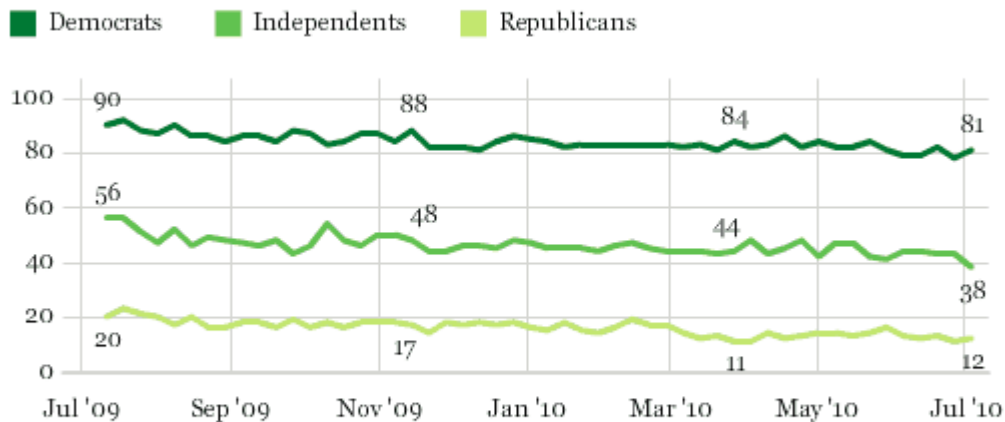
Overall job ratings for the president continue to be below majority level

July 7, 2010

Thirty-eight percent of independents approve of the job Barack Obama is doing as president, the first time independent approval of Obama has dropped below 40% in a Gallup Daily tracking weekly aggregate. Meanwhile, Obama maintains the support of 81% of Democrats, and his job approval among Republicans remains low, at 12%.

Barack Obama Presidential Job Approval Rating, by Party

% Approve, weekly aggregates, recent trend



Gallup Daily tracking

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These data are based on Gallup Daily tracking interviews conducted the week of June 28-July 4.

Over the past year, Obama has lost support among all party groups, though the decline has been steeper among independents than among Republicans or Democrats. Today's 38% approval rating among independents is 18 percentage points lower than the 56% found July 6-12, 2009. During the same period, his support has fallen nine points among Democrats (from 90% to 81%) and eight points among Republicans (from 20% to 12%).

Overall, 46% of Americans approve of the job Obama is doing as president in the June 28-July 4 aggregate, one point above his lowest weekly average. [Obama's average weekly job approval rating](#) has not been above 50% since Feb. 8-14, though it reached the 50% mark as recently as May 3-9.

Obama's lower ratings come amid a still-struggling economy, the ongoing difficulties presented by the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, and the recent change of command in the war in Afghanistan. Underscoring the challenge at hand, [Obama's 44% approval rating in July 2-5 polling](#) (Gallup did not interview July 4) ties his lowest three-day average to date.

Bottom Line

Obama is not alone in facing a challenging second year in office -- Bill Clinton (43%), Ronald Reagan (42%), and Jimmy Carter (40%) all were below the majority approval level in July of their second year. Of course, each of those presidents saw his party [lose a substantial number of seats](#) in that year's midterm congressional elections, though both Reagan and Clinton recovered in time to win a second term as president.

[Gallup Daily tracking of Election 2010 voting preferences](#) suggests a more favorable Republican than Democratic outcome this year if the elections were held today. Even so, there are still nearly four months remaining before the elections, and thus, time for the Democrats' prospects to improve.

Explore Obama's approval ratings in-depth and compare to past presidents in the [Gallup Presidential Job Approval Center](#).

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking June 28-July 3, 2010, with a random sample of 3,055 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 2 percentage points.

For results based on the total sample of 1,045 independents, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each daily sample includes a minimum quota of 150 cell phone respondents and 850 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, cell phone-only status, cell phone-mostly status, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2009 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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.

Americans Closely Divided Over Immigration Reform Priority

Most Republicans would halt flow; majority of Democrats would address current immigrants

July 6, 2010

As President Barack Obama renews his call for a comprehensive approach to addressing illegal immigration, Americans are about equally divided -- 50% to 45% -- over whether the government's main focus should be on halting the flow of illegal immigrants coming into the U.S., or on developing a plan to deal with those already here.

Immigration Priority

If you had to choose, what should be the main focus of the U.S. government in dealing with the issue of illegal immigration -- [developing a plan for halting the flow of illegal immigrants into the U.S., (or) developing a plan to deal with immigrants who are currently in the U.S illegally]?

	Halting flow of illegal immigrants into the U.S.	Developing a plan to deal with immigrants now in U.S. illegally	No opinion
	%	%	%
2010 Jun 11-13	50	45	5
2006 May 5-7	52	43	4

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The latest results come from a June 11-13 *USA Today*/Gallup poll following several months of public discourse over [Arizona's new immigration law](#). In the same poll, by 62% to 32%, Americans are more likely to believe illegal immigrants are a burden on taxpayers by virtue of the social services they receive, rather than people who become productive citizens and eventually contribute their fair share of taxes.

Impact of Illegal Immigrants on Taxes

Which comes closer to your point of view -- [illegal immigrants in the long run become productive citizens and pay their fair share of taxes, (or) illegal immigrants cost the taxpayers too much by using government services like public education and medical services?]

	Pay fair share of taxes	Cost taxpayers too much	Other/ No opinion
	%	%	%
2010 Jun 11-13	32	62	7
2008 Jun 5-Jul 6	31	63	6
2006 Jun 8-25	29	66	4

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Americans' current attitudes on both questions are similar to June 2006, a month after President George W. Bush delivered an Oval Office address calling on Congress to pass a comprehensive immigration reform bill.

Currently rank-and-file Republicans and Democrats differ significantly in their opinions about which aspect of immigration reform should be the priority. More than two-thirds of Republicans want the government's main focus to be on halting the flow of illegal immigrants, while 55% of Democrats want it to be on dealing with illegal immigrants already in the country. Still, this partisan divide is not quite as strong as has been seen over the past year for other issues such as [healthcare reform](#), [labor organizing](#), and [oil drilling](#).

At the same time, the plurality, if not majority, of all three political parties believe illegal immigrants cost taxpayers more than they contribute to the tax rolls.

Views of Illegal Immigration/Illegal Immigrants

by Party ID

	Republican	Independent	Democrat
	%	%	%
GOVERNMENT PRIORITY			
Halt flow of illegal immigrants	67	47	43
Deal with illegal immigrants now here	29	46	55
IMPACT ON TAXES			
Cost taxpayers too much	78	63	50
Become productive taxpayers	17	31	43

USA Today/Gallup, June 11-13, 2010

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Illegal Immigration a Mid-Ranking Concern

Illegal immigration is positioned fairly high as a public concern on two additional Gallup questions included in the latest poll. At 5%, it receives fewer spontaneous mentions from Americans as the nation's "[most important problem](#)" than the economy, unemployment, Gulf oil disaster, poor leadership, healthcare, and the federal budget deficit. However, it scores higher than the environment, education, crime, and a host of other issues.

Similarly, in a separate question, the 64% of Americans rating illegal immigration as an "extremely serious" or "very serious" problem is less than the serious ratings for the federal debt, terrorism, healthcare costs, and unemployment. However, it essentially ties U.S. military involvement in Afghanistan and Iraq and leads the environment, government power, corporate power, and discrimination against minorities issues.

Perceived Threats to the U.S.

How serious a threat to the future wellbeing of the United States do you consider each of the following -- extremely serious, very serious, somewhat serious, not very serious, or not a threat at all?

	Extremely/ very serious
	%
Federal government debt	84
Unemployment	83
Terrorism	80
Healthcare costs	80
Decision to have U.S. troops in combat in Iraq/Afghanistan	65
Illegal immigration	64
The size and power of the federal government	58
The environment, including global warming	54
The size and power of large corporations	54
Discrimination against minority groups	42

USA Today/Gallup, June 11-13, 2010

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Eight in ten Republicans (79%) compared with half of independents (51%) consider illegal immigration an extremely or very serious threat.

Bottom Line

Americans are clearly concerned about the illegal immigration problem. To succeed in addressing the issue, however, policy-makers may need to be aware that Americans want to see at least as much emphasis on sealing the border as on addressing the status of current illegal residents. Any bill that is perceived as leaning too far in either direction is bound to produce a political backlash.

Survey Methods

Results for this *USA Today*/Gallup poll are based on telephone interviews conducted June 11-13, 2010, with a random sample of 1,014 adults, aged 18 and older, living in the continental U.S., selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

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

sample includes a minimum quota of 150 cell phone-only respondents and 850 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, education, region, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2009 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in continental U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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.

Self-Reported Spending Declines in June; Still Tops a Year Ago

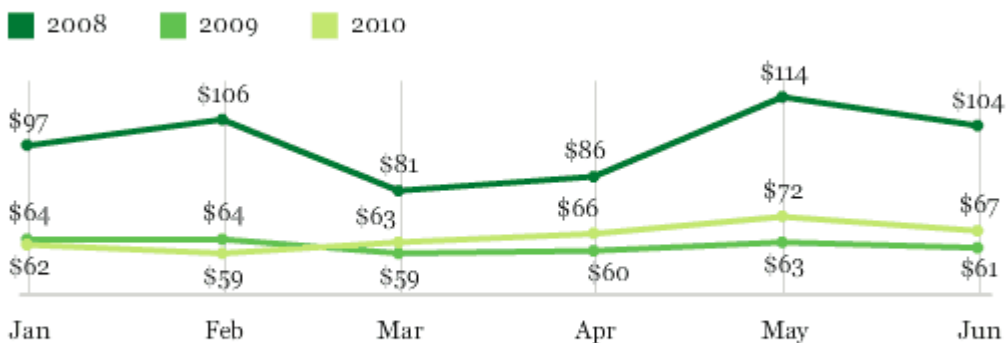
Year-over-year spending is higher than in June 2009 but far below June 2008

July 6, 2010

Americans report spending an average of \$67 per day during June in stores, restaurants, gas stations, and online -- down \$5 from May 2010, but up \$6 from June 2009. Consumer discretionary spending thus remains at the upper end of the 2009 monthly new normal range (\$59 to \$67), but far below the 2008 spending range (\$81-\$114).

U.S. Consumer Spending, January to June, 2008 vs. 2009 vs. 2010

Monthly averages of self-reported average daily spending, in U.S. dollars



Gallup Daily tracking

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Consumer spending is flat in the Midwest and South in June compared with May 2010, and down in the East and West. Year-over-year spending is up sharply in the Midwest -- the top spending region in June -- and the South. However, it is down slightly in the East and down somewhat more in the West.

East: Down From May 2010 and June 2009

Americans in the East reported spending an average of \$62 per day in June, down \$13 from May and \$3 from a year ago. Their spending remains far below the \$114 average of June 2008. Easterners' spending seems to have stabilized after the financial crisis and given the improved outlook for financial institutions.

East: Consumer Spending, January to June, 2008 vs. 2009 vs. 2010

Monthly averages of self-reported average daily spending, in U.S. dollars



Gallup Daily tracking

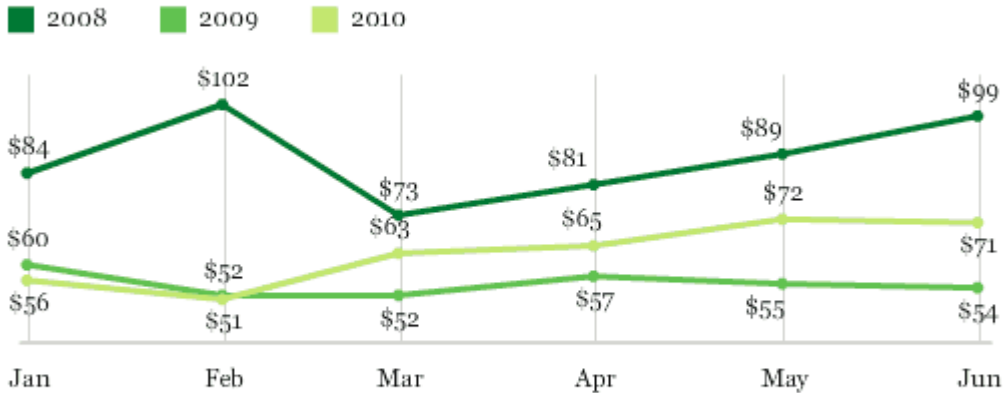
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Midwest: Flat Compared With May and Up Sharply From June 2009

Americans in the Midwest spent about the same amount in June as in May. At the same time, the much-improved U.S. manufacturing situation has spending in this region up sharply from a year ago. As is true in other regions, spending in June 2010 trails that of June 2008.

Midwest: Consumer Spending, January to June, 2008 vs. 2009 vs. 2010

Monthly averages of self-reported average daily spending, in U.S. dollars



Gallup Daily tracking

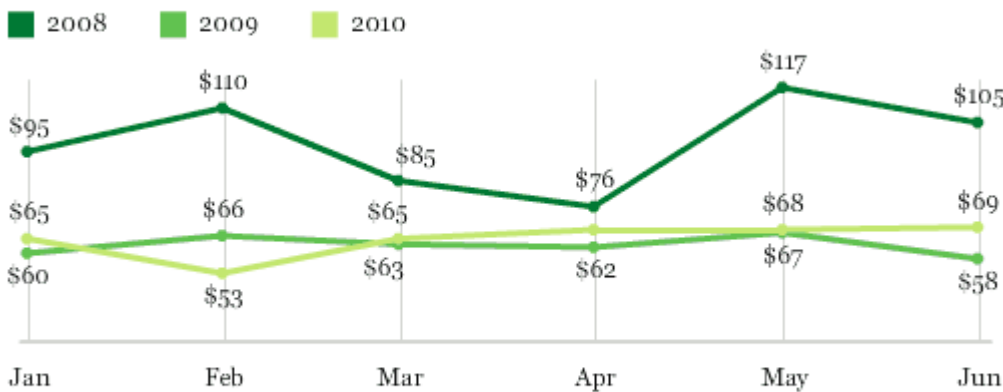
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South: Flat in June 2010 but Up From June 2009

In the South, spending averaged \$69 per day in June -- essentially the same as in May, and up \$11 from June of a year ago. However, average spending here remains far below the \$105 average of June 2008. Energy prices have remained high in 2010 and this may have helped income and spending in the South. While the Gulf oil spill is hurting many forms of spending in this region, the cleanup effort itself may be something of an offsetting factor, at least in the immediate term.

South: Consumer Spending, January to June, 2008 vs. 2009 vs. 2010

Monthly averages of self-reported average daily spending, in U.S. dollars



Gallup Daily tracking

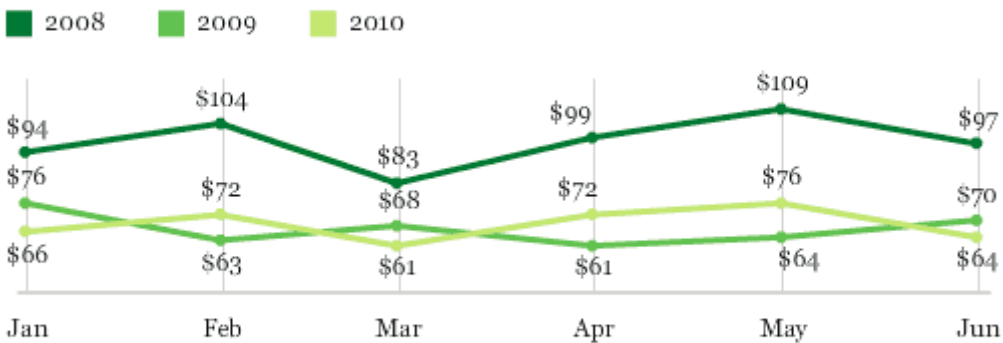
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West: Down Compared With May and June 2009

Spending in the West was down in June compared with May 2010 and June 2009, and was far below 2008 levels. The housing difficulties in the West continue to depress overall spending in the region.

West: Consumer Spending, January to June, 2008 vs. 2009 vs. 2010

Monthly averages of self-reported average daily spending, in U.S. dollars



Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP

Spending Not Much Different From the 2009 New Normal

Americans' discretionary spending during the first half of 2010 has been generally consistent with the 2009 "new normal" spending range. Over the past couple of months, spending nationwide has been at or slightly above the upper end of the new normal range, as spending in the Midwest has shown significant improvement and as ["frugality fatigue" among upper-income consumers had its moment](#) in May.

Further, Gallup modeling suggests that spending improves as job market conditions get better. In this regard, it is not surprising that spending is highest in the Midwest and South where June job market conditions are best, according to Gallup's Job Creation Index.

While the slightly better spending of the first six months of 2010 is also consistent with a more stable and slowly expanding economy, it is nowhere near the strong upturn many on Wall Street, as well as retailers on Main Street, had hoped to see when spending picked up earlier this year. Americans' self-reported spending remains far below that of 2008 -- and that was a recession year.

Given [the current jobs picture](#), the weak financial and equity markets, the lack of recovery in housing, and the global move toward fiscal austerity, it is hard to envision the short-term catalyst that will get Americans' spending to return to 2008 levels or something even better. As a result, retailers may want to plan for a continuation of the spending new normal during the second half of 2010.

Gallup.com reports results from these indexes in daily, weekly, and monthly averages and in Gallup.com stories. Complete trend data are always available to view and export in the following charts:

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking June 1-30, 2010, with a random sample of 14,853 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 1 percentage point.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each daily sample includes a minimum quota of 150 cell phone respondents and 850 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, cell phone-only status, cell phone-mostly status, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2009 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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.

Americans Oppose Federal Suit Against Ariz. Immigration Law

Republicans are highly opposed; a majority of Democrats are in favor

July 9, 2010

Americans' initial reactions to the U.S. Justice Department lawsuit against Arizona's new illegal immigration law are more negative than positive, by a 50% to 33% margin.

The Justice Department lawsuit asks for a preliminary injunction to prevent the Arizona law from taking effect, arguing that Arizona's law "pre-empts" the federal government's responsibility to deal with immigration issues. President Obama publicly opposes the Arizona legislation, and the lawsuit thus becomes the latest part of a debate that may have ramifications for this fall's midterm elections.

Emotions run high on both sides of the issue. The substantial majority of those in favor and those opposed to the lawsuit say they feel strongly about their position.

The margin of opposition to the lawsuit is highest among those who are following news about the law most closely.

As you may know, the U.S. federal government yesterday filed a lawsuit against the Arizona immigration law. Do you favor or oppose the federal government's lawsuit to prevent the Arizona immigration law from taking effect?

By how closely respondents are following news about the law recently passed by the state of Arizona that deals with illegal immigrants in that state

	Favor	Oppose
Following very closely	31%	64%
Following somewhat closely	40%	52%
Not following closely	26%	36%

July 7, 2010

Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP®

A Republican-controlled Arizona House and Senate passed the law, a Republican governor signed it, and both of the state's Republican U.S. senators (John McCain and Jon Kyl) support it. Official opposition has been centered primarily among Democrats (including President Obama and current Secretary of Homeland Security Janet

Napolitano, who as governor of Arizona vetoed similar bills passed by the state legislature), and a Democratic administration filed the lawsuit against the Arizona law.

The general public's reaction to the lawsuit reflects this partisan divergence. Almost 8 out of 10 Republicans are opposed, while 56% of Democrats are in favor. Independents tilt toward opposition.

Opinions About Federal Government Lawsuit Against the Arizona Immigration Law, by Partisanship

	Favor	Oppose
Republicans	11%	79%
Independents	27%	56%
Democrats	56%	27%

July 7, 2010
Gallup Daily tracking

GALLUP®

Bottom Line

The fact that Americans are more likely to oppose than favor the federal government's lawsuit against Arizona's controversial immigration law is in line with previous polling showing that [Americans generally favor the Arizona bill](#). This means the Obama administration is sailing against the tide of public opinion in its efforts to block the law, although members of Obama's own party certainly support the administration.

The political implications of the lawsuit are difficult to predict with precision at this juncture. Republican leaders will hope that reaction against the lawsuit generates more support for GOP candidates running on an anti-administration platform, while Democrats may hope that the lawsuit solidifies support among Hispanic voters in key congressional districts and states with close Senate and gubernatorial races.

Survey Methods

Results are based on telephone interviews conducted as part of Gallup Daily tracking July 7, 2010, with a random sample of 1,007 adults, aged 18 and older, living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia, selected using random-digit-dial sampling.

For results based on the total sample of national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

Interviews are conducted with respondents on landline telephones and cellular phones, with interviews conducted in Spanish for respondents who are primarily Spanish-speaking. Each daily sample includes a minimum quota of 150 cell phone respondents

and 850 landline respondents, with additional minimum quotas among landline respondents for gender within region. Landline respondents are chosen at random within each household on the basis of which member had the most recent birthday.

Samples are weighted by gender, age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, education, region, adults in the household, cell phone-only status, cell phone-mostly status, and phone lines. Demographic weighting targets are based on the March 2009 Current Population Survey figures for the aged 18 and older non-institutionalized population living in U.S. telephone households. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting and sample design.

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

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

Army, Freedom and Flag Make Americans Proud

July 05, 2010

Adults in the United States hold favourable views on three institutions and features, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. More than 80 per cent of respondents are very or moderately proud of the U.S. Army, freedom and the American flag.

Food is fourth on the list of sources of pride with 74 per cent, followed by democracy with 73 per cent, American sports with 69 per cent, American television with 50 per cent, and America's justice system with 49 per cent. The level of pride is considerably lower for the U.S. Congress and the economy.

On Jun. 30, U.S. President Barack Obama discussed the role of the U.S. military, saying, "When you look at a place like Afghanistan, or you look at a place like Iraq, so many of our military personnel are having to engage in work that really should be civilian work—helping to build schools, helping to build bridges, helping to set up rule of law and courts, helping—agricultural specialists to help people learn how to irrigate their fields so that they can grow more food. And the problem is, is that we don't have a civilian effort that has always matched up to the military efforts."

Polling Data

Below is a list of institutions and features that can elicit feelings of pride among Americans. For each one, please say if it makes you very proud, moderately proud, not too proud, or not proud at all. ("Very Proud" or "Moderately Proud" listed)

The U.S. Army 89%

Freedom	87%
The American flag	86%
Food	74%
Democracy	73%
American sports	69%
American television	50%
America's justice system	49%
The U.S. Congress	26%
The economy	19%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,004 American adults, conducted on Jun. 17 and Jun. 18, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Reagan, Clinton Seen as Best Recent U.S. Presidents

July 06, 2010

Americans pick two politicians as their best heads of state since 1969, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 32 per cent of respondents think Ronald Reagan has been the best recent president, while 30 per cent select Bill Clinton.

When asked who the worst recent president has been, 33 per cent of respondents select George W. Bush, while 23 per cent choose Barack Obama.

Reagan—a Republican who governed from 1981 to 1989—had been an actor prior to his victory in the 1966 California gubernatorial election. During his two terms in office, Reagan endeavoured to reduce government spending and to lower taxes during a time of high unemployment and inflation in the U.S. While credited for launching several anti-drug campaigns, the president was also criticized for failing to acknowledge the HIV-AIDS epidemic.

Clinton—a Democrat and former governor of Arkansas—won the 1992 U.S. presidential election. His campaign was largely based on a condemnation of the economic recession of the early 1990s. In 1996, Clinton became the first Democrat to serve two terms as president since Franklin Delano Roosevelt, winning 49.2 per cent of all cast ballots and 379 electoral votes. Clinton's last term in office was tarnished by his admission of an extra-marital affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

Earlier this month, Republican South Carolina senator Lindsey Graham discussed the National Tea Party movement, saying, "It's just unsustainable because they can never come up with a coherent vision for governing the country. It will die out. We don't have a lot of Reagan-type leaders in our party. Remember Ronald Reagan Democrats? I want a Republican that can attract Democrats. (...) Ronald Reagan would have a hard time getting elected as a Republican today."

Polling Data

We would like to ask you some questions about the people who have served as President of the United States since 1969. Which of these politicians do you think has been the best president since 1969?

Ronald Reagan	32%
Bill Clinton	30%
Barack Obama	7%
Jimmy Carter	5%
George W. Bush	3%
Gerald Ford	2%
George H. W. Bush	2%
Richard Nixon	2%
Not sure	16%

And which of these politicians do you think has been the worst president since 1969?

George W. Bush	33%
Barack Obama	23%
George H. W. Bush	9%
Richard Nixon	7%
Bill Clinton	7%
Jimmy Carter	4%
Ronald Reagan	3%
Gerald Ford	1%

Not sure 13%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,004 American adults, conducted on Jun. 17 and Jun. 18, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Americans Agree on Second Amendment's Meaning

July 08, 2010

Most people in the United States interpret their Constitution's Second Amendment in the same fashion, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 81 per cent of respondents believe the Second Amendment means that individuals have the right to keep and bear arms.

The U.S. Constitution's Second Amendment guarantees Americans the right "to keep and bear arms." Some American states have enacted their own gun control regulations, independent of existing federal legislation.

In June 2008, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled—in a 5-4 decision—that "the right of the people to keep and bear arms" is not limited to state militias and protects "the inherent right of self-defence."

Last month, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled—again in a 5-4 decision—that all Americans have a constitutional right to have a handgun at home for self-defence, even in jurisdictions that have outlawed the weapons.

Executive vice-president of the National Rifle Association (NRA) Wayne Lapiere expressed satisfaction with the recent ruling, saying, "I don't want to win on philosophy and lose on freedom. What good is a right without the gun?"

Polling Data

The Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution reads: "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." For you, personally, what does the Second Amendment mean?

That individuals have the right to keep and bear arms 81%

That individuals do not have the right to keep and bear arms 9%

Not sure 10%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,001 American adults, conducted from Jun. 25 to Jun. 27, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Canadians Demand Names in CSIS Controversy

July 09, 2010

Many adults in Canada believe the names of the politicians who allegedly are under the influence of foreign governments should be revealed, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 67 per cent of respondents think the names should be made public.

In an interview broadcast last month, Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) Director Richard Fadden claimed that the agency believes that at least two provincial cabinet ministers and several British Columbia municipal politicians "are under at least the general influence of a foreign government."

On Jun. 23, British Columbia Premier Gordon Campbell expressed dismay at Fadden's allegations, saying, "I was frankly shocked that someone in a position of that kind of responsibility would say those words without notifying the head of the provincial public service that was involved, without notifying someone in the province that they believed municipal politicians were involved. It was unprecedented, it was unprofessional, and candidly, with what I know on the face of today, it's totally unacceptable."

On Jul. 5, Fadden appeared before the House of Commons standing committee on public safety, and said that he will name the politicians to the federal government at a later date.

Polling Data

As you may know, CSIS Director Richard Fadden claimed in an interview broadcast last month that the agency believes that at least two provincial cabinet ministers and several British Columbia municipal politicians "are under at least the general influence of a foreign government." Fadden has said he will name the politicians to the federal government. From what you have seen, read or heard about this, do you think the names of the ministers and politicians Fadden has referred to should be revealed to the public?

Yes, the names should be revealed to the public	67%
No, the names should not be revealed to the public	16%
Not sure	17%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,009 Canadian adults, conducted from Jul. 6 to Jul. 7, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Canadians Would Keep Stanley Park Name

July 07, 2010

Many Canadians believe Vancouver's Stanley Park should retain its name, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 61 per cent of respondents agree with this notion.

On Jul. 1, Ian Campbell—a hereditary chief from the Squamish First Nation—suggested changing the name of Stanley Park to Xwayxway (pronounced kwhy-kway), saying, "To restore the name to Xwayxway would be deeply meaningful—we'd have to consult our elders and council, but I think it's high time that was done."

Stanley Park opened in 1888 and is named after Lord Stanley, who at the time served as Canada's Governor General. Xwayxway was the name of an Aboriginal village located inside what is now Stanley Park.

On Jul. 6, the federal government issued a communiqué rejecting any change to the park's name. The statement read: "Stanley Park now has an established name, which it has held for over a century, and which is both cherished by the citizens of Vancouver and recognized around the world."

Polling Data

Last week, a hereditary chief from the Squamish First Nation suggested changing the name of Vancouver's Stanley Park to Xwayxway (pronounced kwhy-kway). Stanley Park opened in 1888 and is named after Lord Stanley, who at the time served as Canada's Governor General. Xwayxway was the name of an Aboriginal village located inside what is now Stanley Park. Thinking about this, which one of these options would you prefer?

Keeping the name Stanley Park	61%
Renaming the park as Stanley Park - Xwayxway	23%
Changing the park's name to Xwayxway	6%
Not sure	10%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,009 Canadian adults, conducted on Jul. 5 and Jul. 6, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Trudeau Best, Mulroney Worst for Canadians

July 05, 2010

Pierre Trudeau remains the favourite recent former head of government for Canadians, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 38 per cent of respondents think Trudeau has been Canada's best prime minister since 1968.

Jean Chrétien is second with 13 per cent, followed by Stephen Harper with 11 per cent, Brian Mulroney with seven per cent, Paul Martin with three per cent, Joe Clark with two per cent, and Kim Campbell with one per cent.

Trudeau—a member of the Liberal party—headed the federal administration from 1968 to 1979, and from 1980 to 1984. During his tenure as prime minister, Trudeau envisioned the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and Canada patriated the constitution from Britain. The 1982 constitution was signed without Quebec. Two different efforts by the Mulroney government—the Meech Lake Accord in the 1980s and the 1992 Charlottetown referendum—failed to bring the province into the constitution.

Mulroney was regarded as the worst prime minister by 24 per cent of respondents—up five points since May 2009—followed by Harper with 18 per cent, Trudeau with 12 per cent, Chrétien with 10 per cent, Kim Campbell with eight per cent, Clark with six per cent, Martin with five per cent, and John Turner with one per cent.

Mulroney—a member of the Progressive Conservative party—served as prime minister from 1984 to 1993, winning two majority mandates. His government cancelled the National Energy Program—developed by Trudeau—which proved extremely unpopular in Western Canada, and negotiated two separate free trade agreements.

Mulroney's second term was marked by an economic recession and the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST). In the 1993 Canadian federal election, the governing Progressive Conservatives—led by Campbell—were reduced to just two seats in the House of Commons.

Shortly after leaving office in 1993, Mulroney accepted thousands of dollars in cash from German-Canadian businessman Karl-Heinz Schreiber. This year, an inquiry conducted by former justice Jeffrey Oliphant concluded that the former prime minister contravened his own ethical standards when he accepted cash payments from Schreiber, and described the business relationship between the two men as "inappropriate."

Last month, New Democratic Party (NDP) lawmaker Pat Martin called for Mulroney to be stripped of the Order of Canada—the highest order administered in the Canadian system of honours—saying, "I think his reputation is tarnished to the degree where even the term honourable is suspect."

Polling Data

We would like to ask you some questions about the people who have served as prime minister of Canada since 1968. Which of these politicians do you think has been Canada's best prime minister?

	Jun. 2010	May 2009	Jun. 2008
Pierre Trudeau	38%	39%	38%
Jean Chrétien	13%	9%	11%
Stephen Harper	11%	11%	12%
Brian Mulroney	7%	8%	9%
Paul Martin	3%	4%	3%
Joe Clark	2%	3%	2%
Kim Campbell	1%	1%	0%
John Turner	0%	1%	1%
Not sure	23%	23%	23%

We would like to ask you some questions about the people who have served as prime minister of Canada since 1968. Which of these politicians do you think has been Canada's worst prime minister?

	Jun. 2010	May 2009	Jun. 2008
Brian Mulroney	24%	19%	25%
Stephen Harper	18%	22%	15%
Pierre Trudeau	12%	10%	13%
Jean Chrétien	10%	12%	11%
Kim Campbell	8%	9%	6%
Joe Clark	6%	4%	3%
Paul Martin	5%	6%	8%
John Turner	1%	4%	2%
Not sure	17%	15%	17%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,009 Canadian adults, conducted on Jun. 22 and Jun. 23, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

Half of Canadians Perceive Economy as Good

July 04, 2010

Fewer people in Canada—but still a majority—express positive views on the country's financial standing, according to a poll by Angus Reid Public Opinion. 51 per cent of respondents rate the economic conditions in Canada today as good or very good, down seven points since May.

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

Since 2007, defaults on so-called subprime mortgages—credit given to high-risk borrowers—in the United States caused volatility in domestic and global financial markets and ultimately pushed the U.S. economy into a recession. A recession is defined as two consecutive quarters of negative growth. The crisis has affected the global financial and credit systems.

Canada's unemployment rate stood at 8.1 per cent in April 2010.

On Jul. 1, Harper expressed satisfaction with the current state of affairs, saying, "Our economy begins to emerge from the global recession in the strongest position of any advanced country in the world."

Polling Data

How would you rate the economic conditions in Canada today?

	Jun. 2010	May 2010	Apr. 2010	Mar. 2010
Very Good / Good	51%	58%	58%	54%
Poor / Very Poor	45%	38%	38%	41%
Not sure	4%	4%	5%	5%

Source: Angus Reid Public Opinion

Methodology: Online interviews with 1,009 Canadian adults, conducted on Jun. 22 and Jun. 23, 2010. Margin of error is 3.1 per cent.

LATIN AMERICA

Peruvians Still Waiting for Stronger Candidates

July 09, 2010

The race to become the next president of Peru still lacks a strong frontrunner, according to a poll by Ipsos, Apoyo, Opinión y Mercado published in *El Comercio*. 22 per cent of respondents would vote for Keiko Sofía Fujimori—daughter of jailed former president Alberto Fujimori and candidate of Strength 2011—in next year's ballot, up four points since May.

Lima mayor Luis Castañeda Lossio of the National Solidarity Party (PSN) is a close second with 21 per cent, followed by Ollanta Humala of the Peruvian Nationalist Party (PNP) with 13 per cent, and former president Alejandro Toledo with 12 per cent. Support is lower for personality and writer Jaime Bayly, current prime minister Javier Velázquez and former economy minister Pedro Pablo Kuczynski.

In June 2006, Alan García—a member of American Revolutionary People's Alliance (APRA)—won Peru's presidential election in a run-off against Humala. In July, García officially took over as president. He had previously served as Peru's head of state from 1985 to 1990, when he oversaw a major economic crisis.

In April 2009, Alberto Fujimori was found guilty "beyond all reasonable doubt" of four charges laid against him—including misuse of public funds, kidnapping and murder—and sentenced to serve 25 years in prison. In September, Fujimori was handed a new six-year sentence, this time for corruption. Keiko Fujimori has said she will grant her father a pardon if elected.

Vladimiro Montesinos, Fujimori's closest advisor and the head of Peru's National Intelligence Service (SIN) during his decade-long tenure, has been convicted in 13 different trials for crimes such as plotting against national security, arms dealing and embezzlement. He is currently serving a 20-year sentence in Peru and awaiting a verdict on other 50 or so processes against him.

Last month, Peruvian finance minister Mercedes Araoz talked about the roster of presidential candidates saying that they all are "market-friendly," and adding, "I think that increasingly the presidential candidates are coming from the center, not from the radical left. (...) Even Humala has started to change his rhetoric and is going more toward the center."

The next presidential and congressional elections are scheduled for Apr. 10, 2011. If no presidential candidate garners more than 50 per cent of all cast ballots in the first round, a run-off between the top two vote-getters must take place.

Polling Data

If the 2011 presidential election were held tomorrow, who would you vote for?

	Jun. 2010	May 2010	Apr. 2010
Keiko Sofía Fujimori	22%	18%	18%
Luis Castañeda Lossio	21%	22%	22%
Ollanta Humala	13%	13%	14%
Alejandro Toledo	12%	13%	12%
Jaime Bayly	4%	5%	3%
Javier Velázquez	3%	3%	2%
Pedro Pablo Kuczynski	2%	2%	2%
Other / Blank / Undecided	26%	24%	23%

Source: Ipsos, Apoyo, Opinión y Mercado / El Comercio

Methodology: Interviews with 1,200 Peruvian adults, conducted on Mar. 9 and Mar. 10, 2010. Margin of error is 2.8 per cent.

Guatemalans Reject Same-Sex Marriage

July 08, 2010

The vast majority of people in Guatemala oppose the notion of allowing homosexuals to marry, according to a poll by Cid-Gallup. 85 per cent of respondents disagree with same-sex marriage.

Homosexuality was considered as a crime in Guatemala until 1871. The country does not currently convey any sort of legal recognition to same-sex partnerships.

Guatemalan voters elected a new president in November 2007. Final results gave Álvaro Colom of the left-leaning National Union of Hope (UNE) 52.82 per cent of the vote. His run-off contender, Otto Pérez Molina of the right-leaning Patriot Party (PP), finished

second with 47.18 per cent of all cast ballots. Colom was sworn in as president in January 2008.

During his campaign, Colom rejected calls to review the issue of the legal status of same-sex couples, saying, "God said Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve."

Same-sex marriage is currently legal in the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, Canada, South Africa, Norway, Sweden, Portugal and Iceland. At least 24 countries offer some form of legal recognition to same-sex unions.

Polling Data

Do you agree or disagree with allowing homosexual couples to get married, just like heterosexual couples do?

Agree 12%

Disagree 85%

Not sure 3%

Source: Cid-Gallup

Methodology: Interviews with 1,200 Guatemalan adults, conducted from Jun. 7 to Jun. 17, 2010. Margin of error is 2.8 per cent.

President Piñera Backed by Majority in Chile

July 07, 2010

Most people in Chile support the performance of Sebastián Piñera, according to a poll by CERC. 54 per cent of respondents approve of the president's work so far, while 33 per cent disapprove of it.

In January, Chileans voted in the second round of the presidential election. Opposition candidate Piñera of the centre-right Coalition for Change (CC) defeated former president Eduardo Frei of the governing centre-left Agreement of Parties for Democracy (CPD) with 51.61 per cent of the vote. In March, Piñera was sworn in as president.

The CPD had administered the Chilean government since the return of democracy after the dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet in March 1990. Michelle Bachelet—who became the first South American woman to be democratically elected as president in 2006—was ineligible for a consecutive term in office.

In June, Chile's ambassador to Argentina Miguel Otero was forced to step down after making controversial remarks to the press. Otero praised the Pinochet dictatorship, saying that "most people did not suffer" under the regime, and adding that his rule was necessary for Chile.

Close to 3,000 dissidents died under Pinochet's rule between 1973 and 1990. Thousands more disappeared, were tortured or forced to leave the country.

Otero later apologized publicly, saying, "To all those who suffered under whatever dictatorship, to all those whose human rights have been violated, I offer my sincere apologies as they are right to feel offended."

Polling Data

Do you approve or disapprove of the performance of Sebastián Piñera as president?

Approve 54%

Disapprove 33%

*Source: Centro de Estudios de la Realidad Contemporánea (CERC)
Methodology: Interviews with 1,500 Chilean adults, conducted from May 24 to Jun. 6, 2010. Margin of error is 3 per cent.*

Colombians Say Santos Will Be Same as Uribe

July 06, 2010

The large majority of Colombians think the administration of president-elect Juan Manuel Santos will be very similar to that of outgoing head of state Álvaro Uribe, according to a poll by Datexco released by *El Tiempo* and W Radio. 74.8 per cent of respondents expect the two presidents to lead very similar governments.

Colombians voted in the second round of presidential elections on Jun. 20. Santos of the governing U Party (U) finished in first place with 69.1 per cent of all cast ballots. Antanas Mockus of the Green Party (PV) was a distant second with 27.5 per cent.

Santos served as defence minister under Uribe. He has vowed to continue his policies, mostly focused on security and attracting foreign investment.

Uribe has been Colombia's president since 2002. In the May 2006 election, he won a new four-year term with 62.2 per cent of all cast ballots after overseeing a constitutional amendment that allowed him to run for a second consecutive term in office.

Uribe has been praised for reducing kidnappings and terrorist acts perpetrated by the rebel Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). However, his administration has been tarnished by several major scandals, including the so-called "para-politics" affair, which has linked three quarters of allied lawmakers with right-wing death squads, and the "false-positives" executions scandal, which saw the killing of over 2,000 disadvantaged civilian men by army officers who later presented their remains as FARC casualties to inflate the body count.

In his victory speech, Santos addressed Uribe directly, telling him, "This victory is also yours. [You] are one of the best presidents Colombia has ever had."

Polling Data

Do you expect the government of Juan Manuel Santos to be similar to the government of Álvaro Uribe?

Very similar 74.8%

Moderately similar 15.8%

Not similar at all 3.0%

Source: Datexco / El Tiempo / W Radio

Methodology: Interviews with 1,200 Colombian adults, conducted on Jun. 24, 2010.

Margin of error is 2.9 per cent.

Peruvians Not Content With President García

July 05, 2010

A large majority of people in Peru continue to reject the leadership of Alan García, according to a poll by Ipsos, Apoyo, Opinión y Mercado published in *El Comercio*. 69 per cent of respondents disapprove of the president's performance, unchanged since May.

In June 2006, García—a member of the American Revolutionary People's Alliance (APRA)—won Peru's presidential election in a run-off against nationalist Ollanta Humala of the Union for Peru (UP). In July, García officially took over as president. He had previously served as Peru's head of state from 1985 to 1990, when he oversaw a major economic crisis.

In October 2008, García accepted the resignation of his entire cabinet following allegations of corruption related to oil concessions. Leftist politician and Lambayeque region president Yehude Simón took over as Peru's new prime minister.

In June 2009, Simón acknowledged his failure in handling an indigenous uprising in the Amazon region in reaction to new government mining and resource-exploitation laws, and tendered his resignation. Simón was replaced by Congress president Javier Velásquez in a new cabinet shuffle.

On Jun. 23, García sent back to Congress an approved bill that would have required the government to consult with indigenous groups before starting resource-exploration or infrastructure projects in their lands, declaring, "We defend the concept of prior consultation that has been signed internationally by Peru, but in no case can the consultation signify a right to veto. That is to say, when they want to construct a highway or a gas pipeline, if the community says no, there wouldn't be a gas pipeline and Lima would be without light and without gas, when the country is for all Peruvians."

The next presidential and congressional elections are scheduled for Apr. 10, 2011. García is constitutionally barred from seeking a consecutive term in office.

Polling Data

Do you approve or disapprove of Alan García's performance as president?

	Jun. 2010	May 2010	Apr. 2010	Mar. 2010	Feb. 2010
Approve	27%	26%	27%	29%	26%
Disapprove	69%	69%	67%	62%	68%

Source: Ipsos, Apoyo, Opinión y Mercado / El Comercio
Methodology: Interviews with 1,200 Peruvian adults, conducted from Jun. 16 to Jun. 18, 2010. Margin of error is 2.8 per cent.

Rousseff's Bid Grows Stronger in Brazil

July 05, 2010

Dilma Rousseff's bid to become the next president of Brazil is gaining momentum, according to a poll by Ibope. 40 per cent of respondents would vote for Rousseff of the ruling Workers' Party (PT) in this year's election, up three points since May.

Jose Serra of the Brazilian Party of Social Democracy (PSDB) is now in second place with 35 per cent, followed by Marina Silva of the Green Party (PV) with nine per cent.

In a second round scenario, Rousseff holds a seven-point lead over Serra.

Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva—a member of the PT—won the October 2002 presidential election with 61 per cent of the vote in a run-off against Serra. 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 has publicly endorsed Rousseff as his preferred successor. In February, the PT officially selected Rousseff as the party's presidential candidate.

In March, Rousseff stepped down as Lula's chief of staff and Serra resigned as governor of the state of Sao Paulo in order to launch their presidential bids.

On Jun. 13, Rousseff commented on her preferred fiscal policies, saying, "We will invest to computerize all our taxes and increase the number of taxpayers while reducing the tax rates."

Lula is ineligible for a third term in office. The first round of Brazil's next presidential election is scheduled for Oct. 3.

Polling Data

Which of these candidates would you vote for in the next presidential election?

	Jun. 2010	May 2010	Apr. 2010
Dilma Rousseff (PT)	40%	37%	29%
Jose Serra (PSDB)	35%	37%	36%
Marina Silva (PV)	9%	9%	8%
Ciro Gomes (PSB)	n.a.	n.a.	8%
None / Blank ballot	6%	9%	10%
Not sure / Undecided	10%	8%	9%

Run-off scenario

	Jun. 2010	May 2010
Dilma Rousseff (PT)	45%	42%
Jose Serra (PSDB)	38%	42%
Neither / Blank / Undecided	17%	16%

Source: Ibope

Methodology: Interviews with 2,002 Brazilian adults, conducted from Jun. 19 to Jun. 21, 2010. Margin of error is 2.2 per cent.

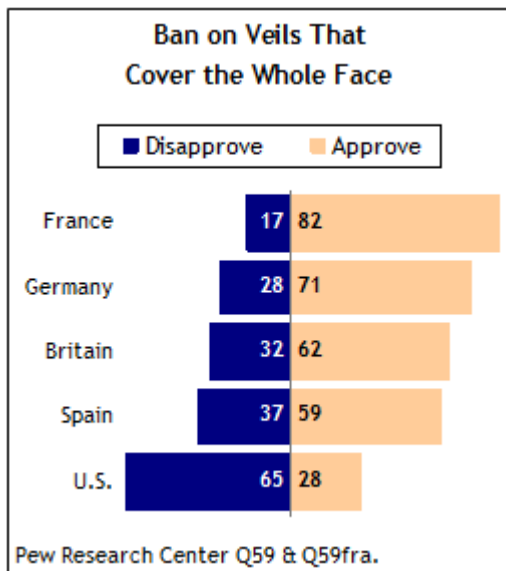
MULTI-COUNTRY POLLS

Widespread Support for Banning Full Islamic Veil in Western Europe

Most Americans Disapprove

July 8, 2010

On July 13, members of the lower house of the French parliament are expected to vote on a bill that would make it illegal for Muslim women to wear full veils -- those that cover all of the face except the eyes -- in public places. A [survey by the Pew Research Center's Global Attitudes Project](#), conducted April 7 to May 8, finds that the French public overwhelmingly endorses this measure; 82% approve of a ban on Muslim women wearing full veils in public, including schools, hospitals and government offices, while just 17% disapprove.¹



Majorities in Germany (71%), Britain (62%) and Spain (59%) would also support a similar ban in their own countries. In contrast, most Americans would oppose such a measure; 65% say they would disapprove of a ban on Muslim women wearing full veils in public places compared with 28% who say they would approve.

In the four Western European countries surveyed as well as in the U.S., support for a ban on Muslim women wearing a full veil is more pronounced among those who are age 55 and older, although majorities across all age groups in France, Germany and Britain favor a ban. For example, 91% of French respondents age 55 and older approve of restrictions on Muslim women covering their face, compared with 81% of those ages 35 to 54 and 72% of those younger than 35.

	<u>18-34</u>	<u>35-54</u>	<u>55+</u>
<i>% Approve</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>
Britain	52	61	71
France	72	81	91
Germany	58	71	77
Spain	49	55	70
U.S.	22	28	35

Pew Research Center Q59 & Q59fra.

In Spain, where 70% in the older group and a narrower majority (55%) of those ages 35 to 54 favor a ban on full veils, younger respondents are closely divided; 49% of those ages 18 to 34 approve of such measures and 47% disapprove. In the U.S., about one-third (35%) of those in the oldest age group say they would welcome a ban on veils that cover the whole face except the eyes, while 28% of those ages 35 to 54 and just 22% of those younger than 35 say the same.

Opinions about banning Muslim women from wearing a full veil do not vary along gender lines in any of the five countries where the question was asked. In France, Britain and the U.S., views on this matter are also similar across education and income groups. However, in Spain and Germany, those in higher income groups are more likely than the less affluent to approve of such a ban; for example, a slim majority (51%) of low-income respondents in Spain favor a ban on full veils, compared with 62% of those in the middle-income range and 68% of those with high incomes.

	<u>Left</u>	<u>Center</u>	<u>Right</u>
<u>% Approve</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
Britain	55	63	69
France	75	83	87
Germany	63	72	76
Spain	57	62	59
U.S.	24	26	31

U.S. respondents were asked if they consider themselves conservative, moderate or liberal. In Europe, they were asked to place themselves on a left-right spectrum.

Pew Research Center Q59 & Q59fra.

Ideologically, those on the right in France, Britain and Germany are more likely than those on the left to approve of a ban on women wearing the full Islamic veil in public places, but majorities across the political spectrum in these countries endorse such a ban. In France, 87% of those on the right support prohibiting women from wearing full veils in public, and 75% of those on the political left agree.

Spain is the only Western European country surveyed where those on both ends of the ideology scale express nearly identical views; 59% of those on the right and 57% of those on the left approve of a ban on Muslim women wearing veils that cover the whole face. Ideological differences are also insignificant in the U.S.

1. This question was asked in Western Europe and the U.S. as part of the Spring 2010 Pew Global Attitudes Survey, which included 22 nations. For more findings from this survey, see "[Obama More Popular Abroad Than at Home, Global Image of U.S. Continues to Benefit](#)," released June 17, 2010.

CYBER WORLD

More Cell Phone Owners Use an App for That

59% of All Adult Americans Go Online Wirelessly

July 7, 2010

Six-in-ten American adults are now wireless internet users, and mobile data applications have grown more popular over the last year.

As of May 2010, 59% of all adult Americans go online wirelessly. Our definition of a wireless internet user includes the following activities:

- Going online with a laptop using a wi-fi connection or mobile broadband card. Roughly half of all adults (47%) go online in this way, up from the 39% who did so at a similar point in 2009.
- Use of the internet, email or instant messaging on a cell phone. Two-in-five adults (40%) do at least one of these using a mobile device, an increase from the 32% of adults who did so in 2009.

Taken together, 59% of American adults now go online wirelessly using either a laptop or cell phone, an increase over the 51% of Americans who did so at a similar point in 2009.¹

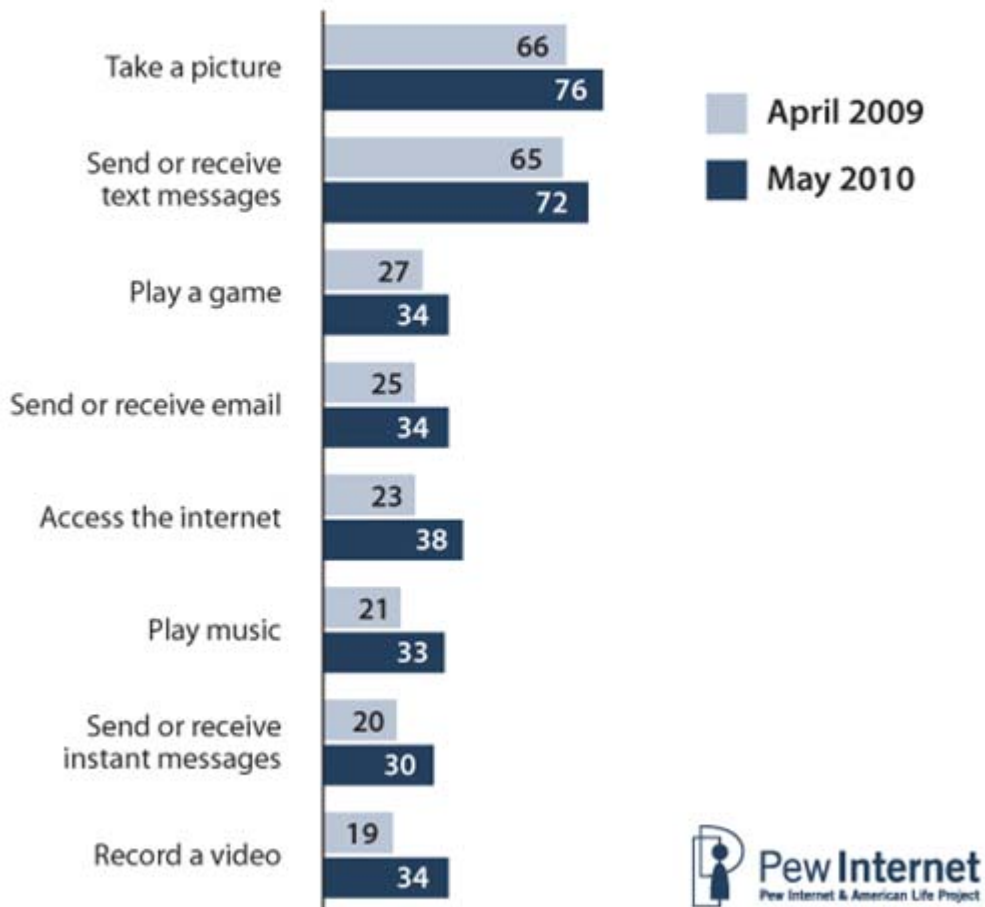
Cell phone ownership has remained stable over the last year, but users are taking advantage of a much wider range of their phones' capabilities compared with a similar point in 2009. Of the eight mobile data applications we asked about in both 2009 and 2010, all showed statistically significant year-to-year growth.

This year we also asked for the first time about seven additional cell phone activities. Among all cell phone owners:

- 54% have used their mobile device to send someone a photo or video.
- 23% have accessed a social networking site using their phone.
- 20% have used their phone to watch a video.
- 15% have posted a photo or video online.
- 11% have purchased a product using their phone.
- 11% have made a charitable donation by text message.
- 10% have used their mobile phone to access a status update service such as Twitter.

The use of non-voice data applications has grown significantly over the last year

The % of cell phone owners who use their phones to do the following



Source: Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, April 29-May 30, 2010 Tracking Survey. N=2,252 adults 18 and older; n=1,917 based on cell phone users.

African-Americans and Latinos continue to outpace whites in their use of data applications on handheld devices.

Continuing a trend we first identified in 2009, minority Americans lead the way when it comes to mobile access -- especially mobile access using handheld devices. Nearly two-thirds of African-Americans (64%) and Latinos (63%) are wireless internet users, and minority Americans are significantly more likely to own a cell phone than are their white counterparts (87% of blacks and Hispanics own a cell phone, compared with 80% of whites). Additionally, black and Latino cell phone owners take advantage of a much wider array of their phones' data functions compared to white cell phone owners. It is important to note that our data for Hispanics represents English-speaking Hispanics only, as our survey did not provide a Spanish-language option.

Young adults are heavily invested in the mobile Web, although 30-to-49 year olds are gaining ground.

Nine-in-ten 18-to-29 year olds own a cell phone, and these young cell owners are significantly more likely than those in other age groups to engage in all of the mobile data applications we asked about in our survey. Among 18-29 year old cell phone owners:

- 95% send or receive text messages.
- 93% use their phone to take pictures.
- 81% send photos or videos to others.
- 65% access the internet on their mobile device.
- 64% play music on their phones.
- 60% use their phones to play games or record a video.
- 52% have used their phone to send or receive email.
- 48% have accessed a social networking site on their phone.
- 46% use instant messaging on their mobile device.
- 40% have watched a video on their phone.
- 33% have posted a photo or video online from their phone.
- 21% have used a status update service such as Twitter from their phone.
- 20% have purchased something using their mobile phone.
- 19% have made a charitable donation by text message.

Although young adults have the highest levels of mobile data application use among all age groups, utilization of these services is growing fast among 30-to-49 year olds. Compared with a similar point in 2009, cell owners ages 30 to 49 are significantly more likely to use a range of mobile data applications on a handheld device.

Young adults lead the way in the use of mobile data applications

	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Own a cell phone	90%**	88%**	82%*	57%
% of cell owners within each group who do the following on their phones				
Send/receive text messages	95***	82**	57*	19
Take a picture	93***	83**	67*	34
Access the internet	65***	43**	18*	10
Play music	64***	36**	13*	6
Play a game	60***	37**	17*	9
Record a video	60***	39**	14*	5
Send/receive email	52***	37**	22*	11
Use a social networking site	48***	23**	8*	3
Send/receive instant messages	46***	35**	17*	10
Watch a video	40***	20**	6	4
Post a photo or video online	33***	15**	5	2
Use a status update service	21***	9**	3	2
Make a purchase	20***	11**	4	5
Mean number of cell activities	6.9	4.7	2.5	1.2

Source: Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project, April 29-May 30, 2010 Tracking Survey. N=2,252 adults 18 and older, including 1,917 cell phone users. *** = significant difference compared with all other age groups; ** = significant difference compared with 50-64 and 65+; * = significant difference compared with 65+; n/a = sample size too small to analyze



The mobile data applications with the largest year-to-year increases among the 30-to-49 year old cohort include taking pictures (83% of 30-to-49 year old cell owners now do this, a 12-point increase from 2009); recording videos (39% do this now, an 18-point increase from 2009); playing music (36% do this now, a 15-point increase); using instant messaging (35% now do this, a 14-point increase); and accessing the internet (43% now do this, a 12-point increase compared with 2009).

Continue reading the full report at pewinternet.org.

1. Because of changes in question wordings over time, our current wireless internet user definition is not directly comparable to any pre-2009 findings.

Millennials' Likely Lifelong Online Sharing Habit

by Janna Quitney Anderson, Elon University and Lee Rainie, Pew Research Center
Internet & American Life Project

July 9, 2010

In a survey about the future impact of the internet, a solid majority of technology experts and stakeholders said the [Millennial generation](#) will lead society into a new world of personal disclosure and information-sharing using new media. These experts said the communications patterns "digital natives" have already embraced through their use of social networking technology and other social technology tools will carry forward even as Millennials age, form families and move up the economic ladder.

The highly engaged, diverse set of respondents to an online, opt-in survey included 895 technology stakeholders and critics. The study was fielded by the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project and Elon University's Imagining the Internet Center.

- Some 67% agreed with the statement: "By 2020, members of Generation Y (today's "digital natives") will continue to be ambient broadcasters who disclose a great deal of personal information in order to stay connected and take advantage of social, economic, and political opportunities. Even as they mature, have families, and take on more significant responsibilities, their enthusiasm for widespread information sharing will carry forward."
- Some 29% agreed with the opposite statement, which posited: "By 2020, members of Generation Y (today's "digital natives") will have "grown out" of much of their use of social networks, multiplayer online games and other time-consuming, transparency-engendering online tools. As they age and find new interests and commitments, their enthusiasm for widespread information sharing will abate."

Most of those surveyed noted that the disclosure of personal information online carries many social benefits as people open up to others in order to build friendships, form and find communities, seek help and build their reputations. They said [Millennials](#) have already seen the benefits and will not reduce their use of these social tools over the next decade as they take on more responsibilities while growing older.

The majority argued in answers to the survey that new social norms that reward disclosure are already in place among the young. The experts also expressed hope that society will be more forgiving of those whose youthful mistakes are on display in social media such as Facebook picture albums or YouTube videos.

Some said new definitions of "private" and "public" information are taking shape in

networked society. They argued that this means that Millennials might change the kinds of personal information they share as they age, but the aging process will not fundamentally change the incentives to share.

At the same time, some experts said an awkward trial-and-error period is unfolding and will continue over the next decade, as people adjust to new realities about how social networks perform and as new boundaries are set about the personal information that is appropriate to share.

Nearly 30% of respondents disagreed with the majority, most of them noting that life stages and milestones do matter and do prompt changes in behavior. They cited an array of factors that they believe will compel Millennials to pull back on their free-wheeling lifecasting, including: fears that openness about their personal lives might damage their professional lives, greater seriousness in dating and family formation as people age and the arrival of children in their lives.

Among other things, many of the dissenting experts also said Millennials will not have as much time in the future to devote to popular activities such as frequently posting to the world at large on YouTube, Twitter or Facebook about the nitty-gritty of their lives.

The Future of Online Socializing

July 2, 2010

The social benefits of internet use will far outweigh the negatives over the next decade, according to experts. They say this is because email, social networks, and other online tools offer "low friction" opportunities to create, enhance, and rediscover social ties that make a difference in people's lives. The internet lowers traditional communications constraints of cost, geography, and time; and it supports the type of open information sharing that brings people together.

While they acknowledge that use of the internet as a tool for communications can yield both positive and negative effects, a significant majority of technology experts and stakeholders participating in the fourth Future of the Internet survey say it improves social relations and will continue to do so through 2020.

The highly engaged, diverse set of respondents to an online, opt-in survey included 895 technology stakeholders and critics. The study was fielded by the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project and Elon University's Imagining the Internet Center.

Some **85%** agreed with the statement:

"In 2020, when I look at the big picture and consider my personal friendships, marriage and other relationships, I see that **the internet has mostly been a positive force on my social world**. And this will only grow more true in the future."

Some **14%** agreed with the opposite statement, which posited:

"In 2020, when I look at the big picture and consider my personal friendships, marriage and other relationships, I see that **the internet has mostly been a negative force on my social world**. And this will only grow more true in the future."

Most of people who participated in the survey were effusive in their praise of the social connectivity already being leveraged globally online. They said humans' use of the internet's capabilities for communication -- for creating, cultivating, and continuing social relationships -- is undeniable. Many enthusiastically cited their personal experiences as examples, and several noted that they had met their spouse through internet-born interaction.

Some survey respondents noted that with the internet's many social positives come problems. They said that both scenarios presented in the survey are likely to be accurate, and noted that tools such as email and social networks can and are being used in harmful ways.

Among the negatives noted by both groups of respondents: time spent online robs time from important face-to-face relationships; the internet fosters mostly shallow relationships; the act of leveraging the internet to engage in social connection exposes private information; the internet allows people to silo themselves, limiting their exposure to new ideas; and the internet is being used to engender intolerance.

Many of the people who said the internet is a positive force noted that it "costs" people less now to communicate -- some noted that it costs less money and others noted that it costs less in time spent, allowing them to cultivate many more relationships, including those with both strong and weak ties. They said "geography" is no longer an obstacle to making and maintaining connections; some noted that internet-based communications removes previously perceived constraints of "space" and not just "place."

Some respondents observed that as use of the internet for social networks evolves there is a companion evolution in language and meaning as tech users redefine social constructs such as "privacy" and "friendship." Other respondents suggested there will be new "categories of relationships," a new "art of politics," the development of some new psychological and medical syndromes that will be "variations of depression caused by the lack of meaningful quality relationships," and a "new world society."

A number of people said that as this all plays out people are just beginning to address the ways in which nearly "frictionless," easy-access, global communications networks change how reputations are made, perceived, and remade.

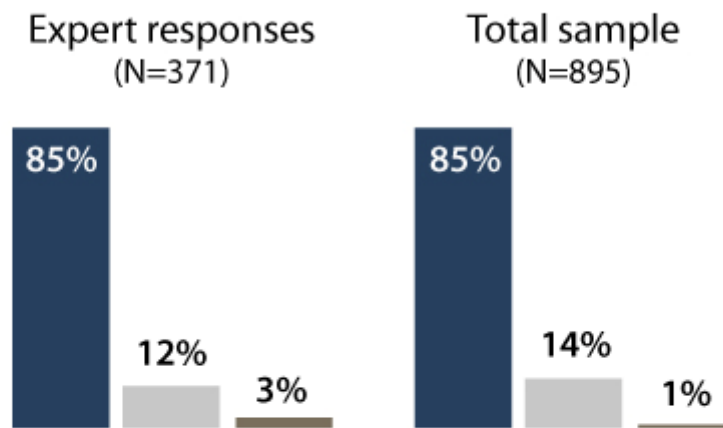
Some confidently reported that they expect technological advances to continue to change social relations online. Among the technologies mentioned were: holographic displays and the bandwidth necessary to carry them; highly secure and trusted quantum/biometric security; powerful collaborative visualization decision-based tools; permanent, trusted,

and unlimited cloud archive storehouses; open networks enabled by semantic web tools in public-domain services; and instant thought transmission in a telepathic format.

Many survey participants pointed out that while our tools are changing quickly, basic human nature seems to adjust at a slower pace.

Will social relations get better?

Tension pair on the future of social relations



- In 2020, when I look at the big picture and consider my personal friendships, marriage, and other relationships, I see that **the internet has mostly been a positive force** on my social world. And this will only grow more true in the future.
- In 2020, when I look at the big picture and consider my personal friendships, marriage, and other relationships, I see that **the internet has mostly been a negative force** on my social world. And this will only grow more true in the future.
- **Did not respond**

